



The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409

302-539-3011 ~ 302-539-1305 fax

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

DREDGING COMMITTEE MEETING

November 8, 2024, at 10:00 AM

MINUTES

DRAFT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

W. Rymer and S. Magdeburger at Town Hall

A. Emerson, S. Ross and J Armstrong via Zoom

OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS:

None

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (in person or via zoom):

None in person, various via zoom

Rymer called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM and the Committee did the Pledge of Allegiance.

The committee reviewed and approved the Draft Minutes from the October 3, 2024, meetings

Moved by: Bill Rymer

Seconded by: Steve Magdeburger

(unanimous 4-0, S. Ross joined the meeting after this vote).

Rymer then provided the committee updates on the following topics:

Dredging:

- All dredging activities were completed by noon on Monday, November 4
- South Channel took a little longer than anticipated because the eastern side of the channel contained material that was a mix of sand and organic/loamy sediment. This slowed down the dewatering process. JF Brennan installed three more geobags in the dewatering site to allow more volume to flow from the dredge.
- Most recent target of dredging completion was November 12. The channels were completed 8 days ahead of that target

Demobilization:

- JF Brennan has removed all pipes in the water that connected the dredge barge to the beach head. All equipment located in the dewatering location has been removed except for one sump pump and one generator necessary to support the dewatering process.



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- The inflow pipeline from the beach head to the dewatering location is being disassembled and should be removed by Monday. All pipes will be stored in the staging area and await removal next week.
- Dredge barge is currently anchored on the west side of the bay. This will be relocated and disassembled on Tuesday at the original launch location (DNREC parking lot just below South Bethany). Barge should be fully removed by Thursday.
- The only remaining equipment by late next week will support the dewatering process: sump pump, generator and outbound pipeline.

Dewatering:

- A total of 19 geobags were used. 10 are located on the bottom layer and are mostly filled (aprox 1,400 cubic yards). The remaining 9 bags are less than 50% filled and a few have less than 150 cubic yards.
- Dewatering is slower than anticipated because of the loamy material from the eastern side of the South Channel. Entire dewatering process will take up to 14 days.
- Sump pump is run every few hours as the water seeps out of the geobags. By early next week, it is expected that the sump pump will only need to run once or twice a day.

Soil Testing:

- Contractually required to sample the sediment located in the geobags. 3-4 samples per bag and then composited into a single sample for each individual bag. The lab results will be provided back to the town for each bag.
- 9 bags from the bottom layer have already been sampled and those samples have been sent to the lab. Expect those results next week.
- The remaining 10 bags will be sampled on Wednesday, Nov 13. Those results will take up to 14 days.
- Once lab results are received and analyzed, the consultants from the town and the property owner will determine if any contamination exists and what the next steps will be. All of these steps have already been agreed upon in the contract. If any remediation is required, the town will be responsible for removing the contaminated geobag (contamination in one part of a bag is viewed as contamination in the whole bag).
- The town purchased a specific pollution insurance policy to help offset the costs of remediation. The town will work with the insurance company to remove the material as quickly as possible and no longer than 45 days.

Remaining Timeline:



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- Barge will be demobilized by Thursday, November 14.
- Anticipated completion of dewatering is November 20.
- Full demobilization of any remaining Brennan equipment/material is November 22.
- Expect to have all sample results by early December.
- Property owner will take full responsibility of all geobags and the dewatering location (including the liner that is currently in place) after all samples have been cleared.

Committee discussed the need to acquire and place navigational aids. Steve Magdeburger volunteered to help in the process. Will begin communicating with DNREC and our consultants to learn next steps.

There was no Public Participation.

At 10:40, J. Armstrong made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by S. Magdeburger. All voted in favor to adjourn.