



County of Dare

P.O. Box 1000 | Manteo, NC 27954

MINUTES

DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

9:00 a.m., June 3, 2019

Commissioners present: Chairman Robert Woodard, Vice Chairman Wally Overman
Rob Ross, Steve House, Jim Tobin, Danny Couch, Ervin Bateman

Commissioners absent: None

Others present: County Manager/Attorney, Robert Outten
Deputy County Manager/Finance Director, David Clawson
Public Information Officer, Dorothy Hester
Clerk to the Board, Cheryl Anby and retiring Clerk Gary Lee Gross

A full and complete account of the entire Board of Commissioners meeting is archived on a video that is available for viewing on the Dare County website www.darenc.com.

At 9.01 a.m. Chairman Woodard called to order the regularly scheduled meeting with appropriate prior public notice having been given. He invited Rev. Cherri Wheeler, a retired U.S. Air Force Chaplain to share a prayer, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Note – some agenda items were handled out of sequential order to accommodate the time specific Public Hearing scheduled for 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Woodard offered a moment of silence for the families who lost loved ones in the Virginia Beach Municipal Building shooting tragedy.

ITEM 1 – OPENING REMARKS – CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE

Following is a brief outline of the items mentioned by Chairman Woodard during his opening remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the Dare County website –

- Earlier this morning he administered the oath of office to Cheryl C. Anby, new Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, as Gary L. Gross is retiring the end of June.
- Announced this meeting would be the first live meeting broadcasted on the internet.
- Noted that we have just enjoyed Memorial Day, which this year also commemorated the 75th anniversary of D-day. He enjoyed a visit with his family this year.
- Senator Thom Tillis came to town this past Friday and together with Vice-Chairman Overman and Commissioner Bateman, they met with Mayor Davies. The function was

hosted by Kill Devil Hills at their town hall. He said he brought the Senator up to date with our budget, beach nourishment, bridges and the College of the Albemarle.

- Reported his attendance to the opening season of The Lost Colony, the oldest drama in the United States, adding that 70% of the cast members are new this year. Although the evening was cut short due to inclement weather, he assured we would be impressed with this year's production.
- Gave details of how he enticed Commissioner Terry Gray to Dare Days so he could be surprised with his presentation to him as Citizen of the Year. The award truly honored his many selfless contributions to our area to include his efforts for children at Christmas.
- As the Board continues to acknowledge our veterans, Chairman Woodard presented a Certificate of Appreciation to one of our outstanding local veterans, Kelli Harmon. She served in Afghanistan, received the Bronze Star, the 2019 Distinguished Service Award as a North Carolina combat veteran, and now continues to have a positive impact on our community and local veterans.

ITEM 2 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS

- 1) Clei Hill, Community Health Technician, received a 10-year pin.
- 2) Eleen Bryant, Finance Department, received a 20-year pin.
- 3) Tina Tran, Health and Human Services, received a 20-year pin.
- 4) Toni Midgett, Assistant Register of Deeds, received a 25-year pin.
- 5) Brandi Combs, Finance Department, received a 30-year pin.

ITEM 3 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – JUNE, 2019

Mike Hollowell received the Employee of the Month award from Elizabeth Reilly and Tracie Porter. Ms. Porter described the many ways that Mr. Hollowell, having received the award once before, is an asset to Dare County with consistent pride in his work and willingness to help others.

ITEM 4 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

At 9:36 a.m. the Manager outlined the procedure for making public comments in Manteo and via the video link to the Fessenden Center Annex in Buxton. No one responded to the invitation to address the Board. The County Manager closed Public Comments at 9:37 a.m.

ITEM 5 – PROCLAMATION – VULNERABLE ADULT AND ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS

Commissioner Tobin presented a proclamation describing the need for a comprehensive system of protection for vulnerable and older adults. The proclamation designates the period from Mother's Day to Father's Day as "Vulnerable Adult and Elder Abuse Awareness Month". He added we need to continue our local efforts on this ongoing and prevalent problem, explaining it included financial, physical and often emotional abuse.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to adopt the proclamation as presented.

Commissioner Bateman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 6 – AIRPORT MODERNIZATION REPORT

Presentation by Brent Lane, Principal Investigator with Aerogeny Strategies, provided a final report outlining the Dare County Regional Airport Economic Impact Assessment, to assess the impact and feasibility of expanding and modernizing the Dare County Regional Airport. His report included:

- How the present air service affects this community – interviews included local government, the boat industry, business leaders, the Airport Authority, Airport/tenants and tourism/attractions
- Expansion could create more jobs, encourage new businesses and enhance revenues

He added there are reasons to be optimistic about the project:

- Growing demand for air service to the Outer Banks
- Connectivity to global and national customers – increased tourism flow
- Boat builders here customize boats for global customers
- High-end tourism interest
- New companies will come here and stay here

He concluded that currently we are less adequate – inaction may not be an option from our current configuration. If the airport is modernized, we could look into commercial service for the future. Expanding the runway will help solidify and increase the benefits the airport offers such as public safety issues and medical services, coupled with the economic component to allow us to better compete globally.

ITEM 7 – BUXTON BEACH NOURISHMENT 2021 MAINTENANCE PROJECT COASTAL SCIENCE & ENGINEERING AMENDMENT #2 TO CONTRACT (Att. # 1)

Mr. Clawson presented a summary of the project and introduced Tim Kana and Haiqing Kaczkowski from Coastal Science & Engineering. Ms. Kaczkowski gave a comprehensive report on the Buxton project including its history and plans for maintenance. She outlined project key dates and milestones and explained the impact that hurricanes have had on the project and outlined FEMA's Public Assistance Program.

Ms. Kaczkowski provided a maintenance timeline and described options including renourishment alone versus renourishment with groin restoration. Mr. Kana led the Board in dialogue about groins, including those in the Buxton area, and the benefits they provide. The Board engaged in discussion with the engineers about the feasibility of getting the necessary State and Federal authorizations to restore the existing Buxton groins. Mr. Clawson asked the Board to approve a Capital Project Ordinance for the \$19.7 million project and to authorize the County Manager to execute Amendment #2 with Coastal Science & Engineering for proposed Professional Services.

MOTION

Commissioner Couch motioned to adopt Capital Project Ordinance and authorize the County Manager to execute Amendment #2 with Coastal Science & Engineering for proposed Professional Services

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 8 – STATE CONTRACT FOR DREDGE VESSEL

The County Manager reviewed that at the previous meeting the Board of Commissioners approved documents related to the dredge vessel. He noted the agreement with the State of NC was still in the process of being finalized. Mr. Outten informed the Board that the revisions to the agreement have been made and now the final agreement with the State is ready for Board approval with authority provided to the County Manager to approve any minor changes from DEQ.

MOTION

Commissioner Tobin motioned to approve the final agreement and authorize the County Manager to make any minor changes that might be necessary and execute all related documents.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 9 – PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT 47013 BUXTON BACK ROAD, CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE & REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION (Att. # 2)

A Purchase Agreement in the amount of \$320,000 for the acquisition of 47013 Buxton Back Road, Buxton, NC, which is adjacent to the County's Transfer Station, was presented for approval. Mr. Outten outlined the building is in good condition and will provide much needed parking and meeting space for election and other activities. He added that the drafted agreement will be corrected and finalized to reflect the purchase is only for two parcels, as the County purchased one of the parcels earlier. Mr. Outten asked the Board to approve the agreement, acknowledging the change to be made to the legal description.

MOTION

Commissioner House motioned to approve the agreement and authorize the Manager to execute all necessary documents, adopt the related Capital Project Ordinance & Revised Reimbursement Resolution for Series 2019 Limited Obligation Bonds. The Board also authorized the Manager to make the necessary changes needed to the property description outlined in the Agreement.

Commissioner Couch seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 10 - PUBLIC HEARING – MANAGER'S PROPOSED BUDGET (Att. # 3)

At 10:12 a.m. the Board held a Public Hearing to receive input concerning this agenda item. The Manager outlined the procedure for making public comments in Manteo and via the video link to the Fessenden Center Annex in Buxton. Mr. Outten provided the Board with a Budget Change List to the FY2020 Proposed Budget. No one responded to the invitation to address the Board. The County Manager closed the Public Hearing at 10:12 a.m.

MOTION

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to approve the Manager's Proposed 2020 Fiscal Year Budget incorporating the changes that were outlined on the Budget Change List and to adopt the Annual Budget Ordinance.

Commissioner Tobin and Commissioner Ross seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 11 – CONSENT AGENDA

The Manager announced the items as they were visually displayed in the meeting room.

MOTION

Commissioner Couch motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes 05.20.19 **(Att. #4)**
- 2) Juvenile Crime Prevention Certification Standards & Funding Plan for 2019/2020
- 3) Water Tower Lease Rate Amendments

Commissioner Bateman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 12 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1) Albemarle Region Resource Conservation & Development Council

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to reappoint Ann Sinclair.

Commissioner Ross seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2) Dare County Waterways Commission

Commissioner House motioned to reappoint Michael Flynn, Dan Oden and Fletcher Willey.

Commissioner Tobin seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

3) Fessenden Center Advisory Board

Commissioner Couch motioned to appoint James Richard Kenner.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

4) Hatteras Community Center Board

Commissioner Bateman motioned to reappoint George Banks, Dennis Robinson and Ricki Shepherd.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

5) Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to reappoint Robert Trivette, Molly McGinnis, Vance Haskett, Gail Hutchison, Jennifer Karpowicz, Edward Hall, Jr., Keith Letchworth, Shelia Davies, Bonnie Bennett, Steve House, Pat Hudspeth, Richard J. Martin, Laura Twichell, Katherine Irby and Nancy Griffin; and to appoint Craig S. Albert; and to appoint Chelsea Artzt as Student Representative and Marcus Hester-Smith to fill the At Large Seat.

Commissioner Bateman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

6) Land Transfer Tax Appeals Board

Commissioner Ross motioned to appoint Michael Siers and to reappoint Jack Overman and Michael Stone.

Commissioner Couch seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

7) Library Board - Dare

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to reappoint Lisa Phillips.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

8) Manns Harbor Community Center

Commissioner Tobin motioned to reappoint Bett Beasley and Vickie Craddock and appoint Jennifer Gilbert.

Vice Chairman Overman seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

9) Roanoke Island Community Center

Vice Chairman Overman motioned to reappoint Jonique Lee, Betty Selby, Allen Moran and Clarence Lewis.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

10) Rodanthe Waves Salvo Community Center Board

Commissioner Couch motioned to reappoint Joey O'Neal.

Commissioner House seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

11) Upcoming Board Appointments

The upcoming Board appointments for July, August and September were announced.

ITEM 13 – COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS & MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

Commissioners and the County Manager frequently make extensive remarks, which can be viewed in their entirety in a video on the Dare County website. Following is a brief summary outline of the items mentioned by Commissioners during this segment –

Commissioner Bateman

He attended a meeting with Senator Thom Tillis and discussed a partnership with Dare County and the possible building of a jetty. Senator Tillis indicated he would be happy to look into that subject.

Commissioner Couch

Gave a positive report on the new ferry which he noted was being utilized by many locals. He added the Massachusetts crew was congenial and the folks have embraced them.

Commissioner Tobin

- Thanked Kelli Harmon again for her service and recognized her as a good addition to Dare County.
- He was unable to join the meeting with Senator Tillis due to another commitment he had in Beaufort. His take away from the visit was Beaufort's restaurants and businesses were not busy, even during the Memorial Day weekend, unlike our area.

Commissioner Ross

- Reported that later today he would be at the new Family Health Center at MP2 on the bypass.
- He noted the anniversary of the moving of the Hatteras lighthouse will be July 1
- May 21 he attended the Interfaith Community Outreach luncheon and accepted on behalf of Dare County the 2018 Partnership Award for Dare County
- He will be attending the Veterans Advisory Council on June 27 and will update later
- This past Saturday he was at the Golf Drive for the Cure which was attended by woman golfers. Proceeds from this cancer fundraiser stay in Dare County.
- Dare EMS held an open house on May 23. We should be proud of what they continue to do for Dare County.

Commissioner House

He attended the Working Watermen's Commission meeting and reviewed the Fishery Management Amendment #2 and reported the amendment would adversely and unfairly affect the local economies of North Carolina coastal communities. He asked the Board to adopt a resolution to oppose the amendment.

MOTION (Att. #5)

Commissioner House motioned to adopt a Resolution opposing further restrictions to the Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan, Amendment 2

Commissioner Tobin seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Vice Chairman Overman

He congratulated the service pin recipients and the Employee of the Month. He also commented on the successful launch of the passenger ferry between Hatteras and Ocracoke.

MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS – NONE

Dorothy Hester: She attended a meeting with Donna Creef regarding the upcoming Census and she will report further with recommendations as discussions continue.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Chairman Woodard asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION

Commissioner House motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Tobin seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

At 12:01 p.m., the Board of Commissioners adjourned until 5:00 p.m., June 17, 2019.



Respectfully submitted,

By: *Cheryl C. Anby*
Cheryl C. Anby, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By: *Robert H. Woodard*
Robert Woodard, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners

Note: copies of attachments (Att.), ordinances, resolutions, contracts, presentations, and supporting material considered by the Board of Commissioners at this meeting are on file in the office of the Clerk to the Board.