

November 12, 1952

The regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held in the courthouse in Bradenton, Florida, Wednesday, November 12th, 1952 at 2:00 p.m.

Present were:

Fred W. Ball, Chairman	Hillsborough County
H. M. Stringfellow, vice chairman	Lee County
W. L. Woodard, Secretary	Sarasota County
J. E. McLeod, Treasurer	Manatee County
Matt Weeks, Member	Charlotte County
James R. Shoecraft, Member	Pinellas County
J. K. Merrin, Engineer	
J. Ben Fuqua, Attorney	

Visitors: G. R. Leach and E. F. McCann from Sarasota County.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ball.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by W. L. Woodard, Secretary, and approved on motion by Mr. McLeod, seconded by Mr. Shoecraft and carried.

A letter from J. Hardin Peterson was read by Mr. Woodard and ordered filed on motion by Mr. Shoecraft and seconded by Mr. Stringfellow.

The engineer's report was given by Mr. Merrin. He read a letter from the Artists Guild Foundation, Inc. (re Venice Golf and Country Club, appraised as acreage by Edwards and Townsend, value \$5,400.00) proposing to offer the property for \$30,000.00, with exchange with the School Board for $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Mr. Merrin recommended that the proposal be referred to competent appraisers at no obligation to purchase.

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It was the disposition of the Board to continue negotiations for the time being and if necessary to enter into condemnation suit to include this parcel with other properties.

On motion by Mr. Shoecraft, seconded by Mr. Stringfellow, copy of the resolution regarding the Casperson property request was authorized submitted to the Real Property Disposal Division.

In the meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District on August 13, 1952, the request of Mr. Casperson was granted on motion by Mr. Stringfellow, seconded by Mr. Woodard and carried; and upon motion of Commissioner Woodard, seconded by Commissioner Stringfellow, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District is procuring a Right-of-Way for an Inland Waterway between the Caloosahatchee River and the Anclote River along the West Coast of Florida, and

WHEREAS, As a portion of this Right-of-Way sought to be acquired is over and across property near Venice, Florida, said property being owned by Mr. O. W. Casperson, and

WHEREAS, Mr. O. W. Casperson has expressed a willingness and desire to cooperate to the fullest extent with the Board of Commissioners of the said West Coast Inland Navigation District, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Casperson has large property holdings which will be divided by the construction of the Inland Waterway, and

WHEREAS, the United States of America did acquire, and now own, property within the boundaries of the Venice Airport from Mr. Casperson, contiguous to his present holdings, which do not now seem necessary for the operation of the said Venice Airport, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Casperson desires to reacquire title and possession of said lands from the United States of America and will cooperate with local officials in the establishment of Public Roads and other facilities for the general development of the community;

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED By the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District that the United States of America be, and it is hereby requested to give all possible consideration to any request and application for re-purchase of lands submitted by Mr. O. W. Casperson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the District Engineer, Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville, Florida, and to the Real Property Disposal Division, 50 Whitehall Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

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On motion by Mr. Shoecraft, seconded by Mr. Stringfellow, the Board pledged cooperation with Pinellas County by asking that a slight change be made in the location of right-of-way in Pinellas County.

Mr. Fuqua advised that Richard Ervin, A.G., had prepared the proposed bill for legislation regarding millage to be levied for the West Coast Inland Navigation District for another two years.

Mr. McLeod advised that George Nunez, of the State Auditing Department, would audit the books of the District while in Manatee County.

The treasurer's report was given by Mr. McLeod, and approved on motion by Mr. Weeks, seconded by Mr. Shoecraft and carried.

The bills dated November 12th, 1952, were approved for payment on motion by Mr. McLeod, seconded by Mr. Weeks and carried.

On motion by Mr. Stringfellow, seconded by Mr. Woodard, the Board adjourned to meet Wednesday, December 10th, 1952 at 2:00 p.m.

W. L. Woodard
Secretary

J. H. Bee
Chairman