

July 14, 1954

The regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held in the court house in Bradenton, Florida, Wednesday, Jly 14, 1954 at 2:00 p.m.

Present were

Fred W. Ball, Chairman	Hillsborough County
Matt Weeks, Vice Chairman	Charlotte County
J. E. McLeod, Treasurer	Manatee County
E. T. Denham, Sr., Secretary	Sarasota County
Sidney S. Parry, Member	Pinellas County
H. E. Keen, Member	Lee County

J. K. Merrin, Engineer

J. Ben Fuqua, attorney, was absent because of illness.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ball.

Minutes of previous meeting were approved as read on motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Weeks and carried.

On motion by Mr. Weeks, seconded by Mr. Denham, the treasurer's report by Mr. McLeod was accepted.

On motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Denham, vouchers dated July 14th, 1954 were approved for payment.

(Mr. Parry discussed resolution requesting W.C. Inland Navigation District to refund to Pinellas County amount equal to difference between one-fifth and one-seventh mill for 1954-55 budget and levy on the 1954 roll. On motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. McLeod, the following resolution was adopted: (See page 190 A))

On motion by Mr. McLeod, seconded by Mr. Weeks, resolution refunding to Hillsborough County amount equal to difference between one-fifth and one-seventh mill for 1954-55 was unanimously adopted.

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Mr. Parry read a resolution which was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in Pinellas County requesting funds for additional red tide research on Florida's West Coast. Chairman Ball suggested that this Board approve the efforts of the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County in its efforts to eliminate the red tide and requested that the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County send a copy of their resolution to each Board of County Commissioners in the W. C. I. N. District. On motion by Mr. McLeod, seconded by Mr. Denham, Mr. Ball's suggestion was approved.

Mr. Merrin stated that the Corps of Engineers had requested the engineers to furnish a present valuation figure of the authorized original route through Venice showing all houses and improvements situated in the right of way. They also requested the present valuation of the proposed route through Venice known as Alternate Route 1-C. He stated that they have started acquiring this information, anticipating that all the subdivisions, lots and improvements be located; that the County tax roll valuation shall be procured on each parcel and that a ratio will be worked out between the valuation of the County tax roll and the selling price or list price; this ratio to be applied to procure valuation of the property reserve for the Canal in the Venice Airport, owned by the U. S. Government, but set as though it were owned by private parties. The Corps of Engineers also requested that a new estimate be made of the estimated cost of procuring right of way from Anclote River to Ft. Myers as their last figures were out of date.

On motion by Mr. Weeks, seconded by Mr. Denham, the procedure that Mr. Merrin had taken to furnish the engineers with the desired information was approved.

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Board of West Coast Inland Navigation District, pursuant to Chapter 23770, Laws of Florida 1947, and the Amended Laws of Florida 1953, at the Court House in Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida, determined that a tax of one-fifth (1/5th) will be levied as tax by the Board of County Commissioners in the various counties of said district and collected and remitted for the year 1954 as provided by the terms and conditions of said laws; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties did by report of assessed valuations present a showing of fact to the effect that the complete property revaluations in said counties will result this year in Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties bearing a vastly disproportionate share of the total burden of the cost of said district in relation to the costs being borne by the other Counties in said district, and did further make a showing of fact that said Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties should have its millage reduced to one seventh (1/7th) of a mill in order to place said County in a proper proportionage status in said district which facts the Board of said District finds to be the facts, and further finds that there is merit in the requests for said millage reduction; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said finding, and WHEREAS the said Board of Commissioners has been further advised of numerous considerations made by Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties to the West Coast Inland Navigation project, or considerations to be made, said considerations being in the nature, or to be in the nature, of acquisition of right of way and constant surveillance as the governing body of said Counties, and other considerations hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is empowered under the authority of said Chapter 23770, Laws of Florida, 1947, and Amended Laws of Florida, 1953, to adjust inequities and to pay for considerations rendered the West Coast Inland Navigation District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for the County of Pinellas County has agreed to watch for the purpose of preventing outsiders from acquiring submerged lands which would be on the proposed site of the Intercoastal Waterway, and has agreed to assist in the acquisition of the necessary right-of-ways and to the furnishing of the bridge sites and to assist in the problems in connection with the bridges over the waterways in Pinellas County, and to assist in the mapping and agrees to the use of its engineering and legal staff, to assist the attorneys and engineers for the district; and

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Resolution (Cont'd)

WHEREAS the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County has agreed to allow the use of its engineers and attorneys to assist the engineers and attorneys of the district, and has agreed to assemble all the economical data for the presentation of the request of the district for appropriations and to assemble and keep economic and statistical data for the benefit of the district as to the traffic and proposed traffic on the Intercoastal Waterway and to keep data needed in connection with such application for appropriations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District, under authority of the laws above mentioned, hereby agrees that the Boards of County Commissioners of the respective Counties shall do the services as hereinbefore set forth and for and in consideration of the premises as hereinbefore set forth does agree that the County of Pinellas and the County of Hillsborough shall receive such sums to be determined to be the equivalent of One-seventh Mill (1/7th) tax levy instead of the One-Fifth (1/5th) Mill as previously authorized.

* * * * *

July 14, 1954 (Cont'd)

Mr. Parry stated that he would not be able to attend the next meeting of the W. C. I. N. District as he was leaving soon for Canada and Europe.

On motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Denham, the Board adjourned to meet Wednesday, August 11, 1954 at 2:00 p.m.

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E. Denham
Secretary

J. H. Ball
Chairman