**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT**
**APPROVED MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2019 BOARD MEETING**
**VENICE CITY HALL**
**VENICE, FLORIDA**

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| Commissioners Present | Brian Hamman, Chair<br>Christopher Constance, Vice Chair<br>Charles Hines, Secretary |
| Commissioner Absent | Carol Whitmore, Treasurer |
| Staff Present | Justin D. McBride, Executive Director<br>Jed Schneck, Legal Counsel |

Chair, Brian Hamman opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call.

**AGENDA CHANGES** – None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

1. **CONSENT AGENDA** -

   **Commissioner Hines moved to approve the Consent Agenda.**
   **Commissioner Constance seconded the motion.**
   **Motion approved unanimously.**

2. **AGENCY COMMENTS/PRESENTATIONS** –
   a. Master Police Officer Paul Joyce, Venice Marine Unit gave a special presentation on the Special Olympics Shark's Tooth Fishing Tournament.

   b. Jeff Gerhard with CS&L CPA's presented the FY 17/18 Annual Audit Report.

3. **ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA** –
   a. Acceptance of Annual Audit Report.

      **Commissioner Constance moved to accept the FY17/18 Annual Audit Report.**
      **Commissioner Hines seconded the motion.**
      **Motion Approved unanimously.**

   b. DEP Grant Agreement 19ST3 – Venice Inlet Sand Trap Dredging.

      **Commissioner Constance moved to approve the DEP Grand Agreement 19ST3.**
      **Commissioner Hines seconded the motion.**
      **Motion Approved unanimously.**

c. Cooperation Agreement between WCIND and City of Venice for Regional Marine Law Enforcement Facility installation.

d. Lease Agreement between WCIND and City of Venice for Regional Law Enforcement Property.

**Commissioner Hines motioned to approve the Cooperation Agreement and the Lease Agreement.**
**Commissioner Constance seconded the motion.**
**Motion approved unanimously.**

e. Budget Amendment – Mr. McBride explained that when we receive grant funds and they go back into a specific project, a budget amendment is needed and the net result will be net zero for the budget.

**Commissioner Hines motioned to approve the budget amendment.**
**Commissioner Constance seconded the motion.**
**Motion approved unanimously.**

f. Resolution 2019-04 GSA Travel Rates

**Commissioner Constance motioned to approve Resolution 2019-04.**
**Commissioner Hines seconded the motion.**
**Motion approved unanimously.**

g. Preliminary Budget Discussion – Mr. McBride recommends using the current millage rate of .0394 for the budget preparation.

**Commissioner Constance motioned to use the proposed millage rate 0.0394 for budget preparation.**
**Commissioner Hines seconded the motion.**
**Motion approved unanimously.**

**4. OLD BUSINESS –**

a. Derelict/Abandoned Vessels –Mr. McBride noted that in April a meeting with over 60 law enforcement officials, the outcome was: every county is working on their ordinance to accommodate FWC rules; the process is getting faster, required timeframes are getting shorter and law enforcement knows what to do.

b. Unauthorized Uses of Property – Mr. McBride updated the list of unauthorized uses of WCIND property: 370 N. Gulf Blvd., is looking to relocate their driveway; 10400 Yacht Basin Drive, a fence will be installed and the vegetation debris will be removed; 110 Kettle Harbor Dr. several options, cease and desist, easement agreement allow usage but not vehicle and boat storage, or a long term lease agreement to validate their use. Commissioner Hines suggested selling the homeowners a portion at fair market value, if it can be done and maintain enough land for the use that it is intended for. Commissioner Constance stated that it will be at the expense of the homeowner and was in agreement with Commissioner Hines.

c. Snake Island – Mr. McBride noted that there has been no new development.

**5. NEW BUSINESS – None**

**6. WCIND COUNSEL'S REPORT –**

a. Executive Director's Evaluation – Counsel Schneck gave a brief summary on the evaluation; 4.5 across the board. Based upon Mr. McBride employment agreement he may be awarded a merit increase. Commissioner Constance stated that he would like to realign the evaluation cycle, and suggested to the evaluation to be done in the fall. Commissioner Hamman suggested changing that dates from May to May of each year. Commissioner Hamman suggested a 3.0 merit increase and a 1.70 COLA.

**Commissioner Constance motion to approve the 3.0% merit and 1.70% COLA increase for Mr. McBride's raise, and the evaluation matrix.**
**Commissioner Hines seconded the motion.**
**Motion approved unanimously.**

**Commissioner Constance motion to direct staff to make a policy change and the Executive Director's contract to align the evaluation process with the terms of the commissioners and bring it to the next meeting for a vote.**
**Commissioner Hines seconded the motion.**
**Motion approved unanimously.**

**7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT –**

**Manatee County**

- Warner's Bayou – Construction completed April 15
- Highland Shores – Construction completed May 16.

**Charlotte County**

- Continuing engagement with encroachment issues on Palm Island.
  - Received bids for removal of debris and fencing on Palm Island properties
- Staff attending CHNEP meetings
- Punta Gorda PD vessel issue resolved
- Working with County Staff on out of cycle request from CCSO vessel

**Lee County**

- Broadway Hogue/ Intrepid Waters Dredge Project – Construction started April 22nd - Ongoing
- Moving forward with Punta Rasa Dredge plans
- Working with Staff on possible New Pass Dredge

**Sarasota County**

- Lyons Bay dredging – DEP permits received, June 4th meeting with USACE moving permits along
- Preparing for Venice Inlet sand-trap dredging (SOW- DEP Agreement).
- USACE authorization for dock expansion of VPD/SCSO dock received – awaiting const. Start
- Working with USACE and Sarasota County on North/South Jetty Issues

**Regional/District**

- Asked by FFWCC Boating and Waterways Division (Tallahassee) to facilitate a meeting with Member Counties RE: ATONS and Manatee signage – in progress
- Travelled to DC to meet with representatives to request Federal funds for GIWW projects
- Hosted District-wide AV/DV meeting on April 18th
- Incorporating Florida League of Cities Safety and Risk Improvement Assessment into Policy Manual
- USACE dredge project of Venice Inlet and GIWW **AWARDED to FL Dredge and Dock LLC**
- Preparing for review of operations/maintenance of North and South jetty walkways.
- Preparing for review of all agreements for parks/boat ramps/etc.

**Legislative Update** –I previously supplied the Florida Association of Special Districts (FASD) update from the 2019 Florida Legislative Session. I have pulled out the two items that have the most bearing on WCIND. These are followed by a brief discussion of a bill relating to long term storage of vessels and anchoring and mooring as it relates to contributing to derelict and abandoned vessels.

ADA Website Compliance - DIED

Many local governments in Florida, including a number of special districts, have been the target of lawsuits alleging that their websites are not ADA compliant, namely that the blind cannot read what is on the websites. The aim of these lawsuits does not appear to be actually making government websites ADA compliant but rather to generate quick financial settlements of the cases.

We drafted an amendment to remove certain documents from the list of items required by s. 189.069, F.S., to be on special district websites. Unfortunately, with the lack of germane bills moving this session, the amendment vehicle options were limited and the issue died. FASD will discuss pursuing this issue again next session.

Fuel Tax Credit - DIED

Under current law cities, counties and school districts are eligible to apply for a refund of the fuel taxes they pay on fuel purchased for official use. Special districts are not eligible for the credit. We pursued legislation that would grant districts the option to apply for the credit. The Revenue Estimating Conference considered the legislation estimated it will have a fiscal impact of $1.2 million on the state.

We attempted to have the credit included in the tax reduction package, HB 7123. Ultimately, the Legislature adopted a limited tax reduction package that did not include the fuel tax credit. FASD will discuss pursing this issue again next session.

Impact of Long Term Vessel Storage

HB 1221 and SB 1666 were introduced this session. One provision of these bills was a study of the impacts of long-term stored vessels on local communities and the state. The study was to investigate whether, and to what extent, long-term stored vessels and vessels anchored or moored outside of public mooring fields for more

than 30 days contribute to the number of derelict and abandoned vessels on the waters of the state and provide recommendations for action. The bill was passed and was signed by the Governor. Unfortunately the study was not funded by the legislature this year. This item will be on our list of legislative priorities for next session.

8. **COMMISSIONER ITEMS** – Commissioner Hines gave an update on the ground breaking of the Challenger Baseball Field.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME:** August 23, 2019 at 10:00 a.m., Venice City Hall, Community Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Brian Hamman, Chair

Charles Hines, Secretary