

Corps Engineer Fields Questions On Erosion At Ocean Isle Beach

BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

Dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway at Ocean Isle Beach, scheduled for fall, will provide some sand deposit on the island's east end, but the pumping of additional sand would be at the town's expense.

This was the word Tuesday from Tom Jarrett, engineer with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, to the Ocean Isle Beach town board and a large gathering of property owners.

Owners of six houses at the east end of 1st Street and 25 houses on the eastern tip of the island are concerned about the semi-circular pocket of erosion that has occurred in that area over the past several months.

The Corps had previously told the town no waterway dredging was planned this fall and that material from the Shallotte River was not suitable for depositing on the island.

Jarrett, however, said at Tuesday's meeting up to 100,000 cubic yards of sand would result from the channel dredging to be done this fall. "Every time we do maintenance dredging like this, we'll put the sand on the east end," Jarrett said, "but your experience is that it doesn't hang around very long."

Asked about his previous statement regarding unsuitable spoil, Jarrett said, "We are authorized only to dredge the waterway channel to a width of 9 feet and a depth of 12 feet. Most of that sand is decent material."

He went on to describe Shallotte River spoil as very fine silt that "would only dirty up the water and wouldn't stay. But we're not authorized to dredge it."

Jarrett stressed that, while the government can't pay for unauthorized dredging, the town could arrange to use Corps equipment while the dredge was in the vicinity to dredge a larger area at the town's own cost. "If you can get state funds to partially fund this, you might approach a contractor to do the pumping," he said.

He estimated the one-quarter million cubic yards of sand needed on the east end would cost about \$250,000. "It costs \$2-\$2.50 per cubic yard to pump it," he said. "That amount of sand would widen the beach 50 feet for

one mile."

Nourishing such small areas, especially near an inlet, Jarrett explained, is "an expensive proposition and it's temporary."

Heien Wooten asked about the possibility of getting the Shallotte Inlet dredged at the same time the waterway dredging is done.

"The Corps has to consider nearby projects, like the stabilized Little River inlet, and work authorized in the Lockwood Folly inlet and Cape Fear River, when deciding on the commercial value of dredging another inlet," Jarrett replied.

Police Chief Bill Ozment interrupted. "I'd like to interject that I was recently able to do two life-saving operations because of the inlet. Two adults and a child would be dead without Shallotte Inlet," he said.

John Brockington, whose house is among the six at the end of 1st St. where erosion has occurred, asked, "Could you put the dredge material farther down the island where we are, and can you augment it with material from the spoil islands?"

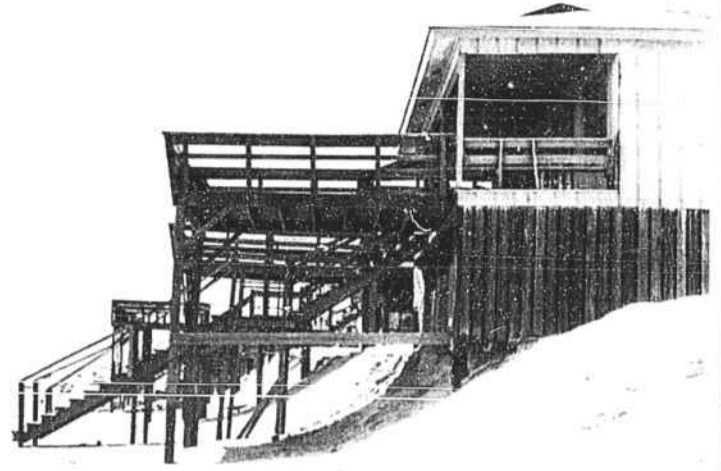
Mrs. Brockington said the concrete had washed out from under five houses on her street, and the road behind them would go if something wasn't done. "We need temporary things done now," she said.

Jarrett repeated, "We can only dredge what's in the channel. The only way to transfer material from spoil islands is at town expense."

Tripp Sloane called attention to diking underway farther up the waterway behind Bricklanding, where a large spoil island has been created. "What about pumping that material a little farther, to the east end of Ocean Isle? Those people don't want it there, anyway, and we desperately need it."

Jarrett said he didn't know anything about the operation in that part of the waterway.

Water Commissioner Odell Williamson said, "It depends on the contract where dredge material is put, and the dredge operators will use the closest and cheapest place, like Eagle Island and other spoil areas, unless the Corps forces them to run the line farther and



SIX HOUSES at the end of 1st St. in Ocean Isle Beach are separated from the ocean by less than 30 feet.

Severe erosion occurred Jan. 1, at the time of full moon and high tide.

put it on our beach."

"The Corps is restricted by law as to what we can do," Jarrett said, "and we operate on a fixed budget."

Rae Sloane Cox asked whether emergency amendments were ever made to the Corps budget, and was told the only conditions considered "emergency" were disasters following a specific event.

Williamson summed up the matter: "We have an inlet problem and we need the cooperation of the Corps in channeling sand away from Eagle Island and other spoil locations to the east end of this beach. If this town

has to come up with a few dollars for extra pumping, so be it."

Jarrett promised to investigate the diking behind Bricklanding and discuss with his superiors any ways in which the Corps might help pump additional sand on the beach.

After Jarrett left the meeting, Brockington spoke up again. "Thank you for asking the engineer to come here, but if the Corps doesn't come through, we must look into some solution, whether it's trucking in sand or building jetties. There are 25 houses endangered as a result of the last full moon high tides."

GOP's Bradsher Succeeds Redwine As BTC Trustee

A former Republican candidate for county commissioner has been named to the seat formerly held by Rep. E. David Redwine on the Brunswick Technical College Board of Trustees.

Gov. Jim Martin has appointed William Thomas "Tommy" Bradsher of Brown's Landing to a four-year term that began July 1.

Bradsher said he didn't "politic" for the seat, that rather the governor asked three or four months ago if he would serve if appointed. Then he called again 1½ weeks ago to make the appointment.

"I hope to be an asset on the board through my business experience and all," he said. His first meeting was to be July 22.

Bradsher, 37, was a candidate for the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners District 2 seat in 1984.

The Grissetown native is a graduate of Shallotte High School and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

He is the owner of Bradsher's Inc., an umbrella of several businesses, including real estate investment, a tire dealership, used car dealership and farm.

He is a member of the Shallotte Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rite Free Masonry.

Bradsher is married to the former Wanda Parker of Supply. They have five children.



TOMMY BRADSHER

Yarbrough Leaves School System For Better Job

BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

Dr. Gene Yarbrough made a surprise announcement Friday of his resignation as superintendent of Brunswick County schools to take a position as administrator of Buncombe County schools, effective Aug. 10.

His new position will provide a hefty raise, \$75,000 plus benefits, as opposed to \$60,000 in Brunswick County. Also, the Buncombe County system is the sixth largest in the state, with 20,000 students.

Yarbrough said his resignation is based on these factors, plus the fact he will be "going home." He is from that county and worked there before coming to Brunswick County eight years ago as social studies supervisor.

When former superintendent Ben Brooks resigned under pressure in

1984, Yarbrough was promoted into that position, with a two-year contract. In January of this year, the board approved another two-year contract, by a 4-1 vote, with new board member Dorothy Worth voting no.

In making this announcement, Yarbrough stressed his good feelings about Brunswick County and said the school board and county commissioners are now on friendlier terms than in the past.

During his brief tenure, Yarbrough has introduced the Alternative School in Bolivia as a means of educating students with a variety of problems.

He also conceived of the consortium of elementary schools, under the direction of Bolivia Elementary School Principal Ed Lemon, a concept that resulted in dramatic test score improvements at Bolivia and Union Primary schools.

In addition, Yarbrough reorganized the central staff, transferring several employees to state-paid positions.

The only person not surprised by his resignation was Board of Education Chairman James Forstner, who had been informed by Yarbrough 24 hours earlier.

"I'm pleased for him," Forstner said. "He was offered the job just two weeks ago, and it meant a bigger salary, bigger system, a unanimous board, and it was home. You can't sweeten a deal more than that."

According to Forstner, he and Yarbrough had already written an advertisement for newspapers across the state. "We'll have a board meeting about this July 28th or 30th," he said.

Commissioners—

(Continued From Page 1-A)

current member(s) of the board in question serving by appointment of the commissioners. No appointments would be "called in" later by any commissioner, because of the record-keeping problems posed for the clerk.

Fly Ash Questioned

In other action Thursday, the board asked that Walter Marley, the county's soil engineer, investigate the hazardous potential of coal fly ash as well as its approved uses. Chairman Grace Beasley said the board wanted letters on those topics from the state and from the Environmental Protection Agency. At a recent National Association of County Commissioners conference in Indianapolis earlier this month, several commissioners said they had heard negative comments from officials in at least one community where fly ash was used commercially. They told us, "Don't sign off," said Commissioner Jim Poole. The commissioners must approve the location of any fly ash disposal site or transfer site in the county.

Other Business

In other business, commissioners: •Met behind closed doors for one hour and 15 minutes to discuss property acquisition, taking no action on return to public session.

•Heard from Ed Miller of the Calabash area, who strenuously criticized county maintenance of green box disposal sites in his area, passing photos around for commissioners' inspection. "It's a disgrace," he said. "It's not only a health threat but a blight on the landscape." He asked the county to "look into" the problem.

•Approved tax refunds and releases for June.

•Designated Chris Chappell voting delegate to the upcoming North Carolina Association of County Commissioners conference, with Benny Ludlum as alternate.

•Forwarded to the state road petitions from residents of Shady Forest subdivision, the CCC Road in Bolivia and Barracuda Drive in Sandy Shoals subdivision.

•Reduced retainage for Hall Contracting Co. to \$20,000 as recommended by staff, not \$10,000 as recommended by the consulting engineer. Hall employees are currently automating several pumping stations, including those at Sunny Point, Brunswick Technical College and Shallotte.

•Adopted a project ordinance for Lifescape Industries, designating that a \$260,000 loan from the state will be used as stated in the application.

Indictments—

(Continued From Page 1-A)

•Daniel Locke McNair, possession of 15.21 grams cocaine with intent to sell.

•John Allen Potter, arson.

•Milton Price, conspiracy to commit arson.

•Donald L. Varney, false pretense.

•Ricky Dale Bellamy, conspiracy to commit arson.

•Ronnie Lee Clemmons, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, relating to an assault on a resident of the Reeves house in Shallotte the night Reeves died. A grand jury has earlier charged Clemmons with murder in that death.

•Gary Harris, possession of more than 28 grams cocaine, conspiracy to traffic by sale more than 28 grams cocaine.

•Kenneth Ward Harris, conspiracy to traffic by sale more than 28 grams cocaine;

•Adolph G. Holmes Jr., breaking or entering, larceny.

•Robbie W. Lanier, possession stolen property, conspiracy to commit larceny.



Hot, Sunny Is Weather Outlook

Look for above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation for the next few days, says Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady.

Daytime highs will be in the mid 90s and nighttime lows in the mid 70s, with less than one-half inch rainfall, according to Canady's forecast.

For the period from July 14-20, the average daily temperature of 77 was three degrees below normal. The average daily high was 93 and the average nightly low was 66 degrees. The maximum high of 93 was on the 14th and the minimum low of 57

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