

The January meeting of the WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS was held at the Manatee County Office Building in Bradenton Florida January 10, 1964.

Present were:

- Ellsworth G. Simmons, Chairman, Hillsborough County
- H.H. Anger, Vice-Chairman, Charlotte County
- A.L. Anderson, Secretary, Pinellas County
- Irwin Klemmer, Treasurer, Manatee County
- Mack H. Jones, Lee County
- Masel C. Huston, Sarasota County

- George Kumpè, Executive Director
- Joe K. Merrin, Engineer
- Dewey A. Dye, Jr., General Counsel

Absent:

- J. Hardin Peterson, Sr., Special Counsel

ADMINISTRATION

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 11 A.M. Commissioner Jones introduced Commissioner Kenneth Daniels and County Engineer, Stanley Hole, of Lee County.

Minutes of the 13 December 1963 meeting were approved as presented. The Treasurer's Report was read and approved.

Vouchers #3590 through #3622 covering current bills were approved for payment.

On motion made by Commissioner Anderson, and carried, the Executive Director presided for the election of a chairman of the Board for 1964. Mr. Simmons was unanimously re-elected, and conducted the election for the other officers at which all were re-elected for 1964. Chairman Simmons expressed appreciation that each County in the District has returned its present member to the Board for the coming year and stressed the importance of 1964 to progress on the Waterway.

Commissioner Jones moved that members of the District staff, executive, legal and engineering, be retained to serve at the pleasure of the Board. The motion carried.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS

Commissioner Eldred of Madeira Beach appeared before the Board in the interest of the Johns Pass and Pass-a-Grille projects. The Corps of Engineers had made a study and prepared recommendations for improving the two passes. The name of a sponsor must be given to the Corps by February 1 to assume responsibility for the \$171,000 which must be contributed by local interests for the two projects. Mr. Eldred likened the improvement to that of highways where a part is paid by the federal government, the state and the local government. He asked if WCIND could provide part of the local funds as the improved channels would benefit all the West Coast of Florida. After much discussion it was the concensus of the Board of Commissioners that their first responsibility was constructing the "main highway" or the West Coast Waterway and when it was completed they might then consider such requests. It was noted that most of the counties would have similar problems and that Sarasota and Hillsborough counties have financed similar projects within the county. Financial responsibilities of WCIND due within 90 or 120 days, such as the pending condemnation suit judgment preclude any diversion of funds to other uses. Commissioner Anderson said that he must agree with what the Commissioners had said on the matter and offered a motion that final decision on the matter be reserved until a later date; that the request might be presented to WCIND at a

later date and they might consider whether they can legally contribute to the project. The motion carried. Mr. Anderson said that Pinellas County had accepted sole sponsorship by resolution which has been accepted by Colonel Parfitt so that the projects are active and can go forward.

PROGRESS REPORT

The Director reported that date of advertisement for Section 2 is not firm because of the uncertainty of the condemnation trial date and the completion of submerged land sales. Mr. Dye said the trial date would be known January 14.

The Director asked authority to negotiate with owners in spoil area S35-1 in which the District may still have to do some grading. One owner started grading in his tract but the county had to issue a stop order because of damage to drainage and mosquito control. Releases from the owners have been prepared and are in the hands of the County right-of-way agent but so far none has been signed, although two owners are reported to be willing. Motion was made and carried that Commissioner Huston, Mr. Dye and the Director handle this matter to a satisfactory conclusion and if they need any additional help from the Board to call them.

On Section 2 lands, the proponents of the seven alternate spoil areas were notified Dec. 13 that the contributions must be made by Jan. 3. The District received complete cooperation. The check for the total contribution of \$65,700 is being held awaiting bill from the Corps of Engineers.

For Section 3 condemnation trial the Board authorized the Chairman and the Treasurer to sign the check necessary to make award payment.

The SRD had reported on Jan. 9 that additional right-of-way was needed for the Venice Avenue bridge, with a maximum width of 10' on the north and south side of Venice Avenue west of the Waterway. The Road Department is preparing the necessary instrument. The Board authorized the conveyance of this property and execution of the instrument, and authorized the attorney to go ahead and complete negotiations with Mr. Baynard for exchange of property. Mr. Huston suggested that this be done at the earliest possible time.

District Engineer,
~~Chairman of the State~~

Letter was read to Mr. H.M. Johnson, Chairman of the State Road Board from Mr. Simmons authorizing the SRD to negotiate utility crossings at the Venice Avenue bridge as though the project were a conventional State Road Department project, but that financial commitments must be approved by the Navigation District in advance. Commissioner Anderson moved that the Board confirm the position taken by Mr. Simmons in the letter and agree that the letter represents the views of the Board. The motion carried.

The Progress Report was accepted.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Dye discussed the need for five pipeline access easements running from the canal right-of-way to the Gulf of Mexico in both Sections 2 and 3 south of the Venice Airport. Negotiations are underway but with time limitations it was felt condemnation might become necessary. Motion was made and carried

authorizing the legal department to proceed with condemnation if negotiations break down. Resolution/was adopted to this effect.

The travel regulations adopted in December were again discussed. The Board authorized the Chairman to authorize travel within the State subject to Board action at the following meeting and authorized travel of the Director within the District.

The Director was authorized to attend the meeting on Water Resources Development at Tallahassee Jan. 21 and to prepare and submit statement from the Navigation District for use in preparation of testimony for the Governor and his Cabinet when they testify for the various projects. Mr. Simmons stated that if any Board member could attend they would get invaluable information and it would be worthwhile.


The annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Association was announced for February 2-4 at New Orleans. Secretary of State Tom Adams has endorsed the meeting as being of value to the Navigation District. Motion was made and carried that members of the Board of Commissioners and the Director be authorized to attend the meeting at Navigation District expense.

Chairman Simmons asked that each of the Board members be furnished list of compensations received by the attorneys and engineer before the next meeting of the Board.

Mr. Dye discussed a matter which he felt would very definitely call for a special meeting of the Commissioners, the possible relocation of the access road at Venice. A meeting with Commissioner Huston, the Mayor, Engineer and a

Councilman of Venice had disclosed that the City wishes to relocate this proposed road to the west side of the airport, the actual length of road would be approximately the same. Mr. Simmons said he would be willing to leave it to Mr. Dye and Mr. Huston as long as the Board's liability with the City of Venice were not increased, that he believed the Board would be willing to act and to sign necessary documents as long as it didn't take any more money than had been agreed. Mr. Huston said the figures were going to be worked out by Mr. Merrin and the City engineer and that there might have to be some negotiations. A special meeting was set tentatively for 3 P.M. January 17th.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 P.M.



Chairman



ASST Secretary

PROGRESS REPORT

13 December 1963-10 January 1964

CONSTRUCTION PLANNING

On January 3 report on the status of local cooperation in Sections 2 and 3 were submitted to the Corps of Engineers. This information will be used in setting the advertisement of bids for Section 2.

On December 16 the Corps of Engineers asked that all required assurances of local cooperation be rendered by the Navigation District rather than by other governmental agencies.

On January 3 Colonel Parfitt advised the District officially that federal funds have been appropriated to permit the start of construction of Section 2 before July 1 and that, subject to fulfillment of local cooperation requirements, this section will be advertised on January 15.

Section 2, Contributed Funds - On December 26 the District advised the Corps of Engineers that seven spoil areas in Section 2 probably would be affected by contributions made for additional pumping costs. On January 3 the Corps of Engineers was advised that contributions had been received and that Corps of Engineers' estimate of contributions were accepted. The areas and contributions are:

<u>S/A</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Contribution</u>
L-29A	Lee County Airstrip	\$2,500
C-1A	Sunset Realty Corp.	21,200
C-25R	Walter van B. Roberts	3,500
C-27	W.E. Dunwody	9,000
C-31 Alt.	Lemon Bay Estates, A.A. Urankar and George F. Dignam	9,200
S-4	Sarasota County	19,600
S-12	Venetia, Inc.	700

Section 3 - On December 18 Mr. Koperski asked whether an order of taking would expedite the acquisition of real estate. On December 19 Mr. Dye submitted a detailed study showing that the condemnation trial would lead to the settlement of outstanding matters at the earliest possible date.

On December 20 the Corps of Engineers asked for right of entry in Section 3 for sub-surface investigations. These rights have been requested from the owners but probably will not be available in full until the condemnation award.

On January 3 Mr. Phillips, Chairman State Road Board, advised the District that the By-Pass and the Venice bridges would be placed under contract in the last half of calendar year 1964.

Cats Point - The Corps of Engineers is investigating dredging in the vicinity of Furen fill which has completely filled the proposed waterway and will affect the quantity to be dredged.

CONSTRUCTION

Grading S/A S35-1 - On December 19 R.L. Witham Hauling was notified to cease all hauling from the spoil area and to cease all operations at the close of work on December 20 as his contract time had expired. Negotiations are underway to complete the grading using the Witham \$1000 check as partial payment. One owner has requested authority to stock pile material within the tract for use in raising his property outside of the limits of the spoil area. He was advised that no objection would be made if adjacent owners were agreeable, but that grading outside of the spoil area would affect natural drainage and would be undertaken at his own responsibility. Owners within the spoil area were provided with releases which they were asked to sign or to indicate the additional work required. Sarasota County is planning to carry out its responsibility of cleaning out shoaling in the channel south of the spoil area. The legality of placing in spoil area 2000 cu yds. of material deposited in the canal is under study.

LANDS

Lee County, L-29A - On December 23 the Corps of Engineers furnished an estimate of \$2500 to place 17,300 cubic yards of material on the upland portion of the Lee County airstrip. The County furnished legal description of the area and made the necessary contribution.

Charlotte County, S/A C16A/PL 1 - Owners who had been requested to provide the pipeline easement indicated they would grant a preferable upland spoil area instead. A description of the area is under preparation.

Sarasota County, Sec. 2 - Notice of the advertisement of the sale of submerged lands in spoil areas S7 and 11A was received on January 6, sale to take place on February 11. All spoil areas are supposed to be under advertisement on the same schedule except S/A S2 which will be two weeks later.

S/A S1 Alt. - Proponents were notified that the Corps of Engineers decision to require all contributions by January 10 would make the alternate area infeasible. The Corps of Engineers furnished an estimate of additional pumping costs for the reduced alternate spoil area. The revised estimate of \$7000 was received on December 26 and information was furnished the owners.

Section 3 Right-of-Way - Bartlett interests were advised that no additional right-of-way was required.

The State Road Department was asked to furnish the information on the width of right-of-way required for the Venice Avenue bridge project so that dedication could be made and negotiations completed for waterway right-of-way.

S/A S3-9 - On December 19 the Corps of Engineers indicated that the present submerged land holding at Eagle Point, slightly modified, could be utilized for \$3,000 which includes \$2,700 for diking. On December 27 the owners indicated that the necessary contribution would be made if satisfactory information were received on the quantity of material which probably would be placed on the spoil area without contribution. These data were furnished on January 3 and 6.

Venice Access Road - The Corps of Engineers furnished information that an underpass of the South bridge to permit the connection of the access road to U.S. 41 must be sited at least 175' from the channel centerline. This criterion was furnished to the State Road Department. Mr. Andrews of the State Road Department District office met with Mr. Merrin and the Director on January 3 and indicated the bridge could be lengthened to meet this criterion but that formal request should be made.

BRIDGES

Manasota-Albee bonds - By letter of December 30 the Florida Development Commission concluded lengthy discussions and made an irrevocable commitment that these bonds would be sold on Feb. 17 and that proceeds from the sale would be deposited to the credit of the State on March 3, 1964. The Development Commission specifically declared an earlier sale of bonds to be infeasible.

Manasota bridge - Based upon the commitment by the Development Commission Mr. Phillips informed the District on January 3 that the Manasota Bridge would be advertised in March, 1964.

"South" bridge - The State Road Department is realigning this bridge to clear the waterway 22° skew rather than 10° to minimize right-of-way requirements.

Cape Haze and Bland bridges - On December 20 the Corps of Engineers advised the owners that a formal request for removal of these bridges would be issued early in 1964.

Venice Avenue bridge - A draft escrow agreement was drawn up for negotiations with the State Road Department on financing of the bridge.

UTILITIES

Venice Avenue crossings - The state Road Department indicated informally that their utility engineer would be available to coordinate the water and sewer main lowering in construction of the Venice Avenue bridge.

ADMINISTRATION

Aids to Navigation - On December 16 the Coast Guard issued a notice on proposed marking of Section 4 north of the Siesta Key bridge.

Mississippi Valley Association - Membership was approved by the Association.

Escrow Account Section 2 Contributions - A separate escrow checking account was set up to handle contributions made for additional pumping costs in Section 2. \$65,700 was deposited in the account. It will be paid to the Corps of Engineers upon receipt of invoices.

Escrow Account Manasota Bridge - Banks acknowledged receipt of instructions to make the \$150,000 in escrow for the Albee bridge available to the State Road Department for the Manasota bridge. A copy of the resolution authorizing these instructions was furnished to the Development Commission for use in the Albee-Manasota bond sale.

Record Drawings of Section 5 construction were received.

Waterway Development Meeting - The Director of the State Board of Conservation set January 21 for the next meeting of agencies responsible for the development of Florida waterways.