

WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1993 AT 10:30 AM
CHARLOTTE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, ROOM 119
18500 MURDOCK CIRCLE
PORT CHARLOTTE, FLORIDA

A G E N D A

ADMINISTRATION

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of the Minutes of March 26, 1993
3. Approval of the Bills To Be Paid For March and April, 1993
4. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for February and March, 1993
5. Approval of Deletions or Additions to Agenda

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES COMMENTS

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approve Agreements for R.O.W. Use by Moose Club, Sarasota County D.O.T. and the City of Venice Pipeline Easement

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of Quarterly Reports by County
2. Review of WCIND Financial Condition and Commitments
3. Report on Water Law and DER/DNR Merger As They Relate to WCIND

NEXT MEETING TIME

SUGGESTED DATE:

July 16, 1993

ADJOURNMENT

WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING

MAY 21, 1993

CHARLOTTE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

MINUTES OF MAY 21, 1993

A regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held on Friday, May 21, 1993, at 10:30 a.m. at the Charlotte County Administration Building, Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ray Judah, Chairman
Kent G. Chetlain, Treasurer
Charlie Richards, Sarasota Co. alternate

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Richard J. Leonard, Charlotte County
Wayne Derr, Sarasota County

STAFF PRESENT: James M. Armstrong, Executive Director
Connie McLenna, Administrative Asst.
Philip E. Perrey, Counsel

ADMINISTRATION:

Commissioner Judah presided. Commissioner Chetlain moved to approve the minutes of March 26, 1993. Commissioner Richards seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Richards moved to approve the bills to be paid for March and April, 1993. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Chetlain moved to approve the Treasurer's Reports for February and March, 1993. Commissioner Richards seconded. Motion carried unanimously. As an addition to the Agenda, Dr. and Mrs. Lacelle from Sarasota County asked to address the Board.

Dr. Lacelle said he lives in Sarasota County on Roberts Bay in an area that has been recently designated as a water recreation area. He objected to the state crowding high-speed boats and skiers into a small area around a spoil island known as "skiers island". He felt the signs and moorings will be a detriment to the natural beauty of the area. From a safety standpoint, there will be injuries and death as a result of crowding all these high-speed boats into a small area. Mrs. Lacelle then spoke and conceded they knew this region was already a ski area, but they had no idea the state would outline this area and curtail its size to one-third of its original size. Mr. Armstrong confirmed at public hearings there was no mention of where signs and buoys would go. That was all decided in Tallahassee without the use of aerial photos. Commissioner Chetlain urged Mrs. Lacelle to appeal personally before the Governor and Cabinet. Commissioner Richards moved to officially communicate with the Sarasota County Commission, to coordinate our efforts, and again to take these objections to DNR and to notify our legislative delegations. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion

carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approve Agreements for R.O.W. Use by Moose Club, Sarasota County D.O.T. and the City of Venice Pipeline Easement.

Mr. Armstrong said the agreement would be for one year and included our standard clauses regarding liability and insurance. Mr. Armstrong speculated that the Moose Club may not be able to comply with these requirements. Commissioner Richards moved to approve the agreement. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Counsel Perrey explained the nature of these documents. They are unrecorded revocable rights to use our property agreements, binding on both parties, i.e. the licensor and licensee.

Mr. Armstrong reviewed the next agreement - Sarasota County wishes to use approximately 10 areas of land to temporarily dispose of material from their drainage problem. The material needs to dry out before it can be further disposed of. Commissioner Judah requested the lease be changed to include a prohibition against the removal of native vegetation and include barricades. Commissioner Richards moved to approve the agreement with the above additions. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review of Quarterly Reports by County. Mr. Armstrong said he had two completed reports and one partially-completed report from the counties. This report on uncompleted projects is necessary so we can see how much money we are going to have to spend and it forces the counties and their staff to review their ongoing projects. The Board might want to take a look at projects dating back several years to see if they are ever going to be completed. Commissioner Richards moved to approve the quarterly reports by Sarasota and Charlotte Counties and to direct Mr. Armstrong to write to each county chairman asking for an assessment of non-active projects. Seconded by Commissioner Chetlain. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Review of WCIND Financial Condition and Commitments. Mr. Armstrong said he has been getting phone calls from individuals indicating WCIND had a lot of money surplus to our needs and could they get some of it. Mr. Armstrong reviewed the financial condition of WCIND as of March 31, 1993 and specifically directed the Board's attention to the Gulf Coast Passes Maintenance Fund. This amount totals \$1,427,484, of which only \$13,500 is for an active, live project (Lake LaVista Inlet). Taxation was increased by 710% to provide these funds specifically for pass/inlet maintenance, but because DNR has taken over all inlets and passes, these funds are in reality a surplus. Perhaps we should abandon this designation

and use this money for improvement to waterways, maintenance of all waterways in the four counties, i.e. restore submerged islands, plant mangroves, restore Snake Island, plant native trees, and provide bike paths along the Venice Cut. He is concerned that these funds will be gobbled up by projects other than those that in any way improve boating, boating recreation, or waterways improvement. He has had some complaints about funding projects that have nothing to do with improving navigation and the waterways. WCIND has spent plenty of money on environmental issues, including over a million dollars directly and indirectly on manatee protection. Commissioner Richards raised the issue of drunken boat operators and funding efforts to combat this problem.

Commissioner Judah asked the Board's indulgence to introduce Chuck Listowski of Lee County. Several years ago Lee County introduced a surcharge on boating registration fees and has received WCIND funds. The money is used to enforce marine ordinances, but they regard the alcohol problem as more of a state issue. Mr. Armstrong was asked to investigate how WCIND could apply some leverage on the alcohol issue.

Commissioner Richards moved to approve Mr. Armstrong's recommendation to abandon the Gulf Coast Passes Maintenance Fund, to include the suggestions for the restoration of submerged and spoil islands, specifically Snake Island, to investigate the bike and jogging paths, and to investigate and report back to the Board on education projects (including the use of public service announcements) having to do with boating safety and environmental protection, and other marine projects including dredging and maintenance of the waterways. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Report on Water Law and DER/DNR Merger as They Relate to WCIND.
Counsel Perry reported that DER and DNR will be merged into one department called the Department of Environmental Protection. They took the existing agencies of both divisions and moved them into the new agency, which will have to come up with a first year budget that is 95% or less than the combined budget of the two agencies. A later report will deal with duplication of services and eliminating inefficiencies.

Mr. Armstrong said the Environmental Education Center at Mote Marine will be having a ground-breaking ceremony on June 2. We are being asked to consider a name for this center. One name to consider might be that of Porter Goss who for five years championed a lot of things we do and will be instrumental in getting federal funds for the project. The Board seemed to agree.

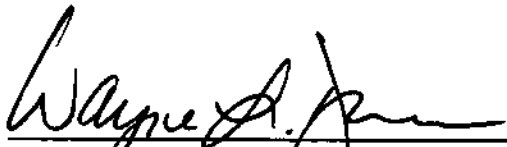
NEXT MEETING DATE: The Board will be polled.

Commissioner Richards moved to approve travel expenses for any Commissioner who wished to attend the September meeting of Florida


Shore & Beach Preservation Association. Commissioner Chetlain seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Mr. Walter Stilley of B.A.I.L. was granted permission to address the Board. They have been forging ahead with the second section of their pilot program which is to revise the model anchoring and mooring ordinance. They feel they can come up with a plan that will be definitely workable and will be able to wrap the whole project up complete with publishing the new guide by the end of next year. They are trying to make this anchorage guide self-supporting so they will no longer need tax dollars. The Board complimented him on the guide book.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:50 a.m.



WAYNE DERR, SECRETARY



RAY JUDAH, CHAIRMAN