

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

December 11th, 2024

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Michael Martinez, Vice Chair
Thomas Howard
Gail Whipple

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

George Gentile, Chair
James H. Davis, Secretary/Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT

Joseph B. Chaison, Executive Director
William R. H. Broome, Attorney
Ken Craig, Taylor Engineering
Cami Cunningham, Assistant Director

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None.

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Martinez called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance*

2. Comments from the Public

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

November 13th, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

Vice Chair Martinez entertained a **MOTION to approve the November 13th, 2024 Regular Board Meeting as amended**; Commissioner Howard so **MOVED**; Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

4. Approval of Bills

Submission of November Bills:

Vice Chair Martinez entertained a **MOTION to approve the November Bills and the additional Bills as presented**. Commissioner Howard so **MOVED**; Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

Submission of Payroll, Utility Bills and Health Insurance Invoice for December:

Vice Chair Martinez entertained a **MOTION to approve the Utility Bills and Health Insurance Invoice for December**. Commissioner Howard so **MOVED**; Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

5. Treasurer's Report

Approval of November 2024 Treasurer's Report:

Vice Chair Martinez entertained a **MOTION to approve the November 2024 Treasurer's Report**. Commissioner Whipple so **MOVED**; Commissioner Howard **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

6. Executive Director's Report

Inlet Management Plan (IMP) -Sediment Budget Update:

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) Beaches, Inlets, and Ports Program has completed IMP updates to Longboat Pass, Passage Key Pass, and Big Carlos Pass. Jupiter Inlet, Big Hickory Pass, and New Pass are the next IMPs that they will be drafting. Mr. Chaison reported they have told the District that they "expect to have a DRAFT IMP for Jupiter Inlet the 1st quarter of next year."

Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) -Project Coordination Meeting:

On November 14th, FIND coordinated a meeting with FIND, Corps of Engineers, JID, and local Jupiter area marinas. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate upcoming dredging projects between JID and the Corps/FIND, as well as to inform local marinas of the projects. These marinas may be able to benefit from dredgers having been mobilized to the area.

The Corps expects to bid Intracoastal Waterway dredging in Jupiter (Cuts PB1 thru PB-4) and Martin County Crossroads area in July 2025. They estimate the Jupiter work between 60,000 to 80,000 cy, and plan to dredge October-December 2025.

A similar meeting occurred on November 26th with Palm Beach County ERM. They are planning their next beach nourishment of the Jupiter-Carlin project in 2027 or 2028. The District will continue to coordinate our sand trap dredging with all of the interested parties.

Commissioner Howard asked whether the District would be able to coordinate with the Corps about sand placement. Mr. Craig said there will be a conversation.

Martin County Loxahatchee River Navigation Inquiry:

Mr. Chaison reported that a resident inquiry came to us through Martin Co. Commissioner Sarah Heard regarding depths in the Loxahatchee River upriver of the 'Banyan Tree' area. Staff shared the

District's 2023 regional bathymetry. This is an area which is known to require careful navigation and to staff's knowledge has not previously been dredged.

October 2024 Ebb Shoal Survey:

The District's October 2024 sand trap and ebb shoal survey has been converted to show depths relative to the MLLW (mean lower low water) datum, and has been posted onto the District website.

2025 Board Meeting Schedule:

Staff will be advertising the 2025 meeting calendar this month.

US-1 Bridge Update:

Mr. Chaison updated the Board that the US-1 bridge anticipates opening two lanes in Winter 2025.

Andrew Red Harris Foundation:

Scott and Martha Harris presented a piece of artwork to the Board of Commissioners as a thank you for the District's continued support.

2025 District Boat Tour:

Mr. Chaison has some possible dates in mind for this year's Boat Tour. It was decided to postpone the discussion until all Commissioner are present. Commissioner Howard asked Mr. Broome about the Sunshine Law. Mr. Broome will research and report back.

7. Engineer's Report

General Engineering:

Jetty Observation

Mr. Craig performed the Jetty Observations on December 11th and did not report any concerning conditions.

Jupiter Inlet Jetties Restoration:

Mr. Craig reported that the project is going well. The North Jetty is complete. The South Jetty is closed while the final coating and handrails are replaced. Commissioner Whipple asked if there is a warranty associated with the contract. Mr. Craig will look into it and report back.

2025 Sand Trap Project:

Mr. Craig stated that there was an internal kick-off meeting for the 2025 dredging. Taylor Engineering plans to adjust the sand placement template.

Loxahatchee River Mile 6 Gap Closure and Oxbow Restoration Maintenance:

Mr. Craig stated that the project is complete. The final invoice was approved in this month's Check Detail. Mr. Craig met with Johnathan Dickinson Park Staff for a final walk through.

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Jupiter Inlet Sand Trap FDEP Permitting:

Mr. Craig stated the pre-application meeting was November 19th. The paperwork is being completed before an estimated submittal in early 2025.

Adjustment Labor Rates 2025:

Taylor Engineering proposed an increase in labor rates of 4.8% for the 2025 year. There was a discussion.

Vice Chair Martinez entertained a **MOTION to approve the Rate Increase for Taylor Engineering.** Commissioner Howard so **MOVED**; Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED**.

8. Legal Report

Mr. Broome had no written report this month and nothing further during the meeting.

9. New Business

None.

10. Unfinished Business

None.

11. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Whipple

None

Commissioner Howard

None.

Secretary/Treasurer Davis

Absent

Vice-Chair Martinez

None.

Chair Gentile

Absent.

12. Next Meeting Date(s)

Regular Board Meeting- January 8th, 2025 – 7:00 PM

There being no further business before the Commission, Vice Chair Martinez called for a **MOTION to Adjourn**. Commissioner Whipple so **MOVED**; Commissioner Howard **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.



George G. Gentile, Chairman



Michael Martinez, Vice Chairman