



# 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

## THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

May 2, 2011 — 9:00 A.M.

Dare County Administration Building  
PO Box 1000, Manteo, North Carolina 27954

### **Commissioners Present:**

Chairman Warren Judge, Dist. 3; Vice-Chairman Burrus, Dist. 4; Virginia Tillett, Dist. 1; Richard Johnson, Dist. 1; Max Dutton, Dist. 2; Mike Johnson, Dist. 2; Jack Shea, Dist. 5

### **Commissioners Absent:** None

**Others Present:** County Manager/Attorney Bobby Outten; Public Information Officer, Dorothy Toolan; Finance Director, Dave Clawson  
Clerk to the Board, Gary Gross

**Public Comments:** County Manager Outten and Chairman Judge asked for public comments — there were none

### **Presentations:**

The Employee of the Month certificate was presented to Kevin Duprey, Dare County Sheriff's Office  
Service Pins were given to three (3) Dare County employees — Glenn Gray, John Jones, and George Farah  
Dare County Board of Education — Provided an update on Dare County schools

### **Actions:**

Dare County Tourism Board Requests Consent for Spending from Restricted Funds — **Approved**  
Proposed Text Amendments, Child Care Home Review and Approval Procedures — **Public Hearing Scheduled for 5:30 pm, May 16, 2011**  
Stumpy Point Civic Assoc., Use of Golf Carts — Draft Amendment to Chapter 100 of the Dare County Code of Ordinances — **Approved**  
Proposed Zoning Amendments for Fire Stations and Other Public Buildings — **Public Hearing Scheduled for 5:30 pm, May 16, 2011**  
Public Hearing — Buxton Zoning Map Amendment for John F. Conner Jr — **Hearing Held, Parcel Rezoned as Requested — Approved**  
Public Hearing — C-3 Text Amendment for Boat Engine Repair & Maintenance — **Hearing Held, Proposed Text Amendment — Approved**  
Public Hearing — FY2012 Budget — **Hearing Held — Budget adopted with a positive adjustment of \$5,890 as outlined by the Manager**  
**The Board also approved adoption of the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year Annual Budget Ordinance to reflect the change of \$5,890**  
David Clawson was directed to meet with the Board of Education's Finance Director to explore ways to work together to save money in a cost neutral way to Dare County that could provide funds for schools and report back on progress June 6, 2011

### **Consent Agenda — Approved**

1. Approval of Minutes (04.18.11)
2. Social Services—Department of Transportation Budget Amendment
3. Budget Amendment to Correct Revenue Source for Substance Abuse Program
4. Dare County Department of Public Health — Hospice Budget Amendment

### **Board Appointments**

1. Dare County Board of Adjustment — **Reappointed Roland Bowser and Anna Creef**
2. Upcoming Board Appointments for June 2011 were announced

### **Commissioner's Business & Manager's/Attorney's Business**

1. Authorized the Manager to change the assessment date for the Roanoke Island Water project so bills can go out next year
2. Authorized the Manager to send a letter to the Attorney General and others for help getting repairs made to the East Lake tower
3. Authorized the Manager to send a letter to Senator White supporting that benefits be provided to coastal counties if the State were to proceed with offshore drilling since we would be the ones impacted by the risks

Immediately prior to adjournment, an announcement was made that a Budget Workshop would not be conducted following the meeting

LAND OF BEGINNINGS

COMMISSIONERS OFFICE— PO Box 1000, MANTEO, NC 27954 • 252.475.5700 • DARENC.COM

Chairman Warren Judge called the May 2, 2011 meeting of the Dare County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. He acknowledged yesterday's military action that targeted Osama bin Laden and thanked all those from Dare County who have served in the Armed Forces for their sacrifice preserving our freedom. He then invited the Rev. Kevin Brunk, Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church, to share a prayer, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Chairman Judge recognized and welcomed representatives of the Dare County School Board including Chairman David Oaksmith, and Board Members Bea Basnight and Ben Sproul. He also recognized Sheriff Doug Doughtie. Vice-Chairman Allen Burrus recognized and welcomed retired Dare County Sheriff Bert Austin.

#### **ITEM 1 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS**

- 1) Glenn Gray, Deputy Sheriff, received his 20-year pin from Sheriff Doug Doughtie.
- 2) John Jones, EMS Captain, received his 25-year pin from EMS Director, Skeeter Sawyer.
- 3) George Farah, EMS Captain, received his 25-year pin from EMS Director, Skeeter Sawyer.

#### **ITEM 2 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – MAY 2011**

Kevin Duprey, Dare County Sheriff's Office, received the Employee of the Month certificate for May 2011 from Sheriff Doug Doughtie who acknowledged him for providing 16 years of service as a great employee and expressed appreciation for his dedication.

#### **ITEM 3 – PUBLIC COMMENTS**

County Manager Outten and Chairman Judge asked for public comments. No one in the meeting room responded.

#### **ITEM 4 – DARE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH – RECOGNITION OF WORLD TOUCH NO TOBACCO DAY 2011**

The agenda item was called, however no presenter was in the meeting room, so the next item was announced.

#### **ITEM 5 – DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD REQUESTS CONSENT FOR SPENDING FROM RESTRICTED FUNDS (Att. 1)**

Lee Nettles, Managing Director of the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau, explained that restricted fund line items are monies set aside for projects with municipalities and other organizations that are designed to benefit the community and lessen the impact of tourism. He acknowledged Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy and the Outer Banks Scenic Byways project that participated in the restrictive funds program and congratulated them on recently being awarded a major federal grant. Mr. Nettles then outlined two requests from the Restricted Fund: 1) A request for \$1,500 from the Long Term Restricted Fund to help the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society purchase materials for a public use canoe/kayak put-in dock on Buffalo City Road in the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. He said these improvements would improve both access and safety. He explained that volunteers will provide the labor with the restricted fund money being used for materials. 2) A request for \$25,000 from the Short Term Restricted Fund to help municipalities and other qualifying organizations fund fireworks for July 4, 2011. Mr. Nettles said applicants are required to work through the State regulatory issues and secure the necessary permits. Commissioner Richard Johnson asked if Fish & Wildlife has guaranteed in writing that the Ramp at Buffalo City will be open to the general public. Mr. Nettles said verbal assurance has been given that it will be open to the public. Commissioner Richard Johnson recommended a guarantee of access for at least 20 years. Commissioner Tillett said she was glad to see the fireworks project and asked if municipalities must apply for the limited funds that will be available. Mr. Nettles explained it is a reimbursable matching grant program, which will review applications and then allocate funds in a fair distribution throughout the County. He acknowledged that we cannot fund everything, but want to do something to help. Vice-Chairman Burrus said the application process is also open to Villages and community organizations. He added that the extensive training now required to staff fireworks displays has increased costs significantly. Mr. Nettles added that the regulations now require greater buffer areas, which eliminates many venues from consideration.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve expenditures from the Long Term and Short Term Restricted Funds, as outlined, totaling \$26,500.

Vice-Chairman Burrus and Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 6 – PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS FOR CHILD CARE HOME REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

Donna Creef, Planning Director, presented proposed text amendments to Section 22-29.1 of the Zoning Ordinance to update the review and approval procedures for child care homes in residential areas. She explained that in 1990 the Zoning Ordinance was amended to create a procedure where review was through the Zoning Board of Adjustment, which was a much more involved process. Ms. Creef said at that time there was a concern residential neighborhoods would be negatively impacted by a large number of child care homes. She added that approval has since been given to numerous child care homes throughout unincorporated Dare County and many of the applications have been viewed as welcome additions to their neighborhoods in providing a needed service. Ms. Creef explained that the proposed text amendments would provide that child care homes be subject to conditional use permit review by the Planning Board and Board of Commissioners and not the Zoning Board of Adjustment. She noted that the Planning Board agrees with the staff analysis that the proposed text amendments are worthy of consideration. Ms. Creef said if the Board agrees with the staff suggestions, then a public hearing on the amendments would be necessary. Commissioner Shea asked if there is a cap on the number of children at each facility. Ms. Creef said it is based on State regulations.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Tillet motioned to schedule a public hearing on the proposed text amendments for child care home review and approval procedures for 5:30 p.m. May 16, 2011.

Vice-Chairman Burrus and Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 7 – STUMPY POINT CIVIC ASSOCIATION – USE OF GOLF CARTS (Att. 2)**

Planning Director, Donna Creef, said she received a letter from the Stumpy Point Civic Association requesting the approval of golf cart use on Bayview Drive and First Street in Stumpy Point. She said the draft amendment to Chapter 100 of the Dare County Code of Ordinances includes standards for hours of operation and other conditions based on what previously was adopted for golf cart use in Hatteras Village. Ms. Creef explained that since this is not a Land Use Ordinance, a public hearing would not be needed. Vice-Chairman Burrus reported there have been very few problems with golf cart use in Hatteras Village and sees this as an enhancement to the community. Commissioner Tillett expressed her agreement.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the addition of Stumpy Point Village to Chapter 100 Streets and Sidewalks of the Dare County Code of Ordinances to allow golf cart use in Stumpy Point as outlined in the draft amendment.

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 8 – PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENTS FOR FIRE STATIONS AND OTHER PUBLIC BUILDINGS**

Donna Creef, Planning Director, said in discussing the possibility of a fire station in a commercial district, she reviewed the ordinance and discovered that fire stations were not one of the listed uses. She explained her review of all the commercial districts found that four (4) did not include such uses, however most residential districts did. Ms. Creef said that in order to address the situation, amendments were prepared for the Board's consideration and a public hearing will be needed. Commissioner Richard Johnson asked if something would be a permitted use, if it is not specifically named. Ms. Creef explained if the use is not listed, it is assumed that it is not permitted. She added that some of our newer zoning districts include a statement indicating that it is for these uses only, and if not listed it

is prohibited. Vice-Chairman Burrus said in many cases fire stations have been there long before the zoning ordinances. Ms. Creef said she was surprised that fire station use was not listed in the commercial districts.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Tillett motioned to schedule a public hearing on the proposed text amendments for fire stations and other public buildings for 5:30 p.m. May 16, 2011.

Vice-Chairman Burrus and Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 9 – PUBLIC HEARING – BUXTON ZONING MAP AMENDMENT FOR JOHN F. CONNER JR (Att. 3)**

AT 10:01 A.M., THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT CONCERNING THE BUXTON ZONING MAP AMENDMENT FOR JOHN F. CONNER JR. County Manager Outten conducted the hearing and invited the public to speak. The following people spoke:

- 1) Ray Meekins, with Seaboard Surveying and Planning of Nags Head, said he was appearing in support of the zoning text amendment. He said the move to C3 is a side step, not a leap and added that the Land Use Plan clearly supports private, family oriented businesses specifically on Hatteras Island. Mr. Meekins stated that Conner’s Market is in its 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of family ownership and asked the Board to support this zoning change.

Chairman Judge closed the hearing at 10:04 A.M.

**MOTION**

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned that parcel 030857002 be rezoned to C-3 commercial as requested. I find this rezoning to be consistent with the policies of the 2009 Dare County Land Use Plan and other officially adopted plans of Dare County and is in the public interest of Dare County since this rezoning provides for the future existence of locally owned businesses that serve the residents and visitors of Hatteras Island.

Commissioner Tillett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

**ITEM 10 – PUBLIC HEARING - C-3 TEXT AMENDMENT FOR BOAT ENGINE REPAIR AND BOAT MAINTENANCE (Att. 4)**

AT 10:06 A.M., THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT CONCERNING C-3 TEXT AMENDMENT FOR BOAT ENGINE REPAIR AND BOAT MAINTENANCE.

County Manager Outten conducted the hearing and invited the public to speak. The following people spoke:

- 1) Bill Pearce said he was applying for the amendment through Hatchell Concrete and explained it concerns a business he is trying to get started.

Chairman Judge closed the hearing at 10:07 A.M.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Tillett motioned that the proposed text amendment to add boat engine repair and boat maintenance to the list of permitted uses for the C-3 district be approved. I find this amendment to be consistent with the policies of the 2009 Dare County Land Use Plan and other officially adopted plans of Dare County and is in the public interest of Dare County by providing for commercial services that are consistent with existing land use patterns and needs of the community.

Commissioner Dutton and Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

#### **ITEM 11 – DARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Board of Education Chairman, David Oaksmith and Vice Chairman, Ben Sproul appeared before the Board of Commissioners to give an update on schools. Mr. Oaksmith said in August he will step down as Chairman of the Board of Education (BOE), at which time Ben Sproul is slated to move into the position and that is why Mr. Sproul will be making the presentation. Mr. Sproul said the BOE wanted to explain what has been done to face funding cuts and rising costs that are beyond their control and outlined the following as accomplishments of Dare County Schools: 1) Best on time graduation rate. 2) Lowest dropout rate. 3) Highest SAT scores. He said we can all be proud of the County's leadership and investment in education. He reported that per-pupil funding in Dare County continues to be the highest in the State. Mr. Sproul said the County contribution to local education is approximately 20% of the total County budget, which represents over 40% of the BOE budget. He said State education funding has been cut again this year, with an additional \$400,000 cut in April, and warned that cuts could become deeper. Mr. Sproul said much of the Federal money that has filled in gaps has expired, which represents 2.2 million. He said while the County budget proposes flat educational funding, the BOE faces new costs that are beyond their control in the form of increased health and retirement rates, and increases in fuel, utilities, and insurance, which accounts for \$697,650. He outlined 400,000 in State Cuts, plus the expiration of 2,187,350 in Federal stimulus money for a total budget gap of 3,285,000. Mr. Sproul said with 86% of what they spend going to people, flat funding would mean less people working in our schools. He said the BOE has made tough choices and described actions they have taken: 1) Reduced positions for \$707,000. 2) Saved \$176,500 via operating efficiencies. 3) Cut \$344,000 in supplies and services resulting in total current spending cuts of \$1,227,500. He summarized that the remaining budget gap of \$1,307,500 is the main reason they are here today. He said cutting any deeper, the BOE will not be able to spare current personnel, and the erosion of service quality would accelerate dramatically. Class size he reported has steadily increased and in many cases is at the State's maximum legal limit. Mr. Sproul said the BOE has not advocated for expansion of programs or pay raises and that without help from the County, our children will begin to pay the price. He asked the Commissioners to think about our children when making their final budget plans.

#### **ITEM 12 – PUBLIC HEARING – MANAGER'S BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 2012 (Att. 5)**

AT 10:19 A.M., THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT CONCERNING THE MANAGER'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012.

County Manager Outten conducted the hearing and invited the public to speak. The following people spoke:

- 1) Mattie Lawson appeared before the Board holding her grandchild. She said she was not asking for money and loved living in Dare County. Ms. Lawson thanked the Board for not increasing the budget for 2012. She explained that her grandchildren have already inherited a \$45,000 share of national deficit and doesn't know what share of the 12 million debt service issue in Dare County. She recommended that any wiggle room found in the budget be used for dredging Oregon Inlet. Ms. Lawson explained that in reviewing the budget she saw interesting things and wondered how they make decisions to spend money. She asked do you put the money into Parks and Recreation, or toward keeping our commercial fishermen in business. She asked the Board to continue looking for ways to reduce budget spending and applying money against debt service. Ms. Lawson said in going through the budget she prepared four (4) pages of written questions, which she handed to the County Manager.
- 2) Perry White, a Nags Head resident, said he has lived in Dare County for 13 years and owned property here for over 20 years. He expressed surprise that there are only two (2) people here to speak about a multi-million dollar budget. He said there should be more citizens here, but perhaps not because it was presented two weeks ago at 154 pages. He thanked the Board for holding a Public Hearing on the budget and expressed appreciation that the tax rate is not going up. He said those living on Social Security and private pensions have not seen a raise in years. He stated there have been cuts in State funding, but that is because of overspending. Mr. White said he was disturbed by our declining fund balances, which are being spent instead of held for emergencies. He said when people come in asking for increases or new projects, he has not heard them explain from where they are going to take the money. He said this is what should be done rather than expecting people to spend more on their taxes.

Chairman Judge closed the hearing at 10:26 A.M.

**RECESS: 10:26 a.m. – 10:58 a.m.**

County Manager Outten said that during comments it was mentioned the fund balance was falling. He explained that the fund balance has two (2) components. 1) The undesignated fund balance, which is our savings account, is important to our bond ratings. 2) The designated fund balance, which is money we hold for other entities for grants and other items, is supposed to be spent and fluctuates. Mr. Outten explained that when the total fund balance goes down, it does not mean our savings has changed. He said it indicates we have spent the money being held for other people, which we are required to spend. He added that the undesignated fund balance, which is the savings account, is actually increasing and we will work to keep it at the level required by our bonding companies.

Mr. Outten reported that since his budget presentation at the last meeting, a couple of issues have developed:

- 1) There are a few minor changes in the budget have been identified, which are good, in the amount of \$5,890 reflecting additional revenues or decreases in spending. He said a spreadsheet was sent by email.
- 2) In looking at the Board of Education (BOE), he explained that early in the budget process he met with BOE staff and advised them he did not anticipate any revenue growth this year and expected a flat budget. Mr. Outten said the proposed budget does not cut funding for education. He said the BOE's revenue problems are from State and Federal cuts. He further explained that over the years Dare County has funded BOE very well. He said we fund them at \$18,873,220 plus \$838,000 for school nurses and resource officers. Mr. Outten said their budget was increased last year by 4.1% and we have funded them very well over the past decade. He added we are #1 in the State in current local spending per pupil. He stated we have been good to our schools. Mr. Outten explained that he looked at the BOE budget to identify increased costs they could not avoid and outlined the following: a) Required contributions to the retirement system for local teachers. b) Health insurance costs have gone up. c) Fuel cost increases. d) Utility cost increases. Mr. Outten reported the unavoidable costs are \$327,895. He recommended contributing this amount and paying for it out of money in the fund balance that has been targeted towards balancing the budget, which he explained will not impact our bond rating.

Chairman Judge opened the floor for discussion. Commissioner Richard Johnson said he would make a motion to adopt the budget as was originally presented, but thinks a committee should be appointed to look at ways the County and the BOE could work together to save money to help make up the unavoidable costs. Chairman Judge suggested separating the committee idea from a budget motion.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Richard Johnson motioned to adopt the budget for fiscal year 2012 as presented in the Manager's message with a positive adjustment of \$5,890 as outlined on a spreadsheet sent to Commissioners on Friday, April 29, 2011.

Commissioner Tillett and Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

The Board directed Finance Director Dave Clawson to meet with the Board of Education Finance Officer to explore ways to work together that would save money in a cost neutral way to Dare County as a possible way of providing funds that would accrue for the schools. Mr. Clawson was asked to give a progress report to the Board of Commissioners on June 6 at their regularly scheduled meeting.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to adopt the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year Annual Budget Ordinance to reflect the change of \$5,890.

Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Chairman Judge said there is no need for the Workshop scheduled to occur after adjournment of today's meeting.

## **ITEM 13 – CONSENT AGENDA (Att. 6)**

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (04.18.11)
- 2) Social Services Department of Transportation Budget Amendment
- 3) Budget Amendment to Correct Revenue Source for Substance Abuse Program
- 4) Dare County Department of Public Health – Hospice Budget Amendment

Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

## **ITEM 14 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

- 1) Dare County Board of Adjustment

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to reappoint Roland Bowser and Anna Creef to the Dare County Board of Adjustment.

Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

- 2) Upcoming Board Appointments for June 2011

County Manager Outten announced the upcoming appointments for June as the Hatteras Community Center Board, Land Transfer Tax Appeals Board, Library Board, Manns Harbor Community Center Board, Oregon Inlet and Waterways Commission, Roanoke Island Community Center, Social Services Board, Dare County Commission for Working Watermen, Dare County Transportation Advisory Board, and the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council.

## **ITEM 15 – COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS**

### Vice-Chairman Allen Burrus

- Congratulated Employee of the Month, Kevin Duprey and thanked him for his service and compassion.
- Expressed pride in the Military, Government, and People on the action taken against Osama bin Laden. He displayed a newspaper with a bold headline. He said the military action avenges 911 and cuts off a money flow that has funded terrorism and killed innocent people.
- Thanked everyone on the Outer Banks Scenic Byways Committee for their effort and credited the business people of the community for coming up with almost \$100,000 along with \$400,000 from the Tourism Board. He also thanked Senator Burr, Congressman Jones and especially Senator Hagan for their help in Washington securing the recent federal grant for the project.
- Reported that efforts to find solutions to the problem at Oregon Inlet are ongoing and over the past two weeks has been working on it with Chairman Judge, County Manager Outten, and others. He reported that over 13 million pounds of fish is landed through Oregon Inlet. He noted that it is easier, quicker and uses less fuel for commercial fishermen to use Oregon Inlet rather than travel all the way to Hampton, Virginia. He added that access through Oregon Inlet is worth a lot of money to State, County and Federal Governments. He said not getting timely money for dredging is frustrating and could kill our economy in many ways and concluded that keeping Oregon Inlet open makes good economic sense.
- Said the Bonner Bridge replacement project is looking forward to a Record of Decision and being let out to contractors and he expressed confidence we will be able to move forward.

### Commissioner Jack Shea

- Thanked the Employee of the Month and acknowledged all those who received service pins thanking them for a total of 70 years of service.
- Praised the heroism of those involved in the military action that eliminated the world's #1 terrorist and said those who protect deserve credit.

Commissioner Richard Johnson – None

#### Commissioner Mike Johnson

- Noted that Vice-Chairman Burrus already commented on what he wanted to say about Oregon Inlet.

#### Commissioner Max Dutton

- Expressed appreciation for the County employees who received service pins
- Said he agreed with the comments of Vice-Chairman Burrus regarding pride in the military.

#### Commissioner Virginia Tillett

- Reported on her attendance at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual North Carolina Black Summit, an alliance of Black Elected Officials throughout the State. She said it was a wonderful event with presentations on Education, the JCPC, Smart Start, and heard remarks from Governor Perdue, the Lieutenant Governor, the State Treasurer, and others. She said the Summit was important in helping find ways to continue providing services for citizens when money is so limited and thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend.
- Reminded that Dare Day is coming up and will be submitting names for Dare County Citizens of the Year
- Commended Public Safety Director, William "Skeeter" Sawyer for being featured in County Lines, the newsletter publication of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners.
- Acknowledged an article on Catch Shares in the Tradewinds publication of the North Carolina Fisheries Association, which was written by a Mike Johnson, however not Commissioner Mike Johnson.
- Mentioned an invitation for the Roanoke Island Garden Club marker relocation on Thursday, May 5, 2011.
- Congratulated Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy, Vice-Chairman Burrus, and the entire Outer Banks Scenic Byways Committee on being awarded a large federal grant.
- Expressed pride in President Obama and the Military for the wonderful job they have done keeping us safe.

#### Chairman Warren Judge

- Congratulated Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy and recalled a public meeting with DOT in the early days of planning the Outer Banks Scenic Byway. He said the group pioneered the effort and acknowledged their hard work accomplishing this project.
- Said he agreed with the Vice-Chairman's comments on Oregon Inlet.
- Reported that he, along with Vice-Chairman Burrus and County Manager Outten, met with Hugh Overholt and described him as an old friend of Dare County. He said Mr. Overholt refreshed their memories about the early developments of Oregon Inlet. He explained gathering this information would be beneficial in determining where we may want to head for a permanent solution for the Inlet. The Chairman added that at this time there is good water now for charter and recreational boats with experienced Captains who can navigate a couple of sharp turns required for passage. He added that it is still undetermined if the dredge Currituck can provide enough access for the larger commercial fishing fleet. He said we need to turn our attention to the 1 million dollar line item in the President's budget for Fiscal Year 2012. He reported he will be sending letters to Senator Hagan, Senator Burr, and Congressman Jones seeking their help in appealing for more funds and a more permanent solution for the Inlet.
- Congratulated Carl Walker, known as Tom Thumb, for being featured in Our State Magazine.
- Acknowledged Terry Wheeler, the former County Manager, who entered the meeting room.

### **MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS**

- 1) County Manager Outten outlined an issue related to the Roanoke Island Water Expansion project. He said the Board previously authorized the amount of assessments with the timing set for next year. He explained that in looking at our bonding requirements with Finance Director, Dave Clawson, we need to do the assessments this year so the bills can go out next year. He asked that the assessment date be changed and included in the letter that is being prepared about the project.

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to authorize the County Manager to make the change in assessment date. Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

- 2) Mr. Outten asked for authorization to send a letter related to foundation cracks in the East Lake tower, built by the State of North Carolina, which is used for our 800 MHz emergency communications system. He explained that the State has been trying to get the issue resolved and we have been pushing them in that effort. He said as the State goes back and forth with their insurance company, it is important that repairs be made before the hurricane season so we can hang our microwave dishes as quickly as possible. Mr. Outten asked for permission to write a letter to the Attorney General, Legislators in Raleigh, and others who may be able to help us make immediate effective repairs to the tower.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Shea motioned to authorize the County Manager to send a letter to the Attorney General, Legislators in Raleigh, and others asking for help getting the necessary repairs made to the tower. Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

- 3) County Manager Outten reported on a call from Senator White regarding a bill floating around in the Legislature. He said it would require the Governor to enter into a compact with Virginia and South Carolina related to offshore drilling, which we have opposed. He explained the Senator is not asking us to support the drilling part of it, but would like for us to support an effort that would provide some benefits for the coastal counties, who would be the ones impacted by the risks, if they proceed with drilling anyway. Mr. Outten asked for authorization to send a letter to Senator White supporting that benefits come back to coastal counties.

**MOTION**

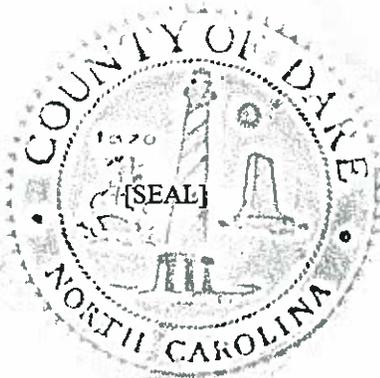
Commissioner Shea motioned to authorize the County Manager to send a letter of support to Senator White.

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

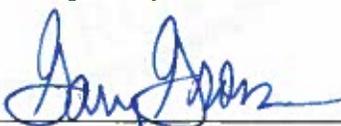
VOTE: AYES unanimous

Immediately prior to adjournment, Chairman Judge reminded that there would not be a budget workshop following adjournment of the meeting.

AT 11:24 A.M. THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED UNTIL 5:00 P.M. ON MAY 16, 2011.



Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

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