

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JUPITER INLET DISTRICT
MINUTES
January 12, 2022**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

George Gentile, Chairman
Thomas Howard, Vice Chairman
Gail Whipple, Secretary/Treasurer
James H. Davis (Departed at 7:21 pm)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Michael Martinez

OTHERS PRESENT

Joseph B. Chaison, Executive Director
William H. Broome, Attorney
Kenneth Craig, PE, Taylor Engineering
Sonja Kezber, Administrative Assistant

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Ken Holley and Will Stevens

1. Call to Order

Chairman Gentile called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Gentile recognized former Commissioner Ken Holley in the audience.

2. Election of Officers for Calendar Year 2022

Chairman Gentile opened the floor to nominations for Chairman. **Commissioner Whipple nominated Chairman Gentile to continue in the role of Chairman. There being no further nominations, the Commission voted unanimously that Chairman Gentile maintain his position as Chairman.**

Chairman Gentile opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chair. **Commissioner Davis nominated Commissioner Howard to continue in the role of Vice Chairman. There**

being no further nominations, the Commission voted unanimously that Commissioner Howard maintain his position as Vice Chairman.

Chairman Gentile opened the floor to nominations for Secretary/Treasurer. **Vice Chair Howard nominated Commissioner Davis to serve as Secretary/Treasurer. There being no further nominations, the Commission voted unanimously that Commissioner Davis serve as Secretary/Treasurer.**

3. District Representation for 2022

The results of discussion of Agency Representation for Calendar Year 2022 follow:

1. Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council (LRMCC) – Thomas Howard; Gail Whipple, Alternate
2. Florida Association of Special Districts (FASD) – Gail Whipple; Joseph Chaison, Alternate
3. Palm Beach County League of Cities – George Gentile; Gail Whipple, Alternate
4. Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative (LRPI) and Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce – Postpone until next meeting when Commissioner Martinez could be present.

4. Comments from Public

Mr. Holley asked if the artificial reef project offshore had been completed. Chair Gentile responded that the reef mitigation project had been completed. The cost sharing amount invoiced by Palm Beach County was disputed due to it being three times the expected amount.

5. Approval of Minutes

- **December 8, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2021**. Commissioner Whipple noted that on page 6, "law enforcements" should be singular not plural. Vice Chair Howard so **MOVED to approve as amended**; Commissioner Davis **SECONDED**. Chairman Gentile called for discussion; there being none, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

6. Submission of Bills

- **Submission of January Bills** - Chairman Gentile called for a **MOTION to approve the Submission of Bills and the additional Bills as presented.** Commissioner Whipple so **MOVED**; Vice Chair Howard **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**
- **Submission of Payroll, Utility Bills and Health Insurance Invoice for February** - Chairman Gentile called for a **MOTION to approve the Utility Bills and Health Insurance Invoice for February.** Commissioner Whipple so **MOVED**; Commissioner Davis **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

7. Treasurer's Report

A. **Approval of December 2021 Treasurer's Report**

Staff recommended approval. Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the December 2021 Treasurer's Report.** Commissioner Whipple so **MOVED**; Vice Chair Howard **SECONDED**. Chairman Gentile called for discussion; there being none, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

8. Executive Director's Report

Palm Beach County Beach Nourishment:

Mr. Chaison reported that Palm Beach County and Great Lakes Dredge and Dock have completed fill operations in apparent conformance with the template. We have received the beach fill survey data and it does not look to be over filled.

Main Channel Maintenance Dredging:

Mr. Chaison stated the Bid Opening was conducted on January 7th. Mr. Craig will be summarizing the bids and making a recommendation in his Engineer's Report.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Permit Applications:

Mr. Chaison reported that FDEP has resumed notifying JID about Joint Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) applications within our district boundaries. These have generally been boat lift exemption verifications, though two are worthy of note.

Florida Power and Light (FPL) Directional Drill Parallel to US-1:

This is an approved permit for FPL to directionally drill two 8-inch diameter pipes beneath the river, parallel to US-1 Bridge. The cable will be installed a minimum of 30 feet below the deepest part of the waterway.

Charlie and Joe's at Love Street:

This is a permit application to dredge approximately 0.56 acres to elevations -5' Mean Low Water (MLW) and -8' MLW, and to modify an existing submerged land lease. This area is approximately .7 of a mile landward of the inlet.

Commissioner Whipple asked if this was something that could be done in conjunction with our dredge project. Mr. Broome responded that it would not be feasible as possible issues, such as overfilling the template, would then become our problem.

The Board discussed the proposed work and agreed that it would not affect JID operation and that comment on the permit application by JID was not necessary.

Office Alarm Event:

Mr. Chaison reported that on the evening of December 16th, our alarm was tripped and Jupiter PD responded. Our alarm company confirmed the alarm at the front of the building. The door to the conference room had been left open, probably by our pressure cleaning person, and Ms. Kezber responded and locked the door. On later, closer inspection, there had been an attempt to force open the conference room door lock, possibly with a screwdriver, as theorized by Jupiter PD.

FDEP Beach and Inlet Funding Program:

Mr. Chaison stated that grant funding reimbursement for our awarded \$1.5M continues to move forward. The State 2022/23 Appropriation Process is favorable for us being awarded \$470,000 as submitted in our most recent request as our ranking has improved.

Living Shoreline Tours:

Mr. Chaison noted that Leadership Palm Beach County and the Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council will be holding informational visits to the Living Shoreline Project this month.

Vice Chair Howard noted that it is the annual field trip and that he had offered to personally pay for lunch that day. Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the sponsoring of lunch by the JID for the field trip.** Vice Chair Howard so **MOVED,**

Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. Chairman Gentile called for discussion; there being none, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

Mr. Chaison stated that additional items had come up after the writing of his report;

Leadership Palm Beach County asked us to sponsor them and Mr. Chaison agreed to sponsor them for \$250.00.

Jupiter Inlet Colony would like to reinstall a bench just landward of the North jetty. Mr. Broome stated as this had already been approved in our prior agreement with them, we would just need to reiterate that it would need to be removed if we needed the area in the future.

Taylor Property - Mr. Chaison stated that he has a meeting on the 25th with the interim town manager to discuss the Taylor Property.

Railroad Bridge Update – Mr. Chaison reported that 30% of the piling work has been completed. We have not received any dates for navigation interruptions to date. They are working North to South and expect delivery of the bascule soon. Brightline expects to start test runs shortly.

Jetty Maintenance – A site visit was performed with Taylor Engineering to develop a scope of work for designing plans and specifications for jetty maintenance work.

Jupiter Inlet Foundation – Mr. Chaison reported that he had spoken to American Underwater and they had explained that 36" is the minimum clearance required by the Coast Guard for marker buoys.

Policy for Agenda Items – Mr. Chaison read the policy from the Minutes Book. Mr. Broome explained the history of the establishment of the policy and stated that the Commissioners do not need an Agenda item to discuss something. If it had been discussed in the past, it would be considered Old Business. If there is an item brought to the attention of Mr. Chaison, it would need to be approved by the Chair prior to being added to the Agenda.

9. Engineer's Report

General Engineering

Jetty Observation

Mr. Craig reported that he performed the monthly jetty condition assessment earlier in the day and there were no significant changes from the prior assessment.

Jupiter Inlet Sand Trap

Mr. Craig stated that Taylor Engineering prepared the plans and specifications for the upcoming project. It was advertised on Friday, January 7, 2022 and the Bid Opening will occur on Monday, February 7, 2022, at 2PM. Mr. Craig stated a recommendation would be made to the Board at the February meeting.

A December 7, 2021, bathymetric survey conducted by Terraquatic indicates 53,650 cy are available in the trap template. Another survey will provide further information in the next week or so. Eleven companies have downloaded the bid package to date.

The permit modification request to establish the full Jupiter/Carlin beach fill template as the authorized disposal area and extend the permit length from 5 years to 10 years is still pending review by the USACE.

Loxahatchee River Main Channel Maintenance Dredging

Mr. Craig stated that Taylor Engineering advertised the project to potential contractors on December 6, 2021. The package was downloaded nine times by eight separate firms. We did not receive any contractor questions and therefore, did not issue any addenda to the advertisement. Bid opening was held Friday, January 7, 2022, at 2PM in the JID office. Taylor Engineering had a representative there to conduct the bid opening.

Mr. Craig provided the bid summary to the Board and stated that there had only been 2 bidders, Gator Dredging and Ahtna Marine & Construction, LLC (the parent company of Cavache). Mr. Craig recommended Ahtna for the project as they were the lowest bid and qualified to perform the work.

Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve awarding the project to Ahtna as recommended by the Engineer.** Vice Chair Howard so **MOVED**, Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. Chairman Gentile called for discussion; there being none, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

Loxahatchee River Mile 6 Gap Closure and Oxbow Restoration Maintenance

Mr. Craig reported that Taylor Engineering submitted the state and federal environmental permit applications to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). SFWMD issued the environmental resource permit on November 4, 2021. The USACE issued a request for additional information (RAI) on December 8, 2021. Taylor Engineering completed a site

visit to confirm site and natural resource conditions on December 22, 2021. Taylor Engineering is in the process of developing a response to the RAI.

AAF In-Water Permitting

Mr. Craig reported that Taylor Engineering coordinated with Scott Bridge Company regarding the dredging under JID's state and federal permits for the bridge navigation channel. Scott Bridge commenced dredging on September 1, 2021 and completed the effort on October 1, 2021. Scott Bridge submitted turbidity monitoring reports to Taylor Engineering and Taylor Engineering provided those reports to FDEP compliance in accordance with the permit. Under contract to Scott Bridge, Taylor Engineering completed the pre-construction seagrass survey on August 18, 2021 and the post-construction survey on October 7, 2021. Scott Bridge provided Taylor Engineering with a post-construction ("as-built") hydrographic survey of the dredge area and Taylor Engineering submitted the survey and final "as-built" certifications to the FDEP and USACE. Project is complete.

Living Shoreline Project

Mr. Craig noted that the only remaining item is retainage held during the vegetation establishment period, which ends on February 2, 2022. He noted that retainage should be released to Ferreira next month. Chair Gentile noted that the Historical Society is looking to add a museum in a public assessable area. Mr. Craig stated that Taylor Engineering will be working with the Bureau of Land Management to do further shoreline stabilization work in the area.

10. Legal Report

Mr. Broome clarified that items could still be brought up during the meeting to be added to the Agenda for the following meeting.

11. Unfinished Business

None.

12. New Business

None.

13. Commissioner Reports/Remarks

Commissioner Whipple

None.

Commissioner Davis

None.

Chair Gentile

None.

Vice Chair Howard

Vice Chair Howard noted that staff issues had been shared with some Commissioners, which would need to be addressed at the next meeting and should be added to the Agenda. He also suggested that independent counsel could be consulted on how to proceed.

14. Next Meeting Date(s)

Regular Meeting – February 9, 2022

15. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Gentile called for a **MOTION to Adjourn**. Commissioner Whipple so **MOVED**; Vice Chair Howard **SECONDED**. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.



George G. Gentile, Chairman



Thomas L. Howard, Vice Chairman