

The monthly board meeting of the Board of Commissioners, WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT, was held December 20, 1976, in Sarasota County Administration Building, Sarasota, Florida.

Present were: Dan P. McClure, Chairman, Manatee County
 Don Jones, Vice Chairman, Pinellas County
 Larry Rhodes, Treasurer, Sarasota County
 R. Doug Taylor, Lee County
 Jerry Bowmer, Hillsborough County

Charles E. Furbee, Executive Director
 Dewey A. Dye, Jr., Counsel

Absent was: Arnold F. Schade, Charlotte County

ADMINISTRATION

The meeting convened at 10:30 a.m.

The Chairman welcomed new WCIND Board members to the Board: Commissioner R. Doug Taylor and Commissioner Jerry Bowmer; Commissioner Arnold F. Schade, was unable to be present today.

Minutes of November 1, 1976 regular monthly board meeting were approved as presented.

Vouchers #695 through #726 for November, 1976 and #727 through #758 for December, 1976 were approved for payment.

Election of WCIND Board Officers for 1977 - The members of the Board nominated and voted by acclamation for the following to serve: Commissioner Dan P. McClure, Chairman; Don Jones, Vice Chairman; Larry Rhodes, Treasurer; and R. Doug Taylor, Secretary.

Board Employment of Staff for 1977 - Commissioner McClure, Chairman, called for the Board's pleasure to be placed on record for the staff employment. Commr. Rhodes moved that the Board approve the continuing employment of present staff: Charles E. Furbee, Executive Director, Attorney Dewey A. Dye, Jr., Counsel; and Esther C. Happich, the Office secretary-bookkeeper. The motion was seconded and carried.

WCIND Audit for FY 1974, 1975, and 1976 ending September 30, 1976 - This was authorized in accordance with State requirements and was accomplished by Whitcomb, Harrison & Company, certified public accountants, Bradenton, Florida, December 16, 1976. The Accountants' Letter with the audit report was noted by the Director as follows, in the second paragraph, relating to the true value of lands:

Second Paragraph: "We were unable to accumulate sufficient evidential matter to satisfy ourselves as to the fairness of the amounts reported as the cost of lands owned in fee as reflected in the balance sheets as of September 30, 1974, 1975 and 1976. The majority

of these assets were acquired prior to the periods covered by our examination. Due to the possible material effect of accompanying balance sheets and statement of changes of fund balance of any misstatements in the assets noted above, we do not express an opinion on the accompanying balance sheets and statement of fund balances."

Third Paragraph:

"In our opinion, the accompanying statements of revenues and expenses present fairly the results of operations of the West Coast Inland Navigation District for the years ended September 30, 1974, 1975, and 1976 in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a consistent basis."

Director Furbee reported that WCIND must verify the value of lands, right-of-ways, and easements. The Chairman suggested that the WCIND Director should refer to the right-of-way staffs in the six Counties for guidance in reflecting these values and the cost figures then be placed on WCIND records. The Director reported on the planned distribution of the Audit Report: State Comptroller, State Auditor, the Department of Natural Resources, and each Clerk of Circuit Court for the WCIND six counties as well as each WCIND Board member and Counsel. The Audit cost per invoice December 16, 1976 was \$1,825.00 Commr. Jones moved that the Board accept the Audit Report as presented for the years 1974, 1975, and 1976 ending September 30, 1976 and approve payment of the invoice dated December 16, 1976 for services stated; the motion was seconded and was carried.

Resolution of Appreciation: Services of member, Dorothy R. Flowers: WCIND Resolution No. 76-02 was presented for adoption to acknowledge Commissioner Flowers' faithful services in representing Charlotte County December 1972 through November 1976 serving consecutively as secretary and vice chairman, this being her second assignment to this Board; the former being from January, 1965 through December, 1968; for a combined total assignment of eight years. Commissioner Jones moved for adoption; the resolution was adopted.

ACTIVITIES REPORT

Charlotte County

Permit Application 76M - 0395 - Commr. Rhodes moved that the Board approve this Permit application to the Corps of Engineers; the motion was seconded and carried. A "No Objection" letter will be forwarded.

Sarasota County

Lawsuit - Dr. Lovell & Mr. Sou Chan vs. WCIND - Mr. Dye, Counsel, advised the Board on current status of this damage suit against WCIND. This case was dismissed. However, the owners may try again to bring suit against the WCIND.

Venice Canal Bank Treatment Project - Director Furbee reported on the progress of the C.E. contractors for New Pass dredging project.

Manasota Key Lot Sale Proposal - WCIND received an offer of \$40,000 from the Family Realty Co., Ft. Lauderdale, December 1, 1976. This was returned with advice that WCIND will advise as to future action.

-3-

Manatee County

Longboat Pass Project - The Director presented to the Board the C.E. Public Notice dated 2 November 1976: "Maintenance Dredging - Clearwater and New Passes and New Work Dredging - Longboat Pass, FL." These three dredging jobs will be advertised together in December, '76, with bid opening in January 1977 and commencement of work to be about March 1977. It is anticipated that future maintenance dredging will be required periodically in these passes involving the removal of approximately the same quantities of accumulated shoal material in each pass as described above. The Director reviewed the background for new board members' benefit. The WCIND had set aside \$75,000 to Manatee toward its share cost of project. Manatee County did not want to be responsible for any cost over \$1,000,000.00. WCIND has requested the State Attorney General's opinion re the WCIND to take over the responsibility as the local sponsor instead of Manatee County. WCIND Counsel, Mr. Dye, reported on his question submitted to Atty. General and stated that the WCIND was advised that the district could sponsor this Longboat Pass project. The cost estimate now is reported as \$1,286,000 with local share of cost about \$172,000. The WCIND, as the local sponsor, will be responsible for any costs above two million dollars. In addition, the C.E. estimates \$46,000 cost to construct dikes at disposal area but some material is not suitable for the placement on Manatee County beaches; this cost is WCIND responsibility.

The Chairman noted that this is based on the C.E. design which the WCIND has not seen. Mr. Dye suggested that WCIND, as local sponsor, could do the diking rather than the C.E., or Manatee County do so with its equipment.

The question before the Board is a shortage of estimated cost funds, \$37,000, with Manatee County \$60,000 and WCIND \$75,000, for \$135,000 local share of the cost to be \$172,000. Mr. Dye stated that if WCIND has a veto power over the bids, then the Board can consider approval of the project. Commr. Jones moved that the WCIND assume the budgeted money for Manatee County; the motion was seconded and carried. Commr. Jones moved that Counsel Dye contact the Corps of Engineers to ascertain an escape clause be included in the project bid re the amount to be stated; and then the WCIND Counsel's proposed agreement with the Corps of Engineers be approved. The resolution of agreement for the WCIND and Corps of Engineers will be submitted to the C.E. for their approval of contract; the motion was seconded and carried.

Pinellas County

Sarasota - Pinellas Counties Property Exchange - Mr. Dye reported on Pinellas County property to be purchased by WCIND with a parcel of property 10-1/2 acres in Sarasota County, off Hwy. No. 41, Venice area, appraised at \$310,000. This is to be conveyed in January, 1977. The owners are asking to negotiate an agreement that they will accept a small amount of money rather than the property. Mr. Dye is asking the Board to consider this proposal as this may, in time, be advantageous to WCIND. Commr. Rhodes moved that WCIND Counsel be authorized to re-negotiate with the owners and report back to the Board. Mr. Dye will work with the two Board Commissioners representing the two Counties.

The ACTIVITIES REPORT was accepted as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Water Resources Congress Annual Meeting will be held February 5 - 7, in St. Louis, Missouri. Commr. Rhodes moved that members of this Board be authorized to attend; the motion was seconded and carried.

NEXT MEETING DATE - The members concurred that Monday, January 24, 1977, be designated as the meeting date for January monthly meeting. Commr. Jones moved to accept Commissioner McClure's invitation to hold the January 24 Board meeting in Manatee County Commission Hearing Room, Manatee County Court House, Bradenton; this motion was seconded and carried.

Manasota Key Lot Sale Proposal - Attorney Dye reported that since the WCIND did not get the price as anticipated when this lot was offered for bid sale, perhaps this property can be included with the re-negotiation of property exchange with Sarasota and Pinellas County.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.


Secretary


Chairman