



Village of Bald Head Island

NORTH CAROLINA

Memorandum

Date: March 15, 2024
To: Mayor & Village Council
From: Chris McCall, Village Manager
Subject: Manager's Report

Federal Lobbying Effort/Smith & Ward Update – (Chris/Jae/Mayor) – Staff has coordinated with Mike & Team for our DC Trip later this month (3/25-3/26) and have lined up meetings with the delegation to include legislative office staff with Senator Budd, Tillis, and Congressman Rouzer's offices in addition to the USACOE HQ's and Senate Appropriations for Energy & Water staff.

(History) – Village staff is working to coordinate a meeting with the Wilmington District to get started on the process of developing a long-term MOA for supplemental funding/Village contribution to pay the delta costs "potentially" for future SMP channel maintenance projects for beneficial use of material. The MOA would allow for "contributing funds" by the Village to pay the "delta" costs for additional sand as part of a future Corps Channel Maintenance project through the SMP (tentatively 2027). Depending on the cost-benefit analysis of the material (sand) and associated costs for dredging additional shoaled sand from the channel and placement where the Village needs the sand on the shoreline that the Village would pay the delta costs to the Corps contractor to do so. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for next week, on Tuesday (1/23), and will include Mike and two members of TFG team w/ Bradd Schwichtenberg and Earl Stockdale, both of whom have significant experience having worked for the Corps for many years.

2025 CSDR Project Permitting Update – (Chris/Jae) – As of last week the Village received the Corps "companion" permit to the State Division of Coastal Management permit received several weeks ago. Staff is still working to obtain permitting for the groin field replacement project but do not expect any issues.

***Ambulance #2 Received in Our Possession This Week** – (Josh/Zack/Chris) – ambulance was received this week and will eventually make its way to the island. Note that the radio system is on backorder but should be arriving soon for installation, at which point it will be put into active service.

***BHIC/VBHI/NCCF Oyster Reef Project Update** – (Chris) – Village/BHIC and NC Coastal Federation have partnered with Sandbar Oyster Company to construct an oyster reef located just off the north end of the new Marina Park pier/dock (referenced visuals). The project will also provide an

educational component to educate visitor the importance of oyster reefs along the estuarine shoreline. The Village approved in FY24 funds to contribute to the project along with the Conservancy and NCCF.

Verizon Cell Service Upgrades Update – (Chris) – As of yesterday’s update with Verizon representative (David Brown, Associate Director – Network Performance), as the lead project engineer out of the Raleigh office, he indicated that Crown Castle (cell tower owner) had confirmed that the Construction Drawings (CD’s) are being ordered with an estimated completion of the project in Q3.

BHI Welcome Sign Discussion – (Mayor/Chris) – Mayor and staff met w/ BHA staff and representatives of the RCB Committee to discuss a number of topics including; (1) signage at the Marina Park for the Pollinator Garden (2) Education signage for the oyster reef project, (3) use and need of outdoor spaces at Village parks (i.e., Marina Park and Commons Park) for children & teens including a basketball court, and (4) a Welcome To BHI Landmark/Sign near the intersection of NBHW and WBHW.

*Items marked with an asterisk were not orally reported during the Village Council meeting but were prepared by the Manager in preparation for the meeting. Some items are not mentioned in the interest of time or may have been covered in another staff member’s report.