

September 15, 1954

The regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held in the court house in Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida, Wednesday, September 15th, 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. Dehnam, Sr., Member	Sarasota County
H. E. Keen, Member	Lee County
Sidney Parry, Member	Pinellas County

J. K. Merrin, Engineer, and J. Hardin Peterson, Attorney.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ball.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved on motion by Mr. Keen, seconded by Mr. Denham and carried.

Upon motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Keen, the treasurer's report, given by Mr. McLeod, was accepted.

On motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Denham, vouchers dated September 15th, 1954 were approved for payment.

The engineer's report was given by Mr. Merrin. He advised the Board that he and Mr. Denham had met with Glen Evans, Attorney (Sarasota) and discussed his handling the legal work in connection with procuring the right of way in that area, and that he had indicated that he would be willing to do so; also, that Mr. Casperson had agreed to give the present approved right of way in the Venice area (that portion owned by him) without cost to the District if he

be allowed to re-possess, at no cost to himself, that portion of the old right of way he had deeded for the canal.

Attorney Peterson stated that although this Board had passed a resolution releasing the original land when it was determined that it could not be used, that the Corps of Engineers could not release same until a definite/<sup>route</sup> had been approved; that when it was determined that no other government agency required this property that Mr. Casperson's priority would be considered.

Mr. Peterson also reported on his trip to Washington re approval of right of way, etc., and read the actual wording of modified approval of Route "C" in the Venice area. He expressed appreciation of the cooperation of Senator Holland, Senator Smathers and to Representatives Haley, Campbell and Rogers.

Upon motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Denham, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: (See page 112)

Mr. Parry made a motion that a resolution commending Mr. Peterson on his efforts in connection with the West Coast Inland Navigation District as well as the Inland Waterways program be adopted. Motion was seconded by Mr. McLeod and carried unanimously. (See page 113)

Upon report by Mr. Merrin that two or three property owners had contacted him with a view toward settling for the appraised value property required for the right of way and that it might be necessary to secure new appraisals in Sarasota County, Motion was

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made by Mr. McLeod that he be authorized to get new appraisals if he considered it necessary. Motion was seconded by Mr. Denham and carried.

R E S O L U T I O N

BE IT RESOLVED by the West Coast Inland Navigation District that the Board express its deep appreciation to Senator Spessard L. Holland, who is a member of the Public Works Committee of the United States Senate, and who worked so hard in working out the problems of getting the Alternate Route C-1 approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District express its deep appreciation also to Senator George Smathers and Representative James A. Haley and to Representative Courtney Campbell and to Representative Dwight L. Rogers, and each of them for their assistance and cooperation in this matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Senator Spessard L. Holland, Senator George Smathers, Representative James A. Haley, Representative Courtney Campbell and Representative Dwight L. Rogers.

WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION  
DISTRICT  
BY

Chairman

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District has since its organization been endeavoring to select for recommendation to proper authorities and procure necessary approval of the most feasible route for the proposed waterway through Venice, Florida, and

WHEREAS, there has been a wide divergence of opinion among the residents and officials of Venice as to the most feasible route, and

WHEREAS, through public meetings, written petitions and hearings of delegation before the Board it was determined that a route officially designated as Alternate C-1 was selected by this Board as being most feasible and proper, recommendations and data supporting said route were made to the Corps of Engineers of the U. S. Army, and

WHEREAS, because of the large number of Congressional Acts, Congressional Committee recommendations, Corps of Engineer studies and reports, it seemed that the necessary approval and adoption of this route was hopelessly involved in confusion and early clearance impossible to the financial and general detriment of this District, and

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WHEREAS, the Honorable J. Hardin Peterson did, by his untiring efforts, his phenomenal ability to grasp the fundamentals and complete confidence in him of the interested parties, did bring all the conflicting interests into agreement and the proposed route was approved;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED By the Board of Commissioners of the West Coast Inland Navigation District that it hereby expresses its approbation and appreciation to the Honorable J. Hardin Peterson for the invaluable services rendered to this Board and to the whole West Coast of Florida.

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There being no further business the Board adjourned to meet  
Wednesday, October 14th, 1954 at 2:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

J. H. Bae  
Chairman

E. J. Durham  
Secretary