

**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2006 BOARD MEETING
VENICE CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
VENICE, FLORIDA**

Commissioners Present:

Ray Judah, Chair
Joe McClash, Vice Chair
Tom Moore, Treasurer
Nora Patterson, Secretary

Staff Present:

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

Chair Ray Judah opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. at Council Chambers – Venice City Hall, Venice, FL.

Under the “Additions to Agenda,” Mr. Listowski requested agenda adjustments, due to time constraints, as follows: Administrative #1 will be an abbreviated presentation by Mr. Leonard, Administrative #3 will become #6, and Administrative #6 will become #3.

Motion to approve amended agenda by Commissioner McClash, seconded by Commissioner Moore, and motion approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION’S COMMENTS – Mr. Listowski reported to the Board the continued negotiations with FDEP pertaining to the Lee County NGP.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS’ COMMENTS – Mr. Listowski reported on a telephone report by Ms. Keiser regarding the contributed funds agreement process. The District consultant made a written formal request to the USACOE, and then Colonel Carpenter made a formal written request to Congresswoman Harris to champion the CFA process.

Mr. Listowski then exhibited photos of the recently completed Venice Jetties Rehabilitation Project. The Corps will be trying to address the dredging of the Venice Inlet shoal this fiscal year with beach placement of material that is compatible. Mr. Listowski also commended Mr. Robert Kupiec, WCIND Staff Assistant, for his work “above and beyond” on the Venice Jetties Rehabilitation Project.

Mr. Listowski further reported the upcoming submittal of a letter requesting congressional assistance in the amount of \$4.5 million for federal waterway improvements, including the OWW. An additional \$500,000 will be requested for the completion of the Section 1135, Sarasota Bay Habitat Restoration Project.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner McClash, seconded by Commissioner Patterson, approved the Consent Agenda and the vote was unanimous.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA –

1. FY04-05 Annual Audit Report – Mr. Ed Leonard, C.P.A., made a brief presentation to the Board regarding the FY04-05 Audit Report. He reported no problems involving the major compliance of the report, and only minor comments involving District administration of some credit receipts and compliance with the required finance training by the Executive Director. It was also reported by Mr. Leonard that District staff has already made adjustments of the minor comments including the registration for a finance training course. Motion to accept the audit by Commissioner McClash, was seconded by Commissioner Patterson, and the motion approved unanimously.
2. Multi-County Regional Artificial Reef Socioeconomic Analysis – Mr. Chris Koepfer, Lee County Artificial Reef Coordinator, explained a 7 county proposal. Then, Mr. Listowski offered background to the Board involving District’s legislation, which accommodates non-member counties. Mr. Koepfer went into detail regarding the regional value of the project proposed and the 50% funding match from the FDEP Artificial Reef Program. After some discussion, Commissioner Patterson made a motion to allow the 7 county initiative to include a \$10,000.00 contribution, per year, per county, to accomplish the project match with FDEP and with WCIND coordination/administration. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McClash and motion passed unanimously. Commissioner McClash made an additional comment to the Pinellas County Rep that there is still a dangerous survey condition in the federal channel south of the Skyway Bridge in Pinellas County, and to please follow up on the correspondence sent by Mr. Listowski to Pinellas County.
3. “Boca Grande Yacht Basin” Request For Assistance – Mr. Michael Haymans, Counsel for Harbor Drive LLC, made a comprehensive report to the Board concerning an amended application for a dredging project called “Boca Grande Yacht Basin Maintenance Dredging.” After acquainting the Board with current negotiations with the State for permitting, he requested assistance from the WCIND as co-applicant. After some discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner McClash to provide assistance to Harbor Drive LLC as co-applicant for a dredging permit involving a 7-foot deep channel/basin improvement. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion, prior to a substantive discussion involving comments by Mr. Listowski regarding water access stipulations, upland uses, and long-term public access. Questions and comments by Commissioners McClash, Patterson, and Moore resulted in a point of clarification by Counsel Perrey involving public access being preserved pertinent to the lifespan of the permit. The amended motion by Commissioner McClash added a stipulation of a five-year public access orientation, and was approved unanimously.
4. FWCC Uniform Waterway Marking System – Mr. Listowski recommended Board direction to formally request a public hearing to review the technical and financial issues involved in the proposed uniform waterway marking system by the FWCC. Motion by Commissioner McClash, seconded by Commissioner Patterson, and approved unanimously.
5. Project Update – The Board acknowledged the project spreadsheet as presented.
6. Annual Election of Officers – Motion by Commissioner McClash to maintain the current slate of officers for the next year, seconded by Commissioner Moore. The motion passed unanimously, with Commissioner Judah expressing appreciation for the vote of confidence.

COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS – Commissioner Patterson made a motion to have Executive Director look into submerged hazards located under the Ringling Causeway Bridge. Motion seconded by Commissioner McClash, and the motion passed unanimously.

WCIND COUNSEL'S REPORT - Counsel Perrey recalled for the Board an item presented by Commissioner Moore at a previous meeting. This item involved the use of District's land on Palm Island in Charlotte County for a community building. Counsel Perrey suggested to the Board that Commissioner Moore make a formal request to the District from his Board, for Use Agreement of said property for an open air type community building to be removable when ACOE/WCIND uses are needed. Motion by Commissioner Patterson, seconded by Commissioner McClash, and motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on March 31, 2006 at 10:30 a.m. at Venice City Hall.