

**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2004 BOARD MEETING
VENICE CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
VENICE, FLORIDA**

Commissioners Present: Nora Patterson, Chair
Ray Judah, Vice Chair
Joe McClash, Treasurer
Tom Moore, Charlotte County Alternate

Commissioners Absent: Tom D'Aprile, Secretary

Staff Present: Charles W. Listowski, Executive Director
Philip E. Perrey, Counsel

Chair Nora Patterson opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. at Council Chambers – Venice City Hall, Venice, FL. Mr. Listowski announced the attendance of Tom Moore representing Charlotte County. Commissioner Moore will likely be the replacement for retired Commissioner Mac Horton.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S COMMENTS – None.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS' COMMENTS – None.

Commissioner Patterson discussed the need to have USACOE representation at our meetings. She mentioned that Sarasota County was involved in some continuing authorities projects, i.e., the Sarasota Bay Section 1135, which remains in limbo. Mr. Listowski assured her that he would make every effort to have Mr. McMillen or someone else from the JAX District Office at our next meeting and hopefully on a regular basis. Further Mr. Listowski suggested that the Board direct him to have the District liaison in Washington look into the matter of the Sarasota County Section 1135 project. Consensus of the Board was to have the liaison in Washington research the means required to receive the Section 1135 funds.

CONSENT AGENDA – Commissioner Judah made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner McClash, and the motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA –

1. Washington Liaison Activities – Mr. Listowski reported that the House of Representatives approved the District \$1 million request for designing, engineering, and permitting activities associated with repairs to the ICW near Longboat Pass, Venice Inlet (including rehabilitation of the jetties), and two areas within Lee County. Commissioner Patterson questioned the costs associated with design engineering and permitting, and Mr. Listowski reminded the Board that these costs are associated with the USACOE administration of the projects.

Discussion continued with clarification of costs for dredging the “hot spots” along the ICW, requested by Commissioner McClash. Mr. Listowski explained that the Corps of Engineers’ estimate for all the work, including the jetties rehabilitation, is around \$4 million. Therefore, a subsequent request to Congress will be made next session for the additional \$3 million for construction. This process would insure that the funds would be spent for GIWW improvements in SW Florida and not for improvements to the GIWW in another USACOE District. Mr. Listowski reported liaison activities to support Sarasota County’s request for use of District property by the Boys & Girls Club. The paperwork was delayed in Washington and our liaison expedited the processing of these documents successfully.

2. Beach Erosion Control Program - Mr. Listowski reported to the Board that a contract for State cost share to develop an inlet management plan for the Venice Inlet is in final review. This will provide the District with \$75,000 of state money for this long-range plan. Commissioner Patterson related thoughts about Sarasota County’s initiative for management plans for New Pass and Big Sarasota Pass.

After some discussion relating how WCIND could assist Sarasota County in this regard, Commissioner Patterson requested comments from Mr. Rasbury, Sarasota County Staff. Mr. Rasbury then presented the concept of Sarasota County’s initiative plan for long-term management for both New Pass and Big Sarasota Pass.

After much discussion the consensus of the Board was to allow Mr. Listowski to pursue State match funding for an inlet model of New Pass.

3. Manatee County Dredge Projects – Report – Mr. Listowski reported that staff has had several meetings with County officials, Airport Authority officials, and the USF officials to qualify the issue of the most proper disposal plan for dredged materials for the Crosley project. Staff has also met with the contractor for work schedules and verification that the Snead Island (Cut-Off Channel) will be first on the schedule. Staff has also met with representatives of the American Legion to qualify dredge material placement relating to the Palma Sola Yacht Basin and Entrance Channel project. The San Remo channel portion of the contract has also been addressed in preparing for proper placement of dredged materials. Staff awaits the final determination of community outreach activities by the County before preparing for the Cortez dredging project.
4. Lee County NGP Process – Report – Mr. Listowski reported that staff has met again with representatives from University of Florida, Lee County, and the FDEP to finalize the list of waterbodies to be included in the rule language for the NGP. It is hoped that in a few months this process will be finalized and be ready for the Chapter 120 rule-making process which requires public hearings. This technical initiative will be assumed by Counsel Perrey’s office for analysis of the language for compatibility with the State’s rule-making process.

5. Charlotte County Cleanup Activities – Report – Mr. Listowski reported that staff has met with Charlotte County liaison to the District about strategies to provide assistance to the County as it reconstructs channel marker systems and ensures that there are no dangerous obstructions to navigation in some areas of the County that have received storm damage. Upon completion of the County's sign and buoy inventory, the District will make every effort to assist the County in reinstalling these systems. It is hoped that this will be accomplished this winter, however, this will be a long-term process.
6. Sarasota County Projects – Update – Mr. Listowski reported that staff has had discussions with PBS&J, the consultant for Sarasota County's new waterway maintenance program. Staff is in the final phase of the Phillippi Creek dredging project, which includes dredging approximately 3,000 yards from lower Jaffa Canal and providing a new channel marker system in the main Phillippi Creek channel. The marker system is collaboration with County waterway maintenance staff.

COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS - Commissioner Judah introduced to the Board the subject of deficiencies within the Okeechobee Waterway. There is a multi-county association composed of the counties that are located within the waterway alignment between the east and west coast. Commissioner Judah is a member of this association and requested Mr. Listowski and Counsel Perrey be directed to explore ways that the WCIND could assist this multi-county initiative. Consensus of the Board was to direct Mr. Listowski to research the issue and come back to the Board at a later meeting.

Commissioner Patterson reiterated her concerns regarding inlet/pass management being conducted in a holistic fashion. Mr. Listowski suggested that the inlet model, previously referenced, be brought to the Board at the January meeting, after being presented the Sarasota County Staff. Consensus of the Board was to allow Mr. Listowski to make that presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Next meeting will be held on January 28, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. at Venice City Hall.