

**WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 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:

Charles W. Listowski, Executive Director
Philip E. Perrey, Counsel

Chair Robert Skidmore opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers – Venice City Hall, Venice, Florida.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Patrick McCarthy, a member of the Snake Island Republic, made comments about the international cleanup effort regarding the waterways around Venice. He thanked Commissioner Judah for his many years of service on the WCIND Board.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION’S COMMENTS – Mr. Listowski reported on recent meetings with the FDEP staff in the Ft. Myers regional office.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS’ COMMENTS – Mr. Listowski reported that Ms. Sirisha Rayaprolu was recently deployed for a short out of county assignment; therefore, she was unable to attend the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Commissioner Chappie, seconded by Commissioner Patterson, motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA –

1. Budget FY2012-2013 – Mr. Listowski reported on the draft FY2012-13 budget. He explained that it is fundamentally the same budget as FY11-12, with the exception of a 1.99% decrease in revenue. It is anticipated that passage of this budget would result in the counties receiving all requested funding within the WWDP.
2. FDOT/WCIND “Airspace Agreement” – Counsel Perrey addressed the Board regarding an “airspace agreement” with FDOT, involving property adjacent to the FDOT Hatchett Creek bridge structure. This issue has been researched and litigated for some time, and Mr. Perrey presented an agreement with the State that requires WCIND Board approval. The agreement would be rent-free use of the property for a 20-year period of time with an automatic extension of 20 years at the discretion of the WCIND. Commissioner Patterson requested clarification of the District property liability policy terms. It was confirmed that WCIND has a \$2 million liability insurance policy through the Florida League of Cities. Mr. Perrey clarified that in addition to liability insurance, WCIND also has sovereign immunity via Florida State law. Motion by Commissioner Paterson to conditionally approve the airspace agreement pending FDOT approval, seconded by Commissioner Judah, and motion passed unanimously.

3. Project Status Report – Mr. Listowski narrated a PowerPoint presentation provided by Mr. Mark Kincaid of CEC.
 - Manatee County projects included: Lake LaVista entrance channel; HB-1; City of Anna Maria internal canals, in the vicinity of Anna Maria Island; Trailer Estates East; and the Sea Grape Harbor entrance channel.
 - Lee County projects included: Port Carlos Cove dredge (successfully completed after many years of struggle by the local community to improve that waterway); Broadway Hogue dredging project; five new projects along the Cape Coral shoreline; and the Punta Rassa boat ramp channel.
 - Sarasota County projects included: City of Sarasota Mooring Field; the Venice Inlet management plan; Venice jetty conditions; and Cherokee Park in Englewood. Mr. Listowski explained the need for rehabilitation of District land that presently houses the marine patrol and fire rescue operation of the City of Venice located near the Hatchett Creek Bridge.
 - Charlotte County projects included: Regional Waterway Management System document (nearing completion and will be presented to the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners at a future date).
 - Commissioner Chappie advised Mr. Listowski that the Sea Grape Harbor project that was presented has not been formally approved by the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners; therefore, this project will become inactive on the WCIND list of projects until further notice. Mr. Listowski also mentioned the conditions of Stump Pass and that conditions are under review. Commissioner Patterson requested clarification on conditions at Stump Pass and was advised by Mr. Kincaid that there are safe navigation conditions at this time.
4. Job Evaluation Form – Mr. Listowski reintroduced the subject of the executive director evaluation form and suggested a different format. After discussion, it was determined to utilize the previously submitted form with completed evaluations to be reviewed and approved at 4:30 p.m. on September 21 prior to the Final Budget Hearing.
5. Public vs. Private Canals/County Staff – District Staff Workshops – Mr. Listowski reported that he is working on scheduling staff workshops to review District programs and policies with county liaisons.

COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS – Commissioner Patterson requested that Mr. Listowski bring back a policy manual that he formulated for Board review several years prior, with the idea of possibly updating that document to make it more current.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on September 21, 2012 at 5:01 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Venice City Hall.

FIRST TRIM HEARING ON THE FY2012/2013 BUDGET

Chair Skidmore opened the public hearing at 5:01 p.m. on WCIND's proposed millage rate and tentative budget for FY2012-2013. Chair Skidmore publicly announced the current year rolled back rate is .0402 mill, and the proposed millage rate of .0394 mill.

Chair Skidmore opened the hearing for public comment. There were no public comments. Chair Skidmore closed the public comment portion of the hearing.

Chair Skidmore announced the percentage increase in millage over the rolled back rate necessary to fund the tentative budget is -1.99%; and that the percentage increase in property taxes based on the proposed millage rate is -1.99%.

The Board had no desire to amend the tentative budget. Commissioner Chappie moved and Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion to adopt the tentative millage rate for FY2012-2013 of .0394 mill. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Chappie moved to adopt the tentative budget for FY2012-2013 with projected funds available of \$16,313,664, total expenditures of \$5,755,118, and reserves of \$10,558,546. Commissioner Judah seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Skidmore announced that the hearing to finalize the budget and adopt the final millage rate would be held at 5:01 p.m. on Friday, September 21, 2012, in the same room, Venice City Hall – Council Chambers.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Judah, seconded by Commissioner Patterson, and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Chair

Secretary