

The monthly meeting of the WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS was held at the Manatee County Office Building in Bradenton, Florida April 10, 1961. Those present were:

Ellsworth G. Simmons, Chairman, Hillsborough County

H. H. Anger, Vice-chairman, Charlotte County

Boyd R. Gernhard, Secretary, Sarasota County .

Elmer Bustle, Treasurer, Manatee County

Mack H. Jones, Lee County

George Kumpe, Executive Director

J. Hardin Peterson, Special Counsel

Joe K. Merrin, Engineer

Dewey A. Dye, Jr., General Counsel.

A. L. Anderson, Pinellas County, was absent.

#### Administration

The chairman called the meeting to order at 2:00 P. M. Minutes of the March 20th meeting were approved as read. The Treasurer read the Treasurer's report and it was approved as presented. Vouchers #2660 through #2696 covering current bills were approved for payment.

The director reported that two small vouchers, numbered 2627 and 2628, were paid after the February meeting in accordance with established policy covering the payment of routine bills, but that formal approval had not been granted at the March meeting. The Commissioners approved these two payments.

#### Hearing of Individuals

Representatives from Manasota Key were present, including

Mr. John K. Maddin, Mr. C. C. Wilmot and Col. F. R. Chamberlain of the North Manasota Key Association, Mr. Hosea and Mr. R. M. Wright from the Galleons Reach Association, and Mr. Brooks representing Mr. Vanderbilt. Mr. Maddin repeated the support of his association of Route C-1 and their objection to any proposal to cut through Manasota Key because of the erosion which might be caused. Mr. Wilmot stated that he was working with various area groups to make known the favorable aspects of waterways.

Mr. Wright asked about the proposal for an outside route. Chairman Simmons repeated that the Navigation District Commissioners promoted and favored no specific route but that they would object to any delay in construction. Mr. Wright stated he had been told that any outside route had been determined infeasible by the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Paul Franklin, from Lee County and guest of Commissioner Mack H. Jones, former Vice-president of the Florida Waterways Committee, was introduced and spoke favorably of the District. He expressed his concern for immediate progress by the District.

#### Progress Report

The director announced that Brig. General H. A. Morris, Division Engineer, will testify in the appropriation hearings during the last part of this month. The District has been asked to give the status of bridges and developments in the Venice area before April 15th.

#### Lands - Charlotte and Sarasota Counties

The progress of acquiring lands from Boca Grande to Alligator Creek is continuing. \*See page 255

#### Pinellas County

The contractor has submitted to the Corps of Engineers the list of spoil areas he expects to use. Navigation District personnel will be present at the meeting on 11 April when these areas are finally approved.

A check was issued in March for the purchase of a small right of way tract, No. 25 in Pinellas County, from Clovis C. Lutz and Edythe H. Lutz in the amount of \$150.00. The estimated value based upon the per acre appraisal of an adjacent parcel, was \$160.00. A motion was made, seconded and carried that this purchase was approved.

Final adjustments on spoil areas are being made.

#### Venice

With respect to lands in Venice, the director stated that as a result of the March 22 meeting there, it appeared desirable to state formally what costs the District would bear as to Route C-1 in Venice. A draft of a resolution was prepared and read by the director. Discussion was had on the resolution, after which a motion was made and carried that the resolution be adopted as amended. (WCIND annex to Minutes, page 29)

#### Bridges

On the status of the bridge program, Chairman Simmons stated that he had had several conferences with Road Department members and believed them to be anxious to begin work with the District but they were concerned as to whether the District was in a position to meet all its obligations.

Mr. Simmons stated that the Englewood bridge is primarily a state road responsibility and one that Charlotte County has made

an offer to make certain contributions on and they are now working on ways and means of trying to turn their commitment into ready cash should it be needed, or on a time payment basis as agreed on.

The chairman also stated that he has discussed with the Road Department members the Manasota and Albee (Casey Key) bridges.

Mr. Gernhard reported that he had been trying unsuccessfully to talk with Mr. Cason on a firm method of financing the Manasota and Albee bridges.

#### Administration

Mr. Dye presented a proposed legislative bill to be introduced in legislature. The bill was presented in sections and discussion had after each section. A motion was made that this bill, as revised, be presented to the legislature, that each of the commissioners for each of the counties vigorously support same and that the District authorize Mr. Dye to go to Tallahassee to present the bill to the legislature. The motion was seconded and carried.

The progress report was accepted and approved.


#### Other Business

The temporary absence of the secretary for medical reasons and the employment of a substitute secretary for a period of thirty days was discussed, and it was stated that since this was the first time this question had been brought up, a standard policy should be established by the District. Motion was made and passed that the secretary be granted two weeks sick leave with pay

and two weeks paid vacation each year after being employed for one year. The director was authorized to employ a substitute secretary at the same monthly salary being paid the secretary.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:00 P. M.

  
Chairman

  
Secretary

\* Added May 8, 1961, "Mr. Merrin was instructed to talk to Mr. Ben Dunn, who wishes to obtain more parking area for the Fisherman's Wharf near Venice." (Page 257)

AIA486

PROGRESS REPORT

21 March 1961 - 10 April 1961

CONSTRUCTION

1. Based upon bids received by the District Engineer on March 17, for construction of the Waterway in Section 5 (Pinellas County), award was made to the low bidder, The Gahaghan Dredging Corporation. Their Tampa representative received many requests for spoil and the use of alternate spoil areas. The Director asked the District Engineer to let WCIND representatives participate in the meeting with the contractor when he submits the list of spoil areas to be used, as required by the specifications.
2. The Corps of Engineers asked if information were available on the 4000' of dredging in the Waterway required to be done by the City of Dunedin. The Director talked to Mr. Dear, City Manager of Dunedin, who stated that he was in conference with the developers of Honeymoon Island and hoped to have definite information soon.
3. The Director asked Mr. Snodgrass the intended use of the \$1,000,000 appropriation included in the budget for the West Coast Waterway. Plans are to use this money to initiate construction north from Boca Grande, to finance other engineering and, had it been necessary to completing financing the Section 5 contract. No part of this appropriation is intended for the Venice area.
4. General H.A. Morris, Division Engineer, expects to testify in the appropriation hearings during the latter half of April. Information on developments in local cooperation in the West Coast Waterway has been requested to be submitted during the week of April 3.

LANDS - General

5. The Director furnished to Mr. Snodgrass a current estimate on the land costs to date and required to complete the West Coast Waterway.

Charlotte County

6. Mr. W.E. Dunwody acknowledged letter from the Director regarding spoil areas C-26 and 27 and asked that he be informed of the name of the low bidder when the work is advertised.

Sarasota County

7. Mr. Kenneth Thompson was furnished information on how the City of Sarasota should request that spoil to be deposited on Bird Key with the City to pay additional pumping costs. Honorable Warren Henderson advised the Navigation District that the Board of County

Commissioners had no objection to the spoil areas proposed in Sarasota County in Section 4. Mr. Merrin and Mr. Van Norman were informed.

8. The Water and Navigation Control Authority of Sarasota County informed Mr. William M. Kreag of procedures for negotiating with the contractor in the area on Manasota Key immediately north of spoil area S-4. The Director discussed this matter with Mr. Dye, Mr. Merrin and Mr. Van Norman.

9. Mr. Roebuck of Venice Land Company, Venice, was furnished a description of the area near the mouth of Alligator Creek for which a right-of-way easement had been obtained from the estate of Levi J. Knight.

10. The Edison Shell Co. of Ft. Myers filed a permit application with the Corps of Engineers for dredging in the Waterway channel for 2000' north from the mouth of Phillippi Creek and for the area between channel markers 88 and 90 south of Siesta Key bridge. Mr. D.K. O'Mahoney of the Company had previously been furnished by the Navigation District a statement of no objection.

11. The Board of County Commissioners, Sarasota County, furnished official copies of their action approving amended bulkhead line required for spoil areas S-2 and 6 near the Charlotte County line.

#### Manatee County

12. Mr. Cleonic Ibasfalean visited the Director to discuss dredging in the Waterway and fill in the vicinity of Shaw's Point. He was advised to write to the District Engineer asking to be placed upon the list of contractors to receive advance notice of bids. With respect to filling, he was referred to Mr. John Benson, County Engineer.

#### Pinellas County

13. Mr. A.T. Cooper, Attorney for the Town of Belleair, advised that the town had no restrictive ordinances regarding dredging and that while the City government objected to fills, they would not oppose spoil areas west of the Waterway.

14. At the request of the Corps of Engineers all temporary spoil areas in Section 5 were conveyed to the United States on 22 March.

15. Mr. Dye wrote to the Corps of Engineers asking that spoil areas 25, 26 and 27 be re-conveyed to the Navigation District so that revised spoil areas could be obtained. He was advised that the Navigation District was prepared to pay diking costs on spoil area P-26 R. Subsequent negotiations indicate that a satisfactory spoil area may be available which will not require diking.

16. Mr. Dye wrote to the Corps of Engineers regarding permit application by Clautice & Associates asking that the applicant be required to dredge in the Waterway rather than up to the Waterway, due to the difficulty in obtaining spoil areas in that area.

17. A check was issued to Clovis C. Lutz and Edythe H. Lutz, his wife, for right-of-way tract 25 in the amount of \$150.00 estimated value of the tract based upon per acre appraisal of adjacent tract being \$160.

18. Mr. Dye and Mr. Merrin attended a meeting of the Pinellas County Navigation and Water Control Authority on March 23. Mr. Dye attended the meeting of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund on April 4, to assist action on Section 5 matters.

19. The Navigation District held a public meeting in Venice on March 22. Opposition to route C-1 was expressed vigorously. Chairman Simmons closed the meeting with the statement that many points raised by opponents could have been argued but that the purpose of the meeting had been to listen to local discussion. Subsequently the Director met with Mr. Simmons and Mr. Peterson on this subject.

#### BRIDGES

20. On March 20 Mr. Simmons proposed to Mr. Cason of the State Road Board a funding program for bridges.

21. Mr. Howard of the State Road Department office in Bartow called the Director to ask how 40,000 cu. yds. of fill could be obtained for the construction of the Manasota bridge and 15,000 cu. yds. for the construction of the Englewood bridge. Mr. Merrin and Mr. Van Norman were asked to consider a proposed solution presented to them by the Director.

22. Representatives of Western Union Company visited the Director to obtain information on construction at the Seaboard Air Line bridge #1. Necessary information was furnished to their Atlanta office.

#### ADMINISTRATION

23. Bill for services rendered by the Engineer section of Pinellas County presented by Mr. Anderson at the March 20 meeting was paid.

24. Original deeds for the Gabel, Leonard and Richardson Sarasota right-of-way tracts were furnished by the Abstract Company of Sarasota.

25. Legislation for submittal to the present session of the Legislature was prepared by Mr. Dye for consideration by the Commissioners.

26. Lobby Report for the first quarter was sent to Washington.