

Shore Protection Manager

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Memorandum

To: Carteret County Beach Commission

From: Ryan Davenport

Re: Carteret County Beach Commission Meeting February 14th, 2022 – Minutes

Attendance

Commission Members Danny Navey(Chair), John Brodman (Vice-Chair), Austin Waters, Larry Corsello, Jimmy Farrington, Tom Rule, secretary Ryan Davenport, and the general public.

(1) Call to Order

Chairman Brodman called the meeting to order and asked that the agenda be rearranged slightly in order to introduce new members and discuss vacancies. Chairman Brodman verified through roll call that six(6) members were present which is the minimum needed per by-laws for a quorum. It was verified that Mike Luther was not present due to a prior engagement. Chairman Brodman stated that Mr. Ronnie Watson (Emerald Isle Seat), Mr. Mike Fiorini (Bogue Banks Seat) and Mr. Larry Baldwin (Carteret County Seat) have recently resigned and that Mayor Jason Holland may soon be appointed to fill the Emerald Isle seat. Mayor Holland did not comment at this time. Chairman Brodman then asked everyone in the room to introduce and tell a bit about themselves.

(2) Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Corsello made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 8th, 2021 special meeting and the November 16th, regular meeting. Commissioner Farrington provided a second for the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

(3) 2022 Beach Commission Officer Elections

Chairman Brodman stated that Beach Commission by-laws required that a Chair and Vice Chair be elected at the first meeting of the year for a one year term. Commissioner Corsello made a motion to nominate Danny Navey as Chair and Mayor John Brodman as Vice Chair. Commissioner Farrington provided a second for the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Brodman then turned the meeting over to newly elected Chairman Navey.

(4) Room Occupancy and “Beach Fund” Update

Chairman Navey turned the floor over to secretary Ryan Davenport to provide an update on Room Occupancy Tax and the balance of the “Beach Fund”. Mr. Davenport stated

that a total of \$186,055.55 was collected in the month of December 2020 and that \$281,096.25 was collected in the month of December 2021. This was an increase of \$95,040.70 in the month of December alone. A total of \$12,754,632.70 was collected in 2021. A total of \$8,964,264.76 was collected in 2020. This put 2021 up \$3,790,367.94 over 2020. These numbers indicate that the tourist economy of Carteret County continues to be very strong.

The opening balance of the “Beach Fund” on 7/1/21 was \$17,491,000. The fund balance on 11/10/21 was \$19,976,916. Since that date \$659,302.24 has been collected from Room Occupancy Tax. Moffit and Nichol has been paid \$6,960.00 for engineering services. This puts the estimated fund balance at \$20,629,258.20.

Further discussion among the commissioners inquired about the breakdown of the tax between hotels, rental homes and VRBO/AIRBnB.

(5) Other Business

Secretary Davenport updated the commission on the intention of Coast Guard Station Bogue Inlet to dredge new access channels to Coast Guard Channel. On 12/19/21 the Shoreline Protection Office sent USACE a comment letter requesting that the placement of beach quality sand be placed in an ocean beach area where it can be compatible with other uses of the beach. It was also requested that the ACOE abandon the option of placing beach quality sand in Placement Areas 60 and 61. Secretary Davenport also informed the commission of ongoing efforts to follow the Critical Habitat designation of the rufa red knot.

Commissioner Brodman asked that we keep apprised of floating structures on shellfish leases. He also stated that we should follow closely the development of offshore wind energy leases.

Commissioner Corsello asked that meeting packets be mailed to each commission member a few days before the meeting.

(6) Public Comment

Chairman Navey opened the floor for public comment. There was discussion between Commissioner Brodman and Mayor Jason Holland on the status of his application to be appointed to the Beach Commission. Secretary Davenport confirmed with the Carteret County Clerk that an application has been received from Mayor Holland and Mr. Daryl Marshall to serve on the Beach Commission. Commissioner Farrington stated that he did reach out to Mr. Marshall and asked him to serve.

(7) March 2022 Meeting Date

Commissioner Farrington made a motion to set the next meeting date as March 28th, 2022 and each meeting to occur on the last Monday of the month through the rest of 2022.

Commissioner Brodman provided a second to this motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Navey asked that the orientation meeting on February 24th, 2022 last from two to five pm.

(8) Adjourn

Chairman Navey declared the meeting adjourned.