

WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT
Approved MINUTES OF May 23, 2014 BOARD MEETING
VENICE CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
VENICE, FLORIDA

Commissioners Present

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

Staff Present

Charles W. Listowski

Others in Attendance

Philip Perrey, Legal Counsel

Chair, Charles Hines opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. in Council Chambers – Venice City Hall, Venice, Florida.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Patrick McCarthy commented on the Snake Island Project, that it was completed on time and thanked Mr. Listowski, the Board, WCIND staff and the contractor, job well done.

Mr. Paul Cioffi complimented the Snake Island Restoration but, voiced his concerns regarding the drinking, the dogs, loud music, the mangroves being ripped up at night and being thrown on the fire, and Frisbee being played on the newly planted grass. He added that there are no regulations on Snake Island.

Mr. Edmund Campbell, Jr., was also complimentary of the restoration and questioned if the public funds invested would be protected and also, voiced his concerns with the excessive noise, the amount of people and boats now utilizing the island, people burying dog waste and trash. He would like to see more police presence, during the afternoon and late night hours.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION’S COMMENTS – Mr. Listowski noted that there was a public hearing workshop conducted by the FDEP April 1, 2014 at the Charlotte Harbor Event Center in Punta Gorda, regarding the Charlotte County General Permit to improve 27 water bodies. Approximately 10 citizens attended and a few registered comments to DEP staff. Some comments were also recorded via webinar with Tallahassee.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS’ COMMENTS – Mr. Listowski read into the record Mr. Mora’s comments.

- Jacksonville District will release the Modeling Report for dredging of the ebb shoal at Big Sarasota Pass mid-June.
- The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) passage is imminent by the end of June.

Mr. Listowski added that the WRDA bill provides funding for inlets, and other projects to improve the Federal Waterway. Each event could qualify for Federal support of \$7-\$10 million, over a period of 50 years. Each Inlet has a different maintenance cycle, but this program will provide substantial support for the foreseeable future.

CONSENT AGENDA –

Commissioner Deutsch motioned to approve the Minutes of March 7, 2014, Invoices Paid for March and April 2014.

Commissioner Kiker seconded the motion.

Motion approved unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

A. District Project Status Report

Mr. Listowski reported:

Lee County

- Normandy Channel underway.

Charlotte County

- Charlotte County Public Workshop was held on April 1, 2014

Sarasota County

- Cherokee Park, Englewood Fishing Pier and Boat Docks Projects have been advertised for construction
- Venice Jetty Repair will done in June.

Manatee County

- Trailer Estates Channel Dredge
- Flamingo Cay Channel Dredge
- Bradenton Beach/Coquina Channel Improvement
- Longboat Key Pass dredging underway – Cavache, Inc. was the low bidder \$850,000.00
Town of Longboat Key cost share is \$400,000.00.

B. Preliminary Budget Comments

Mr. Listowski reported an estimated increase in property values of 3% - 5% and maintaining our current millage at .0394, it would be a tax increase over the estimated roll-back rate of .0385.

The counties have submitted a preliminary list of applications and 2 of the 4 counties exceed what would be generated, CNIF would be available for them to fund the projects.

Mr. Listowski noted that the Board may want to look at a policy change regarding Fire/Rescue equipment and boats.

OLD BUSINESS – Mr. Listowski reported:

- A. Longboat Key Emergency Report – Cavache, Inc. project is on schedule and expected to be completed early July. To date (2 days) they have dredge and placed approximately 3,000 cy of material.
- B. Snake Island Report – Although the recent stabilization of Snake Island presents attractive conditions for public use, Snake Island is not a park or recreational area. Mr. Listowski suggested a meeting the Chief of Venice Police for more police presence, in light of potential problems related to public use.
- C. Manatee River Dredging Project – removal of 17,000 cy, bid opening June 10, 2014.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS - Commissioner Kiker thanked Mr. Listowski for the work he has done in Lee County.

COUNSEL'S REPORT - Mr. Perrey stated that after 15 years we have a signed lease agreement with DOT for the use of a DOT right- of -way parcel, adjacent to district owned land, presently used as a marine enforcement facility.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – Mr. Listowski's last day of employment, under the Florida Retirement System, will be 10/31/15 or sooner. Mr. Listowski suggested the hiring of an Assistant Executive Director that could possibly be considered for Executive Director upon Mr. Listowski's retirement. A draft policy will be presented to the Board for review, at the June 26, 2014 Board meeting. Mr. Perrey added, this is the way it has worked for the last two replacements of the Executive Director. Commissioner Hines asked Counsel Perrey to review the job description, the process for hiring and make recommendations.

Next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2014 at 10:30 AM Venice City Hall, Community Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.