

## Minutes

### Dare County Oregon Inlet Task Force Meeting

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

9:30 a.m., March 15, 2022

Attendance: Jim Tobin, Harry Schiffman, Bob Peele, Steve House, Russ King, John Ponton

#### 1.0 Review Minutes- December 14, 2021

Jim Tobin called the meeting to order at 9:30am. Bob Peele made the motion to adopt the minutes. John Ponton seconded the motion. All in favor.

#### 2.0 Welcome guests

Jim thanked everyone for joining.

#### 3.0 NCDOT Division I update

Barton Grover updated the Task Force on the DOT Bonner Bridge demolition project. One more barge dump remaining. They have removed several more pilings since the last meeting. They performed a sonar survey and identified 8 irregularities on the bottom, which they will be looking into. DOT cannot move the barge due to shoaling, they requested the Corps perform dredging.

#### 4.0 Update on buoys placement in & around O.I. by USCG ANT, Wanchese

John Ahlen reported they are waiting on dredging on the west side before moving buoys. They have done servicing, replacing poles, in Old House Channel and Walter Slough.

#### 5.0 Dredging Summary Report

No report. No dredging has occurred since last meeting. John and Barton confirmed that Brennan and Dee Dee from the Corps are working on providing the information the Task Force needs. John provided the Corps with sample documents of what used to be provided by the Corps several years ago. Barton stated those employees who provided the information were no longer with the Corps, so the Corps is determining which employees hold each piece of information and the most efficient way to provide it on one document to Dare County. We'll get that information quarterly. Brennan Dooley confirmed what Barton said and they'll be able to provide the information requested.

#### 6.0 O.I. Survey & Channel reports

Joen Petersen reported west of the bridge does not look good. The plan is for the Merritt to begin dredging there on Thursday. The Corps will be discussing with DOT if the priority is west of the bridge or at the Bar. Jim asked about the status of the Murden. Joen said the Murden is going to Bigfoot Slough to respond to the DOT emergency. John asked about the Currituck. Joen reported there is about one year left of work on the Currituck. Joen spoke about the Bar. It is in good shape, but the DOT tug company wants it at 10 feet. Joen was concerned if the Bar is dredged to 10 foot over a couple days, will DOT be ready

to move the barge out before it shoals back. Joen believed the Corps would more than likely dredge west of the bridge and Jim confirmed that is where the focus should be.

## **7.0 Corps Dredging Schedule**

Item covered in OI Survey & Channel reports section.

## **8.0 EJE Dredging Construction Update**

Jordan Hennessy from EJE reported the dredge was being painted the last week. There was one force majeure day which delayed delivery to May 25<sup>th</sup>, but launch date is still April 1<sup>st</sup>. Coast Guard in Louisiana and North Carolina will have to certify vessel. It will take two weeks for the dredge to get here from Louisiana. There were some issues with the damage stabilization analysis on the initial calculations, but have now received favorable readings and should have that finalized this week. A 25' Parker boat has been purchased to be used as a survey boat.

## **9.0 Permit Updates**

Ken reported that all permits are in place for Miss Katie from the Bar to Old House Channel. Also, we are still moving forward with permitting the Miss Katie to dredge from Old House to Manteo. DCM requested those permits be separated into 3 separate CAMA Major permits. And Corps Regulatory requested the project be separated into two separate Department of Army permits. CPE is also working on a permit for Island H, to elevate the dikes and ensure there is enough capacity for this winter's Corps pipeline project. It will be a Minor permit. Harry asked if the permits that Ken is working on will allow the Miss Katie to pick up a small load of material in Wanchese on the way to Oregon Inlet from time to time. Ken confirmed that if they get the permits, that will be allowed. Barton informed the Task Force that he has submitted an amendment to an existing DEQ grant for cost share on the permitting for the Miss Katie. Barton will also be in front of the Board of Commissioners next Monday to request he be allowed to submit a cost share application to cover the design and construction of Island H modifications. Barton will also soon be requesting estimates from EJE for projected Miss Katie dredging costs in FY23, so that he can submit a shallow draft application for cost share from the State.

## **10.0 Additional comments**

Barton mentioned last months presentation by Michael Flynn concerning a no-wake zone. Jim stated he had talked to the Park Service about having a public meeting sharing the map of the proposed no-wake zone.

Barton also mentioned they had received the vertical clearance heights from DOT as requested. He had received some comments concerning whether the bent numbers would be marked on the bridge and will reach out to DOT about this.

## **11.0 Administrative comments**

### **11.1 Current Budget**

11.1.1 Non- Federal Funds with Corps, estimated \$1,350,250

11.1.2 FY2022 President's Budget- \$3,296,000

11.1.3 Dare County FY2022 Budget- \$3,000,000

11.1.4 Infrastructure Bill (Wanchese to Oregon Inlet) - \$6,400,000

Barton reported that there have been no adjustments to the budget amounts, no dredging has occurred since the last meeting. Barton shared a photo of the dredge that Jordan had provided, which showed the dredge now that it has been painted. Greg Kennerley with the Coast Guard asked that EJE continue to provide updates to the Coast Guard on expected completion date so they are aware when inspections will be necessary.

## **12.0 Adjourn**

Steve made the motion to adjourn. Russ seconded.

DRAFT