



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

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MINUTES

DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 4, 2012 — 9:00 A.M.

Dare County Administration Building, Manteo, NC

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

Commissioners Absent: None

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

Public Comments: None

Presentations: Mary Lee was honored as Employee of the Month and Service Pins were presented to 15 Dare County employees

Actions:

Proclamation — 75th Anniversary of the Lost Colony — **Approved**

North Carolina Department of Transportation — Secondary Roads Improvement Program — **Approved**

Tax Mapping Department — Reclassify Position — **Approved**

Governor's Coastal Resources Commission — **Recommended** the nomination of Mike Johnson as a Local Government Representative Public Hearing — Draft BNH (Buxton Natural Historic) Zoning Amendment — **Conducted** a Public Hearing & **Approved** the Amendment

Public Hearing — Transportation Dept. FY2012-2013 "ROAP Application" — **Conducted** a Public Hearing & **Approved** the Application

Public Hearing — Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2013 — a Public Hearing was **Conducted**

Discussion of the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2013 — **Budget Was Adopted** as presented including a spreadsheet of last minute changes provided by the Manager, and reducing the appropriation to the Community Development Corporation to \$25,000 and increasing the appropriation to Interfaith Community Outreach to \$25,250 and creating a new line item for Outer Banks Sporting Events for \$10,000

Consent Agenda — **Approved**

1. Approval of Minutes (05.21.12)
2. Disaster Management, Recovery and Consulting Services Contract
3. Social Services Foster Care Budget Amendment
4. Budget Amendment for Contingency Line Item

Board Appointments —

1. College of the Albemarle Board of Trustees — **Reappointed** Warren Judge
2. Dare County Center Advisory Board — **Appointed** John Robbins III to fill the unexpired term of Jimmie Williams
3. Dare County Transportation Advisory Board — **Reappointed** Anne Thomas and Maria Heifferon
4. Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) District — Town of Southern Shores) - **Appointed** John Finelli
5. Hatteras Community Center Board — **Reappointed** Richard A. Midgett and Rom Whitaker
6. Health Board — **Reappointed** Brant Murray
7. JCPC — **Reappointed** Melinda Mogowski, Stephen Wescott, Ron Bennett, Lynn Bryant, Tim White, and Marsha Ribner-Cady
8. Library Board — Dare — **Reappointed** Donna Trivette, William Pfeifer, Elizabeth Gaimel, and Virginia Tillett
9. Library Board — Regional — **Appointed** Joyce Bornfriend
10. Manns Harbor Community Center Board — **Reappointed** Clyde Gard and Bonny Sawyer
11. Oregon Inlet and Waterways Commission — **Reappointed** Allen Burrus and Ernie Foster and **Appointed** Richard Johnson
12. Roanoke Island Community Center Board — **Reappointed** John Daniels and Daniel Selby
13. Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Center Board — **Reappointed** Susan Gray and J.W. Kierzkowski
14. Workforce Development Board — **Reappointed** Jack Hughes
15. Upcoming Board Appointments for July and August 2012 were announced

Commissioners' Business

Authorized a letter opposing cutbacks for funding of programs that protect the elderly from abuse

Manager's/Attorney's Business

The County Manager was authorized to spend funds out of the E911 fund for the purpose of replacing the CAD server — **Approved**

Manager was authorized to negotiate and execute a one year agreement for a third party to provide EMS billing services, with an option for an additional year after Board review & subject to the County's terms of collection — **Approved** in a 5 to 1 vote

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Chairman Warren Judge called the June 4, 2012 meeting of the Dare County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:07 a.m. He invited the Rev. Betty Francis from the Manns Harbor United Methodist Church to share a prayer, and then he led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Chairman Judge recognized and welcomed Doug Remaley, Town of Nags Head Commissioner and former Dare County Fire Marshal; Sheriff Doug Doughtie; Dare County Citizen of the Year, Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy; and former Clerk to the Board, Fran Harris.

ITEM 1 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS

- 1) Belinda Etheridge, In-Home Service Aid, received her 10-year pin from Sue Hewitt.
- 2) Shaun Barrera, Deputy Sheriff, received his 10-year pin from Sheriff Doug Doughtie.
- 3) Andrew Creech, Deputy Sheriff Sergeant, received his 15-year pin from Sheriff Doug Doughtie.
- 4) Dorothy Killingsworth, Public Information Officer, received her 15-year pin from Bobby Outten.
- 5) Nancy Wilkinson, Community Social Services Technician, received her 15-yr pin from Sandy Brookshire.
- 6) Danny Avitt, Detention Officer, received his 20-year pin from Sheriff Doug Doughtie.
- 7) Greg Creef, Detention Shift Leader, received his 20-year pin from Sheriff Doug Doughtie.
- 8) Nancy Rose, Detention Trans/Class Officer, received her 20-year pin from Sheriff Doug Doughtie.
- 9) Sharon Tinnell, Finance Operations Manager, received her 20-year pin from Dave Clawson.
- 10) George Evans, Real Property Appraiser, received his 20-year pin from Greta Skeen.
- 11) Tim Willis, Facility Maintenance Supervisor, received his 20-year pin from Elizabeth Reilly.
- 12) Mark Shreaves, EMT Basic, received his 20-year pin from Skeeter Sawyer.
- 13) Veronica Brickhouse, Library Branch Manager, received her 20-year pin from Jonathan Wark.
- 14) Elizabeth Edens, Telecommunicator Shift Supv., received her 25-year pin from Sheriff Doug Doughtie.
- 15) Judith Curry, EMT Paramedic, received her 25-year pin from Skeeter Sawyer.

ITEM 2 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – JUNE 2011

Mary Lee, Mail Distribution Specialist, received the Employee of the Month certificate for June 2012 from Elizabeth Reilly who described the honored employee as being extremely organized, courteous, and willing to go the extra mile. Ms. Lee was credited with running a flawless operation where everything gets done correctly and without complaining.

ITEM 3 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

The County Manager outlined the procedure for making public comments. No one in the meeting room responded.

ITEM 4 – PROCLAMATION – 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOST COLONY

A Proclamation commemorating the celebration of the 75th season of the Lost Colony was read by Lost Colony performer, Governor John White. He appeared in costume to thank the Board of Commissioners and read the proclamation commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Lost Colony.

MOTION

Commissioner Tillett motioned to issue the Proclamation commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Lost Colony. Commissioner Dutton, Vice-Chairman Burrus, and Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 5 – NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – SECONDARY ROADS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (Att. #1)

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) Secondary Roads Program was presented by Sterling Baker. He explained that funding for the program could be decreased based upon cuts that may come from the North Carolina legislature when the State budget is approved. He added that NCDOT may be bearing the brunt of State budget cuts this fiscal year. Mr. Baker outlined a total of \$192,838.04 in the program and provided details about paving priorities and secondary road improvements. In response to a question from Vice-Chairman Burrus about Sportsman Place and Sportsman Drive, Mr. Baker clarified the symbols that were used in the presentation to indicate status priorities. Mr. Burrus added that the road going into the Hatteras Elementary School needs some work. The Vice-Chairman expressed his appreciation for what NCDOT does for Dare County. Commissioner Richard Johnson asked if NCDOT can help with Fields Drive on Roanoke Island, which is in bad shape at the cemetery. Mr. Baker said the Department will look into it and added that there are General Statutes that govern roads related to public cemeteries. Commissioner Dutton raised concerns about conditions on Airport Road. Mr. Baker said he was hesitant to make a commitment until it is known what the legislature will do with funding for the Secondary Roads Program. Commissioner Richard Johnson asked about NCDOT help cleaning out ditches. Mr.

Baker explained that some ditches are under the purview of NCDOT. He suggested that Allen Russell be told of locations where ditches are a concern. Mr. Baker added that in many cases there are environmental restrictions that apply and that Gretchen Byrum can supply further details. Chairman Judge noted that markings are needed for the pedestrian crossover just west of the Little Bridge on the causeway. He thanked NCDOT for the great service they provide throughout the year and described them as good partners with Dare County.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the NCDOT Secondary Roads Program for FY 2012/2013 for Dare County.

Vice-Chairman Burrus and Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 6 – TAX MAPPING DEPARTMENT – RECLASSIFY POSITION (Att. #2)

Mr. Outten reported that Eddie Francis is retiring at the end of the month. He said in reevaluating the Department and its service demands, it has been determined that a reclassification is needed to have a more technical position that is less clerical. He said this would represent a net savings and better meet the needs of the Department.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to approve the reclassification of Tax Customer Service Representative 1 to Land Records Technician.

Commissioner Shea and Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 7 – RECOMMEND NOMINATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR'S COASTAL RESOURCES COMMISSION (Att. #3)

The County Manager stated that a letter was received from the Governor's office seeking nominations to the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC). He said openings are available for a Coastal Agricultural Representative, a Marine Related Business Representative, and a Local Government Representative. He added that The Town of Duck and other towns have made nominations and he has spoken with Renee Cahoon.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to recommend the nomination of Mike Johnson as a Local Government Representative on the Coastal Resources Commission.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 8 – PUBLIC HEARING – DRAFT BNH (BUXTON NATURAL HISTORIC) ZONING AMENDMENT (Att. #4)

At 10:02 a.m., the Dare County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing to receive input concerning the Draft BNH (Buxton Natural Historic) Zoning Amendment. The County Manager explained the procedure for making comments. Afterward the following people spoke –

- 1) Chris J. Wade said she has been involved in the building business for over 25 years and is Vice President of Green Island Builders specializing in solar design and green construction. She said she is a year-round resident of Buxton who lives across the street from the Coast Guard housing facility. Ms. Wade said she is opposed to the redevelopment as proposed, which is substantially different from the military housing that was there when she moved to the area. She expressed concern about flooding issues from both rainwater and ocean over wash. She said installing massive septic tanks is irresponsible. Ms. Wade said that when she asked the project engineer how saturated ground would affect the septic systems, she was told there would be no affect at all; however, she reported that the system depends on high maintenance and soil absorbency. She said if the developer subdivided the lots so that the property would conform to the rest of the neighborhood and have individual septic systems, we would not have to be dependent on this commercial management system. Ms. Wade added that when this septic system fails, the smell will become a nuisance and her neighborhood property values will decline. She also cited concern that hazardous waste, viruses, bacteria, and chemicals will pollute the surface and ground water. She said the density is far too large for the land and described the project's septic plans as flimsy.
- 2) Marianne O'Neal said she lives on Old Lighthouse Road and supports the project. She said traffic will not be different than what we had when the site was Coast Guard housing. She explained that we need the income that the project provides and we need to restore the site and not let it go to disarray and fall by the

wayside, which is a waste of valuable property. She said the project would make money for the County and benefit the local economy. She said we are not doing any disservice to the environment. Ms. O'Neal asked the Board to let the zoning change go forward.

- 3) Lee Pontes, Cottages at the Cape Co-Manager, reported that they have demonstrated how they intend to fix the waste and storm water problems; however, he wanted to address concerns about property values, increased traffic, noise, and apprehension over competition in the seasonal market. He said the cottages are currently in a state of disrepair and they will spend approximately two million dollars making improvements, which will help nearby property values. He outlined traffic data from NCDOT and said traffic will not reach the previous level that existed when the site was used for military housing. He said if delay and safety concerns become a problem, they will join in efforts to find practical solutions. He added that the project managers have made noise control a top concern and they will work to keep it under control. Mr. Pontes said the cottages will add additional units to the seasonal rental market and their research shows that during the prime season demand exceeds supply. He noted that the Cottages at the Cape will serve a different market. He thanked the Board and County staff for the significant time put into this process.
- 4) Holly Austin, Vice President of Hatteras Realty, said bringing this facility back to life will have many positive benefits to the community. She reported that, of all the Hatteras Island Villages, Buxton has the fewest rental homes and is in very high demand. She said opening the Cottages at the Cape will fill the needs of our visitors and allow local businesses to provide services, which will have a huge economic impact. Ms. Austin added that the project will be a boost to area restaurants and shops in the Buxton area. She said it is in the best interest of the Cottages at the Cape to make sure that storm water and septic issues are taken care of properly.
- 5) Werner Quast presented a petition with signatures from concerned area homeowners. He expressed concerns about population density, septic, storm water, and traffic problems. He asked who will address the potential traffic and safety problems due to the large increase of population at the end of Old Lighthouse Road. He asked who will compensate us for decreased property values due to the flood of new rentals in our neighborhood. He added that a traffic light is needed for Old Lighthouse Road now without the additional increase of people at the end of the road.
- 6) Kyle Perry, homeowner on Diamond Shoals Drives, said in addition to the storm water issues that have been raised, he expressed concern about pedestrian traffic walking to and from nearby shops and businesses. He said whether the zoning is changed or not, a walkway or sidewalk is needed to accommodate people on Old Lighthouse Road. Mr. Perry said if the zoning is changed, there will be a major problem for pedestrians walking up and down the road with increased traffic.

Chairman Judge closed the hearing at 10:18 A.M.

Chairman Judge said the revised zoning amendment addresses the concerns that were previously discussed by the Board pertaining to wastewater, storm water, and contingencies if the property were to be sold in the future. Vice-Chairman Burrus asked if anything has been received from the State on the wastewater plan. Planning Director, Donna Creef, said nothing new has been received and it is her understanding that they cannot submit it to the State until the zoning is approved. She explained that if the zoning amendment is approved, the applicant will still need to come back to the Board for a Conditional Use Permit before Occupancy Certificates can be issued. Commissioner Richard Johnson asked if a traffic study will be done and if the Scenic Byways Committee could help with getting walking paths for pedestrians. Ms. Creef said we can submit our traffic concerns to NCDOT. Mr. Outten clarified that the Scenic Byways Committee has a mature grant application, now in the engineering phase, which, at this time, would likely not be able to accommodate a new request. Vice-Chairman Burrus said we need to prompt NCDOT to look at traffic and drainage issues in that area. Mr. Outten said the Planning Director will ask NCDOT to look at both a sidewalk and a traffic light. Mr. Burrus said he would make a motion to approve the zoning change knowing that the applicant must come back for an Occupancy Permit, contingent on properly handling the identified issues. Chairman Judge encouraged the applicant to continue to work with the neighbors who have addressed their concerns and thanked them for investing in Dare County.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned that parcel 016831-003 be rezoned and the associated BNH language be adopted as advertised for the June 4 hearing. 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 by providing for the use of a site as permanent and seasonal housing in the Buxton community.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 9 – PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013 (Att. #5)

At 10:29 a.m., the Dare County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing to receive input concerning the proposed budget for fiscal year 2013. The County Manager explained the procedure for making comments. Afterward the following people spoke –

- 1) Ray White, on behalf of Outer Banks Sporting Events (OBSE), said EMS does an excellent job for the County and at their major events. He said the length and endurance of their athletic events require EMS resources to be on site. He reminded the Board that OBSE is a three-legged stool that benefits the Dare Education Foundation, the Outer Banks Relief Foundation, and the Dare County economy. He explained that profits from the events are distributed to the Dare Education Foundation and the Outer Banks Relief Foundation. He also outlined the economic impact that OBSE events had during 2011. Mr. White expressed concern that the proposed budget, which recommends a \$150 per hour charge for each EMS unit at special events, would take \$19,300 from their bottom line. He respectfully asked the Board to find funding elsewhere to cover the cost of providing EMS coverage at OBSE events.
- 2) Ervin Bateman described the Outer Banks Sporting Event (OBSE) marathon as a citizen’s marathon that involves over 2,000 volunteers to make it a highly successful event. In addressing the proposed imposition of a fee for EMS standby events, he called on the Board to look at what is being done in other areas. He cited events in Virginia Beach and Raleigh that receive EMS coverage at no cost because they are non-profit. He said in other places, profit oriented ventures do not receive the same treatment as non-profit events. He emphasized that OBSE events provides funds for local charities and brings money to Dare County, which benefits everyone. He also expressed his appreciation to the Board of Commissioners for all that they do.

Chairman Judge closed the hearing at 10:37 A.M.

ITEM 10 – PUBLIC HEARING – TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT FY2012-2013 “ROAP APPLICATION PUBLIC HEARING” (Att. #6)

At 10:37 a.m., the Dare County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing to receive input concerning the Transportation Department FY 2012-2013 “ROAP Application Public Hearing.” The County Manager conducted the hearing and invited the public to speak, however, no one in the meeting room responded. Chairman Judge closed the hearing at 10:38 a.m.

MOTION

Commissioner Tillett motioned to approve the application and authorize the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Dutton and Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

RECESS: 10:38 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.

ITEM 11 – CONSENT AGENDA (Att. #7)

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes (05.21.12)
- 2) Disaster Management, Recovery and Consulting Services Contract
- 3) Social Services Foster Care Budget Amendment
- 4) Budget Amendment for Contingency Line Item

Commissioner Dutton and Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 12 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

1) College of the Albemarle Board of Trustees

Commissioner Shea motioned to reappoint Chairman Warren Judge.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

2) Dare County Center Advisory Board

Commissioner Tillett motioned to appoint John Robbins III to fill the unexpired term of Jimmie Williams.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

3) Dare County Transportation Advisory Board

Commissioner Shea motioned to reappoint Anne Thomas and Maria Heifferon

VOTE: AYES unanimous

4) Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) District – Town of Southern Shores

Commissioner Shea motioned to appoint John Finelli.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

5) Hatteras Community Center Board

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to reappoint Richard A. Midgett and Rom Whitaker.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

6) Health Board

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to reappoint Brant Murray.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

7) Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Commissioner Tillett motioned to reappoint Melinda Mogowski, Stephen Wescott, Ron Bennett, Lynn Bryant, Tim White, and Marsha Ribner-Cady

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

8) Library Board - Dare

Commissioner Dutton motioned to reappoint Donna Trivette, William Pfeifer, Elizabeth Gaimel, and Commissioner Virginia Tillett.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

9) Library Board - Regional

Commissioner Tillett motioned to appoint Joyce Bornfriend.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

10) Manns Harbor Community Center Board

Commissioner Dutton motioned to reappoint Clyde Gard and Bonny Sawyer.

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

11) Oregon Inlet and Waterways Commission

Commissioner Shea motioned to reappoint Vice-Chairman Allen Burrus.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to reappoint Ernie Foster and appoint Commissioner Richard Johnson.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

12) Roanoke Island Community Center Board

Commissioner Tillett motioned to reappoint John Daniels and Daniel Selby.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

13) Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo Community Center Board

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to reappoint Susan Gray and J.W. Kierzkowski.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

14) Workforce Development Board

Commissioner Tillett motioned to reappoint Jack Hughes.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

15) Upcoming Board Appointments for July and August 2012

The upcoming July appointments were announced for the East Lake Community Center Board, Game and Wildlife Commission, Library Board–Regional, Parks and Recreation Advisory Council, and the Wanchese Community Center Board. The upcoming August appointments for the A.B.C. Board were also announced.

ITEM 13 – DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013 (Att. #8)

The County Manager outlined a few changes, involving \$1,663.00 that have been determined since the budget was presented at the last meeting. He said these changes would be covered by the unappropriated fund balance.

Commissioner Shea asked for clarification related to the Program Manager position and for details about an increased amount shown for health insurance. Finance Director, David Clawson, provided details and noted that there are several added positions related to the EMS helicopter. Commissioner Shea also asked if entities receiving special appropriations have reporting requirements to make sure that money has been properly spent. Mr. Clawson said there are reporting requirements in place that must be completed in order for the organization to be eligible to receive funds in the following year. Commissioner Shea said a lot of work has gone into preparing a good budget. Commissioner Tillett asked if the budget provides any type of raise, merit increase, or bonus for County and School employees. The Manager said it does not for County employees, and that expenditures for school staffing are done by the Board of Education. Commissioner Dutton expressed concern about appropriations for the schools and said he would like to meet with them to get answers to his specific questions. Mr. Clawson explained that if the budget is adopted, an amendment can be presented later based upon answers that Commissioner Dutton receives.

Commissioner Dutton thanked Mr. Clawson and Mr. Outten for their excellent work on the budget. Vice-Chairman Burrus asked the Manager to explain the reasoning for ambulance charges for EMS coverage at events. Mr. Outten described how the County was subsidizing events by incurring overtime to provide ambulances for events and he outlined how the policy will operate. Commissioner Tillett asked why money is being given to the Community Development Corporation (CDC). The County Manager said they provide workforce housing, which the Board has chosen to support. Commissioner Tillett said that although she has nothing against the CDC, she believes a couple of organizations should be given what they requested, even if it means cutting CDC funding. She said Food for Thought needs assistance helping children in these tough economic times. She also cited Interfaith Community Outreach (ICO) for the tremendous job they did countywide helping people recover from the hurricane and asked that \$5,000 be added to the appropriation for ICO. Commissioner Dutton said the CDC works to get state funds and does an outstanding job. He added that they need the \$40,000 appropriation and are striving to get to the point where they will not need it. He also noted that the CDC appropriation has come down from its previous level. Commissioner Richard Johnson suggested taking \$10,000 from the CDC appropriation and putting it towards providing EMS coverage at marathon events. He stated that the CDC has a brand new building and that the marathon is a positive thing for Dare County. Commissioner Tillett recommended splitting the difference between Interfaith Community Outreach and the marathon. Commissioner Mike Johnson credited ICO with doing a magnificent job during the hurricane and said we depend on them to get aid to those in need. There were two (2) motions made pertaining to the budget approval –

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adopt the budget as presented including a spreadsheet of last minute changes provided by the County Manager.

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

MOTION

Commissioner Richard Johnson motioned to amend the motion to reduce the appropriation to the Community Development Corporation to \$25,000 and increase the appropriation to Interfaith Community Outreach to \$25,250 and create a new line item for Outer Banks Sporting Events for \$10,000.

Commissioner Tillett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 14 – COMMISSIONERS’ BUSINESS

Commissioner Jack Shea

- He congratulated the service pin recipients and the June Employee of the Month.
- Commissioner Shea also congratulated the Lost Colony on their 75th anniversary.

Commissioner Richard Johnson - None

Commissioner Mike Johnson

- He thanked the Board for the nomination to the Governor’s Coastal Resources Commission and pledged to work hard on behalf of Dare County.

Commissioner Max Dutton

- He appreciated the service pin recipients and congratulated Mary Lee on being the Employee of the Month.
- Commissioner Dutton thanked County Manager Outten and Finance Director, Dave Clawson for the great job done on the budget.

Commissioner Virginia Tillett

- She expressed interest in seeking an opportunity to name something in honor of Marc Basnight. She asked the County Manager and Clerk to the Board to prepare a resolution for a future naming opportunity.
- Commissioner Tillett congratulated Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy on receiving the Dare County Citizen of the Year Award. She thanked Chairman Judge and Vice-Chairman Burrus for the excellent presentation of the Award they made at Dare Day.
- She also congratulated Lee Tugwell for the award he received from the Town of Manteo during Dare Day.
- Commissioner Tillett asked for an explanation to help the public understand the new pedestrian crosswalk at the Little Bridge on the causeway in Nags Head. Chairman Judge said the concrete median provides a walkway for pedestrians and is similar to what was done in front of the Lowe’s store in Kill Devil Hills. He said it has been indicated that reflective tape will be used to mark the structure.
- Commissioner Tillett outlined the upcoming High School graduation ceremonies that are planned for Dare County schools.

Vice-Chairman Allen Burrus

- He expressed his extreme displeasure with the School Superintendent for not getting a State waiver of the school days missed due to Hurricane Irene. He said her failing to ask for this waiver has caused students and teachers to suffer. He noted that the Governor has granted the waiver to other counties and would have done it for us, if the Superintendent would have asked.
- He said he had a great time at Dare Day surprising Mary Helen Goodloe-Murphy with the Citizen of the Year Award. He thanked her for her involvement with the community.
- Vice-Chairman Burrus reported that he recently tried to use a credit card to make a Dare County tax payment over the telephone. He explained that it was not easy to do and he finally had to send in a check. He added that people, especially those who do not live close to the County office buildings in Manteo, should be able to make these transactions over the telephone. He told the Finance Director that the system, as it is now set up, does not work.
- He stated his disapproval that funding is being cut that protects against abuse of the aged. He said we need to protect these people and that appropriations for it are well spent and well used. He added that this is an issue we deal with in Dare County. Commissioner Tillett said we need to stay aware of what is happening as services we have come to count upon are chipped away. Vice-Chairman Burrus asked that the County send a letter opposing these cutbacks.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to send a letter opposing cutbacks to funding that protects against abuse of the aged.

Commissioner Tillett seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Chairman Warren Judge

- Expressed his gratitude to the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation for granting \$23,540 for renovations to the Old Stumpy Point Fire House, which is now known as the Youth Center. The grant will be used to repair damages done to the building during Hurricane Irene.

MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

- 1) County Manager, Robert Outten, explained a budget amendment for \$94,508 to cover emergency replacement of the E911 CAD Server. He asked for permission to take money out of the E911 appropriated fund balance. In response to a question from Commissioner Richard Johnson about back-up systems, the County Manager explained that the State doles out the E911 funds and he would have to check to see if they would fund a back-up system.

MOTION

Commissioner Tillett motioned to authorize the County Manager to spend funds out of the E911 fund for the purpose of replacing the CAD server.
Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

- 2) Mr. Outten explained to the Board that he and Finance Director, Dave Clawson, have been looking at a third party to provide EMS billing. He said a person in the Finance Department is retiring and that by using a third party there will be faster processing of bills and a cost savings. He said this system is used by Currituck and other counties. Mr. Clawson said we would like to negotiate and execute a contract for a start date of July 1. Commissioner Tillett said she does not like outsourcing because it loses a human touch. She added that outsourcing would also be taking a job from someone who could be employed, and that collection companies can hound people. Vice-Chairman Burrus added his concern with outsourcing and expressed his distrust of collection agencies. He said while he does not want to lose money, he wants to stay as user-friendly as possible. Mr. Clawson said the third party would follow our existing collections policies and procedures and provide faster processing. Mr. Outten explained that staff does not do collections now and the County already uses a collection agency after all the required notices have been sent. Chairman Judge stated that with a staff person retiring, a position can be eliminated and money can be saved outsourcing the county side of the billing process. Mr. Clawson explained the current cost of collections is 5.25% and the future cost will rise due to the implementation of a Compliance Officer and the addition of charging for helicopter service. He projected that by the end of 2013, the cost will be about 7.5%. He added that the third party's proposal is 4.5% on ambulance trips, and 2.25% for helicopter service. Commissioner Richard Johnson said we ought to try to save money where we can. Commissioner Mike Johnson said we already use a collection agency and this is a better deal all around adding that it is not government's role to be a job creator. Chairman Judge asked that it be written into the contract that collection calls cannot occur before 9:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m., or on weekends.

MOTION

Commissioner Richard Johnson motioned to authorize the County Manager to negotiate and execute a one-year agreement, with an option for an additional year after review by the Board, and to be subject to the County's terms of collections.

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion in spite of the misgivings he expressed.

VOTE: AYES (5) Chairman Judge, Vice-Chairman Burrus, Commissioner Richard Johnson,
Commissioner Mike Johnson, Commissioner Dutton

NOES (1) Commissioner Tillett

ABSENT (1) Commissioner Shea was not in the room when voting on the motion occurred

- 3) The County Manager reported that he and the Finance Director have been looking at technology issues related to creating one-stop payment ability for County bills. He said efforts are underway to make it as user-friendly and convenient for citizens as possible. Vice-Chairman Burrus noted that this is a good idea.

AT 12:47 P.M. THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED UNTIL 5:00 P.M. ON JUNE 18, 2012.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

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