



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH
INLET AND BEACH PROTECTION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020 10:00 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Myers called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Chair Vicki Myers, Members Dean Thomas, Ronda Dixon, and Tim Gible. Vice Chair Mike Pearson could not attend.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes (12/19/19) by Member Thomas; second by Member Dixon; approved unanimously.

STATUS OF THE BEACH, INLETS AND ISSUES

Assistant Town Manager Ferguson gave the following report on the status of the beach and inlet:

Sand Search

Southern winds and waves have not been favorable for completion of surveys. Surveyors need a 4-day window. Hoping to complete soon. ATM putting together other elements of the project in the meantime.

Chair Myers asked about permit updates and if ATM was working on those as well. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said they were. Town Manager Hewett said the strong southern winds and waves means if you go down the beach there is a two to three-foot scarf.

AIWW Inlet Crossing Dredging Project

Project is moving along with work taking place near Blockade Runner as of yesterday. The project is expected to continue to move west and last another 2-3 weeks. We would like to remind the public to avoid work zone areas denoted with signs and orange fencing.

UNCW

A graduate student has been hired by the university for the project. They started obtaining satellite imagery from USACE. Shoreline and inlet digitization will begin shortly.

Florence/Michael

Town staff is working daily in the grants portal. Project worksheets are being reviewed for accuracy. We are currently on our 6th project manager since we started this process. We will meet with FEMA and N.C. Dept. of Public Safety this afternoon.

Dorian

Mr. Way of ATM completed analysis of additional survey transects that FEMA required. He has also completed his memo and cost estimate for the project as of yesterday. The cost estimate is \$14,914,698, with sand losses in the Central Reach area at 555,297 cubic yards.

Chair Myers asked about combining Dorian with Florence and Michael. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated that it took over 15 months to get project worksheets for Florence and Michael and that there may be the need for another sand search based on quantities for Dorian. Town Manager Hewett stated from a program management standpoint, the economies of scale of combining projects appeals to him. Mobilization on all of them are at least \$4 million. To combine them takes the mobilization down. He said we are going to have to work all the possibilities moving forward. He said this could very well be a five-year project. He said we are in the grants portal every day for several hours. We will be up close to it and attempting to see what can be done. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said that the State of NC was aware of the idea of a combo and had communicated to FEMA that it will likely be a combo. Town Manager Hewett said we already requested extensions on Florence and Michael.

Chair Myers said she wanted to draw attention to Vice Chair Pearson's memo about Christmas trees. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson stated that last year Town Manager Hewett requested the trees from one Lowe's store. Last year we received around 15-20 trees after the season. This year we asked three stores in advance. We received a little over 400 trees that the Scouts of America put out as part of a conservation badge. Chair Myers said she looked it up and the Christmas trees are more effective than sand fence at trapping sand. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said we can only receive what is left at the end of the season, so how many trees we receive is variable from year to year. The board further discussed how the trees were retrieved by our beach vegetation contractor, Steve Mercer. Member Thomas said he would be willing to volunteer his truck to help pick up trees next year. Town Manager Hewett said the trees are about six feet long and account for about 200 pieces of sand fence. He estimated the impact at approximately a \$10,000 benefit.

Chair Myers commented on P.L. NC-20. She said we were not awarded either the study or construction, but there is a possibility going forward for that to happen. She also asked about signs and mats that were in the budget. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson said the signs had

been ordered and she is waiting to see if the scouts have any additional conservation hours that may apply.

INLET AND BEACH PROTECTION BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Myers stated that Brunswick County Shoreline Committee met December 15, 2019. She said that Town Manager Hewett gave a good plug about the Inlet Hazard Area issue. Brennan Dooley gave a Corps update. Town Manager Hewett said other beach town updates were conspicuously absent. He was disappointed. Member Thomas asked why that might be. Town Manager Hewett said he could only say they didn't give reports, not sure as to why. We have a lot going on at Holden and he can't imagine why others might not. Some communities were not present. Chair Myers said the next meeting of the Brunswick County Shoreline Committee will be March 18th.

The American Shore and Beach Preservation Association Meeting will be March 24-26, 2020 in Washington, D.C. The NC Beach, Inlet and Waterway Association will meet April 20-21, 2020. The next MOA meeting will be Feb 19, 2020 from 10:30-12:30 p.m. in New Bern. The next meeting of the IBPB will be Feb 27, 2020.

CONSENSUS OF REPORT TO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chair Myers stated that the Inlet Protection Board met January 23rd and the following issues and topics were discussed. Assistant Town Manager Ferguson's report is included. Mats and signs have arrived and are awaiting installation. Vice Chair Pearson's memo has the Christmas tree project included. Meeting dates were reviewed.

Town Manager Hewett asked to add some information about the LWF Inlet Crossing Project. He stated that unlike our projects that have vegetation and sand fence written into the permit conditions, since it is a least cost method of disposal navigation project, there is no requirement from the Corps. When they are complete with the project the Holden Beach Renourishment Association and the Town will be doing sand fence and vegetation. Chair Myers asked if Assistant Town Manager Ferguson would add that to her update.

Motion to adopt the memo by Member Dixon; second Member Gibble; approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Pat Kwiatkowski said that with us hearing that Oak Island is asking about our Christmas tree project, there might be competition for trees. An idea would be to reach out to the Supply residents for their trees. Town Manager Hewett said we have tried it and it is a logistics nightmare. It falls to the public works department for handling. He said the Town has taken the position to go wholesale only with the request. Member Dixon said that people are moving to artificial trees. Member Thomas asked what it was from the last meeting that Commissioner Kwiatkowski wanted the board to do. She said she can't speak as a

commissioner. It was discussed that the idea of having some educational information on staying off the dunes was what was referenced in the previous meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn (10:29 a.m.) by Member Gible; second Member Thomas; approved unanimously.