

**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF January 24, 2014 BOARD MEETING
VENICE CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
VENICE, FLORIDA**

Commissioners Present

**John Chappie, Chair
Charles Hines – Vice Chair
Stephen R. Deutsch, Secretary
Larry Kiker, Treasurer**

Staff Present

Charles W. Listowski

Others in Attendance

Philip Perrey, Legal Counsel

Chair, John Chappie opened the meeting at 10:33 a.m. in Council Chambers – Venice City Hall, Venice, Florida.

Mr. Listowski recognized Commissioner Charles Hines of Sarasota County as the new representative for regular meetings of the District.

Mr. Listowski read into the record, Resolution 2014-01, regarding Commissioner Patterson's years of service.

Commissioner Deutsch motioned to approved Resolution 2014-01.

Commissioner Hines seconded the motion.

Motion approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT – No Public Comment

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S COMMENTS – Mr. Listowski noted that the last staff workshop for the Charlotte County General Permit is Monday, January 27, 2014. The stakeholder meeting will be in March, time and place are to be determined.

Discussion at the staff workshop will include:

- The draft rule
- Seagrass mitigation
- Finalizing the Agenda for the stakeholder meeting

Commissioner Deutsch informed the Board about Sunshine Lake in Charlotte County, and the challenges associated with the harmful green algae formation on this freshwater lake. Commissioner Deutsch noted that there may be potential for impact on the Peace River and Charlotte Harbor if there is a major rain event.

Commissioner Deutsch requested emergency funding of \$500,000.00 from WCIND to help defer the cost of \$1.5 million to removed the algae and establish an aeration system. Mr. Listowski noted that there are guidelines for funding for navigation in the event there is an emergency, but this project does not meet the criteria, as it is a freshwater lake. Mr. Listowski added, more research is needed to determine the percentage of impacts, if any. Mr. Listowski asked the Board to approve a records search for consideration at the next board meeting at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.00. After some discussion, a motion was made.

Commissioner Deutsch motioned to approve \$25,000.00 for an impact study regarding Sunshine Lake conditions and impacts to navigable waterways, to be as a catalyst for formulation of a regional policy.

Commissioner Kiker seconded the motion.

Motion approve unanimously.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS' COMMENTS – Mr. Milan Mora Project Manager with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Jacksonville District, noted that there is a Continuing Authority Program 1135 Ecosystem Restoration that could be a possibility as a funding source for the Sunshine Lake.

Mr. Listowski noted that in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2014 there is a budget of \$40 million for “small remote or subsistence navigation” that the District may get around a million dollars. We will work with Mr. Mora to develop a list of projects.

Contributed Funds Agreement is a mechanism for the Federal Government and the Navigation District to cost share projects. Mr. Mora, added that there is a big push to do a multi-year agreement through the Wilmington District to accept State money so this doesn't have to go back to Congress every time and this will act as a pattern for us to follow.

Counsel Perrey noted that one of issues with the Contributed Funds Agreement is where does the money go, where is the money held and how is the money disbursed. Mr. Mora answered that the money will be held in a WCIND escrow account at a local bank and a letter will be sent as to how much is needed to be disbursed for the project

Mr. Listowski suggested to the Board to initiate a request for appraisal reports at \$20,000 for each of the following under Section 216:

- Boca Grande Pass
- Mouth of the Caloosahatchee River
- Stump Pass

Commissioner Hines motioned to initiate a request for appraisal report for Boca Grande Pass, Mouth of the Caloosahatchee River and Stump Pass.

Commissioner Kiker seconded the motion

Motion approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA -

Commissioner Hines motioned to approve the consent agenda

Commissioner Deutsch seconded the motion

Motion approved unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

District Project Status Report

Manatee County –

- Warner's Middle – Project is underway, utilizing a bag field, in the dredged material process.
- Manatee Shores – Project to begin next week

Sarasota County –

- Snake Island rock placement will start next week.

Longboat Pass Case No 13-004279 Administrative Hearing

Case has been settled

Palm Island Easement – Enables Charlotte County to use one of our properties that has access to the beach. Staff recommends approval of the updated agreement, and by informal consensus the Board approved the updated agreement.

OLD BUSINESS – None

COMMISSIONER ITEMS - None

COUNSEL'S REPORT - None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - None

Next regular meeting will be held on Friday March 7, 2014 at 10:30 AM Venice City Hall, Board Chambers.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50AM