

1 **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING**
2 **OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
3 **TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2009 – 6:00 P.M. – COMMUNITY CENTER**
4

5
6 **1. Call To Order**
7

8 The regular monthly meeting of the Emerald Isle Board of Commissioners was
9 called to order by Mayor Art Schools at 6:00 PM in the Emerald Isle Community
10 Center Lounge.
11

12 **2. Roll Call**
13

14 Present for the meeting: Mayor Art Schools, Commissioners Nita Hedreen, Tom
15 Hoover, Floyd Messer, John Wootten, and Maripat Wright.
16

17 Others present during the regular meeting: Town Attorney Richard Stanley,
18 Town Manager Frank Rush, Asst. Town Manager/Finance Director Mitsy
19 Overman, Town Clerk Rhonda Ferebee, Planning Director Kevin Reed, and
20 Police Chief Bill Hargett.
21

22 Also present: Greg ‘Rudi’ Rudolph, Carteret County Shore Protection Manager.
23

24 **3. Opening Prayer**
25

26 Chase Pake, youth member from Emerald Isle Baptist Church offered the
27 Opening Prayer for the Town Board meeting.
28

29 **4. Pledge of Allegiance**
30

31 After opening prayer all who were present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
32

33 **5. Adoption of Agenda**
34

35 *Motion was made by Commissioner Hoover to adopt the Agenda. The*
36 *Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.*
37

38 **6. Proclamations / Public Announcements**
39

40 Mayor Schools announced the following public announcements for the public:
41

- 42 • **Beach Jive After Five – Thursday, July 16 – 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm –**
43 **Western Ocean Regional Access**
- 44 • **Summer Day Camp Chili Lunch / Art Show – Friday, July 17 – 12**
45 **noon – Community Center**
46

- 1
- 2 • **Surf / Skate Night – Friday, July 17 – 7 pm – Community Center**
- 3 **(tentative; ages 13 -18)**
- 4 • **Blood Drive – Friday, July 24 – 2 pm – 7 pm – Community Center**
- 5 • **Aquarium Pier Advisory Committee Meeting – Tuesday, August 4 –**
- 6 **10 am – PKS Aquarium**
- 7 • **4 x 4 Volleyball Tournament – Saturday, August 8 – 9 am until –**
- 8 **Western Ocean Regional Access**
- 9 • **Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting – Tuesday, August 11 –**
- 10 **6 pm – Location to be announced**
- 11

12 Mayor Schools also noted an Art Show Reception taking place at 5 pm on Friday,
13 July 17 at 6 pm in the Community Center Lounge.

14

15 **7. Introduction of New Employee**

16

17 **a. Jeff Bernard, Police Officer**

18

19 Police Chief Bill Hargett introduced Police Officer Jeff Bernard. Chief Hargett
20 noted that Officer Bernard received a BS in Psychology in 1993 from NC State
21 University, and received his Basic Law Enforcement Training from Craven
22 Community College in New Bern.

23

24 The Board and public welcomed Officer Jeff Bernard.

25

26 **8. Consent Agenda**

- 27
- 28 **a. Minutes – May 12, 2009 Regular Meeting**
- 29 **b. Minutes – May 19, 2009 Special Meeting**
- 30 **c. Minutes – May 26, 2009 Special Meeting**
- 31 **d. Minutes – June 2, 2009 Special Meeting**
- 32 **e. Resolution Authorizing Bicycle Friendly Community Application**
- 33 **(09-07-14/R1)**
- 34 **f. Resolution Adopting Municipal Records Retention and Disposition**
- 35 **Schedule (09-07-14/R2)**
- 36 **g. Resolution Authorizing Emergency Generator Rental Contract**
- 37 **(09-07-14/R3)**
- 38

39 Town Clerk Rhonda Ferebee pointed out one correction made to the May 26
40 Special Meeting minutes that corrected the members present.

41

42 Commissioner Hedreen asked Planning Director Reed about the May 12 meeting
43 regarding the ordinance that was approved by the Town Board concerning
44 outside wall facings for commercial structures. Commissioner Hedreen
45 referenced Mr. Reed's comments from that meeting that said that the Board

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1
2 would have the ability to approve all exterior commercial plans and if a building
3 was proposed to simply use color changes or minor variations and the Board
4 didn't feel that met the true intent of breaking up a boxlike structure they would
5 have the opportunity to change and make modifications. Commissioner
6 Hedreen wanted to be absolutely confident that they could not be challenged in a
7 commercial review process where they would have to approve a minor variation
8 or paint color change to be the visual break at twenty feet. Planning Director
9 Reed said he felt the Board had the opportunity through the commercial review
10 process if the Planning Board or the Town Board felt that simply changing the
11 colors did not create the visual break in the structure that the Board intended;
12 through the commercial review process they could deny that use of color change
13 as simply someone's means of trying to meet the offset requirement. Town
14 Attorney Stanley stated that he and Planning Director Reed would revisit the
15 issue.

16
17 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Wootten to approve the Consent***
18 ***Agenda items. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

19
20 Clerks Note: A copy of Resolutions 09-07-14/R1, 09-07-14/R2, and 09-07-14/R3 are all incorporated
21 herein by reference and hereby made a part of these minutes.

22
23 **9. Public Comment**

24
25 John DeMichele, 209 Ocean Drive, 18 year resident, spoke about the changes
26 over the years to the Town's trash system. Mr. DeMichele asked about the roll-
27 back procedures. He noted that for those houses that don't have a trash service
28 that rolls the cans back all the way; the garbage company just barely gets them
29 to the property lines. Mr. DeMichele felt if they were paying for the roll back
30 service they should be getting it and it should be done properly.

31
32 Mr. DeMichele, also spoke of tires washed up on the beach following storms and
33 how they stay on the beach. Mr. DeMichele said that the tires were ignored. He
34 said if someone placed the tires by the street they would stay on the street for
35 weeks or months and never get picked up, acknowledging they haven't had too
36 many wash up in the last couple of months but when they do wash up they stay
37 forever.

38
39 Commissioner Wright noted that the trash collectors were not allowed to pick up
40 tires. Town Manager Rush added that they need to know when there are tires on
41 the beach that need to be picked up, referencing in the Board's packets the
42 annual report from Public Works that indicated they had picked up 158 tires on
43 the beach strand over the course of the past year. Town Manager Rush asked
44 Mr. DeMichele to please contact him if tires were seen on the beach and they
45 would be sure they were picked up. Town Manager Rush also noted in reference
46

1
2 to the questions about the trash roll-back procedure that the requirement was
3 that the garbage collectors roll-back the containers at least 30 feet from the right-
4 of-way line, and that he would look into this issue.

5
6 Doje Marks, 134 Sandcastle Drive, pointed out a problem in terms of parking
7 where mainly landscapers and yard services were parking their trucks on the
8 crest of hills taking up a full lane causing vehicles to drive in the wrong lane
9 without seeing over the crest of the hill past the parked cars or trucks. Ms. Marks
10 felt the Town needed to put No Parking signs on the crest of any hill as it
11 approaches Ocean Drive. Ms. Marks also noted a problem over the past two
12 weeks where the exact same station wagon was parked at the access at Doe
13 Drive, she understood that they were ticketed the previous week, but that it had
14 been a hazard the previous week during a water rescue call, though she no
15 longer runs with EMS as she was now retired, but felt these were very serious
16 issues when someone was in trouble in the water and you couldn't get a vehicle
17 through because of parked cars. Lastly, Ms. Marks noted the parking at Food
18 Lion in the No Parking areas, she felt by not ticketing the people parking there,
19 was rewarding the people that violate the ordinance.

20
21 Commissioner Hedreen commented to Ms. Marks that she hoped that she was
22 enjoying her retirement; that she had certainly given so much to Emerald Isle and
23 she wanted to thank her for her and Ron Mark's service to the citizens for all
24 these many years.

25
26 Jay Thomas, Lee Avenue, spoke of his concerns with the planes flying late at
27 night and whether the Board had any authority to do anything about that. Mayor
28 Schools said that the Board had no authority over their schedules and what they
29 were doing now was training to go to Afghanistan that required a certain amount
30 of time training with night goggles.

31
32 **10. Sign Ordinance Amendments**

33
34 **a. Public Hearing**

35 **b. Ordinance Amending Chapter 6 – Development Standards – of the**
36 **Unified Development Ordinance Regarding Auction Signs and**
37 **Vacation Rental Signs (09-07-14/O1)**
38

39 Planning Director Kevin Reed addressed the Board regarding this agenda item.
40 The following excerpt from his memo to Town Manager Rush is provided for
41 additional background:

42
43 The Planning Board recently discussed two possible amendments to the Town's Unified Development Ordinance
44 (UDO) and both of these amendments were brought to the attention of the Planning Board by Town staff. The first
45 amendment pertains to vacation rental signs. Such signs are currently exempt from permitting requirements under the
46 UDO provided they meet the following criteria:

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- May not exceed one sign per lot or two signs if the property for rent is a duplex with each unit offered by separate real estate agencies
- Such sign must be located on the principal building it advertises
- Signs may not exceed 4 square feet in size

Town staff recently had discussions with property owners and representatives from the real estate management community about the restrictions on vacation rental signs for duplexes. The specific concern pertained to the restriction that a duplex was limited to only one vacation rental sign, unless separate companies were responsible for the management of each unit. Owners and managers of these units felt that this restriction “improperly” identified the unit as a single family structure since only one sign was on the structure when it was in fact a duplex managed by the same rental company. Based on this concern, staff developed an amendment to the regulations that would allow each side of a duplex to have a sign, even if the units were managed by the same company. Since these signs are located on the structure, it was felt that the additional sign would not increase “visual clutter”. This amendment was presented to the Planning Board for discussion at its meeting held on June 22, 2009.

The second amendment discussed with the Planning Board pertained to signs associated with the auctioning of real and/or personal property. Town staff was recently involved in a weekend sign enforcement issue in which several illegal auction signs were placed in Town to advertise the auction of personal property. In this situation, staff discovered auction signs that were placed in Town and realized that there was no provision within the UDO for these signs to be permitted either as an exemption or through the issuance of a sign permit. Staff felt that such signs were very similar in nature to those used for open houses and drafted an exemption to the UDO that would permit such signs in a manner very similar to those permitted for open houses. The one difference between open house and auction signs is that the on-premise auction sign may be placed on the property where the auction is taking place one week prior to the auction. On premise open house signs may only be placed on the property one hour prior to the open house. This amendment was presented to the Planning Board for discussion at its meeting held on June 22, 2009.

Following its discussion of both of these amendments, the Planning Board voted unanimously (5 to 0) to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that the amendments be approved. Both of these amendments are attached to this memorandum in a single ordinance. Text which is being added is shown in the ordinance in an underline format and text being deleted is shown in a strikethrough format. Staff looks forward to discussing these potential amendments with the Board of Commissioners at its July 14 meeting. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to open the Public Hearing.
The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

There were no comments from the public.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Wright to close the Public Hearing.
The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

***Motion was made by Commissioner Hoover to adopt the Ordinance
Amending Chapter 6 – Development Standards – of the Unified
Development Ordinance Regarding Auction Signs and Vacation Rental
Signs.***

Planning Director Reed in response to a question posed by Commissioner Hedreen concerning auction signs stated that this was the first time in approximately six years that he had an enforcement problem with an auction sign issue and unfortunately he didn't have anything in the ordinance to give

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1
2 guidance on the issue. Mr. Reed said similar to open houses, he saw this as an
3 opportunity for the auction and the property owner to be able to effectively
4 advertise the auction and get folks to the auction with a limited number of off
5 premises signs.

6
7 Following this discussion ***the Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion***
8 ***carried.***

9
10 **Clerks Note: A copy Ordinance 09-07-14/O1 is incorporated herein by reference and hereby made a**
11 **part of these minutes.**

12
13 **11. Resolution Authorizing Grant Application to the NC Marine Resources**
14 **Fund – Land Acquisition for a New Public Boat Launching Facility**
15 **(09-07-14/R4)**

16
17 Town Manager Frank Rush addressed the Board regarding this agenda item.
18 The following excerpt from Town Manager Rush's memo to the Board is provided
19 for additional background:

20
21 The Board of Commissioners is scheduled to consider the attached Resolution Authorizing a Grant Application to the
22 NC Marine Resources Fund for the acquisition of land for the proposed new public boat launching facility. The
23 attached resolution authorizes a \$500,000 funding request from this grant program, which is funded by proceeds from
24 the new Coastal Recreational Fishing License.

25
26 As discussed several times in recent months, the Town has executed a purchase contract for a 16-acre tract (5 acres
27 of upland area) of land in the Shell Cove North subdivision. The tract (actually 7 separate lots) is located directly west
28 of and adjacent to the Chapel By The Sea and the Town-controlled McLean Park site (8 acres total; 4 upland acres).
29 The tract includes a recently dredged canal and boat basin with access to deep water in Bogue Sound and the Atlantic
30 Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW). The purchase price for the land is \$4.25 million, and the contract is contingent upon
31 the Town's receipt of \$3.75 million of funding from various Federal, State, and County sources.

32
33 The Shell Cove North land and McLean Park would be combined, and would be conveyed to the NC Wildlife
34 Resources Commission (WRC). WRC would construct and maintain a new public boat launching facility on the site. A
35 conceptual plan prepared by WRC engineers indicates as many as 125 vehicle / trailer parking spaces on the site,
36 which would make the site the largest public boat launching facility in coastal North Carolina. The site would also
37 eventually include other soundfront park amenities, including a new pier, picnic shelter, bathhouse, and potentially
38 other amenities.

39
40 As you know, the Town's financing plan targets several Federal, State, and County funding sources for the \$4.25
41 million purchase price. The Town has received commitments thus far for \$1.7 million from two State sources and has
42 committed an additional \$500,000 of Town funds for the project to bring the total currently available to \$2.2 million.
43 Additional funding requests for up to \$3 million are pending, however, not all requested funds are expected to be
44 awarded. This new \$500,000 request to the NC Marine Resources Fund, combined with the currently pending
45 requests, will hopefully ultimately yield the remaining \$2.05 million necessary to complete the land purchase.

46
47 As you know, the Town's land purchase contract requires a partial closing on September 1, 2009, with a closing on the
48 remaining portion of the land no later than September 1, 2010. Grant funds from the NC Marine Resources Fund, if
49 awarded, would be made available in mid-2010, and would be applied toward the final land closing scheduled to occur
50 no later than September 1, 2010. Because the NC Marine Resources Fund is derived from the proceeds of the new
51

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1
2 Coastal Recreational Fishing License and is intended to promote recreational fishing, the proposed new public boat
3 launching facility appears to have an excellent chance at funding from this program.

4
5 If the attached resolution is approved, the Town's grant application will be submitted by the July 31 application
6 deadline.

7
8 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Wootten to approve the Resolution***
9 ***Authorizing a Final Grant Application to the NC Marine Resources Fund for***
10 ***\$500,000. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

11
12 **Clerks Note: A copy of Resolutions 09-07-14/R4 is incorporated herein by reference and hereby**
13 **made a part of these minutes.**

14
15 **12. Coastal Barrier Resources System Digital Mapping Pilot Project**

16
17 Greg "Rudi" Rudolph, Carteret County Shore Protection Manager, provided a
18 brief PowerPoint presentation about the Coastal Barrier Resources System
19 (CBRS) Digital Mapping Pilot Project. The following excerpt from Town Manager
20 Rush's memo to the Board is provided for additional background:

21
22 The Board of Commissioners is scheduled to receive a brief presentation from Greg "Rudi" Rudolph, Carteret County
23 Shore Protection Manager, about the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) Digital Mapping Pilot Project at the
24 July 14 meeting. Following this presentation, the Board is asked to approve the attached draft letter expressing the
25 Town's official comments to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) about the draft Pilot Project report.

26
27 The attached memo from Greg "Rudi" Rudolph includes a detailed explanation about this issue, including a map
28 illustrating proposed mapping changes, and the draft comment letter from the Town to the USFWS (tentatively dated
29 August 1) is relatively self-explanatory. Very briefly, the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) includes both
30 CBRS "units", within which Federal flood insurance is not available and Federal expenditures are prohibited, and
31 "Otherwise Protected Areas" (OPAs), within which Federal flood insurance is not available but Federal expenditures
32 are not prohibited. OPAs usually only include Federal or State owned park land or conservation land.

33
34 An area including and adjacent to Hammocks Beach State Park, including a portion of Bogue Inlet, is currently
35 classified as an OPA. This designation has had and continues to have little or no practical impact on the Town of
36 Emerald Isle. The CBRS Digital Mapping Pilot Project, however, includes a reclassification of this OPA area to a
37 CBRS "unit" and also greatly expands the area of the new CBRS "unit". The result is that Federal funds (including
38 FEMA funding) could not be expended for future dredging projects in Bogue Inlet and could potentially hamper the
39 Town's future efforts to insure a stable inlet channel position and complete beach nourishment projects using Bogue
40 Inlet spoils. Other ramifications of this change include potential challenges to placing sand from Bogue Inlet on
41 Emerald Isle's ocean beaches even if such projects are funded by State and local government, a prohibition on the use
42 of Federal funding for public access projects along the Bogue Inlet and Bogue Sound shorelines in western Emerald
43 Isle, and a prohibition on future Federal funding to replace the Emerald Isle bridge, which is now nearing 40 years old.

44
45 For all of these reasons, and in light of questions about whether or not the US Congress intended to allow the USFWS
46 to reclassify and expand the CBRS "units" and OPAs, the Board is asked to approve the attached official comment
47 letter expressing the Town's concerns noted above. If the Board concurs, the letter will be sent to the USFWS prior to
48 the August 5 public comment deadline, and will also be copied to key Federal and State leaders. The USFWS will
49 review public comment, consider any changes to the draft maps, and present a final report to the US Congress for
50 formal approval later this year or next year.

51
52

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1
2 The Board thanked Mr. Rudolph for his presentation. Town Manager Rush
3 discussed with the Board the official comment letter to be sent to the US Fish
4 and Wildlife Service outlining the Town's concerns about the draft Pilot Project
5 report. Following discussing the Board agreed by consensus with the official
6 public comment letter.

7
8 **Clerks Note: A copy of draft official comment letter to be sent to the USFWS is incorporated herein**
9 **by reference and hereby made a part of these minutes.**

10
11 **13. Comments from Town Clerk, Town Attorney, and Town Manager**

12
13 There were no comments from the Town Clerk or the Town Attorney.

14
15 Town Manager Rush briefly commented on the progress of the new Town
16 Administration Building and the delay of future Town meeting room
17 improvements until the fall. Town Manager Rush also reported on the current
18 status of the NC 58 bike path. Lastly, Mr. Rush said they were tentatively
19 planning a public informational meeting about the Aquarium Pier at Emerald Isle
20 with a tentative date set for Saturday, September 19 at 10 am at the Aquarium,
21 intentionally setting this for a Saturday in the fall to allow non-resident property
22 owners to come down when not the height of vacation season.

23
24 The following is an excerpt from the Town Manager Comments memo to the
25 Board for additional items of importance:

26
27 **Town Administration Building**

28 The new building is nearing completion, and we still expect to move at the end of July. As of now, I am targeting July
29 31 and the weekend of August 1 and 2 as the move-in date. Carpet is scheduled to arrive on July 23, and most work
30 should be complete soon thereafter.

31
32 I am not planning any kind of formal dedication ceremony for the new building but we certainly can if the Board would
33 like to us to do so.

34
35 With the exception of some slow progress at times, the construction process has gone very smoothly. Bluewater
36 Builders has again been great to work with on the project. Barring some unforeseen last minute issues I expect the
37 project to come in within budget.

38
39 **NC 58 Bike Path Project**

40 Permitting approvals and NCDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) reviews of project plans will take
41 longer than initially expected, and we now expect to be soliciting bids for the project in October. Design work is
42 nearing completion, and permit applications have been submitted. All permits must be in hand by September 1, and all
43 plans and specs must be submitted to NCDOT by September 1. The FHWA will complete its review by October 1, at
44 which time we should begin the bid process. At this time, I hope to have a construction contract on the Board's
45 November agenda, with work beginning ASAP after a contract is signed. Our goal will be to complete construction
46 prior to Easter 2010.

47
48 I don't foresee any problems meeting these deadlines, and, despite initial NCDOT comments, this timetable is
49 acceptable for the use of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA; Stimulus package) funds.
50

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1
2
3 **Town Meeting Room Improvements**

4 I am working with Artie Dunn, Public Works Director, on a plan to have Public Works staff complete as much work on
5 this project as possible to minimize our expense. In order to do this, this work will need to wait until after the summer
6 season. Any work that can not be done by Public Works will be performed by local contractors, and we will solicit
7 quotes and I will share the costs with the Board before proceeding.
8

9 At this point, I am hoping to have the August 11 Board meeting in the Town Meeting Room. The plan would then be to
10 hold the September and October meetings, and perhaps the November meeting, in the Town Meeting Room. If we
11 proceed with planned improvements, Public Works would begin on a Wednesday morning after the October or
12 November Board meeting and then try to complete all work prior to the next month's Board meeting.
13

14 I am cognizant of the need to minimize costs on this project, however, at a minimum, I would like to replace the
15 flooring, ceiling tiles, entry doors, and purchase new chairs for the Board table. We've also continue to have some roof
16 leak issues that need to be addressed first.
17

18 **Vacation**

19 I will be on vacation in the NC mountains from July 18 – 26. I will be in the office on July 17, and then not again until
20 July 28. Assistant Town Manager Mitsy Overman will be available in my absence, and I can also be reached via cell
21 phone for any emergencies. I will be monitoring tropical storms and hurricanes while I am away, and will be in contact
22 with Mitsy Overman and Fire Chief Bill Walker if it looks like a storm may threaten us. I can return to Emerald Isle
23 within 6 hours if necessary.
24

25 **25-Year Beach Nourishment Plan / Static Line Exception**

26 New Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) rules that will allow for the removal of the "static vegetation line" in eastern
27 Emerald Isle are expected to become effective when the NC General Assembly adjourns later this month or next.
28 Unfortunately, I have not had an opportunity to make much progress on the Town's 25-year beach nourishment plan,
29 however, I plan to make this a priority in the coming weeks and present the plan for Board consideration later this fall.
30 My goal is to have this plan reviewed by the CRC in early 2010, if not sooner.
31

32 **Aquarium Pier at Emerald Isle**

33 The design team led by Moffatt & Nichol Engineers and BJAC Architects continues to develop conceptual plans for the
34 new Aquarium Pier. The Advisory Committee has met several times, and has another meeting scheduled for Tuesday,
35 August 4. A public informational meeting is tentatively planned for Saturday, September 19 at 10 am at the NC
36 Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores.
37

38 As you know, Jay Barnes, Director of the NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores, has announced his retirement effective
39 October 31. We will miss Jay's leadership on this project, however, he will soon be working with the NC Aquarium
40 Society and will remain involved in the project. We look forward to developing a good working relationship with the
41 new Director when he/she is selected.
42

43 **The Point**

44 We continue to experience another round of oceanfront erosion at The Point. This erosion has uncovered sandbags in
45 front of a few properties, and is again threatening the vehicle ramp. I continue to believe that this episode will not be
46 as severe as the last episode 2 years ago, and we continue to monitor this area closely. I am comforted by the fact
47 that the erosion has begun further west than it did 2 years ago, and has not threatened the Channel Drive walkway or
48 adjacent homes at all.
49

50 On a positive note, what's left of the Coast Guard channel is becoming increasingly shallower, and it is relatively easy
51 to cross by walking through the channel at low tide. The US Army Corps of Engineers has commissioned
52 Geodynamics, a local firm who has completed previous 3-D surveys of that area for us, to do a new survey of the
53 entire inlet area, and we are anxious to see the results of their new survey later this fall. This survey will aid in
54

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determining where sand from the upcoming dredging of the AIWW should be placed at The Point this November and December. We are still on track to receive approximately 75,000 cy of sand at that time.

Fire Station Grants – No Application

Fire Chief Walker and I had been exploring the possibility of applying for Federal grant funds to construct a new Fire Station 1, however, we have decided not to pursue this grant program. The grant program is only expected to have approximately \$210 million for nationwide grant awards, and it is likely that fewer than 100 communities will be selected. The chances for success vs. the amount of effort required to apply do not warrant an application by the Town at this time.

We continue to explore ways to eventually complete a major renovation of Fire Station 1 or construct a new Fire Station in the future with grant funding.

14. Comments from Board of Commissioners and Mayor

There were no further comments from the Board of Commissioners or Mayor.

15. Closed Session – Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(5), for the Purpose of Discussing Potential Real Estate Acquisition

Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to enter Closed Session. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to return to Open Session. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

There was no action taken as a result of Closed Session.

16. Adjourn

Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to adjourn. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rhonda C. Ferebee, CMC
Town Clerk`