

N.H. board meeting to start an hour early, addressing numerous issues

By MATT ARTZ

This week's mid-month meeting of the Nags Head Board of Commissioners is set to start an hour earlier than usual, due an expected extra amount of discussion to be had on a number of recent issues.

Among the items on the agenda for tomorrow's (Wednesday's) board meeting, the commissioners will consider a request for \$50,000 from the University of North Carolina Coastal Studies Institute (UNC-CSI), budget amendments recommended by the county's Government Access Channel Committee, and various options to address traffic concerns near Admiral Street as a result of the ongoing construction of a new shopping center.

UNC-CSI director Dr. Nancy White submitted the letter requesting funding of up to \$50,000 for renovations at the CSI lab located at the former Emergency Medical Services

building in Nags Head, which has been leased by the school in recent years.

If granted, whatever amount the board agrees to would be reimbursed to the town, as the North Carolina State Properties Office has agreed to allow the costs of the renovation project to be paid back to the town via a single invoice to the CSI.

The proposed renovations include a reconfiguration and refurbishment of the front lobby into a lab for the estuarine and coastal processes program.

According to the UNC-CSI

architect, the renovation work is expected to be completed by late June or early July, depending on the timing of a required Department of Insurance review.

Since the UNC-CSI moved into the Nags Head lab, the facility has hosted workshops, board meetings, public forums, and has helped the CSI to fulfill its mission of conducting "education based on applied research in service to the northeast region and our campus academic partners."

In her letter, Dr. White stated that the proposed renovations will support "research objectives which should yield several million dollars in revenue in the next two to three years."