

The regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held at the Court House, Bradenton, Florida, on May 12, 1958, at 2:00 p.m.

Present were:

Ellsworth Simmons, Chairman
 H. C. Slaughter, Treasurer
 Wilson Pigott, Secretary
 James D. Neville
 James Miller
 Charles Fischer

Hillsborough County
 Manatee County
 Lee County
 Sarasota County
 Charlotte County
 Pinellas County

Bruce Cox, Accountant
 J. K. Merrin, Engineer
 Dewey A. Dye, Jr., Attorney
 J. Hardin Peterson, Special Attorney

Fred W. Ball, Executive Secretary, was absent.

Chairman, Ellsworth Simmons, called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented.

Mayor Brohard of Venice was present in behalf of the City of Venice and assured the Board that the original agreement of January 14, 1957, between the City and West Coast Inland Navigation District would be carried out and, if it should be determined that an encroachment exists, it would be rectified and with the full cooperation of the municipal group. The Board advised Mayor Brohard to work with Mr. James Neville, Sarasota, on this problem and in turn assured the Mayor of their cooperation in working with the City on any problems dealing with this particular project.

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Mr. Dewey A. Dye, Jr., reported that he had contacted and met with Mayor Brohard and had gone over the agreement, plans, and layout for the proposed golf course and stated that there may be the possibility of an encroachment on one green to the south, but that it could not be definitely determined until the exact location had been established on the right of way map in that section. Mr. Dye also suggested that Mr. Merrin locate the green on the right of way map in order that an early deed might be obtained.

The Board authorized Mr. Merrin to prepare the survey and further authorized Mr. Peterson to help the city with their land problems with the U. S. Government at the airport.

Mr. Dye also reported that several pending deals had been closed in Sarasota County. Several deals are also under negotiation in Charlotte County but he could not proceed further with others until the Board approved modified right of way maps reducing overall right of way requirements to 400 feet which had been prepared by Mr. Merrin.

Mr. J. K. Merrin, Engineer, reported that a large amount of acreage was involved on the A. B. Dixon property in Englewood and suggested that, as an economy measure and as a great saving to the District, that the right of way be cut from 500 ft. to 400 ft. Question was raised as to approval by the Corps of Engineers and Mr. Merrin indicated that oral approval had been secured and that the proposed change was in line with recent policy decisions of the Corps of Engineers. The Board agreed to approve the new right of way map, subject to approval by

the Corps of Engineers, the Narrows, Charlotte County, Florida.

Letter was read from Van Ferguson, Office of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, relative to establishing of bulkhead lines and the proper method for acquisition of right of way deeds. Question was raised on the manner of application and deed requirements. After some discussion by each representative regarding the situations in individual counties, it was suggested that Sarasota and Pinellas representatives be authorized to go to Tallahassee for the purpose of reactivating application for right of way deeds now on file. In view of the legal aspects involved, it was moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Slaughter that Mr. Merrin and Mr. Dye be authorized to go to Tallahassee and follow through with the I. I. Board on the Waterway's applications for sovereign land in all districts where it has not yet been received.

Mr. J. Hardin Peterson reported on the Rivers and Harbors budget request as it exists in Washington, and stated that there is a terrific amount of interest in both the Senate and House and that Congressmen appeared enthusiastic and had indicated whole hearted support. He reported cooperation and active help from Congressmen Haley, Rogers, Cramer and Sykes, and from Senator Holland.

The Board heard the correlated report of Mr. Simmons, Mr. Slaughter, Mr. Dye, and Mr. Peterson, as a Committee, on their recent trip to Washington and presented a favorable outlook from the standpoint of the House and Senate representatives.

Mr. Simmons read a Notice of Public Hearing with respect to bridge clearances on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

After some discussion, motion was made by Mr. Pigott, seconded by Mr. Slaughter that Mr. Peterson be authorized to file a statement for consideration at this conference. APPROVED.

It was moved by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Fischer that Mr. Peterson be authorized to go to Washington with necessary travel expenses at any time deemed necessary in support of budget and appropriations requests pending before Congress. APPROVED.

Mr. Neville reported that the current budget hearing was of interest in his County as interest among certain groups appeared to be lagging.

Question was raised on the 1/5 mill levy and Mr. Simmons stated that the possibility of a reduction was not seen for the immediate future, but the matter of possible adjustment should be finally decided at the June meeting.

Mr. Neville inquired of the Board as to adequate docking for barges and heavy vessels, pleasure craft through the Intracoastal canal area, and was advised that where waterways exist private industry would make provisions for terminal facilities.

Mr. Slaughter read the Treasurer's report and it was approved. Bills were presented for payment and approved, vouchers numbered 1825 through 1839 inclusive.

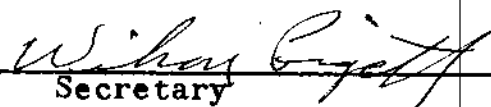
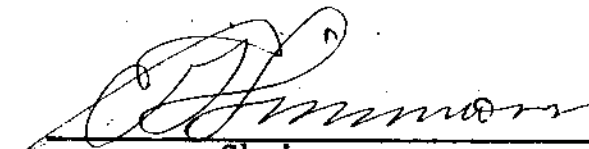
Mr. Cox reported that the checking account of the Board was being rotated in cooperation with three different banks in the county, and the account had just been placed with Manatee River National Bank. He also reported trans-

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ferring additional funds to time deposit. Increased security deposits had been obtained.

Mr. Merrin presented maps for approval for the right of way in Charlotte, Lee, Sarasota, and Manatee Counties, and they were duly signed by the Chairman. Pinellas County maps will be presented at a later date.

Motion made by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Neville that the meeting be adjourned. ADJOURNED.

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