

Commission Members:

Steve Smith
Dick Peters
Mike Curley
Mike Benson
Mark Price
David Ward
Hiram Williams
Dick McCartney
Randall Woodruff
Ed Broadhurst
Jerry Patton

Public Present:

Stuart Turille – North Topsail Beach
Larry Combs- Topsail Beach
Kathleen Riley- NCBIWAS
John Goller- Topsail Beach
Pam Castens- Army Corps
Mike McIntyre- Poyner Spruill
Larry Bergman- Surf City
Linda Stipe-Topsail Beach

1. Call to Order & Greetings
2. Public Comments
3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Peters seconded the motion and it was carried.

4. Approval of the March 23, 2017 Minutes

Mr. Ward made a motion to approve the minutes with a correction to item number 13. Mr. Macartney seconded the motion and it was carried.

5. Consultant/Lobbyist/Partners – Information & Contact Review/Update
 - a. **Poyner Spruill Attorneys** – Mike McIntyre

Mr. McIntyre discussed the encouraging progress made this past month. He included a summary of the president's budget that has been released with part of the budget items which have been driven by the public's concern of what happens to their tax dollars. Congress is currently considering a resolution to continue the current budget till May 5th. The CBRA mapping issue has been brought to both legislative sides, there was hope the new verbiage would be in place by Easter, but this did not come forth. There was good news from the Senate to have the new legislation brought forth. Topsail Beach has been discussing the use of sand in the CBRA zone, it appears that in different Corps agencies, it is Fish & Wildlife interpretation and that has not been a consistent opinion. Poyner & Spruill has been meeting with different Senators and Congressmen about this issue, by amending the CBRA verbiage or allow Fish & Wildlife to use a consistent rule by allowing the use of sand in the CBRA zone. In regards, to obtaining federal funding, for the federal projects they have met with Corps, Topsail Island is in a great position. There are only

about 10-15 projects throughout the country ready for start construction, 5-6 of those are in the Southeastern region and Topsail Island is 2 of those. To go forward a letter needs to be signed by all three mayors to be added to the work plan, which means the projects are in a position to get started i.e. 'shovel-ready.' There is also a letter from the Senators and Congressmen to the Corps that represents the island. It is felt that there has been emphasis put on the need Topsail Island has and the federal delegations he believes now understands this need. Regarding the expense report submitted for the previous month; the background and follow-up from the meetings in Washington and from the Ferguson Group, is the reason for the higher billing. There were several meetings, including one at Corps HQ, and they took a greater amount of time and preparation.

Mr. Bergman asked at what point the state cost match with the towns for expenses does as they have in the past.

Mrs. Castens stated Darren England is the point of contact for the state. It was her belief that the Federal share is 65% and the towns and state would cost share the remaining 35%.

Mr. Smith stated that only 33% of all visitors to Topsail Island are from NC. The rest are from all 50 states and about 8 other countries, with Virginia and Ohio topping out the top 2. This is a good push for local legislatures.

b. Connie Wilson Consulting – Connie Wilson

Mr. Smith stated Senate Bill 131 has been passed. Senate 284 also need to be closely watched. Senate Bill 432 has been slowed down and there are changes to the bill.

6. United States Army Corp of Engineering (USACE) Update– Pam Castens

a. Towns' Status with Partnership Agreements – are there problems from either side?

Mrs. Castens stated Mr. Morckle will be working on the PPA's in this area. It has been suggested to set up a meeting with all town managers in the next few weeks. Mrs. Castens recommend setting a date for a set down review.

b. Financial Cost Benefit Review – Status of USACE review?

Surf City and N. Topsail Beach are under review by their town attorneys, as too with Topsail Beach.

c. Town agreement review – Have town attorney / boards reviewed agreements?

Mrs. Castens stated the Topsail Beach cost update is complete and has been sent to the cost center for certification. Surf City is shortly behind it. Earlier this week Chris Gibson has contacted the Corps on the research on Banks Channel and there should be a meeting next week, in regards, to core samples, for the possibility of using this sand for the federal project.



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Rev 3

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017, 2:00 PM

Surf City Town Hall

- 7. NC Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) Update –
 - a. **CRC Meeting** - Mr. Smith stated the CRC met yesterday and today. Mike Rose is there today. In regard to dune restorations changes, they are looking at updating the current regulations. Mr. Rose felt that are moving in a very positive direction, and he will be bringing back information.
- 8. North Carolina Beach, Inlet & Waterway Association (NCBIWA) Review – Kathleen Riely
 - a. Review of April meeting in Nags Head

Mrs. Riley discussed a meeting she previously had in Raleigh that a state-funding source for the beaches would happen. It could possibly come from DCM (Division of Coastal Management), and they are hiring a new position in this department. She felt that this is a positive movement towards state beach funding. On the federal level that the coastal infrastructure bill, putting together a coastal caucus, for coastal infrastructure spending. There must be a state match, so if there are no monies set aside in Raleigh then North Carolina could lose money from the federal infrastructure funding.

- 9. Old Business
 - a. **NC Wildlife Federation (NCWF) amendment to Designate Special Nursery and Reduce Bycatch Mortality** – What action taken by towns?

Mr. Smith stated the bill is on hold and there is another bill which will limit changes by Fish & Wildlife regulations until prior changes have been evaluated.

- b. **Public Communication** – Web Page – Mike Benson – Hosting and keeping information current

Mr. Benson discussed new updates with the website.

The commission agreed to remove the word ‘lobbying’ from the state and federal goals for 2017.

- 10. Town’s Local Projects
 - a. **North Topsail Beach** – Stuart Turille

Mr. Turille discussed their FEMA reimbursement from hurricane Matthew. The harden structure at the north end is an agreement with the county. This is now in the final stages and in the hands of the county for final approval, once approved we can begin design. The ocean bar project: We have obtained the permit and we are discussing it at their next workshop.

<u>2017 CRC MEETING SCHEDULE</u>	
Feb. 7-8	Hilton Doubletree Atlantic Beach, NC
April 26-27	Dare Co. Govt. Complex Manteo, NC
Jun. 11	Variance Conference Call (if necessary)
Sep. 27-28	Wilmington, NC (location to be determined)
Nov. 7-8	Hilton Doubletree Atlantic Beach, NC



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Rev 3

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017, 2:00 PM

Surf City Town Hall

b. Surf City – Larry Bergman

Mr. Bergman stated that Surf City did lose some of their most recent beach push. The town has been working with the town attorney in obtaining our beach front easements.

c. Topsail Beach – Mike Rose

Mr. Smith discussed they are moving along with their 30-year project and will add a new dune structure. In the last storm, we did lose some sand but it did not hit the dunes.

11. New Business

a. Request for letter from each town on readiness to fund a federal project. Each town needs to respond to Mr. McIntyre

b. Approval of additional charges from Poyner Spruill

Mr. Macartney made a motion to accept the charges and have them dispersed between the three towns. Mr. Broadhurst seconded the motion and it was carried.

c. Elect a TISPC member to vice-chair position

Mr. Smith stated that Mr. Bone has been removed as Mayor Pro-Tem and from all commissions he was previously appointed to, by the Topsail Beach Commissioners.

Mr. Curley made a motion to nominate Mike Benson. Mr. Ward made a motion to close the nomination. Mr. Price seconded the motion and it was moved.

12. Open Forum

Mr. Price stated on May 10th local delegations are meeting with Senator Brown.

Mr. Ward urged all three towns to move forward with the PPA's.

There was discussion of the importance of the slope and distance of the beach, in comparison to the dune system.

13. Next Meeting – Topsail Beach City Town Hall, 2 PM, May 25, 2017

14. Adjournment

Mr. Macartney made a motion to adjourn, and it was carried.