

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JUPITER INLET DISTRICT  
MINUTES**

**February 10, 2021**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

George Gentile, Chairman  
Thomas Howard, Vice Chairman  
Gail Whipple, Secretary/Treasurer  
Michael Martinez  
James Davis

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

None

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Terry Lewis (of Lewis, Longman and Walker, PA) (Via CMT), Paul Whalen (TAC Environmental), Scott Dean and Katie Mitzner (Brightline Trains) (All In Person) and Patricia Walker and Andre Rajoo (Via CMT).

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Gentile called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.  
Pledge of Allegiance

**2. Comments from Public**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

- **January 9, 2021 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 9, 2021. Mr. Chaison noted 2 changes; update the letterhead to reflect Commissioner Whipple as the Secretary/Treasurer and on Page 2, Change Martinez to Whipple for Secretary/Treasurer. Commissioner Whipple so MOVED; Commissioner Martinez SECONDED.** Chairman Gentile called for discussion; there being none, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

**4. Submission of Bills**

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

**5. Treasurer's Report**

- A. **Approval of January 2021 Treasurer's Report**

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

**6. Executive Director's Report**

**Sand Trap Dredging:**

Mr. Chaison reported that at the time of writing his report, the dredgers were demobilizing from Martin County. We expect them to begin dredging our sand trap within the next couple of weeks.

**Florida Shore and Beach Protection Association (FSBPA):**

Mr. Chaison stated that he had attended the FSBPA annual technical conference on February 3, 4, and 5. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has requested the full typical \$50M for the Beaches and Inlet Funding Program. This same amount was included in the Governor's proposed budget. It is early in the process and we will closely follow the budget and projected distribution.

**Living Shoreline Project at Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse:**

Mr. Chaison reported that we executed the contract with Ferreira Construction and reviewed their bond submittals. We expect to issue the Notice to Proceed shortly and are coordinating closely with our co-applicants at the Bureau of Land Management.

**JID Projects Tour:**

Mr. Chaison stated that prior to the pandemic, we were planning for a boat tour of JID projects along the Loxahatchee River and Inlet areas. A discussion ensued regarding the itinerary, timeframe, and invitees.

**Executive Orders – Pandemic – Special Districts:**

Mr. Chaison reported that Executive Order (EO) 20-69, which relaxed the requirement that a quorum be "physically present" for public meetings, was not extended beyond October 31<sup>st</sup>. Staff continues to follow Palm Beach County Emergency Order #12, which requires facial coverings and posting of signage.

**Chair Gentile asked if anyone would mind moving up both the Commissioner Salaries and the Brightline Presentation Agenda items. Everyone agreed. Chair Gentile turned the meeting over to Terry Lewis.**

**Commissioner Salaries – Terry Lewis, LLW, P.A.**

Mr. Lewis outlined the requirements needed to increase the Commissioner salaries. He gave a brief history of the last increase in 2002 and a synopsis of moving it through the legislature successfully. Chair Gentile asked for a consensus of the Board on either moving forward or tabling the discussion. The consensus of the majority of the Board was to table the issue until next year.

**Loxahatchee River Railroad Bridge – Brightline Presentation**

Katie Mitzner gave an update on the progress of Brightline's many projects and improvements. She stated that construction should be completed by the end of 2022 and trains should start to run in 2023.

Scott Dean gave a presentation of ongoing construction at the Loxahatchee River Bridge and reviewed the changes to design including the installation and placement of the new foundations/piers. Mr. Dean's Power Point presentation included pictures of the fabrication of the enhanced clearing span, explaining the process to achieve the additional space under the span. A discussion ensued regarding the new channel area, the height of the span and navigation details.

## **7. Engineer's Report**

### **General Engineering**

#### *Jetty Observation*

Mr. Craig reported that he performed the monthly jetty condition assessment on February 10 (today) and there were no significant changes from the prior assessment. There is some sand buildup on the inside of the north jetty again and he will review old photos to document when we see it and give a report at the next meeting.

#### **Jupiter Inlet Sand Trap**

Mr. Craig reported that the dredging contractor has completed work in Martin County and expect to start dredging our area in the next couple of weeks. The pipe is here by Cato's Bridge and the dredge is on the way. There is a meeting on Friday at 3:00 pm that should tell us more.

Notably, Taylor Engineering anticipates submitting a permit modification request, most likely this summer, that will reestablish the full Jupiter/Carlin beach fill template as the authorized disposal area. This will require diver review of several small areas offshore of the fill template to determine the presence or absence of endangered corals.

#### **Loxahatchee River Mile 6 Gap Closure and Oxbow Restoration Maintenance**

Mr. Craig stated that Mr. Chaison had tasked Lidberg Land Surveying to collect additional bathymetric survey data at the two previously constructed oxbow restoration projects upstream of the current project as well as near the Moonshine Creek project area. Taylor Engineering will revise the project as appropriate once they receive the data and submit for permit.

Mr. Whalen, as representative of several owners in the area, suggested that the permit application could be submitted now with its current scope and then revised when the surveys come in. A discussion ensued regarding expected timeframe on receiving the surveys from Lidberg and expected timeframe of Taylor being ready to submit the permit.

Vice Chair Howard made a **MOTION to authorize Mr. Craig to submit the permit application only if Mr. Lidberg cannot commit to providing the surveys within 2 weeks and then revise the permit once the surveys are received.** Commissioner Martinez **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **AAF In-Water Permitting**

Mr. Craig stated that Taylor Engineering remains available to coordinate with Brightline/All Aboard Florida as needed.

#### **Living Shoreline Project**

Mr. Craig stated that the preconstruction seagrass survey did come back showing some seagrass in the area. Therefore it did require some modifications on the placement of breakwaters and the pier. The quantities of stone was not affected but it did require movement to avoid the seagrass. The pier is shifting approximately 100 ft and will tie in to the BBQ pit slab (once the BBQ and walls are removed) and be flanked by the existing cabbage palms.

#### **8. Legal Report**

None.

#### **9. Unfinished Business**

- 2021 JID Projects

Mr. Chaison handed out the requested list of JID Projects for 2021 and suggested that since it was a long meeting, it could be discussed at a later meeting. Everyone agreed.

#### **10. New Business**

- Commissioner Salaries – Terry Lewis, LLW, P.A. (see earlier notes)
- Loxahatchee River Railroad Bridge – Brightline Presentation (see earlier notes)
- Taylor Property

Mr. Chaison reported that he had spoken to the Town of Jupiter's Town Manager, Matt Benoit, regarding JID's potential percentage cost share, the use of the land, the possibility of a living shoreline project and future maintenance. A discussion ensued. Chair Gentile stated that having 2 entities invested in the purchase of the property would help keep the land as an environmental purchase, not subject to a change in commissioners at the Town or the JID.

Mr. Broome noted that the Board could undertake this endeavor as it is similar to the undertaking of the Board to bury the power lines along the river in the past. Both enhance the environment and the river. Mr. Chaison also noted that this would resolve the issue of the right of way and residents adjacent to the DMMA area.

Vice Chair Howard made a **MOTION to authorize Mr. Chaison to tell the Town that JID has a sincere interest in the purchase and enhancements of the land.** Commissioner Martinez **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**11. Commissioner Reports/Remarks**

**Commissioner Martinez**

None.

**Commissioner Howard**

None.

**Commissioner Whipple**

None.

**Commissioner Davis**

Commissioner Davis stated he had attended a meeting at the JID office with Commissioner Martinez for the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative (LRPI).

**Commissioner Gentile**

None.

**12. Next Meeting Date(s)**

Regular Meeting – March 10 2021

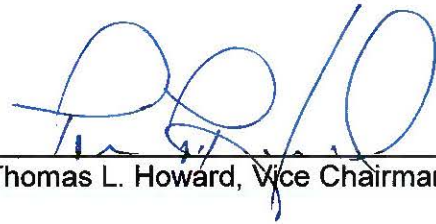
**13. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Gentile called for a **MOTION to Adjourn**. Commissioner Martinez so **MOVED**; Commissioner Davis **SECONDED**. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.



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George G. Gentile, Chairman



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Thomas L. Howard, Vice Chairman