

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JUPITER INLET DISTRICT  
MINUTES  
February 8, 2023**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

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

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

None.

**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**

None.

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Gentile called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

**2. Comments from the Public**

None.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

- **January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Whipple noted one spelling edit. Commissioner Howard suggested adding an explanation to the North Jetty handrail section regarding Murray Logan. Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**as amended;** Treasurer Davis so **MOVED;** Vice-Chairman Martinez **SECONDED.** There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

**4. Approval of Bills**

- **Submission of January Bills:**

Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the January Bills and the additional Bills as presented.** Treasurer Davis so **MOVED;** Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED.** There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

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

Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the Utility Bills and Health Insurance Invoice for February.** Treasurer Davis so **MOVED;** Commissioner Whipple **SECONDED.** There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

**5. Treasurer's Report**

- **Approval January 2023 Treasurer's Report**

Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the January 2023 Treasurer Report.** Treasurer Davis so **MOVED;** Commissioner Howard **SECONDED.** There being no further discussion, **the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

**6. Executive Director's Report**

**State Beach and Inlet Local Government Funding Program:**

Mr. Chaison was pleased to report that after extensive coordination, the District's reimbursement request from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has been paid. The \$1,518,525 check was cut on January 26<sup>th</sup> and arrived to the office this week. Commissioner Whipple inquired about which account the money would go into. Mr. Chaison explained that checks are typically deposited into the TRUIST account. Once a certain threshold is met, staff transfers it into the District's State Board Administration Prime account (SBA).

**500 N. Delaware Property Deed:**

Mr. Chaison stated that the Deed between the Town of Jupiter and the Jupiter Inlet District was recorded on January 24<sup>th</sup> and is included in this meeting packet. Mr. Chaison said that

staff have been coordinating with the Town of Jupiter regarding demolition of the remaining deteriorating on-site structures.

**North Jetty Handrail Replacement:**

Mr. Chaison stated that Murray Logan Construction submitted a cost of \$5,950 to replace the damaged handrail section. They were able to recover most of the damaged sections and plan to reuse these sections for the repair, thus keeping the cost significantly lower than expected. Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to ratify Murray Logan's proposed cost of repairment to the North Jetty handrail**. Commissioner Howard so **MOVED**; Vice-Chairman Martinez **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously**.

**2023 Loxahatchee River / Jupiter Inlet Biennial Boat Tour:**

Mr. Chaison has confirmed availability of the Loxahatchee Queen for the District's biennial boat tour. This is the same vessel that was used in 2021. The same general format, noticing, and duration will be used as last time. Mr. Chaison suggested a few dates in March and April. It was recommended to aim for a day when high tide coincides with the boat traveling up the River. After a discussion took place among the Commissioners regarding their schedules, it was decided that staff would research a few more dates to bring back to the Board.

**Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Shoreline Project / Sawfish Bay and Island Projects:**

Mr. Chaison compiled a few drawings depicting proposed and ongoing projects in the Sawfish Bay area to update the Board about the ongoings of plans in the District's vicinity. These projects are; Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Shoreline Stabilization by the Bureau of Land Management, Sawfish Bay Marine Restoration by the Town of Jupiter, and Sawfish Island Restoration by Palm Beach County.

**1922 Inlet Dredging Blueprint:**

Mr. Chaison showed the Board an original copy of the District's 1922 inlet dredging blueprint that was spotted during ongoing office organization. The staff would like to frame the blueprint in an effort to preserve it. The Board gave their consensus to move forward with the project.

**Florida Shore and Beach Protection Association Conference:**

Mr. Chaison attended the Florida Shore and Beach Protection Association (FSBPA) Technical Conference in Ft. Myers February 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>. While there, he had the opportunity to speak with the FDEP about the District's upcoming projects that qualify for their cost sharing program.

**Inlet Study-Bathymetric Survey:**

Terraquatic has submitted their proposed costs of the multi-beam bathymetric survey that will need to be completed as a part of the updated Inlet Study. The survey will cover offshore profiles, the inlet interior, as well as, the Intracoastal Waterway and all three forks of the Loxahatchee River. Commissioner Howard suggested coordinating with the Loxahatchee River Environmental Control District (LRECD) to determine if the survey limits might be extended to collect additional data that could be helpful to any future nutrient reduction projects. A discussion ensued with the Board supporting Commissioner Howard's suggestions. Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve the bathymetric survey as proposed, with the understanding of a supplement proposal being added to bring back to the Board.** Commissioner Howard so **MOVED**; Treasurer Davis **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion the **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

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

### **General Engineering**

#### *Jetty Observation*

Mr. Craig performed the Jetty Observations on February 7th. He reported that everything looked good for the upcoming dredging project.

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

Mr. Craig stated that there has been no change in the status of the application. Commissioner Whipple inquired whether there was anything the District could do to help expedite the process. Mr. Craig said that he would speak with the USACE about their timeline.

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

Mr. Craig stated Taylor Engineering is moving towards 90% drawings in the next month.

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

The Sand Trap Dredging Bid opening occurred on Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The District had four bids- ATHNA, Atlantic Gulf Dredging (AGD), Cottrell, and Southwind. AGD was the low bid, coming in at \$889,000. Taylor Engineering recommended approval of AGD's proposal. Commissioner Howard **MOVED to approve AGD's Sand Trap Dredging Proposal**; Vice-Chairman Martinez **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

#### **Sediment/Inlet Study 2023:**

Mr. Craig stated he and Mr. Chaison have been working to put together the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. It is scheduled for February 22, 2023 at 10:00 AM. Sediment sampling field work is also scheduled to occur in the next few weeks.

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

Mr. Broome reported that the firm, Marrero & Wydler, representing the District in the Kezber case will be closing. Mr. Marrero will be taking a leave from practicing law, while Ms. Wydler will continue in her own separate firm. Florida League of Cities, the District's insurers, authorized Ms. Wydler to continue on their approved panel. Mr. Broome recommends approving to keep her on the case. Chairman Gentile entertained a **MOTION to approve retaining Ms. Wydler**. Commissioner Howard **MOVED**; Treasurer Davis **SECONDED**. There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

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

Legislative Update – Chairman Gentile stated that the District's Local Bill was passed unanimously by the Local Delegation on January 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Chaison stated that the Local bill was advertised as required by law on January 18<sup>th</sup> and will be able to be presented in the House any time after February 19<sup>th</sup>. Palm Beach County Day is March 8<sup>th</sup>. A discussion took place regarding whether any Commissioners should attend PB County Day or Special District Day. Mr. Chaison will speak with Mr. Pinsky about his recommendation.

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

None.

#### **11. Commissioner Reports**

##### **Commissioner Whipple**

None

##### **Commissioner Martinez**

None.

##### **Vice Chairman Howard**

None.

##### **Treasurer Davis**

Treasurer Davis handed out a ranking chart from the Loxahatchee River Preserve Initiative. He made note that the #6 project submitted by Martin County has been removed. Treasurer Davis also said that Representative Snyder will be speaking at the Republican Club of the Palm Beaches, if any of the Commissioners wanted to attend.

**Chair Gentile**

None.

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

Regular Board Meeting- March 8, 2023

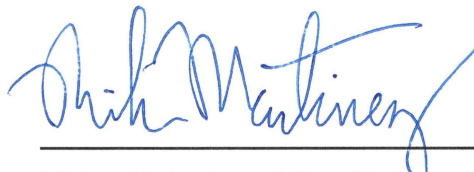
**13. Adjournment**

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 8:04 PM.



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George G. Gentile, Chairman



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Michael Martinez, Vice Chairman