



County of Dare

P.O. Box 1000 | Manteo, NC 27954

MINUTES

DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

5:00 p.m., October 21, 2019

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

Commissioners absent: None

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

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.

At 5:00 p.m. Chairman Woodard called to order the regularly scheduled meeting with appropriate prior public notice having been given. He invited Rev. Spotswood 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:

- Chairman Woodard attended the Essential Housing Conference this month in Raleigh which resulted in good networking as the Board continued efforts to seek remedy and resolution to housing issues.
- He reported on the continued debris removal efforts on Hatteras Island.
- He met with the COA earlier in the month, as they began the launch of the scholarship program. Last year more than \$350,000 had been awarded in scholarships.
- Seafood Festival was a great event and he commended the Chamber of Commerce for their continued success.
- He would be meeting with Michele Flynn-Osborne, Chief Deputy Commissioner of NC Insurance at the First Flight High School to discuss property insurance issues.
- Discussed the concerns of the length of time for debris removal over the County. Hurricane Dorian hit September 6 and as of yesterday there had been 1,165 loads of vegetation debris removed, 549 loads of C & D and 149 leaning trees cut. Completion of debris removal is expected by October 31.
- On January 15 there would be the State of the County address at Capt. Georges.

ITEM 2 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

At 5:16 p.m. the Manager outlined the procedure for making public comments in Manteo and via the video link to the Fessenden Center Annex in Buxton. Following is a summary of all citizen remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the County website:

The following comments were made in Manteo

1. Sherrod Schuler spoke as a representative of the SBA, Office of Disaster Assistance currently located in an office in Buxton at 47013 Buxton Back Road with hours from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Saturday until October 31, 2019 in order to assist those impacted from Hurricane Dorian. He explained they provide options to homeowners and renters with rates available for loans at 1.75% for homeowners and as low as 2.75% for non-profits. The funds were not geared to replace insurance claim money but could be used for uninsured damages. There were three ways to apply: (1) online sba.gov/disaster, (2) by calling 1-800-659-2955 (3) or in person. The deadline for reporting physical damages was December 16 and for business slowdown the deadline was July 16, 2020.
2. Manny Medeiros, Jr. shared his concerns over the educational plan of Dare 2023 and noted what he described as its many “trendy aspirations” rather than offering the area’s students with “more meaningful pursuits” to achieve “academic excellence”. He encouraged the Board to take a more active role in the oversight in school funding.

The following comments were made in Buxton

3. Grace Hallenbeck made a suggestion for the County to purchase cots to be used when the Hatteras roads were impacted by overwash or damage. This could allow leaving visitors the option of staying in one of the three community centers as a temporary shelter when they become stranded. She also asked the Board the status of the possibility of a Hatteras public boat ramp and cited the island needed one.

The County Manager closed Public Comments at 5:32 p.m.

ITEM 3 – PUBLIC HEARING – TEXT AMENDMENT TO C-3 ZONING DISTRICT (Att. #1)

At 5:32 p.m. the Board held a Public Hearing to receive input concerning this agenda item. The Manager outlined the procedure for making public comments in Manteo and via the video link to the Fessenden Center Annex in Buxton. Following is a summary of all citizen remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the County website:

The following comment was made in Manteo:

1. Matt Schmuuck, as general manager of Jumpmasters Trampoline Park, and on behalf of Carter Lumber of the South, Inc, spoke in support of the text amendment to allow commercial storage. He stated the change would meet a need for the area to provide safe and secure storage for both visitors and locals.

There were no comments made in Buxton.

The County Manager closed the Public Hearing at 5:34 p.m. Noah Gillam from Planning provided the review of the request and noted Brent Johnson had applied for the text

amendment to the C-3 Commercial Zoning District. He reread the current definition and added the Planning Board recommended the approval of the text amendment and provided a consistency statement.

MOTION

Commissioner Tobin motioned that the C-3 Commercial Zoning District text amendment for Brent Johnson be adopted as recommended by the Planning Board. A finding of consistency was also adopted as part of this motion and this consistency statement shall be part of the public record.

Vice-Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 4 – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLANING COMMITTEE RECORDMMENDATIONS FOR COA PROJECT

Mr. Outten explained the CIP Committee had met earlier and reviewed the presentations made by Sussex Development Corp, Barnhill Contracting Company and Whiting Turner for construction manager at risk for The College of the Albemarle project. He noted they reviewed three good submissions with these companies. Whiting Turner had successfully completed several projects for the County. The CIPC noted Barnhill Contracting had also made an excellent presentation which exhibited experience and their good relationships needed to gather subcontractors for the proposed project. Mr. Outten remarked the CIPC made a unanimous recommendation for Barnhill Contracting Company as CMAR partner for The College of the Albemarle Project.

Vice-Chairman Overman noted Barnhill Contracting had experience in working with the construction of higher education buildings and the experience would benefit the project. They used the very latest technology in construction design and build. He offered the County could not make a bad choice between the two primary contenders.

Commissioner Ross added Whiting Turning and Barnhill Contracting stood out in their size, scope and experience. Barnhill especially presented good experience with construction management at risk contracts. Sussex Development was very good; and all three companies were well qualified, but he felt Barnhill Contracting had the best ability to bid, attract and retain the subcontractors necessary at a fair rate to complete the project. He was highly confident Barnhill would gather a quality group of subs to complete the COA building.

Commissioner House inquired of the County Attorney whether he should cast a vote on the recommendation, as he was good friends with the Barnhill associates. Mr. Outten advised he need not abstain unless the contract award would give him personal benefit. Commissioner House noted he would not receive any personal gain or benefit and Mr. Outten advised he was eligible to vote on the matter.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Overman motioned to approve Barnhill Contracting Company as CMAR for the College of the Albemarle Project.

Commissioner Ross seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 5 – CONSENT AGENDA

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

MOTION

Commissioner Bateman motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (10.07.19) **(Att. #2)**
- 2) NC Governor's Hwy. Safety Program (GHSP) Local Government Resolution **(Att.#3)**
- 3) Tax Collector's Report
- 4) Schedule of Meeting Dates for 2020
- 5) OpenEdge Applications and Agreements for online payment services (Card and eCheck) Tax and Water (Noted the personal guarantee paragraph in the agreement would be edited by the County Manager prior to execution)
- 6) Request for Addition to State Maintained Secondary Road System – Caribbean Way **(Att.#4)**

Commissioner Tobin seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 6 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1) Veterans Advisory Council

Commissioner House motioned to appoint Barry L. Holt.

Commissioner Ross seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2) Dare County Center Advisory Board

Commissioner Tobin motioned to appoint Emily Hall to complete the remaining term of Paul Oliver.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

3) Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Commissioner House motioned to appoint Shannon Glasser to replace Bonnie Bennett and Todd Heineche to replace Richard J. Martin.

Vice-Chairman Overman and Commissioner Tobin seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 7 – 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 House

- He would bring an update on fishing activity and concerns at the next meeting.
- Today in history in 1879, after fourteen months of testing, Thomas Edison tested his street lamp hoping to compete with gas lights.
- A video on the Pet of the Week was presented and showcased Sadie, a nine-year old mixed lab, who was ready for adoption.

Vice-Chairman Overman

- He attended the Seafood Festival and reported at noon the event was packed and there were lines waiting to come in. It was well attended with good food, crafts and was a beautiful day to enjoy.

Commissioner Bateman

- He also recognized the success of the Seafood Festival with great crowds.
- Recently he had visited Hatteras and noted the great accomplishments of both the Public Works Department and the contractor hired to clean up debris and he state he could really see the difference from a visit he had made two weeks ago.

Commissioner Couch

- He mentioned the Seafood Festival which was well organized and attended.
- He thanked the Chairman for the debris removal update stats. He said we should be proud of our Emergency Management and Public Works Departments for their amazing progress in recovery efforts despite the many obstacles.

Commissioner Tobin

- He attended the Dare County Older Adult Advisory Council and reported there were fantastic programs at the Baum Center and the Fessenden Center. One of them, the “Dare to Scare 5k Sweet Treat Fun Run”, was scheduled for Saturday, October 26.
- He provided an update on the dredging in the Wanchese Channel.
- He mentioned the tail remnants of Halley’s Comet’s would be passing by the earth this evening, although cloud cover may preclude seeing it clearly.

Commissioner Ross

- He recognized Mike Kelly for the 26th Annual Kelly Hospitality Group Charity Golf Classic held at Nags Head Golf Links. The event had a big turnout with proceeds benefiting the Outer Banks Community Foundation.
- On October 28 and 29th he would be following up with meetings on Essential Housing in order to continue the pursuit and drive to find concrete solutions to the housing issues.
- He would be attending the State of the Region Legislative Update presented by Senator Steinburg and Representative Hanig on November 14.

MANAGER’S/ATTORNEY’S BUSINESS

Robert Outten and David Clawson had no new business to report.

Dorothy Hester reminded of the early voting available for November 5, 2019 elections from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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

MOTION

Commissioner House motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Bateman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 5:54 p.m., the Board of Commissioners adjourned until 9:00 a.m., November 4, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



By: Cheryl C. Anby
Cheryl C. Anby, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By: Robert Woodard
Robert Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners

Note: Copies of attachments (Att.), ordinances, resolutions, contracts, presentations, and supporting material considered by the Board of Commissioners are on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.