

March 18, 1957

The regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held in the court house, Bradenton, Florida, Monday, March 18th, 1957 at 2:00 p.m.

Present were Ellsworth Simmons, Chairman	Hillsborough County
Wilson Pigott, Secretary	Lee County
E. F. McCann, Member	Sarasota County
Chas. R. Fischer, V. Chairman	Pinellas County
James Miller, Member	Charlotte County
H. C. Slaughter, Treasurer	Manatee County
J. K. Merrin, Engineer	
Dewey A. Dye, Attorney	
J. Hardin Peterson, Special Attorney	

Present also were members of the Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota County. Col. Gus Nelson, gave a resume of expenditures made by Sarasota County in the development of an island between Casey Key and Albee. He advised that this island had been developed and landscaped for recreational purposes, and it had been their understanding until just recently that this property would not be in the right of way of the Inland Waterway Project, and his Board was protesting encroachment of the waterway on the improved property. Cost sheet showing \$50,583.70 in improvements was submitted to the Board.

J. K. Merrin, engineer, submitted original maps and various correspondence relating to the area. He advised that search of records in Tallahassee disclosed that no application had been made to the U.S. Corps of Engineers for construction of seawall and there was some question as to the legality of the construction of the seawall and the dredging of the channel. Col. Nelson stated that permits for dredging had been received by Sarasota County and since the sea wall was not adjacent to the channel the regulations did not apply.

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Chairman Simmons asked the cooperation of Sarasota County in that they would refrain from further expenditure of funds for this project until the status of the waterway could be obtained as present parkways, etc., could be used to advantage of the public and would enhance the value of the properties involved.

Col. Nelson requested that the members of this Board come down and see the situation as it exists.

Mr. Pigott recommended that since the U. S. Corps of Engineers has all information that nothing be done until a report could be received from them.

Motion was made by Mr. McCann that this Board request the Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota County to cooperate by not making further capital expenditure on improvements on the recreational area and, due to existing circumstances, the U. S. Corps of Engineers be requested to hold as near as possible to the original alignment (that is, to narrow right of way to construction lines). Motion was seconded by Mr. Pigott, with the provision that this would not in any way delay any phase of this project. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Peterson recommended that the Chairman and members of the Navigation District go to Washington and meet with the Senators and Representatives with a view toward congressional appropriation.

Motion was made by Mr. Fischer that all members be authorized to go to Washington for further Inland Waterway interests, also others connected with this project if determined advantageous, with expenses to be paid by the District. Motion was seconded

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by Mr. Miller and carried.

The treasurer's report was given by Mr. Slaughter, and accepted on motion by Mr. Fischer, seconded by Mr. Pigott and carried.

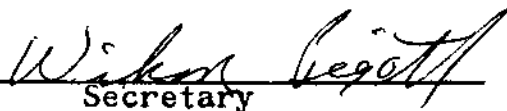
Mr. Slaughter reported that one bank had been contacted relative to increase of interest rates on Special Time Deposits and that commitments from other banks were forthcoming.

Motion was made by Mr. Fischer that where fixed salaries and/or routine expenses (such as telephone, etc.) are concerned that same be paid upon approval of the Chairman or vice chairman and the Treasurer. Motion was seconded by Mr. Slaughter and carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Pigott, seconded by Mr. McCann, the bills were approved for payment. (Vouchers No.

The engineers report was given by Mr. Merrin and accepted on motion by Mr. Pigott, seconded by Mr. Fischer and carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Pigott, the meeting was adjourned until Monday, April 8th, 1957 at 2:00 p.m.

  
Secretary

  
Chairman