

The Board of Commissioners took the following actions at the February 10 meeting:



Nice Matters!

Town of Emerald Isle
7500 Emerald Drive
Emerald Isle, NC 28594

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Mayor
Kyle Lagos

Mayor Pro-Tem
Jason Holland

Board of Commissioners
Roy D. Brownlow
Alesia Sanderson
Josh Sawyer
Jay Wootten
Kris Plum

Commissioner Emeritus
Floyd Messer, Jr.

Town Manager
Frank A. Rush, Jr.
frush@emeraldisle-nc.org



A Family Beach

**Regular Meeting of the
EMERALD ISLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 6:00 pm
7500 Emerald Drive

1. Call to Order *Kyle Lagos, Mayor*
Mayor Lagos called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Roll Call *Lindsey Burton, Town Clerk*
Mayor Lagos, Mayor Pro-Tem Holland, Commissioner Plum, Brownlow, and Sanderson were in attendance. Commissioner Sawyer was not in attendance, but was excused by a unanimous vote of the Board.
3. Opening Prayer *Kyle Lagos, Mayor*
Commissioner Brownlow led the group in prayer.
4. Pledge of Allegiance *Kyle Lagos, Mayor*
Mayor Lagos led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Public Comment
A total of two individuals provided public comments. A response to these public comments will be prepared and available for public distribution at the March 10 meeting.
6. We Heard You – *Kyle Lagos, Mayor*
Follow-Up To Prior Public Comments
A document with responses to previous public comments was provided to the public at the meeting and also posted on the Town's website.
7. Identification of Any Conflict of Interest *Lindsey Burton, Town Clerk*
No conflicts of interest were identified by the Mayor or any member of the Board.
8. Adoption of Agenda *Board of Commissioners*
Mayor Pro-Tem Holland made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. The Board voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.
9. Introduction of New Employees / *Joe Smith, Public Works Director*
Recognition of Employees
a. Carl Ballard, Equipment Operator
b. Cole Killingsworth, Equipment Operator
c. Vincent Malizia, Firefighter *Will Coffey, Interim Fire Chief*
Public Works Director Joe Smith introduced two new employees working as Equipment Operators for Public Works, Carl "Randy" Ballard and Cole Killingsworth. Vincent Malizia will be formally introduced at a future meeting.
10. Proclamations / Public Announcements *Kyle Lagos, Mayor*
Mayor Lagos announced the Town's Proclamation declaring February 2026 as "Art Month".
11. Consent Agenda *Frank Rush, Town Manager*
 - a. Minutes – January 13, 2026 Regular Meeting
 - b. Resolution Authorizing Sign Installation and Maintenance Agreement
 - c. Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Replacement Knuckleboom Truck

d. Reimbursement Resolution – Knuckleboom Truck Installment Financing Agreement
Mayor Pro-Tem Holland made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. The Board voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.

12. Resolution Authorizing Application for Urban and Community Forest Financial Assistance from the NC Forest Service – Tree City USA Designation
John Nevel, Planning Director

Planning Director John Nevel presented a resolution authorizing the submission of an application to the NC Forest Service for urban and community forest financial assistance. The resolution approved a total funding request of \$37,500, with a required Town match of \$12,500. Of the Town's match, \$10,000 would be provided through in-kind services by Town staff, resulting in an out-of-pocket cost of \$2,500 for the Town.

Becoming a "Tree City USA" community would provide Emerald Isle with national recognition for responsibly managing public trees, investing in urban forestry, and encouraging resident involvement in tree stewardship.

Commissioner Sanderson made a motion to adopt the resolution authorizing application for urban and community forest financial assistance from the NC Forest Service. The Board voted 4-0 in favor. Motion carried.

13. Presentation – Emerald Isle Police Department Accreditation Efforts
Mike Panzarella, Police Chief

Police Chief Mike Panzarella presented a PowerPoint on the Emerald Isle Police Department (EIPD) efforts to achieve accreditation from the NC Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (NCLEA). This program is a voluntary State accreditation program aimed at enhancing professionalism, modernizing policies, and increasing public trust. The EIPD has been working to achieve this accreditation since summer of 2023 and expects this to be complete in the coming weeks.

14. Comments from Town Clerk, Town Attorney, and Town Manager

There were no comments from the Town Clerk or Town Attorney. The Town Manager provided updates on several items of general interest. The owners of Bogue Inlet Pier have agreed to host the July 5 fireworks display, subject to resolving insurance coverage concerns. Mr. Rush thanked all contractors and Public Works staff for their hard work during the recent snowstorm.

The NC Division of Coastal Management Public Beach and Waterfront Access Grant Program is now open, and pre-applications are due April 24. Town staff are considering a grant application to extend the Channel Drive walkway approximately 200–300 feet to improve beach access for individuals with disabilities.

The roundabout flagpole has been informally approved by the North Carolina Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Town is awaiting written consent.

The deer depredation hunt is nearing completion and is expected to conclude next week.

Bogue Banks Water Corporation has begun installing a new water line on Reed Drive and Coast Guard Road. Temporary road closures are expected.

15. Comments from Board of Commissioners and Mayor

Each Commissioner and the Mayor each offered various comments and thanked the public for their interest and participation in Town government.

16. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm by unanimous vote, 4-0.