**Meeting Minutes**

**Chatham County Environmental Review Advisory Committee (ERAC)**

**June 8, 2023 - 6:30 p.m.**

**Remote Meeting via Zoom**

**Attendance**

**Staff:** Hollie Squires the Recording Secretary to the Environmental Review Advisory Committee and Rachael Thorn Watershed Protection Director.

**Members Present:** Jeannie Ambrose, Elaine Chiosso, Alicia Koblansky, Amy Fulford, Diana Hales, Heather Holley

**Members Absent:** Frank Stillo, Andrew Clark, Jeanette Ragland, Mary Beth Koza.

1. **Call to Order @6:30 pm**

2. **Virtual Meeting Guidelines**

• Please keep microphones muted.

• Use the Chat Function if microphones fail or for connectivity issues.

3. **Approval of meeting minutes** - May 2023 minutes approved via Roll Call.

4. **Public Input**. None.

5. **EIA Discussion is in Separate Document**

**“The Environmental Review Advisory Committee considers this EIA to be acceptable. We would like to see the questions and comments raised in this review to be addressed.”**

Motioned by Heather Holley and seconded by Alicia Koblansky passed via roll call.

6. **Announcements and Updates:**

• Planning Board Update from Jeannie Ambrose.

At the June 6th meeting there was public input about an Airbnb on a private road. The Planning Board thought the UDO group should discuss it to prevent it from happening again. Two subdivisions were approved, Eden Parcels and Ridgecrest Estates, and McBane Park was granted a 12-month plat extension. Two bills are being voted on in NC House, 1 passed and solitary wetlands are no longer protected. Pittsboro is reviewing Chatham Parks amended North plan. If interested you can follow the Haw River Assembly, there will be a petition to ask Chatham Park to do more to protect the lower Haw River State Natural Area. Wolfspeed got their air quality permit approved.

• Climate Change Update from Alicia Koblansky.

Brandon Dawson is putting together a proposal that is trying to tract environmental goals for the county. The proposal is based on the 2023/2024 budget to create a capacity to measure and track the environmental goals in a comprehensive plan. Brandon put together a 2-year plan to measure 20,000 acres. They are working on a dashboard with the county to focus on major points and efforts for the group on climate issues and how to track and maintain them. They would like to hire a contractor that will monitor this type of conservation land for the county. Alicia will ask Brandon to see if he would like to share what he is doing with this Committee. The climate Change Committee is putting together a half day retreat possibly in July at the county Ag center; on EV school bussed and conservation lands.

7. **Adjournment** Jeannie Ambrose motioned; Alicia Koblansky seconded. Voted by acclamation. @8:06pm