

MINUTES
TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH
BEACHFRONT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
December 12, 2024
11:00 a.m.

Present: Dallas Lovelace, Chair, Stanley Hergott, Marie Bost, and Paul Oakley (via conference call), Committee Members.

Staff Present: Mayor Crawford Moore, Council Member Jerome Kizer, Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Assistant Town Administrator Dee Stalvey, Municipal Clerk Donna Iskra

Call to Order

Chairman Lovelace called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes – September 12, 2024

Ms. Bost made a motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2024, which was seconded by Dr. Lovelace. The motion passed unanimously.

Update from Town Administrator

- The surveys and appraisals for the Beach Renourishment Project are complete.
- There are 37 of the 193 properties outside of the easement area, therefore, it appears no easements are needed on those properties.
- The appraisals submitted by the Town are undergoing final approval by the Army Corps.
- Title work has been forwarded to the Army Corps.
- The easement language for homeowner agreements has been approved by the Army Corps.
- Additional questions regarding the mean high-water mark on the surveys are being discussed between the Army Corps and the South Carolina Department of Administration Office to determine whether easements are needed from the state. The Army Corps will keep the Town updated on this matter.
- Mr. Aakhus noted the slight cost increase in this project due to the increased time elapsed since the last projected cost estimate. This increase will be off-set by the in-kind credit we have received, so the Town remains in good financial standing with this project.

New Business: Update from Army Corps of Engineers, Mark Messersmith

- Mr. Messersmith noted the surveyors have been out on the beach completing their survey work which is to be submitted in January.
- Mr. Messersmith presented sand samples from the borrow site. The examples consisted of different sizes and colors of shell and sand. Mr. Hergott asked if there was a difference in effectiveness between the finer grain and the courser grain, and which grain was preferred. Mr. Messersmith responded all grain would be effective; however, the coarser grain is preferred, although a combination of both is optimal. There is a system in place to filter out the larger pieces.

Open Discussion

- Ms. Bost asked if at the next informational session with beachfront owners, we could have a representative from Folly Beach or Myrtle Beach present to give their feedback on their experience with the renourishment projects in their own towns. Mr. Aakhus stated he will reach out to Folly Beach. For use at the next informational session, Mr. Aakhus reported new maps have been prepared for the residents' review. Mr. Messersmith noted there is no scheduled date for the informational session, but possibly in January or February 2025.
- Mr. Hergott asked if there was a target date set for the construction project to begin. Mr. Messersmith stated construction is still tracking for late 2025 or early 2026.
- Ms. Bost asked if the Town was keeping an ongoing up-to-date spreadsheet of beachfront property owners, which will ensure we are prepared when the time comes to forward correspondence to them. Mr. Aakhus noted spreadsheets are up to date.
- Mr. Hergott asked if there was any risk of losing the funds allocated for this project, and Mr. Messersmith noted that since the funds have been allocated, there should be no problems.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Bost moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Lovelace seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

APPROVED BY THE BEACHFRONT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Donna Iskra, Municipal Clerk
April 10, 2025