

NC Coastal Resources Advisory Council
February 13, 2018
Sea Trail Convention Center
Sunset Beach, NC
Meeting Summary

Attendance

Greg “rudi” Rudolph (Chair)	Spencer Rogers (Co-Vice Chair)
Robert Outten (Co-Vice Chair)	John Brodman
David Kellam	Seth Laughlin
Kris Noble	Kathleen Riely
Todd Roessler	Debbie Smith
Dave Weaver	

Call to Order

Rudi Rudolph called the meeting to order with 11 members in attendance. The minutes were approved unanimously.

CRAC Officers Elections

Rudi Rudolph explained that per the CRAC Guidebook officers are to be elected annually by the council. The council unanimously voted to re-elect Greg “rudi” Rudolph (Chair), Spencer Rogers (Co-Vice Chair) and Robert Outten (Co-Vice Chair).

CRAC Nominations

Rudi Rudolph discussed that currently there are five vacancies on the council and that DCM staff has previously facilitated a call for nominations. Rudi Rudolph reported that a total of eleven nominations have been received. The council began discussing the possibility of electing state officials as ex-officio members and requested staff to report at the next meeting if this is a possibility. The council then reviewed the eleven nominations and voted unanimously to recommend Frank Heath, Ike McRee, and Rhett White to the CRC as new appointments to the CRAC, leaving two vacancies on the council.

Ocean Outfall Rule Amendments

The council discussed the current rules regarding ocean outfalls which only allow existing ocean outfalls to be maintained and extended to their previously authorized dimensions, and does not allow for extension. While CRC rules do not specifically ban the extension of ocean outfalls, the main issue is that development generally is not permitted seaward of the first line of stable and natural vegetation unless it meets one of the exceptions in rule. DCM staff gave a presentation regarding the existing ocean outfalls located at Emerald Isle, Atlantic Beach, Kure Beach, and Dare County. The council discussed issues related to outfall extensions, and requested DCM staff propose draft rule amendments for the next council meeting.

Dredge Windows Meeting Report

DCM staff updated the council about a recent meeting pertaining to environmental windows for navigational dredging and beach nourishment. The meeting was held in response to a request that the CRC examine the dredge windows applied if larval entrainment is the primary rationale. This meeting included both state and federal participants as well as consultants. Staff explained the key points of this meeting including a discussion of the existing dredge windows, and that DCM and resource agencies typically grant relief for emergency or delayed dredging during environmental moratoria. There was also a presentation about a forthcoming NOAA study examining environmental windows for 13 species based

on spatial and temporal occurrences at different life cycles. This new study, scheduled to be released for comment in April 2018, should create better opportunities for education and coordination.

Adjourn

With no further business the Council adjourned and joined the CRC meeting.