

1                   **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING**  
2                   **OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
3                   **TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 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.  
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 meeting: Town Attorney Richard Stanley, Town Manager  
18                  Frank Rush, Asst. Town Manager/Finance Director Mitsy Overman, Town Clerk  
19                  Rhonda Ferebee, Police Chief Bill Hargett, Fire Chief Bill Walker, and Parks &  
20                  Recreation Director Alesia Sanderson.  
21

22                  **3. Opening Prayer**  
23

24                  Kelsey Dahlstrohm youth member from Emerald Isle Baptist Church offered the  
25                  Opening Prayer for the Town Board meeting.  
26

27                  **4. Pledge of Allegiance**  
28

29                  After opening prayer all who were present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.  
30

31                  **5. Adoption of Agenda**  
32

33                  Mayor Schools asked that Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee appointments  
34                  be added to agenda Item 16.  
35

36                  ***Motion was made by Commissioner Hedreen to approve the Agenda as***  
37                  ***amended. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***  
38

39                  **6. Proclamations / Public Announcements**  
40

41                  Mayor Schools also noted the following public announcements for the public:  
42

- 43                  • **18<sup>th</sup> Annual Emerald Isle St. Patrick's Festival – Saturday, March 14 – All**  
44                  **Day – Emerald Plantation**
- 45                  • **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee – Tuesday, March 17 – 9**  
46                  **am – Community Center**
- 47                  • **Blood Drive – Friday, March 20 – 2 pm – 7 pm – Community Center**  
48

- 1
- 2 • **Indoor Volleyball Tournament – Saturday, March 21 – 8 am until –**
- 3 **Community Center**
- 4 • **Winter Tennis Clinics – Every Monday & Friday Until March 27 – 1 pm –**
- 5 **2:30 pm – Community Center**
- 6 • **Planning Board Regular Meeting – Monday, March 23 – 6 pm –**
- 7 **Community Center**
- 8 • **Aquarium Pier Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, March 26 – 9**
- 9 **am – NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores**
- 10 • **Easter Egg Hunt – Sunday, April 5 – 12 noon – Community Center**
- 11 • **Youth Tennis Clinic – Monday, April 6 – 6 pm – Community Center**
- 12 • **High School Tennis Clinic – Thursday, April 9 – 6 pm – Community**
- 13 **Center**
- 14 • **Friday Free Flick – Friday, April 10 – 7 pm – Community Center**
- 15 • **Island Cat Allies Yard Sale – Saturday, April 11 – 8 am – 12 noon –**
- 16 **Community Center**
- 17 • **Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting – Tuesday, April 14 – 6 pm –**
- 18 **Community Center**
- 19

20 **7. Introduction of New Employee**

21

22 **a. Toby Henderson, Police Officer**

23

24 Police Chief Bill Hargett introduced Toby Henderson to the Board and public. Chief  
25 Hargett noted that Officer Henderson was born in Kentucky, and came to the Town  
26 from Scott County Sheriff's Department in Kentucky, having begun his law  
27 enforcement career in 1995 working with the Lancaster Police Department, and the  
28 Lincoln County Sheriff's Department before going to Scott County in 2004. Chief  
29 Hargett noted that Officer Henderson had over 1,000 hours in law enforcement  
30 training, and held several certifications in specialized area which included basic  
31 SWAT certification, advanced SWAT certification, DUI and sobriety testing  
32 certification, EMT basic certification, and DEA narcotics investigations certification.

33

34 The Board and public welcomed Officer Toby Henderson to his new position with the  
35 Town.

36

37 At the request of Mayor Schools, Chief Hargett spoke briefly about the Police  
38 Department's new thermal imaging camera which was recently received through a  
39 grant.

40  
41  
42  
43  
44

1  
2 **8. Consent Agenda**  
3

- 4 a. Tax Refunds / Releases  
5 b. Order to Advertise Tax Liens  
6 c. Minutes – January 13, 2009 Regular meeting  
7 d. Minutes – February 10, 2009 Regular meeting  
8 e. Resolution Accepting US Department of Homeland Security Assistance  
9 to Firefighters Grant for Fire Station Exhaust Systems (09-03-10/R1)  
10 f. Resolution Authorizing State Mosquito Control Grant Application (09-03-  
11 10/R2)  
12

13 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Wootten to approve the items on the***  
14 ***Consent Agenda. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***  
15

16 **Note:** A copy of Resolutions 09-03-10/R1, 09-03-10/R2, and of all above noted Consent Agenda items are  
17 incorporated herein by reference and hereby made a part of these minutes.  
18

19 **9. Public Comment**  
20

21 **Brief Summary:** The public will have the opportunity to address the Board  
22 about any items of concern not on the agenda.  
23

24 There were no comments from the Public.  
25

26 **10. Resolution Declaring 1986 Pierce Fire Engine as Surplus and Authorizing**  
27 **Sale to Stella Volunteer Fire Department (09-03-10/R3)**  
28

29 Fire Chief Bill Walker addressed the Board regarding this agenda item. The  
30 following excerpt from Town Manager Rush's memo to the Board is provided for  
31 additional background:  
32

33 The Board of Commissioners is scheduled to consider the attached resolution authorizing the sale of the Town's soon-to-  
34 be-replaced 1986 Pierce Fire Engine to the Stella Volunteer Fire Department for \$22,000. The Town will soon take delivery  
35 of a brand new E-One Fire Engine in the coming weeks, and the 1986 Pierce would be conveyed to Stella VFD after that  
36 time.  
37

38 Town staff had intended to list the 1986 Pierce Fire Engine on GovDeals.com, an internet auction site, soon after taking  
39 delivery of the new Fire Engine. The Town was contacted by Stella VFD Chief Buddy Dew in January about the possibility of  
40 selling the old Fire Engine to them. Fire Chief Bill Walker and I then completed additional research on the value of the old  
41 Fire Engine and engaged in negotiations with Stella VFD. The end result of the negotiations is an offer of \$22,000 for the  
42 1986 Pierce Fire Engine. Based on our research, Chief Walker and I believe this is a fair sale price and recommend that  
43 the Board accept Stella VFD's offer.  
44

45 The 1986 Pierce Fire Engine is now 23 years old, and has logged more than 78,000 miles. Stella VFD initially offered the  
46 Town \$18,000 for the old Fire Engine. In an effort to determine a fair price, Chief Walker and I contacted a used Fire  
47 Engine dealer and also reviewed numerous used Fire Engines offered for sale on the internet. According to the  
48 dealer, the value of the truck likely ranges from \$15,000 - \$30,000. An internet search of comparable used Fire Engines on  
49 the internet suggests that a sale price in the \$20,000 - \$25,000 range is fair and reasonable. Chief Walker and I initially

MINUTE OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 10, 2009  
Page 4 of 11

1  
2 countered Stella VFD's offer with a sale price of \$25,000, and they then offered \$22,000. Because Stella VFD is a  
3 neighboring department that is a valuable mutual aid partner, Chief Walker and I are willing to accept the \$22,000 offer.  
4

5 The sale of the old Fire Engine would be completed under NCGS 160A-267, which enables the Board to approve a  
6 negotiated sale via resolution, but requires that the sale then be advertised in a local newspaper and that the sale not be  
7 completed for at least 10 days. If the Town receives a higher offer during that 10-day period, that offer will be considered  
8 and brought back to the Board at the April meeting.  
9

10 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Hoover to approve the Resolution***  
11 ***Declaring a 1986 Pierce Fire Engine as Surplus and Authorizing a Sale to***  
12 ***Stella Volunteer Fire Department. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor.***  
13 ***Motion carried.***

14  
15 **Note: A copy of Resolutions 09-03-10/R3 is incorporated herein by reference and hereby made a part of**  
16 **these minutes.**

17  
18 **11. Emerald Isle Green Challenge Motto**  
19

20 Parks and Recreation Director Alesia Sanderson addressed the Board regarding this  
21 agenda item. The following excerpt from Town Manager Rush's memo to the Board  
22 is provided for additional background:  
23

24 The Board is scheduled to receive an update from Alesia Sanderson, co-chair of the Town's Green Challenge Committee,  
25 on that committee's efforts to date. The Board is also asked to approve a suggested motto for the Green Challenge effort at  
26 the March 10 meeting.  
27

28 The Green Challenge is a new program initiated by the NC League of Municipalities encourage cities and towns to  
29 implement short-term and long-range actions that will conserve resources and save money, thereby protecting the  
30 environment and operating Town government in a more cost-effective, energy-efficient, and environmentally-friendly  
31 manner. The Board approved a resolution authorizing Emerald Isle's participation in the Green Challenge in September  
32 2008, and a special staff committee was formed later in 2008. Committee members include:  
33

- 34
- 35 • Alesia Sanderson, Parks and Recreation Director,
  - 36 • Kelly Gamble, Town Hall Administrative Assistant (Committee Co-Chair),
  - 37 • Peggy Grammer, Planning and Inspections Permit Technician,
  - 38 • Nick Gottuso, Police Sergeant,
  - 39 • Joe Smith, Public Works Heavy Equipment Operator, and
  - 40 • Jeff Strawser, Fire Captain.

41 The Green Challenge Committee has been meeting monthly since late 2008. The attached memo from Alesia Sanderson  
42 includes an update on the committee's efforts thus far. Another memo from Alesia Sanderson includes their  
43 recommendation for a new Green Challenge "motto" for the Town. The committee is suggesting a motto of "Emerald Isle –  
44 Clean & Green for the Future", and would like to install the motto on the Town's welcome sign at the base of the Cameron  
45 Langston bridge and begin publicizing the motto in other ways.  
46

47 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the Green Challenge***  
48 ***motto – "Emerald Isle – Clean & Green for the Future". The Board voted***  
49 ***unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***  
50

1  
2 **12. Discussion – Potential Basing of Joint Strike Fighter Squadrons at MCAS**  
3 **Cherry Point / Boque Field**  
4

5 Mayor Schools spoke to the Board concerning this agenda item, noting that a slight  
6 revision of a draft letter addressed to Tyler Harris, point of contact with MCAS  
7 Cherry Point was at their places tonight. The following excerpt from Town Manager  
8 Rush’s memo to the Board is provided for additional background:  
9

10 At the request of Mayor Schools, I have scheduled time on the March 10 meeting agenda for the Board to discuss the  
11 potential basing of new Joint Strike Fighter F-35B squadrons at MCAS Cherry Point.  
12

13 These F-35B squadrons will replace the existing AV-8B Harrier and EA-6B Prowler aircraft currently in use by the Marine  
14 Corps at MCAS Cherry Point, and the F-35B squadrons will utilize Bogue Field for field carrier landing practice activities. F-  
15 35B training activities are expected to utilize similar flight patterns and altitudes over Emerald Isle as current training  
16 activities.  
17

18 The Marine Corps is in the beginning stages of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, and recently conducted  
19 a workshop meeting at the Emerald Isle Community Center. A copy of the informational brochure distributed at that meeting  
20 is attached, and contains helpful information about the F-35B and the EIS process. The EIS will consider a total of 5 basing  
21 alternatives for the F-35B, plus a No Action alternative that would continue the use of the AV-8B Harrier and EA-6B Prowler  
22 at MCAS Cherry Point.  
23

24 The 5 basing alternatives for the F-35B that are under consideration would result in either 40, 88, 128, 144, or 176 of the F-  
25 35B planes based at MCAS Cherry Point, and these planes would utilize Bogue Field for training activities. To put this in  
26 perspective, it is our understanding that there are currently a total of 116 planes currently based at MCAS Cherry Point that  
27 utilize Bogue Field. It should also be noted that many of the planes currently based at MCAS Cherry Point are currently  
28 deployed.  
29

30 The Marine Corps has indicated that they do not yet have noise data available for the F-35B, however, that data is an  
31 important component of the EIS process. Noise data should be available in the Draft EIS that is expected to be complete by  
32 January 2010. There will be additional opportunities for public comment in early 2010. According to information distributed  
33 by the Marine Corps, the F-35B squadrons could arrive at MCAS Cherry Point between 2014 and 2023.  
34

35 The basing of the F-35B squadrons is expected to have a significant impact on the regional economy, and is heavily  
36 supported by other regional leaders. Based on our community’s previous and continuing support for the Marine Corps, I  
37 suspect that our community will appreciate the need for upgraded military aircraft and also welcome the economic benefits  
38 associated with the basing of the F-35B squadrons at MCAS Cherry Point. There are, however, likely to be concerns in our  
39 community about the noise levels and flight frequency of the F-35B planes operating at Bogue Field compared to current  
40 noise level and flight frequencies at Bogue Field.  
41

42 The Board is encouraged to discuss these issues at the March 10 meeting. Mayor Schools has prepared the attached draft  
43 letter to Tyler Harris, our primary point-of-contact at MCAS Cherry Point, to outline Emerald Isle’s concerns, and if the Board  
44 concurs, this letter will be sent soon after the March 10 meeting. The draft letter makes the following key points:  
45

- 46
- 47 • confirms our understanding at this point regarding the EIS process, number of planes, and timeframes,
  - 48
  - 49 • expresses the Town’s support for the significant economic benefits associated with the basing of the F-35B  
50 squadrons at MCAS Cherry Point,  
51
  - 52 • expresses the Town’s concern that noise levels remain at an acceptable level, and  
53

MINUTE OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 10, 2009  
Page 6 of 11

- requests that the EIS also consider conducting field carrier landing practice for the F-35B squadrons at the proposed outlying landing field (OLF) planned by the US Navy for eastern North Carolina or southern Virginia.

We have been advised that the planned OLF is envisioned as a US Navy facility only, and that the facility will not be shared with the Marine Corps. The draft letter requests that this option be considered.

Mayor Schools stated the purpose of the letter was to try to summarize what the recent scoping meeting was about, comments that the citizens wanted the Marine Corps to look into; noise data testing should be done between now and next January when the draft EIS comes out. Mayor Schools discussed the language of the draft letter with the Board.

Following discussion the Board recommended that the sentence reading "At a minimum, steps should be taken to prevent an additional load at Bogue Field" be changed to read "At a minimum, steps should be taken to balance the load between Bogue Field and Atlantic."

***The Board concurred with the draft letter as amended being sent to the Marine Corps outlining the Town's concerns.***

**Note: A copy of the draft letter is incorporated herein by reference and hereby made a part of these minutes.**

**13. Coast Guard Road Bicycle Path**

- a. **Resolution Authorizing Clearing, Grading, and Base Contract – Pebble Beach to Deer Horn Drive (09-03-10/R4)**
- b. **Resolution Authorizing Amendment to 2009 Street Resurfacing Contract (09-03-10/R5)**

Town Manager Frank Rush presented details of this agenda item to the Board. The following excerpt from Mr. Rush's memo to the Board is also provided as additional background:

The Board of Commissioners is scheduled to consider two formal actions pertaining to the planned extension of the Coast Guard Road bicycle path at the March 10 meeting.

As you know, the Board received a request from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee at the February 10 meeting to make the extension of the bike path along Coast Guard Road between Pebble Beach and Deer Horn Drive a high priority. As a result, the Board directed staff to utilize donations and triathlon proceeds (that are earmarked for

future bicycle and pedestrian projects) to fund the majority of the cost of this project, to be supplemented with a small amount of annual Powell Bill funds (that are restricted to street, drainage, sidewalk, and bicycle path projects).

Town staff had previously solicited a quote for this work from Johnson Contracting, the same contractor who has constructed the majority of the Town's bicycle paths and sidewalks over the past few years. The total cost of the clearing,

MINUTE OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 10, 2009  
Page 7 of 11

grading, and base work to be performed by Johnson Contracting is \$18,645, and would primarily be covered by the donations and triathlon proceeds. The actual paving of the bicycle path surface would be added to the Town's 2009 street resurfacing contract with Onslow Paving and Grading, and is estimated at approximately \$11,000. The Board will consider two resolutions at the March 10 meeting – one authorizing a contract for clearing, grading, and base work with Johnson Contracting, and the other authorizing a change order to the Town's existing contract with Onslow Paving and Grading.

Johnson Contracting is set to begin work any day now, and estimates that this work can be completed in a few weeks. The actual paving will be done soon thereafter, and should be complete sometime in April. Staff have made contact with all affected property owners to inform them about the project, and no one has expressed opposition to the project. Most are excited about the extension of the bicycle path. This bicycle path extension will greatly improve bicycle and pedestrian safety in this area, and represents another incremental step toward the Town's long-term goal of constructing a bicycle path along the entire length of Coast Guard Road.

I have attached a survey / sketch of the new bicycle path route for your information. As you know, there is limited space in the Coast Guard Road right-of-way for a bicycle path, and the new path will be a tight fit, but we believe we can make the project work. Please note that every effort is being made to adhere to the following goals: 1) stay within the Coast Guard Road right of way, which generally ranges from 12 – 15 feet between the existing Coast Guard Road asphalt and the right of way line, 2) maintain a 10 ft. width for the new path, consistent with the Town's existing paths, and 3) maintain maximum grassy separation from the existing asphalt on Coast Guard Road, with a goal of 2-3 feet in most places. In most cases, these goals can be met relatively easily, however, the presence of utility poles and a fire hydrant may result in small sections of the new path touching the existing asphalt on Coast Guard Road, a slight narrowing of the path in these areas, and/or a "split" of the path around these obstructions. Every effort will be made to maximize the safety of path users and the aesthetics in these locations.

Town Manager Rush stated they had met several times out in the field with the contractor and adjacent property owners, also with Carteret Craven Electric Cooperative, and all the property owners had been very supportive. Mr. Rush spoke of some of the challenging issues due to electric poles that they are working out and that it should be a nice project when completed.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Hedreen to approve the Resolution Authorizing Clearing, Grading, and Base Contract for the Coast Guard Road Bicycle Path. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

***Motion was made by Commissioner Wootten to approve the Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the 2009 Street Resurfacing Contract. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

**Note: A copy of Resolutions 09-03-10/R4 and 09-03-10/R5 are incorporated herein by reference and hereby made a part of these minutes.**

**14. Update – Western Carteret Library**

Commissioner Maripat Wright, who also serves on the Carteret County Library Board of Trustees, updated the Board and public on issues and activities at the Western Carteret Library. Commissioner Wright provided background history about how a small group of very determined people in Emerald Isle got together in 1995 thinking about developing a full-service library in the western end of the county, and by 2003 they had the opening of the beautiful library building in Cape Carteret.

MINUTE OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 10, 2009  
Page 8 of 11

1  
2 Commissioner Wright said the use of the library had grown in use dramatically,  
3 noting circulation figures in 2009 between 8-10,000 volumes a month, and the door  
4 count being 7-9,000 per month. Commissioner Wright added that in July of last  
5 summer in one month there were 989 children attending programs in that library.  
6 Commissioner Wright noted that in usage the Western Carteret Library was pushing  
7 right up against the main Carteret County Library in Beaufort.

8  
9 Commissioner Wright said that last year at the request of the Carteret County  
10 commissioners the tri-county system hired an expert to complete a survey and to list  
11 recommendations for the county; one of the recommendations noted that the  
12 Western Carteret Public Library in Cape Carteret should be expanded to provide  
13 both meeting space and additional space for children's programs.

14  
15 Commissioner Wright spoke about the efforts and plans underway to make  
16 expansions with their first plan being to expand space for the children's programs.  
17 Commissioner Wright stated that they are also on the County plan for 2013 to do a  
18 big addition out the back of the building for a large meeting space, that being the  
19 second part of their plan. Commissioner Wright said the Friends of the Library have  
20 gone into fundraising mode again starting now to hopefully complete the additional  
21 children's space, and encouraged everyone to buy a ticket and enjoy the Homes  
22 Tour in April and the Western Carteret Library welcomed their support.

23  
24 **15. Discussion – Town's Bond Rating**

25  
26 Mayor Schools spoke to the Board and public about the Town's Bond rating. The  
27 following excerpt from the Town Manager's memo to the Board is provided as  
28 additional background:

29  
30 Mayor Schools has requested time on the March 10 agenda to discuss the Town's bond rating, which was recently  
31 upgraded by both Standard & Poor's, a national rating agency, and the NC Municipal Council, a State rating agency.

32  
33 The Town received initial bond ratings in 2002 prior to the sale of the Town's first round of General Obligation bonds for  
34 beach nourishment. At that time, Standard & Poor's assigned a rating of A-, and Moody's Investor Services assigned a  
35 rating of A3. These were good ratings that helped the Town to secure a low interest rate on the beach nourishment bonds.  
36 The NC Municipal Council assigned a rating of 78, also considered a good rating.

37  
38 The Town received ratings upgrades in 2004 prior to the sale of the second round of beach nourishment bonds. Standard &  
39 Poor's upgraded the Town to an A+ rating, a two-step upgrade, and Moody's upgraded the Town by one step to A2. The  
40 NC Municipal Council increased the Town's rating to 81.

41  
42 The Town's ratings were recently reviewed by both Standard & Poor's and the NC Municipal Council. (Moody's has not  
43 reviewed the Town's ratings recently.) Standard & Poor's upgraded the Town to a AA rating, another two-step upgrade.  
44 The NC Municipal Council increased the Town's rating to an 82. I have attached copies of the correspondence from each of  
45 these rating agencies for your review.

46  
47 The Town does not intend to issue any new General Obligation bonds in the foreseeable future, thus the ratings are  
48 primarily a source of pride and an objective third-party indication that the Town maintains sound financial management

MINUTE OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 10, 2009  
Page 9 of 11

1  
2 practices. I am very pleased with the recent rating upgrades, and I believe they reflect well on the Mayor's,  
3 Commissioners', and Town staff's financial stewardship. We are fortunate to maintain a strong financial position.

4  
5 Mayor Schools read aloud the letter from the State Treasurer's Office signed by  
6 Treasurer Janet Cowell with a personal "congrats" written on the letter.

7  
8 Mayor Schools and the Board thanked Town Manager Frank Rush and Asst. Town  
9 Manager/Finance Officer Mitsy Overman for all their efforts in getting the bond rating  
10 upgraded.

11  
12 **Note:** A copy of the letter from the State Treasurers Office is incorporated herein by reference and  
13 hereby made a part of these minutes.

14  
15 **16. Appointments – Planning Board – 4 Vacancies / Bicycle & Pedestrian**  
16 **Advisory Vacancies (added as approved with Adoption of Agenda)**

17  
18 **Brief Summary:** There will soon be 4 vacancies on the Planning Board. The Board  
19 should appoint 4 individuals to serve terms that expire in March 2011.

20  
21 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to appoint Ken Sullivan, Eddie***  
22 ***Barber, Bob Smith, and Tom Kelly to terms on the Planning Board that expire***  
23 ***in March 2011. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

24  
25 **Brief Summary:** There are currently a total of 3 vacancies on the Bicycle and  
26 Pedestrian Advisory Committee. One of these terms expires in December 2009,  
27 and two of these terms expire in December 2010.

28  
29 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Hedreen to appoint Ellen Garris and Joe***  
30 ***Eckard to terms on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee with terms***  
31 ***that expire December 2010. The Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor.***  
32 ***Motion carried.***

33  
34 **17. Comments from Town Clerk, Town Attorney, and Town Manager**

35  
36 There were no comments from the Town Clerk or Town Attorney.

37  
38 Town Manager Rush briefly updated the Board about the Town Administration  
39 Building, and Aquarium Pier at Emerald Isle, boat ramp grant information, and  
40 Bogue Inlet AIWW Crossing dredging status.

41  
42 Town Manager Rush additionally provided visual images of the Point and discussed  
43 whether or not to complete some bulldozing work at the Point later this month to fill  
44 in what is left of the small slough of water near the sandbags and perhaps cover up  
45 the sandbags. Mr. Rush said following his meeting with L. B. Page, bulldozing  
46

MINUTE OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 10, 2009  
Page 10 of 11

1  
2 contractor, the grand total was approximately \$20,000 for about 10 days of  
3 bulldozing. Mr. Rush noted that there was money available in the beach  
4 nourishment debt service reserve fund for this, money available that was planned to  
5 be used for the dredging that was now freed up and could easily go toward this. The  
6 Board was in agreement with Mr. Rush's plans for this work as described.

7  
8 In addition, the following is an excerpt from the Town Manager Comments memo to  
9 the Board for additional items of note:

10  
11 **Update – Town Administration Building**

12 Construction of the project continues at a good pace, and the project has gone smoothly thus far with no significant issues  
13 or problems. The shingle roof has been completed, the plumbing has been roughed-in, and electrical and HVAC rough-in is  
14 nearly complete. Bluewater Builders' official schedule indicates the new building be completed by the end of July /  
15 beginning of August.

16  
17 **New Fire Engine**

18 The delivery of the new Fire Engine has been delayed slightly due to an error involving shelving on the truck and a delay in  
19 the arrival of a light tower. We expect both issues to be resolved soon, and hope to take delivery of the truck later in March.

20  
21 **Update - The Aquarium Pier at Emerald Isle**

22 The State Construction Office and the NC Aquariums have narrowed down the number of design firms under consideration  
23 from 15 to 4. Interviews are being scheduled with the 4 design firms in March, and the State Building Commission is  
24 expected to approve a design contract at their March 30 meeting. A design kickoff meeting will be held soon thereafter,  
25 and the Town will participate in that meeting.

26  
27 The first meeting of the Aquarium Pier Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, March 26 at 9 am at the NC  
28 Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores.

29  
30 **Boat Ramp Grant Decisions**

31 The NC Wildlife Resources Commission approved the Town's \$500,000 funding request at its February 11 meeting. I  
32 expect to receive notification from the NC Division of Coastal Management very soon about whether or not the Town's grant  
33 request has made it through the first round of reviews. A final decision from the NC Division of Coastal Management is now  
34 expected in May (rather than April, as originally expected). The NC Division of Water Resources is expected to announce  
35 its grant awards any day. The NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund will announce its grant awards in May. A decision from  
36 Carteret County will likely not occur until May.

37  
38 I will travel to Washington DC in April to meet with staff and hopefully the Senators and Congressman themselves to  
39 discuss the Town's Federal funding request. The Mayor will not be able to attend, and it would be helpful to have at least  
40 one and perhaps two Commissioners attend with me. Please let me know if you are interested in attending.

41  
42 **Fireworks**

43 We have informed the Emerald Isle Business Association that the Town will remit \$7,500 for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks display  
44 this year. The EIBA has reportedly asked Mike Stanley if he would host the fireworks show on Bogue Inlet Pier in  
45 partnership with the EIBA, however, he has declined. We have offered the use of McLean Park for the fireworks show.  
46 Once a final decision is made on the location, Town staff will prepare a parking, traffic control, and logistics plan for the  
47 fireworks.

48  
49 **Update – Replacement of Beach Walkways**

50 The reconstruction of Ocean Oaks Drive walkway is complete. The Gregg Street walkway is more than 50% complete, and  
51 should be done within the next two weeks.  
52

MINUTE OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 10, 2009  
Page 11 of 11

1  
2 **Update – Bogue Inlet AIWW Crossing Dredging**

3 I received word last week that the Corps of Engineers' contractor, currently working in Brunswick County, will not finish work  
4 there in time to complete the Bogue Inlet AIWW Crossing Dredging this spring. As a result, this work will be delayed until  
5 November 16, 2009. This work remains under contract, and all permits and funding are in hand, so the work should be

6  
7 completed at that time. The Corps of Engineers recently forwarded a schedule that shows this work starting on November  
8 16 and being complete by Christmas.

9  
10 This delay is disappointing, but fortunately The Point continues to look very good and continues to accrete. I am currently  
11 considering whether or not to complete some bulldozing work at The Point later this month to fill in what is left of the small  
12 slough of water near the sandbags and perhaps cover up the sandbags. I am meeting with LB Page, the bulldozing  
13 contractor, on Monday and will report the results of this meeting to the Board at the March 10 meeting.

14  
15 **Munitions Investigation in Bogue Sound**

16 MCAS Cherry Point continues to investigate the former Wood Island (aka Cat Island) bomb target range located in Bogue  
17 Sound off of the 24th Street area. The island was last used as a practice range in 1955. Depending on the results of the  
18 investigation, clean up activities may be undertaken in the future.

19 This investigation began in summer 2008, and will continue with digital aerial mapping of metallic objects to be performed by  
20 a specially-equipped, low flying helicopter in March 2009. For approximately 15 days in early / mid-March, and during  
21 daylight hours only, the helicopter will make repeated passes over Bogue Sound between Archer's Point and Salter Path.

22 **Itinerant Merchants / Outdoor Display of Merchandise**

23 I still have not yet had an opportunity to schedule a meeting with the local business owners about these issues, but still plan  
24 to do so, hopefully later in March.

25  
26 **18. Comments from Board of Commissioners and Mayor**

27  
28 There were no further comments from the Board of Commissioners or the Mayor.

29  
30 **19. Adjourn**

31  
32 ***Motion was made by Commissioner Messer to adjourn the meeting. The***  
33 ***Board voted unanimously 5-0 in favor. Motion carried.***

34  
35 ***The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.***

36  
37 Respectfully submitted:

38  
39  
40  
41 Rhonda C. Ferebee, CMC  
42 Town Clerk