



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday December 11, 2025, 2:00 PM
Topsail Beach Town Hall, Topsail Beach, NC

Commission Members Present

William Snyder, Chairman
Larry Strother, Vice Chair
Rick Grant, NTB
Frank Braxton, TB
Teresa Batts, SC
Ed Broadhurst, TB
David Ward, SC
Hiram Williams, SC

Associates Present

Mike McInyre & Marley Peterson, Ward
Smith, Via WebEx
Ann Durand, TFG, Via WebEx
Eugene Young, Via WebEx
David Ferrell, Maynard Nexsen
Kerri Allen, NCCF
Kathleen Riley, NCBIWA, Via WebEX
Kathy Zagzebski, Turtle Hospital, Via WebEx
Christina Burke, TB Town Manager
Kyle Breuer SC Town Manager
John Koloski, SC Councilman
Jamie Pratt, TI Coastal
Grayson Overholt, (Senator Tillis)
Kip Malcolm, NTB Alderman
Andy Peil, SC Councilman
Alex Arab, TB Commissioner
John Best, TB Commissioner, Alternate

Call to Order & Greetings

Chairman Snyder called the meeting at order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed the commission members, associates, and those in the audience and online. Chairman Snyder then asked Teresa Batts to lead the group in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Public Comments

No comments.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Snyder asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ed Broadhurst made a motion to approve the agenda. Teresa Batts seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.



Approval of Minutes for August 21, 2025

Chairman Snyder thanked Mike Benson for preparing the minutes then asked for a consensus in approving them which followed.

Consultant & Partner's Reviews

a. Federal Legislation Activities - Ward and Smith, P.A. –Congressman Mike McIntyre. Congressman McIntyre attended remotely along with his associate Marley Peterson from Ward Smith and Ann Durand, from TFG, Washington.

Congressman McIntyre described a very busy year in Washington with a temporary lull due to the government shutdown. The government was now working under a continuing resolution through January 31st, 2026

David Richardson, the acting director of FEMA has resigned with Karen Evans taking on that role. Streamlining and restructuring FEMA is still under active consideration through the Fixing the Emergency Management Act of 2025. Input on that issue is strongly recommended.

Waters of The US (WOTUS) definition is currently undergoing revision and public comments are being accepted.

Congressman McIntyre stressed that funding was available for water infrastructure projects that would help limit exposure to lead in drinking water.

The annual legislative trip to Washington is scheduled for April 20-22nd.

North Topsail Beach CBRA Mapping Issue.

Congressman McIntyre then described continued good news and a series of successful meetings on Capitol Hill and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service relative to the North Topsail Beach CBRA mapping issue. Both House and Senate Committees and the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife appear receptive to discussion.

Surf City Coastal Storm & Risk Management Report.

Congressman McIntyre and his staff continue to work closely with Congressman Rouzer's Office to push the Surf City CSDM Project. Efforts continue to be made to move this project out of the Assistant Secretary for the Army's office in the Pentagon to OMB.

Other Washington News. Please see details in Congressman McIntyre's report on the TISPC Federal Advocate webpage.

b. NC State Legislation Activities – Maynard Nexsen PC – David Ferrell



David Ferrell joined us in person to report on activities of the General Assembly. Budget work has proceeded in pieces with legislature technically still in session. The expectation is that the Medicaid funding issue will need to be resolved, but that larger budget work will not be considered until April, May, or June. There are major disagreements between the House and the Senate, both Republican controlled, concerning tax cuts and funding levels. Not much activity is expected until after the Primaries that are scheduled for March the 3rd.

Funding for a Shellfish Leasing Study is in the Farm Act, which has not been funded. There are continued concerns about funding for the Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation fund and the Shallow Draft Inlet fund. There is a need to meet with our local delegates to educate them on our coastal needs going forward.

c. North Carolina Coastal Federation – Kerri Allen

Kerri discussed concerns regarding reinterpretation of WOTUS and how wetlands are defined and delineated. This issue is of particular concern for Pender and Onslow Counties where 4 million acres of wetlands may be impacted.

Kerri also raised concerns about a proposed interbasin transfer of up to 6 million gallons per day from the Cape Fear River Basin to the Neuse River basin to support data center water needs.

Kerri announced that progress was being made on the NOAA Grant that North Carolina Sea Grant and the Coastal Federation were awarded. She expects that the first stakeholders' meetings will be held in March. GIS information should be completed by late summer. The study area will be in Stump Sound.

Kerri also announced that the moratorium on new oyster leases in New Hanover County is due to expire in 2026. Kerri did not know the exact date that the moratorium would expire.

John Best spoke from the audience and suggested that, from the public's perspective, there had to be a better alternative to white pvc pipes that are used in column leases, due to their appearance. Kerri agreed that this is an item that needed to be worked on.

d. North Carolina Beach, Inlet and Waterway Association – Kathleen Riely

Kathleen discussed the latest redistricting in North Carolina. We will now have three districts to represent coastal issues. Kathleen questioned the progress of Congressman Murphy's Bill, HR 3161, the Preventing Environmental Hazards Act, that would allow using flooding insurance funds to mitigate the impacts of houses destroyed by flooding.

Kathleen also stressed the need to educate our State Legislative representatives concerning Coastal Storm Mitigation needs and Shallow draft inlet funding, primarily



through the BIMP proposal that has not yet been funded.

e. Turtle Hospital – Kathy Zagzebski

Kathy announced the sad passing of Jean Beasley, the longtime director of the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Hospital.

The hospital treated and released 113 sea turtles this year. Sea turtle emergencies were down to 60.1% this year from a normal rate of 68%, primarily due to the abnormally high tides we experienced in October.

Cold stun season is just beginning and the turtle hospital has received 27 turtles from Massachusetts already. Tours are suspended during this time as staff addresses the cold stun season.

Old Business & Updates

a. Status of Dune Vitex Eradication Project – Christina Burke

Christina Burket gave a brief update on the Beach Vitex projects that she is coordinating for each of the three beach towns. Treatments have stopped for the year due to cold weather, to resume in the spring. They have amended the contract with Michael Baker to ensure that no areas are treated without prior notification.

b. CRAC and CRC update

Kyle Breuer reported that the CRAC reviewed the CRC's Science Committee's study on Inlet Hazard Areas (IHA) and proposed setback requirements in those IHAs. The Science Committee has defined Hybrid Vegetation Lines that reflect historical inlet movements. The Science Committee has not made any formal recommendations for changes to the setback areas in IHAs.

The CRC approved the Topsail Beach 30 Year Beach Management Plan. The CRC also directed the Science Panel to evaluate the use of hardened structures on the coastline in response to the recent October storms and their damage. The Science Committee will present an outline of what the study will entail.

Town Updates

a. Surf City.

Manager Breuer thanked TISPC and Chairman Snyder for supporting Surf City in its Federal Project. Kyle provided an update on a stormwater project at Roland Avenue. Manager Breuer also spoke about a new waterline that will be installed to connect to Northshore.



b. Topsail Beach

Manager Burke reported that the BIS Committee has formed a Water Management Task Team that will pull together recent storm water and tidal flooding information to formulate an action plan for the Town.

c. North Topsail Beach

Manager Derian reported on their current beach nourishment project in response to TS 8. They are moving ahead with the project, but it has been slow process working with FEMA. The project is currently underway and it will move 61,000 cubic yards of sand in phases 1-3 of their projects. The project will take approximately 3 months and it will cost \$2.9MM.

The town is also working on beach access repairs that were required after the recent October storms. They have installed a beach access mat at the Jefferies Creek Access and will install one at the Jenkins Way Access. Work will begin soon on storm water projects related to the RCCP program. They are working with WK Dickson on projects at Gregg Street and Richard Peters Park.

New Business

a. CRAC and CRC Review – Kyle Breuer

Kyle Breuer reported that the CRAC reviewed the CRC's Science Committee's study on Inlet Hazard Areas (IHA) and proposed setback requirements in those IHAs. The Science Committee has defined Hybrid Vegetation Lines that reflect historical inlet movements. The Science Committee has not made any formal recommendations for changes to the setback areas in IHAs.

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b. Accomplishments 2025 and Goals 2026 - Larry Strother

Vice Chairman Larry Strother introduced the 2025 Accomplishments and 2026 Goals. Larry asked for a motion to approve the 2025 Accomplishments and 2026 Goals. A motion was made by David Ward and seconded by Teresa Batts. The motion carried unanimously.



c. 2026 Meeting Dates – William Snyder

William reviewed the proposed meeting dates. The 2026 meeting dates were approved unanimously.

d. Election for Chairman and Vice Chairman – TISPC Membership

Vice Chairman Larry Strother asked for nominations for the position of TISPC Chair person. David Ward Nominated William Snyder and Teresa Bastts seconded the motion. The nomination carried unanimously.

Chairman William Snyder asked for nominations for the TISPC Vice Chair. Ed Broadhurst nominated Larry Strother, which was seconded by David Ward. The nomination carried unanimously.

e. Team Member Recognition

Chairman Snyder recognized Larry Combs, who was in the audience, for his long service to TISPC. Mr. Combs has served the TISPC since 2012 and was one of its founding members.

Chairman Snyder also recognized Mike Benson for his long and dedicated service to TISPC. Mr. Benson was the TISPC Vice Chairman and took over for Steve Smith in October of 2024. He has continued during 2025 as a TISPC member and acted as William Snyder’s mentor and was always available for consultation. Mr. Benson also recorded and published the meeting minutes, a time demanding task that he did flawlessly. He has also developed the TISPC website and continues that role today.

Chairman Snyder also recognized Tom Leonard who is rotating off the Commission. Tom worked extensively as a delegate on our legislative trips to Washington, DC, and testified before congressional committees twice on behalf of North Topsail Beach in relation to its CBRA mapping issue.

Upcoming Meetings

- a. February 25-26, CRC, Dunes Club, Atlantic Beach
- b. March 26, TISPC, 2:00 PM, Surf City
- c. April 15-16, CRAC and CRC, Ocean Isle Beach Town Hall
- d. April 20-23, Spring Legislative trip to Washington
- e. April 24-25, NCBIWA conference, Emerald Isle

Public/Commission Members Comments

None given

Next Meeting – 2 PM, Thursday, March 26 – Surf City Town Hall

Adjournment and thank you for your support

Larry Strother made a motion to adjourn with a second from Frank Braxton and it passed unanimously.