



### Approved Minutes for 8/3/20 BEAT Board Meeting

President Pete Key called the meeting, which was held via Zoom due to the ongoing pandemic, to order at about 6:10 pm. The following board members were present with Dwight Willis joining about halfway through the meeting: Pete Key, Linda Eastman, Dan George, Sybil Burgess Murray, Marilyn Priddy, and Jennifer Swift.

Dan made a motion to accept the minutes of the June Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Linda, and the motion passed unanimously.

Marilyn asked if there were items to add to the agenda. Dan noted that Item #5 under Old Business (*NCGA moving to block offshore Seismic after Feds plan to open up NC waters*) should indicate waters 3 miles offshore rather than NC waters. This led to a discussion about the next steps in the opposition to offshore seismic blasting. There were questions about whether NC would sue the federal government or appeal their decision (Department of Commerce). Pete and Dan asked if BEAT could join litigation, perhaps by OCEANA, NCDEQ or SELC. Pete said he would email the DEQ and Jennifer said she would call the SELC for more information.

Pete said there was no Treasurer report.

Marilyn suggested BEAT schedule an election soon so new officers could be elected. She said she did not plan on being Secretary for more than a year when she accepted the position. Jennifer said she did not know how the organization could pull off an election without meeting in person. Marilyn said the LWV recently held their annual meeting by Zoom and it included an election, but they also had a Nominating Committee.

Pete said he saw in the Cape Fear River Watch newsletter that they were starting their summer camp this week at Greenfield Lake. Board members decided to take no action this year to sponsor kids to attend the camp due to transportation issues that would be difficult to arrange due to the pandemic. Kids attending the CFRW camp this summer have to provide their own transportation. Members decided to include camp sponsorships in next year's plans.

Pete described water emissions from CPI and their processes. He said there will be an air quality permit hearing in November (no date yet). He said NCDEQ let them slide on their water permit by allowing a change in terminology. What was previously listed as residue from a coal ash pit was changed to *wash water*, which loosened some requirements. He said CPI was required to do more water sampling as part of their water permit. He also reported that the SELC decided not to appeal the water permit decision since they felt the air permit would be a bigger fight. Members talked about how to involve Southport residents. Marilyn suggested members of Martha Johnson's Indivisible group would be interested. Dwight noted the importance of county wide involvement for pocket issues and cited the methyl bromide issue in northern BC as an example. Members discussed having a Zoom meeting with a live Facebook stream and perhaps inviting Dr. Calhoun to speak.

Ted was not available to provide an update on the Jinks Creek dredging issue.



Dan said he planned to attend the virtual DEQ hearing on August 4<sup>th</sup> about Chemour's recent discharge into the Cape Fear River, but had not sign up to speak. Dwight mentioned the Ted Davis race in Wilmington and the opposition by NC Conservation League for his failure to protect our environment.

Pete read an email from Randy Sturgill about Plastics Conference. No Board members indicated interest in attending; Pete said he would ask Bob Jakus to post information about attending the conference on the BEAT website.

Regarding engaging membership, Jennifer offered to reach out to each member on the membership list. Marilyn had to leave the meeting before adjournment. Pete provided the following notes:

1. *A vote was taken to postpone elections until at least the New Year. Dan moved that we do so and Dwight seconded. Unanimous vote to do so.*
2. *Discussion of the Navassa Superfund. Dan spoke about movement there with the river walk and a new medical products production facility.*
3. *Set next Meeting for September 7th at 6 pm on Labor Day. Everyone left on the call said they could attend. (Dwight and Marilyn having left for other meetings).*
4. *Pete called to adjourn the meeting at 7:03. Dan seconded. Unanimous call to adjourn.*