

**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING**

**FRIDAY MAY 27, 1994 AT 10:30 A.M.**

**SARASOTA COUNTY SOUTH COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER**

**4000 S. TAMiami TRAIL, VENICE, FLORIDA**

**A G E N D A**

**ADMINISTRATION**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of the Minutes of March 25, 1994
3. Approval of Bills to be Paid for March and April, 1994
4. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for February and March, 1994
5. Approval of Deletions or Additions to Agenda

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMENTS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Venice Intracoastal Marine Park - Progress Report
2. Longboat Pass Dredging Easements - Report by Counsel Perrey
3. Executive Director's Retirement - Discussion

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Waterway Development Program Rule Change
2. Stump Pass - D.E.P. Signage/Education Proposal
3. Snake Island - Navigation and Management Issues
4. Hurricane Hazard Evaluation Proposal - Presentation by Professor Antonini, U. of Florida
5. Anchorage Study - Update
6. Sea Grant Presentation - Fish I.D. Booklet
7. Harbor Lights Lot #29
8. Summary of Tentative Budget - Information Only

**NEXT MEETING TIME AND DATE: Friday, July 15, 1994 at 10:30 A.M.  
Venice, Florida**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1994

SARASOTA COUNTY SOUTH COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER

MINUTES OF MAY 27, 1994

A regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held on Friday, May 27, 1994, at 10:30 A.M. at the Sarasota County South County Administration Center, 4000 South Tamiami Trail, Venice, Florida.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ray Judah, Chairman  
Kent G. Chetlain, Treasurer  
Wayne Derr, Secretary

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Richard J. Leonard, Vice Chairman

STAFF PRESENT: James M. Armstrong, Executive Director  
Charles W. Listowski, Assistant Exec. Director  
Connie McLenna, Administrative Assistant  
Philip E. Perrey, Counsel

ADMINISTRATION:

Commissioner Judah presided. The roll was called. Commissioner Leonard was absent. Commissioner Derr moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 1994 meeting. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Derr moved to approve the bills to be paid for March and April, 1994. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Derr moved to approve the Treasurer's Reports for February and March, 1994. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Item No. 9 was added under New Business: Discussion of an IWW Inspection Trip with the Corps of Engineers.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMENTS: Mr. Jeremy Craft from DEP in Tallahassee spoke to the Board. We are now in phase 2 of the merger. He passed out a chart outlining the new structure for the agency which was approved by the recently completed legislative session. Mr. Craft will head the Division of Environmental Resource Permitting under the Office of Deputy Secretary headed by Mr. Dan Thompson. Many of the old DER functions will be in this office. Many of the old DNR functions will be under the other Office of Deputy Secretary headed by Mr. Kirby Greene. Mr. Craft spoke about ecosystem management in the new department and various newly-formed committees. Counsel Perrey asked where the navigation districts would be placed in the new department. Mr. Craft explained that Secretary Wetherell may exercise her discretion in this matter and will be convening a meeting soon to determine this issue.

MINUTES OF MAY 27, 1994

The navigation districts will probably remain under Mr. Craft's division. The Chairman thanked Mr. Craft for his report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Venice Intracoastal Marine Park. Mr. Listowski explained that our agreement with DEP is going through channels in Tallahassee and represents \$10,000 in funding for the project. Sarasota County's Natural Resources Recreation Advisory Board also approved a request to utilize \$142,500 of boating improvement funding for the project. The City of Venice Parks & Recreation Advisory Board also approved a commitment of approximately \$90,000 in park impact fees for the project. Questions regarding liability have arisen in discussions with the City of Venice, and Mr. Armstrong was asked to address various concerns.

Mr. Armstrong said there is solid support for this marine park. In meetings with the city, the City Manager agreed that he would direct staff to provide us with an agreement we all could live with. They have done nothing with that. Mr. Armstrong is of the opinion that one individual wants to take over and own the land. We are progressing and doing our part, but the City of Venice seems to be dragging its feet, in spite of our giving them easements, rights-of way, and land all over the city. Mr. Armstrong suggested that WCIND could build the marine park, put the boat ramp in, restore the mangrove area, and run the whole area, to get the job done. Expenses would be minimal. Mr. Armstrong said under no circumstances should we give the City of Venice the land. At least make them pay for it. Or, Sarasota County might operate the park. Commissioner Chetlain moved to direct staff to work toward completing the marine park contingent upon an interlocal agreement being worked out between the city and county for the county to maintain the park. Seconded by Commissioner Derr. Motion passed unanimously.

Longboat Pass Dredging Easements. The COE wants to put the sand north of the Cortez Road Bridge, but the sand is not needed there. It is needed south of the bridge. Counsel Perrey continued that the water quality certification is up in the air. WCIND has completed its part. The rest is up to others, but the big stumbling block is where to put the sand.

Executive Director's Retirement. To be taken up later.

NEW BUSINESS:

Waterway Development Program Rule Change. Counsel Perrey explained that part of the rule allows for a misinterpretation. The problem is whether or not an expense is authorized for an item that is used exclusively for an authorized project. In order to clarify the rule, we want to rewrite this one section so that the only interpretation is the one that the WCIND staff has been following.

MINUTES OF MAY 27, 1994

We would have to amend the rule and advertise the change, but it would be beneficial to eliminate the possible controversy. Commissioner Derr moved to approve the rule change. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Stump Pass - DEP Signage/Education Proposal. Mr. Listowski explained that DEP wishes to contract with the District, including a \$10,000 commitment, for implementing a signage/education project at Stump Pass. Commissioner Chetlain moved to approve the project contingent upon Charlotte County's approval. Commissioner Derr seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Snake Island - Navigation and Management Issues. Commissioner Derr moved to direct staff to continue its cooperative efforts regarding the management of Snake Island. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Hurricane Hazard Evaluation Proposal. Mr. Listowski introduced Professor Antonini with the University of Florida to make a proposal. The University of Florida is proposing a three-year project to develop a methodology for determining and mapping hurricane risk to boats and docks in coastal waters. Currently, there is no boater component to hurricane hazard policy and planning at any level of government. As a result of Hurricane Andrew, there were over one thousand vessels that were sunk and damaged in the water, clogging the waters, and presenting a definite threat to public safety. He is requesting \$40,000 (8% of total) from WCIND for this study and to implement its results. He introduced Dr. Shepherd who spoke about the research, gathering of data, analysis, and forecasting the results of a 100 year storm on each classification of boat. Charlotte Harbor would be a focal point of the study. Letters of support for this project have been received from many sources, and, specifically, from the Emergency Management Directors within our District. Commissioner Derr moved to postpone a vote on funding this project until the next WCIND Board Meeting on July 15, 1994. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Anchorage Study - Update. Professor Antonini will give a detailed presentation of the results of this study at a later Board Meeting, but he summarized the results of this study involving 340 recreational boaters, shore residents, and 47 anchorages. Commissioners are to have a copy of this study before the next Board Meeting.

Sea Grant Presentation. Certificates of appreciation were presented to the District for its sponsorship of the production of the Fish Identification Booklet. It has been very well-received.

Harbor Lights Lot #29. Mr. Listowski explained the homeowner's request to build a handicap ramp/walkway on his property. Commissioner Derr moved to approve the request for expanded encroachment for the ramp/walkway according to the submitted design and a renewed agreement with the new property owners.

MINUTES OF MAY 27, 1994

Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Summary of Tentative Budget. Mr. Listowski explained that funds on hand now total \$5,882,399. Adding revenue through September, subtracting expenditures and encumbrances through September, will leave a balance of \$1,515,814. Subtract WCIND operating reserves of \$1,500,000 from that figure will leave a funds balance as of September 30, 1994 of \$15,814. Funding requests from the four counties total \$1,081,778 so far. Mr. Armstrong said that our rolled-back rate revenue for FY94-95 will be \$1,005,000. Income from interest and leases will be \$180,000. Add that to the \$15,814, we will have available \$1,200,814. Additional funds requested are \$323,000 from Lee County in CIP funding. Also, we need about \$300,000 to operate the District. We're going to have \$1,000,000 in revenue and will need about \$1,700,000 to satisfy everyone. We need to think about it. Specifically, Mr. Armstrong said to think about the over \$4million in encumbered funds. That figure keeps growing because projects are not being completed within the three-year limit. Mr. Armstrong said, "Spend the money or stop asking for it". We're getting requests for funds for projects that aren't even on the drawing board, are not permissible, have no plans or organization, etc.

IWW Inspection trip with the COE. The COE has suggested an inspection trip with as many Board members present as possible on June 29-30. That will conflict with the Florida Association of Counties Meeting. They have also requested the presence of local environmentalists.

OLD BUSINESS:

Executive Director's Retirement. Chairman Judah praised Mr. Armstrong's leadership, his fiscal accomplishments, and his ability to inspire confidence. Commissioner Derr read a resolution from the Sarasota County Board of Commissioners praising Mr. Armstrong's leadership, expertise, and dedication. Commissioner Chetlain read a proclamation from Manatee County Board of Commissioners praising Mr. Armstrong's many fiscal accomplishments, his dedication to environmental issues, and his support of many navigation and dredging projects. May 27, 1994 is James M. Armstrong Day in Manatee County. Commissioner Judah read a resolution from Lee County praising Mr. Armstrong's exemplary fiscal management and thanking him for his assistance and support of numerous projects benefiting Lee County citizens. Chairman Judah read a letter from Congressman Porter Goss congratulating Mr. Armstrong on a job well done and wishing him well in his retirement.

Chairman Judah read the inscription on a plaque from the WCIND Board of Commissioners to Mr. Armstrong, "Presented to James M. Armstrong, Executive Director of the West Coast Inland Navigation

MINUTES OF MAY 27, 1994


District in recognition of thirteen years of outstanding service to the boating public in Lee, Charlotte, Sarasota, and Manatee Counties." He also read Resolution 94-1 from WCIND praising Mr. Armstrong's dedicated service and listing his many accomplishments. (Copy attached).

Mr. Armstrong thanked everyone for their comments. He said he always had a good Board to work with.

Mr. Armstrong will retire June 30, 1994. Commissioner Derr moved to appoint Charles W. Listowski Executive Director as of July 1, 1994 and to increase his salary by \$4,000 from July 1 through September 30, 1994 to the annual rate of \$37,000. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Commissioner Judah congratulated Mr. Listowski.

NEXT MEETING TIME AND DATE: Friday, July 15, 1994 at 10:30 a.m.  
in Venice, Florida.

ADJOURNMENT: 12:40 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WAYNE DERR, SECRETARY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RAY JUDAH, CHAIRMAN

RESOLUTION 94-1

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC BY MR. JAMES M. ARMSTRONG, RETIRING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, the counties of Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, and Lee acknowledge James M. Armstrong for his outstanding performance as the Executive Director of the West Coast Inland Navigation District since February 15, 1982, and,

WHEREAS, benefits to the boating public and all citizens have resulted from many diverse programs within the four counties including: projects to establish and maintain private aids to navigation channels, public boat ramp construction, informational and regulatory signage systems, boating and fishing guidebooks, dredging projects to enhance navigation and water quality, support of boater education programs, development of county/municipal marine patrol units, support of state agency initiatives for resource protection, development of artificial reef systems, support of environmental education projects, and,

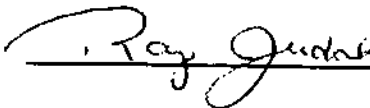
WHEREAS, the financial management program developed by Mr. Armstrong, including investment products, has generated additional operating revenues and supplemented county contributions to provide increased project funding to maximize the benefit to the public, and,

WHEREAS, the local sponsorship activities associated with the Intracoastal Waterway Project and the Army Corps of Engineers have been administered deftly and professionally by Mr. Armstrong for the benefit of the participating counties, and,

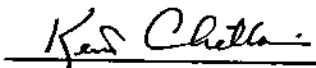
WHEREAS, District planning activities conducted by Mr. Armstrong will result in proactive implementation of programs to benefit the public for years to come.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the West Coast Inland Navigation District Board of Commissioners acknowledges the more than twelve years of dedicated and outstanding service to the citizens of Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, and Lee Counties by Mr. James M. Armstrong. The Board of Commissioners further resolves to wish Mr. Armstrong the utmost health, happiness, and prosperity in his retirement.

DATED this 27th day of May, 1994 at Venice, Florida.

  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
PHILIP E. PERREY