**Minutes for 8/7/19 Meeting between BEAT Board &**

**Chance Lambeth, District Director for Rep. David Rouzer**

**Time:** Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at 6:00 pm

**Location:** BEMC Public Meeting Room

**Present:** Linda Eastman, Dan George, Bob Jakus, Pete Key, Marilyn Priddy, Jennifer Swift, Dwight Willis & Chance Lambeth

**Introduction**

1. The meeting started at approximately 6:15. Dwight welcomed Chance Lambeth and each Board member gave a brief introduction including where they live and work experience. Pete stated the goals of the meeting were to bring other perspectives to issues and gave examples of BEAT’s recent involvement local issues.
2. Dwight noted BEAT’s goal to advocate for environmental issues and to educate Brunswick County residents and presented a list of BEAT’s accomplishments in the past three years (attached). Pete described BEAT’s recent work with the Southern Environmental Law Center on CPI’s permit and noted BEAT is non-partisan and open to the public.
3. After the first presentation, Bob asked Chance to tell board members a little about himself. Chance reported that he grew up in Randolph County, that his family vacationed at Kure Beach and that he enjoyed fishing for flounder. He said that the county he visited as a child was nearly unrecognizable due to its recent growth. Chance described himself as a conservationist and referenced both Aldo Leopold and Jesse Helms. He said he thought it was better to meet in person and suggested meeting periodically, perhaps quarterly.
4. Jennifer gave Chance a binder with BEAT information, including the website address and pamphlets, and reference materials related to the topics of concern.

**Topics of Concern**

1. Jennifer presented information on why BEAT opposes offshore drilling and seismic blasting. The discussion included the following points:
   1. Networking - BEAT’s work with other organizations, local resolutions and amicus briefs
   2. Potential spills - impact of hurricanes and storms and damage to economy (2017 revenue from tourists in BC was $562 million.)
   3. Injury to marine life - Jennifer asked Chance to find out status of Marine Mammal Act
   4. Communication
      1. Chance was invited to view Sonic Sea and another video Bob recommended - Sea of Sound, by Cornell Lab of Ornithology (www.seaofsound.org)
      2. Members asked Chance if Mr. Rouzer had done any polling on this issue
      3. Members also asked if Mr. Rouzer could acknowledge opposition to offshore drilling and seismic blasting in his periodic communications with his constituents
   5. Other Congressmen, including Tom Rice of SC have changed their positions after listening to their constituents
2. Dan read his comments on water quality, which are attached. The following discussion included Dwight’s request that corporations quit putting chemicals into the water and to be held accountable. He noted the economic and social justice issues of purchasing bottled water. Pete and Linda discussed health effects including endocrine issues and transfer to developing the fetus, noting the Cape Fear River is the source for most of BC’s drinking water and how important clean water is to BC residents.
3. Pete presented information about clean energy including jobs and economic development. The discussion included the following points:
   1. The impact of NC’s moratorium on developing wind energy in lost jobs and revenue
   2. The role of the military in limiting wind energy development in NC
   3. Investment in clean technology using the investment in going to the moon as an example
   4. Solar energy and related income for farmers
   5. BEAT’s work with the BC Commissioners in easing burden of posting decommissioning bonds every 3 years
   6. China’s use of NC as a dumping ground for hog waste
   7. Potential for investment in plastic recycling in NC due to China’s changes in policies

**Summary**

Chance agreed to check the current status of the Marine Mammal Act and to investigate BEAT’s request for EPA to classify GenX and related PFAS as hazardous substances under CERCLA and to be included in EPA’s Toxic Release Inventory as referenced in Dan’s presentation.

Bob suggested another meeting, perhaps in November, and Pete restated BEAT’s offer to act as a resource on environmental issues. Members thanked Chance for his time and attention.

**Attachments**

BEAT List of Accomplishments (April 2017 - present)

Water quality comments by Dan George