

2/21/01

**GREAT EGG HARBOR NATIONAL SCENIC  
AND RECREATIONAL RIVER COUNCIL**

**ORGANIZATION MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 21, 2001**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

This meeting was advertised pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. Notices were placed in the official publications for the River Council - - The Press of Atlantic City and The Courier Post. A copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Fox Nature Center.

Roll Call of River Council Members

**II. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE RIVER COUNCIL**

- A. Chair
- B. Vice Chair/Treasurer
- C. Secretary

**III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 17, 2001**

**IV. RESOLUTIONS**

R:01-2001 Resolution Designating Depository of Funds and Authorized Signatures on River Council Account.

R:02-2001 Resolution Designating Official Publications of the River Council.

R:03-2001 Resolution and Notice of Meetings of the River Council.

R:04-2001 Resolution Creating Subcommittees of the River Council and Naming the Chair and Members Thereof.

R:05-2001 Resolution Authorizing Application for Tax Identification Number.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Letter to Army Corp. of Engineers Re: Dock.

**VII. REPORTS**

1. American Rivers workshop
2. Watershed Management Area #15 Kickoff Meeting

**VIII. PUBLIC PORTION**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

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**Great Egg Harbor River Council  
Meeting Minutes for February 21, 2001**

*Meeting called to order* at 7:15PM by Chairperson, Rick Coe.

*Roll Call* by the Secretary, Belinda Irizarry

*Board Members in Attendance:* Julie Akers, Bill Christman, Rick Coe, Dick Colby, Bill Egan, Eric Fooder, Gregory Gregory, Robert Manzi, Creed Pogue, Joel Spiegel, Bill Zapisek

*Board Members Absent:* Michael Hozik (Town of Hammonton) and Marc Thyrring (Egg Harbor Township who informed members ahead of time that he could not attend)

*Quorum Present?* Yes

*Others Present:* Belinda Irizarry, Alternative from the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association (GEHWA); Michael Hogan, GEHWA Alternate, and Mary Vavra, National Park Service

**Proceedings**

Rick Coe stated that this meeting was advertised pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 *et seq.* Notices were sent to official publications for the River Council -- The Courier Post and The Press of Atlantic City). A copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board at the Fox Nature Center and the Atlantic County Library.

*Nomination and Election of Officers of the River Council*

A motion was made by Eric Fooder to nominate Rick Coe as Chairperson. The motion was seconded Dick Colby. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Julie Akers to nominate Dick Colby as Vice Chair/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Creed Pogue. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Julie Akers to nominate Belinda Irizarry as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Gregory Gregory. Motion carried.

No other nominations were offered and a motion was made to close the nomination process by Rick Coe. Julie Akers seconded motion. Motion carried.

*Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 17, 2001*

Julie Akers made a motion to approve minutes from the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Bill Christman seconded the motion. Motion carried with no opposition.

*Resolutions*

Resolution R:01-2001 Resolution Designating Depository of Funds and Authorized Signatures on River Council Account. Creed Pogue raised a question about Fleet Bank and suggested that the River Council closely monitor activities and make changes as appropriate should River Council not be satisfied. Motion was made by Creed to amend Resolution to provide for an alternate depository. Greg Gregory seconded motion. Motion carried. Resolution is approved.

Resolution R:02-2001 Designating Official Publications of the River Council as The Press of Atlantic City and The Courier Post. Motion made by Julie Akers and seconded by Creed Pogue to accept. Motion carried and Resolution approved.

Resolution R:03-2001 and Notice of Meetings of the River Council. Resolution states that River Council meetings will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Fox Nature Center. Motion made by Creed Pogue and seconded by Dick Colby. Motion carried and Resolution is approved. Julie mentioned

that there might be a change in the Atlantic County system which may make the Fox Nature Center unavailable for meetings. This change may cause River Council to relocate meetings.

Resolution R:04-2001 Creating Subcommittees of the River Council and Naming Chair and Members Thereof. Based on Mayor Manzi's input, Rick Coe suggested striking the Mayor's name from subcommittee B and adding it to Subcommittees C&D. Rick Coe's name will be added to subcommittee B. Creed Pogue made a motion to approve the Resolution as amended and Greg Gregory seconded the motion. Motion carried. Resolution as amended is approved.

Resolution R:05-2001 Authorizing Application for Tax Identification Number. Rick Coe stated that he obtained a copy of Form S4, Application for Tax Identification Number, although it is not yet completed. Questions were raised about the address requirement. Creed Pogue made a motion that the River Council use GEHWA's address with Secretary Belinda Irizarry's address as a backup. Also suggested changing Resolution wording to add "any bank or general purpose account...". Dick Colby seconded motion. Motion carried with amended language.

### ***Old Business***

Supplemental Mailing List – Members recommended adding the following names/organizations to the River Council's Supplemental Mailing List:

- NJ Conservation Foundation
- Jay Laubengayer at TNC
- Laurel Cummings at Camden County
- Local addresses for Senators
- Glen Mawby, intergovernmental liaison for Atlantic County
- Add appropriate State Senators
- Jack Kaskey, The Press of Atlantic City
- Camden County Federation of Watersheds
- Coast Guard
- Marine Police
- Commissioner Shinn, NJDEP
- Karl Braun; NJDEP

Official River Council Member List: Stoddard C. Bixby's name should be corrected for spelling

### ***New Business***

Mary Vavra updated members on the status of illegal docks in the river corridor, specifically the lengthy dock at Mark Norrell's waterfront property in Hamilton Township. An explanation of the State/federal permitting process ensued. A copy of National Park Service correspondence to the US Army Corps of Engineers was distributed. In an effort to promptly respond to requests for permit reviews, Mary will go to the Chairperson of the appropriate subcommittee, as well as the municipal member for input. Creed Pogue made a motion that the Chairperson of the River Council be authorized to draft a letter to Commissioner Shinn and the USCOE, as well as any and all appropriate entities, to express the need for firm enforcement of existing laws and guidelines for rivers in the National Wild and Scenic River System to protect outstandingly remarkable resources. Joel Spiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Julie pointed out that River Council should copy all municipalities on letters.

Mary Vavra distributed copies of National Park Service correspondence to Mayor Sacchinelli of Hamilton Township and Karl Braun of NJDEP regarding a property on the river which secured a permit to construct a dock prior to the construction of a residence. Bill Christman explained Hamilton Township's position and asked for a letter from the River Council. Julie suggested that we wait a month and then decide how best to proceed. Creed made a motion for Bill Christman and Julie Akers to draft a letter under Rick Coe's signature to both the US Army Corps of Engineers and the NJDEP asking their assistance in assuring that a residential dock not be permitted without the construction of a home and that this stipulation be placed in the actual permit. Motion seconded by Eric Fooder. Dick Colby questioned the motion and stated that

council should be leaning more toward being non-intrusive in municipal affairs regarding docks. Motion made by Julie Akers to table this issue which was seconded by Dick Colby. Roll Call was taken:

Julie Akers, yes  
Bill Christman, yes  
Rick Coe - no,  
Dick Colby - yes  
Bill Egan- yes  
Eric Fooder - no  
Greg Gregory- no  
Robert Manzi - yes  
Creed Pogue - no  
Joel Spiegel - yes  
Bill Zapesik, no

Motion carried.

Creed Pogue made a motion to draft a letter to the Hamilton Township Zoning and Planning Boards, as well as the Environmental Commission to inform them that the River Council exists and offer to have a presentation by either the River Council or GEHWA to discuss current developments with the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River and the importance of the Local River Management Plans as previously adopted. Gregory Gregory seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Manzi stated that there is a zoning hearing on the communication tower on Thursday, February 22, 2001 which was originally designed to be 750'. Mayor Manzi stated that letters from the NPS and USF&WS dissuaded the provider. The provider now plans a 500' tower to replace one that already exists. The new tower will be much stronger. Julie stated that GEHWA has prepared a letter and will attend the meeting to read it into the record. The existing 500' structure was approved about 10 years ago. The Corbin City Planning Board is working on a new ordinance to better locate communication towers. Mayor Manzi suggested that someone from the River Council read a letter and/or attend a meeting. Motion made by Julie Akers to oppose the tower and Bill Egan seconded. Motion carried.

*Reports* – Julie reported on the workshop sponsored by American Rivers and the National Park Service in Washington, DC on 2/11-12. Julie attended along with Rick Coe and Dick Colby. Educational seminars were conducted on river protection strategies and funding strategies for securing annual appropriations for northeast partnership rivers to implement existing management plans. Congressman Nancy Johnson hosted a meeting for staff/aides from congressional offices to meet with river partners. No representatives from the Great Egg Harbor River area showed up. Information was dropped off at Senator Torricelli's office and a meeting was held with Senator Corzine's staff person. Rick Coe sent a letter to Rob Andrews highlighting information and requesting support. Dick mentioned that basic mission for visiting congressional offices was to secure a line item for 7 specific rivers which were earmarked.

Julie gave a report on the WMA#15 meeting conducted by Atlantic County. The County just started the study of the Great Egg Harbor Watershed for development of a plan. Two members of GEHWA made a presentation at meeting. Impression was that meeting provided an overview of process and deliverables. Development of a Steering Committee is the next step as the process moves forward. Julie suggested that River Council already represented municipalities and informed Joe Maher in Atlantic County. County will take information and assimilate it.

Creed Pogue made a motion to open the meeting to the public. Bill Christman seconded the motion. There were no public comments. Motion made by Creed Pogue to close the public portion of the meeting and seconded by Dick Colby.

Mike Hogan discussed Dorothy Preserve about the problem with ATVs and requested River Council support in addressing this issue. He also discussed the Belcoville area and trash problem. Michael will seek additional information and then request River Council members to review the situation situation at next meeting.

Rick Coe stated that the Chairpersons of each subcommittee should begin meeting to start deciding what each committee will be doing.

The next meeting of the River Council is scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>

Rick Coe adjourned the meeting at 9:15PM.