

# **Beaches and Waterways Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes**

June 2, 2025, 3:00 pm- 5:00 pm

Municipal Center  
2401 Courthouse Drive  
Building #1, Rooms 1009 & 1010  
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

## **Board Members Present**

Steven “Skip” Gibson, Daniel Murphy, Joe Bourne, Bob Mandigo, Patrick Clark, Mike Hall, Connie Agresti, Brianna Nichols

## **Board Members Absent**

John Oneal, Rob Goodman, Lance Leshner

## **City Staff Present**

Tori Eisenberg – Deputy City Attorney

Toni Utterback – Public Works, City Engineer

Jim White, PE – Public Works, Acting Coastal Program Administrator

D’Juan Tucker – Public Works Admin

Skip Gibson called the June 2, 2025, Beaches and Waterways Advisory Commission meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

### **Minutes of April 7, 2025**

The April 7, 2025, Minutes were approved.

**Vote:** 6-0

### **Members voting Aye:**

Skip Gibson, Daniel Murphy, Joe Bourne, Bob Mandigo, , Mike Hall, Connie Agresti

### **Members Absent:**

John Oneal, Lance Leshner, Rob Goodman, Patrick Clark (Absent for Vote Only)

### **Members Abstain:**

Brianna Nichols ( Absent previous meeting)

## **Beach Management Plan**

### **Beach Management Plan Review**

- Members were thanked for their submissions on the beach management plan.
- Members were encouraged to log in and review the documents, making proposals and edits to ensure consistency and measurable actions.
- The previous report lacked measurable actions, and the current report aims to include specific metrics for beach operations. Suggestions were made to include more photographs in the report.

### **Civic League Engagement**

- Members were urged to engage with their civic leagues to gain support for the recommendations in the beach management plan.
- It was noted that buy-in from Civic Leagues is crucial for presenting a united front to City Council.

### **Special Tax District Discussion**

- The meeting explored the possibility of expanding special tax districts to improve beach infrastructure funding.
- Historical discussions on this topic were mentioned, indicating the need for careful consideration before making recommendations.

### **Recommendations Review**

- Participants were encouraged to read and discuss the recommendations section to reach a consensus.
- The importance of aligning the beach management plan with existing studies on sea level rise and coastal risk management was highlighted.

#### Funding Mechanism Discussion

- The need for a discussion on funding mechanisms was raised, particularly regarding SSD's.
- Concerns were expressed about property owners being asked to pay for services historically provided for free, especially in areas not funded by federal money.

#### Beach Profiles and Erosion Standards

- Beach profiles for various locations were discussed, aiding in planning for future nourishment projects.
- The discussion included the need for setting expectations regarding beach replenishment and the importance of documenting historical data.

#### Public Comment Period Planning

- A public comment period will be established once the draft documents are ready for review.
- The timeline for finalizing the recommendations was discussed, aiming for a first final draft in August.

#### Safety Concerns on the Beach

- Concerns about safety issues caused by holes on the beach were raised.
- A proposal was made to create an ordinance mandating that beachgoers fill in holes after use to prevent accidents.
- Signage was suggested to help educate the public about the dangers of leaving holes unfilled.
- The need for better emergency markers on the beach to assist with rescue operations was discussed.
- Suggestions included painting lifeguard chairs with visible numbers to improve location identification during emergencies.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 PM.