

**TOPSAIL ISLAND
SHORELINE PROTECTION COMMISSION**

January 22, 2015 - 2:00 p.m.
Town of North Topsail Beach

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT:

Commission Members:

Chairman Michael Curley - Surf City
David Ward- Surf City
Hiram Williams- Surf City
Richard Peters- N. Topsail Beach
Ed Broadhurst- Topsail Beach
Tom Leonard- N. Topsail Beach
David Piepmeyer- Pender County

Liaisons:

Stuart Turille- North Topsail Beach
Laurence Bergman- Surf City
Tim Holloman- Topsail Beach

I Call to Order:

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

II Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Williams made the motion to approve the December 11, 2014 minutes.
Mr. Peters seconded the motion and it was carried.

III. Old Business:

- Marlow & Company

Mr. Curley stated the Marlow's latest update came out today. They have talked to the district to get with Army Corps about any funding possibilities for 2015. Senator Jones is pushing the House for North

Topsail Beach COBRA issues. There are concerns with the Senate at this time.

Mr. Leonard stated North Topsail Beach is going to D.C. in February for a conference. They are trying to coordinate a meeting with Tillis' staff.

Mr. Turille stated they are going to attempt to re-introduce the COBRA changes to the House and Senate.

Mr. Williams stated that funding is a major obstacle with beach nourishment. Wildlife have been the hold up for the COBRA issues.

- Connie Wilson:

Connie is still diligently working on insurance issues.

- Towns' Local Projects:

1. North Topsail Beach:

Mr. Turille stated that 15,000 linear feet of sandbags are currently being installed. They are in a 4 bag stack standing 7'x30'. This is a temporary mitigation for erosion, in order to preserve and build up the beach. This is protecting ocean front homes as well. Phase five project is underway. Its 220 linear feet a day, and we are currently ahead of our deadline.

2. Topsail Beach:

Mr. Holloman stated they are currently a little over half way, quality of sand is excellent. March 1st is the anticipated completion date. The Christmas tree recycling program has been started, we use them to protect the dunes, by placing them on the beach. The Inlet is now 17' deep, but the markers have not been moved. They will move the markers upon completion of the project. They are currently making the channels back to 17'.

Mr. Piepmeyer stated he wanted to commend Topsail Beach on re-using the sand. The navigation improvement was greatly needed and will be great.

IV. Army Corps

- Pam Castens

Pam stated the Army Corps is wrapping up project cost and economic analyst. Project designs are done. All that is needed is money. Congressman

Rouzer's aid in the office last week. The push for new start authorization is with Tillis' office.

Mr. Curley stated we need commitment from Army Corps. If the project could just get underway, then it would be easier to get funding. Un-used earmarks would get the project started.

Pam stated that starting up is the hardest part. The Army Corps cannot take new starts until Congress releases new starts. The cost to benefit ratio has inflated but interest rates have dropped. Both projects show very strongly.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Curley stated Mr. Morrison resigned from CRAC.

Mr. Peters asked if Mike Moore might be interested in the position.

VI. Elections

Mr. Leonard nominated Mr. Curley as President and Mr. Peters as Vice. Mr. Williams seconded the nomination, and it was carried.

VI. OPEN FORUM:

Mr. Leonard stated that Pedro is currently stationed at Cherry Point. The capability isn't being relocated, but instead it is being done away with. The alternative is for the US Coast Guard to assume this search and rescue mission. The problem this creates is the difference in response time. PEDRO, when launched from MCAS Cherry Point can be on station in approximately 20 minutes. The closest US Coast Guard search and rescue helicopter assets are based at Elizabeth City NC, and take approximately 2 hours to arrive on station. While Pedro responded to NTB four times last year, it is important to note it also responded 14 times in the last 5 years and over 30 times in the last 10 years. It is important that this helicopter not be relocated and the local towns take action to ensure so.

Mr. Peters made a motion to change the meeting to Friday February 27th due to scheduling conflicts. Mr. Leonard seconded the motion and it was carried.

The next meeting will be Friday, February 27th at 2pm at Surf City.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Adopted this the _____ day of _____, 2014.

Michael Curley, TISPC Chairman

Stephanie Edwards Hobbs, TISPC Recorder