

**Sebastian Inlet Tax District**  
Wednesday, January 9, 2019 4:30 p.m.  
Regular Commission Meeting  
Sebastian Inlet State Park Fishing Museum  
Vero Beach, Florida

**Minutes**

Present at the meeting were Chairman Jenny Lawton Seal, Commissioners Lisa Frazier, Chris Hendricks, Beth Mitchell, and Michael Rowland. Also in attendance were: Administrator Martin Smithson, Executive Director James Gray, staff members Dave Kershaw and Michelle Malyn, District legal counsel Jack Kirschenbaum, William Ferrell (North Beach Civic Association), Bryan Flynn (ESA), Peter Fallon (North Beach Civic Association), Sebastian Inlet State Park Assistant Park Manager Matt Phiifer (SISP), Kendra Cope (Indian River County), Wayne Riley (Ferreira), Bill Cox (U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary).

**Under Agenda Item I**

Call to Order – Vice Chairman Rowland called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. and deferred leading the meeting to Chairman Lawton Seal upon arrival.

**Under Agenda Item II**

Approval of the Minutes of the regular Commission meeting of November 14, 2018 – Commissioner Frazier noted two corrections on page 2 – add “Ms.” or “Mrs.” in front of Malyn and “Commissioner” in front of Rowland. Motion to approve the minutes with noted changes made by Commissioner Frazier, Commissioner Hendricks seconding. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Under Agenda Item III**

**Information and Discussion Agenda**

Media and Information – There was no discussion of the contents of the media packet.

**Executive Director’s Reports**

1. Status of Dredging Project Mobilization – Mr. Smithson referenced the copies of recent news articles re: upcoming dredging project that had been distributed as hard copy at each of the Commissioners’ seats. Articles appeared in 32963, on VeroNews.com, in print and online with the Indian River Press Journal and the Florida Today. Mr. Smithson reported the pre-construction conference call meeting had taken place on December 14, 2018 with all relevant parties and state agencies (FDEP, FWC) present to review the mobilization schedule and discuss how the District and its vendors/contractors (ATM and Ferreira) plan to address the monitoring requirements set forth in the permits associated with the job. The agencies were satisfied with the plans in place, a critical step in getting the formal Notice to Proceed. Mr. Smithson also referenced sending out notice to the property owners, approximately 80 homeowners received the letter suggested and drafted by Mr. Gray. We received several calls in response. All were handled without incident or conflict. Mr. Smithson referenced Dr. Peter Fallon’s association with the North Beach Civic Association and his help in getting the word out, serving as an advocate of the District and bypassing projects as well. On December 18, Mr. Smithson and staff met with the Sebastian Inlet State Park Manager and her team to discuss the project and mobilization, identify appropriate staging areas within the Park, determine whether to run pipe on water vs. land, look at the location for the booster pump and pipe connection plans near the South Jetty in a way that would allow accessibility. Sebastian Inlet State Park Manager Jennifer Roberts had requested SID design and post signage notifying the general

public that the project was impending, noting the timeframe of operations. Mr. Smithson provided signage from prior projects that was modified and provided to Ferreira, per the contract, to print and post. Mr. Smithson noted how accommodating the Park has been in working with SID, and introduced Wayne Riley, Dredge Manager for Ferreira. Mr. Riley has also been extremely accommodating and has worked lockstep with the State Park staff to minimize our footprint during the project. Mr. Smithson noted that Mr. Riley would give the Commissioners a tour of the project sites after the meeting, and asked Mr. Riley if he would like to update the group as to the status of mobilization. Mr. Riley indicated 100% of pipe was staged on the beach now, the first booster pump has been stationed underneath the South side of the A1A bridge, to the East of the catwalk, and a second booster pump will be stationed at the R-8 access point. Pipe is being fused within the Park boundaries now to connect operations on Coconut Point with the first booster pump and pipe installed on the beach. Mr. Riley further noted that the dredge would be coming in this week, along with the estimator barge used to place the pipe in the water. Ferreira has sent out information to the Coast Guard for the Local Notice to Mariners (LNM). Per the pre-determined schedule, dredging operations are set to begin at the end of January. Commissioner Rowland asked about boat traffic and asked which direction the dredging crew would be going, noting shoaling at the east side of the channel extension. Mr. Riley noted working South to North with the dredge over the sand trap.

2. Update on Gopher Tortoise Relocation from DMMA – Mr. Smithson reported a total of eight (8) Gopher Tortoises and two (2) juveniles were relocated from our DMMA to a recipient site in Osceola County by Ecological Science Associates (ESA) on December 27. FWC guidelines call for of three consecutive nights of 50 degrees or warmer prior to relocation. The two juveniles were under the 60mm limit so there was no charge in relocating them. ESA first conducted another survey of the entire DMMA, locating two (2) additional burrows for inspection. Included in the Commissions' back-up material was a map showing burrow locations that were explored. ESA spent two days working on site, finishing with the silt fencing designed to keep any additional tortoises out of the DMMA. Mr. Smithson noted that our permit runs through the end of January so if we run into any more tortoises, we still have room in our permit to deal with those items.
3. Update on Public Information Activities – Mr. Smithson noted recent media coverage on both the dredging project, and the announcement of new Commissioners and the appointment of James Gray. Commissioner Frazier noted the article that ran in the Florida Today was well-deserved, recognizing Mr. Smithson for all the good work completed during his tenure. There's been continued planning on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and a logo mock-up was provided hard copy for the Commissioners to review. Mr. Smithson noted there's still work to be done in finalizing the logo. The historical video is almost finished and SID met with SISP Park Manager Jennifer Roberts and staff to begin discussions for the planned family-friendly community event. The State Park has requested we host the community event coinciding with our September date rather than the May date due to park entry capacity so the private, invitation only event will take place on May 23, 2019 and the community event will be planned for September. SID will have a presence at the Florida Pro surfing event taking place January 14-19 at the inlet. This is the second year this event has returned to the Sebastian Inlet to include World Surf League qualifiers: Women's QS 3000 and Men's QS 1500. Last year, a local 16-year old Caroline Marks won the women's qualifier. In addition, the Florida Pro will also host "Champions & Icons" featuring former World Surf League champions and professionals. Mr. Smithson noted staff is also preparing for the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association conference Feb. 6-8 in St. Augustine. As previously referenced, SID has a session devoted to the history and the technical aspects associated with managing the Sebastian Inlet. It will feature Mr. Smithson, Dr. Mike Jenkins from ATM, Dr. Gary Zarillo from FIT and Erin Hodel from CSA Ocean Sciences, per the abstract submitted by Jenkins. Mr. Smithson distributed the conference schedule with additional detail, noting that our session will be for all attendees (not breakout) on Wednesday, February 6 from 4:00-5:20 p.m., followed by the Welcome Reception at

6:00 p.m. Mrs. Malyn has made conference registrations and hotel reservations for Commissioners and staff. All should have received notice of confirmation on both by now. Commissioner Frazier asked if SID had official nametags and consensus was to get nametags for all Commissioners and staff. Commissioner Hendricks also suggested considering lapel pins to give out for recognition and awareness as a relatively cheap option.

4. Additional Items – Mr. Gray introduced Kendra Cope, a former associate of Gray’s in IRC and the new point of contact for all SID and IRC project coordination.
5. Discussion of Consent Agenda – Mr. Smithson detailed consent agenda items. Item #1 – matured CD needs to be moved to obtain the best rate of return offered for a 12-month CD. Commissioner Hendricks asked, looking at December’s Balance Sheet that shows approximately \$10M in cash, considering cash flow needs and doing a look back of expenses over the last 12 months, would it be worth considering authorizing some amount for another 6-month CD to raise some interest income. Mr. Smithson noted that was a good point and indicated staff would do an analysis. As an example, investing \$1M could generate \$20,000 and help underwrite District costs associated with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Item 2 – formality required by the State of Florida. Item 3 – a formality to authorize Mr. Gray as a check signer on PNC business checking account; . As part of the Consent Agenda, the Commission is approving signatory authorization to be retained for Jenny Lawton Seal, and Martin Smithson, adding James Gray, Jr., and removing Beth Mitchell from PNC Business Checking account number xx-xxxx-1266. Item 4 – Our semi-annual bathymetric survey is scheduled for this Winter, but will be coordinated post dredging and beach renourishment project as surveys are required by the contractor. We do not want to conduct our survey as a duplication of efforts. Item 5 – approval of FIT to conduct turbidity monitoring required by permit at the dredge and at the discharge point on the beach.
  - a. Authorized work for Commission Review: None at this time.
  - b. Recommended for Approval:
    1. Board approval and authorization to transfer the proceeds from the matured Oculina Bank CD (\$3,072,748.97) to a new, 366-day CD (rate 2.05%) with PNC Bank. Oculina Bank has been sold to a non-public depository. PNC Bank is the public depository used by the Sebastian Inlet District for its business banking.
    2. Designation of Registered Agent – Board authorization to change the District’s registered agent with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity from Martin Smithson to James Gray, Jr. Per Section 189.014 of the Florida Statutes, each special district shall designate a registered agent upon whom any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the district may be served.
    3. Also authorize signature authority for James Gray, Jr. with PNC Bank, the public depository used by the Sebastian Inlet District for its business banking.
    4. Work Order #1819-004-LSS – Land & Sea Surveying Concepts – Winter 2019 Bathymetric Survey of Sebastian Inlet System and Coastal Features – Not-to-Exceed \$75,000.
    5. Work Order #1819-005-FIT – Florida Tech – To provide labor and equipment to support permit required turbidity monitoring during the 2019 sand trap dredging project. Total Cost Not-to-Exceed \$47,610.

Under Agenda Item IV

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Resources available to the District – Presentation by Bill Cox, Asst. District Staff Officer, Sector Jacksonville. (see attached)

Mr. Cox outlined the U.S. Coast Guard structure, divisions within the structure serving the Sebastian Inlet area, responsibilities and local boating, safety and response stats and detailed how the USCG could provide a host of resources to the Sebastian Inlet District at no cost (ie: removal of vessels in navigation channels, environmental and clean-up response to hazardous material spill at inlet, flight by USCG Aux staff out of Valkaria to conduct damage assessments post natural disasters and/or hurricanes, and more). Commissioners thanked Mr. Cox for his service and for making the connection with SID to alert them of the federal and local resources available through the USCG.

Under Agenda Item V

Park Matters – Due to a prescribed burn conducted today, Park staff was unable to remain on-site at the meeting. Park communicated plans in advance with SID and that enabled us to post notifications on our website and on social media to alert the public of the scheduled North Jetty closure.

Under Agenda Item VI

Legal Counsel Update–Kirschenbaum indicated there was nothing to report at this time.

Under Agenda Item VII

Public Comment Period – Dr. Peter Fallon, representing the North Beach Civic Association, commended Mr. Smithson for the excellent job he’s done as SID Administrator over the last 14 years.

Under Agenda Item VIII

Consent Agenda – Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve the consent agenda with Commissioner Hendricks seconding. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Under Agenda Item IX

Commissioner Rowland referenced wanting to add sign pollution to the next agenda. No other Commissioner matters noted at this time.

Under Agenda Item X

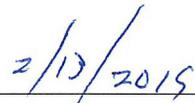
Unfinished Business – There was no unfinished business.

Under Agenda Item XI

New Business – There was no new business

Adjournment – Chairman Lawton Seal adjourned the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

  
Secretary/Treasurer

  
Date