

February 24, 1955

A Special Meeting of the West Coast Inland Navigation District was held in the court house in Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida, Thursday, February 24th, 1955 at 2:30 p.m.

Present were

Ellsworth Simmons, Chairman	Hillsborough County
Matt Weeks, Vice Chairman	Charlotte County
Wilson Pigott, Secretary	Lee County
J. E. McLeod, Treasurer	Manatee County
Charles R. Fischer, Member	Pinellas County
Col. G. M. Nelson, Member	Sarasota County
J. K. Merrin, Engineer	

Fred W. Ball

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Simmons, who stated that the purpose of the meeting was to take care of unfinished business of February 16th, 1955 concerning employment of a person to act as public relations official, right-of-way agent, etc. for the promotion of the Intra-coastal waterway, and that he had consulted Mr. Fred W. Ball as to whether or not he would be interested in employment by this Board to compile certain data proponent to securing right-of-way.

Mr. Ball was present to submit his application in person, as was John P. Nutt.

Mr. McLeod requested that Mr. Merrin explain to the Board what duties and expenses would be entailed. Mr. Merrin stated that the Board needed statistical data kept up to date, and cited instances where such data had been requested by the U.S. Engineers, Appropriation and/or Congressional Committee; that it was necessary for certain information to be available for Senators and Congressmen; that if figures

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on shipping as well as other statistical and economic figures were readily available it would create favorable impression with the U.S. Engineers and other committees and departments concerned with the approval of the right-of-way, and appropriations, etc.

The Board members discussed the duties involved, compensation, etc.

Mr. Nutt and Mr. Ball stated their qualifications as applicants to the Board, then were excused from the meeting in order that this matter might be discussed by Board members.

Chairman Simmons stated that motion by Mr. Weeks, seconded by that Mr. Ball be appointed Mr. Pigott/was prevailing from the meeting of February 16, 1955 and that discussion and voting was now in order. Upon roll call members voting "Aye", to appoint Mr. Fred W. Ball to act as executive secretary for the Board, were Mr. McLeod, Mr. Weeks, Mr. Pigott, Mr. Fischer, Col. Nelson and Mr. Simmons.

Mr. Ball was then called before the Board and informed of his appointment. Chairman Simmons, in outlining the duties, stated that it would be necessary to present in proper form certain data for legislative bodies, negotiating for right-of-way, getting written commitments from the I.I. Board on property to which they hold title located in the proposed right-of-way, meet with legislative groups and keep this Board posted as to progress, securing statistical data showing economic benefits to be derived from water route (shipping, etc.).

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Motion was made by Mr. Pigott that Mr. Ball's salary be \$6,000.00 annually, beginning March 1st, 1955, salary to cover travelling expenses other than those entailed by out of District trips and prolonged trips to Tallahassee. Motion was seconded by Mr. Weeks and carried.

On motion by Mr. McLeod, seconded by Mr. Weeks, the Board adjourned to meet Wednesday, March 16, 1955 at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
Secretary

  
Chairman