

The March meeting of the Commissioners, of the WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT, was held March 20, 1974, in Conference Room, Holiday Inn, North Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida.

Present were: Larry Rhodes, Vice Chairman, Sarasota County
Dorothy R. Flowers, Secretary, Charlotte County
G. Patrick Iley, Pinellas County
Betty B. Castor, Hillsborough County

Charles E. Furbee, Executive Director
Dewey A. Dye, Jr., Counsel
Chris H. Bentley, Assistant Staff Attorney

Absent were: Kenneth W. Daniels, Chairman, Lee County
Dan P. McClure, Treasurer, Manatee County

Guests: Colonel Emmett C. Lee, Jr., District Engineer;
Mr. Gail G. Gren, Chief of Operations Division;
Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District.
Mr. W. V. Canaday, Engineer, C.E. Tampa Area Office.

ADMINISTRATION

The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m., beginning the second day of the waterway inspection trip, Fort Myers to Tarpon Springs. The chairman, Commissioner Rhodes, welcomed guests to the meeting and thanked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District personnel for their generous help in making the waterway inspection trip a success on the C.E. boat, "FLORIDA". Commissioners Betty B. Castor and G. Patrick Iley were welcomed to the WCIND Board as new representatives from Hillsborough and Pinellas County, respectively.

The minutes of the January 21, 1974 meeting were approved as presented. The February board meeting had been scheduled for Monday, February 25, 1974, and was cancelled by the board.

February Vouchers No. 7489 through 7521 were processed for payment and were approved. The Treasurer's Reports for the months of January and February, 1974, were approved as presented. March Vouchers No. 7522 through 7541 were approved for payment.

Waterway Guide Maps - The Director reported on progress being made for distribution of maps by WCIND, both by his deliveries throughout the six Counties and the WCIND office mailings. He reported a balance of 35,000 on hand for distribution. The F.I.N.D. and the C.E. Office in Jacksonville both will be receiving deliveries of the maps.

Tax Assessors' Service Fee - The six Counties' Assessor Fees, (Florida Statute 192.091) to cover the period 1/1/74 to 9/30/74, was reported as being a service fee in addition to the commissions WCIND pays for collections received. The Director noted that WCIND may now have to increase the budgeted fee figure for the next budget year to include this new service fee.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS: Mr. Vincent M. Huyette - Sarasota

Mr. V. Huyette appeared to address the board for assistance in obtaining approval for permit application for his placement of five docks north and east bank of the waterway at Albee Bridge in Sarasota County. The Director noted that the WCIND will be provided with a "hold harmless" clause and proper liability insurance; the area is zoned as "Commercial"; and that Sarasota County has given its approval after the location was checked as to the right-of-way line and the docks' projection line. The chairman stated that WCIND could approve these five docks, 30' in length, as reported by the applicant, subject to WCIND Counsel's recommendation that the required provisions have been met. Commr. Castor moved that WCIND approval be given with the Counsel's recommendation; the motion was seconded by Commr. Flowers and the motion carried. Mr. Dye advised Mr. Huyette that the State TIF Office must be considered in relation to marina licenses here. Mr. Huyette expressed appreciation to the board and he will follow up on his application for Permit, to the Corps of Engineers.

ACTIVITIES REPORTSarasota County

Spoil Material Contracts - S/A S3-3 location with material at 15¢ per cu.yd. for Edward Maslanka Company; and S/A S3-4 location with material at 35¢ per cu.yd. for Wendel Kent & Company; were reported by the Director who stated that S/A S3-3 also has the Bob Rigby Trucking Company contract at 15¢ per cu.yd. Mr. Maslanka submitted today his payment on account, \$2,500. The WCIND had experienced no responses in the past to invitation to sealed bids or, they all quoted same prices; so the WCIND board authorizes each request as approved for sale of the spoil material quality at the current price.

County Park Dock at Albee Bridge - WCIND has an easement here. A concrete slab fell into the waterway at this dock location. It is recommended that WCIND share the cost with Sarasota County for removal of this slab, 20-30' long, 4-5' wide, and 5-6" thick. The Director will report the price for removal at the next board meeting.

Releases of Property - Requests have been forwarded by WCIND to the Corps of Engineers Office, Jacksonville, for three, each on an individual basis: Dr. Clement DeMasi, Fisherman's Wharf Restaurant; and Mr. S. J. Carbone. The Corps of Engineers Office is to give its reply to WCIND and a favorable report is expected.

Pinellas County

St. Joseph Sound Project - The Director reported that a Survey Crew will stake out the location area and the Corps of Engineers Tampa Area Office will inspect the work there for approval to the Contractor.

This Activities Report was accepted as presented.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, April 15, 1974, was agreed to be the date for the next board meeting, as a tentative date with confirmation later.

OLD BUSINESS

Water Resources Congress Annual Meeting - This conference was scheduled for March 5 - 7, 1974, in Washington D.C. Commr. Flowers moved that staff member, Mr. Dewey A. Dye, Jr., Counsel, receive his authorization for attendance at WCIND expense; the motion was then seconded by Commr. Castor and the motion carried. Mr. Dye reported that the consensus of those attending was most hopeful than had been in the last recent years re Cross-Florida Canal project. About forty people from Florida attended this caucus - re the Project's Study - to take several years. Mr. Dye stated also that more interest is being shown on water transportation and the reopening of the project will not be undertaken at the present route.

NEW BUSINESS

Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, Report - The chairman invited Colonel Lee, District Engineer, to address the meeting. Colonel Lee reviewed the tonnage reports on the West Coast Waterways, now going to a million tonnage report. Also, the Judge's recent ruling as "Improper" for the President's impoundment of funds for the Cross-Florida Canal Study, now will permit the C.E. to go forward as funds are released. A statement will be furnished by March, 1975, "to construct or not to" and the re-route plan. Mr. Gail G. Gren, Chief of Operations, will have the responsibility for the C.E. consulting work. Colonel quoted projected maintenance costs per year with the noted increased costs per year. Venice Cut Renovation will have stone rip rap remedial work, a stable slope higher on banks with sodding where required: 75,000 tons of stone and 35,000 sq.yds.of sod, the C.E. maintenance for about five miles distance. WCIND should contact Mr. W. V. Canaday, Tampa C.E. Area Office, for suggestions and help. Longboat Pass Project, under one million dollars cost, is a Small Projects Study, and being planned for a 10' depth as an economically feasible project for commercial fishermen. The State Pollution Control Department has withdrawn earlier objections. Charlotte Harbor-Boca Grande Study is funded for possible improvement. The C.E. will hold a public hearing in Fort Myers, Lee County Courthouse, and will be funded as in Longboat Pass Project. New Pass in Sarasota County should be completed within two weeks.

The Chairman thanked Colonel Lee for his report on all the projects.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Dorothy R. Flowers
Secretary

Jerry Rhodes
Vice-Chairman