

DELAWARE BAY BEACH WORK GROUP

May 11, 2012

SENATE HEARING ROOM, DOVER

10:00 – 1:00 PM

AGENDA

- Comments from Co-Chairs
- Presentation from Johnson, Mirmiran and Thompson on the preliminary findings of the Delaware Bay Beach Economic Study
- Update on status of Drainage Study

Welcome – Senator Bushweller

Agenda Change – Update on status of Drainage Study will be first with Frank Piorko.

Senator Simpson sends his regrets he had a conflict and is out of town.

Senator Bushweller on where we are in this process.

Mr. Eisenhardt will make a presentation today, it is not the final presentation on the economic study but we are closing in on it. The economic study in the mix with all the other studies done, this group or some variation of it is going to be in the position to start undertaking serious discussions about what the group believes should be done regarding the problems we have been studying and what recommendations we want to make to the State of Delaware and to the counties and other levels of government or other interested parties on how to deal with the problems. Between now and the next time we meet we all need to be thinking about a process to develop recommendations for dealing with the problems. And what kinds of recommendations are we going to make as to how to pay for whatever we decide to recommend. This is equally important because if we do not have the money then it hardly matters what we recommend. There also needs to be some discussion to determine whether there is data still out there that we need. The goal is to make good, serious, realistic recommendations to the government. There is the need to move forward with an equal need to make sure we are moving forward in a logical data based, evidence based way. We will need to have one more meeting regarding the economic study but then the focus needs to shift from data collection to recommendations for action.

Frank – Update on status of Drainage Study - Hand out given and is posted on website.

At our last meeting we talked about taking the matrix and recommendations we worked on and applying them now to the 7 bay beach communities using the protocol that was developed for Bowers as kind of a guide. We have put together a Request for Proposals for Engineering Services for Coastal Drainage Engineering. The proposal will be advertised on May 14, 2012 and we will receive proposals until June 11, 2012. Moving forward with doing a Request for Qualifications for bringing someone on to assist us, Stephen Wright, our engineer and Brooks Cahall will be working with this individual to apply the scope of services and assessment to these bay beach communities once we find the funding. We will get qualification reviews of consultants and get a price proposal based on the scope and then we will know exactly how much funding we are looking at.

Update on SB 64 – Floodplain and Drainage Advisory Committee –
Recommendations and Guidelines

<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/swc/Pages/FloodplainandDrainageCodeWorkGroupCommittee.aspx>

- Jim Eisenhardt – Presentation Economic Study – posted on website.

Secretary Collin P. O'Mara

Thank everyone for coming. One of my goals when Senator Bushweller and Senator Simpson first asked me about setting up this work group was to get some real numbers and try to figure out the options on the long term costs and long term benefits. We are starting to get some real numbers so we can come up with some long term plans and real recommendations. Not just what to do but how to fund it. The numbers are big and the challenges are great but at least we are working with a common set of facts. There is a lot of data and blanks that need to be filled in in the next couple of months. But I do think this is the information we need to make some intelligent recommendations to the Governor, General Assembly and counties and municipalities. I know it has taken a long period of time but I hope you can see the volume of information that is being collected so that we can have a real State strategy for the first time in a long time. Thank you all very much for being here.

Next meeting – September 14, 2012, Senate Hearing Room, Legislative Hall, Dover, 10:00-1:00 pm.