

Albemarle-Pamlico Citizen's Advisory Committee
Moratoc Park
Williamston, N.C.
August 6, 1991
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Program Update - Chairman Brewster Brown and Derb Carter presided at the August 6, 1991 joint meeting of the Albemarle and Pamlico Citizen's Advisory Committees held in Williamston. A/P Study Director Randy Waite gave the program status report, noting that a comparative analysis of past years' budgets was now available, detailing where A/P monies had been spent over the years. Copies of next year's (FY 91-92) budget, almost finalized pending negotiations with the investigators, were distributed to the members. Waite briefly discussed the long term budget, calling the members' attention to three items of interest. The first item on page one was the reversion of \$5,761 in state monies not spent by year's end. Waite noted another reversion of \$5,761 in funds on the bottom of page two of the budget. On page four under indirect, Waite explained that between the years of 1986-90, the state charged the program \$33,830 in indirect or overhead charges on all federally funded positions. On page five of the budget, the 1991 indirect is assumed to be around \$5,000. Grand totals through summer 1991 are listed on the last page with EPA funds totaling over 5 million dollars and state appropriations totaling 1.8 million dollars. Two projects are still up in the air at this time; included is work by: Costanza and Noga/Engel.

Waite discussed the three early demonstration projects submitted to EPA for funding, noting that only one was successful, that being the animal composting project by Jim Cummings (Division of Soil & Water). The other two projects were submitted by Bill Hogarth (Division of Marine Fisheries) and Walter Clark of Sea Grant (NCSU). They dealt with implementing alternative fishing gear and ordinance development for Clark's water use plan, respectively.

Waite reported to the members on the continuing discussion surrounding formation of the CCMP Development Steering Committee. The Technical Committee questioned the usefulness of a 40 member committee and recommended one with 10 members. The Policy Committee then debated a 40 versus 10 member committee, deciding to develop ad hoc committees as needed through the whole process instead. Small committees will be set up for each issue being examined, Waite explained, saying that essentially there would be lots of committees with everyone having a chance to take part somewhere along the process. Additionally, the target Environmental Goals were discussed, and it was brought out that the goals were very broad in scope and not very definitive. The Policy Committee directed the Technical Committee to develop quantitative objectives to better define those goals. Waite set up work groups to develop the objectives. Membership included Technical Committee members, outside experts, and CAC representatives. The work groups began by consulting the Blueprint for CAC recommendations. Brewster Brown expressed his belief in the validity of having a large membership on the CCMP Development Steering Committee and said he would bring the issue up again to the Policy Committee. Waite explained to the members what the work groups were doing in concept. He assured the committee members that in the future the names of participants in all work groups would be made available to the CAC members and that meetings of those groups would be more widely publicized to allow interested

CAC members to attend or get comments to the members of the group.

Waite also noted that he liked the setup of smaller, short term work groups where everyone has a role to play. "We will continue to take input throughout the whole process and try to use people where they'll be most useful," he told the members. "The work groups are beginning to focus on issues, and they need people there who know the Programs." Some members questioned the extensive involvement of agency people in the work groups, as agency people aren't perceived to be "goals and objectives" people. CAC members also have valuable input and expertise to provide to the process. Waite noted that the goals were consistent with the CAC's Blueprint, that agency folks are needed to develop quantifiable objectives, and CAC members are on the work groups specifically for their valuable input. Debate continued on work group number, composition and expertise.

Technical Report - Jennifer Steel related the status of the Technical reports, stating that two reports on Oysters and Shell Disease in Blue Crabs are in final form. The Technical Coordinator explained she is currently working with five principal investigators on the following reports: Nutrient Reduction Through Wetlands, Coupling Study, Nonpoint Source Handbook, Neuse River Report and Citizen's Handbook - Coastal Water Resources. Steel also reported that she has put together a summary of APES - funded projects over the past four years, both completed and on-going projects. In addition, the Status and Trends Report is now in final proofing stages.

Public Involvement Report - Joan Giordano began the public involvement report by noting that the APES exhibits are in full use. She gave the members a brief report on the six public service announcements which are designed to target specific user groups in the A/P study region. These will be sent to area television stations expressing an interest in using them. The CAC members then previewed the PSAs. Tipsheets have also been prepared in conjunction with the PSAs and will be available upon request from the program offices in Washington and Raleigh.

Giordano told the CACs that the fact sheets are in various stages of completion and stated the Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium exhibit will not be ready until the spring of 1992. The second edition of the new formatted APES newsletter has been printed and mailed out and copies were available at the meeting for members to take and distribute in their local libraries.

Giordano ended her report by discussing upcoming meetings. the Roundtable and Policy Committee meetings will be held in Kill Devil Hills on August 28 and 29. October 12, 1991 is the date for the Annual Meeting in Manteo. The day-long event will be a festival, complete with vendor booths, entertainers, and social and scientific activities, all family-oriented and held on the Manteo waterfront. the preceding afternoon, October 11, from 1:00- 6:00 p.m., will be dedicated to the Annual Researchers' Review at the Aquarium in Manteo.

Striped Bass Report - Guest speaker for the evening was Bill Cole, South Atlantic Fisheries Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who reported on the N.C. Striped Bass Study which Congress authorized in 1988. Section V of the act addressed the Roanoke-Albemarle fish stocks and provided for a study of Striped Bass in that basin. Cole informed the group of the board's composition, its charge and named the agencies involved. He also thanked the A/P Study program staff for its full participation in the Striped Bass Study, noting that both

studies have mutual projects and co-share in funding. Cole stated the Striped Bass Draft Report will be released for review and comment on August 16. Public hearings to receive comments on the draft will be held in Edenton on September 25 and in Weldon on September 26. November 3, 1991 is the due date for the final study to be presented to Congress, Cole said. The speaker then distributed copies of the report's table of contents, explaining that the description of the Albemarle Sound/Roanoke River Basin was divided into three units: upper basin, lower basin and Albemarle Sound and adjacent waters. Cole told the CAC members that the report's researchers looked at specific issues including land use in the Study area, using the GIS system, and water use in the basin. A description of the fish stock itself revealed that Striped bass is the third largest population on the Atlantic Coast. Cole credited the study with helping to produce a cooperative agreement between the Division of Marine Fisheries and the Wildlife Resources Commission and the first management area effort on any species in North Carolina in over a decade. The agreement limits harvest and also divides areas of management into two units. The strategies implemented appear to be working, Cole noted. In conclusion, Cole told the members a source document would be appended to the N.C. Striped Bass Study and suggested it could prove useful for CCMP development in regard to the Albemarle/Roanoke Basin area. During a question and answer period, Cole offered some advice in drafting the CCMP. "Take a big management viewpoint," he suggested, "solve those things you can solve, and hope you solve enough of them correctly to overcome what you can't understand and what you can do little about."

Waite introduced the final business of the evening by distributing copies of preliminary environmental goals and objectives drafted by the work groups. He explained this was a first draft effort in setting specific objectives and determining what information remains to be considered. Following review and discussion of the draft outline, Waite asked the CAC members if the work groups were headed in the right direction. Several members stressed the need for more quantifiable objectives. Chairman Carter suggested that the CAC members review the draft outline and return comments to the staff on both the outline and the process of developing environmental goals and objectives. Waite commented he would like to see an outline for the CCMP as the next step and suggested forming a work group toward that end and entertaining nominations for the group.

In final business, Chairman Brown announced the next scheduled joint CAC meeting will be held at a location south of Washington and will include the election of officers. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.