

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JUPITER INLET DISTRICT  
MINUTES  
November 30, 2022**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Thomas Howard, Vice Chairman

James H. Davis, Secretary/Treasurer

Michael Martinez

Gail Whipple

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

George Gentile, Chairman

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Joseph B. Chaison, Executive Director

William R. H. Broome, Attorney

Ken Craig, PE, Taylor Engineering

Cami Cunningham, Administrative Assistant

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Richard Pinsky, Public Policy Director- Akerman LLP

**1. Call to Order**

Vice-Chair Howard called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

**2. Comments from Public**

No comments from the public.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

- o **October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Whipple suggested the following changes;

- Page 2, Under 'Treasurer's Report': should read September instead of August
- Page 4, ¶ 2, 'apart' should read 'a part'

Vice-Chair Howard entertained a **MOTION to approve the October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended**; Treasurer Davis so **MOVED to approve the Minutes as amended**; Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

#### **4. Approval of Bills**

- **Submission of October Bills:**

Treasurer Davis made a **MOTION to approve the October Bills and the additional Bills as presented**. Commissioner Martinez **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

- **Submission of Payroll, Utility Bills and Health Insurance Invoice for November:**

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

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

- **Approval of October 2022 Treasurer's Report**

Vice-Chair Howard entertained a **MOTION to approve the October 2022 Treasurer Report**. Treasurer Davis so **MOVED**; Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

#### **6. Legislative Update**

Commissioner Whipple noted that herself, Mr. Chaison, Mr. Broome, and Mr. Pinsky have been in conversation about the District's Local Bill. Commissioner Whipple would like to discuss the format and content of the proposed Charter update.

Mr. Chaison stated that he and Commissioner Whipple had a meeting with Representative Snyder to discuss the Local Bill. Rep. Snyder asked if the District had spoken to the Port of Palm Beach since they recently went through the process of drafting and passing a Local Bill. When Mr. Chaison reached out to the Port, they put him in touch with Mr. Pinsky who had assisted them with the process.

Richard Pinsky of Akerman, LLP gave a presentation on the Local Bill & Legislative process. He outlined what his recommendations for the District's Bill would be, which includes modernizing the language and sequence of the Charter.

Vice-Chair Howard stated that Mr. Pinsky raises valid topics that the District should look into and update. A discussion took place regarding cost and timeline. Vice-Chair Howard entertained a **MOTION to retain Mr. Richard Pinsky to assist with the Local Bill & Charter revision**. Commissioner Whipple so **MOVED**; Commissioner Martinez **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

## **7. Executive Director's Report**

### **Loxahatchee River Railroad Bridge – Enhanced Clearance Span:**

Mr. Chaison stated that the District's reimbursement check from Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) was received and deposited on October 27th. The Enhanced Clearance Span is fully re-assembled and was installed on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Brightline will be sending their project certification and Mr. Craig will independently verify the correct elevations on the underside of the enhanced span

### **2023 Sand Trap Dredging:**

The District's October hydrographic survey measured 37,700cy in the sand trap. Mr. Chaison has coordinated with the Corps of Engineers and confirmed that we do not need to conduct another diver survey prior to our 2023 project. Mr. Chaison also asked for Mr. Craig's recommendation on resurveying the Sand Trap because of Hurricane Nicole's influence. Mr. Craig stated that it would be beneficial to resurvey in the event there is an increase in the amount of sand, because this could encourage a lower unit price in the upcoming dredging project.

Vice-Chair Howard entertained a **MOTION to authorize a new sand trap survey**.

Commissioner Whipple so **MOVED**; Commissioner Martinez **SECONDED**.

Mr. Chaison also reported that he has been in communication with Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) and Jupiter Police Department Marine Unit have been contacted and are coordinating to investigate the area on our survey that appeared to show a submerged vessel in the inlet.

### **Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Beach and Inlet Funding Program:**

Mr. Chaison stated the rankings for the 2023/24 requests have been finalized, and while Port Canaveral moved in front of us in the rankings, we should still expect funding through the Program. Mr. Chaison has also spoken with the State Program Administrator to notify them that the JID is likely beginning the process of updating our Inlet Management Plan and to confirm the eligibility of these efforts for cost-sharing through the Program.

**District Relevant Permit Activity:**

Mr. Chaison informed the Board that a permit application was submitted and approved for 953 Dolphin Ct. in Jupiter. This residential application is interesting as they plan to excavate 28'x28'x5' (0.02 ac.) of existing upland on the property to allow for larger dockage space.

**Sawfish Bay / Sawfish Island:**

Palm Beach County has begun work on a restoration project of Sawfish Island. Mr. Chaison joined a site visit on November 1st. The project involves exotic vegetation clearing, removal of dredged material, and habitat restoration. The Town of Jupiter continues its project within Sawfish Bay. This project involves habitat creation and living shoreline elements.

**500 North Delaware (Jones Creek Park) Property:**

The Town of Jupiter continues preparing for exotic vegetation removal. The removal will be done in three phases; the shoreline area first, the central area second, and the residential perimeter last. Town staff have also been reminded of the coordination of planning described in the Interlocal Agreement.

**Equipment Mounted on North Jetty:**

Mr. Chaison stated that the equipment mounted on the North Jetty was confirmed to have been installed by the staff of the Jupiter Inlet Beach Club (JIB Club). The installation was not requested and is not currently in conformance with JID Policy. Mr. Chaison is coordinating with Palm Beach County Ocean Rescue, JIB Club, and Jupiter Inlet Colony. Vice-Chair Howard made note that a future discussion will need to take place concerning whether the District wants to allow this type of installation and if it implies permission to the public to utilize the North Jetty.

**U.S 1 Bridge Closure:**

Mr. Chaison stated that a representative for the U.S 1 bridge contacted him on if the Commissioners would like an updated presentation of the detour and closure of the bridge as the date approaches.

The Board agreed to scheduling the presentation.

**Bureau of Land Management (BLM)- Jupiter Lighthouse:**

Mr. Chaison met with Peter DeWitt of the BLM. Mr. DeWitt has been approached about establishing a water taxi that travels to the dock by the lighthouse. While the old Coast Guard dock is still being repaired, the option MR. DeWitt is looking into is using the living shoreline observation pier. While this pier is owned and maintained by the BLM, Mr. DeWitt did not want to move forward with any concrete plans without informing the District's Board. The Board had no objection and were appreciative of Mr. DeWitt's consideration.

## **8. Engineer's Report**

Vice-Chair Howard stated that the Sediment Budget presentation should be postponed until all Commissioners would be present.

### **General Engineering**

#### *Jetty Observation*

Mr. Craig performed the Jetty Observations on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Hurricane Nicole made landfall slightly north of the Jupiter Inlet. As Mr. Chaison previously reported, there is a section (about 75 feet) of the North Jetty railing that has been knocked off the jetty. There has also been some shoreline erosion south of the Jetty. Mr. Craig stated that that the repair could be incorporated in the Jetty Restoration happening in 2023. Vice-Chair Howard asked about the timeline for the railing if we wait to include it in the restoration versus having it done sooner

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

Mr. Craig stated that all documents have been submitted to the U.S Army Corps of Engineers.

### **Jupiter Inlet Jetties Restoration:**

Mr. Craig said that the plans are at 60% completion. Vice-Chair Howard asked about the timeline for the railing if we wait to include it in the restoration. Mr. Craig estimated that it would take about six months to have it installed. A discussion took place whether to repair the jetty sooner. Mr. Craig will have a formal recommendation for the Board at the next meeting.

### **Jupiter Inlet Sand Trap Dredging 2023:**

This subject was previously discussed in Mr. Chaison's report

## **9. Legal Report**

Mr. Broome had nothing to add.

## **10. Unfinished Business**

None.

## **11. New Business**

**12. Commissioner Reports**

**Commissioner Whipple**

None.

**Commissioner Martinez**

Commissioner Martinez expressed his thanks to Commissioner Whipple for her work on the Local Bill and to Mr. Pinsky for his time and expertise.

**Vice Chairman Howard**

Vice-Chair Howard expressed his gratitude to Commissioner Whipple for her time and efforts on the Local Bill.

**Treasurer Davis**

None.

**Chair Gentile**

None.

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

Regular Board Meeting- December 14, 2022

**14. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Commission, Chairman Gentile called for a **MOTION to Adjourn**. Treasurer Davis so **MOVED**; Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED**. The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM.



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George G. Gentile, Chairman



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Thomas L. Howard, Vice Chairman