

Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study
Joint CAC Meeting
October 29, 1991
Washington Civic Center
Washington, N. C.
7:00 pm

P-CAC Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and John Stallings, Vice Chair, A-CAC, informed the group that Chairman Brewster Brown could not be present. Chairman Carter also mentioned that the P-CAC had two new committee members appointed by the Policy Committee; Sybil Basnight of Manteo (Friends of Roanoke Island) and Dick Brame of Wilmington (Atlantic Coast Conservation Association). Neither of the two new members was present, but Joan Giordano reported that Ms. Basnight was among several that called and asked to be excused from the meeting.

Chairman Carter then announced a reordering of the agenda, calling upon Jennifer Steel, Technical Coordinator to give her report.

Ms. Steel reported that 6 more research projects were completed and submitted to the program office and that they were in the process of being bound. They are: Ed Noga's report on Ulcerative Mycosis; Stan Riggs' report on Heavy Metals in the Neuse River; Roger Rullfson's work on Striped Bass Eggs spawned in 1989; Ed Kuenzler's report on Nutrient Loading; Nitrogen and Phosphorous Removal in Coastal Swamps; Len Pietrafesa's work on the Albemarle-Pamlico Coupling study and Joan Southerland's report on Oyster Success in the Pamlico Sound. She further reported that the Technical staff, (Meg Scully, Kristen Rowles, and herself) had primarily been spending their time on preparing the goals and objectives document and the issue papers to be used as background resources for the work groups which will meet in early December. Jennifer then drew the group's attention to several newly bound works: the Executive Summary and the Technical version of the Status and Trends Report; a bound copy of APES funded projects in summary form, and the 1991 APES Annual Report. She added that the Annual Report contained more detailed descriptions of some of the most recent APES projects along with other information on the budget and program organization. A question arose as to whether all that Jennifer described and displayed would be sent to all committee members. She answered the question by stating that the Annual Report, the Project Summary, the Executive Summary of the Status and Trends and the Technical version of the Status and Trends Report were being sent to all committee members. She added that the Program office has begun sending executive summaries of every technical report that is completed. She assured the group complete reports could also be had upon request.

Joan Giordano was then called upon to give the Public Involvement report. She reported that the APES 4th Annual Meeting held on October 12 was a success with an estimated 800 people attending. That estimate combined with the attendance at the Researchers' Review Meeting held the day before and the numbers of people engaged in conversation with exhibitors under tent all point to a successful undertaking. Mrs. Giordano went on to say that the production of the Fact Sheet projects (AEA, NCCF, PTRF & HRPDC) were well underway (they're out for review) with an expected completion date of year end. She added that the Estuarine/Environmental Health Curriculum education modules (Pasquotank/Elizabeth City Schools) have been sent out to review and comments have been returned to the author. Pending final review, the modules will be sent to press. Continuing, Mrs. Giordano reported that a summary report of the radio programs presented on APES, under the syndication of "Weekdays with Barbara King" with complete scripts and a audio tape, was available upon request from the

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Public Involvement Office. In addition, she reported that the video PSAs targeted at individual user groups were being distributed to 20 TV stations across the State and that the accompanying "tip-sheet" was completed and enroute to the printer. Also, the exhibit at Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium, "Precious Waters" is off schedule due to personnel cutbacks and general budgetary constraints, but that we've been assured it will be completed around summer of '92. General outreach through PTRF and AEA continues with emphasis on local government liaison and school presentations. Mrs. Giordano closed with comments in the APES exhibit schedule citing Wilmington, Winton and the State Fair in Raleigh as recent exhibit locations.

One question was raised in conjunction with the State Fair exhibit, that being "Did you have anybody come up and express substantial opinions of lack of accomplishments?" Mrs. Giordano responded that although the exhibit was manned continually, it was not necessarily done by APES personnel. In fact, over the entire Fair schedule, APES was required to man the exhibit during two shifts only and no one inquired as to the lack of APES' accomplishments. In answer to a comment about "people coming up and saying they'd heard about APES and that APES was going to institute a management plan and I think you should....." Mrs. Giordano responded that during the time she manned the exhibit many people were engaged in APES related conversation. The group that night was invited by invitation and was aware of things environmental and agricultural.

At that point Randy Waite read a letter of support he received from Carl Parrott relative to the annual meeting in Manteo. Mr. Waite continued with an enumeration of briefings he has conducted or has been invited to do recently. Among them were the Environmental Review Commission (Senator Basnight and Rep. Etheridge attending); Coastal Resources Commission (in Dec.). He expressed gratitude at starting to attract the "right people" and at being invited to speak at environmental commission meetings.

Continuing with his report, Mr. Waite reintroduced Meg Scully and Kristen Rowles to the group as the two newest staff members; outlined the Technical Committee meeting held in August; and the CAC "call" meeting held in September. He further informed the group that we would follow Puget Sound's lead and develop issue papers to help start our management plan; that regarding the two projects left hanging (Noga's crab work and Costanza's wetland's project) based on discussion with the investigators and others and in the interest of timely results, the Policy Committee decided to drop them.

Mr. Waite went on to say that the Policy Committee, at the two meetings they have had since the CACs last met, discussed the CCMP outline format and the time schedule for development of the CCMP; officially dropped the idea of a "Summit for the Sounds: in its present form, although it more or less had been relegated to taking the form of a final implementation meeting. In other words the Policy Committee likes the idea of having a large meeting to kick off the implementation of the management plan, so we will have a final meeting as we are already planning and in fact have funded N. C. Coastal Federation to assist us with probably in December 1992. The Policy Committee decided that the "Summit" would not be used to change the management plan and that we should be counting on our public meetings to get public input beforehand. The Policy

Committee also voted to add a new member to their ranks, a representative of the State of Virginia, and a letter of invitation to Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources Elizabeth Haskell has been sent.

Also at the last Policy Committee meeting ^{JoAnn} 2 new proposals (to replace the aforementioned proposals which were dropped) were discussed. The program has solicited from Dr. Joane Burkholder (NCSU), 2 proposals, for consideration. The first one deals with her work on a dinoflagellate, or a form of algae, that could be the major factor causing fish kills in the Pamlico and Neuse Rivers; and the second one deals with aquatic vegetation (eelgrass) and nitrogen uptake. The projects carry a price tag of approximately \$65,000 for both. The Policy Committee approved them for funding pending Technical Committee approval. Much discussion ensued regarding Dr. Burkholder's work.

Mr. Waite then turned his attention to the CCMP development materials (overhead presentation) he brought to share with the group. He advised the group that the Policy Committee had approved the CCMP outline which do not differ greatly from the one presented in October at the "call" Policy Committee meeting. SEE ATTACHMENT A. Discussion concerning the cost of the management plan, the manner in which funding would be raised and the possible formation of a foundation followed. A question was raised as to whether Chairman Carter felt the outline presented was program oriented enough. He replied he thought that the best was taken from both the outlines presented at the "Call" CAC meeting held in September in Washington and that was what was supposed to occur.

Mr. Waite expounded on the comments made by Chairman Carter and stated that the way we would proceed with the outline is that issue papers will be developed around the 4 main action plan areas. The workgroups would then deal with those areas. He clarified that the 4 main workgroups would be further broken down into sub-groups to deal with specific sub-topics. SEE ATTACHMENT B. All 95 committee persons involved in the APES program will be assigned to a workgroup so that all will play a role in developing the issue papers. SEE ATTACHMENT C. He continued to stress the opportunity and need for citizen (CAC) input through participation in the workgroups, and added that any CAC or other committee member that felt their expertise could be better utilized in another area should contact Randy or Joan to make the change. Also, Dr. Quay added, "if a conflict arises with a scheduled meeting--please send a designee or substitute who can attend and report back to you. We must keep up the dialogue. It's awkward if the identified committee member just doesn't show up."

Lastly, Mr. Waite distributed a budget update which covered the '91-'92 fiscal year from October 1-October 29, 1991. SEE ATTACHMENT D. He directed attention to item #3 on the budget-CCMP-\$101,174-and said that that amount included the two cancelled contracts, and while a goodly portion of that would probably go to Dr. Burkholder a portion would remain (~36K) which the Policy Committee directed be placed in reserve to "fill in the holes to get the job (CCMP development)done." The apparent shortfall of \$125,000 is attributable to the timing mismatch between the EPA and the State fiscal years. In other words, the State amounts are actually based on the State fiscal year which is off by 1/4 for us.

A question was raised pertaining to the overhead (7%) the department (EHNR) was charging the program on all staff positions. Mr. Waite responded to the question by stating that the practice has been cancelled and that the money was not taken out for last year. The money taken out in previous years (~34K) went to the general fund.

Chairman Carter then asked for consideration of the previous (8/6/91) meeting's minutes. Acceptance was moved by John Stallings and seconded by Joe Wright. Motion passed.

Chairman Carter asked for the pleasure of the group relative to continuing along with the discussion of Goals and Objectives, or diverting to discussion of the election of officers. The committee decided to continue the flow of conversation already underway and discuss the Goals and Objectives.

Mr. Waite explained that the staff was looking for CAC approval of the Goals and Objectives so that it could be passed on together with the Technical Committee's approval, to the Policy Committee in December. He noted staff was looking at repackaging the document so it will flow more easily with the Status and Trends and workgroups structure. He stressed the content would not change. It would, however, take things that are management oriented and relegate them to management strategies as part of the issue papers, and similarly take needs for research and pull that out to the research plan. "Nothing will be lost, it'll just be put where it really belongs", he said.

A question asking whether the repackaged document had been mailed to CACs arose. Mr. Waite responded it had not, as staff was still working on it stressing it was very important to pull together in a common framework organization and information contained in the Status and Trends; information contained in the Goals and Objectives document; and information to be presented to the workgroup members for the action plan development process.

Mr. Waite asked for comments on the Goals and Objectives document as it appeared before the group, that is, on environmental goals and objectives, on management recommendations, on research needs and any other background information available.

Mr. Waite inquired of Chairman Carter whether discussion/comments should proceed line by line or if he had another preference. Chairman Carter asked the group if they had read through the material after it was sent to them and would they like to pick it apart line by line or make general comments and then attach specifics. It was determined that very few CACs (1 or 2) had commented on the original draft Goals and Objectives document and that only 1 person had commented on the October 14th draft sent to the CACs. It was decided that November 9 would be the cut-off date for comments which would also allow incorporation of any Technical Committee comments from the 11/6 Technical Committee meeting to be included. Discussion ensued until the group's attention turned to the election of officers.

Mr. Waite explained to the group that some concern had been expressed to himself and Joan Giordano, that the staff was in some way attempting to become more involved in the election of officers this year than in year's past. He urged the group to

understand that the reason solicitation of nominations was formally undertaken was because staff needed to make sure that anyone who may have wanted to serve as Chair or Vice-Chair had the opportunity to present themselves for the process. That being said, Mr. Waite informed the group that the only nominations received on the Pamlico side were for Derb Carter-Chair and Ernie Larkin-Vice Chair. He called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, the vote was held (with only P-CAC members voting) and Chairman Carter and Vice-Chair Larkin are again affirmed as officers.

Attention then turned to the A-CAC Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Waite called for nominations from the floor for the Vice-Chair position and hearing none, John Stallings was elected by acclamation. The election of Chairman was then discussed with Mr. Waite noting the series of events that led to the formation of a selection committee on the A-CAC. He explained Brewster Brown's initial desire to not seek the chairmanship for the final year of the program and consequently the search committee's sole nomination of Joe Hollowell. In a turn of events, however, Brewster Brown reconsidered his initial action and indicated he would be interested in being considered for Chair after all. (Mr. Brown was not present at the CAC meeting). Mr. Hollowell commented that he was not interested in competing against Brewster Brown, but if Mr. Brown chose to not run again, he would be pleased to take the nomination to serve. Because it was unclear whether there were one or two nominees, it was moved by Joe Wright, and seconded by John Stallings that a clarification of Mr. Brown's status be made pending his return and then a mail ballot be sent to A-CAC members indicating the number of nominees being considered. The motion passed. NOTE: A-CAC members ONLY see attached ballot.

There being no further business a motion for adjournment was made by Eadie Smith, and seconded by Grace Evans and passed by acclamation.