

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEES
KHDR Washington Regional Office
Washington, N. C.

February 4, 1992
7:00 p.m.

The joint session of the Albemarle-Pamlico Citizens' Advisory Committees was called to order by A-CAC Vice-Chair, John Stallings, at 7:10 p.m. Upon welcoming the group and referencing the agenda, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting (October 29, 1991). A motion by Luther Daniels was seconded by Dick Leach to accept the minutes as written. Motion passed. Mr. Stallings then called upon Randy Waite, APES Program Director, for his report.

Mr. Waite reported that the staff was working on the writing of five action plans, (Critical Areas, Human Environment, Fisheries, Water Quality and Public Involvement & Education) and that they will be part of the CCMP. The action plans, which he indicated would be discussed later in the meeting, are a summary of the issue papers used at the December workshop meetings held in Washington and subsequent comments received relative to those issue papers.

Mr. Waite continued with his report. Coastal America - (a federal cooperative agency granting system) - has awarded APES \$100,000 for a project APES submitted dealing with the opening of anadromous fish pathways that might be blocked by lowhead dams or road culverts. A cooperative project, APES is working along with the NCDOT, NCDMF, Wildlife Resources Commission, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, the U. S. Corps of Engineers and the EPA.

Two newly proposed (10/91) projects by Dr. Joanne Burkholder from N. C. State have been funded. They are Nitrate Toxicity to Sea Grasses and a project dealing with a Toxic Dinoflagellate or algae implicated in fish kills in the Pamlico. Draft results are expected by late June to ensure the use of Dr. Burkholder's research as part of our draft management plan. Discussion ensued concerning the dinoflagellate and the ability to kill the dinoflagellate. Mr. Waite reported that the only successful means of destroying it has been with very strong bleach, although it is thought that a protozoan, which occurs naturally in the wild, does eat it. It is also thought that nutrients affect this type of algae and that a nutrient imbalance might give the algae a new advantage. The algae has probably been present in the water a long time, but the question remains "Why hasn't it been a problem before recent times?"

Mr. Waite continued with his reporting stating that another project we funded, in cooperation with the Nature Conservancy, deals with the Nature Conservancy using our GIS to do natural area planning on a very localized level. This is a much more specific use than that for which we've been using the system. APES' part in this project, other than donating time from our computer folks, amounts to \$2500 to help them fund a technical assistant for their side of the project.

Another effort with which APES is involved is the funding of \$2000 towards a sediment project Stan Riggs is doing in the upper Currituck area (at the NC/Va. line) to look at the effects of dredging (by the Army Corps). Total cost of the project is \$10,000 and \$3000 of it was to come from another agency. That fell through, and since the work is nearly complete, it was decided APES should cover the \$3000 shortfall. That additional funding amount will represent 50% funding by APES and 50% by the County of Currituck. Mr. Yates Barber elaborated on the project saying Dr. Riggs' work has revealed that the finer particles of sediment are being resuspended and carried

wherever the water flows and it naturally flows south into Currituck Sound. It is felt that this research will aid arguments for going to the Army Corps and trying to secure some kind of "on-land confining of spoils" in the future to protect water quality in the area. Mr. Barber added that Riggs' samples have been analyzed for metals and will appear in the Currituck section of the Albemarle sediment report also being done by Stan Riggs.

Mr. Waite continued, emphasizing that the cost sharing of Riggs' work with Currituck County is the type of thing we need to do more of with local governments. Mr. Barber added that this is the second time Currituck County came through when we needed them. They gave \$8,000 for an acoustical velocity meter which was installed in Coinjock Canal to determine types of flows there.

Mr. Waite discussed the sediment toxicity work in progress. Samples have been collected from six dirty sites and four clean sites have been sent to the EPA lab in Gulf Breeze, Fla. for testing. The sediment toxicity testing being done there will show us if the sites are actually showing toxicity in a laboratory setting and will give us some indication of just how bad the problem is rather than guessing at it. A question arose as to whether Dr. Riggs was doing all of the sediment work. Mr. Waite answered that Dr. Riggs took duplicate samples so he could analyze the metals, but that the Gulf Breeze Lab is actually running toxicity tests. They're also analyzing metals and organics which is one thing Dr. Riggs has not run under his project, so it's possible we can get some interesting information. If there is toxicity, there's always a chance that it may be an organic pollution instead of the metals.

Mr. Waite then turned to the topic of the APES annual report. He thought the report could be improved upon from years past in that it needed to be made a little more exciting in content and format. It then could be used as a marketing tool for publicizing and selling the program. The revamping of the document is being done on a contract basis.

Mr. Waite then called on Joan Giordano to give the Public Involvement Coordinator's report. Mrs. Giordano reported that the Public Service Announcements (PSAs) are currently running on eight stations; 2 in Wilmington, 1 each in Washington, Raleigh, Greenville, Durham, Winston-Salem and Morehead City. She added that 20 stations were contacted to request airing them, but that we were turned down by a few (5). We are substituting those refusals with other choices.

On the topic of program fact sheets, Mrs. Giordano reported that the first set of five (for the Albemarle region) were available. She distributed a sample to the group and added that the fact sheets being prepared on the Pamlico area (3), the southeastern Virginia region (4) and the synopsis of ten funded projects selected by the CACs for reporting, are in various stages of completion. The entire study area will be represented through the fact sheets and they will be similar in format. They will make a complete packet of information when completed. She added that APES was working with the USF&WS on another series of fact sheets dealing with particular topics of interest.

The "Life in the Estuary" poster, which depicts man's impact on the estuary, is a companion piece to last year's poster. It has been returned to the artist for further work and a new rendering of the concept is expected shortly.

The education modules for grades K-6 have been returned to the author with comments after an extensive review. Those comments are being incorporated into the modules and the accompanying activities outlined in the material are being tested with the children. Some of the activities proved to be a little too sophisticated for the grade levels at which they were directed, so technical adjustments are being made. Mrs. Giordano added that this project is also part of the fifth cycle funding period, and during that time the teaching modules would be duplicated and teachers would be taught to use them. Mrs. Giordano continued reporting that the newsletter is on schedule and the next issue will be appearing in April. The video produced by the program on the Geographic Information System (GIS) was distributed to the planners and/or county managers in all thirty-six counties in the N. C. portion of the study area, and shortly will be distributed to the Va. portion. The GIS is an invaluable tool for planning and managing and has been very well received by public officials, developers and interested citizens.

Lastly, Mrs. Giordano reported on outreach efforts in the region and on the Citizens' Water Quality Monitoring Network. She indicated that presentations to civic groups, schools and local officials continue with visits too numerous to list. A listing can be had by contacting her. The CWQM program is going full-tilt. The program is considering going to a "two-tier" format that will allow more experienced volunteer participants to become involved with more advanced and specialized monitoring. Their efforts will probably be more site and issue specific and may not involve long-term data collection, but would be focused on more immediate, "actionable" data collection.

Mr. Waite then called for the Technical Coordinator's report. Kristen Rowles reported for Jennifer Steel. The issue papers that were reviewed by the workgroups in early December were being rewritten with comments and input received at the meetings and afterward. The revised papers were then sent out in January for more review. The January comments are being incorporated and will be rewritten as CCMP action plans. The drafts of the action plans will be ready in early March and will be sent to all CAC members. She reported that Jennifer Steel, Meg Scully and she were working on the Water Quality, Fisheries, Critical Areas and the Human Environment and Monetary Action Plans; that Joan Giordano and Robbie Blinkoff were preparing the Public Involvement and Education Action Plan; and that Karen Siderelis, from the Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (CGIA), was doing the Data Management Action Plan.

Additionally, she reported that the technical staff was preparing papers to be used at the "affected parties" workgroup meetings scheduled for the weeks of February 10th and 17th.

Turning to research projects scheduled for completion shortly, Miss Rowles reported that the urban stormwater detention pond project in Greenville, the land-use, land-cover project by CGIA and Joy Bartholomew's report on management activities in other estuary programs were having final revisions made.

In other areas she reported that the Policy Committee stressed the need to revise the information on wetlands in the Status and Trends Report because they felt it was dated and incomplete. A subcommittee was formed by the Policy Committee to revise that section and the subcommittee appointed a task force to do the actual writing of the revisions.

The financial management plan done by APOGEE, a consulting firm from Maryland on contract to the NEPs through EPA, was submitted to the program in December. It included a series of financial options for CCMP recommendations and basic economic information, which is being researched by a contract worker, Charlie Loeb. He is looking at the legal and political aspects of each of the options and their feasibility for use. His report is due in early March and it is hoped that it will be included in the next new drafts of the action plans.

Acting Chairman Stallings then called upon Mr. Waite to describe the upcoming "affected parties" meetings. Waite told the group that they were aimed at those segments of the population that were probably going to be impacted by CCMP recommendations (forestry, agriculture, fishermen, public officials, developers, environmentalists and end of pipe dischargers) and explained that the program wanted their input early in the CCMP development process. Waite then went on to explain that development of the CCMP would progress in such a manner that all the committees, Policy Committee, Technical Committee and CACs would have the opportunity to review it during all phases.

Discussion then turned to the format being employed for conducting the "affected parties" meetings. Waite replied that they each will begin with an overview of the program to bring participants up to speed, and then will continue with a discussion of management options. The facilitators we've hired are skillful and the aim is to clearly hear the concerns of each group so that we can strive towards consensus building. Our contractor, the N. C. Coastal Federation, will summarize each of the meetings for us in a written report of the proceedings.

The next agenda item for consideration was CCMP development. Mr. Waite called on the technical staff and Mrs. Giordano to report on the action plans being prepared for their particular program area. Meg Scully reported on the critical areas and human environment action plans stating that there are basically 10 areas that are being looked at under Critical areas. These include to (1) develop a statewide comprehensive wetlands protection policy with a goal of first avoiding, second minimizing, and third compensating wetland impacts, (2) develop a state wetlands mitigation program of wetlands enhancement, restoration, and creation, (3) promote coordinated inventory and mapping of critical areas, (4) prioritize critical areas for acquisition and encourage state and private acquisition programs, (5) expand private protection incentives and strategies, (6) encourage and assist local governments in critical areas preservation and conservation, (7) strengthen enforcement and protection strategies of existing programs, (8) require buffer zones for critical area protection, (9) develop voluntary wildlife corridors through harvest areas, and (10) increase public education on critical areas protection. The A/P study is considering the following management options for the human environment: (1) require and fund all A/P counties and municipalities to develop enforceable land and water use plans which promote natural area preservation and conservation, (2) promote cooperative planning efforts among various agencies and jurisdictions (3) develop a comprehensive public access plan and public trust legislation in cooperation with local governments to recognize and implement public trust rights, and (4) maintain a central database with state funding of all planning-related information for use in local planning efforts.

Kristen Rowles reported on the Fisheries and Water Quality Action Plans. In the Fisheries Plan, the management options will recommend the following: (1) continuous collection of data on finfish and shellfish kills and diseases, (2) minimization of human impacts where they are found to contribute to causes of fish and shellfish diseases and kills, (3) official designation of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) beds, shellfish beds, spawning areas, and additional nursery areas, (4) protection of these areas from adverse water quality and water flow conditions and physical degradation, (5) state acquisition and incentives for private conservation measures on lands associated with critical fish and shellfish habitats, (6) restoration of degraded critical fish and shellfish habitats, (7) development of state fish management plans, (8) authority to establish limited entry, (9) restocking efforts, (10) prohibition of the introduction of non-native and disease infected species, (11) development, requirement, and cost-share implementation of by-catch reducing gear, (12) areal and seasonal restrictions to reduce by-catch, (13) more stringent by-catch allowances, and (12) strengthened enforcement in existing management programs.

In the Water Quality Plan, the management options will recommend the following: (1) basin-wide planning to ensure consideration of cumulative impacts, (2) expansion and refinement of water quality classifications and criteria, (3) strengthened enforcement in existing programs, (4) requirement of stormwater control on all new development, (5) requirement of some BMPs, (6) use of vegetated buffer strips along waterways, (7) reduction of airborne nutrients from regional sources, (8) more stringent septic tanks rules, (9) proof that new discharges will be harmless and beneficial, (10) more strigent outlet/outfall siting regulations, (11) more stringent effluent regulations in areas of high growth, (12) sanitary districts for wastewater management and general planning, (13) provision of adequate pump-out and dumping facilities for septic and sludge disposal, (14) more restrictive "marina definition to protect against cumulative impacts, and (15) restoration of water quality at sites with contaminated sediments.

Mrs. Giordano reported on the Public Involvement and Education Action Plan. The management options recommended are as follows: (1) expand public sector (ie. state and local government) public involement programs, (2) expand existing private sector (ie. environmental organization) public involvement programs, (3) create a nonprofit Albemarle-Pamlico Foundation, (4) expand existing Streamwatch Program, (5) continue APES Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program, (6) develop location or issue-specific volunteer monitoring programs, (7) develop annual "environmental report card" and distribute to all APES region households, (8) increase advertisement of policy making and regulatory functions such as regulatory commission meetings and public hearings. (9) highlight contact information for elected and environmental officials in such outlets as the telephone book, (10) distribute Pasquotank Environmental Education Modules throughout the APES region, (11) continue teacher training programs such as those begun through APES, (12) continue outreach programs to schools through private sector such as those begun through APES, (13) develop curricular support and school outreach programs through DEHNR, Office of Environmental Education, (14) continue APES newsletter and fact sheets, (15) develop regularly scheduled environmental issues forums throughout the APES region, (16) maintain the APES Speakers Bureau, (17) continue diverse media presence (TV, radio, print media), (18) develop mobile environmental education exhibits, (19) endorse the concept of developing an interpretive facility or estuarine resource center in the western part of the sound.

Among the last items on the agenda were the draft budget for FY '93 and a revised schedule of meeting dates. See Attachments A & B.

Acting Chairman Stallings then read from a letter submitted to the program from Carolyn Hess who was unable to attend the meeting. Mrs. Hess questioned the approach being used at the "affected parties" meetings and how the information gleaned from them would be used. Mr. Waite explained that the affected parties groups were not intended to put a final twist on the management options to be developed. They merely will provide input along the way. All input and commenting is kept in perspective through a series of checks and balances, that is, the "all committee" review process. Also he explained that staff would pull together a summary of those management options that were excluded and explain why they were excluded so participants would have a sense of where their particular input went. The Policy Committee has scheduled an extra meeting in April and moved up their meeting in August so there could be final review of the plan before it goes out for public consumption. He emphasized that the staff is not the final word on options, but that they work hard at developing consensus for the program. He expressed concern at the lack of feedback from CACs relative to papers sent to them for review and asked that they reply even if it is only to say they agree.

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm. The next joint CAC meeting will be held on May 5th at a time and place to be arranged.

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Albemarle-Pamlico Citizens' Advisory Committees
Washington Regional Office
Department of Environment, Health & Natural Resources
Washington, N. C.
February 4, 1992
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Welcome	Chairmen Brown & Carter
Program Update	
Director's Report	Randy Waite
Public Involvement Coordinator's Report	Joan Giordano
Technical Coordinator's Report	Jennifer Steel
National CAC Representatives' Meeting	
Washington, D. C.	Derb Carter
CCMP Development	Staff
Public Comment/Questions	
Adjourn	

DRAFT FY 92/93 BUDGET

TOTAL		<u>\$925,000</u>
ADMINISTRATION		282,000
(Represents a 2.5% increase above current levels)		
Personnel	165,000	
Benefits	45,000	
Travel	15,000	
Equipment/Supplies	5,000	
Printing, Postage, Advertising	37,000	
Other Office Costs	14,500	
PUBLIC OUTREACH		155,000
Newsletter	40,000	
Public Liaisons	70,000	
(Includes presentations to local officials, civic groups, and schools)		
Citizen Monitoring	45,000	
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ASSESSMENT		288,000
Environmental Analysts	60,000	
(Includes our 2 contract assistants)		
GIS Outreach	93,000	
(Includes GIS training for local government)		
Assessment & Monitoring	135,000	
(Includes EHNR & USGS efforts to monitor environmental improvements)		
CCMP IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT		200,000
(Includes consensus building and implementation workshops, and filling in technical holes to strengthen the Action Plans--for example, the appropriate width of buffer strips, necessary septic tank requirements, model land use plans, etc.)		

ALBEMARLE-PAMLICO ESTUARINE STUDY 1992
REVISED 2-3-92

DATES FOR 1992

FEBRUARY 4	ALBEMARLE & PAMLICO CAC MEETING
FEBRUARY 11	PAMLICO AREA ELECTED OFFICIALS MEETING
FEBRUARY 12	ALBEMARLE AREA ELECTED OFFICIALS MEETING
FEBRUARY 13	AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY LEADERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 18	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 19	FISHERY LEADERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 20	POINT SOURCE DISCHARGERS LEADERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 21	DEVELOPMENT LEADERS MEETING
*FEBRUARY 25	ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP LEADERS MEETING
MARCH 3	ROUNDTABLE MEETING OF ALL COMMITTEES
MARCH 4	POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 21	POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 5	ALBEMARLE & PAMLICO CAC MEETING
MAY 19	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 3	POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 8-17	CCMP PUBLIC MEETINGS
JULY 28	ALBEMARLE & PAMLICO CAC MEETING
JULY 30	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
*AUGUST 4	ROUNDTABLE MEETING OF ALL COMMITTEES
AUGUST 5	POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21-30	CCMP PUBLIC MEETINGS
OCTOBER 6	ALBEMARLE & PAMLICO CAC MEETING
OCTOBER 8	TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 12	POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

*REVISED OR NEW MEETING DATES

Attendance CAC Meeting 2/4/92

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Randy Waite	APES
Kristin Rowles	APES
Clyde Heagley	ACAC
Yates Barber	ACAC
Joe Statts	ACAC
Phil Hinton	ACAC
Folk Williams	"
Luther H. Daniel	PCAC
Harvey C. White	Religious & Ed. Sister
JOHN M. CARLOCK	HEPDE
Frank Ralph	Craven Co.
Dee LaCasse	Craven County Water & Sewer
Tom Burns	ACAC
Ryan Lynn	PCAC
Ann Carter	PCAC
JOHN T. SPAGNOLO	PCAC
Vince Belliv	PCAC
Tom Hood	APRF
M. Scully	APES
John Statts	ACAC.
Joe Gardano	APES Staff
M. Feller	DAILY NEWS
Ray Silverthorne, Jr.	Craven Co. Health Dept
John Myers	Craven Co. Health Dept.
Dick Sevel	PCAC
Lybet D. Basniet	PCAC

Tom Gray - PCAC

Atles Henries Jr PCAC

Phil McMullan - ACAC

Howard Dapper = ~~ICMR~~

ROBBIE BLINKOFF - CITIZENS' WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM

Mary Burgess AEA