

NC Coastal Resources Advisory Council
February 26, 2025
Double Tree New Bern Riverfront
New Bern, NC

Attendance

Robert “Bobby” Outten (Chair)
Kyle Breuer
Daniel Brinn
Sandy Cross
Ryan Davenport
David Hewett
Kris Noble

David Kellam
Kathleen Riely
Debbie Smith
John Spruill
Dave Weaver
John Windley
Candy Bohmert

Call to Order

Bobby Outten called the meeting to order with 10 members in attendance.

Permitting Pathways for Sentinel Sites

The CRAC discussed permitting pathways for sentinel sites. These devices monitor storms during storm events, and they do not fit well with the existing CRC rules. A major part of the discussion revolved around notice requirements. Staff were asked to work on the requirement for a signature for notice and permission to install these devices. A minor permit with a time-limited expiration seemed like the best option. Following the CRAC’s review of draft language it will be brought to the full Commission for discussion.

Artificial Turf Grass Updates

The next issue, to be revisited in more detail, was artificial turf grass. Artificial turf grass is currently not allowed in the CAMA 30-foot buffer. Jonathan Lucas gave a presentation on the pros and cons. The CRAC asked staff to come back with rules that would allow the material within the buffer, but with conditions to mitigate the negative impacts that could occur. The CRAC will review this rule language and determine whether to bring it forward to the CRC or recommend that the rules remain the same.

Shorelock: Brief Product Overview

The CRAC received a presentation by the individuals responsible for inventing “ShoreLock”. This project is a sand additive that may preserve beaches by decreasing erosion rates. Costs for nourishment are going up and sand resources are going down. The CRAC asked staff to come back with current rules and its opinion on whether use of this product could be allowed by the Commission’s rules.

Public Comment

Kathleen Riely brought up a conversation regarding the Beach and Inlet Management Plan (BIMP). Several years ago, the CRC wrote a letter of support for funding the update of the BIMP. The BIMP needs to be updated. Following discussion, the CRAC requests the CRC to send a letter of support for funding from legislature.

Adjourn

With no further business the Council adjourned