

Albemarle Citizens' Advisory Committee
College of the Albemarle
Elizabeth City, NC
May 2, 1989
7:00 pm

Attendance - See Attachment A

Dr. Chesson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He welcomed those present and suggested self-introductions be made amongst the group. He then asked for a motion of approval for the minutes of the previous two meetings, in Elizabeth City on Feb. 8, 1989 and in New Bern on Feb. 27, 1989. The motion was made by Al Howard and seconded by Bill Piland. Motion Carried.

Dr. Chesson introduced Frank Thomas III, our representative from the Backbay Foundation in Virginia, who spoke on his organization's purpose and brought Virginia's perspective to the meeting.

Program Update - Dr. Holman presented his report. See Attachment B.

Public Participation Report - Joan Giordano presented her report. See Attachment C.

Dr. Chesson then introduced Dr. Jerad Bales of the U.S. Geological Survey who spoke on "Offsite Effects of Best Management Practices." Specifically, Dr. Bales' presentation centered on the Hyde County tidegate study and flashboard risers in Beaufort County. Discussion and questions ensued.

New Business - Chairman Chesson informed the group that two new persons were added to the Policy Committee. The installation of one of them, Don Bryan, Mayor of Nags Head, has created a vacancy on our A-CAC. That brought the total of vacancies to two (the other being Watson Lawrence, Jr.). The second person named to the Policy Committee is Dr. Bill Queen, of ECU's Institute for Coastal and Marine Resources.

Preparatory to accepting names in nomination to fill the existing vacancies, Dr. Chesson briefed the group on a meeting he attended at the Albemarle COG on March 10, 1989. It was sponsored by the Farm Bureau and Dr. Chesson was the keynote speaker, invited to do so by Albert Eure. Much interest was displayed on the part of the agricultural community concerning the the A/P Study, reported Dr. Chesson and that interest led to the placing of several names in nomination for committee inclusion.

Dr. Chesson opened the floor to nominations and three were duly nominated:

Dr. Paul Lilly
Soil Scientist - Plymouth
(By Dr. Chesson & Joan Giordano)

Jeanne Meiggs
Educator - Currituck
(By Yates Barber)

Shelby Mansfield
Professor & Farmer - Shiloh
(By Earl Rountree)

A vote was held and Dr. Lilly and Shelby Mansfield were top vote getters to fill the vacancies. Their names will be submitted to the Policy Committee for final approval at their next meeting. Dr. Chesson also added that an agricultural tour will be provided by the Ag. Ext. Service on July 20, 1989 (tentative) Stan Winslow, Ag. Ext. Director from Perquimans county outlined the tour and their hopes of attracting interested participants.

In other business Carolyn Hess reiterated her organization's (Albemarle Enviromental Assoc.) search for a part-time educator for the Public Education in the Albemarle Sound Area project the A/P Study has funded. She asked the group that they refer any perspective applicants to her. Her phone # is 426-9563.

Yates Barber reported on the 13 monitoring stations his group has initiated with the Citizens' Monitoring component of the A/P Study. He added that 7 of the 13 sites were funded by local donations. In other discussion Mr. Barber reported on a resolution . See Attachment D (draft copy) put forth by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission pertaining to waters of the Currituck Sound.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm. The next meeting, an Ag. Extension tour, will be held in July, the time and place to be arranged.

Attendance

A-CAC 5/2

Name

Affiliation

Jean Gordon

Staff

Bill Pilon

A-CAC

Joe Butts

A-CAC

Cerilyn Hess

A-CAC

Yates Barber

A-CAC

Alfred M. Lawton

A-CAC

Bob Willie

UT

Paul McCallan

"

J. A. Wright

"

Stan Winslow

Perquimans Ag. Extension ^{P.O. Box 87} Hertford, N.C. 27844

Bryant Perry

Farmer (Rt. 2, Box 75 Hertford, N.C. 27944)

Jim Turner

USGS

John Stalling

ACAC

Rodney Johnson

USDA - SCS ^{412 West Queen St} Edenton, N.C. 27932

Maurice K. Berry, Jr.

Farmer

Tom Burns

CAC (Albemarle)

Frank Thomas

CAC ["] Albemarle

DON Flowers

Summer Midget

Comm. Camden Co.

MIKE CORCORAN

A-CAC

DAVID WATSON

A-CAC

WEBB FULLER

A-CAC ^{P.O. Box 99} NANKS HEAD, N.C. 27959

TOM ELLIS

Technical Committee, NC Dept. of Agriculture

TERRY PRATT

A-CAC

ALBEMARLE CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
COLLEGE OF THE ALBEMARLE
BOARDROOM
MAY 2, 1989
7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

Welcome	Dr. Chesson
Consideration of Minutes	Dr. Chesson
Program Update	Dr. Holman
Public Participation Report	Joan Giordano
Introduction of Dr. Bales	Dr. Chesson
Offsite Effects of Best Management Practices	Dr. Bales
Questions/Answers/Public Comment	
New Business	
Adjourn	

Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study
Director's Report
For The Albemarle Citizens' Advisory Committee
May 2, 1989

1. FY 1989 Budget
 - a) Approved by Policy Committee meeting March 15, 1989
 - b) March 29th - Citizens Involvement Subcommittee discussed public participation projects with 9 proposed authors
 - c) April 3rd - Technical Review Subcommittee discussed information aquisition projects with 15 proposed researchers
 - d) Last week of April - putting cooperative agreements together
2. Early Demonstration Projects
 - a) All five proposed projects have been revised based on review April 3rd and follow up conversations
 - b) Projects submitted to OMEP on April 21st for review
3. WRAL Coastal Celebration
 - a) April 8-9, 1989
 - b) N.C. State Fairgrounds (Kerr Scott Bldg.)
 - c) Joan manned exhibit (Saturday) I manned it Sunday
 - d) Events were traditional entertainers, crafts, seafood, and coastal education exhibits
 - e) Approximately 10,000 people visited Celebration during two days
 - f) Our new pamphlet was first available for this event
4. Data Management
 - a) Data Manager (A/P Study GLS Coordinator) is Chuck Nelsson who started March 27, 1989
 - b) Already talked to some researchers about integrating their data into the system
 - c) Added an addendum to the Users Needs Assessment Report
 - d) Brought a map product of LRIS of population trends from 1970 to 1980 in study area based on census data
5. Status and Trend Scoping Report
 - a) Project was funded April 1, 1989 and to be completed October 30, 1989
 - b) First meeting of the four team leaders took place April 27 and followed up with all team members in early May
6. 1989 Progress Report
 - a) Sent to all committee members and researchers
 - b) Format this year from comments of OMEP from June 30, 1988 presentation in Washington, D.C.

the Today's Aquarist 1988 Aquatic Conservation Award. The other winner was the Australia New Guinea Fishes Association, Ringwood Australia.

14) Community Outreach

Primary outreach functions:

--Organized/participated in two large-scale forums to discuss estuarine issues: Greenville Boat Show and Raleigh Save Our Sounds Festival.

--Continuing newspaper columns (20 columns written to date). The columns should start running soon in a Greenville advertising newspaper (the Times), thus giving us an outlet there for the first time.

--Presented PTRF Estuarine Study Award at Northeast Regional Science Fair, Greenville, March 17.

--Worked on setting up radio spots on environmental issues for WRRF radio in Washington. Tentatively named "Current Comments", the spots will be 2-3 minute jobs discussing an estuarine or general environmental issue.

--Contacted nearly 30 civic organizations in Beaufort, Pitt. Hyde and Edgecombe counties regarding my availability to speak.

--Ongoing/recurring projects include All Species Day, overseeing Lisa Jenkins' work, Heritage Day (Eastern Elementary in Washington), Goose Creek Education Association.

--Have met with 5 civic organizations/book clubs in April.

-- Am meeting for full class days with A.G. Cox science students.

--Set for week-long seminar with Washington High School biology classes.

Public Participation Coordinator's Report

- 1) Public Involvement Plan (PIP) was finalized on March 29th. Final versions will be sent to all CACs, TC & PC.
- 2) The glossy, full-color brochure describing the A/P Study is complete and being distributed.
- 3) Newsletter is in the mail.
- 4) Newsletter mailing list is constantly being updated.
- 5) Lib Willard's PSAs, 5 @ 30 seconds each, are complete and have been reviewed by the Publications Review Subcommittee of the Technical Committee. They are being distributed to 18 T.V. stations throughout the study area in N.C. and Virginia.
- 6) Our A/P Study exhibit has had new photos displayed (depicting the same areas of concern) and also boasts a magnificent satellite photo of study area. Exhibit appeared at WRAL-TV's Coastal Celebration in Raleigh April 8th and 9th. The exhibit will travel to festivals throughout the study area before going to the Fort Fisher aquarium in Wilmington.
- 7) Public Participation staff is soliciting/collecting 50 photos for State of the Estuaries Booklet. Scheduled date of completion is September 1989.
- 8) Guide to streamwalking booklet is in draft state and being reviewed/edited.
- 9) Citizens' monitoring program is very active with 54 stations collecting data as of the end of March.
- 10) Teacher Environmental Workshops are nearly completed with the 4th of 4 occurring on May 13th at the Aquarium in Manteo. Follow-up and on-site portion is being held on May 20th on the Outer Banks. Approximately 40 teachers have participated to date.
- 11) A rough-up of the 1990 A/P Study calendar has been completed. The educational wording, quotes, and important dates have been determined. Pictures need to be decided upon.
- 12) State Fair Exhibit 10/13-10/22. NRCDC is adopting a central theme of "Wetlands" this year for the Department's entry at the fair. Each division of the Department will develop a portion of the exhibit depicting its division's involvement with wetlands. For example, Coastal Management is building a salt marsh; Parks and Recreation is doing an animal habitat; APES' contribution will be a primary nursery area. The exhibits should be no larger than 3'x 4'.
- 13) The "Secrets of the Salt Marsh" exhibit at the N.C. Aquarium in Manteo (which the A/P Study funded in part) was one of two winners of

Today's Aquarist

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N.C. Aquarium, ANGFA Win 1988 TA Conservation Awards

The winners of the *TODAY'S AQUARIST* 1988 Aquatic Conservation Awards are the North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island, Manteo, NC, and the Australia New Guinea Fishes Association, Ringwood, Australia.

North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island was selected as the winner in the public aquarium category for its exhibit "Secrets of the Salt Marsh". The 1,500-sq.-ft. exhibit is designed to educate the public about the value of North Carolina's marshes and estuaries. The exhibit features an estuarine touch tank, video system, interpretative graphics, an interactive computer center, a 1,100-gallon aquarium and a discovery room equipped with projection microscopes and computers.

The touch tank allows visitors to view and handle marine animals that inhabit the salt marshes and shoreline while the video system informs visitors about the animals' life cycles. A built-in teaching station allows live animal presentations. The interpretative graphics acquaint the public with the ecology of the salt marsh while the interactive computer center provides information on problems facing the sounds and marshes of the region. The 1,100-gallon aquarium featuring striped bass shows the recreational and commercial value of the estuarine system. The discovery room is a functional learning center for children and adults.

The exhibit was sponsored by the North Carolina Aquarium Society (a private non-profit support group for the North Carolina Aquariums) and was made possible by grants from the Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study, North Carolina Power Company, Carolina Telephone and Telegraph, and Sears, Roebuck & Company. Aquarium director is Rhett B. White.

The North Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke

Island is one of three state aquariums along the coast, all under the supervision of the North Carolina Department of Administration.

Australians Win Society Award

In addition to an award for the public aquarium which has done the most to foster aquatic conservation, *TA* and Pisces Publishing Co. annually offer an aquatic conservation award to an aquarium society.

This year's winner is the Australia New Guinea Fishes Association (ANGFA) for its Project Eachamensis.

Melanotaenia eachamensis is a small rainbowfish endemic only to Lake Eacham, a small crater lake in northern Queensland. Although the lake is located in a national park, and has no inflowing streams, introduced species apparently caused the Lake Eacham rainbowfish to become extinct in the wild. The only known fish left in existence were about 20 males and four females held in captivity by ANGFA members.

To date ANGFA's Project Eachamensis has supplied young fish from its breeding program to Walkamin Research Station (where there are now about 60 adults) and to Taronga Park Zoo Public Aquarium. Supplies for other public aquariums are planned. The breeding program is assisted by an A\$1,000 grant from Australian Geographic magazine. Principals involved in the project are Alex Caughey, project coordinator, publicity; Ron Bowman, breeding coordinator; John West of the Taronga Park Zoo Public Aquarium, zoo breeding, public display; Chris Barlow of Walkamin Research Station, Queensland Department of Primary Industry, original research, establishment of captive population, government lobbying; and Dick Smith of Australian Geographic.

The annual Aquatic Conservation Awards

Radio PSA Campaign
Distribution List
(Melva Okun)
. Began 4/18/89

WKIX - Raleigh

WWOK/WGAI - Elizabeth City

WZBO - Edenton

WNCT - Greenville

WCBG - Murfreesboro

WOBR - Wanchese

WITN/WDLV - Washington

WRHT - Morehead City

WBTB - Newport

WSFL - New Bern

Video PSA Campaign
(Melva Okun)
Distribution List
12/2/88

- WCTI - New Bern, Began running at Christmas time. Will run through
4/1/89. 5:30-6:00pm
9:00-11:00am
Midnight
- WNCT - Greenville, Began 1/25/89. Will run 6 months; 3-4 times a day
probably 8:00-11:00 am slot.
- WITN - Washington, Began in February. Ran at least once a day.
Reloading for April.
- WPTF - Raleigh, Began last of December. Ran 2X/day and 3X/day on
weekends. Ran for 3 months. Returned 4/15/89.
- WTVD - Durham, Declined running them. "Not clear enough message."
- WRAL - Raleigh, Began in February. Ran only one (Secchi disc). 2x/day,
then off 1 day; then 2x/day. Cannot be sure of duration.
- WWAY - Wilmington, No interest.
- WECT - Wilmington, Declined, said "the bulk of their viewing area lies
outside of Study area."
- WAVY - Portsmouth, Va. - Very unresponsive. Have asked for
intercession by John Carlock S.E. Va. Planning Commission for
Lib Willard's PSA campaign.

State of the Estuaries T.V. Public Service Campaign
Distribution List
Began 4/6/89

WPCQ - Charlotte
WSOC - Charlotte
WBTW - Charlotte
WPTF - Durham/Raleigh
WTVD - Durham/Raleigh/Fayetteville
WKFT - Fayetteville
WNCN - Greenville
WXII - Greensboro/High Point/ Winston-Salem
WGHP - Greensboro/ High Point/Winston-Salem
WFMY - Greensboro/High Point/ Winston-Salem
WCTI - New Bern
WLFL - Raleigh
WRAL - Raleigh/Durham
WITN - Washington/Greenville/New Bern
WWAY - Wilmington
WECT - Wilmington
WJZY - Charlotte
WAVY - Portsmouth, Va.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION

Whereas, Currituck Sound is one of NC's most productive brackish water Sounds, providing exceptional quality of habitats for waterfowl, water birds, and other migratory birds, including species listed on endangered, threatened or special concern lists; and

Whereas, Currituck Sound is a highly productive brackish water estuary serving as nursery grounds for large populations of marine fishes and supporting major populations of fresh and salt water species of fin fish and crustaceans, providing opportunities for recreational and commercial fisheries; and

Whereas, submerged aquatic vegetation of many species is a vital factor in the habitat and food chains for the various fish and wildlife species which use Currituck Sound; and

Whereas, there has been a major decrease in the abundance of SAV in Currituck Sound during the past several years, apparently caused by increases in salinity, fluctuations in salinity, and other changes in water quality; and

Whereas, it has been determined that several factors are contributing to these changes in water quality and especially increases and fluctuations in salinity; and

Whereas, it is apparent that one of these factors is the existence of Virginia Beach Canal #2 (previously unknown to N.C. interests), connecting Currituck Sound and Chesapeake Bay by way of North Landing River, Westneck Creek, Va Beach Canal #2, London Bridge Cr, Eastern Branch Lynnhaven River and Lynnhaven Inlet; and

Whereas this unregulated sealevel canal apparently results in introduction of substantial amounts of salt water to the head of Currituck Sound and loss of freshwater from Currituck Sound to Lynnhaven River under various conditions and combinations of wind, tide, and other weather factors; and

Whereas, the U S Army Corps of Engineers is nearing completion of construction of another larger flood control canal (Va Beach Stream Canal #2) in the Lynnhaven area, and the City of Va Beach now holds a permit to deepen and enlarge the channel of the Eastern Branch of Lynnhaven River; and

Whereas, it is obvious that these two projects will further alter and endanger the water quality and the habitat in Currituck Sound, N.C.; and,

DRAFT

Whereas, the NCWRC at its meeting in Raleigh, N.C. on Feb. 21, 1969 passed a resolution (copy attached) calling for all appropriate actions by the Commission & its employees so as to protect Currituck Sound and its resources from adverse impacts of Virginia Beach, VA activities; and,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, by the Non-Game Advisory Committee of the NC Wildlife Resources Committee, at it meeting at the NCWRC offices in Raleigh, N.C. on April 20, 1989, that it is recommended to the NCWRC that it fund, staff and execute appropriate biological studies of Currituck Sound to determine the status and trends of SAV and of fish and wildlife populations in Currituck Sound and to determine possible corrective measures that may be needed to restore the habitat quality & fish & wildlife resources of Currituck Sound; such studies to be undertaken at once, before the Corps opens it new canal or Va. Beach dredges the Eastern Branch of Lynnhaven River.



James A. Graham • Commissioner
William G. Parham, Jr. • Deputy Commissioner

Ray Forrest
Assistant Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Agricultural Leaders
FROM: Tom Ellis *Tom*
DATE: May 24, 1989
SUBJECT: Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study Update

The Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Study will soon enter its third funding year. The purpose of this five-year project is to develop a management plan to protect and enhance the water quality and biological resources of the Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds and their tributaries.

Through the resource managers, various data gaps and information needs have been identified. Research proposals have been solicited, reviewed and funded. General areas of research have included Water Quality, Critical Habitats, Fisheries and the Human Environment. Additionally monitoring and public participation are also large elements of this diverse effort.

Agriculturally related projects have fared well in all three years of funding, especially considering the multitude of interests and activities which occur from Raleigh to the coast.

For 1989-90 the following agriculturally related projects have been approved for funding totalling \$176,674.

- Hyde County Soil Survey - third year
- USGS - Water management BMP Evaluation
- NCSU - Agricultural Leadership Training - Hoban, Humenik, Cook, etc.
- NCSU - Survey of Public Attitudes - Hoban

An additional \$106,789 has been requested for the Implementation and Evaluation of BMP's for Animal Waste Management by the Area 5 Soil and Water Conservation Districts. This is to install solid set animal waste systems and to evaluate their effectiveness in utilizing swine wastes while preventing nutrient runoff. This was the number two priority implementation project from APES. The number one project, Urban BMP's for Greenville, has been tentatively approved. Additional funds may be available for other North Carolina projects.

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During the first two years of the APES effort, agricultural projects have received \$239,089. This has funded work by Skaggs and Gilliam of NCSU on Water and Soils Management, Bales of USGS on Water Management BMP's and has assisted in the development of a Soil Survey for Hyde County.

In 1988, 100% of the Early Implementation Funds went to agricultural projects. The Gates County, Merchants Millpond State Park Watershed BMP Project and Hyde County Water Management Project were funded to approximately \$350,000. Due to siting problems in Hyde County, these funds were utilized for the first phase of the Solid Set Animal Waste Management Project and to begin the implementation of BMP's in the Chowan River watershed of Virginia.

The \$872,000 dollars committed to or received for agricultural projects thus far is 13.5% of the total project funding (including all research, data management, public participation, monitoring, implementation and administration).

Interest in the agricultural element of the region has been considerable. Since the effort began, APES committees have been involved in five agricultural tours.

August 1987 - EPA Tour of BMPs
October 1987 - Pamlico CAC Tour - BMPs in Hyde County
April 1988 - Media Tour - Ag BMP's in Hyde and Beaufort Co.
May 1988 - Albemarle CAC Tour of BMP's - Edenton Area
May 1989 - Pamlico CAC - BMP's and Water Management in
Hyde County

The Extension Service has invited the Albemarle CAC to attend another tour on July 20. Understanding of the farm element is essential to the development of a workable management plan.

EPA's Region IV Deputy Administrator, Lee DeHihns (Co-Chair of the Policy Committee), toured with the Albemarle CAC in 1988. At the annual APES conference he stated that North Carolina's Agricultural Cost Share Program is the best in the nation. Bruce Barrett, the Region IV Director of EPA's Water Division (Co-Chair of the Technical Committee), attended the initial EPA BMP tour in 1987 and has become a strong program supporter.

In the past few months three new agriculturally oriented individuals have been added to the Citizen Advisory Committees. Scotty Whitford of Pamlico County joined the Pamlico CAC last fall. Paul Lilly of NCSU, stationed in Plymouth at the Tidewater Research Station, and Shelby Mansfield of Camden County have recently been recommended to join the Albemarle CAC.

These new members are valuable additions to the agricultural representation in APES. By last count direct agricultural representation on the two CAC's is nine, on the Technical Committee four and on the Policy Committee none. This does not include other members with whom we have worked over the years and who understand farm programs and needs.

Attached is a copy of the latest APES newsletter, The Albemarle-Pamlico Advocate. If you are not currently on the mailing list and would like to be, let me know.

As the APES program progresses, I will try to keep you informed of meetings, events and research activities. If you have suggestions or recommendations, please contact me or another program participant or the APES staff. Public input is extremely valuable and the view of the agricultural community is essential.

TE:bhm

Attachments