

Topsail Island Shore Protection Committee  
Report on Meeting of January 26<sup>th</sup>

The proposal by North Topsail Beach to modify the group's mission to include shoreline protection of the estuarine shoreline among other changes was referred to a committee made up of the Beach Protections committed chairs from the three towns. Those would be I and David Ward from Surf City and someone to be selected at Topsail Beach.

Nine members of the 11 possible members of the Commission were presented and introduced themselves .....the missing members were the be selected Beach Chair for Topsail Beach and our own Deb Lanci.....more about her later.

The USACE Wilmington District gave an update on the two federal projects. Leading that presentation was Jan Broadmerkel, the Project Manager assisted by Doug Green, a lead planner since 2001 but soon to retire from the Corps. As far as our joint project with Surf City, it is 10 miles long with 828 properties affected. The initial cost will be \$118.4 Million and the 50 year cost is projected to be \$552 million. The project will take 4 years to complete since it will use Hopper dredges rather than pipeline dredges. The project is public as of January 22 and is in the mandatory 45 day review period. As far as sand, there is 11.5 million cubic yards for initial and a total of 31.1 million cubic yards over the entire 50 year project life.

This year the Corps will basically be shepherding the project through reviews with a July date for submittal to the Southeast Division and when it is forwarded to Washington DC we are hoping for a Civil Works Review meeting in September. The schedule for 2011 is to get a chief's report from the Corps and then a review by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works all needed before the project can be included in the Water Resources Development Act which is where Congress appropriated funds normally. However we are working with Marlowe and our Congressmen Jones and McIntyre to get contingent inclusion in a WRDA bill if one is created.

Bottom line the Corps expects our town officials, the shore protection commission, and the general public to keep waving the flag for this project as we will be more effective than leaving up the Corps alone....

The recent Marlowe report given to the Commission commented that the letter Walter Jones sent to the US Fish and Wildlife Department about removing the CRBA designation from NTB was "well received". There was discussion about how to continue the lobbying of Washington officials and it was decided for the TISPC to go as a group separated from the American Shoreline and Beach Protection Association Coastal Summit....Since the meeting the date of March 18<sup>th</sup> has been selected and each town should select a lobbying representative to attend...the expense to be cover by the TISPC.

As the last item of business the Commission elected its officers for the year. Michael Curley, alderman from Surf City was elected Chairman and Deborah Lance, our elected representative was elected as Vice Chair.

That is the end of my report.