

Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterway Committee

**ESRNWC July 20, 2023 Minutes**

A meeting of the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at The Enterprise Building, A-NPDC, 23372 Front Street, Accomac, VA 23301.

Members Present:

Accomack

John Tavolaro, Selection Committee

Northampton

Andy Dunton, Chair, Selection Committee

Robert Harris

JT Holland

Members Absent

Danny Bowden

William J. "Billy" Tarr

Donald Hart

Dixon Leatherbury

John Coker, Selection Committee

Others Present:

Kellen Singleton, A-NPDC

Elaine Meil, A-NPDC

Mike Anderson, USACE\*

Chris Turner, USACE\*

Brenden Kettner

Phil Custis

Mara Engelbert, US Rep. Kiggans Office\*

John Joeckel\*

Kim Huskey, Cherrystone Aqua Farms\*

\*Participated via the Zoom platform or conference call for facilitation & presentation purposes.

## Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterway Committee

### 1. **Call to Order:**

Chairman Dunton called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. NO QUORUM

### 2. **Public Comment**

Mr. Joeckel discussed the Commonwealth local match contribution for the CAP 204 project. \$4 million would be the Commonwealth/local match contribution to the Fed \$11 million overall project cost

Mr. Joeckel discussed Tangier Project and potential need of state to provide 50% of the funding.

Mr. Joeckel discussed Folly Creek spoils and new USACE site (Parker Creek) expressing preference for agriculture disposal advising that Accomack County should be aware of potential need to make a disposal site available.

Mr. Joeckel updated the group that \$5M has not been targeted, dispensed and advised committee to follow up with Port Authority, Delegate Rob Bloxom.

### 3. **Staff Report**

Staff updated the Kings Creek, Phase 2, Nassawadox Creek, Phase 1B, Nassawadox Creek, Phase 2, Red Bank Creek, Phase 1B, and Folly Creek, Phase 1B

Kings Creek, Phase 2 was awarded to Michels Marine with proposal coming in at \$1.494M  
The effort has been awarded an additional \$1.25M (in addition to \$1.15M current budget) from VPA WMF FY23

Steps moving forward include contract negotiations: draft contract, liaise between consultant & County for contract negotiation, and execution by mid-August, scheduling of BD survey, and construction post-Labor Day.

Geodynamics will survey Nassawadox's Southern Nearshore Berm, anticipate results before end of the month. Staff and engineer will revisit pre-application discussions with permitting agencies. JPA submittal and continued development technical specs are anticipated in the interim.

Nassawadox Creek, Phase 2 has been awarded \$2.25M from VPA WMF FY23

Steps moving forward include completion of Phase 1B and scope and RFP development for Phase 2.

Red Bank Creek, Phase 1B discussions ongoing with APO TNC regarding collaboration to beneficially utilize materials in habitat build-up for migratory nesting birds

Geodynamics will survey Red Bank's Connector (all by boat). GET will perform gradation tests scheduled and perform vibracores (agriculture) pending APO interest.

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Folly Creek, Phase 1B discussions ongoing with subject matter experts & consultants regarding potential beneficial use of material for building up agricultural lands.  
GET will perform vibracores (agriculture) pending APO interest.

Staff updated the committee on the monthly project team check-ins occurring the first Wednesday (Folly, Red Bank, and Nassawadox) and third Tuesday (Kings Creek). These will include the consultants and occur monthly during active project times.

4. **Business:**

Chmn. Dunton updated group on Kings Creek project informing the committee that the contract has been awarded to Michels Construction, Inc. Southwinds made a formal inquiry.

Brenden Kettner introduced himself to the committee and interest in filling the vacant Accomack appointment. Mr. Kettner, retired USCG Commander, served as Chief of Port Operations for four years in Detroit, the Senior Investigating Officer for Maritime Law in Savannah Georgia, the Officer In Charge for Port Security in Basra Iraq for two tours, the US Coast Guard Deputy Sector Commander in Guam with oversight for three ships, 200 personnel and responsibilities for Guam the Marianas Island Chain and all ports and maritime Law Enforcement operations and also worked as the Emergency Manager for Goddard Space Flight Center with oversight of Wallops Flight Facility in VA, White Sands Missile Facility in New Mexico, Independent Verification and Validation Facility in WV and Columbia Ballon Facility in TX.

Chmn. Dunton will forward his interest to committee members and the Accomack Board of Supervisors.

The group discussed dredging priorities moving forward. Mr. Anderson, updated the group on the progress of the Quinby Channel Federal Navigation, Tangier Channels Federal Navigation, Little Machipongo River Federal Navigation, and CAP 204 Projects. Little Machipongo will be the prioritized. Dredging material management remain questions.

Mr. Anderson emphasized differentiation between shovel ready and in-progress efforts.

*Adjourn –*  
The meeting adjourned at 3:38PM.

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Andy Dunton, Chair

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Kellen Singleton, Secretary

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Date