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**To:** NTB Board of Aldermen

**Subject:** BISAC Monthly Report for January 24, 2023, Meeting

**From:** Mike Benson, Chair

**Date:** January 25, 2023

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**Manager's Update.** Manager Derian, *ex officio*, updated the committee on the status of the FEMA projects, the US Army Corps Dredge Project at the New River Inlet, and the state CSDM fund grant that the Town was awarded as well as BA#4 repairs and the inlet EIS status.

ST Wooten continues work with the Phase 5 truck haul project. At EOD on January 19th, they have placed approximately 95,838 CY's of sand. The project will continue to April 30, 2023. Any remaining work will be completed in November and December of 2023. The project in total consists of hauling and placing approximately 636,000 CY's of sand along 18,500 feet of shoreline from the Surf City border to around 3686 Island Drive.

The contract for the Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation Fund grant has been fully executed with the state. The permit for the CSDM work that was filed is still pending. She worked with Onslow County to remove the lattice work from the bathhouse at County BA#4 in preparation for the contractor to start dune restoration work. The contractor has failed to return a signed change order acknowledging the work with a schedule. She has asked the town attorney for his recommendation to proceed with another contractor.

Our engineer has completed the review of the additional EIS modeling which has been provided to USACE that suggests a terminal groin with Inlet Mgt remains as the preferred alternative. She also briefed the committee on the January conference call with Mickey Sugg, Corps Regulatory Director for the Wilmington District, and the hope that the Notice of Intent for the NRI EIS would be published prior to the February 1 Board of Alderman Meeting. She announced that the Army Corps dredge project in the ICW and Channel to Jacksonville would be extended until February 9. She hopes to have a dredge volume update soon.

**Committee organization.** After discussion towards the election of a chair and vice chair, this agenda item was tabled until the February 21 meeting. The committee did adopt a new meeting schedule for the year that will be posted on the committee webpage. Meetings will now be held the third Tuesday of the month at 10:30 in Town Hall.

**Charter update.** This item was tabled until the February meeting.

**Goals for 2023.** The Committee received the following goal from the Board of Alderman; "Review the current beach plan and with the input of the beach engineer identify the issues the town needs to address." The committee had a good discussion surrounding this goal and came up with several 'sub-goals' or 'components' associated with it. As was discussed by the coastal engineer during a previous meeting, the Division of Coastal Management (DCM) has mandated the need for each coastal municipality in the state to develop a '30-yr Beach and Inlet

## *Town of North Topsail Beach* **Beach, Inlet, and Sound Advisory Committee**

Management Plan (BIMP).’ The BIMP will be based on discussions by the committee over the coming year of our current five-year-old beach plan and the need to revise it given the current situation as well as the need for strategic planning for the future. Actual production of the NTB BIMP to meet the annotated DCM content will require the expertise of a coastal engineering firm.

Another important component of the board goal is education. BISAC would like a focus on providing information to educate the public about the beach, inlet, and sound. Several suggested areas include supporting the island-wide, educational effort for the ‘Beach Clean’ Initiative, reviewing and updating Town F&Q fact sheets, for instance about terminal groins, as well as providing new informational pieces to educate the public about shoreline protection. Educating the Onslow County Commissioners on the need to pass an ordinance banning unencapsulated polystyrene in dock floats and floating walkways as has been done by the three Topsail Island towns would help to protect County waterways and wetlands from this long-term environmental pollutant.

To make informed recommendations to the board, the committee members themselves must be well versed in coastal management. To attain a level of expertise to make these informed recommendations, the committee will hold education sessions with our coastal engineer advisor as time permits throughout the year.

Finally, the committee wants to be involved in finding funding sources outside of the state Shallow Draft Inlet and Aquatic Weed Fund, and the state Coastal Storm Damage Mitigation Fund to support our shoreline protection needs.

**TISPC at-large recommendation.** Discussion of this agenda item was tabled until the February meeting.

**--The next BISAC meeting is Tuesday, February 21 at 10:30 in Town Hall--**