

**DARE COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES  
JANUARY 22, 2007**

The Dare County Board of Commissioners met in a workshop as the Stumpy Point Water and Sewer District at 7:00 p.m. on January 22, 2007 at the Stumpy Point Community Center. Commissioners present were Warren Judge, Virginia Tillett, Allen Burrus, Richard Johnson, Mike Johnson and Max Dutton. Commissioner Jack Shea was absent. Also present were County Manager Terry Wheeler, County Attorney Bobby Outten and County Planner Ray Sturza.

Chairman Judge convened the meeting as the Stumpy Point Water and Sewer District. He introduced County Attorney, Bobby Outten and County Planner, Ray Sturza. Attorney Outten outlined the agenda of the meeting. Mr. Sturza thanked everyone for coming. He noted that this is the second time Dare County has made an effort for a waste water treatment facility, the first being in 1978.

Mr. Sturza introduced Charlie Davis, Gary Hartong and Dan Booth from Wooten and Company. Mr. Davis explained the system and how it will operate with the use of drawings. Mr. Hartong gave the current status of the project and the timeline of permits that have to be obtained. (See attached).

Attorney Outten went over issues that have been brought up as of now.

1. Mandatory or Voluntary Hookup - Attorney Outten explained that sewer hookup will be mandatory. Mr. Outten also explained the various options available to the Board to determine the billing amount, including mandatory water hookups. The Board will discuss in the future and make a decision.
2. Allocation - Based on a 50,000 gallon a day capacity, Sewer will be allocated for all existing residential and commercial buildings.
3. The remaining available capacity will be allocated to lots that are buildable. He explained that based on a study done in Colington, to serve the current needs, there will be a limit on the number of bedrooms, that number being 4.
4. Electrical hookup - Each home will have their own meter and electrical hookup.
5. Owners Responsibility - It will be the owner's responsibility to locate and abandon the current septic tank on their property. The Dare Co.

Health Dept. regulations must be followed. It was the engineers' understanding that to abandon in-ground tanks the owner must pump, lime and fill the tank with dirt. The drain field must also be limed. Above-ground tanks will have to be destroyed and hauled away. The owner can abandon their own septic tanks, if not it will have to be done by a licensed plumber.

6. Monthly costs – He explained that the monthly cost is not known yet.

### **Commissioner Questions and Comments**

Commissioner Max Dutton - do we have an approximate monthly fee. Attorney Outten explained that costs would vary from customer to customer and that the fee will not be known until the system is online, but a rough figure is \$45 monthly.

Vice Chairman Burrus - if we get authority to construct sooner, is everything ready to go? Mr. Hartong with Wooten and Co. referred back to the timeline of permits. It is possible that construction could start sooner.

Commissioner Johnson – asked if we were running behind as of right now. Chairman Judge answered that according to the current revised schedule, we are on track. He also asked if residents could add on to their house. Attorney Outten said yes as long as it did not exceed 4 bedrooms.

Commissioner Mike Johnson – asked if there were setbacks on the new tanks and Mr. Sturza answered that is regulated by the Health Dept. He said he is happy to see that things are running on time and hopes we can expedite and finish ahead of time.

Commissioner Tillett - stated we need to consider the costs to the residents and who can residents call with questions. Attorney Outten stated they could call him or any one of the commissioners.

Chairman Judge - asked who will make repairs and maintain the new system. The County Water Department will be responsible for maintenance and upkeep.

### **Residents Questions and Comments**

Bill Rose - asked how many gallons are considered full capacity and was concerned about the water level of the canal. He also asked the time frame and who will be turned on first and where is the point of connection. Mr. Davis explained that everyone will be connected and everything tested before turning on the system. Everyone will get a schedule as to when their connection will take place. The point of connection is 114 Bayview Dr.

Linda Barbee - asked what she will owe for hook up of two vacant lots that she owns. Attorney Outten responded that is not known yet. She is also concerned of the cost of destroying and removing her above ground tank. Attorney Outten will get back with her.

R.D. Price - felt that \$45/mo. was a pretty healthy figure.

Sheila Golden - asked if residents could handle abandonment of their septic tank. She also asked if the Board had considered contracting with one firm to pump out all the tanks before abandonment. The Board told her they would consider it.

John Receveur asked why this particular system is being used and will there be a liaison supervisor.

Buddy Shelton - stated that summer time is the best time for construction. Stumpy Point is very low and heavy equipment tears the ground up easily.

Howard Brint - commented that during the last project, the power and TV were out the whole time.

Major Hooper - stated that future residences and businesses will be directly related to what's going on now. Can we set aside excess for down the road keeping in mind future economic development?

Sandy Semans – commented that some homes are already more than 4 bedrooms and when rezoning took place, they were told those homes were grandfathered and could be built back as they were.

Chairman Judge thanked everyone for coming. He noted Wooten Company will be sending weekly reports of progress. They will be posted on the Dare County web page. Attorney Outten will get information pulled together and the Board will schedule another meeting in the future.

Chairman Judge adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

(SEAL)

Respectfully submitted,

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rhonda Creef  
Deputy Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Warren Judge, Chairman  
Dare County Board of Commissioners