



COUNTY OF DARE, NORTH CAROLINA

District 1: Roanoke Island & Mainland; Dist 2: Nags Head, Colington, Kill Devil Hills; Dist. 3: Kitty Hawk, Southern Shores, Duck; Dist. 4: Chicamacomico, Avon, Buxton, Frisco, Hatteras; Dist. 5: At Large

Videos of Board of Commissioners Meetings are available at www.darenc.com

THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

February 20, 2012 — 5:00 P.M.

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

Commissioners Present: Chairman Warren Judge, District 3; Vice-Chairman Allen Burrus, District 4; Virginia Tillett, District 1; Mike Johnson, District 2; Jack Shea, District 5

Commissioners Absent: Richard Johnson, District 1; Max Dutton, District 2;

Others Present: County Manager/Attorney Bobby Outten; Public Information Officer, Dorothy Killingsworth, Clerk to the Board, Gary Gross

Public Comments: Made by 2 people — John Wasniewski, and Lindsay Christian

Presentations:

A presentation on behalf of Veterans was made by Marsha Brown — The County Manager was directed to bring material to the Board to establish a Veterans Advisory Council

Actions:

Proclamation—The Outer Banks Hospital 10th Anniversary — **Approved** Proclamation establishing March as Outer Banks Hospital Month
Beach Klub LLC—Conditional Use Permit Application for Group Development — **Approved**
Emergency Communications System Amendment to Capital Project Ordinance for Tower Lease Termination — **Approved**
Manteo Water Contract — **Approved**

Consent Agenda — **Approved**

1. Approval of Minutes (02.06.12)
2. Budget Amendment Accepting Funds from Government and Education Access Channel Committee
3. Transportation Department Application to Outer Banks Hospital Development Council
4. Budget Amendment to Correct Prior Budget Amendment for Series 2012 LOBs
5. Social Services Energy Assistance Budget Amendment
6. Health — Received State Funds for Required Infection Control Training
7. Tax Collectors January 2012 Reports

Commissioners' Business

1. Adopted a Resolution Opposing United Nations Agenda 21 — **Approved**

Manager's/Attorney's Business

1. Adopted a Resolution & authorized the Manager to spend up to \$17,500 for matching funds for a Rural Center grant — **Approved**
2. Authorized the County Manager to allow people to spread over one year the \$447 connection/deposit fee related to the Roanoke Island Water Expansion Project — **Approved**

LAND OF BEGINNINGS

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE— PO Box 1 000, MANTEO, NC 27954 • 252.475.5700 • DARENC.COM

Chairman Warren Judge called the February 20, 2011 meeting of the Dare County Board of Commissioners to order at 5:03p.m. He invited Jennifer Frost from the Unitarian Universalist Congregation to share a prayer. He recognized a group of veterans attending the meeting and asked them to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The Chairman announced that Commissioner Dutton sends his regrets that he is unable to attend the meeting due to a trip with his family. He added that Commissioner Richard Johnson is continuing to battle illness and explained that he is being kept updated and involved in the business coming before the Board of Commissioners.

ITEM 1 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Manager outlined the procedure for making public comments. Afterward two (2) people spoke –

- 1) John Wasniewski – spoke on behalf of the Surfriider Foundation about NCDOT plans for the area north of Rodanthe known as the “S Turns”, a very popular and renowned surfing location. He said letters have been written and 1200 names submitted to NCDOT asking them to consider this area during planning. Mr. Wasniewski said this site is a great resource for Dare County and asked that its use for the surfing community be kept in mind at all levels when making future plans.
- 2) Lindsay Christian – expressed the need for extended payments related to the water meter hookup charges related to the Roanoke Island Water Expansion project. He said the Board has already allowed the \$1,700 assessment to be spread out over payments, which is helpful. He reported being told by the Water Department that the \$447 hookup charge is non-negotiable and must be paid in full. Mr. Christian said this presents a hardship for people, like himself, who are unemployed and cannot afford it. He asked the Board to consider allowing extended payments for 12 months on the \$447 charge. He said this would help a lot of people in Wanchese and Roanoke Island.

ITEM 2 – PROCLAMATION – THE OUTER BANKS HOSPITAL 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Beulah Ashby, member of The Outer Banks Hospital Board of Directors and the Anniversary Committee, said the hospital will celebrate 10 years of service to the community on March 19, 2012. She introduced Bobby Owens, President of the Hospital Board who said it is easy to forget that there was a time when there was no hospital in our community. He reviewed progress that has been made. He recalled the early days when Sheriff Vehicles were the only means people had to receive transportation for emergency care at hospitals outside of the County. He described the County’s current EMS system as one of the best in North Carolina and the Dare MedFlight helicopter operation as state of the art. Mr. Owens said we have reason to be proud of our community hospital and the care it provides on a 24/7 basis. He also introduced the President of Outer Banks Hospital, Ronnie Sloan. Ms. Ashby reported that the hospital has consistently provided quality care and received high marks in patient satisfaction. She outlined the work done by the Hospital’s Development Council, the Get Pinked Campaign, and grants that have been awarded to local nonprofit organizations for various community activities. The County Manager read a proclamation highlighting anniversary celebrations including an Open House Wednesday, March 21; a Baby Party on March 24; and participation in the Kelly’s Saint Patrick’s Day Parade on March 18 featuring a “Healthy OBX” theme.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to issue the Proclamation establishing March as Outer Banks Hospital Month.

Commissioner Tillett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 3 – PRESENTATION ON BEHALF OF VETERANS

Marsha Brown said it was an honor for her to speak to the Board of Commissioners on behalf of Dare County veterans. As the wife of a veteran, she publically thanked all veterans for their service. She also acknowledged Dare County Veterans Service Officer, Rhonda Creef, for the work she does for our veterans. She reported that last November the First Assembly of God hosted a program to honor veterans. She said it was surprising to learn that there are 4,229 veterans in Dare County, which represents close to 13% of the population and recommended a more aggressive role to honor them. She added that many veterans do not understand their entitlements and noted that there are veterans, including some at Colony Ridge and Spring Arbor, who have transportation needs. She also explained that while talking with the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Hampton, she has gathered books that are available as resources. She said the Veterans Administration (VA) is working to reach veterans in rural areas and will be coming to our area from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on February 22. She urged all veterans to come and investigate health care resources that are available. She also identified and explained material pertaining to Agent

Orange and passionately expressed that is important that people understand this vital information. Ms. Brown announced an event scheduled for Saturday, March 31 at Lowe's racetrack in Charlotte to honor Vietnam Veterans. She said the tickets are free and can be requested online. She said this year's Veterans celebration at her church is scheduled for November 3. She said it is high time and long overdue that something be done to create more events to acknowledge our veterans. She asked that an Advisory Board for Veterans Affairs be established and identified a list of names of those willing to serve. Vice-Chairman Burrus said he welcomes ways to include Hatteras Island veterans. He asked if the time for the November 3 event could be adjusted to earlier in the day since late evenings may be a problem for older veterans. Commissioner Mike Johnson said we do not often have a ready-made list of volunteers to serve on an advisory council. Chairman Judge expressed his appreciation to all veterans for their service. He directed the County Manager to bring material to the Board to establish a Veterans Advisory Council.

ITEM 4 – BEACH KLUB LLC – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR GROUP DEVELOPMENT

Planning Director, Donna Creef, reported that a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application has been submitted by Joe Thompson for 41027 NC Highway 12 in Avon, which is zoned C-2. He proposes a theater for the site that has functioned as a private amenities area for the Kinnakeet Shores Homeowners Association. The theater would be 3,600 square feet in size and have flexible seating for 200 people. Ms. Creef said the Planning Board recommends the Board of Commissioners approve the site plan and Conditional Use Permit. In response to a question from Commissioner Shea about the impact of lighting on the highway or neighbors, Ms. Creef said the site is far enough away from the highway, and she has not heard from any neighbors. She added that Mr. Thompson will be quick to respond to any problem that may occur. Vice-Chairman Burrus asked if any problems are expected with the Park Service related to the impact of lighting on sea turtles. Mr. Thompson said lighting on the walkway will be controlled by a motion detector, and there are no plans to put lighting on the oceanfront side of the facility. Vice-Chairman Burrus added that he would not want to see lights put up near the highway that blind motorists. Mr. Thompson confirmed that there are no plans to do that.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to approve the Conditional Use Permit including conditions one through six as presented.

Commissioner Shea and Commissioner Tillett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 5 – EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AMENDMENT TO CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE FOR TOWER LEASE TERMINATION (Att. 1)

County Manager, Robert Outten, said an existing antenna site lease is no longer needed due to the County's new communication system. He said a discounted lease termination has been negotiated and reflected in the proposed amendment to the Capital Project Ordinance.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adopt the amendment to the Capital Project Ordinance.

Commissioner Tillett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 6 – MANTEO WATER CONTRACT (Att. 2)

The County Manager explained that we currently supply water to the Town of Manteo at less than cost, based on an old contract. He said he has pursued talks with the Town as was previously discussed with the Dare County Board of Commissioners. Mr. Outten said the prices outlined in the contract will be implemented in phases over three years, at the end of which time; Manteo will be buying water at the same wholesale rate as the other municipalities. He added that the contract has been reviewed and approved by the Town of Manteo and it is now being submitted to the Board of Commissioners for their approval.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the water contact with the Town of Manteo.

Commissioner Mike Johnson seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 7 – CONSENT AGENDA (Att. #3)

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (02.06.12)
- 2) Budget Amendment Accepting Funds from Government and Education Access Channel Committee
- 3) Transportation Department Application to Outer Banks Hospital Development Council
- 4) Budget Amendment to Correct Prior Budget Amendment for Series 2012 LOBs
- 5) Social Services Energy Assistance Budget Amendment
- 6) Health – Received State Funds for Required Infection Control Training
- 7) Tax Collectors January 2012 Reports

Commissioner Mike Johnson seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 8 – COMMISSIONERS’ BUSINESS

Commissioner Virginia Tillett

- Reported on her participation last week on the Dare County Older Adult Services Advisory Board. She asked the County Manager if there was any progress on the Hatteras Island facility known as the old Tommy Gray building. Mr. Outten explained that the building is not vacant and a place would have to be found for the four entities that currently use it. He added that the facility has very little parking available. He reported that Tim White is looking at ways to expand our programs into the villages of Hatteras Island.
- She said we need to do all we can to make County buildings accessible to our senior population and we need to be looking for a building in Hatteras for seniors to call their own.
- Commissioner Tillett said our three senior activities centers are staying busy. Although they are using volunteers, they need more staff in order to stay open longer at the Fessenden Center, Dare County Center, and the Baum Center. She asked that this be considered if we have the budgeting opportunity to do it.
- She thanked Chairman Judge for attending the Roanoke Island Freedmen’s Colony Blues Jam on Friday night as part of Black History Month.
- Commissioner Tillett reported receiving a letter from Harbourtowne Apartments about housing they have available. She gave the letter to the County Manager for distribution to the Board.

Commissioner Jack Shea

- Presented a Resolution opposing United Nations Agenda 21. He explained that Agenda 21 is covertly being advocated in local communities through environmental actions and other green initiatives. He read a Resolution expressing opposition to Agenda 21 and asked the Board to adopt it.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the Resolution Opposing United Nations Agenda 21.

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Commissioner Mike Johnson

- Cited the Coastal Fisheries Reform Group who is calling for a total ban on net fishing. He said that has been their strategy all along while advocating Game Fish Status. He added that United Nations Agenda 21 is an effort that is driven by those who want to shut down fishing.
- Commissioner Mike Johnson announced that he is not seeking reelection as a County Commissioner. He said he has enjoyed serving and will continue to work hard until December and leave the Board on a good note. He expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

Vice-Chairman Allen Burrus – None

Chairman Warren Judge

- Explained that we have been discussing economic development and working to retain jobs and support our traditional industries. He reported that today Outer Banks Catch hosted the leadership from Harris Teeter, a North Carolina based company. He said we presented our program and mission to them and toured a fish

house to learn about the history and heritage of local commercial fishing. The Chairman said the group also visited the Wanchese Seafood Industrial Park and had a tour of a restaurant where the chef served local products. He cited the need for corporate sponsors to help Outer Banks Catch continue its mission and thanked all those who participated today.

- Asked everyone to mark October 20, 2012 on their calendar for the Outer Banks Seafood Festival where Outer Banks Catch will showcase a tent and present educational exhibits and cooking demonstrations.

MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

- 1) County Manager, Robert Outten said the Dare County website will have a new look on March 1. He explained that it has been ready for a while and staff is finalizing the last minute details before it goes online for public view. He said the Public Relations and Information Technology Departments will make a short presentation at the next meeting about the website changes.
- 2) Mr. Outten said the County is serving as a pass through for a grant to help bring a boat manufacturer to Dare County to make catamarans. He reported receiving a resolution over the weekend that needs to be returned tomorrow. He added that a local match, not to exceed \$17,500 is required for the \$300,000 grant. He explained that the manufacturer will create 51 jobs with up to 71 in three years. In response to a question from Commissioner Shea about whether the County has the money for the match, Mr. Outten explained that it could come from either this year's or next year's contingency. Commissioner Mike Johnson said people are hungry and creating 51 new jobs is a good idea.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adopt the resolution and authorize the County Manager to spend up to \$17,500 for matching funds for a Rural Center grant.

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

- 3) The Manager mentioned Mr. Lindsay Christian who spoke during Public Comments about the need for extending financing over 12 months for the \$447 fee associated with the Roanoke Island Water Expansion Project. He said accommodating this request would not create an administrative hardship.

MOTION

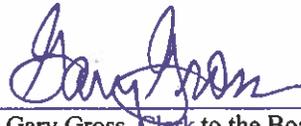
Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to authorize the County Manager to allow people to spread over one year the \$447 connection fee for the Roanoke Island Water Expansion Project.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

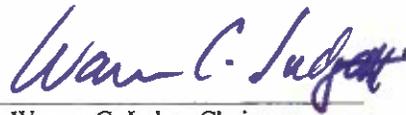
AT 6:29 P.M. THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED UNTIL 9:00 A.M. ON MARCH 19, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board



APPROVED:

By: 
Warren C. Judge, Chairman
Dare County Board of Commissioners