

## WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT

October 14, 1957

The regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held in the Court House, Bradenton, Florida, on Monday, October 14, 1957.

Those present were:

Ellsworth Simmons, Chairman	Hillsborough County
H. C. Slaughter, Treasurer	Manatee County
Edwin F. McCann	Sarasota County
James Miller	Charlotte County
Mr. E. Jenkins	Pinellas County

Fred W. Ball, Executive Secretary  
 Dewey A. Dye, Jr., Attorney  
 Joe K. Merrin, Engineer  
 Bruce M. Cox, Accountant

The minutes of the September 9, 1957 meeting were approved as presented.

Mr. Simmons introduced Mr. Jenkins, who was present in Mr. Fischer's place, representing Pinellas County. ✓

Mr. Simmons stated that he had received many letters from interested citizens who were anxious to see the progress of this project. Copies of communications sent from the Chairman to Congressmen and Senators appealing for consideration in the 1959 budget were read. Copy of a letter from Governor Leroy Collins to Major General E. C. Itschner, Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, Department of Army, Washington, D. C. was read, and also one from Mr. Bushnell, of the Florida Steel Corporation, Tampa, urging the support of the Army Engineers for financial support of this canal this year. ✓

Mr. Dewey A. Dye, Jr. reported that he had sent out resolutions to all counties as directed at the last meeting, but that he had had no response. The resolution was read, and discussion ensued. Mr. Simmons stated that Pinellas County had found it objectionable, and stated that Mr. Fischer, Pinellas County, was certainly interested and wanted to cooperate. His objection was, namely, that the entire route would be within the mile on either side and that would necessitate every applicant to go before their investigator, causing a tremendous amount of work. Mr. Simmons felt that there should be a clearance from this Board and the resolution could be restated to read, "an authorized person," instead of "Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District or their authorized representative". Mr. Slaughter stated that his Board, Manatee County, had already passed the resolution.

The Board expressed an opinion that one mile on either side of the center line of the canal was too much and it was suggested that it might read "one-half mile". Mr. Slaughter stated that this Board should know about any buildings or proposed filling to be put in within one-half mile of our right of way. Mr. Simmons said that one-half mile would be one-quarter mile from the center line. Mr. Simmons suggested that there could be a substitution of words such as, "to be approved by the Pinellas County Board, or their authorized personnel." It was suggested that the resolution be redrafted, and ask the Commissioners of their respective counties to assume the responsibility of seeing that permits were cleared, or if desired, to call on the WCIND Board, or our Engineer.

Mr. Simmons stated that by the next meeting, the Board will know whether or not other counties had found the resolution objectionable, and he requested Mr. Jenkins, representing Pinellas County in place of Mr. Fischer, to prepare a resolution that will state Pinellas County's assumption of responsibility for seeing that no applications be permitted that will encroach upon the canal right of way. Other objecting counties were asked to draft their own resolutions as to what responsibility they would take.

Mr. Dewey A. Dye, Jr. reported that there were no settlements to be approved on right of way acquisitions right now, but that there were some pending. Mr. Slaughter made a motion which Mr. Miller seconded that Mr. Dye be given authority to proceed with condemnation on the East Coast Fisheries, Inc., Nokomis, and Mr. George Walther, of Sarasota Bay.

Mr. Dye stated that he spoke at the Sarasota Rotary Club on this project, and they expressed much interest and pledged their support by writing letters to their Congressmen. Mr. Dye said that he expects to address the Bradenton Kiwanis, and Palmetto Rotary Club in the near future, and hopes to stimulate their interest also in the project.

Mr. Simmons asked Mr. Dye how many parcels of right of way were still be procured as of now, and Mr. Dye reported as follows:

Lee County	0
Charlotte County	3 or 4
Sarasota County	about 20
Manatee County	2
Hillsborough County	0
Pinellas County	unknown

(Mr. Merrin reported only one upland parcel in Pinellas County but numerous submerged parcels).

Mr. Joe Merrin, Engineer for the Board, reported that he had received a letter from the County of Sarasota regarding the

application of Stanton Investment Company for a permit to construct a boat basin and docking facilities on the bay side of Lot 18, Gulf View Subdivision, Siesta Key, Sarasota County. Maps were enclosed - the proposed bulkhead and fill drawing has one foot contours of the property involved. Public hearing had been held by Sarasota and action delayed for further study. Mr. Slaughter stated that this would be within fifteen feet of our right of way. Mr. Simmons said that it was getting too close. Mr. Merrin felt that it would require exhaustive investigation, due to survey presented by owner being incomplete. Mr. Slaughter made a motion which Mr. McCann seconded that this Board request Sarasota County not to allow any fills, docks, or improvements within 100 feet of right of way, preferably, and in no case less than 50 feet, such line to be in keeping with existing facilities.

Mr. Merrin submitted his monthly report and it was accepted as presented.

Mr. Slaughter read the Treasurer's report as of September 30, 1957. Mr. Miller made a motion which Mr. McCann seconded that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Mr. Slaughter also read a copy of a letter which would authorize the First National Bank of Bradenton to reduce the present collateral held by them to insure our deposits from \$315,000 to \$156,000. Mr. Miller made a motion which Mr. Slaughter seconded that Mr. Slaughter be authorized to discuss the matter with the Bank.

A motion was made by Mr. Slaughter and seconded by Mr. Miller that WCIND release \$10,000 worth of City of Tampa bonds now on deposit as part of the collateral pledged by the First National Bank of Bradenton.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

*Walter G. Smith* *W. H. Merrin*