

**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2012 BOARD MEETING
VENICE CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
VENICE, FLORIDA**

Commissioners Present: Robert Skidmore, Chair
John Chappie, Vice Chair
Nora Patterson, Treasurer
Ray Judah, Secretary

Staff Present: Philip E. Perrey, Counsel

Staff Absent: Charles W. Listowski, Executive Director

Chair Robert Skidmore opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. in Council Chambers – Venice City Hall, Venice, Florida acknowledging a full quorum of the Board. Mr. Perrey introduced Diane Ballinger as WCIND staff and mentioned that he would be providing comments during the meeting in light of Mr. Listowski’s absence for personal reasons. Commissioner Skidmore thanked Mr. Perrey for taking on an expanded role for the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION’S COMMENTS – Mr. Perrey distributed a letter dated January 12, 2012 from the DEP Beaches and Coastal Systems Administrative staff. This letter describes the importance of the ongoing partnership of the DEP and the WCIND on BECP projects. The two projects underway are the Venice Inlet Management Plan and the Longboat Pass Inlet Management Plan. Commissioner Patterson questioned Mr. Perrey about his understanding of the Longboat Pass and Venice Inlet Management Plans and the BECP program. He explained it is a process involving data collection, design, and implementation over a 10- year period to enhance the function and predictability of conditions within the Pass and adjacent beaches. Commissioner Chappie expressed his understanding of the importance of a study report done by WCIND in 2008, and how it interfaces with current initiatives being conducted by Manatee County. He also announced upcoming meetings to discuss the collaborative efforts between the State, County, District and the Town of Longboat Key in developing long-term strategies.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS’ COMMENTS – Mr. Milan Mora, ACOE Project Manager, addressed the Board on the letter denying access by an adjacent Charlotte County business to a maintenance haul road in the Englewood area. After much discussion by the Board involving this type of a shared use of easement property, consensus of the Board was to continue to deliberate on a more local level involving Charlotte County and the Corps to determine if there is any potential for a future arrangement. Mr. Mora also reported on the schedule for the dredging of Cut M-5, Cut P-1, and Cut M-9 located near the City of Anna Maria shoreline within the GIWW. The MURDEN vessel has been delayed during its construction, and the new schedule for arrival on site in Manatee County is either February 24 or March 24, 2012. A dedication ceremony will be held on April 4, 2012 in Clearwater.

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to approve by Commissioner Judah, seconded by Commissioner Chappie, and motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA –

- a. Lee County –Mr. Perrey reported on the progress of several Lee County projects indicating that the three project package called “Broadway/Hogue, Intrepid Waters, and Government Cut” is nearly 40% complete. He also reported on the start date for the Caloosa Isles project as March 1, 2012, and also reported on eight other permits that have been approved and projects will be bid imminently.
- b. Charlotte County – Mr. Perrey reported on the bid proposal on the emergency removal of debris associated with the historic Gasparilla train trestle. The sole bid for the project was \$122,499. After some discussion, the bid was considered acceptable. Work will start on this project within 30 days.
- c. Sarasota County – Mr. Perrey gave an update on the Venice Inlet/Snake Island projects. Mr. Perrey pointed out the consultant reports in the Board packets indicating the progress of the Inlet Management Plan activity at Venice Inlet.
- d. Manatee County – Mr. Perrey reported on the start date of February 1, 2012 for the Bimini Bay/Key Royale dredging project.

COMMISSIONERS’ ITEMS – Commissioner Chappie introduced a request from an education coalition for a seminar to be conducted at the USF facility in Sarasota/Manatee counties. The request was for sponsorship funding from WCIND. Commissioner Patterson related that Sarasota County is supportive of this workshop.

During conversation by the Board, it was determined that other requests have come in for funding for event-oriented sponsorship by WCIND. Commissioner Chappie indicated that he was unsure that there was a policy to determine the suitability and levels of support for these kinds of requests, and a standard should be developed. Mr. Perrey had reported earlier that these types of requests have been historically fielded by the District and supported infrequently through an appropriate line item within the administrative budget in nominal amounts.

Commissioner Skidmore introduced a request for sponsorship funding involving a tarpon tournament to be conducted at Boca Grande Pass with support from Commissioner Judah.

Commissioner Judah made a motion for sponsorship funding in the amount of \$2,500 for the tarpon fishing tournament scheduled for May 2012. The motion failed with a vote of 2 to 2. After much discussion regarding policies on WCIND funding regarding all types of scenarios, Commissioner Patterson made a motion for a workshop to be conducted involving a presentation by Mr. Listowski on the WCIND policies regarding funding for projects. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chappie and passed unanimously.

WCIND COUNSEL’S REPORT - Mr. Perrey reported on the current pleadings regarding the Fisherman’s Wharf lawsuit.

Commissioner Chappie expressed his appreciation to District and Manatee County staff on the cooperative effort on projects.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Next meeting will be held on Friday, March 30, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. in Council Chambers at the Venice City Hall.