

The October meeting of the Commissioners, of the WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT, was held October 29, 1973, in the Sarasota County Commission Chamber, Manatee Room, Sarasota, Florida.

Present were: Kenneth W. Daniels, Chairman, Lee County
 Larry Rhodes, Vice Chairman, Sarasota County
 Dan P. McClure, Treasurer, Manatee County
 Dorothy R. Flowers, Secretary, Charlotte County
 A. Oliver McEachern, Pinellas County

Charles E. Furbee, Executive Director
 Dewey A. Dye, Jr., Counsel

Absent was: Bob Lester, Hillsborough County

ADMINISTRATION

The meeting convened at 10:30 a.m.

Minutes of the September 17, 1973 meeting were approved as presented.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented. Vouchers No. 7386 through 7407 were approved for payment.

Florida Statute, Chapter 73-349, Financial Reporting -
 This act requires another report to the Department of Banking and Finance; that is, from all special districts, covering their operations during the preceding fiscal year. WCIND is classified as a special independent district. The report must be submitted no later than December 31, 1973.

The Director forwarded letters of intent, along with the WCIND financial statement for FY ending September 30, 1973, to Commissioners for their approval to publish in the newspapers listed for the six Counties. Commissioner Lester, for Hillsborough County, replied with a request to delete the listing of the Tampa Tribune and add the Shopper and Observer News in Ruskin. The Chairman stated that WCIND is required to publish its financial statement in a newspaper with county-wide circulation. Commr. McClure moved that the Director be instructed to publish the financial statement in the Tampa Tribune for Hillsborough County distribution; Commr. Rhodes seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The WCIND financial statement will be forwarded to the other newspapers as listed and approved for the counties in the District.

Millage Levy - The Director referred to the Florida Statute, Chapter 73-172 and a possible conflict between WCIND law and this new statute. The Counties have come up with a comparable dollar amount as submitted in their published statements for certification. If this method is legal, it is agreeable to WCIND.

Waterway Guide Map - Wm. P. Carey, Inc. - Advertising, has advised that the model is ready for presentation and then to press. The Director recommended that since the next board meeting date is

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November 19, 1973, to schedule the presentation for this date. Also, it was suggested that since a quantity of slides of the waterway with current pertinent information is available, WCIND may wish to consider a program for slides and brief of the waterway for a presentation to the public. Price for this recommended program will be submitted to the Director at an early date to be presented to the board for consideration.

Federal Water Project Recreation Act (PL 89-72) A request for evaluation of the impact on WCIND was received from Director R. O. Vernon, Division of Interior Resources, with copy of letter dated September 26, 1973, from Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville, re the administration policy starting with FY 1975 program under two methods, either by the users fees or by a cooperative program whereby the District would provide fifty percent of the recreational developmental costs. A review of Chapter 61-1590 was made by Mr. Dye, WCIND Counsel, and the board instructed the Director to reply that this policy should not have an impact on WCIND since the WCIND does not fall into recreational projects.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

Sarasota County

Venice Area Sounding Survey - This survey will be resumed by the Corps of Engineers crew in the near future.

Embankment Study - The Director reported that a bid for grass-mowing in the Venice Area has been let by the C.E., Tampa Area Office. A study by the C.E. will determine the future treatment of the canal banks in the area.

Request for Easement - First National Bank of Venice requires an easement across the drainage ditch parallel to Gulf Coast Boulevard. The Director recommended approval. Commr. McClure moved that the easement be granted, subject to Counsel's approval and that a monthly fee be obtained following an appraisal; Commr. Rhodes seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Requests for Spoil Material - S/A S3-4 Area in Venice - The additional purchases for spoil material, at the current rate of 35¢ per cubic yard, were approved by the board as recommended by the Director: Dale Morrison Trucking Company for 10,000 cubic yards; and Wendel Kent & Company for another 5,000 cubic yards of the 10,000 cubic yards previously approved. Commr. McClure moved for granting these two requests; the motion was seconded by Commr. McEachern and the motion carried.

Manatee County

Girls Scout Council Project - WCIND received a request for selected areas on WCIND spoil areas, or islands, on which the group may start a program of tree-planting for possible recreational areas in the future and which program is to be in commemoration of the U.S. Bicentennial Celebration 1976. The Director is requested to select approved areas in Lee, Charlotte, Sarasota, and Manatee Counties. Commr.

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McClure moved that this request be granted; Commr. Rhodes seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Pinellas County

St. Joseph Sound Maintenance Project - Progress to date was reviewed re the Corps of Engineers letter September 25, 1973, for acquisition of disposal areas D/A SJS - B, C, and D, for easements, and for dredge waste-water access easements. The C.E. estimated diking costs will be \$301,000. Mr. V. J. Kennedy, owner of the disposal area property, has offered to accomplish the diking and provide WCIND the required easements for a fee to WCIND of \$150,000. Considerations were that the owner would have to be bonded; cross-sections required; m.l.w. data required; and the maintaining of the dikes to required data. The owner will need ample time to accomplish this by March 1, 1974 dateline. Commr. McEachern stated that the project status suggested is either the C.E. does the project for \$301,000; or, that the property owner accomplishes it for \$150,000. The owner has not been advised of the contents of letter received today from the C.E. for its Lands Request. Mr. Dye advised on the legality; WCIND can decide either way; however, WCIND does not have any construction or engineering staff for responsibility of a dike twenty-five feet high. The C.E. must be furnished cross-sections until the project is accepted. Commr. McEachern expressed concern for project success with the owner basically in another business; WCIND and the owner might be better off, for the WCIND to talk to the owner to make a contribution and then let the C.E. do the job. Mr. Dye stated that WCIND should be prepared to anticipate some agency difficulties; therefore, the C.E. could do this project better. The Director reported that to date no objections were received re the C.E. inquiries in a coordinate letter sent to interested agencies as of September 26, 1973. Commr. McEachern suggested that the owner be approached on the basis that WCIND make a contribution for perhaps \$150,000. Commr. Rhodes was in favor of the C.E. doing this project. The Chairman stated that he favored WCIND make contribution to owner. Commr. Rhodes suggested that the board instruct the Director to meet with the owner, Mr. V. J. Kennedy. Mr. Dye advised that WCIND should go with the owner to the C.E. Jacksonville Office for another conference for details presented to this date. The board concurred.


The ACTIVITIES REPORT was accepted as presented.

NEXT MEETING DATE - The next meeting date is November 19, 1973.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - The Water Resources Congress, November 17-19, 1973.

Commr. Rhodes moved that members and staff be authorized to attend the convention in St. Louis, Missouri, at WCIND expense; the motion was seconded by Commr. McClure, and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.


Secretary


Chairman

ACTIVITIES REPORT

September 17, 1973 - October 29, 1973

I. ADMINISTRATION

- A. (1) Florida Statute, Chapter 73-349, Financial Reporting - "Uniform Local Government Financial Management and Reporting Act." This act classifies WCIND as an "Independent special District which means a special district whose governing head is an independent body, either appointed or elected, and whose budget is established independently of the local governing authority, even though there may be appropriation of funds generally available to a local governing authority involved." Also, this law requires the Department of Banking and Finance to receive from all special districts a financial report covering their operations during the proceeding fiscal year. This is a prescribed reporting form as is due not later than December 31 of each year.

(2) Florida Statute, Chapter 73-172, Millage Levy - This was discussed during the September 1973 WCIND board meeting and it was decided to defer any action until a majority of the County Tax Assessors' Certifications had been received. Three Counties have forwarded their certifications.

- B. Waterway Guide Map Status - The Director met with Mr. Bill Fritts of the firm of Wm. P. Carey, Inc., Advertising, to review the "mat" of the waterway Guide on October 24, 1973. Completion date is November 16, 1973 but, due to the WCIND proposed meeting date of November 19, 1973, the Director authorized a delay in the completion date so that the board could approve the final model on November 19, 1973.

- C. Federal Water Project Recreation Act (Public Law 89-72) - A letter was received from Robert O. Vernon, Director, Division of Interior Resources which requests an evaluation of the impact on WCIND of an implementation of this act. Inasmuch as the IWW was created under the River and Harbors Act of 1945, WCIND does not fall into recreational projects.

II. ACTIVITIES IN COUNTIESA. Sarasota County

Venice Area Sounding Survey - The sounding survey conducted during September 17-24, 1973 was interrupted due to emergency requirements and the survey crew will be back in the Venice Area in the near future according to Mr. Burnett of the Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville.

Venice Area Embankment Study - On October 18, 1973, the Director accompanied C.E. Jacksonville, Chief Agronomist and the Chief Estimator on an inspection trip of the Venice Canal to decide the best approach to treatment of the banks, rip-rap and grassing. This is in addition to the grass-mowing project to take place within the next three or four weeks.

Request for Easement - Mr. G. E. Youngberg, Sr., of the First National Bank of Venice, submitted a request for an easement across the drainage ditch on the north side of S/A S3-4 and parallel to the Gulf Coast Boulevard.

Requests for Spoil Material -

Mr. F. Derr of Wendel Kent and Company, submitted a request for 2,000 cubic yards of material from S/A S3+4 at 35¢ a cubic yard. Board approval is recommended.

Mr. Dale Morrison (Morrison Trucking), submitted a request for 10,000 cubic yards of material from S/A S3-4 at 35¢ a cubic yard. Board approval is recommended.

B. Manatee County

Girl Scouts Council of Manatee County Request - Mrs. R.E. Omlor telephoned a request for a spoil area in Lee, Charlotte, Sarasota, and Manatee Counties. Each Council in each district will, in commemoration of the US Bicentennial Celebration 1976, plant and care for a spoil island so that it can be utilized as a recreational area.

C. Pinellas County

St. Joseph Sound Maintenance Project - On September 25, 1973, a request was received from Mr. Lee C. Lohman, Chief of Real Estate Division, C.E. Jacksonville District, to acquire disposal areas D/A SJS - B - C, and D. The disposal area easements, pipeline access easements, and dredge waste-water access easements are needed for a two-year period. On October 5, 1973, the Director visited the Jacksonville Office of C.E. to review the project. A coordinate letter was sent by the C.E. to all interested agencies on September 26, 1973. As of October 25, 1973, a telephone inquiry of the C.E. revealed that no objections were received from the parties on the address list. The cost of the diking estimated by the engineering branch of the C.E. will be \$340,000. Mr. Jack Kennedy, owner of the disposal area property, will accomplish the diking with the Corps of Engineers inspecting and its approval. Mr. Kennedy will provide WCIND with the required easements at a fee to WCIND of \$150,000.