

**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2009 BOARD MEETING  
VENICE CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
VENICE, FLORIDA**

Commissioners Present:

Ray Judah, Chair  
Robert Skidmore, Vice Chair  
John Chappie, Treasurer  
Nora Patterson, Secretary

Staff Present:

Charles W. Listowski, Executive Director  
Philip E. Perrey, Counsel

Chair Ray Judah opened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. at Council Chambers – Venice City Hall, Venice, FL.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Listowski read into the record Resolution 2009-05 regarding Commissioner Joe McClash's service to the District over the past 16 years (resolution attached to the minutes). Commissioner Patterson and Commissioner Judah expressed appreciation for Commissioner McClash's service and longevity, and suggested to Mr. Listowski to express the Board's desire to wish him well in his future endeavors.

Commissioner Patterson introduced the guests in the audience from the Town of Longboat Key, including two Town Commissioners and the Town Manager. They are present to make comments concerning administrative agenda item #1.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S COMMENTS** – Counsel Perrey reported on a meeting with FDEP staff. He reported that they were still making progress on the Lee County NGP. He also reported that, back in 1997, WCIND entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the FDEP, and it was decided that an updated agreement was needed. Counsel Perrey went over the first draft of the updated Agreement.

Mr. Listowski reported on a December 11, 2009 meeting with FDEP staff in Tampa regarding nine projects for Manatee County. The meeting went well. Mr. Listowski provided a synopsis to the Board regarding activities associated with the emergency dredging of Cut M-5 (Jewfish Key Channel of GIWW) as a phase 2 approach to the previous emergency dredging done in 2007. He explained that six weeks prior to this meeting, Manatee County Board of County Commissioners provided \$300,000 of County funds to allow Mr. Listowski to pursue permits and construction contracts, with the understanding that WCIND will be approached to fund this regional project similarly to the 2007 initiative. Permits and a construction contract have been secured, and Mr. Listowski recommended that the WCIND Board pay for this work via emergency reserves, as was done in 2007. After some discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Skidmore to allow \$300,000 of contingency reserves from WCIND to be used for the emergency dredging of Cut M-5, seconded by Commissioner Chappie, and motion passed unanimously. Motion was then amended to allow Mr. Listowski to pursue reimbursement of these emergency expenditures from the USACOE at some point in the future. Original motion was amended, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Commissioner Patterson introduced Mr. Gene Jaleski, Town Commissioner, and Mr. Bruce St. Denis, Town Manager, from the Town of Longboat Key. Mr. St. Denis addressed the Board indicating that he was somewhat familiar with WCIND plans for emergency dredging of Cut M-5 in the near future. He explained that the Town of Longboat Key is permitted to place 600 cubic yards of beach sand material to fortify a shoreline road condition, but only 600 yards. Further discussion ensued with comments from Commissioner Skidmore, Commissioner Chappie, and Commissioner Patterson expressing strategic concerns regarding funding and administration of this regional project, inclusive of local jurisdictions like the Town of Longboat Key.

Mr. Listowski reported on the current status of the Longboat Pass area of the GIWW and the WCIND permit to dredge 30,000 yards, 10,000 of which would be of an immediate emergency nature to accommodate boating safety. He noted that dredging of the other 20,000 yards would enhance this project. Commissioner Chappie commented that WCIND funding should take into account projects like this one on behalf of the local town jurisdictions. Commissioner Skidmore related that he would like to have more information and address this project at the next WCIND Board meeting. Commissioner Patterson also related that she felt that this project was funded before as a regional project and should be funded again as a regional project, but she was unsure of the extent of regional financial support beyond addressing the immediate emergency.

Mr. Charlie Hunsicker, Manatee County staff, then addressed the Board. Mr. Hunsicker described the challenge associated with getting coastal permits to place beach sand on the beach. He confirmed the information presented by Mr. St. Denis regarding an existing emergency placement permit for 600 cubic yards to protect a coastal road system. After much discussion, including comments by Commissioner Skidmore regarding the need for beach sand in Charlotte County to support similar initiatives, the consensus of the Board was to allow Mr. Listowski to expand the existing 10,000 cubic yard project for Cut M-5 to 10,600 cubic yards.

Commissioner Chappie then related to the Board his appreciation for a presentation by Mr. Listowski and WCIND regarding project issues.

Discussion ensued regarding inlet management planning/modeling with Mr. St. Denis asserting that conditions of sand migration from the beach into the inlet should be studied. Mr. Listowski then related to the Board a reminder that WCIND and the FDEP have collaborated on a completed inlet management model for Longboat Pass. Commissioner Chappie then related that Manatee County and the Town of Longboat Key were collaborating on the development of another inlet model using the Delph 3D mechanism as the format to supplement what has been completed by the District and the FDEP. Mr. Hunsicker then explained the rationale for the County and the Town of Longboat Key desiring supplemental inlet management plans.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS' COMMENTS – Mr. Tim Murphy, ACOE Project Manager, reported to the Board on the following:

- The Venice Inlet project scheduled to commence in January 2010 was awarded to Inner Space Construction for \$676,000. The pre-construction meeting for this project will be held on January 4, 2010.
- Longboat Pass – The inlet model was reviewed by the ACOE Jacksonville staff during a WCIND visit on November 12, 2009. The inlet management model reflects the possibility of improvements being made with a change of the channel alignment. This channel alignment change could result in the best cost benefit for inlet function.
- Mr. Murphy also reported on new congressional “add” dollars approved recently totaling \$1.29 million for the upcoming fiscal year. This money supplements an already committed amount of over \$3 million from Congress for ACOE activities.

- Mr. Murphy is hopeful to contract for improvements to Longboat Pass in approximately one year.

Commissioner Patterson suggested to Mr. Murphy that the Town of Longboat Key officials present at this meeting would be interested in cooperatively exploring final disposition of beach sand material generated from any dredging project performed by the ACOE in the future. Mr. St. Denis addressed the Board regarding the ACOE proposal to maintain the current navigation pass alignment. He also expressed a desire to cooperatively work with the ACOE to ensure the most proper disposition of materials derived from any past dredging and generally would like the Town of Longboat Key to work with the ACOE on these projects.

Commissioner Patterson then suggested that New Pass in Sarasota County has a questionable federal authorization. The nature of this federal authorization should be explored and Sarasota County would like this exploration to include the potential for reauthorizing New Pass as a federal project. After some discussion from Mr. Murphy regarding reauthorization, Commissioner Patterson made a motion to instruct Mr. Listowski to investigate further the reauthorization of New Pass as a federal project, motion was seconded by Commissioner Skidmore, and motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion by Commissioner Skidmore to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Patterson, and motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA –

1. Federal/State Projects Update – Mr. Listowski – Mr. Listowski reported on a recently approved authorization to WCIND for the dredging of a Pinellas County cut within the GIWW. This authorization to the WCIND requires funding by the WCIND, instead of the funding secured for administration by the ACOE to do this project. The reason why funding is a consideration is due to the fact that WCIND has permits to do the work, and the ACOE does not. After some detailed discussion, the consensus of the Board was for Mr. Listowski to work with Mr. Murphy to allow for federal funding through the congressional “add” process to be used in concert with permits secured by the WCIND to make improvements to the GIWW in Pinellas County as a boating safety emergency activity.
2. District Project Status Report – Mr. Listowski reported on the status of meetings with the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners, in which nine projects in Manatee County were discussed to be administered by WCIND on behalf of Manatee County. One of the projects is Cut M-5 near Longboat Pass and Jewfish Key. Another project is the Bimini Bay entrance channel, and Mr. Listowski explained the importance of the safety of this channel as it relates to a notable regional yacht center. He reported that he had hoped that all projects under consideration could be underway by the spring of 2010.

Mr. Listowski also reported on the completion and delivery of the Sarasota County Navigation Improvement Database. This database is of extraordinary importance to waterway management and planning of activities, and WCIND is proud to provide this information to the County. Commissioner Patterson expressed appreciation for the efforts of the WCIND on behalf of Sarasota County.

Commissioner Chappie requested detailed information on the entrance to the Bimini Bay channel. Commissioner Chappie also introduced an emergency project involving a bridge scour condition near the Snead Island bridge in Manatee County. Mr. Sia Mollanar, of Manatee County Public Works, presented a request for assistance for WCIND in securing permits for this

emergency bridge condition. Consensus of the Board was to have Mr. Listowski explore the issue and report back to the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on January 29, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. at Venice City Hall.