



Minutes

Dare County Oregon Inlet Task Force Meeting

Dare County Administration Building
Manteo, NC

9:30 a.m. September 10, 2024

Attendance: Steve House, Harry Schiffman, Russ King, Anthony Lloyd, Brown Douglas

Staff: Barton Grover

Others in Attendance: Jordan Hennessy, Brad Rosov, John Tayloe, Carl Hendrickson, Kyle Ward, Erin Weller, Patrick Tallant

1.0 Welcome guests

- Meeting was called to order at 9:30am by Chairman House.
- Chairman House welcomed Anthony Lloyd to the Task Force.

2.0 Review Minutes- August 13, 2024

- Russ King motioned to approve August 13, 2024 minutes with clarification that Harry Schiffman, not Bob Peele, seconded the motion to approve July Minutes. Steve House seconded. All in favor.

3.0 USCG ANT Wanchese Update

- Patrick Tallant stated buoy 4 was moved north and buoy 6 was installed. Buoy 8 was relit and moved. Buoy 10 was also relocated. They are constantly moving buoys west of the bridge due to weather, shoaling, and narrow channel conditions. Buoy 27 was put back on station last week.
- Patrick Tallant asked Russ King if there had been any discussion on AIS with captains at the Fishing Center. Russ King said he again spoke with some captains and received feedback that it was extremely useful during a recent storm. Russ also indicated that the users of the public boat ramp utilize it more often than the experienced captains. Russ had the opportunity to talk to a few boaters at the ramp who have indicated AIS is helpful.

4.0 U.S. Army Corps Update

- Erin Weller reported the Merritt is in the shipyard in Manns Harbor until September 30th. They do have an emergency request to dredge Bigfoot Slough, which is likely where the Merritt would go once out of the shipyard. Barton Grover shared the Corps survey of the entrance to Wanchese Channel done last week which showed depths after the recent Miss Katie event. Brad Rosov asked when the ocean bar channel would be surveyed. Erin responded it is on the priority list to be done soon.

5.0 EJE Dredging Update

- Jordan Hennessy reported for Oregon Inlet & Interior Channels during the month of August, approximately 57,500 cubic yards were dredged. From the federal channels, approximately 13,000 cy, from the non-federal channels approximately 4,960 cy, and approximately 39,600 from the Bar and Alternate Channel. The Miss Katie also dredged the Hatteras Connector channel in August, dredging approximately 23,477 and also dredging approximately 3,013 cy from Sloop Channel for Hyde County.
- The Miss Katie is currently dredging Range 1 and 17ext. and towards the double nickel to address hot spots. Next week the Miss Katie will be at the dock for maintenance.

6.0 CPE Update

- Brad Rosov thanked Steve House and Jordan Hennessy for the tour around Wanchese and of the Miss Katie last week, it was good to see everything first hand.
- Brad said we submitted in June a modification request to expand the dredge corridor to match the recently modified Corps authorization. This would also allow the Miss Katie to dredge to 14ft rather than the current 12ft. We have received the permits from all the agencies, but are still in discussion with the Corps on certain conditions. We are looking to set up a meeting to refine those conditions to resolve the issues.
- Brad stated they are currently finalizing the quarterly plans and agency notifications for the next quarter.
- A permit modification to include funnels in the non-federal channels was issued by CAMA and 401 Water Quality Certification was also issued, but we are still waiting for the Corps Regulatory and Park Service SUP to allow dredging near the

entrance of the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center. We have also requested a SUP to allow for surveying of the SAV resources with a drone and to launch from land.

7.0 Administrative comments

7.1 Current Budget

- 7.1.1 Miss Katie DEQ Contract Remaining Funds (up to August 15th)
 - 7.1.1.1 Oregon Inlet – \$9,307,137.28
 - 7.1.1.2 Wanchese to 17ext. - \$366,791.64
 - 7.1.1.3 Crack & Walter Slough - \$725,178.31
 - 7.1.1.4 Old House 2 - \$234,027.49
- 7.1.2 Federal Funds (Pipeline Dredging & Operations & Maintenance)
 - 7.1.2.1 Earmark - \$5,706,600
 - 7.1.2.2 IJA – \$4,067,100
 - 7.1.2.3 O&M - \$300,000

8.0 Additional Comments

- Harry Schiffman asked for an update on the pipeline project. Erin Weller stated they have an apparent low bidder but she did not believe it has been awarded. Harry asked if Erin could provide a copy of the plans so they could coordinate dredging operations. Erin said the scope has not changed. Old House Channel Range 2 and the Alternate Route and Stumpy Point as an option. Erin will look for the bid specifications to send over. Barton Grover commented he would search on Sam.gov for the project specifications to pass along to the Task Force.
- Russ King said for reference that the Fishing Center had previously obtained a CAMA Major Permit and an EA was previously done for this area where we are waiting for the NPS SUP. Russ said for Brad Rosov to reach out if he needs anything.
- Jordan Hennessy asked if the Corps rate has changed since last October. Erin Weller stated the rate was changed to \$28,000 for a 12-hour day on May 8th. Hourly rate is \$2,333. Jordan Hennessy stated we will need to go back to address the dredge savings since May 8th.
- Steve House asked Kyle Ward for an update on the survey of the Albemarle Sound. Kyle stated he believed that has been completed and he will check on it.
- Jordan Hennessy asked Kyle if they use Corps surveys to update NOAA maps. Kyle Ward responded they do, but there is typically a lag of 3 to 4 months. Jordan asked if they would take other surveys, specifically of the Crack & Walter Slough since the Corps does not survey those channels. Kyle said they would and there is a relatively easy process to upload that data to NOAA online.

- John Tayloe said it has been very educational listening in today and he appreciated the opportunity. Steve House said he appreciated John coming down a couple weeks ago to talk to us and it was a great meeting.

9.0 Adjourn

- Harry Schiffman motioned to adjourn

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