



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH
INLET AND BEACH PROTECTION BOARD
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2018- 10:00 A.M.**

The Inlet and Beach Protection Board (IBPB) of the Town of Holden Beach, North Carolina met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 25, 2018 in the Town Hall Public Assembly.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Vicki Myers called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were: Chair Vicki Myers, Vice Chair Mike Pearson, Members Richard Rice, Ronda Dixon and Dean Thomas. Town Manager David Hewett and Assistant Town Manager Christy Ferguson were also in attendance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Thomas suggested adding three items to the agenda that were on the Board of Commissioners' meeting on Tuesday, October 23rd. The items were the terminal groin at Ocean Isle, the ATM modeling for the Lockwood Folly Inlet, and the list of priorities for the potential lobbyist. Chair Myers asked Town Manager Hewett if he would cover modeling under item #7, status of the Lockwood Folly Inlet dredging issues. Town Manager Hewett agreed. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated she was not sure the BOC wanted the IBPB to consider these items as they were not sent as taskers like the parking items that were sent to Planning and Zoning. She said it might be working backwards to consider them if the BOC had the items presented to them already. Chair Myers stated she thought it was in their purview to send a recommendation on the terminal groin. Town Manager Hewett stated that the commissioners have to be careful how they engage with the board if they are attending the meeting. He also stated that from the staff's perspective, we have an agenda setting meeting with the Chair and Vice Chair before the meeting and knowing the items to be discussed allows the staff the ability to prepare to answer questions.

Chair Myers said that Member Thomas made the motion for the items and asked for them to be discussed separately. Vice Chair Pearson seconded the motion for the terminal groin for informational purposes; motion passed unanimously. It was added as 7a.

Chair Myers asked for a second in adding the discussion for the lobbyist. There was no second and the item died.

Motion by Member Dixon to approve the agenda as amended; second by Member Thomas; approved by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Vice Chair Pearson to approve the minutes, second by Member Thomas; approved by unanimous vote.

STATUS OF BEACH AND INLETS POST-FLORENCE AND MICHAEL

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated the board received updated totals from the engineer. Post-Florence estimates were 275,707 cubic yards (cy) lost along the full shoreline with 201,564 cy of that occurring in the engineered beach area. Post- Hurricane Michael, initial estimates are an additional 136,087 cy along the full shoreline with 90,927 cy occurring in the engineered beach area. She said the total estimate for Florence was now near \$8,000,000. She stated that an update was given regarding the inlet at the Brunswick County Shoreline meeting the day before. She said she inquired of Brennon Dooley and Jim Medlock of the US Army Corps of Engineers on two different occasions regarding any supplemental funding for the inlet post-Florence. They requested supplemental funding if an appropriations bill is made, but they are not sure it will impact Lockwood Folly Inlet because the surveys did not show much change before and after the storm. Vice Chair Pearson asked if there would be a Post-Florence and Post-Matthew report from the engineer like the Post-Matthew report. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated that there would and then it would be filed with FEMA.

There was discussion about the Town having submitted Florence damages in the FEMA grants portal. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated the damages have been entered in the portal from Florence except for payroll information which is entered separately. Chair Myers asked what happens if there is not a declaration for Michael. Town Manager Hewett said it would be considered like normal erosion and we would just have lost around 90,000 cy of sand. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said that we would also not be able to recoup the survey and engineering costs for preparing reports. Chair Myers asked what having an engineered beach does for us. Town Manager Hewett responded that it allows us to seek reimbursements under FEMA Category G when we have damages. Chair Myers inquired about Oak Island and the fact that it was in the paper that they were seeking federal funding. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated they may be talking about their federal turtle project area. Town Manager Hewett said he is not sure that feds can reimburse feds with Category G funding. Vice Chair Pearson talked about his beach ride and that a large hump of sand was on the west end for about one mile. He said that he is assuming it came in from Michael. Town Manager Hewett said that right after the storm he gave a subjective opinion that we lost more sand in Michael than Florence but that was before the hump showed back up. Based on hard core survey to -5 feet mean low water, the slug of sand moved up on the beach. Vice Chair Pearson also mentioned that big piles of seaweed were getting covered up with sand.

DISCUSSION OF THE TOWN'S PLANNED RESPONSES TO STORM RELATED EVENTS

Vice Chair Pearson said that he and Member Thomas had some questions about what would happen after a hurricane if, for example, the dunes were leveled. He wanted to know about any emergency plans the town had and what steps would be taken. Vice Chair Pearson said the report from Matthew was a very informative report and they are just trying to learn things as they go along. Town Manager Hewett said we would supply the IBPB a copy of the Town's Emergency Preparedness Plan.

IBPB MISSION STATEMENT

Vice Chair Pearson said that he and Member Thomas worked on writing a mission statement for the group that combined what was in the ordinance that established them and the direction from the joint meeting with the commissioners. He said if people clicked on the IBPB on the website, it would tell who the board is and what they do. Vice Chair Pearson read the statement. Member Dixon referenced the second to the last line of the statement and mentioned there was little likelihood of the board finding new federal, state, or local funding sources that the town management hasn't found, but she was okay with leaving it in. The board talked about ways they could work with the BOC to look at issues. Town Manager Hewett stated that he thinks the IBPB's guidance comes from the ordinance. He said that he thinks the flavor of what the mission statement is intended to do is really an advertisement to show the community that the board is engaged and is to be a website presence. He didn't see it going beyond that. He sees this group as being important in regard to knowledge of a number of things regarding current events. Chair Myers said she appreciates the work that Vice Chair Pearson and Member Thomas did as the beach is important to citizens. She made the following grammatical change suggestions:

- Change the b in the first line to a capital
- Add an apostrophe to make IBPB possessive line 4
- Make beach plural on line 6 and remove a before healthy on line 5
- Hyphenate short-range line 7
- Make Town possessive on line 8 and change to and consultants after Management
- Change town board to Holden Beach Board of Commissioners on line 11

Member Thomas made a motion to adopt the mission statement with changes.

In discussion, Member Rice asked if the IBPB had the authority to vote on the mission statement or should it be a draft sent to the BOC for approval to become the official mission statement.

Chair Myers got a second from Member Dixon and then discussion continued.

Member Dixon said she would think the IBPB had the authority to establish their own mission statement. Town Manager Hewett said it may be wise to forward it to the BOC to get their stamp of approval. If the IBPB approves the draft and sends it to the BOC for consideration at the next meeting, this board hasn't lost anything in terms of time. He said if the BOC approves this board hasn't done anything wrong.

Member Thomas said he would modify his motion to send the draft to the BOC for approval. Member Dixon said she thought they should just pass it. It is under the task given to them. Motion failed for lack of second.

Member Dixon made a motion to adopt the statement with the modifications discussed; second by Vice Chair Pearson; motion passed by a 4-1 vote with Member Rice voting no.

STATUS OF LOCKWOOD FOLLY DREDGING ISSUES

Town Manager Hewett said the BOC approved a contract with ATM for \$47,000 to attempt to quantify sand placement in regard to longevity at the east end of Holden Beach and longevity of beach fill placed on the western end of Oak Island. It will take approximately two months to complete the plan according to our engineer. It will include processes in the inlet beyond placement issues. He continued that attorney Noel Fox is working on easement acquisition for the east end in addition to gathering engineering data which is going to attempt to negate any need for easements. He continued that engineering data is going back and forth between the attorney and the consultant engineer. It will involve historical data since 1998. Attorney Fox told Town Manager Hewett she acquired eight more easements of how many remains he forgets. Chair Myers asked if the Corps has been contacted to say that we have most of the easements. He said we are not there yet with being able to make our argument but it is a moot point when contract documents went out to bid with no real ability to get change orders at this point in time. He said the contract has multiple locations and the Corps is ratcheted pretty tightly with in-house estimates based on contracting laws. He continued that in his opinion, the bend widener possibility will be impacted by tight environmental windows and the amount of sand available outside the current statement of work. He stated he thinks it is going to be above the threshold and the Corps is going to have to come around next year with a contract to address the bend widener.

He said in regards to the bigger, deeper, wider channel, the county submitted a grant but the permitting agency knows nothing about the project. There is not a permit in hand to do that work. The only permit for a locally sponsored project in the Lockwood Folly Inlet belongs to the Town of Holden Beach. Those permitting issues to go deeper and wider had some specifics we addressed in the resolution that was adopted regarding the inlet. He stated he thinks it is going to be time consuming to do that. He believes the sundown on the grant is two years. He said the circumstance we find ourselves in are there are statements that all you have to do is go dig it deeper and wider, but there is a huge bureaucratic machine that goes along with that. He stated he wasn't sure if it would be a separate permit or an addition to the SDI-5, because not only are there many agencies that require approval but there are pages of specific requirements regarding just the dredge that can be used. He said the commissioners adopted the resolution and one of the points was that we would want to see modeling on this project. He stated the Merritt was scheduled to be here near the end of November to do navigation maintenance of the inlet.

TERMINAL GROIN OCEAN ISLE BEACH

Chair Myers told the board that Clark Wright gave a presentation and options in regard to Holden Beach's west end and the Ocean Isle Beach terminal groin including becoming a party of the lawsuit or becoming a friend of the court through an amicus brief. Member Dixon heard Clark Wright say at the BOC meeting that time was of the essence but she didn't know if the BOC needed the IBPB to give any sort of opinion. Town Manager Hewett said the issue is before the commissioners and there were not any taskers that came to the IBPB. He is of the opinion the ball is in the commissioners' court. Chair Myers said her concern is that it falls in the inlet hazard area and there is erosion occurring at the west end. She knows there was language written in the environmental impact statement but she worries about getting relief. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated the item did not come to the IBPB from the BOC and she worries about a quorum of commissioners being present and the IBPB weighing in on an opinion. She would like the IBPB to consider that in the event a special meeting of the BOC was called prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting it could put the board in a

bad place. Member Dixon asked if it could just be left as a question if the BOC needed the IBPB's help with the process.

Motion by Member Dixon to ask the BOC if they would like the IBPB's assistance with the Ocean Isle terminal groin and impacts to the west end and the Shallotte Inlet; second by Member Thomas; approved by unanimous vote.

INLET AND BEACH PROTECTION BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Myers asked if Fran Way with ATM could come speak at the next meeting regarding the beach monitoring report. She always has lots of questions after hearing his report at the BOC meeting. Town Manager Hewett said he is scheduled to deliver it at the November BOC meeting but if the IBPB wants to have a deeper dive into the information, he could be scheduled. Town Manager Hewett said his anticipation is that the dialogue of the report will be part of a larger scale effort toward the long-term beach plan. Chair Myers said that different members were doing information gathering. Member Thomas is gathering information on the history of storms to hit N.C. He is looking at impacts to Holden Beach and costs associated with the storms. Chair Myers said she is compiling information of the dredging on the east end with a rolling project plan of the three dredging projects. She stated there is so much that can be done and suggested board members pursue interests.

The board discussed the NC Beach, Inlet, and Waterway Conference and the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway Conference and who would be attending. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated she would check on registrations. She asked everyone to let her know by November 1st if they are going. Town Manager Hewett reviewed some of the sessions on the agenda for the NC Beach Inlet and Waterway Conference that would be important to the board if attending. The next meeting of the IBPB was discussed to be November 29, 2018 at 10 a.m. Member Dixon had to leave at 11:30 a.m.

CONSENSUS OF SHORT REPORT TO THE BOARD

Chair Myers read a memo she prepared for the board to vote on. Points to include for the BOC report were as follows:

- Status of the Beach and Inlets-Staff covered losses post-Florence and post-Michael. Central Reach did its job, but did incur some damages. ATM's report of Florence should be complete next week and the report for Michael a couple of weeks later.
- Storm Related- Town Manager Hewett is going to provide the Town's Emergency Preparedness Plan
- Status of Lockwood Folly Inlet Dredging Projects-The board discussed the status of the LWF Inlet dredging projects. The Merritt is now scheduled for November. The bids for the inlet crossing will be opened on Tuesday.
- Mission Statement- The board adopted a mission statement to summarize and guide their work.
- Meetings-Members of the board attended the Brunswick Shoreline Protection Consortium and made plans to attend NC Beach, Inlet, and Waterway Associations Meetings.
- Proposed Ocean Isle Groin-The group agreed to raise concerns to the BOC about the tight timeline to see if they need assistance from the IBPB.

Motion to adopt short report by Vice Chair Pearson, second by Member Thomas; approved by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Butler appreciates the IBPB looking into beach and inlet related projects and providing recommendations working with town staff and the board.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vice Chair Pearson to adjourn at *11:41 p.m.*, second by Member Thomas; approved by unanimous vote.