

**TOPSAIL ISLAND  
SHORELINE PROTECTION COMMISSION**

August 25, 2016 - 2:00 p.m.  
North Topsail Beach  
Town Hall

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**PRESENT:**

Chairman Michael Curley - Surf City  
Ed Broadhurst - Topsail Beach  
Dick Peters- North Topsail Beach  
Hiram Williams- Surf City  
Jerry Patton – Topsail Beach  
Michael Benson – North Topsail Beach  
David Ward- Surf City  
Julian Bone – Topsail Beach

**Liaisons:**

Carin Faulkner – North Topsail Beach  
Larry Bergman – Surf City  
Mike Rose – Topsail Beach  
Randell Woodruff - Pender County Manager

**Others Attending:**

Steve Smith – Topsail Beach Commissioner  
John Goller - Topsail Beach  
Fred Burns –North Topsail Beach  
Larry Combs- Topsail Beach  
Tom Eggleston – Topsail Beach

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

Minor corrections were made to the minutes. Mr. Broadhurst made the motion to approve the July 2016 minutes. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and it was carried.

**III. Old Business:**

**A. Poyner Spruill (Mike McIntyre):**

Joe Nolan – Senior Legislative Assistant for Senator Thom Tillis – Mr. Nolan reported that the next step for CBRA is to work on legislative language to point to the map that NTB would like to use. He said that Congress will go into recess the Tuesday after Labor Day and then break for the election. He said hopefully the bill will be introduced when they get back.

Mayor Burns said that NTB met with a lot of our State representatives about getting a jetty or a groin put in at New River Inlet. He said that the Marine Corps has said that they have to go up to Morehead City to do exercises. He asked Mr. Nolan for help in getting this message to the Federal government, it is a defense issue to keep the inlet open. He said that Congressman Jones was successful in getting some funds for the side cast dredge and has previously sent letters on behalf of constituents affected.

Mr. Nolan took questions from the committee.

Mr. Williams asked Mr. Nolan to make sure that the elected officials from other areas of the country understand how important the beach strand is to the economic viability of the island. It is our “Amazon” or “Google” and the shoreline makes or breaks us.

Mr. Smith added that there needs to be a discussion of how far people come to get here. Mr. Broadhurst remarked, “we are running a National Park.”

Chairman Curley thanked Mr. Nolan for coming.

**B. Connie Wilson**

State House Select Committee on Strategic Planning and Long Term Funding Solutions.

Mr. Peters reported that there was a meeting of the NC House Select Committee on Strategic Transportation Planning and Long Term Funding Solutions on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August. Local Onslow County elected official Phil Shepherd is the vice chair and several members of the committee made the trip to the area. They met in Sneads Ferry and went into the inlet via shrimp boats and traveled as far as they can go through the channel to show it was not navigable. They then toured the north end to show what the impacts have been as far as erosion and keeping the channel navigable. He said Mr. Turille expressed the Town's difficulties in finding funding. The objective was to discuss what they should focus on in the next legislative session and how they can assist with a local match. There was also a discussion of overall transportation needs in the area. There was discussion to send a letter of thanks to the committee members. Mr. Benson said it would be good to include important points from the meeting to express the needs again.

**C. Town Local Projects:**

1. North Topsail Beach:

Ms. Faulkner stated that the Town issued a Request for Qualifications for professional engineering, planning, permitting and design services for a hardened structure for the New River Inlet. The scope of work for the chosen firm is to develop a Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Town and Onslow County officials are now reviewing the three submissions which were received and should be deciding on a firm some time during the month of September. As mentioned previously, the Town has been unsuccessful up to this time in receiving enough grant funding to pursue the Town's 3<sup>rd</sup> shoreline restoration event, which is dredging the ocean bar a second time. The Town is still pursuing the permits for this project which are expected to arrive just after Christmas this year. The Board elected to wait until the permits are received to make any further decisions on putting the project out for bids. They continue to look over several peer reviews of the modeling study performed to determine the location of the next dredging event and are seeking more information on the Town's high risk areas vs. tax base in the interim.

2. Topsail Beach:

Mr. Rose reported that everything is winding down from the summer season. Topsail Beach is getting ready for the season of festivals in fall.

He said that the Town does not have any new projects coming up. He said that the biological report has been completed from the Town's last project. He said that the one year post project report indicates an increase in flora and fauna and an increase in species diversity. He said that there has also been an increase in the number of animals in the marsh area. The report shows a comeback for endangered species and no negative environmental impacts. He said that there has only been about a 12% loss in shoreline which will give the Town an additional year, so instead of a 4 year maintenance cycle there will be a 5 year cycle. He reported that the inlet is beyond the Corps depths throughout the system. He said that these are points that the Commission can continue to be make as we discuss the need for future resources – there are positive impacts.

3. Surf City:

Mr. Bergman stated that the Town is continuing its work with the beach planting. The contractor should be finishing up in the next few days. He reported that they changed up the mix of plants used. He reported that the Town had received concerns from citizens as to why we were planting in the extreme heat. He reported that the contractor guarantees his plants and provided him with a detailed professional opinion which included information on how the plants are germinated. They are in a 120 degree greenhouse. The contractor said he was more concerned about his staff working in the heat than the plants.

**D. Status of Existing Corps Projects:**

Mr. Curley stated that Pam Castens had to be at a meeting today. He reported that both Surf City and NTB have submitted the funds to set up the PPA (project partnership agreements). He said the Corps is still working with Topsail Beach and will be laying out the options for moving forward.

**E. CRC Update**

Mr. Moore was not present.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Bergman announced the BIMP public input meetings. He reminded the Committee about the letter that was sent and suggested that some make comment about some of the points from the letter in person at the

hearing. He said hopefully that means that an updated plan is on the way. It will be a good opportunity for them to look at some of our solutions and help us. He said he thinks the report is due January 1, 2017.

**V. OPEN FORUM:**

Mr. Curley announced that he plans on leaving Topsail Island around the first of the year. He said that someone has to take over for him in January and the commission needs to start talking about it. The town in which the chairman is from is responsible for the finances and secretarial duties.

Mr. Williams thanked Chairman Curley for his service all these years and said that the Commission will miss him.

Mr. Curley stated that this organization has been very effective. We have accomplished things that other areas have been unable to do.

**VI. Next Meeting:**

Mr. Curley stated that the next meeting will be September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm at Surf City Town Hall.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Ward made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mr. Williams and the motion carried.

Adopted this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

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Michael Curley  
TISPC Chairman

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Carin Z. Faulkner  
TISPC Recorder