



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

June 6, 2011 — 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; Public Information Officer, Dorothy Toolan; Finance Director, Dave Clawson; Clerk to the Board, Gary Gross

Public Comments: Six (6) people appeared before the Board of Commissioners to make public comments, including — Lisa Phillips, Jennifer Karpowicz, Neil Scarborough, Allan Grimsley, Angelea Norcross, and Anne Thomas

Presentations:

The Employee of the Month certificate was presented to Rhonda Creef, Veterans Service Officer & Deputy Clerk to the Board
Service Pins were presented to four (4) Dare County employees — Lorie Fitzgerald, Denise Pearce, Anne Thomas, Sean Hughes
Monarch Beach Club of Dare thanked the Dare County Board of Commissioners for their support

Actions:

Agenda amended to add item 11-A (Multi-Use Path Resolution) & remove item 12-4 (Access East HealthNet Grant) — **Approved**
First Flight Foundation—Resolution Supporting Soaring 100 — **Approved**
Town of Duck Request for Funding of Beach Erosion Study — **Approved**
Dare County Tobacco-Free Ordinance — **Not Approved**
Dare County Schools—Wind Energy Demonstration Project — **Staff was directed to prepare a proposed text amendment**
Report on Consolidation Research with Board of Education — **Increased the School Board appropriation in the amount of \$350,780**
Part-Time Helicopter Mechanic Position — **Approved**
KDHWWTP, LLC Request for Easement and Transfer of Lift Station — **Approved**
Resolution In Support of a Multi-Use Pathway along Colington Road — **Approved**

Consent Agenda — **Approved With Item 12-4 Deleted From The Agenda**

1. Approval of Minutes (05.16)
2. JCPC Executive Summary
3. Lease Agreement Mail Van
4. Access East HealthNet Grant
5. Breast Cancer Pgm Budget Amendment
6. Budget Amendments for EMS Medicaid Cost Settlement
7. Bayliss Boatworks Building Project Grant Approval
8. Transportation — System Safety Program Plan

Board Appointments

1. A.B.C. Board — **Appointed Robert V. (Bobby) Owens, Jr.**
2. Albemarle Region Resource Conservation & Development Council — **Appointed Michael Barr**
3. Dare County Commission for Working Watermen — **Reappointed Jamie Reibel, Kelly Schoolcraft, Mikey Daniels**
4. Dare County Transportation Advisory Board — **Reappointed Commissioner Jack Shea**
5. Game and Wildlife Commission — **Item was pulled until applications are available for the District 2 vacancy**
6. Hatteras Community Center Board — **Reappointed Ernie Foster, Jr., Geraldine Farrow, Ricki Shepherd**
7. Juvenile Crime Prevention Council — **Reappointed 13 individuals & Appointed 5 as recommended by the JCPC**
8. Land Transfer Tax Appeals Board — **Reappointed James F. Perry, Doug Remaley, Jack Overman**
9. Library Board—Dare — **Reappointed Karen Bachman and Joyce Bornfriend**
10. Manns Harbor Community Center Board—**Reappointed Rodney Ballance and Vickie Craddock and leaving one seat vacant**
11. Nursing Home Community Advisory Council — **Appointed Laurie Worsley**
12. Older Adult Services Advisory Council — **No action was taken**
13. Oregon Inlet & Waterways Commission — **Item put off while a committee looks at the way the Commission is put together**
14. Roanoke Island Community Center Board — **Reappointed Roland Bowser, Betty Selby, Willie Brickhouse**
15. Social Services Board — **Appointed Tim Shearin**

Commissioner's Business — Letter supporting the appointment of Jess Hawkins to the NC Marine Fisheries Commission — **Approved**

LAND OF BEGINNINGS

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

Chairman Warren Judge called the June 6, 2011 meeting of the Dare County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. He asked everyone to remember our men and women in the military, past and present, on the anniversary of the Armed Forces action on D-Day. He acknowledged the father-in-law of Vice-Chairman Burrus who served there along with others from Dare County. He then invited the Lutheran Church Minister, Rev. Keith Dey, to share a prayer, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The Chairman asked for a motion to amend the meeting agenda to add item 11-A, a resolution in support of a multi-use pathway along SR1217 in Atlantic Township, Dare County, commonly known as Colington Road; and to remove item 12-4 on the Consent Agenda for the Dare County Health Department – Access East HealthNet Grant.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to amend the agenda to add item 11-A and remove item 12-4.

Vice-Chairman Burrus, Commissioner Dutton, and Commissioner Richard Johnson seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 1 – PRESENTATION OF COUNTY SERVICE PINS

- 1) Lorie Fitzgerald, Office Manager, received her 10-year pin from Sheriff Doug Doughtie.
- 2) Denise Pearce, EMT-Intermediate, received her 10-year pin from EMS Director, Skeeter Sawyer.
- 3) Anne Thomas, Health Director, received her 15-year pin from Health Board Chairman Brant Murray.
- 4) Sean Hughes, Fleet Maintenance Tech, received his 15-year pin from Edward Mann, Public Works Dir.

ITEM 2 – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – JUNE 2011

Rhonda Creef, Veterans Service Officer and Deputy Clerk to the Board, received the Employee of the Month certificate for June 2011 from Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board. He acknowledged her as a trusted, valuable, long-term employee who serves Dare County veterans and their families with dignity, grace, and professionalism.

ITEM 3 – PUBLIC COMMENTS

Six (6) people appeared before the Board of Commissioners to make public comments, including –

- 1) Lisa Phillips asked the Board of Commissioners to promote non-tobacco use and keep Dare County facilities and grounds free of cigarette litter. She said this sends a positive message and helps control health care costs. She reported that efforts to make restaurants and bars smoke free have been well received by residents and visitors.
- 2) Jennifer Karpowicz with the District Attorney's Office said the proposed ordinance will adversely affect the public. She explained that the Justice Center is the people's property and many are required to be there for court or serving on jury duty. She asked for a designated smoking area and presented a petition opposing the ordinance.
- 3) Neil Scarborough, attorney, said there is no justification for a total tobacco ban. He said the ordinance raises equal protection problems by isolating one class of activity and represents an incredibly bold move on the part of government telling people what they can do with their bodies, healthy or unhealthy, in their private lives.
- 4) Allan Grimsley, attorney, reminded the Board that the Justice Center is the public's building and many people are required to be there. He cited possible enforcement problems with the proposed ordinance in view of how far the Deputy Sheriffs are already stretched. He said an outdoor tobacco ban is offensive and outrageous.
- 5) Angelea Norcross, attorney said she, like others, has tried to stop smoking and takes personal responsibility for her actions. She called on the Board to find an appropriate outdoor location where people can smoke as a good compromise. She said it is arrogant to tell people what they can do outdoors related to a legal activity like smoking.

- 6) Anne Thomas, Health Director, said when the Department of Public Health adopted a tobacco-free policy they heard many of the concerns expressed today. She reminded the Board that it is about the people who are exposed and said there is no safe level of exposure to second hand smoke.

Following public comments, Vice-Chairman Allen Burrus said the people who spoke beyond the allotted time limit showed disrespect.

ITEM 4 – FIRST FLIGHT FOUNDATION – RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SOARING 100

Lola Hilton, Executive Director and John Harris, First Flight Foundation Board President presented information about Soaring 100. Mr. Harris explained that the event, scheduled for October 21-24, commemorates the important soaring experiments done by the Wright Brothers during 1911. He outlined planned activities and said three teams are building soaring replicas. Ms. Hilton described Soaring 100 as a valuable educational opportunity and called for our youth and schools to get involved. Chairman Judge directed the Clerk to the Board to share the resolution with our towns, along with legislative leaders in Raleigh, and Governor Bev Perdue, whom he hopes will be able to attend Soaring 100.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to adopt a resolution supporting Soaring 100.

Vice-Chairman Burrus and Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 5 – PRESENTATION – MONARCH BEACH CLUB OF DARE

Renate Macchirole thanked the Board of Commissioners for their ongoing support of the Monarch Beach Club of Dare. She described the many volunteer activities that are performed by the Beach Club participants including the SPCA, Aquarium, Food Pantry, adopting a road for cleanup and raising money for the Dare County Center's Christmas toy drive. She said training seminars are planned to help create open dialogue with many different organizations throughout the community. Ms. Macchirole said the Monarch Beach Club of Dare plans to build upon the Award of Excellence it has received and again thanked the Dare County Board of Commissioners.

ITEM 6 – TOWN OF DUCK REQUEST FOR FUNDING OF BEACH EROSION STUDY (Att. 1)

Lee Wrenn, along with Duck Town Council Member, Neil Morrison, and Town Manager, Christopher Layton appeared before the Board of Commissioners to present a request for funding of a beach erosion study for the Town of Duck. Mr. Wrenn said the Town presented their request to the Shoreline Management Commission (SMC) on May 17, 2011. He said the SMC supports the request to cost share on a 75/25 basis with a match required by the Town. He added that the SMC has asked the Dare County Board of Commissioners to send them guidelines for handling future requests. Duck Town Council Member Morrison described how beach erosion is a serious problem effecting sixty properties in the Town. He cited, as an example, the Carolina Dunes area which has receded 50-90 feet with erosion rates of up to eight feet per year. Chairman Judge reported the SMC unanimously supported the request based on a 75/25 cost share basis and explained that the money will come from the Shoreline Management fund and not the Dare County general fund. Commissioner Shea said the State and Federal government should also be involved in these types of projects and something needs to be done.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to approve the funding request from the Town of Duck in an amount not to exceed \$56,250 for a beach erosion study, as a matching share with reimbursement when the project is done, and with the County Manager and Finance Director to come back with recommended guidelines for the future.

Commissioner Shea and Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

RECESS 10:17 A.M. – 10:36 A.M.

ITEM 7 – DARE COUNTY TOBACCO-FREE ORDINANCE (Att. 2)

County Manager Outten said the proposed ordinance was prepared in an effort to minimize rising healthcare costs and not out of arrogance or a lack of community concern. He said the impacts of smoking are overwhelming as documented in a notebook assembled for the Board and acknowledged that for those who smoke it is difficult to stop. Mr. Outten said the ordinance is not government intrusion, simply government regulation of facilities for the good of its employees as recommended by the Wellness Committee and the Health Director. He reported that tobacco-free policies have been done by several counties and are part of nationwide trend. He said the District Attorney has assured there would be no impact on the Justice Center. Mr. Outten said equal protection laws require that laws be equally applied to those that it affects and he could not find any case of a smoking law being overturned as unconstitutional. He added that the ordinance does not treat violations as criminal actions. He explained that violators would be reminded of the ordinance and if they extinguish it, no ticket would be issued. Mr. Outten recalled that the Fessenden Center fire was caused by someone smoking. Commissioner Shea said he is against any unwarranted intrusion into people's lives and is therefore against the proposed ordinance. Commissioner Richard Johnson agreed saying he did not support a similar policy when serving on the College of the Albemarle Board. He added that these things start out with good intentions, like regulations to protect piping plover, which can then result in shutting down the beach and a dwindling of our rights. Commissioner Richard Johnson said the taxpayers pay for this property and have a right to use it. He said he has no problem having a designated smoking area outside. Vice-Chairman Burrus said he has a right to a smoke free environment and the rights of the minority should not be forced on the majority. He indicated a willingness to compromise and look at designating an outdoor smoking area away from entrance doors. Commissioner Dutton concurred and said he sees the situation at the Justice Center differently than Parks and Recreation facilities where you have children present. He added that cigarette butts are a major form of litter. Commissioner Mike Johnson said the proposed ordinance was well prepared and he believes people ought to quit smoking, however, he is sick of the government infringing on what we do. He added that since it is mandatory for many people to be at the courthouse, it might be possible to designate an area well away from the courthouse door, but he would not be voting for the ordinance as it is. Commissioner Tillett said she is trying to see the issue from both sides and examine the entire issue for everyone, not just the employees. She acknowledged that as a smoker she has tried everything to quit. She said all facilities should have a designated smoking area and does not favor making an exception just for the courthouse. She suggested that if the ordinance passes, it would be better implemented in January, or sometime in 2012. Chairman Judge said the analogy to piping plover does not apply to this situation and hoped that no one would accept the notion that the ordinance invades our private lives or takes away our rights. The Chairman said he appreciated all the public comments, however the Board must represent all the people not just those from one building and asked that the ordinance be considered in the positive. County Manager Outten asked for Board guidance on how to proceed with this issue whether by adopting the ordinance or bringing back language that would regulate it by facility, or even prohibiting it entirely at facilities with youth.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to adopt the tobacco-free ordinance as presented by the County Manager. Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES (3) Chairman Judge, Vice-Chairman Burrus, Commissioner Dutton

NOES (4) Commissioners Mike Johnson, Richard Johnson, Jack Shea, Virginia Tillett

ITEM 8 – DARE COUNTY SCHOOLS – WIND ENERGY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

Donna Creef, Planning Director, reported that a letter from Jim Winebarger, on behalf of Dare County Schools, was submitted for a wind turbine demonstration project for the Cape Hatteras Secondary School in Buxton. She said the current zoning ordinance does not include regulations for this project due to the minimum site size of 25 acres for wind energy research sites. Ms. Creef said Mr. Winebarger is requesting text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance to allow the installation of a 35 ft tall vertical axis wind turbine and an 80 ft tall horizontal axis wind turbine at the site. She said the current C-3 zoning district could be amended to accommodate the request, which would require a public hearing. She also outlined another option is to have the Planning Department re-submit the comprehensive set of draft regulations for all zoned areas of unincorporated Dare County. Commissioner Shea asked if approval is given, does it open it up for the entire County. Ms. Creef explained that instructions could be given for just the C-3 district, or to move forward with a more comprehensive approach. Chairman Judge instructed staff to prepare proposed text amendments for property owned or used by the Dare County school system in unincorporated Dare County, not specific to C-3 zoning with language to be drafted and presented to the Planning Board and then brought back to the Board of Commissioners for public hearing.

ITEM 9 – REPORT ON CONSOLIDATION RESEARCH WITH BOARD OF EDUCATION (Att. 3)

David Clawson, Finance Director, explained that since being tasked with undertaking the research project we have contacted the Institute of Government and spoken with those who specialize in school law. He said Norma Houston indicated there are ways to consolidate to do joint functions through inter-local agreements where the County could be a service provider. Mr. Clawson said we are still in the process of gathering information and should have it next week. He said we are looking at grounds, building, and fleet maintenance as well as fuel purchases and painting, however have not yet made any recommendations to the School Superintendent or the Dare County Manager. He indicated that fleet maintenance might be the easiest first step. He added that the Board of Education is interested in grounds maintenance, however, there could be a cost increase for the County to provide service level they desire. Mr. Clawson said the research process is moving forward and the Board of Education has been responsive. He added that the things that can be done relatively quickly are not going to save a large amount of dollars. Chairman Judge expressed appreciation for the report and encouraged continued study of cost reductions and consolidation without an increase in our expenses. Commissioner Dutton asked where we are with identifying additional funds for the schools at this time. County Manager Outten reported that \$327,895 was identified at the original presentation. Mr. Clawson outlined a per-pupil calculation for this fiscal year of \$350,780 with the items that are always included. Chairman Judge in follow-up to Commissioner Dutton's inquiry said the previously identified \$327,895 is now \$350,780. Mr. Outten explained the per-pupil formula takes into account the CPI changes. Commissioner Richard Johnson said the Board of Education has been working cooperatively with the Finance Director and supports the numbers outlined by Mr. Clawson provided everybody is working together and staying within a budget doing what is right for the tax-paying public. Commissioner Tillett said she would like to have known of the \$350,780 amount in advance, but she is not against the schools getting what they need.

MOTION

Commissioner Richard Johnson motioned to increase the County budget by an increase in the School Board appropriation of \$350,780 as identified funds with that much less going into the fund balance. Commissioner Dutton and Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 10 – PART-TIME HELICOPTER MECHANIC POSITION (Att. 4)

County Manager Outten said Dare MedFlight has been using a company in Tidewater as the backup for our fulltime helicopter mechanic. He said a trusted mechanic from that company is now available and willing to help us on a part time basis as needed. He explained this arrangement would provide better coverage during vacation periods and said the contracted funds would be used to create a part time position at no additional cost. He added that the part time employee would be more under our control than an independent service provider. Vice-Chairman Burrus said as long as it does not cost more and gives more control, it is a win-win situation.

MOTION

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to approve the budget transfer creating a part time position. Commissioner Dutton and Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 11 – KDHWWTP, LLC REQUEST FOR EASEMENT AND TRANSFER OF LIFT STATION (Att. 5)

County Manager Outten explained that KDHWWTP, LLC owns and operates the sewer treatment facility in KDH. As a part of the system, there is a lift station located in the traffic circle on Veterans Drive in the First Flight Schools area. He said it is unclear who owns the lift station and reported that KDHWWTP has an agreement with the Town of KDH for KDH to assume responsibility for the lift station. He added that in order to do so the NC Utilities Commission has required KDH to take ownership of the lift station. Mr. Outten said the KDHWWTP has requested that Dare County transfer whatever interest it may have in the lift station to KDHWWTP and give them an easement for future access to the lift station. He added that there is no cost to Dare County. Chairman Judge explained that there are about a dozen lift stations in the community for which good records do not exist and Utilities Commission is directing them to clean up the situation.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the transfer of the lift station and grant an easement to KDHWWTP, LLC and authorize the County Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 11A – RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A MULTI-USE PATHWAY ALONG SR1217 IN ATLANTIC TOWNSHIP, DARE COUNTY, COMMONLY KNOWN AS COLINGTON ROAD

Vice-Chairman Burrus said he was willing to vote for the resolution but cautioned those seeking the multi-use path that it is not a miracle cure for them to quickly achieve their goal. He said the process can take many years of diligent work.

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the resolution.

Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 12 – CONSENT AGENDA (Att. 6)

MOTION

Commissioner Shea motioned to approve the modified Consent Agenda with the deletion of Item 12-4.

- 1) Approval of Minutes (05.16.11)
- 2) JCPC Executive Summary
- 3) Lease Agreement for Mail Van
- 4) Dare County Health Dept – Access East HealthNet Grant – This Item Was Deleted From The Agenda
- 5) Health – Breast Cancer Program Budget Amendment
- 6) Budget Amendments for EMS Medicaid Cost Settlement
- 7) Bayliss Boatworks Building Restoration Project – Grant Approval
- 8) Transportation Department “System Safety Program Plan”

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

ITEM 13 – BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- 1) A.B.C. Board

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to appoint Robert V. (Bobby) Owens, Jr.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

- 2) Albemarle Region Resource Conservation & Development Council

Commissioner Richard Johnson motioned to appoint Michael Barr

Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

- 3) Dare County Commission for Working Watermen

Commissioner Mike Johnson motioned to reappoint Jamie Reibel, Kelly Schoolcraft, and Mikey Daniels

Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

- 4) Dare County Transportation Advisory Board

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to reappoint Commissioner Jack Shea

Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Chairman Judge noted that with the resignation of Gina Scarborough, a vacancy exists for a Dialysis/Hospital Representative on the Dare County Transportation Advisory Board.

- 5) Game and Wildlife Commission

Commissioner Mike Johnson asked that the item be pulled until applications are available for the District 2 vacancy.

6) Hatteras Community Center Board

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to reappoint Ernie Foster, Jr., Geraldine Farrow, and Ricki Shepherd
Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

7) Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Commissioner Tillett motioned to reappoint Amber Davis, Vance Haskett, Jennifer Karpowicz, Sherri Ellington, Lora Vann, Bonnie Bennett, Virginia Tillett, Pat Hudspeth, Anne Thomas, Jay Burrus, Katherine Irby, Loretta Michael, and Lora Gilreath – and appoint Tripp Hobbs to replace Richard Martin, Jeff Deringer to replace Doug Oberbeck, Richard Martin to replace Edgar Barnes, Lynette Ford to replace Thomas Williamson, and Tony Gray to replace Melinda Maher as recommended by the JCPC.

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

8) Land Transfer Tax Appeals Board

Commissioner Tillett motioned to reappoint James F. Perry (Town of SS), Doug Remaley (Town of NH), and Jack Overman (Comm. Appt.)

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

9) Library Board - Dare

Commissioner Tillett motioned to reappoint Karen Bachman and Joyce Bornfriend
Commissioner Dutton seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Chairman Judge noted that one vacancy still exists on the Library Board.

10) Manns Harbor Community Center Board

Commissioner Shea motioned to reappoint Rodney Balance and Vickie Craddock; leaving one (1) seat vacant.
Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

11) Nursing Home Community Advisory Council

Commissioner Dutton motioned to appoint Laurie Worsley and Commissioner Tillett nominated Linda Putnam.
Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES for Laurie Worsley (5) – Laurie Worsley was appointed

12) Older Adult Services Advisory Council

No action taken since there were no applications from the Mainland Area for the seat previously held by Marjorie Midgett. It was also announced that a vacant position also exists from the North Hatteras Island area

13) Oregon Inlet and Waterways Commission

Vice-Chairman Burrus asked that the item be put off until August while a committee, consisting of Warren Judge, Richard Johnson and Allen Burrus, looks at the way the Oregon Inlet and Waterways Commission is put together.
There was no objection.

14) Roanoke Island Community Center Board

Commissioner Tillett motioned to reappoint Roland Bowser, Betty Selby, and Willie Brickhouse; leaving an open seat for the post previously held by Beulah Charity-Ashby

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

15) Social Services Board

Vice-Chairman Burrus motioned to appoint Tim Shearin

Commissioner Shea seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

16) Upcoming Board Appointments for July 2011

County Manager Outten announced the upcoming appointments for July as the Airport Authority, East Lake Community Center Board, Game and Wildlife Commission, Parks and Recreation Advisory Council, and the Wanchese Community Center Board. Vice-Chairman Burrus requested that the Board be informed if any of these do not wish to serve.

ITEM 14 – COMMISSIONERS’ BUSINESS

Commissioner Richard Johnson

- He explained that public hearings had been held on the water system and supported what he determined to be the best for all of Roanoke Island. He said he voted for it for fire protection and believes the water system will prove in time to be the best for the majority, including those in Wanchese. He said the County taking responsibility now is the right thing to do. He added that his decision was based on what he thought was right and believes time will prove it out.

Commissioner Mike Johnson

- Explained that Edward Lee Mann has resigned from the Recreational Fisherman Commissioner seat on the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission. He said Jess Hawkins of Morehead City is a qualified candidate and would make an excellent replacement for Edward Lee Mann. He requested a letter to the Governor and the 20 coastal counties supporting the appointment of Mr. Hawkins.

MOTION

Commissioner Mike Johnson motioned to send a letter supporting the appointment of Jess Hawkins to the NC Marine Fisheries Commission.

Vice-Chairman Burrus seconded the motion.

VOTE: AYES unanimous

Commissioner Max Dutton

- Congratulated the service pin recipients reflecting 50 years of combined service.
- He expressed appreciation for Employee of the Month, Rhonda Creef and thanked her for what she does.
- Asked for some type of ordinance to address littering and cigarette butts. County Manager Outten requested a directional consensus from the Board on how they would like to proceed on this issue.

Commissioner Virginia Tillett

- Said we need to listen to our constituents on the smoking issue and keep an open mind. She indicated that something will need to be done about the smoking issue on Parks & Recreation properties. She said while she could not support all phases of the tobacco-free ordinance at this time, she thanked the County Manager for his hard work preparing the material.
- She said the Monday Night Alive program, at their recent ceremony, expressed gratitude to the Board.
- Reported on her presentation to Social Services care givers during Nurses Aid Appreciation Month at a luncheon held at the Old Swimming Hole with 30 to 40 people. She applauded the important services they provide citizens throughout Dare County.
- She thanked the Chairman, Commissioners, and County Manager for their support of Dare Day. She said although the budget was very tight this year, the event was a great success. She also acknowledged three (3) special women who received Citizen of the Year awards including Earlene Simmons, Mary Conway, and Novella Burton.
- Expressed concern about Britthaven threatening to leave the community. She said we have need for another facility and credited Anna Sadler and Mayor Oakes with the Town of Nags Head and others who are working hard to keep another facility in the County. She asked Board Members to contact Anna Sadler or Mayor Oakes with any suggestions for a solution. Chairman Judge expressed the Board’s appreciation for Commissioner Tillett’s efforts on this issue and asked the public to respond to her call for help.

Vice-Chairman Allen Burrus

- Thanked everyone who has served in the military as D-Day is remembered today.
- He expressed appreciation for the service pins recipients.
- Acknowledgment was given to Employee of the Month, Rhonda Creef for her service to our veterans.
- He reported that an item is being prepared for the next meeting agenda for golf cart use in Buxton.
- Thanks was expressed to all those battling the wildfire on Mainland Dare County. He asked the people in the affected area be remembered in prayer.
- He said it is time to look at the makeup of the Oregon Inlet and Waterways Commission.
- Wished a belated happy birthday to Commissioner Virginia Tillet.

Commissioner Jack Shea

- Appreciation was expressed for the four (4) employees who received service pins today.
- He congratulated Rhonda Creef on her well-deserved selection as the Employee of the Month.

Chairman Warren Judge

- Described the wildfire on Mainland Dare County as a very serious event. He reported that along with Commissioner Tillet and the County Manager he attended a community meeting in Stumpy Point. He expressed gratitude to those fighting the fire.

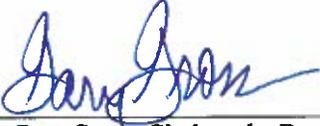
MANAGER'S/ATTORNEY'S BUSINESS

- County Manager Outten gave a summary on the wildfire. He reported the fire, which has involved 28,000 acres of area burned, has now increased to over 45,000 acres. The number of people fighting the fire has increased from 170 to 240 people. He said there are four helicopters, 21 engines, 32 high-end pumps, 9 tractors and plows combating the fire. He said they have spent approximately 7 million dollars fighting the fire to date, which has put about \$40,000 back into our local economy over the past month. He said the Command Center is working hard on the wildfire and directed people to view www.inciweb.org for updates that include photos and video showing the magnitude of the wildfire. He added that the incident website can be accessed through the Dare County website. Chairman Judge said the briefing process at the Command Center is an amazing one tracking the event. Mr. Outten said they are monitoring the highway situation and trying to give as much access as possible, however the conditions are very dynamic and changing.
- He reported that the Finance Director and EMS have been exploring the idea of billing for flights on the Dare MedFlight helicopter. He explained that Medicare and insurance policies will pay for flights, if we charge for them, however currently we do not bill for the service. He said the goal is to try recovering some of the operating costs, but does not believe the helicopter would become self-sufficient. He explained that in order to bill for flights, some things would have to be done to make the operation 135 compatible. Mr. Outten said we are doing an economic analysis to determine if it would be worthwhile. He added that the preliminary report is favorable, but does not want to go any further if the Board does not want to proceed in this direction. Vice-Chairman Burrus asked if someone who is unable to pay would continue to be transported on the helicopter. Mr. Outten explained that we would not refuse to pick-up anyone based on ability to pay. Commissioner Richard Johnson said he supports the concept. Chairman Judge indicated that the evaluation process should continue.
- Mr. Outten explained that he would not be presenting anything further on the smoking issue until he is instructed to do so by the Board of Commissioners.

AT 12:32 P.M. THE DARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED UNTIL 5:00 P.M. ON JUNE 20, 2011.



Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Gary Gross, Clerk to the Board

APPROVED:

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

