

A regular board meeting of the Board of Commissioners, WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT, was held Thursday, June 23, 1983, in Sarasota, Florida.

Commissioners present: Joseph A. Tringali, Chairman Charlotte County  
 Jerry L Hente, Vice Chairman Sarasota County  
 Porter J. Goss, Secretary Lee County

Absent was: Westwood H. Fletcher, Jr., Treas. Manatee County

Staff present: James M. Armstrong, Executive Director  
 Philip E. Perrey, Counsel

Guests present: Mr. Creighton Sherman, Executive Dir., GICIA, Boca Grande  
 Mr. Dale Adams, Admin. Assistant, DNR, Tallahassee  
 Col. D. N. Ellingsen, Florida Marine Patrol, Tallahassee  
 Mr. Gail G. Gren, Chief, Operations Division,  
 Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District  
 Mr. W. V. Canaday, Tampa Area Engineer, C.E., Jacksonville

#### ADMINISTRATION

The meeting convened at 8:15 a.m. with Chairman Tringali presiding. The Chairman welcomed the guests to this meeting which is being held today enroute during annual IWW inspection trip, Caloosahatchee river to the Anclote river.

Minutes of regular board meeting May 27, 1983, the Treasurer's Report May 31, 1983, and current bills were approved as presented.

The Chairman noted for the record the scheduled retirement June 30, 1983 of the WCIND office secretary-bookkeeper, Mrs. Esther C. Happich, and the board members and staff expressed appreciation for her sixteen years service with WCIND. The Director then announced the employment of Beverly Bonds as of June 15, 1983, and Mrs. Bonds was introduced and welcomed to WCIND.

Mr. Gail G. Gren addressed the Board to note the Corps of Engineers recognition of the value of IWW inspection trips, along with WCIND relationship and the cooperation. Re: regulatory program and the problem areas, now being studied; for the Passes Study, current interest is centered on Big Pass and Stump Pass. The Corps hopes to finish end of July for a draft form and a release is expected to be submitted by October-November, then public hearings held in each area. Re, the 78-acre tract in Sarasota County, as dredging is done, for the Venice Wells areas to be considered and then investigations may be recommended. The Corps of Engineers will send a letter to WCIND with its recommendation and WCIND can then review to see if another site may be more advantageous.

Chairman Tringali noted the value is continuing to be recognized by commercial fishermen, also the public, for the Stump Pass Project. Commr. Hente noted the Sarasota County interest for progress re its Big Pass, also the park issue in Venice - so needed.

These particular items noted to Mr. Gren who stated that he will present same to Jacksonville District C.E.

ACTIVITIES REPORTLee County

Boca Grande Channel Maintenance & Beach Nourishment Commr. Goss referred to the Lee County/WCIND Boca Grande Project and asked Mr. Sherman to speak to Board. Mr. Sherman addressed the Board to report on current problems, re the Florida Power & Light Company Permit for a 10-year period that, in his mind, has some disasterous results by creating erosion to the beach each time. Planned groins was to aid in holding in spoil that was to be placed on the beach as well as to protect the lighthouse. The groin rock has now arrived and rip rap is being placed to protect the storage tanks located there. The Permit does not mention this activity. Commr. Goss noted that this project was causing bad vibrations. Originally, the County interest was question of the Lighthouse safety location, and now that the public park is closed because of spoiling, he was concerned but felt that it would all be taken care of and all problems sorted out to our satisfaction and Lee County's satisfaction as well. Chairman Tringali noted that he was upset over these actions and referred to WCIND approval to fund its portion of construction of groin to save the Lighthouse as well as protect the beach. He suggested a "Hold" be placed on any spending on this project.

Commr. Goss reported that if this activity there is not as represented to him and to WCIND, he will object to Lee County paying for anything other than the WCIND/Lee County proposal as permitted and understood to be funded.

Mr. Gren referred to the C.E. office in Fort Myers for reference.

Commr. Goss, re the rock being held up in Alabama, advised of its delivery and stated that appropriate procedure will be to keep close eye on this project.

Commr. Hente stated that the Corps of Engineers, Lee County, and the WCIND, all should note pertinent details of this project after the C.E. gives its report.

Mr. Sherman stated, referring to a 10-year maintenance dredging and the groin now being built, that the normal procedure does not work here: there are two littoral drifts - a disasterous effect. This dredging should be stopped. The Florida Power & Light Co. could have re-aligned their dock; they refused to do so due to costs.

Chairman Tringali requested of Mr. Gren that the Corps of Engineers report back their findings as to Florida P & L Co. adhering to Permit regulations to WCIND.

Commr. Goss then outlined the second issue at Boca Grande involving dredging by explaining that it did indeed tie into the previous discussion. He referred to the 2-year dredging by C.E. that is about to take place by first noting that many marine experts had advised him on the subject and that he believed Lee County Commissioners and the people of Lee County would not support the Boca Grande Port and that other methods of transporting oil to Florida Power & Light Plant was being looked into. He felt that the Boca Grande Port was indeed winding down but if the need to continue the 2-year dredging was certainly a question in his mind as well as others. He further stated that the sand being dredged certainly came from the beaches and that it should be returned to the beaches and that the cost factors between off-shore spoiling and on-shore were somewhat different.

Mr. Gren then explained the complexities of dredging and methods of bidding the dredge projects. He explained that the sand being dredged was coming from edge of ship channel three miles out of the Pass. He mentioned too that of the total amount of dredged material to be dredged - only about one-third to one-half would be needed on the public property.

Commr. Goss explained that the State had committed to the project and that Lee County had very little funds for such a re-nourishment project but wanted to see if WCIND would entertain conceptually aiding the project and, if so, that he will get all the numbers together for presentation.

Chairman Tringali questioned if the shipping interest should be asked to contribute since obviously the dredging was benefitting them.

Mr. Gren indicated that the Corps of Engineers was not authorized to suggest that

private firms underwrite such projects.

Commr. Hente stated that he would be in favor but wanted more information. The Chairman indicated his favor for the project.

Commr. Goss will proceed with obtaining all the facts and numbers for presentation.

Mr. Gren, for the Corps of Engineers, stated that bids would be going out very quickly and that within a month or two this bidding process would be well underway.

Counsel Perrey stated that the WCIND does have authority and had done this type funding both at Stump Pass and the Longboat Pass.

### Sarasota County

#### Review of Minutes of May 27, 1983 Meeting re Port Manatee Proposal to WCIND.

Commr. Hente opened discussion re WCIND consideration for support; it being his understanding a final decision only when Manatee County comes to WCIND Board with the Port Manatee Plan. Commr. Hente discussed Skyway Bridge funding by taxpayers to support shipping; he strenuously objected to WCIND participation on the Port Manatee navigation aids and urged that when the matter is presented the WCIND Board turn it down.

Commr. Goss suggested that WCIND action was to support the project in concept or principle and that when a presentation was to be made showing numbers it could be considered. He suggested that tapes of May 27 meeting be summarized or that Commr. Hente review them in view of fact that his Alternate (Commr. Anderson) and he were looking at the request somewhat differently.

### CHARLOTTE COUNTY

#### SCL Railroad Bridge Suit Report

Counsel Perrey received letter from the ICC in answer to his recent letter re the progress in this suit settlement for WCIND, from Congressman Mack. The Appeal for the settlement refers to the Span which is WCIND property per the ICC; the WCIND is currently providing liability insurance. The SCL Railroad Company shows no inclination to help solve the problem of WCIND obtaining physical ownership. Now, it may be necessary to consider that WCIND start litigation re the final settlement procedure. At present, Charlotte County has "No Trespassing" signs at the trestles.

Col. Ellingsen, State Marine Patrol, stated re bridges, the D.O.T. law is to be enforced but a railroad bridge? He will pass on this urgent problem to his district officers.

Director Armstrong recommended that the Board ask Counsel Perrey to contact the Charlotte County Attorney to review all deeds relating to the approach and to the bridge span.

The ACTIVITIES REPORT was accepted as presented.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### FY 1983-84 Budget Recommendation and Director's Work Plan

Copies of the proposed budget were presented and reviewed today in order Board to authorize submission to DNR by July 15, 1983 for presentation to the Cabinet. Director stated that Boca Grande project may not be funded 1982-83; this fund is now placed in the '83-84 plans, also the \$45,000 fund for Sarasota County. Added was \$3,000 miscellaneous expense for Venice office expense plans such as furniture, a conference table and a couple of chairs.

FY 1983-84 Millage Recommendation The 1983-84 millage is recommended to remain the same as previous year 1982-83, the .005 mill levy.

Commr. Goss moved to approve this tentative budget; motion was seconded by Commr. Hente; also included was to authorize the recommended .005 millage for FY 1983-84 budget. The motion was then passed unanimously.

WCIND Office Move to Venice Office Building - June 15, 1983

Director Armstrong described the current facilities of new office in Venice; WCIND signs are urgently needed. He recommended that the Board authorize the outside of office building be painted a different color; and that appropriate WCIND sign be installed on front of building. Chairman suggested that the Director submit his suggested plan and the costs to the Board at the next meeting.

DNR Representative Comments Mr. Dale Adams addressed the Board, re DNR Director Gissendanner being unable to attend today and his own late arrival. Chairman explained that time schedule change for meeting to the earlier hour was due to the IWW Inspection scheduled plan for the C.E. boat to leave at 11:00 a.m. today.

Florida Marine Patrol, Col. Ellingsen addressed the Board to state plans for the State projection of licensing boat operators. This plan would have to be on a national basis to be effective. License proposal is perhaps not the key; there is a lot of pro and con; but laws re reckless boat operators and re DRI, also a speed limit to be enforced, these are being studied. He stated his hope to come back in January, 1984 for WCIND support.

Chairman Tringali requested receipt of the DNR resolution form for possible WCIND adoption.

Col. Ellingsen outlined some ideas being looked at by the FIND on the east coast.

The Director again referred to previously submitted Work Plan at May 27 meeting for Board consideration.

Commr. Goss stated no objection.


NEXT MEETING DATE

The recommended meeting date was July 15, or either July 22 or August 12. The Chairman then polled members who concurred to set meeting date to be Friday, July 22, as a tentative date, in Venice at the new WCIND office.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned in order for members and guests to continue on the Corps of Engineers/WCIND annual IWW Inspection boat trip north, scheduled to leave here at 11:00 a.m. today.

JMA:eh

  
Secretary

  
Chairman