

February 16, 1959

The regular meeting of the WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT was held in the Court House in Bradenton, Florida, on Monday, February 16, 1959, at 2:15 p.m.

Present were:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Charles Fischer, Vice Chairman | Pinellas County |
| H. C. Slaughter, Treasurer | Manatee County |
| Wilson Pigott, Secretary | Lee County |
| James D. Neville | Sarasota County |
| James E. Miller | Charlotte County |

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| J. K. Merrin | Engineer |
| Bruce M. Cox | Accountant |

Absent were:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Ellsworth Simmons, Chairman | Hillsborough County |
| Dewey Dye, Jr. | Attorney |
| J. Hardin Peterson | Special Attorney |

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman, Charles R. Fischer.

Motion was made by Mr. Neville, seconded by Mr. Miller that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as presented. APPROVED.

Letter was read from Robert E. Willis, Attorney for Anna Maria Island Erosion Control Commission, dated Feb. 12, 1959, requesting first call on the spoil or dredged up sand from the deepening of the inland waterway on the east side of Anna Maria Island, when that project is undertaken. Enclosed with this letter was a copy of a letter sent to the Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund in Tallahassee, Florida, requesting a Feasibility Report from them, on the possibilities of pumping dredged up

AIA486

bottom from the bay side of Anna Maria Island to the gulf side of the island for the purpose of combating erosion and to stabilize the beaches of Anna Maria Island.

Mr. Slaughter informed the Board that he had been directed by the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners to bring this request to the attention of the District.

Mrs. H.D.K. Stanford, representing Manatee County Conservation Alliance, was present at this meeting and was asked by the members if she had anything further to add to the letter just read from Mr. Willis. Mrs. Stanford said she was going to Tallahassee to seek Federal and State aid in the erosion problem and would like this District to go on record as approving the proposal, should it be found feasible.

Mr. Merrin stated the U. S. Corps of Engineers has the authority of disposing of the spoils, but if local agencies pay the difference to pump it onto the beaches, the Engineers may cooperate with the District. Mr. Merrin also stated that if any damage suits should arise from the operation the navigation district would be responsible for clearing them up.

Mr. Neville stated that interest in the project was heightened since the possibility of obtaining dredged up spoils to help the erosion problem has been made known.

Mr. Slaughter stated that the main purpose of the District is to get the canal built and everything else is secondary. That the District is ready to cooperate with any feasible plan to help other interests, but nothing should be

allowed to interfere with the main purpose of the district's existence.

Mr. Fischer informed Mrs. Stanford that the members were not familiar enough with the details of the proposal, and with both attorneys absent from this meeting, could not make even an oral commitment.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pigott that J. Hardin Peterson write to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to get clearance from them.

Mr. J. W. Landis of Manasota Key, representing private development interests, questioned Mrs. Stanford as to whether the proposal for obtaining spoils was confined to Manatee County, or would it include other counties.

Mrs. Stanford said, in her opinion, the problem is no longer centered to local beaches and should be considered state wide.

Mr. Slaughter stated that the question of whether the proposal was statewide or local did not enter into the motion. Motion was APPROVED.

Letter from Mr. Watts, dated Jan. 22, 1959, requested a suggestion from this board for having a railroad bridge crossing the Myakka River raised to allow passage of boats under it at high tide.

Mr. Slaughter stated that Mr. Watts should discuss this problem with the Railroad.

Mr. Merrin suggested that Mr. Watts direct an application

AIA486

to the Corps of Engineers asking them to keep a man on duty full time.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Miller that either of the Attorneys write to Mr. Watts advising him of the Districts jurisdiction. APPROVED.

Letter was read from J. B. Lacey, Realtor, dated Feb. 9, 1959, inquiring if a certain property owned by WCIND is for sale. Mr. Slaughter stated that the aim of the District was to build a canal and whatever property has been obtained was necessary for the right of way of the project.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Miller that Mr. Dye be directed to write to Mr. J. B. Lacey, advising him of the Districts jurisdiction. APPROVED.

Letter was read from J. Hardin Peterson, dated Feb. 14, 1959, in which he enclosed a Resolution and asked the Board to act on it.

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District that the Board does hereby amend and supplement all its previous resolutions by passing this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District that it is a local responsibility to assume and carry out the requirements for local cooperation contained in House Document No. 109, 85th Congress, 1st Session; and that the Board on behalf of itself or in joint cooperation with other city, county or local

bodies does hereby agree to and assume responsibility for the carrying out of the requirements for local cooperation named in said document, including construction, operation and maintenance of any bridges made necessary by the construction of alternate route 1 and including the construction of one bridge which was originally a federal responsibility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board will diligently endeavor to obtain any further legal authority of financial competence necessary to carry out such requirements.

- - - - -

Mr. Neville made a motion, seonded by Mr. Pigott that a copy of the minutes pertaining to the bridge at Albee Creek, during a time when Commissioner Leach was a member of the Board, be made available to him. APPROVED.

Letter was read from Mr. Neville, to Mr. Simmons, dated Feb. 3, 1959, in which Mr. Neville recommended the appointment of Mr. W. T. Edwards as Executive Director of the District.

Mr. Fischer suggested that Mr. Neville make arrangements with Mr. Edwards to have him at the next meeting of the District to meet the members.

Mr. Slaughter read the Treasurers report.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion that the Treasurers report be accepted. Motion was seconded by Mr. Pigott. APPROVED.

Mr. Pigott made a motion that the attorney proceed proceed with condemnation suits; motion was seconded by Mr. Neville. APPROVED.


Mr. Merrin reported that his office work was routine and there was no field work done during this period, but a conference was held with a representative of the Corps of

AIA486

Engineers regarding the Benefit ratio report.

Mr. Slaughter advised the Board that this was the day the Manatee County Court House was to be invaded by DeSoto and his crew, and invited the members of WCIND to stay for the invasion.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pigott that the meeting be adjourned. APPROVED.


Secretary


Vice Chairman