



County of Dare

P.O. Box 1000 | Manteo, NC 27954

MINUTES

DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

9:00 a.m., September 4, 2018

Commissioners present: Chairman Robert Woodard, Vice Chairman Wally Overman
Jack Shea, Steve House, Rob Ross, Jim Tobin, Danny Couch

Commissioners absent: None

Others present: County Manager/Attorney, Robert Outten
Deputy County Manager/Finance Director, David Clawson
Public Information Officer, Dorothy Hester
Clerk to the Board, Gary Lee Gross

A full and complete account of the entire Board of Commissioners meeting is archived on a video that is available for viewing on the Dare County website www.darenc.com.

Chairman Woodard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He invited Rev. Spottswood Graves to share a prayer, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ITEM 1 – OPENING REMARKS – CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE

Following is a brief outline of the items mentioned by Chairman Woodard during his opening remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the Dare County website –

- Noted that this has been a week of reflection on the life of the late Senator John McCain. He expressed hope that there will be growth for both sides of the political aisle as the Board of Commissioners strives to do what is best for the people of Dare County.
- Reported on the Special Meeting of the Board that was held on August 20th to discuss short and long term goals for flooding issues throughout Dare County.
- Commended School Superintendent John Farrelly on the exciting Convocation that was recently held to launch the start of what promises to be another successful school year.
- Provided information about the wide range of issues that were discussed at the Annual Conference of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners in Hickory, NC that he recently attended on behalf of the Dare County Board of Commissioners.
- Congratulated Jay Burrus on his retirement as the Director of Dare County’s Health and Human Services Department noting that this well respected leader will be missed.

- Briefed the Board on a meeting that he and the County Manager had with several College of the Albemarle Trustees. He announced the culmination of negotiations that will provide Dare County students the opportunity to participate in two Bachelor programs beginning in the fall of 2019. The Chairman also provided details about COA's Career Coach Program and efforts being made by the County to let parents and students know of the affordable educational opportunities that are available at COA.

ITEM 2 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS

- 1) Margaret Lee, Human Resources, received a 10-year pin.
- 2) Marjorie Whitley, Public Health Division, received a 10-year pin.
- 3) Leigh Bracy, Social Services Division, received a 10-year pin.
- 4) Jodi Wyant, Public Health Division, received a 15-year pin.
- 5) Karen Stanberry, Social Services Division, received a 20-year pin.
- 6) Bonnie Bennett, Friends of Youth Manager, received a 30-year pin.

ITEM 3 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2018

David Hooks received the Employee of the Month award from Jennie Collins who described the many ways that Mr. Hooks is an asset to the Emergency Medical Services Department.

ITEM 4 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Manager outlined the procedure for making public comments in Manteo and via the video link to the Fessenden Center in Buxton. Following is a brief summary of citizen remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the Dare County website –

The following comments were made in Manteo –

1. Spottswood Graves, in support of the agenda item being presented by Betty Corbin on behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution to celebrate Constitution week, read from Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address describing it as one of the foundational documents of our nation.

There were no comments made in Buxton –

ITEM 5 – PROCLAMATION – CONSTITUTION WEEK

Betty Corbin, on behalf of the Virginia Dare Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) presented a proclamation commemorating the anniversary of the framing of the Constitution of the United States.

MOTION

Commissioners Overman and Shea motioned to issue the Constitution Week Proclamation. Commissioner Tobin seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 6 – TOURISM BOARD – RESTRICTED FUND EXPENDITURE REQUEST

Lee Nettles, Executive Director of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, asked the Board to approve an expenditure from the Long Term Restricted Fund (line item 4520) to award \$30,000 to the Elizabethan Gardens for the Discovery Cottage & Discovery Center Outdoor Classroom. It was noted that the cottage and classroom will serve as a valuable educational resource for groups and local schools.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the \$30,000 expenditure as requested. Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 7 – RECOMMENDED WATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN FOR 2019-2024

Finance Director David Clawson along with Utilities Director Ken Flatt and Asst. Pat Irwin presented the recommended Water Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) covering the years 2019 through 2024. The Board was given a description of each proposed project and the impact of the plan on the ending Fund Balances per the Water Rate Model. Details were given about several of the plan's large projects including implementation of an automated meter reading system. In response to a question from Commissioner Tobin about the status of whether the County will absorb the Seafood Industrial Park water plant, the County Manager explained that staff is waiting for the Seafood Industrial Park to commission an engineering report so that a proper assessment can be made. Commissioner Couch raised the need for hydrants in Brigands Bay and Leslie Lane and commended the Water Department for all their efforts on Hatteras Island. The County Manager thanked Mr. Flatt and Mr. Irwin for doing a wonderful job assembling the material for the Water CIP.

MOTION

Commissioners Overman and Shea motioned to approve the recommended CIP and authorize the County Manager to execute all necessary Capital Project Ordinances and Budget Amendments for FY2019 with a report to follow.

Commissioners House and Ross seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 8 – C&D LANDFILL CONCRETE PROJECT

The County Manager explained that for many years concrete and other large debris items that could not be put into the C&D Landfill were stockpiled at the site until it could be determined how to dispose of the items. He reported that the State inspector has indicated that it is now time to remove that debris to an appropriate disposal site. Mr. Outten explained that although no formal bidding process was required, staff informally bid the project with Hatchell Concrete being the low bidder at a price of \$124,000. He asked the Board to approve the Hatchell proposal and related Budget Amendment.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the Hatchell proposal and Budget Amendment. Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 9 – CONSENT AGENDA

The Manager announced the items as they were visually displayed in the meeting room.

MOTION

Commissioners Shea and House motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (08.20.18 & Special Meeting on Stormwater) **(Att. #1)**
- 2) Resolution – FY2018-19 Capital Improvements Plan Project Financing **(Att. #2)**
- 3) DHHS, Social Services Division – Budget Amendment: Insurance and Bonds Increase
- 4) DHHS, Social Services Division – Budget Amendment: Position Upgrade
- 5) Resolution to Approve Sole Source Purchase – Motorola Radios **(Att. #3)**
- 6) Medical Services Contract – Detention Center
- 7) NCDOT Utility Relocation Agreement (URA) **(Att. #4)**
- 8) Boiler Contract for DSS and Health

Vice Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 10 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1) Health and Human Services Board

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to reappoint Kevin Phillips and Nicholas Kiousis.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2) Nursing Home Community Advisory Council

Commissioner Shea motioned to appoint Susie Walters.

Commissioner Tobin seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

3) Upcoming Board Appointments

The upcoming appointments for October, November, and December were announced.

ITEM 11 – COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS & MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

Commissioners and the County Manager frequently make extensive remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the Dare County website. Following is a brief summary outline of the items mentioned by Commissioners during this segment –

Commissioner Shea

- Thanked the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month for all that they do to make Dare County such a great place.
- Commented on the Constitution Week Proclamation adopted today by the Board by saying that our Constitution is one of the greatest documents that has ever been written.
- Expressed hope that everyone had an enjoyable Labor Day weekend.

Commissioner Couch

- Noted that the County appears to be experiencing a good tourism season this year and voiced hope that 2018 will be a banner economic year for all tourism business sectors.

Commissioner Tobin

- Gave an update on the Nursing Home Advisory Council meeting. He reported that Peak Resources is doing a fantastic job and advised that Spring Arbor has work that needs to be done. He added that Susie Walters is a great addition to the Advisory Council.
- Provided details of the quarterly dredging meeting held in New Bern noting that the State has released the \$15 million and that the dredging project is moving at a good pace.
- Reported that bears continue to be a problem for the people of Manns Harbor. Mr. Outten gave an update on the County's effort to research bear-proof trash containers. The Manager explained that Public Works and the Public Relations Department will be reaching out to the community to determine how many people are interesting in buying the bear-proof cans so that a cost effective order can be placed.

Commissioner Ross

- Congratulated the Employee of the Month along with those who received service pins including Bonnie Bennett who was presented a 30-year pin and thanked by Commissioner Ross for the amazing job she does.
- Extended best wishes to Sheila Davies as she takes over the critical role as Health and Human Services Director in the wake of Jay Burrus' retirement.
- Noted that the Northeast Work Force Development Board, which is a component of the Albemarle Commission, recently received a national award in recognition of the work they have done in our region to help at-risk youth get employment.

Commissioner House

- Thanked the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month.
- Congratulated Jay Burrus on his well-deserved retirement.
- Condolences were expressed to the family of Senator John McCain. Commissioner House said he had met the Senator and considered him to be an outstanding person.
- Asked the Board to reinstate the Dare County Commission For Working Watermen, which was requested by Susan West during Public Comments at the last meeting. He outlined the types of industries that have been represented on the Commission and suggested that a fish house be added. Commissioner House explained that he would like to terminate the current appointments and have a reorganizational meeting where a list of Commission Members can be assembled and presented to the Dare County Board of Commissioners at its next meeting. Chairman Woodard suggested that Commissioner House serve as the Working Watermen's Commissioner Representative and Commissioner House indicated that he would be honored to serve in this capacity.

MOTION

Commissioner House motioned to approve moving forward to reorganize the Dare County Commission For Working Watermen as outlined.

Commissioners Tobin and Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Vice Chairman Overman

- Commended the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month.
- Thanked Public Comments speaker Spottswood Graves for sharing Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, which he described as a speech that will forever be remembered.

Chairman Woodard

- Shared his thoughts on the death of Senator John McCain calling him a Statesman. The Chairman echoed his hope that both sides of the aisle will learn to respect each other.

MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

1. The County Manager briefed the Board on a nationwide class action lawsuit concerning Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) that local government entities receive from the federal government. He provided background about the lawsuit, which seeks compensation for jurisdictions that have been underpaid. Mr. Outten noted that there is no cost to the County to join in the lawsuit and any settlement would be done on a prorated basis.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to join in the class action lawsuit.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2. Mr. Outten reported that dredging for the Manteo boat channel has been 100% funded in the State budget on a reimbursement basis for approximately \$1.9 million. He explained that the Town of Manteo has requested that Dare County serve as the fronting organization for this project since the Town is not able to put up the funds pending reimbursement. The Manager said the County and its staff can provide this service, which would benefit the watermen and the Elizabeth II that depend on the Manteo boat channel. Commissioner Tobin noted that the money is reimbursable by the State.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to approve Dare County serving as the fronting organization on behalf of the Town of Manteo as requested and authorize the Manager and Finance Director to take whatever action is necessary for this project.

Commissioners House and Tobin seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Public Information Officer Dorothy Hester provided information about videos that the Public Relations Department has been working on for the Bonner Bridge replacement project, components of the Capital Improvements Plan, and the merits of Dare County students attending The College of the Albemarle.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Chairman Woodard asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adjourn the meeting.

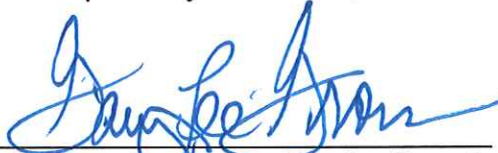
Commissioner Ross seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous


At 10:43 a.m., the Board of Commissioners adjourned until 5:00 p.m., September 17, 2018.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Lee Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By: 
Robert Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners