

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2017, 2:00 PM North Topsail Beach Town Hall

Members Present:

Steve Smith Dick Peters
David Ward Mike Curley
Ed Broadhurst Mark Price
Hiram Williams Mike Benson
Julian Bone Dick Macartney

Public Present:

Chris Gibson – Topsail Beach Engineer Pam Castens – Army Corps Kathleen Riely - NCBIWA

- 1. Call to Order & Greetings
- 2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Macartney made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Benson seconded the motion and it was carried.

3. Approval of the February 23, 2017 Minutes & Workshop Minutes

Mr. Macartney made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Ward seconded the motion and it was carried.

- 4. Public Comments
- 5. Consultant/Lobbyist/Partners Information & Contact Review/Update
 - a. Connie Wilson Consulting Connie Wilson committee accepted email report
 - b. **Poyner Spruill Attorneys** Mike McIntyre committee accepted email report There was discussion on WWRDA approval and the "shovel ready."

Mrs. Castens stated the catch phrase "shovel ready" is getting the money and going to construction. This place you higher on the list for project starts. You cannot start real estate acquisition until the PPA's are signed. At this time, we are not ready for real estate acquisition. N. Topsail Beach has easements in place, they are shovel ready. Surf City does not have the easements they will need to acquire.

- 6. United States Army Corp of Engineering (USACE) Update- Pam Castens
 - a. Towns' Status with Partnership Agreements are there problems from either side?
 - b. Financial Cost Benefit Review Status of USACE review?



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Mrs. Castens stated the deadline for the cost update is May for both projects. She has asked for the town's council or attorney to look at these agreements. At this time, there has been no feedback or comments. There have been many conversations with Mike McIntyre and his office. Both projects have strong benefit to cost ratios and these have been asked for.

- 7. NC Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) Update Mike Moore
 - a. CRC Chairman Change -

Mr. Smith stated there was change in the chairman position to Renee Cahoon.

8. Old Business

a. **TISPC Workshop** – Follow-up as required
The response is ready to go out, but board approval is needed.

Mr. Macartney made a motion to approve the response letter as presented. Mr. Broadhurst seconded the motion.

Mr. Smith stated he had one statement of concern from a citizen regarding the setback changes as suggested in our proposal to CRC.

Mr. Macartney added to send the same letter to each town board to inform them of the letter sent by request to the CRC. The motion was carried.

b. **Funding of Beach Nourishment with a "catch"** – Need to understand what requirements could be placed on funds from state – There is a need to follow legislative activity.

Mr. Smith discussed that there is a group of legislators looking to pass new legislation into funding beach projects but would require possible dune ordinances or other beach restrictions.

Mr. Benson asked if these regulations would proceed CAMA regulations. - Mr. Gibson stated it could be a CRC rule and goes through a rule review or will come out as new legislation and become an automatic law. Either way these could be CAMA enforced.

NC Wildlife Federation (NCWF) amendment to Designate Special Nursery and Reduce Bycatch
 Mortality – What action if any is required? – Request for towns to reject this change in
 regulations.

Mr. Smith reminded everyone to ask their boards to pass the resolution.

d. **Public Communication** – Web Page – Mike Benson – Hosting and keeping information current: Mr. Benson discussed the design and the updates of the new web page. The new web page address is tispc.org. He asked for any other links that should be listed under the "links" section of the web page.



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e. **Lobbyist Work List** – Finalize for 2017 year – adjusted to reflect comments received: Mr. Smith ask for comments on the lobbyist work list, and approval.

Mr. Williams made a motion to formalize the work list. Mr. Bone seconded the motion and it was carried.

Mr. Bone discussed the potential of adding the work list to the new web page.

f. Report on North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association's Legislative Breakfast
Mr. Macartney stated the commission was very well represented. The work that was done has
born some fruit, our voices were heard. The work has been passed along.

Mr. Bone stated it was a very good meeting. This is something that needs to be done more often and target more groups of representatives. It was well attended.

Ms. Riely stated there was a very good turnout, with great representation. One of the topics was a coastal infrastructure bill introduction. Senator Brown, Tillis and Rabon met with Mr. Macartney and Ms. Riely by themselves. Senator Brown is the chair for appropriations and Senator Rabon is the chair of the rules. They also met with Charles Benson and recommend the same of not saying where the funding may come from but getting the funding. Keeping the lines of communication open are very important. She discussed a possible coastal infrastructure spending bill in the federal budget.

9. Town's Local Projects

a. North Topsail Beach – Stuart Turille

Mrs. Faulkner stated they have signed off on the "FEMA Section G". The dredging cost is very expensive and are looking to other sand sources. The terminal groin project is moving to finalize their EIS.

b. **Surf City** – Larry Bergman

Mr. Bergman stated they are in the final stages of the beach push.

c. **Topsail Beach** – Mike Rose

Mr. Rose stated they too have signed off on the "Category G" with FEMA. They are working towards their next project, this project will add a new total dune structure, a two-million-yard project. We are focusing on budget currently.

10. New Business

a. North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association's Legislative Meeting – April 3 & 4, 2017, Nags Head, NC – Do we have questions or comments to share at this meeting?



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Ms. Riely, stated that participants to the NCBIWA local government meeting in April will be diverse. On Monday night, they will have their annual dinner. Tuesday will be a federal update.

b. **Senate Bill 131 - Short Title: Regulatory Reform Act of 2016 –** What actions should we take, if any?

Mr. Gibson stated that SB 131 (2016) would allow sand sources from three shoal sand sources without testing. The problem is that if the sediment core sampling is exempted for these shoal areas and the sand grain size is inappropriate for beach nourishment then it could mess up the beach for years. All the rules that are in place now are because of previous projects that have gone awry. If these standards are taking out and something happens it will set the whole state back a decade? The sampling needs to be done.

Mr. Bone made a motion to follow Chris's recommendation. Mr. Ward seconded the recommendation. One opposed and it was carried.

11. Open Forum

Mr. Peters stated the BIMP outlines five districts within the state. Should be considering to facilitate something on a regional level that would help us.

Ms. Riely stated the second part of the state funding would need to be coordinated through a state agency, probably NC Dept. of Environmental Quality. Entities would have to apply and funding would be based on rankings from some form of need scale. These are all still in the discussion phase.

Mr. Williams stated state and federal agencies own a lot of the beach.

12. Next Meeting – Surf City Town Hall, 2 PM, April 27, 2017

13. Adjournment

Mr. Ward made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Macartney seconded the motion and it was carried.