

The July meeting of the Commissioners of the WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT was held July 11, 1966, at the Manatee County Office Building.

Present were:

Ellsworth G. Simmons, Chairman, Hillsborough County
 A. L. Anderson, Vice Chairman, Pinellas County
 Ralph S. Clark, Treasurer, Manatee County
 Mrs. Dorothy R. Flowers, Secretary, Charlotte County
 Kenneth W. Daniels, Lee County
 Robert M. Wright, Sarasota County

Dewey A. Dye, Jr., General Counsel
 J. Hardin Peterson, Sr., Special Counsel
 Joe K. Merrin, Engineer

ADMINISTRATION

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. The Minutes of the June 6, 1966, meeting were approved as presented. (Annex page 94)
 Mr. Dye presented a resolution/eulogizing the late Col. George Kumpe, Executive Director of the District, who was killed in an automobile accident on June 25, 1966, in Tampa, Florida, while returning from WCIND business in Eureka, Florida. At the completion of the reading of the eulogy all persons present paid tribute to Col. Kumpe by a standing moment of silent prayer. The original of the resolution will be presented to Col. Kumpe's survivors, the Misses Mary and Ann Kumpe.

The Chairman announced receipt of a letter of resignation from Honorable J. Hardin Peterson, Sr., Special Counsel. A resolution/ (Annex pp 95)
 of appreciation was presented by Mr. Dye and unanimously approved.

The Chairman recommended that this resignation not be effective until September 1, 1966. The Board approved the recommendation. Mr. Peterson was requested to submit a proposal for Board information stating his availability and rate of compensation for his services when the need arises.

The Board ratified the actions of the Chairman in appointing Mr. Dewey A. Dye, Jr. to serve in behalf of the District as Acting Director until Col. Kumpe's successor is appointed.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Mr. Dye and approved. Vouchers #4539 through #4575 were approved for payment.

Mr. Simmons asked the Board's pleasure in the matter of unused vacation time accrued by Col. Kumpe while employed by the District. He reported that during the six years 10 months that Col. Kumpe was employed he had taken 36 days for vacation, thus accruing 62 days. Mr. Anderson moved that a resolution be adopted stating that unused vacation time which has accrued during the service of any regular full-time employee of this Board be compensated on termination of service either by death, voluntary retirement, or Board severance on the basis of the regular pay; not to exceed 60 days. Vacation time allowed to be two weeks per annum. Motion was approved. The Board unanimously approved payment to the Estate of George Kumpe accrued severance pay of 60 days.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS

The Chairman recognized Mr. Howard S. Banta, Okeechobee Water-

way Association, who presented a pamphlet entitled CRUISE TIPS, which he recommended the District adopt in lieu of a strip map for distribution to boaters using the waterway and its related facilities. He presented a bid for printing and binding of such a booklet. The Chairman thanked him for his interest, and promised to relay the information to the new Executive Director when he is appointed.

Mr. Banta requested that this District support a resolution to be presented by the Okeechobee Waterway requesting replacement of a railroad bridge at Ortona Locks which has only a 50' horizontal clearance.

PROGRESS REPORT

Mr. Dye reported that in S/A S3-4, an 80 acre tract which the District acquired east of the new Tamiami Trail and immediately south of the city limits of Venice, a complaint had been received that drainage of this area is causing silting of Hatchett Creek and Robert's Bay. Mr. Dye, Mr. Van Norman and Mr. Wofford of the CE visited the area on July 1, and on closer investigation noted that silt was coming from another location further south and east. An informal meeting in Venice is scheduled for July 13 between Corps of Engineers, Norfolk Dredging, WCIND and Board of Conservation representatives with City officials to determine what can be done to alleviate the situation, if anything.

Mr. Dye reported that Norfolk had complained to CE that the

dam built at the south end of S/A S3-3 to protect Venice well fields was interfering with dredge operation due to fouling of cooling system from silt. CE granted Norfolk permission to remove the dam. USGS has reported that dam removal has caused the salt content of the water to build back up and the City of Venice has requested that the dam be replaced. USGS recommends replacement of dam, and the CE has stated that cost of replacement will be \$1.00 per yard plus \$300 to Norfolk Dredging Company. The Board approved dam replacement, and Mr. Dye will notify the CE.

Mr. Dye advised that he had requested Sarasota County to have barricades erected south of Center Road bridge on old Tamiami Trail and bill District. The Board approved this action.

The Board of Conservation has recommended plugging of flowing artesian well north of Venice Avenue. Mr. Merrin and Mr. Dye were authorized to prepare specification to advertise for bids.

It was announced that settlement of all of the parcels that were represented by Manasota Key Association have been negotiated at a total cost of \$24,873.13. Additional claims were settled with the Van Volkenburg Estate and W. R. Fowler in the amount of \$2,750 for a jointly owned boat basin, channel and dock; and the Van Volkenburg Estate for the destruction of a summer house, \$1,200, and attorneys' fees of \$120. There are now only four outstanding claims in Section Two.

Mr. Dye reported on the status of the bridges in the Venice

area. The South Bridge is 89% complete; North bridge, 92% complete; Venice Avenue Bridge is 92% complete and the Venice Bypass was completed in April. The Seaboard Airline Bridge report on Phase One has been received from the J. E. Greiner Co. and indicates the need for realignment of cut through new bridge opening. Request for additional right-of-way has been furnished the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund. The Greiner report has been furnished to CE and SAL for comments.

The Florida Geological Survey has issued a participating agreement for a monitor observational program along with a bill in the amount of \$1,000 for the fiscal year July 1, 1966, to June 30, 1967, the District's share in the cost of the program. Both the bill and the agreement were unanimously approved by the Board.

It was noted that the District was well represented at the National Rivers and Harbors Congress in Washington, D. C. June 7 through 10, with Commissioners Anderson, Daniels, Clark, Flowers, Wright and the Director attending.

In referring to the status of the District's budget, Mr. Dye advised that the State Board of Conservation has agreed to match District funds up to \$110,500 on real estate acquisition. Mr. Wright questioned the .15 millage set by the District for the coming year. He stated that even though in other counties this was a decided budget reduction; in Sarasota County, due to raising the assessed evaluation of property to 100%, the .15 millage represented no re-

duction at all. Mr. Simmons explained that this problem had been faced by WCIND at an earlier date in the courts, and it was ruled that a uniform levy throughout the six counties was mandatory.

Mr. Dye referred to a letter from the Chairman of the Sarasota County Commissioners regarding a request from the county for spoil in S/A S3-3A. Mr. Parker suggested that any expenses incurred relating to mosquito control be deducted and the balance split between the District and the County. Mr. Wright proposed that the Board withhold action on this matter until later.

Upon motion duly made and unanimously carried the Progress Report was approved and accepted.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Merrin announced that the authorization to start diking of S/A S-10, across the street from the Venice Yacht Club has been received. He requested, and was granted, Board approval to advertise for bids.

The Chairman was authorized to obtain qualifications in writing from individuals interested in filling the vacancy of Executive Director, and to call a special meeting of the Board to consider these applications.

Mr. Dye noted that it was beginning to prove quite difficult to obtain acceptances from officials in Washington for the completion ceremony due to the date being on Wednesday. He proposed that the date be changed to the Saturday either immediately before or after March 1. Mr. Simmons observed that this date was originally


set to accommodate General Cassidy, Chief of Engineers, and that his desires would have to be determined before definite action could be taken. Mr. Peterson recommended that members of the Appropriations Committee be invited.

Mr. Wright proposed that one of the bridges in the Venice area be named as a memorial of Col. Kumpe. Mr. Dye was asked to forward a letter to the Sarasota County Commissioners requesting their consideration on this memorial.

August 8 was set for the next meeting date at 11:00 a.m. at the usual place.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.


Chairman


Secretary

PROGRESS REPORT

7 June - 7 July 1966

CONSTRUCTION

Construction Progress - During June the Section 3 contractor excavated 325,659 cubic yards of earth and advanced 2,365 linear feet. At the end of the month the contract was 63.9% complete.

Side Slopes - Work continued on dressing side slopes of cut in the Venice area. Side slope work on the Caspersen property is delayed pending receipt of written authorization from Caspersen to use his dikes to fill borrow ditches so that equipment can work along the right-of-way and pending receipt of authorization from Sarasota County and Caspersen releasing CE and contractor from drainage and mosquito control work.

S/A S3-1F - CE advised that mouth of ditch would be opened but that if ditch is to be developed by owner (Caspersen) a CE permit must be secured as ditch will open directly into waterway channel.

S/A S3-3B - (City of Venice S/A west of canal) - City has requested permission to haul spoil out of this area for use on municipal projects. Request forwarded to CE for action. City advised that WCIND had no objection but that approval of CE and Norfolk required.

S/A S3-3 (WCIND S/A east of canal) - Norfolk has completed utilization of this area with exception of small parcel in southwest corner reserved for pumping spoil from dam in waterway at conclusion of job. Proposal received from Sarasota County for administration of the spoil area.

S/A S3-5A & B - Contractor is to complete use of these spoil areas on July 10th. Norfolk requested permission to deposit additional spoil in this area - WCIND answered that this was not permissible.

S/A S3-4 - Spillways completed in this spoil area and contractor plans to commence use on July 11th. A complaint has been received from City of Venice that drainage of this area through Hatchett Creek is causing excessive silting of Hatchett Creek and Robert's Bay resulting in killing of fish and other marine life. Field trip was conducted July 1 by Attorney Dye, Van Norman, and Mr. Wofford of CE. Silt and suspended colloidal material was found

to be coming out Hatchett Creek, but upon tracing the stream eastward and southward to S/A S3-4 it was determined that drainage water running from the spoil area was clear and that silt was coming from another location further south and east. When Norfolk commences full use of S/A S3-4 undoubtedly this type of material will be drained through the ditch and Hatchett Creek. A meeting is scheduled in the City of Venice on Wednesday, July 13, between CE, Norfolk, WCIND, and Board of Conservation representatives with City officials to see what, if anything, can be done.

S/A S3-7A - Information relayed to owner from CE that Norfolk intends to use this area for deposit.

S/A S3-10 (WCIND property) - Adjoining property owner (Elferdink) contacted about joining in spoil area. Owner desires to participate and is sending survey information for preparation of easement.

Barricades - Barricades completed by Sarasota County where roads cut at Center Road and north side of old Trail. Sarasota County requested to erect barricade. County Engineer advised that County would take care of this and bill WCIND at cost.

Wells - Complaint received from Mr. Rohmann of Venice Gulf Course that two wells had "gone dry" since the canal was dug. Mr. Sutcliffe of USGS was asked to investigate and reported that these wells were not affected by canal construction. This information relayed to Mr. Rohmann.

Artesian Well - North of Venice Avenue - Recommendations for plugging well received from Mr. Patterson of Board of Conservation. Specifications are being prepared to secure bids from local contractors.

Dam, Section 3 - Norfolk advised CE that dam was interfering with dredge operation due to fouling of cooling system from silt. Norfolk recommended removal of dam to be replaced before use of S/A S3-4. Director advised CE that WCIND would agree to whatever CE recommended. Hurricane Alma moving through area on June 8 caused the dam to wash out and CE advised Norfolk on June 9 that the dam could be removed. USGS has been requested to furnish information as to advisability of reinstalling dam at this time.

Claims Section 2 - S/A S2 & 10A - All property owners cooperating through Manasota Key Association and represented by Attorney E. G. Boone of Venice completed settlement negotiations in total amount of \$24,873.13. Pursuant to instructions from the property owners and Attorney Boone check in this amount was made and delivered

to Manasota Key Association Inc. in return for complete releases.

S/A S6 - Fowler and Van Volkenburg - Negotiations through Attorney Boone were concluded for settlement between WCIND and owners for \$1,200 to Van Volkenburg estate for the destruction of a summer house plus attorneys' fee of \$120. Settlement with Fowler and Van Volkenburg estate for jointly owned boat basin, channel and dock was for \$2,750. This leaves four outstanding claims in Section 2, being Hosea in S/A S6, Burnette and Wilson Enterprises in S/A S10A, and Norman Six in S/A S11.

BRIDGES

The following status report was furnished by SRD:

Job No. 17010-3502 - South Bridge and approaches is 89% complete with time suspended and traffic maintained.

Job No. 17020-3506 - North Bridge and approaches is 92% complete with time suspended and traffic maintained.

The fender work involved in both of these projects will be completed pending the completion of the channel excavation work.

Job No. 17502-3601 - Venice Ave.- SR 45 to Venice Bypass is 92% complete and should be completed in September 1966.

Job No. 17180-3501 - Venice Bypass was completed April 16, 1966.

SAL Bridge - Phase One report received from J. E. Greiner Co. Copies sent to SAL, CE, Merrin and Dye. CE noted several minor changes to be made. These comments forwarded to Greiner and SAL. Preliminary study indicates need for realignment of cut through new bridge opening. Revised right-of-way descriptions furnished by Merrin and request for additional right-of-way made to TIIIF.

Stickney Point Bridge - Request received from SRD for information concerning elevations and spoil areas in the area. Merrin was requested to furnish information. Owner of property on south (Morris) requested information concerning release of WCIND right-of-way. Owner advised that no definite commitment could be made until all plans are final and approved by CE and SRD.

LANDS

Section 2 MSA'S - Conferences and correspondence continued with

CE concerning designation of location of Section 2 MSA's in Charlotte and Sarasota Counties. Trust fund for acquisition of initial MSA's when approved by CE established. Abstract information, appraisals and surveys ordered.

Section 3 Right-of-Way - WCIND requested SRD to grant WCIND abandoned road right-of-way at Hatchett Creek. Mr. Johnson recommended approval of request and forwarded to Tallahassee office.

UTILITIES

Venice Water Supply - Agreement received from Board of Conservation for continuation of monitor well program for another year together with bill for \$1,000, being WCIND share of cost for one year. Report of operation of system for first year received July 5.

ADMINISTRATION

Rivers and Harbors Congress - Commissioners Anderson, Daniels, Clark, Flowers, Wright and the Director attended the National Rivers and Harbors Congress. Director met with Senator Hodges and Colonel Kelly on June 7 to plan completion ceremony. Delegation attended the Florida Waterways Association and Board of Conservation breakfast on June 8, and Congressional Luncheon on the same date. The business meeting continued through June 9 and 10. Director and Commissioners called on various members of the Florida delegation.

~~ADMINISTRATION~~

Budget - Colonel Kelly advised that Board of Conservation had approved contribution of appropriated state funds for WCIND in amount of \$110,500 to be used as matching funds on real estate acquisition. Procedure to be used in requesting and securing such funds was furnished by Colonel Kelly. It was agreed that the most orderly procedure would be for the District to complete acquisition of particular parcels and then submit request with supporting data to Board of Conservation for reimbursement from matching funds up to the total amount approved. Colonel Kelly requested that Board of Conservation be furnished with a copy of the monthly financial statement.

Tax Levy - Millage resolution was forwarded to all counties. Notice recieved from Pinellas County of budget hearing. Notice received from Sarasota County Tax Assessor requesting adjustment of millage in accordance with increased assessment level in Sarasota County. Pinellas notice acknowledged. Sarasota County request is under study by legal staff.

Aids to Navigation - Coast Guard advised that a lighted buoy

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was being installed at Venice Inlet. Information concerning groundings in the vicinity of Phillippi Creek in Sarasota County furnished to CG and CE.

Time Deposit Agreements - All banks holding WCIND time deposits were requested to increase interest rates to 3½% on July 1. All deposits to be held on three month minimum deposit agreement in lieu of existing combination of three and six months agreements. Time deposits can be withdrawn in any event with 30 days notice but if held for less than three months interest is lost. Additional time deposits were made in the Island Bank in the amount of \$50,000 for a 4% 90 day certificate of deposit, and in Manatee National National Bank in the amount of \$100,000 on a 90 day 3½% time deposit.

Completion Ceremony - Planning for completion ceremony on March 1, 1967 continued. Correspondence with invited dignitaries indicates some difficulty in attendance due to the fact that March 1 is on a Wednesday. Suggestion has been made for rescheduling of ceremony on the Saturday immediately before or after March 1.

Suits Against District - Suit by Caspersen against WCIND, Norfolk, and CE has been transferred to Federal District Court. No action taken by Caspersen in this suit during the month. There was a press report of an additional suit filed by Caspersen in June naming WCIND and South Venice Civic Association as defendants and seeking to have the settlement between WCIND and South Venice Civic Association over removal of the footbridges set aside. No service of process has been made on WCIND.

Reports - Routine quarterly reports were forwarded to State and Federal offices. Final quarterly lobbying report prepared by Attorney Peterson and forwarded to U. S. House and Senate.

Insurance - Specifications for insurance coverage for District property, liability, and personnel were prepared and furnished to local insurance agents. To date no proposals have been received from any insurance agents.

Paving Assessments and Back Taxes - City of Venice has indicated willingness to settle all outstanding back taxes and paving assessments against property now owned by WCIND in the City of Venice for \$2,000. The matter is under study by the legal staff.

Construction Planning, Section 3 - A construction planning conference was held in Mr. Dye's office on Tuesday, July 5. In attendance were Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Broadfoot of CE, and WCIND staff members. Norfolk was invited but was unable to send a representative. Operational problems in Section 3, particularly with respect to

spoil area utilization, were discussed. Mr. Hamilton confirmed that the contractor would be required to follow specifications very closely with respect to silting of drainage ditches and with respect to the required use of S/A S10. Hamilton reported that CE should complete its study of the proposed alternate channel west of Rattlesnake Island by the end of July. If the project is recommended additional right-of-way will be required.