

Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterway Committee

ESRNWC July 19, 2018 Minutes

At a meeting of the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee held on the 19th day of July, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Northampton County Department of Social Services in Eastville.

Members Present: John Joeckel, Chair
 Donald L. Hart
 George “Danny” Bowden
 John Tavolaro
 J.T. Holland
 William J. “Billy” Tarr

Members Absent Granville Hogg, Vice Chair
 James Dixon
 John Coker
 Spencer Murray

Others Present: Charles Kolakowski, Northampton County Administrator
 Clara Vaughn, A-NPDC
 Curt Smith, A-NPDC
 Kim Huskey, Ballard Fish & Oyster Company
 Mike Koffman, Northampton County resident
 Shannon Alexander, A-NPDC

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joeckel at 3:01 p.m.

Minutes

Mr. Holland made a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 19, 2017 meeting. The motion, seconded by Mr. Tavolaro, carried unanimously, with the exception of Mr. Hart who was not present during the April meeting.

Old Business

a. Water Access Authority Update

Ms. Alexander gave a brief update that the enabling legislation and draft operating agreement have been reviewed by the A-NPDC legal counsel and will be edited accordingly and supplied to each County Administrator the next week, with the hope to return to a meeting of each County Board of Supervisors in August.

b. FY2018-2019 USACE project status and potential suggestions concerning FY2020 projects:

a. Greenbackville: contract award anticipated for December, 2018; work anticipated to be completed by April 2019;

b. Oyster: contract award anticipated by January 2019; work anticipated to be completed by May 2019;

c. \$1.75M VIP/WCV funding & applicability: discussion ensued about potential 'reprogramming' of these funds and how long the funds can carry over, as there are not many sections of the WCV that would fall into priority based on the regional needs; Deep Creek, Little Machipongo River, and Wachapreague/Bradford Bay were the recent Committee recommendations. Curt Smith is to speak to Congressman Taylor's office about these funds;

c. VA Commonwealth Fund

a. Draft VPA Grant Guidance & Process – Chairman Joeckel discussed the meeting with partners earlier in the month and presented the draft guidance as included in the packet.

b. Potential ES State Waterway Projects – Chairman Joeckel presented 10 state waterways (5 in each County), identified in the packet, for Members to consider and be ready for discussion during the October meeting, so that during the January meeting a motion can be finalized for application (due in March 2019). Ms. Alexander is to send an email to Members with a request for their knowledge and relevant contribution for each waterway, so that it can be compiled and made available to member prior to and during the next meeting.

d. USCG AtoN Removal Progress Update: Bayside, Seaside, Nassawadox -Nothing new to report.

New Business

a) **Proposed Cape Charles anchorage update** – Chairman Joeckel presented that there were about 85 comments submitted to the USCG, including those from the Committee, and about 80 were in opposition.

Other Matters

Mr. Tavolaro requested information about the Commonwealth of Virginia match funding for the Chincoteague Inlet study. Mr. Smith and Chairman Joeckel both indicated that they did not see any allocation in the state budget, although this was approved for funding over two years ago.

Mr. Smith announced that The Nature Conservancy is developing a proposal for the NFWF resiliency grant RFP, and he requested a letter of support from the Committee.

Mr. Hart made a motion to support the TNC application and send a letter to this affect. The motion, seconded by Mr. Holland, carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Ms. Kim Huskey, the Vice President - Governmental Affairs for Ballard Fish and Oyster Company, requested the Committee consider Parting Creek as a waterway that could be included for maintenance in the application for the WMF and any other potential funding source. She supplied figures of the economic value of aquaculture and indicated that there are three vital hatcheries on Parting Creek.

Schedule Next Meeting and Adjourn

The Committee agreed the next meeting will be on October 19, 2018 at 3:00 pm in the A-NPDC conference room in Accomac. Chairman Joeckel adjourned the meeting at 4:19pm.

John Joeckel, Chair

Curtis Smith, Secretary

Date