

The monthly board meeting of the Board of Commissioners, WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT, was held January 23, 1981, in Sarasota South County Annex, Venice, Florida.

Present were:

Commissioner Jerry L. Hente, Vice Chairman, Sarasota County
 Commissioner Ernest Averill, Secretary, Lee County
 Commissioner Westwood H. Fletcher, Treasurer, Manatee County
 Commissioner Franz Ross, Charlotte County Alternate Member

Charles E. Furbee, Executive Director
 Philip E. Perrey, Associate Counsel

Absent was: Commissioner J. A. Tringali, Chairman, Charlotte County

Guest: Mrs. Susan Coleman, Administrative Assistant
 to Dr. Elton J. Gissendanner, Executive Director, DNR

ADMINISTRATION

The meeting convened at 10:40 a.m. with Vice Chairman Hente presiding.

Minutes of December 1, 1980 regular board meeting were approved as was presented.

Treasurer's Reports for November 30, 1980 and December 31, 1980, were approved as presented with Director Furbee reviewing Auditor's procedure for certificates of deposit record. Vouchers #2195 - #2228 were approved for payment. Board members requested that beginning in February, this report show total dollar amount of checks listed, and the resulting checking account balance.

WCIND AUDIT, FY 1979-80 ending September 30, 1980, was submitted to Board members and Counsel by mail. The Audit referred to the property account along with the Pinellas County Crystal Beach property sale contract terms. Director Furbee reported Pinellas County has not yet responded to the WCIND request for that County's list of WCIND property, some of which are easements; and that Sarasota County is still working on its report. A verifiable property report of the WCIND property account will be provided at the next board meeting. Re the contract terms for Crystal Beach property sale, Pinellas County has made no decision on vacating the plat during December, 1980; therefore, with tolling period ending January 15, 1981, a two-year period is now being projected to January, 1983, for plans to proceed per contract terms. Counsel Perrey referred the Board to Court funds for cases pending, as listed in Auditor's letter forwarded with the Audit Report. Counsel was directed that WCIND Court Funds now be finalized soon as possible.

UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT - Annual Report to Tallahassee - along with the Audit Report was accomplished by Whitcomb & Christopher, CPA's and is to be submitted to the State Comptroller with the Audit Report.

Commr. Averill moved for Board approval of these two reports; motion was seconded and carried. The annual financial statement will now be published in four newspapers of the WCIND member Counties.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS Mrs. Susan Coleman, Administrative Assistant to Dr. Gissendanner, DNR, was welcomed and thanked for her attendance.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS

Mr. Bill Samford, for Developmental Services, a newly created position with Florida Health and Rehabilitative Services, addressed the Board. His request referred to proposal for public land holders to donate land that is needed for these State services. Director Furbee described two different WCIND parcels for Board consideration: 1) was a S/A parcel of 38 acres which is not listed on the Corps of Engineers Surplus Lands record. Mr. Samford stated that only about one and one-half to two acres is required for the described "cluster home, specially designed and in keeping with the neighborhood area. He proposed to call a neighborhood meeting first; then a public hearing would be required. The 2) parcel, about three and one-half acres, was described as located north of the first parcel; it is owned in fee simple by WCIND and included in C.E. Surplus Lands record. Both parcels are located at Venice By-Pass, City of Venice.

Counsel Perrey stated that the Board must have these parcels checked out for title.

Commr. Averill moved for Board to authorize the Director to resolve this request by Mr. Samford to WCIND with the 2nd described parcel, about 3-1/2 acres size, to be the Board's second choice for approval; if this plan does not work out with the C.E., then the parcel reverts back to WCIND ownership; motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Samford thanked the Board for its action proposed today and now will wait for the WCIND report.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

Sarasota County

Maintenance Spoil Area S-31 Contract - The Director referred to the contract, WCIND/SARASOTA COUNTY, for purchase of spoil on WCIND property. The last renewal was in 1977 for contract price of 25¢ per cu. yard. Commr. Ross reported on current price of \$1.00/cu. yd. with differences in price for cost of hauling. Chairman Hente stated that in all fairness there should be an increase in relation to current prices for such fill. Commr. Ross moved that a new price of 35¢/cu. yard be established for renewal; motion was seconded and carried.

Request for Maintenance of Easement (Venice By-Pass) Local problems and complaints were reported by the Director who requested the Board to direct him to write the Corps of Engineers re the C.E. planned activity for maintenance and the C.E. procedure on maintenance. Commr. Averill moved that the Board so direct; the motion then was seconded and carried.

Charlotte County

Stump Pass Maintenance and Litigation There is a siltation problem in a ten-acre area, a holding area for natural correction. There is no solution yet without damaging the surrounding area. The DER is planning to sue Charlotte County, WCIND, and Norfolk Dredging Co.

Miss Coleman reported to the Board that the DER is now only involved with the Norfolk Dredging Company.

Commr. Ross described the problem to members and stated that the State Department of Environmental Regulation was requested to resolve this issue with final result to be positive, rather than negative.

Counsel Perrey stated that the State's position remains the same. Director Furbee stated that he hopes for some compassion from the Corps of Engineers and the DER in reference to the suit pending.

Manatee County

Longboat Pass Maintenance Project WCIND has received a request from the Corps of Engineers to provide easements for the dredging. The Director has contacted Manatee County to request its assistance along with Counsel Perrey in obtaining the easements. Commr. Fletcher reported that he had received from local power squadron the report "there is no need for it". Commr. Fletcher, area property owner, stated that some people on Longboat Key do not want the dredging.

ACTIVITIES REPORT WAS ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED

WCIND Counsel's Reports

- 1. Congressional Proposal - Reference, Stump Pass/IWW
Counsel Perrey submitted proposal today "to include the existing navigation channel named "Stump Pass" between the Gulf of Mexico and existing authorized Intracoastal Waterway channel located in Lemon Bay, Charlotte County, Florida for: "Section ____ . Title I may be cited as the "River and Harbor Act of 1981".

Commr. Fletcher moved that this be submitted to U.S. Rep. Bafalis; the motion was seconded and carried.

- 2. Recommended Changes to Chapt 61-1590 F.S. and HB 591
Reference was made to 1979 legislation, purpose now being the "WCIND peace of mind" with a few minor changes as follows:
Page 5, inclusion of statement,
"Each designated alternate commission member shall be a member of the Board of County Commissioners of the County incorporated in the District he represents on the District Board."
Page 6(e) "The District is authorized to contract for the purchase of any property acquired...; said contract may provide for payment of interest not to exceed twelve percent (12%) per annum upon deferred payments.
Page 7 "The Board shall, on or before the 15th day of July of each year, by resolution, determine the millage to be levied as taxes for that year..." (Per TRIM BILL date requirements).
Page 8 "...any procedures, dates, or time periods specified in the Act relative to method of fixing millage, or assessment, levy or collection of taxes conflict with provisions of general law now or hereafter in effect, the provisions of general law shall control."
Page 10 (This provides for) deletion of the District authority to issue bonds.

Commr. Averill moved to accept and approve these changes as presented by Counsel Perrey; motion was seconded and carried.

3. Proposed Changes to Florida Law, Chapter 374

This proposal is to strike the one clause - to diminish DNR control; and to limit DNR control of WCIND monies. Discussion followed re Sect. 1 of 374.761 re supervision of navigation districts created pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter, and Commr. Averill then suggested that only the words "heretofore or" need be struck out in the referenced portion. Miss Coleman reported on the issue re the State supervision, stating that Resource Management Director Gluckman, DNR, is submitting a briefing paper for the February Conference; this paper then will be presented to Dr. Gissendanner for his submission to the Cabinet. Commr. Averill moved to change only by deleting the words "heretofore or" in the proposal and then the Board to approve as presented by Counsel; motion was seconded and carried.

NEXT MEETING DATE Regular meeting schedules, time and places were discussed with the consensus being that regular meetings be scheduled every two months instead of a monthly board meeting. The Director noted that the annual inspection of the waterway by Corps of Engineers is usually planned for a time in March. He will request Corps of Engineers plans for the next inspection trip of the IWW. This plan will be for WCIND to schedule its next regular meeting for same date. The members and alternates will be advised when the C.E. announces inspection dates.


ALTERNATE MEMBERS FOR WCIND BOARD Commr. Ross reported Charlotte County has passed a resolution stating that only elected officials be named alternates to WCIND Commissioners. Commr. Averill reported that Lee County was not asked to act and did not act. The Director reported that Sarasota County has its Staff Attorney's opinion. Commr. Averill has requested that the Director supply copies of Board papers/correspondence to the Alternates designated as well as to the regular Board members.

NEW BUSINESS

Sarasota County, Circulation Study on Sarasota Bay - Commr. Hente asked for information on what corrections can be made and probable cost since it is agreed to be needed but "no one has any money". He asked the Board to contribute money toward the study. The Director recommended that Commr. Hente ask Sarasota County to consider setting aside funds on a matching basis with WCIND - not for the Big Sarasota Pass, but for the Bay Circulation Study - a matching fund of \$35,000 each. Commr. Hente stated to members that he will take this proposal to his County Board.

Florida State Annual Water Resources Development Conference, February 25
The DNR will hold this annual conference in Tallahassee. WCIND past request for study was approved; some furnished but money has run out. The Director did not propose to submit again a formal request but send a letter of request to fund the WCIND study of Inlet Passes.

The meeting was adjourned at 1: 05 p.m.


Secretary


Vice Chairman