

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, May 24, 2018, 2:00 PM

North Topsail Beach

Commission Members:

Steve Smith
Mike Benson
David Ward
Dick Peters
Larry Combs
Teresa Batts
Hiram Williams
Jerry Patton
Jerry Heid
Mark Price

Public Present:

Dan Tuman, Mayor, North Topsail Beach
Michael Rose, Town Manager, Topsail Beach
Linda Stipe, Commissioner, Topsail Beach
Jade Litcher, BIS Member, Topsail Beach
John Goller, Topsail Beach Resident
Charles & Jeannine Meyers
Christina Burke, Recording Clerk
Tom Leonard, Aldermen, North Topsail Beach
Tom Eggleston, Commissioner, Topsail Beach
Craig Harris, Floodplain Administrator, Pender County
Chance Lambeth, Congressman Rouzer's District Director
Pam Castens, US Army Corps of Engineers
Mike McIntyre, Poyner Spruill

1. Call to Order & Greetings

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Public Comments

No comments were made.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Smith added Quarterly Inlet MOA Update to the agenda as item 11b.

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

4. Approval of the April 26, 2018 Minutes

Mr. Peters made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Patton seconded the motion and it was carried.

5. Consultant/Lobbyist/Partners – Information & Contact Review/Update

Mr. McIntyre updated the Commission Members on the activity he and his firm have been busy working on. He reviewed the update that was emailed out earlier with the Members speaking at length about money allocated for 2 new ACOE projects. He said he should hear any moment about which projects have been selected. Mr. McIntyre said the Town of Topsail Beach has decided not to move forward with their federal plan, but he is hoping the Topsail Beach/Surf City project is one that is approved. He added that if that project does not get included in the FY 2018 budget, we keeping moving forward for FY 2019.

Mr. Peters asked about the requested meeting with Secretary Zinke. Mr. McIntyre said there has been no response yet from Senator Burr and Senator Tillis, but he will keep pressing their staff and not let

them forget it.

Mr. Benson thanked Mr. McIntyre for staying close to the issues and guiding the Commission.

6. United States Army Corp of Engineering (USACE) Update– Pam Castens

Mrs. Castens said she is working with the Attorney and Representatives for Surf City to make sure they know the real estate requirement in case construction funds become available. She urged Representatives of North Topsail Beach to be aware of the requirements as well. Mayor Tuman questioned if the Town of North Topsail Beach had been supplied documentation of the requirements. Mrs. Castens said the Town was given a copy but also stated that the USACE has staff available to help the Town's with the process. Mr. Benson also informed Mayor Tuman that the real estate requirements can be found on the website under the Federal Plan. Mayor Tuman asked what the next step was assuming the construction funds become available immediately. Mrs. Castens said Surf City and North Topsail Beach will need to execute the PPA's the Attorneys have already reviewed. Mayor Tuman was concerned that the project cost analysis needed to be updated to take into account the recent issue they ran into with rocks in the sand from an offshore borrow site. Mrs. Castens assured Mayor Tuman that they have accounted for that risk.

7. NC Coastal Resources Commission (CRAC & CRC) Update

Mr. Smith informed the Commission Members that the next CRC meeting will be July 11-12 in Beaufort. He said items on the agenda include adoption of the new dune rules and discussion of the purchase of a dredge. Mr. Smith said he will keep the members apprised of any action.

8. North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association (NCBIWA) Review – Kathleen Riely

Mr. Smith stated that Mrs. Riley requested all members visit the NCBIWA website for the most current information on meetings and action items.

9. Old Business

a. State Funding of Beach Maintenance Fund

Mr. Smith stated that any new information on this topic will be known after today.

b. Topsail Beach move to private project

Mayor Tuman asked if trying to get the USACE to see the benefit to using sand from the inlet is of no consequence now that the Town has withdrawn from the Federal Project. Mr. Smith said the Town will continue to push the ACOE to support the issue, but it is out of the hands of the Wilmington office and has been sent to the Atlanta office. Mrs. Castens asked if the Topsail Beach Board of Commissioners will vote to officially withdraw from the Federal Project. Mr. Smith said it is being discussed now if that should be an agenda at the next meeting.

10. Towns' Local Project

a. North Topsail Beach – Mayor Tuman

Mayor Tuman stated that there will be an upcoming scoping meeting on the proposed terminal groin.

b. Surf City – Teresa Batts

Ms. Batts said that Mr. Gibson of TI Coastal is 80% complete with the geological research for their private beach nourishment project. She said the Town is still waiting to hear if the Town could use funds from the Shallow Draft Inlet (SDI) fund. Ms. Batts invited everyone to the Flag Day Ceremony at Sound Side Park on June 14th.

c. Topsail Beach – Mike Rose

Mr. Rose said the Town of Topsail Beach is continuing to move forward with the permit process for the Local Storm Damage Reduction (SDR) project. Chris Gibson has met with the various agencies to address comments and concerns. Mr. Rose stated that the BIS Committee is planning a Community Forum to educate the public on the scope of the project and the timeline. The BIS Committee is also investigating alternative crossover options.

11. New Business

- a. Mr. Smith spoke about the quarterly MOA meeting he and Mr. Rose attended in New Bern. He stated that copies of the handouts from the meeting, which includes the dredging schedule, was available to those interested. He noted that the ACOE has dredging projects planned in the fall for many of the ICW crossings.

Mr. Smith stated that the Town of Topsail Beach received a letter stating that the Coast Guard planned to remove the buoys in Topsail Creek. He noted the importance of keeping Topsail Creek open and he said he will keep the Commissioner apprised of any developments.

- b. Mr. Smith asked if the members if they would like to keep the same schedule as last year by not holding a July meeting and moving the November Meeting to December 6, 2018.

Mr. Peters made a motion to keep the calendar the same as last year. Seconded by Mr. Patton, the motion carried.

12. Open Forum

Mr. William said he was in Raleigh where he met with Senator Rabon and others. Even though the meeting was on another topic he always finds a way to talk about beach nourishment when he can. Mr. Williams spoke about how it is the job of the 20 coastal Counties to convince the other 80 Counties in NC that the beaches and inlets benefit all of North Carolina, not just the coastal communities. He said that we all take care of rock slides and snow storms in the piedmont and mountain areas, we need to make them understand the importance of dredging and beach nourishment. Mr. Smith said the NC Association of Resort Towns and Convention Cities breakfast will be next week. He believes that will be

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a great platform to reach organizations that are state wide.

Mr. Williams also said he heard the purchasing of a dredge using SDI funds is a done deal. He said this will affect all of us.

13. Next Meeting – Surf City Town Hall, 2 PM, June 28, 2018

14. Adjournment - Mr. Benson made a motion to adjourn at 3:08 p.m.

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