1. **Call to Order/ Approval of Agenda**
   Mayor Sayre called the August 31, 2011 Special Council meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Mayor Sayre entertained a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Pitera made motion, with all in approval.  
   **(MOTION CARRIED 5-0)**

2. **Discussion of Shoreline Protection Issues**
   Mayor Sayre stated this will be a discussion on the issues Bald Head Island is facing. This meeting is to build strategy to move forward.
   Members of the Shoreline Protection Committee gave a power-point presentation on the “Risks to BHI caused by the improperly maintained Wilmington Harbor Project”.
   Bob Blau gave information on the risks to Bald Head Island.
   Physical Risks- If the beach is not re-nourished, dune breaches will very likely result in chronic salt water flooding.
   Economic Risks- The cost of chronic flooding could be substantial, possibly undermining the island’s viability.
   Timing Risks- Time Village of Bald Head Island may have to deal with chronic flooding issues is uncertain and will complicate risk management.
   Mr. Blau reviewed the areas of physical risk to be multiple dune breaches on West and South Beach. There are concerns with groin failure. The groins are not a permanent structure and are in immediate threat. Mr. Blau stated there is no frontal dune protection for low lying inland areas west of Sandpiper Trail beach access. Mr. Blau stated several low lying areas in Stage 1 are subject to chronic flooding if frontal dunes are breached. The areas along Sand Piper and Cape Fear Trails are thought to be most susceptible to dune breaches and chronic flooding.
   Mr. Blau reviewed the economic risk for Bald Head Island. The low lying areas in Stage 1 encompass several key assets. Mr. Blau stated the areas of concern to be homes, lots, lagoons, existing roads, the Club and thirty-five acres of common property. Mr. Blau stated the unsure
timing of the risk damage to the island. Mr. Blau gave three risk scenarios and possible timeframe for each. The committee spoke on the estimated cost for chronic flooding to be very likely to exceed the costs of re-nourishing the beach. The indirect costs of chronic flooding will likely exceed the direct costs by substantial amounts and could threaten BHI’s viability. The risk and potential costs of chronic flooding to BHI are compounded by the nature of the island’s economy and could easily render the island uncompetitive and unaffordable as a premier vacation destination or resort community.

Mr. Blau reviewed the timing risk for Bald Head Island. Managing physical and economic risks to BHI that result from inadequate maintenance of the Wilmington Harbor Project are complicated by uncontrollable timing risks. Even with permits in hand, moving 140k cu yds of “Emergency” sand from the creek could take up to four months. Since re-nourishment projects must be done between November- March, VBHI probably has no more than sixty days to persuade USACE to get sand on BHI beaches this winter. The next opportunity is fourteen months away.

Joe Brawner spoke on the recommendations from the Shoreline Protection Committee to the Village Council.

Mr. Brawner stated to establish a tracking system for identifying possible dune breaches and to prepare to move emergency sand from the creek as soon as possible.

In the next sixty days, efforts to pressure USACE to put sand on the beach this winter by approaching a unified congressional push led by Senator Hagan and Congressman McIntyre to be actively supported by State and County officials. There should be a re-nourishment contingency plan if USACE is not forced to do so. The Village should notify the BHI property owners and other stakeholders about risks facing the island as a result of the inadequately maintained Wilmington Harbor Project. Mr. Brawner reviewed the Corps capability of getting dredging done for winter 2011/2012. Mr. Brawner gave assorted messages to present to stakeholders, state sponsors, shippers, and environmentalists. This is a navigation channel maintenance problem. This is not just a Bald Head Island problem. It is a NC problem. BHI stakeholders must help deliver the message- both at state and congressional levels. The Shoreline Protection Committee will be recommending to Council for better visual aids for remote delivery. To make this happen there should be increased urgency and faster pace of action.

John Jelinik reviewed the Sand Now Action Plan. This is a focused, energized roadmap for sand on the beaches of Bald Head before 12/31/11. The plan is three elements including the paradigm shift, people and processes. Mr. Jelinik stated the island is in a crisis. The whole island is affected and everyone should be involved. The problem is not erosion. The channel was not designed well and was improperly maintained. The Shoreline Protection Committee suggested candidate teams to include a Direct Political to address the Corps of Engineers both state and local officials. The next team would be Indirect Political to address agencies of the state and federal government level to receive assistance. There should be a Plan B team to prepare alternative options. There needs to be a Communications team to deliver quality messages. Mr. Jelinik also suggested a Legal team to suggest ideas and legal ramifications. Each committee should be chaired by a Council person and staffed by the BHI community. There should be communication and utilize the sources on the island to get this plan done.

Joe Brawner stated the Shoreline Protection Committee has recommendations to the Council as follows:

- Council endorse crisis situation and be seen to visible support and participate in crisis management plans and actions
- Council corroborates (or modify) risk analysis and communicate risk to drive urgency of action
- Council develop non-USACE, realistic and practical “Plan B” for sand this winter
- Communicate risks, plans, and progress to BHI stakeholders on a frequent basis
- Update legal route progress, probability of success, likely timing (sand this winter), and projections
- Refine and finalize message, develop plans, position resources, engage the target audience and “sell”
- Engage BHI stakeholders to adopt message, develop contacts, and help with delivery—especially at state level
- Develop more effective message delivery support tools including video, hard copy handouts, etc; consider news releases to press, radio and tv
- Actively engage Wilmington Harbor stakeholders in message support and delivery (USACE, NCSPA, Pilots, Coast Guard, Oak Island/Caswell Beach, Governor’s Logistics Task Force
- Organize to better meet timing and action requirements appropriate to this crisis

Mayor Sayre thanked the Shoreline Protection Committee for their hard work.
Mayor Sayre asked for comments from the public.
Gene Ramm, President of BHI Club, stated the Club agrees and recognizes the problem. Mr. Ramm agrees with the recommendations made and supports the observations made.
Suzanne Dorsey, with the Conservancy, stated the major concern is the loss of habitat on the island. Mrs. Dorsey agrees to work with the stakeholders and supports the recommendations made. The Conservancy will participate if asked to support the Village.
Joyce Fulton, with BHI Limited, thanked the Shoreline Protection Committee for the work accomplished. BHI Limited stands committed to support the action of Council. Mayor Sayre asked Joyce how she felt about the risk assessment. Joyce stated the risk assessment continues to be plausible and understands this is a high risk situation. With what the Village is producing, Limited is in support of the actions being taken.
Carrie Moffett, with Bald Head Association, appreciates the work done by the committee. The Association supports the committee recommendations and understands the impact on property owners.

Mayor Sayre reviewed each recommendation with Council and staff.

1- Council endorse crisis situation and be seen to visible support and participate in crisis management plans and actions-
Mayor Sayre stated this should reflect on the Resolution passed August 19, 2011. Joe Brawner recommended having visible support.

2- Council corroborates (or modify) risk analysis and communicate risk to drive urgency of action-
Mayor Sayre suggested Council to review individually and discuss further

3- Council develop non-USACE, realistic and practical “Plan B” for sand this winter
Calvin questioned non-Corps plan. Joe Brawner stated this is for not relying on the Corps to supply the sand. Council and staff discussed the different options of sand placement and multiple payment choices. The public stated concerns with the loss of sand and not having a Plan B. Calvin explained the dredging of Bald Head Creek is Plan B. This will produce enough of sand to plug a gap. Yet, after 2012 and beyond there is no plan. Calvin stated Erik Olsen stated this will only be a band-aid fix.
Ray Webb reviewed where the commitments have been breached by the Corps and the Village should correct the situation.
Anne Kane stated this has given us possible solutions and agree with Ray Webb’s comment. The erosion is not the problem; it is the concurrence of the moved channel.
Calvin stated for clarification purposes the idea on the Corps doing their job is an excellent idea and potentially works with the location of monies. But that any effort to locate other non-Corps means to place sand, will not occur. Committee members requested the Village to research other options for sand placement.

Diane Mesaris asked the Council, staff and/ or committee to present a message to be forwarded to the concerning parties. Public stated this should be a balancing point and is a structure for the communication and a distribution email list is a must. Claude Pope stated everyone is impacted on this situation and has offered assistance in the message communication. Ray Webb stated Plan B should be discussed and a conclusion should be made soon. Mr. Pope suggested a due date to be established and discussed the urgency of this issue. Mayor Sayre discussed the re-nourishment process and borrowing of sand in a certain area can only be consumed one time.

Councillor Douglas stated if the Village was to initiate a Plan B and the Corps is willing to sponsor a summit; would the governor’s task force attend this meeting and be a viable option. Joe Brawner stated this is two different groups. There would need to be a scheduled meeting at Raleigh with the governor’s task force. Mr. Brawner stated the “Worker Bees in Raleigh” want to remove the sand in the channel. It would be beneficial to get the “worker level” together for a meeting. Mr. Brawner advised not to attend the Corps meeting.

Mayor Sayre stated there is no movement on the lawsuit. The Village attorneys are reviewing alternate avenues to consider. Ray Webb stated Attorney Baldwin gave authorization to say the Village is on a time constraint with the injunction. It is difficult to receive a ruling on the jurisdiction concerns.

Gene Ramm asked if a course of action to file an injunction for the sand removal of 100k cubic yards sand taken out to sea. Mayor Sayre stated the Wilmington Harbor Agreement has the capability to remove 100k cubic yards sand and place anywhere for a one time occurrence. Chris McCall stated the winter scheduled sand removed in the channel is non-beach quality sand and can’t be used for the beaches.

Council, staff and citizens discussed alternative options and funding for sand placement for Plan B. All agreed the State, County, Port Authority have the funding for operation of sand placement. Discussion involved the maintenance upkeep of the channel, and dredging should be completed every two years.

4- Communicate risks, plans, and progress to BHI stakeholders on a frequent basis
   Mayor Sayre agreed with the support for effective messaging.

5- Update legal route progress, probability of success, likely timing (sand this winter), and projections
   Mayor Sayre agreed to have the update of the legal progress with projections.

6- Refine and finalize message, develop plans, position resources, engage the target audience and “sell”
   Joe Brawner stated there should be a consistent message that all participants have and can use when speaking to officials.

7- Engage BHI stakeholders to adopt message, develop contacts, and help with delivery—especially at state level
   Mayor Sayre agreed.
8. Develop more effective message delivery support tools including video, hard copy handouts, etc; consider news releases to press, radio and tv
Mayor Sayre stated the prior Council meeting approved monies to pursue further. Mayor Sayre stated he agrees and should find the right person who knows what they are doing and can manage the aspect of this.

9. Actively engage Wilmington Harbor stakeholders in message support and delivery (USACE, NCSPA, Pilots, Coast Guard, Oak Island/ Caswell Beach, Governor’s Logistics Task Force)
Mayor Sayre asked if this will be a called meeting. Joe Brawner stated the stakeholders would like to have a meeting and asked where Bald Head Island stood and that Council would get back to them as soon as possible. Mayor Sayre stated he wanted to make sure the message was addressing Bald Head Island.

10. Organize to better meet timing and action requirements appropriate to this crisis
Mayor Sayre stated his suggestion is to set up a task force of selected members of the Village, Shoreline Protection, Chris McCall, Mayor Sayre to come with a plan to review all the recommendations. The meeting should begin tomorrow and work towards that. Calvin stated he would like to be involved with the task force to voice ideas.

Mayor Sayre asked Council if there was enough organization to have a meeting Labor Day weekend after the Club’s annual meeting. Joe Brawner stated the Shoreline Protection Committee feels there has been a week lost due to Hurricane Irene. Mr. Brawner stated this would be Councils decision. Councilor Douglas stated the property owners feel they are not adequately informed and feels this should be done to inform as many people as possible. Council agreed to give this message to the public.
There was a discussion with the risk assessment and the action plan for sand placement. Chris reviewed the operation of a risk assessment and stated this is for a specific situation not a generic situation.
John Jelinik asked for the Action Plan. Mayor Sayre the plan is for the task force to meet tomorrow to discuss and the Council will review the risk assessment. A message for the public will be finalized and presented.

Joe Brawner stated the Shoreline Protection Committee has met bi-weekly and worked diligently on a professional approach with a complex problem Bald Head Island faces. Calvin asked if this would be a Council meeting held on Labor Day. Mayor Sayre stated this would be an informational meeting only.

3. Adjournment
Mayor Sayre entertained a motion to adjourn at 4: 26 p.m., with Councilor Morris made the motion with all in favor. (MOTION CARRIED 5-0)

Mayor Andy Sayre

ATTEST:

Debra C. Talbert, Village Clerk