

**RECORD OF MINUTES  
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2015  
9:00 A.M.  
OUTER BANKS WELCOME CENTER ON ROANOKE ISLAND  
MANTEO, NC 27954**

**ATTENDING:** Tim Cafferty, Chair; Susie Walters, Vice-Chair; Dorie Fuller, Treasurer; Ervin Bateman, Assistant Treasurer; Nancy Caviness, Secretary; Tonia Cohen, Sheila Davies, Ernie Foster, Leo Holland, Natalie Kavanagh, Donny King, Wally Overman, Martha Wickre, and Dwight Wheless, Legal Counsel.

**STAFF:**

Lee Nettles, Executive Director  
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration  
Lorrie Love, Tourism Sales and Events Manager  
Aaron Tuell, Public Relations Manager  
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist

**OTHERS:** Dave Hallac, Superintendent, and Mark Dowdle, Deputy Superintendent, National Park Service; Philip Ruckle, *The Coastland Times*; Dave Dawson, and Jan Pate, Outer Banks Hotel/Motel Association; and John Couch, Outer Banks Beach Buggy Association.

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. The Board then recited the pledge of allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ms. Davies moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Holland seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Holland moved to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2015 meeting. Ms. Caviness seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Superintendent Hallac reviewed progress with ORV access changes on Hatteras Island.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** The Chairman reviewed the following Natural, Historic and Cultural Line Item Grant requests:

- Extension request from the North Carolina Aquarium Society. Mr. Holland moved to grant an extension through May 2016. Mr. Overman seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- Chicamacomico Historical Association grant request of \$65,412 for rebuilding of 44 exterior doors and windows and repainting the exterior trim. The Board discussed the financial need, changes that have taken place at Chicamacomico. Discussion was paused.

At 9:15 a.m., Ms. Fuller moved to open the public hearing on the proposed budget Fiscal Year 2015-2016. Mr. Bateman seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The Chair asked if there were any comments from the public. No comments were made. Ms. Fuller moved to close the public hearing. Mr. Bateman seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The public hearing closed at 9:17 a.m.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** The Board resumed discussion of the Natural Historic and Cultural Line Item Grant Request from Chicamacomico Historical Association (CHA). The Board discussed if CHA had a business plan and if the repairs would be done to preservation standards. Mr. Overman asked if someone from CHA would come before the Board to answer questions and provide a broader perspective on the future direction of the attraction. Mr. Nettles responded that they would be invited to speak. The Board discussed whether or not to table the request until CHA appeared before the Board. Several Board members noted that these were two separate issues-the future of the Chicamacomico and the grant request-and it was not up to the Tourism Board to determine the best way to make the repairs to Chicamacomico. After discussion, Ms. Kavanagh moved to award \$65,412. Ms. Davies seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman noted progress with regards to Executive Director's contract and that the contract would soon come to the Board for approval.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT:** Ms. Fuller reviewed the meals and occupancy receipts received. Receipts for fiscal year 2014-2015 to date are up 4.10% from the same time period in fiscal year 2013-2014.

Ms. Fuller touched on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

**OUTER BANKS VISITORS BUREAU UPDATES:** Lee Nettles reviewed:

- Tourism Summit Survey Results
- Soundside Event Site
- Events
- Grant Awards Press Release
- Progress on the initiative to ease Saturday traffic
- Tumblr
- Inquiry, Fulfillment and Visitation numbers

Lorrie Love reviewed the upcoming Sports NC meeting and upcoming events.

Aaron Tuell reviewed recent media coverage and public relations efforts.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no old business before the Board.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Overman noted that there was a North Carolina Department of Transportation map of the bike paths available for use on [outerbanks.org](http://outerbanks.org). Lee Nettles noted that they links to these maps were already posted.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** Ms. Caviness noted that the Duck Merchants Association has put together a pocket map of attractions and shops in Duck. The website is [doducknc.com](http://doducknc.com)

Mr. Holland noted he had received an inquiry about a soccer tournament and if the Bureau had ever received such requests. Lorrie Love noted that they had but the facilities needed to host a large soccer tournament were not available (i.e. several soccer fields located next to each other).

Ms. Kavanagh encouraged Board members to participate in any media familiarization tours opportunities.

**SET TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:** June 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Outer Banks Welcome Center on Roanoke Island.

The Chair asked to recess the meeting until 10:30 a.m. [on May 18, 2015]. Ms. Davies moved to recess until 10:30 a.m. Mr. Holland seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was recessed 10:05 a.m.

Mr. Bateman was excused at 10:05 a.m.

**RECORD OF MINUTES  
DARE COUNTY TOURISM BOARD MEETING  
SESSION WITH REPRESENTATIVE WALTER JONES  
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2015  
10:30 A.M.  
OUTER BANKS WELCOME CENTER ON ROANOKE ISLAND  
MANTEO, NC 27954**

**ATTENDING:** Tim Cafferty, Chair; Susie Walters, Vice-Chair; Dorie Fuller, Treasurer; Nancy Caviness, Secretary; Tonia Cohen, Sheila Davies, Ernie Foster, Leo Holland, Natalie Kavanagh, Donny King, Wally Overman, Martha Wickre, and Dwight Wheless, Legal Counsel.

**EXCUSED ABSENCE:** Ervin Bateman, Assistant Treasurer.

**STAFF:**

Lee Nettles, Executive Director  
Diane Bognich, Director of Administration  
Lorrie Love, Tourism Sales and Events Manager  
Aaron Tuell, Public Relations Manager  
Amy Wood, Clerk to the Board/Administrative Specialist

**OTHERS:** Dave Hallac, Superintendent, and Mark Dowdle, Deputy Superintendent, National Park Service; Philip Ruckle, *The Coastland Times*; Russ Lay, *Outer Banks Voice*; Dave Dawson, and Jan Pate, Outer Banks Hotel/Motel Association; John Couch and David Scarborough, Outer Banks Preservation Association; Jim Keene, North Carolina Beach Buggy Association; Larry Hardham, Cape Hatteras Anglers Club; Karen Brown, Executive Director; and Maylon White, Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce; John Ratzenburger, Commissioner, Town of Nags Head; Christopher Layton, Manager, Town of Duck; Bob Woodard, Chairman; Warren Judge, and Margarett Umphlett, Dare County Commissioners; Bobby Outten, Dare County Manager; Colleen Shriver and Christopher Nave, Outer Banks Association of REALTORS®; William Moore, Aid to Congressman Jones; Congressman Walter B. Jones

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. The Chair introduced Congressman Walter B. Jones. Congressman Jones reviewed his political service and spoke on issues facing the nation, such as debt and the Afghanistan war, as well as those that impact Dare County, such as Oregon Inlet dredging and federal government over-reach in local issues.

Ms. Davies was excused at 11:15 a.m.

The Congressman took questions from the audience and encouraged people to become more involved in politics.

The Chair called for additional questions. Hearing none, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Attested:

---

Secretary, Dare County Tourism Board