

March 19, 2019

The Bladen County Board of Commissioners held a Special Community Meeting regarding the White Oak Dike Levee System on Tuesday, March 19, 2019. The meeting was scheduled to begin at 6:00pm at Centerville Baptist Church, 18577 NC 53 East, Kelly, NC 28448.

Members present were:

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman
David Gooden, Vice Chairman
Ray Britt
Dr. Ophelia Munn-Goins

Excused: Michael Cogdell
Arthur Bullock
Daniel Dowless
Russell Priest
Ashley Trivette

Staff members present were:

County Manager Greg Martin
Clerk to the Board Maria Edwards
Information Technology Director Robin Hewett
Planning Director Greg Elkins

ITEM 1. Call to Order:

Chairman Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. Reverend Allen Murray, Centerville Baptist Church, provided an invocation.

Chairman Peterson introduced Public Officials, as follows:

- Jim Kjelgaard, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Mitch Hall, US Army Corps of Engineers
- Greg Williams, US Army Corps of Engineers
- Christine Bryman, US Army Corps of Engineers
- Charles Russ, Kelly Dike District Committee
- Aaron Robinson, Kelly Dike District Committee
- David Gooden, Bladen County Commissioner
- Billy Barker, Representative Rouzer's Office
- Billy Crist, Representative Rouzer's Office
- Ray Britt, Bladen County Commissioner
- Brandon Norris, Lyon Swamp Drainage District Board
- Robert Moore, Lyon Swamp Drainage District Board
- Adam Caldwell, Senator Tillis' Office
- Dr. Ophelia Munn-Goins, Bladen County Commissioner
- Dean Robinson, Lyon Swamp Drainage District Board
- Jason Turner, Pender Soil and Water Conservation District Director
- Dean Morris, Bladen Soil and Water Conservation District Director

Chairman Peterson turned the meeting over to US Army Corps of Engineers Representative Mitch Hall. Mr. Hall provided an extensive history of the Kelly Dike development. The following handouts were provided to those in attendance:



Following the US Army Corp of Engineers presentation, several Kelly residents addressed those in attendance regarding inquiries of how to proceed in order to make necessary repairs and restorations to the breaches within the 14.5-mile dike, in order for the dike to be reinstated into the USACE's Rehabilitation program.

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Citizens shared comments and questions regarding releases from Lake Jordan which cause the Cape Fear River to rise, holding individuals legally responsible for causing damage to the dike, clear communication to the community regarding the dike, and which entity is responsible for the maintenance of the dike.

Chairman Peterson provided closing comments, insuring the Kelly community that all of those in attendance would be working diligently and continuously to find a way to have the dike repaired. He stated that attempts would be made to move forward as positively as possible.

Reverend Allen Murray provided a closing invocation.

By consensus, the meeting was adjoured at 8:03pm.

ATTEST:

Maria C. Edwards, Clerk to the Board

Charles R. Peterson, Chairman