

MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP
Special Meeting
Matts Landing Dike Breach & East Point Lighthouse Area Flooding
Wednesday, March 2, 2016 – 2:30 P.M.

This meeting was called as an Emergency to evaluate the Matts Landing dike breach and East Point Lighthouse flooding concerns. Notification was sent to South Jersey Times on Wednesday, March 2, 2016. Posting of the meeting was placed on the bulletin board located in the Municipal Building, 590 Main Street, Leesburg, NJ 08327.

Call to Order

Topics

1. Matts Landing Dike Breach
2. East Point Lighthouse area flooding.

ADJOURNMENT

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Present: Andrew Sarclette, Mayor
Patricia Gross, Deputy Mayor
Bob Martin, Commissioner NJDEP
William Dixon, NJDEP Coastal Engineering
Dave Golden, NJDEP
Erick M. Doyle, NJDEP Supervising Engineer
Cindy Randazzo, Director NJDEP
Gordon Gross, MRT OEM
Steve Hagemann, MRT Supervisor Public Works
John Knoop, Cumberland County Engineer & Public Works
Denise L. Peterson, Clerk

The purpose of the meeting was on-site review of the damage sustained by the Matts Landing area with primary concern around the dike breach and on site review of the East Point Lighthouse area and the increasing flooding and encroachment toward the lighthouse.

Topics:

1. Matts Landing Dike Breach

An aerial map of the Matts Land Dike area was reviewed with discussion of the pre-Sandy and pre-Jonas conditions of the area. Emphasis was placed on the fact that since these storms flooding conditions due to high tides and severe storms have significantly increased the potential for flooding and dike breaches. The most recent storm caused the cross dike to breach which in turn caused undermining of the paved roadway and the two ponds to join. The cross dike is in the process of being repaired. It was discussed to get the dikes shored up through cooperative measures by NJDEP, Cumberland County and Maurice River Township. It was further discussed that once the dikes are shored up that provisions will be made by the NJDEP that Maurice River Township can maintain them and/or repair problems. Ways to shore of the dikes was discussed; Mrs. Gross supplied that concrete slabs were available to the township for this purpose. Further discussion regarding the disappearance of the "basket flats" area which helped prevent the intrusion of water. Additionally it was discussed that a 1990's project to install 4 barges in this area was never completed; only 2 barges were emplaced.

A drive of the NJDEP dikes was made by all attendees and three stops were made to view the conditions of the dikes and the gate at the large pond. Further discussion of the disappearance of the "basket flats" area took place.

Dredging of the Maurice River was briefly discussed. Commissioner Bob Martin will discuss with the Army Corps of Engineers at a meeting already set for next week and will also ask for support from Congressman LoBiondo.

2. East Point Lighthouse area flooding

Review of the East Point Lighthouse area was conducted by all attendees. Discussion took place on replenishing the beach area and the possible mechanisms to be used such as rock, gabions and steel bulkhead. It was further discussed that the owners of the adjacent property, NJ Conservation Foundation, do not want to have any beach replenishment or

shoring of the property done. Commissioner Martin requested that Mr. Dixon and Mr. Doyle confer with NJ Conservation Foundation regarding reconsideration of this work being done. Commissioner Martin will discuss the urgency of getting the work done at East Point with Army Corps of Engineers at the meeting set with them next week.

Additional Topic:

Mayor Sarclette and Commissioner Martin briefly discussed the exchange of NJDEP property known as the marinas and Maurice River Township owned property. Commissioner Martin stated that the state would like to see this happen and asked Mayor Sarclette to present the property that the Township could like to use for the exchange.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:10 P.M.

Denise L. Peterson, Municipal Clerk
