

November 10, 1954

The regular meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held in the Court House in Bradenton, Florida, Wednesday, November 10th, 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 Parry, Member	Pinellas County
H. E. Keen, Member	Lee County

J. K. Merrin, Engineer

Dewey A. Dye, Jr., attorney, was absent because of illness.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ball.

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

Communications were read from (1) Mercer Brown, St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce (2) National Rivers and Harbors Congress.

Motion was made by Mr. McLeod that Chairman Ball be authorized to request J. Hardin Peterson to write National Rivers and Harbors Congress to include West Coast Inland waterways in its budget for the next fiscal year.

As requested by J. Ben Fuqua, while serving as attorney for the Board, deductions made from his salary for retirement purposes had not been remitted to the Retirement System (pending report from the State as to payments for prior service, etc., for eligibility) so motion was made by Mr. Keen, seconded by Mr. Denham that refund of these deductions be made to Mrs. J. Ben Fuqua. Motion carried.

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November 10, 1954 (Cont'd)

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

On motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Keen, vouchers dated November 10, 1954 were approved for payment.

Communication from the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, together with resolution, regarding promotion development of a cross Florida barge canal, was brought to the attention of the Board by Mr. Parry and Mr. McLeod. As the construction of this canal would tend to be in competition to the West Coast Inland Navigation District the members individually expressed opposition to the development of the project.

The engineer's report was given by Mr. Merrin. He advised the Board that the present right of way of the canal crosses part of Block 48, Bay Point Subdivision and has a concrete seawall and dock within the proposed channel and a residence located within the right-of-way, and that if the Corps of Engineers would permit certain changes in Little Sarasota Bay, "ahead of Venice Inlet" by moving the location west a short distance, this improvement could be missed and a satisfactory alignment still be maintained. On motion by Mr. Parry, seconded by Mr. Keen, Mr. Merrin was authorized to request the U. S. Engineers to approved this change.

On motion by Mr. Denham, seconded by Mr. Parry, the Board adjourned to meet Wednesday, December 15th, 1954 at 2:00 p.m.

E. J. Denham
Secretary

J. H. Bree
Chairman