



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH
INLET AND BEACH PROTECTION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019 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, June 27, 2019 in the Town Hall Public Assembly.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. Present were Chair Vicki Myers, Members Ronda Dixon and Tim Gibble. Vice Chair Mike Pearson and Member Dean Thomas were absent. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson was also in attendance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Member Dixon to approve the agenda; second by Member Gibble; approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Member Dixon to approve the minutes from last month (5/23/19); second by Chair Myers; approved by all.

COMPREHENSIVE LONG-TERM PLAN

Ms. Foerster said she and Mr. Way did their homework and she hopes the board did their homework to complete the document. She asked Chair Myers if she wanted to go through the plan by sections. Chair Myers said the board talked about adding triggers or success measures to the plan. She wanted to readdress and she said right now it might not be in the near future because of the Florence/Michael damages. She referenced CRP2 and wondered if there were triggers if those storms had not happened that would reference when we would need to have CRP2 to occur because of background erosion. Mr. Way clarified the Central Reach Project was bid and contract prior to Matthew. He said for the Central Reach Project the trigger was that you know it when you see it. Seasons were followed and permits were in hand. Past storms were not that bad and the nourishment projects on the east end were hanging in there. He said a lot of it was funding and the process the Town had to go through with the LGC to prepare for the project. He referenced the annual monitoring report. Chair Myers said we knew at some point when Central Reach was constructed it would have to sometime be redone. She mentioned a trigger like the vegetation line and Mr. Way also mentioned beach width and other volumetrics. He said he looks at dune and beach as far as area and to see how much of the areas don't have enough sand to withstand a 10 year storm. He mentioned the Corps uses a system similar based on calculations. Chair Myers said in theory when we redo the project with CRR, that will move us back

to where we were before the storms, she wonders about a comment or paragraph. Ms. Foerster suggested the paragraph go on page 2-1 where triggers are talked about under focus areas.

The board discussed the document chapter by chapter. In regard to the executive summary the recreational component was added in regarding economic perspective. In Chapter 1, Table 1-2 was updated. Project costs were updated. Chair Myers had a question on page 2 of the executive summary regarding mechanisms for monitoring financial conditions. It was answered to be the Town's annual budget process. In Table 1-1, Chair Myers asked if it was total costs and average costs and wondered if it was the Town's costs. Mr. Way said it was total costs of projects. Mr. Way was complemented by Member Dixon on his work on Table 1-2. Chair Myers had a question on page 1-7. She discussed adding enhancing our dunes to protect property. She also referenced adding wash-overs to the last sentence of paragraph one on page 1-7. Hurricane Floyd destruction was referenced in discussion. Chair Myers said that's why the dune was so helpful during Florence/Michael for doing exactly what it was supposed to do. She asked about the 9-mile barrier island that includes 8 miles of oceanfront shoreline and asked if the extra ½ mile on each end was for the inlet. Mr. Way replied yes it was an approximation and Ms. Foerster said that is what is stated in the Beach and Inlet Management Plan (BIMP) as well. The figures in Chapter 1 were discussed. Chair Myers said she is good with the figures. She thinks for the broader community it will be beneficial. Plan goals for 1.3 were discussed. Commissioner Pat Kwiatkowski asked about mentioning protecting the waterway as infrastructure because that has been expressed at the federal level with lobbying efforts. She doesn't know if we want to think about having that as another descriptor. Chair Myers said we didn't address the waterway as part of the plan. Chair Myers said perhaps under #1. Ms. Foerster said page 1-7 might be a better place at the top of the page to add. That was agreed to by the board.

For Plan Goals, there is a new #2 and #15 from last month's comments. Chair Myers asked if low-lying areas included the canal areas. It was referenced that a definition for low-lying areas may need to occur and discussion was held. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson asked if the board was okay with Mr. Way looking at it and coming up with an appropriate definition. The board agreed.

In Chapter 2, triggers were added for future action. Ms. Foerster said Mr. Way went in and elaborated on management activities and physical descriptions. Chair Myers asked about permits expiring on page 2-1. Mr. Way said they expire at the end of the year and we will be applying for an extension. On page 2-2, Chair Myers said we need to reference the Merritt being here now for the outer bar sidecast dredging. Channel alignment was discussed. Chair Myers asked if page 2-4, #6 was referencing the Deeper-Wider Project. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson referenced the approved minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Way said it almost sounds like the bend widener and he doesn't think it is applying to the Deeper-Wider Project. Chair Myers asked on page 2-5 for clarification on fertilizer levels/types of mycorrhizae. Member Dixon asked on page 2-4 if Attorney Fox has finished the easements. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said she had a report on that for later under status of the beach and inlets on the agenda. Mr. Way explained that Central Reach was referenced to go to 867 OBW as allowed by FEMA for initial construction spreading on page 2-6. Commissioner Kwiatkowski asked about the section that describes the Shallotte Inlet and the physical addresses that go with it. She asked if ATM was saying the Shallotte Inlet comes after those houses or are there some houses that are classified as inlet. It was discussed by the board. The board discussed going through the remaining chapters and coming back to the table in Chapter 2.

In Chapter 3, Ms. Foerster said the GRR, new regulations, and triggers were added as bullets. In Chapter 4, Ms. Foerster said she went back and looked at the Brunswick County Emergency Management Plan and she couldn't find much language to borrow based on their plan because most of their information is boots on the ground. She said their plan was ten years old. Chair Myers was good with Chapter 4. Chapter 5 was discussed and the GRR was decided to be evaluated next year for potential funding sources.

The board went back to Table 2-2 and page 2-13 was discussed. The CRR was estimated by Mr. Way to occur in the Winter 2020-Spring 2021. Chair Myers asked if there was an order to the table. Ms. Foerster looked at focus areas but asked if there was a different preference. Chair Myers said maybe by beginning date for projects. Chair Myers asked about Inlet Crossing sand placement and how it relates to the Bend-Widener Piggyback Project in the table. Mr. Way said based on previous projects he can give an estimate for the Inlet Crossing sand placement. Ms. Foerster asked about the cost for easements. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said she would have to see if she could make the request for the amount spent on easements. Commissioner Kwiatkowski asked if annual should be added to some of the terms in the table so that it is clear that it is an ongoing cost. Chair Myers said she was trying to figure out how to denote things. She asked if we could asterisk things that are annual or change the column that is estimated maintenance. Ms. Foerster said it could be reflected in the begin and end date columns. Permit tracking for Holden versus other municipalities was discussed. Ms. Foerster asked if erosion control should be considered for the next five years or ten years. Corps' beach versus FEMA and how money may be affected if it becomes an engineered beach was discussed. Additional dune monitoring was discussed as a category in the table. Beginning and ending were stated as TBD. The acreage amount for the maritime forest for NC State was referenced. Member Gible said NC State might have this as a project they were interested in studying. The dune breach study was discussed and Ms. Foerster asked about short-term and long-term. She asked about the potential funding source. Mr. Way said it would likely be Town funded since it was a study. Compliance monitoring was talked about as far as costs. Mr. Way said it is variable and project related. He discussed ongoing monitoring costs after projects.

The board said they were good with what was included in the plan.

STATUS OF BEACH AND INLETS

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said the Board of Commissioners made a budget amendment at the June board meeting to participate in beneficial use placement of sand from the bend widener in the upcoming AIWW Inlet Crossing contract. The total estimated cost from the Corps for the bend widener was \$1,165,000 with 2/3 (\$776,705 coming from the NC Shallow Draft Inlet and Aquatic Weed Fund) and 1/3 coming from the Town (\$388,295). The Town has requested reimbursement for 1/2 that local match from the County.

Attorney Noel Fox provided the Town with the certification paperwork yesterday that all easements are in place for the upcoming project and the Corps has that information.

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said the Town completed its planting on the beachfront of vegetation and sand fence replacement. It spans from Captain Jack's to approximately 777 OBW. Gaps were filled in between existing vegetation and planted vegetation in this area.

She continued there is a GRR Special Meeting with a presentation from the Corps to the BOC on Monday, July 8th at 2 p.m. She said she checked in with the Project Manager for the FEMA Florence/Michael projects. It is still in environmental review. She said we did not get any updated information on a timing for release of funds for Matthew but at the managers' meeting at Bald Head on Friday, June 14th, it seems that others are in the same boat as we are with waiting for final reimbursements.

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said UNCW MarineQuest program is doing a Beach Sweep here on July 1st. The goal is to educate youth about the impacts of marine debris and encourage behavior that will reduce debris in the future.

She said she would turn it over to Mr. Way to speak about updates on the sand search. Mr. Way said we are coordinating with the seismic guy to get him out there as soon as possible, hopefully in the next couple of weeks. He said according to the 2016 summary report for BOEM for the Long Bay area, basically from about one mile to five miles out they took more data in 2016 and that is not on their new website. He has contacted BOEM and is waiting on more data. He is looking at a few areas that are closer to inside and not in BOEM territory. A disadvantage is that it would be a new permitting process to use BOEM territory. He said for hopper dredging, we have to work under SARBO when working inside state waters. The advantage is if working in BOEM territory, you can have your own separate turtle takes. Mr. Way said there are no slam dunk areas and you have to do tests to look at areas. He said they are staying aware of what everyone else is doing. He said he thought we were on schedule.

Chair Myers asked about GRR versus Town split for any projects authorized by the Corps after the study and Corp beach versus FEMA beach. Mr. Way said it is usually 65%/35% for federal projects under those authorizations. Chair Myers asked about impacts to other categories. Mr. Way said the Ocean Isle 50 year project is a good project. He wants the Town to evaluate control when making the decision of FEMA beach or not.

INLET AND BEACH PROTECTION BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Myers said that July 8th is the GRR meeting with the Corps. The next meeting of the Brunswick County Shoreline Consortium is August 7, 2019. ASBPA is in Myrtle Beach October 22-25, 2019. NCBIWA is November 12th and 13th in Wrightsville Beach.

CONCENSUS OF SHORT REPORT TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chair Myers read the following:

The IBPB met June 27th and the following issues and topics were addressed:

Comprehensive Long Term Plan- Work on the long-term plan continues. The draft was reviewed and was the major thrust of the meeting. The final report will be reviewed at the July meeting with a subsequent submission to the BOC for review and adoption.

The quarterly beach email blast was sent. Staff provided an overview of issues related to the beach strand and inlets. The CRR and sand sourcing was discussed. Work is complete on obtaining easements from east end property owners to allow sand placement in the future from dredging the Lockwood Folly Inlet. The Corps has confirmed that a project will happen this winter to place approximately 135,000 cubic yards from the bend-widener on the east end and the bid packages will be coming out soon.

The next IBPB will be July 25th. Members attended the June 5th Brunswick County Shoreline Protection Meeting and members will be at the July 8th meeting to hear about a possibility of a GRR project.

Tim Gibble was selected at the June BOC meeting to fill the vacancy to the IBPB board.

Motion to approve by Member Gibble; second by Member Dixon; approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 11:39 a.m. by Member Dixon; second by Member Gibble; approved unanimously.