

Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterway Committee

ESRNWC June 8, 2017 Minutes

At a meeting of the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee held on the 8th day of June, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the A-N Planning District Commission Building, Accomac, VA

Members Present: John Joeckel, Chair
Granville Hogg, Vice Chair
Donald L. Hart
William J. "Billy" Tarr
Larry Lemond
J.T. Holland

Member Absent: Bill Burnham
P.G. Ross
Wayne Merritt

Others Present: Shannon Alexander, Coastal Resource Program
Manager, A-N Planning District Commission
Curt Smith, Director of Planning, A-N Planning
District Commission
Shelly Vallone, Intern, A-N Planning District Commission

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Joeckel at 3:31 p.m.

Minutes

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the Minutes of the August 15, 2017 meeting. Mr.

Holland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. FY 2017 USACE Projects (Greenbackville & Oyster)

Chairman Joeckel updated the Committee that both the Greenbackville and Oyster USACE projects have been funded, but because of late approval will be completed in FY 2018.

2. Cedar Island/ Wachapreague Project

Chairman Joeckel briefed the Committee on the USACE Workshop of June 2nd, 2017, including that there are three possible sites, Bradford Bay and Finney Creek Channel, Burtons Bay Channel, and Cedar Island Bay Channel. Chairman Joeckel shared with the Committee a map identifying the possible sites. A-N Planning District Commission Director of Planning Curt Smith recommended that USACE consult with experts from VIMS and VMRC to further explore the effects of the projects. Mr. Smith emphasized the possible effect the projects may have on the aquaculture industry.

3. Commonwealth of VA Funding Methods for ES State Waterways

Chairman Joeckel debriefed the Committee on his meeting with Senator Lewis in winter of 2016, informing that Senator Lewis did not think FY 2017 was the best year to pursue funding in the VA GA for this issue, and that we should push our request to FY 2018. Chairman Joeckel presented the Committee with a table indicating the purpose, revenue source, and funding uses of programs benefitting Virginia's waterways.

The Committee agreed that action should be taken now to try to acquire more funding for dredging the ES waterways. The Committee agreed to immediately take an intermediary step this year in order to request funding in FY 2018, if needed. Staff will consult with the MPPDC to prevent duplicative efforts. If necessary, the Committee agreed upon a plan to gain the support of both Counties, A-NPDC, and the ES towns to request legislation to ask for funding in FY 2018. The Committee will also inform Delegate Bloxom and Senator Lewis of the general intent of the Committee pertaining to this matter.

New Business

1. Committee Joint Resolution

The Committee reviewed the Committee Joint Resolution and noted the contradictory nature of items 4 and 5 of the Resolution.

2. Review Committee By-Laws

Mr. Hart made a motion to approve the By-Laws as amended (see attached By-Laws).

The motion, seconded by Mr. Lemond, passed unanimously.

3. Letter of Intent Sent to USACE for PAS

A-N Planning District Commission Coastal Resource Program Manager Shannon Alexander presented the letter of intent regarding Planning Assistance to States (PAS) sent to USACE on behalf of ANPDC. She also discussed the process and plan for PAS, which includes identifying three dredging projects on the ES that are in most need of USACE. This process will incorporate public opinion as well as data.

4. CBBT Materials

The Committee discussed the possible beneficial uses of the borings from the drilling of the new CBBT tunnel. Chairman Joeckel presented an email exchange between himself and Chris Turner of USACE. The Committee agreed to talk to County Administrator Mike Mason about how to move forward with cooperating with the Governor, and CC Colonel Kelly, and a collaboration about the use of the first 100,000-150,000 cubic yards of the borings.

Other Matters

The Committee discussed the following matters:

- A brief update on the Tangier project from Curt Smith of ANPDC and Mr. Tarr.
- Long-term funding for research and projects to be done by the Committee. Since the Joint Resolution does not allow the Committee. ANPDC will look for grants to finance these.

Mr. Hart moved that the Secretary of the Committee shall be the Director of Planning of the ANPDC or a staff member of their choosing. This motion, seconded by Mr. Lemond, passed

unanimously.

Public Comment

None.

Schedule Next Meeting and Adjournment

The Committee agreed the next meeting will be on July 20, 2017 at 3:00 in the Conference Room of ANPDC. Mr. Tarr made a motion to adjourn at 5:07 p.m. The motion, seconded by Mr. Lemond, passed unanimously.

John Joeckel, Chair

Curt Smith, Secretary

Date

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