

December 8, 1958

The regular meeting of the WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT was held in the Court House in Bradenton, Florida, on Monday, December 8, 1958, at 2:20 p.m.

Present were:

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| Ellsworth Simmons, Chairman | Hillsborough County |
| H. C. Slaughter, Treasurer | Manatee County |
| Wilson Pigott, Secretary | Lee County |
| James D. Neville | Sarasota County |
| Charles Fischer | Pinellas County |
| James E. Miller | Charlotte County |
| J. K. Merrin | - Engineer |
| Dewey Dy, Jr. | - Attorney |
| Bruce M Cox | - Accountant |

Absent were:

- J. Hardin Peterson - Special Attorney

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pigott that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as presented.

APPROVED.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Miller that a Resolution expressing the Boards appreciation of Fred Ball's services and loyalty to the project and expressing sympathy to Mr. Ball's family on his passing. APPROVED.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Miller, that the following Resolution be adopted. APPROVED.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Pursuant to due authorization the Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District, a Special Taxing District of the State of Florida, have had a part of the intra-coastal waterway canal right of way in Manatee County located

and surveyed and have designated the same as the Manatee County Section of right of way, and have prepared a map showing the location and survey of that portion of said section in the vicinity of Long Boat Pass, and

WHEREAS, this proposed route has been approved by the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army as the right of way of the West Coast Intracoastal Waterway for acquisition by said District as right of way in said section,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District, a special taxing District of the State of Florida, that it hereby approves the location and survey of said portion of said route and directs that a copy of said map of such location and survey certified to by the Chairman of this Commission and showing thereon the official seal of this District, be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of said County together with a certified copy of this Resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the judgment of this Commission that the construction of said intracoastal waterway serves a public purpose, that it is necessary, practical and to the best interest of the State of Florida, and that it is necessary that the right of way for said waterway for said portion of said route be acquired;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the said Commission that the District shall immediately proceed in its name to secure by gift, purchase or condemnation the lands, or interests in lands, necessary for the right of way for the construction and maintenance of said portion of said route together with any and all areas required for spoil disposal as may hereafter be found and determined necessary.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Attorney for this Board, Dewey A. Dye, Jr., be and he is hereby authorized and directed to proceed to take the necessary steps for the District to acquire in the name of said District by donation, purchase or condemnation said rights of way and spoil disposal areas for said portions of said section of said right of way and to prepare in the name of said District all condemnation papers, affidavits and pleadings and to prosecute all condemnation proceedings to judgment.

Passed in open session at Bradenton, Florida, this 8th day of December, 1958, and certified this date.

(SEAL)
ATTEST:
By: Wilson Pigott /s/
Secretary

WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT
By E.G. Simmons /s/
Chairman

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Mr. Dye reported that there still remained four parcels of land in Charlotte County to be obtained; valued at approximately \$20,000.00. These tracts will complete right of way through Charlotte County. There are still two parcels of land to be obtained in Sarasota County. All right of way necessary in Lee County has been obtained.

Mr. Merrin advised that a study by Army Engineers is needed before anymore right of way in Pinellas County can be acquired.

Mr. Simmons advised the Board of an offer made by Mr. W. T. Edwards to serve the project; that he was very interested in the District and would like to be called on if he could make any contribution to it.

Mr. Merrin reported that he made an inspection trip through Manatee and Sarasota Counties during this past period and all other matters were routine.

Mr. Slaughter read the Treasurer's Report; Motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Pigott that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. APPROVED.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pigott, that a transfer of funds from the checking account at Manatee River National Bank, in the amount of \$25,000.00, to be divided as equally as possible among the Time Deposits at Manatee River National Bank, First National Bank, and Bank of Palmetto. APPROVED.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the late Fred Ball has for many years past served the West Coast Inland Navigation District both as an elected and as an appointed officer. Fred Ball served as a Commissioner of the West Coast Inland Navigation District from its inception in 1947 until 1955 at which time he was appointed as Executive Director and served diligently and faithfully in all of his assigned duties and responsibilities until the state of his health required that this relationship with the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District be terminated on September 1, 1958.

WHEREAS, the passing of Fred Ball has terminated a fine relationship between him and the members of this Board and its staff and has terminated over ten years of faithful and diligent service to the people of the West Coast area, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District of Florida as a group and as individuals wish to express their profound sense of loss over the recent departure of their friend and devoted public servant and to convey to his family their sincere sympathy in this hour of sorrow.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District of Florida does deeply regret the passing of Fred W. Ball and does by this resolution sincerely express to each member of Mr. Ball's family its deep sympathy in the passing of this good friend and faithful worker for the West Coast Inland Waterway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be spread at large upon the minutes of the Board of Commissioners and that it become a permanent part of the public records of this District and that a copy of same be furnished to Mr. Ball's immediate family.

Unanimously passed this 8th day of December, 1958.

E. G. Simmons /s/

Chairman

Attest:

Bruce M. Cox /s/

Deputy Clerk

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Mr. Simmons advised the Board that he had been unable to arrange a meeting between the Board and the Army Engineers prior to this meeting of WCIND, but would try to set one up in the near future.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pigott that the following resolution be adopted. APPROVED.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the West Coast Inland Navigation District was created by the 1947 Florida Legislature pursuant to requests and demands of local bodies for the organization of a responsible local governing authority to act in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army in the eventual construction of an Inland Waterway from the Caloosahatchee River at Ft. Myers to the Anclote River at Tarpon Springs, and

WHEREAS, the District as created was a special taxing district of the State of Florida, composed of the counties of Hillsborough, Pinellas, Lee, Manatee, Sarasota and Charlotte, and governed by a Board of Commissioners, composed of one county commissioner from each of the six counties, which District was authorized to levy uniformly throughout the District ad valorem taxes not to exceed one-fifth mill in any year, and

WHEREAS, the West Coast Inland Navigation District since its formation has completed the mapping for right of way purposes of the entire authorized route, has surveyed and located all individual parcels of property required for right of way, and has successfully negotiated for and secured practically all of the required right of way throughout the entire 120 mile route of the canal. The securing of right of way and adjustment of right of way problems is a continuing responsibility and duty of the District together with providing areas for the deposit of dredged spoil material along the right of way for construction and maintenance of the canal. Other responsibilities are also placed upon local authorities by the various acts of Congress approving the canal requiring the substantial expenditure of funds. All unsecured right of way is presently either in condemnation or negotiation or review by the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, and the District is actively pursuing the program of completing all right of way acquisitions during 1959, and

WHEREAS, the authority to levy and collect taxes according to the original legislation was to expire in July 1955, however the Legislature has extended the taxing power of the District in 1955

and in 1957 until July 1, 1959, however the Corps of Engineers, and the Florida delegation to Congress has unanimously suggested and recommended that the taxing authority be extended by the 1959 Legislature for an indefinite period or at a minimum until such time as the construction of the canal is actually completed and accepted by the Corps of Engineers, and

WHEREAS, Congress in 1958 voted an appropriation of \$135,000. Dollars to the West Coast Inland Navigation District project to complete all surveys and plans and construction specifications for the letting of bids for commencement of construction of the canal at some future date, however it is the opinion of the Corps of Engineers and members of the Florida delegation in Congress that a construction appropriation will be voted by Congress in 1959 and the construction will actually begin soon after these funds become available, and

WHEREAS, in order to keep this project alive and active and approved as a Federal project it is deemed necessary that the taxing authority of the District be extended for a period of 10 years or until the West Coast Inland Waterway is completed and accepted by the Corps of Engineers, whichever event should occur first.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District that the 1959 Legislature of the State of Florida be and it is respectfully and urgently requested, to amend that statutory power of the West Coast Inland Navigation District so as to allow the West Coast Inland Navigation District to continue to levy and collect ad valorem taxes from each member county, not to exceed one-fifth mill per year until July 1, 1969, or until the West Coast Inland Navigation District canal is completed and accepted by the Corps of Engineers, U.S.Army, whichever event should occur first;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution together with copies of the proposed Legislation be furnished to each member of the Legislature representing the District.

Passed in open session at Bradenton, Florida, this 8th day of December, A. D. 1958.

WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT

By _____

Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Mr. Simmons advised Mr. Dye that Hillsborough County would like to have a copy of the resolution made available to them before their meeting in Tallahassee. He also suggested that all the new members in the delegation should be made well acquainted with the efforts of the project, and the importance of their support.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the current bills for payment. APPROVED.

There being no further business to come before the Board; the meeting was adjourned.


Secretary


Chairman