

**MINUTES - WPOA MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**November 26, 2016**

**Call to Order:**

Past President Lee Foreman, standing in for President Jeff Lockhart, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Lee noted that about 100 members were in attendance, which was quite encouraging given that the meeting date was changed at the last minute due to storm conditions.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the March 26, 2016 Membership Meeting were approved by the members.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer's Report, submitted by Ron Harman, showed a balance of \$69,865.35, which included approximately \$57,000 in reserve funds.

**Membership Report:**

Bob Powers reported that there are 267 members plus those that paid at the meeting. Bob asked members to update email addresses, and for those that use AOL to consider switching due to AOL's tendency to bounce emails. Bob is updating the membership directory.

**Guest Speaker:**

Fire Chief Rich Galganski was unable to attend, so Tim Bostaph reported that there had been no major fires in Corolla in 2016. There had been, however, over 380 fire and rescue calls to date.

**Old Business:**

a. Drainage District Report – Board Chair Dan Clements recommended reconstituting the existing drainage board since the county had removed board membership limitations. Dan introduced County Engineer Eric Weatherly, who reported on the effectiveness of the drainage system during recent storms. Eric explained the basic operation of the system, emphasizing that the system pumps ground water, not surface water, the purpose being to create additional capacity ahead of a storm so that there is a place for the new storm water to go. There are ten pumps in Whalehead, each capable of pumping 500 gallons per minute. Eric compared 2006 Hurricane Ernesto, which dumped 18 inches of rain over two days, to the recent 36 inches combined from storms Hermine (9.12”), Julie (13.17”) and Matthew (14.71”) over five weeks. Together the storms were the equivalent of a 1000 year storm. The pumps kept up with the first two storms, but when Matthew hit despite round the clock pumping of 5000 gpm, there was some flooding. Unfortunately, Whalehead is burdened with water from surrounding communities that do not have drainage systems. Per FEMA rules, there must be at least 14 inches of water in the streets before a community will be allowed to pump into the ocean. Eric recommended that the drainage district invest some of the \$400,000 reserve fund into seeking solutions for some ongoing problems areas such as Bonito and Corolla Drive. Dan asked members to send suggestions or details of drainage problems to the drainage advisory board.

b. Maintenance Service District – Jack Riggle received a complaint that trash cans had been rolled out during storms. Jack will discuss this with the vendor and suggest following common sense. Lee asked for more volunteers to serve on the on both the maintenance committee and the grounds committee.

c. Speeding in Whalehead – Dennis Umberger reported that most of the speeding is by vendors and the deputies are citing offenders. Deputies are patrolling the community more frequently

d. Mid-County Bridge – current status is that the bridge has been funded and construction is slated to start in 2018, barring delays from lawsuits.

**New Business:**

Tim Bostaph mentioned the possible establishment of a fire service tax district, and stated that the aging, all volunteer CFRS was working with county officials to create the district. If approved by the property owners, the district would provide 16 paid firefighters, allowing there to be two at the firehouse 24/7. The estimated cost is 4 cents per \$100 of assessed value, meaning about \$280 annually for a \$700,000 property.

**Election of Officer and Directors:**

The nominees proposed by the Board were presented. There were no nominees from the floor. The officers and board members were elected by unanimous vote.

**Items from the floor:**

A member stated that during Matthew, it was hard to find information about local conditions. He was referred to the county website and it was suggested that WPOA members can also join Corolla Civic Association, which provides information and updates on a wide range of community matters, for \$10 per year.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Shawn C. Stringer  
Secretary