

June 8, 1959

The regular meeting of the WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT was held in the Court House in Bradenton, Florida, Monday, June 8, 1959, at 2 p.m.

## Present were:

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

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Simmons. The minutes of the meeting of May 11, 1959, were approved as presented.

Letter was read from Congressman Cramer, acknowledging receipt of Briefs and advising the District that the Briefs will be distributed to the interested persons. Congressman Cramer also assured the Board that he was in full support of the project and would continue to support it.

Letters read from Senator Holland, Congressman Cramer and Representative Rodgers, assuring the District of their continued interest in the project and advising of their support.

Mr. Simmons stated to the Board that as far as he knew, everything possible had been done to obtain the

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appropriation necessary for the successful completion of the canal.

Mr. Peterson advised the District that although the Appropriations Committee of the House had not approved the appropriation, he felt certain that the Senate would back the project.

Mr. Peterson advised that he had spent some time in Venice talking with Mayor Brohard, and the Mayor stated to Mr. Peterson that he would sign a release granting the District easement rights to a parcel of land now owned by the City of Venice and would have it approved by Council this coming week.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the trip Mr. Peterson made to Venice and authorized him to make another trip to be on hand when the issue came before the Council in Venice and the District would reimburse Mr. Peterson for his expenses. APPROVED.

Mr. Merrin reported that during the past month field work consisted of locating and monumenting the right of way line in Sarasota County from the Manasota Bridge north to Alligator Creek. Land ties were made and parcel boundaries run. Individual sketches and descriptions of the properties needed were drawn. Small scale Aerial photographs were received from the Corps of Engineers suggesting proposed spoil areas from the Calooshatchee River to Alligator Creek in Sarasota County, these areas were transferred to the

detail property maps.

Mr. Merrin produced the maps showing the proposed spoil areas as shown on the aerial photographs received from the Corps of Engineers. Mr. Merrin stated that the map used by the Corps was out-dated and some of the marked areas for spoils were in developed subdivisions. Mr. Merrin stated that the Corps would appreciate suggestions from the District.

Mr. Simmons observed that the spoils should, whenever possible, be used for constructive purposes.'

Mr. Merrin was instructed to make available to the Corps maps of the location which were up-to-date.

Mr. Simmons assigned Mr. Merrin, Mr. Neville, and Mr. Miller to consult with the Army Engineers as soon as possible on this matter of re-locating spoil areas if necessary. To either go to Jacksonville or, if preferred, to have the Engineers come here.

Mr. Simmons urged that deeds in Pinellas County be obtained as soon as possible, stating that this matter has been too long delayed. Mr. Simmons stated that the Board should determine what steps were necessary to obtain the deeds in question, and then proceed in acquiring them.

Mr. Simmons stated that he was dissatisfied with the status of obtaining deeds to submerged lands under the jurisdiction of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

Mr. Fischer advised that there was an over-lapping

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on ownerships where the same parcel was sold three times or more and that the District should receive a deed from the State for the submerged lands that they now owned and have a quit claim deed for the parcels in question.

Mr. Slaughter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fischer that Mr. Dye be authorized to prepare a resolution directing each of the five counties to levy 1/5 mill on the assessed valuation of property within the member counties, and that copies be sent to each County and the Comptroller. APPROVED.

Mr. Dye reported that an island in Sarasota County belonging to O. W. Caspersen would have three fourths of it sliced away by the canal, and the owner did not feel he wanted to settle for the appraised price. Mr. Dye suggested that it may be less costly in the end to purchase the whole island.

Mr. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Slaughter appointing Mr. Neville, Mr. Dye, and Mr. Merrin to look over the island in Venice area and report to the Board at the next meeting. APPROVED.

Mr. Slaughter read the Treasurer's report, which was approved as presented.

Letter was read from the Inter City National Bank, which stated the bank would be open for business on July 1, 1959 and requested that the District designate this bank as a depository for a proportionate share of the West Coast

Inland Navigation District funds.

Mr. Slaughter was directed by Mr. Simmons to acknowledge the letter from the Inter City National Bank advising them of action on their request after they have received their Charter.

A recess was called at 3:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 4:10 p.m.

Mr. Fischer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Neville approving the current bills for payment. APPROVED.

After discussion, the members of the District agreed to authorize the Committee, consisting of Mr. Neville, Mr. Fischer, and Mr. Miller, to appoint Col. George Kumpe, to assist the Commissioners in advancing the project. Col. Kumpe had been interviewed by Mr. Simmons, Mr. Fischer, and Mr. Neville and all three members were favorably impressed. The agreed upon salary for this appointment is set at \$600.00 per month, plus an automobile to be purchased for official use, a secretary and office, and expenses for out-of-town travel.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

*William C. C. C.*  
Secretary

*C. F. Simmons*  
Chairman

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