ESRNWC October 21, 2021 Minutes

A meeting of the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee was held on the 21st day of October, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. via virtual meeting platform ZOOM.

Members Present: John Joeckel, Chair

John Tavolaro J.T. Holland

William J "Billy" Tarr George (Danny) Bowden

Andy Dunton

Members Absent Dixon Leatherbury

Donald Hart John Coker

Others Present: Ryan Wartick, NOAA

Grayson Williams, A-NPDC

Anne Doyle, A-NPDC Elaine Meil, A-NPDC

Michael Anderson, USACE Norfolk District

Chris Turner, USACE Norfolk District

Adam Season, USCG Albert Grimes, USCG Patrick Coady, Resident

Call to Order:

Chairman John Joeckel called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

Old Business:

- a. NOAA Mr. Ryan Wartick presented that the chart cancellation process is in motion and working to convert maps to a digital platform. The digital maps will have the same look as paper maps. No maps are marked for cancellation. Speed and wake zones will be charted. Chairman Joeckel suggested localities to send information they have to NOAA. Mr. Williams will send survey data from the WMF projects to NOAA. Mr. Wartick also stated there is a match funding source for survey projects. He will provide information to Mr. Williams.
- b. USACE- Mr. Turner and Mr. Anderson provided updates on their respective projects, including Chincoteague Inlet, Oyster Channel, Tangier Channel, and the Cedar Island CAP. Mr. Anderson also discussed the \$150,000 reprogramming potential to the Quinby Project.
- c. USCG Mr. Season introduced himself to the Committee and stated he is looking forward to working with them.
- d. VA Commonwealth WMF
 - i. Current FY2020 Projects & Progress Mr. Williams presented the current progress on the VPA WMF projects. Discussion from the committee was on the Kings Creek project and the protest on the channel. Mr. Dunton stated that a FOYA request could be issued to VMRC if the property owner is using his lease. Mr. Williams will follow up with VMRC on this issue. Chairman Joeckel asked for an update on the Kings Creek dredging contract. Mr. Williams contacted Northampton but no progress has been done. He can also not continue the project until the protest is resolved. Mr. Williams also presented the Wachapreague Channel project and stated that the channel does not need to be dredged for safe navigation depths. Mr. Williams contacted VIMS to asked if our contractor could assist. with their Cedar Island Project. Mr. Williams presented five options that the WMF projects could assist with for VIMS. The committee decided to proceed with surveying the area northern area closest to Cedar Island and sediment sampling in the channel for VIMS.

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New Business:

Chairman Joeckel advised the committee that we will need to decide on the new VPA FY23 applications that are due in March. Mr. Williams stated that dredging Nassawadox Creek would be an ideal application. Mr. Holland agreed.

Other Matters:

Mr. Tarr spoke with The Chincoteague Town Manager about legislative priorities. Chairman Joeckel suggested sending a letter to our local representatives in regards to the ESRNWC priorities. A letter should also be sent to the VPA again requesting additional funds to the WMF. Chairman Joeckel also advised on membership participation and attendance to meetings and emails.

Public Comment:

None

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

John Joeckel, Chair	_
Grayson Williams, Secretary	-
Date	-