

**Sebastian Inlet District**  
Regular Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, 4 PM, February 11, 2026  
Sebastian Inlet District Office  
114 Sixth Avenue  
Indialantic, FL 32903

Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Chairman David Barney, Commissioner Lisa Frazier (Vice Chair), Commissioner Michael Rowland (Secretary/Treasurer), and Commissioner TJ Marshall. Commissioner John Campbell was absent (excused). Also, in attendance were: Executive Director James Gray, SID Public Outreach Associate Ed Garland, SID Contracts and Accounting Manager Stacy Busche, SID Legal Counsel Shawn Demers, Christina Epperson (GrayRobinson), Ashvi Luthra (GrayRobinson) Ken Torres (SISP), Alex Kinder (SISP), Jennifer Miller (SISP), Katie Crocker (AtkinsRéalis), Marie Yarbrough (AtkinsRéalis), Quintin Bergman (IRC), Clint Hodges (ATL), Matt Ryan (Taylor Engineering), Sean Gaudion (FWC) and Calvin "Tres" Holton (public).

Under Agenda Item I

Call to Order – Chairman Barney called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

Under Agenda Item II

The Commission discussed the minutes of the regular Commission meeting of January 14, 2026. Commissioner Marshall requested an additional comment under Agenda Item XIV to read, "Commissioner Marshall requested that at the next meeting the Commission set a policy regarding what occurs when there is lack of commissioner unanimity on an issue evolving outside of a Commission meeting."

Under Agenda Item III

Additions and Deletions

Commissioner Marshall requested to add to Agenda Item XIV (Unfinished Business) a discussion on addressing a policy on what Commissioners should do outside of a meeting when an issue arises. Mr. Gray noted a typo on the agenda under Agenda Item XIII (Commissioner Marshall's discussion item) that should read House Bill 213 instead of 214.

Under Agenda Item IV

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Under Agenda Item V

Information and Discussion Agenda

A. Executive Director's Reports

1. FDEP Revision to the 2025 Annual Inlet Report – Sebastian Inlet

Mr. Gray gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting staff's meeting with the District's special counsel for Coastal/Environmental matters, Fred Aschauer, and FDEP to discuss two District objectives. The first, to request that FDEP recognize

that beach nourishment sand placed by Indian River County on Sectors 1 and 2 beaches in 2003 and 2007 be credited in the Annual Inlet Reports. The second, to request that FDEP and the District work to develop a reasonable reduced post-construction hardbottom monitoring plan for the upcoming 2028 permit renewal for continued sand trap/channel dredging and beach bypass projects. Consistent with the Sebastain Inlet Management Plan, FDEP has revised the 2025 Annual Inlet Report tables and graphics on Sebastian Inlet to now include only Indian River County Sector 1 and 2 beach projects completed in 2003 and 2007. The 2025 Sebastian Inlet cumulative bypass objective met is 94.63 percent, as opposed to 56.07 percent. Forward of 2023, FDEP will only credit sand bypassed and purchased by the Sebastain Inlet District and placed onto Indian River County beaches in subsequent Annual Inlet Reports. FDEP will work with the District to explore ways to reduce the overall hardbottom monitoring requirements for the 2028 FDEP permit renewal.

2. Update on the 2025/26 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project  
Mr. Gray gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Commission on the 2025/26 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project. He noted that Sector 2 sand placement was completed in March 2025 and the placement of 40,000 cubic yards of materials in the District's Dredged Material Management Area (DMMA) was completed in 2026. The contractor, ATL, is currently placing an anticipated 130,000 cubic yards of sand on Sector 1, with anticipated completion in April 2026.

Due to acute erosion that occurred on the Sector 1 beach in early February, ATL's pipe and booster pump were damaged. As a result, ATL is requesting Change Order No. 6 to their contract to address the recent damage to the beach. Mr. Gray said the change order was not on the agenda but discussed ATL's proposed fixes and requested Board direction on how to proceed. Commissioner Rowland made a motion to approve Change Order No. 6 in an amount not-to-exceed \$50,000. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. **The motion carried 4-0.** Mr. Gray said he will bring the final Change Order No. 6 back to the Board during the March 11, 2026 meeting.

Because the damage to equipment impacted the dredging schedule, Mr. Gray said staff will also bring to the Commission during the March meeting a proposed change order allowing for a time extension for ATL to complete the project. Dredging completion is anticipated to be completed by mid-April instead of March 30. The District's permits allow the District to place sand on the beach in April, he said. Commissioner Frazier asked when FDOT will begin the Sebastian Bridge replacement project. Mr. Gray said mobilization is expected to begin in May 2026. The District's dredging project will not be impacted by FDOT.

3. Update on the AtkinsRéalis 2025 Sea Turtle Nesting and Shorebird use monitoring data  
Mr. Gray summarized the data on the three species of sea turtle that nest at the SISP beaches as well as shorebird activity. The two permit-approved sites are a monitoring site and a reference site located several miles away from the SISP that is used for comparison purposes.

Data shows that the District's projects are not negatively impacting sea turtle nesting activities. Shorebird monitoring data indicate that shoreline use was highest during spring and fall migration periods, generally occurring outside the peak sea turtle nesting season. Shorebird presence was slowest during the mid-summer period, consistent with established regional migration patterns and survey protocols.

#### Under Agenda Item VI

##### Consent Agenda

#### A. Authorized Work for Commission Review

No items.

#### B. Recommended for Approval

1. Work Order No. 2526-008-M&E, Morgan & Eklund, Inc. 2026 April/May Hydrographic Survey

Mr. Gray said Morgan & Eklund are contracted to provide hydrographic beach surveys as well as surveys of the inshore portions of the inlet. The data supports the annual updates to the District's State of the Inlet Report and permit-required monitoring effort. The proposed work order provides the 2026 April/May hydrographic survey to support the District's monitoring program. The total amount of the work order is \$109,689 and will be invoiced on a lump sum basis.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Commission approve Work Order No.2526-08 – M&E to the contract with Morgan & Eklund, Inc. and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

2. Work Oder No. 2526-009-ATK, AtkinsRéalis 2026 Construction Phase and Post-Construction Sea Turtle and Shorebird monitoring.

Under the proposed work order, ATK will provide construction and post-construction sea turtle and shorebird permit-compliance monitoring for the 2025/26 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project. FDEP requires monitoring under the FDEP-approved monitoring plan and issued permits. The total amount of the work order is \$280,806.98 and is on a not-to-exceed fee. Funding is budgeted and available under Sand Trap Dredging, Construction/Local Share Account No. 5372-311. The services provided under the work order are eligible for State cost share under the FDEP Beach Management Funding Assistance Program - Grant 24IR1.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Commission approve Work Order No. 2526-009 – ATK to the contract with AtkinsRéalis and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

#### Under Agenda Item VII

##### Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

There was no public comment.

#### Under Item VIII

##### Board Vote on Consent Agenda

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion. **The motion carried 4-0.**

Under Agenda Item IX

Public Outreach Activities

Mr. Garland gave an update on the District's outreach activities. Updates on the District's dredging project was one of the most popular social media posts in January. He has also promoted a new District website article about the District's Inlet Management Plan. The article is the first in a series explaining management strategies prescribed by FDEP.

Under Agenda Item X

Park Matters – Ken Torres

Mr. Torres said habitat restoration is occurring at south side of the inlet at state park's day use area in an effort to reintroduce southeastern beach mice population back in the park.

Under Agenda Item XI

Legal Counsel Update

Mr. Demers introduced Ms. Epperson and explained in the past legal counsel provided updates on Florida Sunshine and Public Records Law to the Commission. After questions raised by the Commission and direction to staff during the last meeting, council prepared a refresher discussion on Florida Sunshine and Public Records Law. Ms. Epperson gave a PowerPoint refresher course to the Commission on Florida's Sunshine Law and Public Records Law. During the presentation, discussion ensued among Commissioners prompting Chairman Barney to bring the meeting back to order several times. Commissioner Marshall noted to Chairman Barney there is nothing in the District's Charter that gives the chair the authority to spend \$1,000 to invite counsel to give a presentation on the Sunshine Law. Mr. Demers responded to Commissioner Marshall that he was the Commissioner who requested additional Sunshine Law training.

Under Agenda Item XII

Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

Under Item XIII

Commissioner Items

Chairman Barney — Attended a recent FSBPA conference in St. Augustine and said District was well-represented. He congratulated the District's contractors who also attended and gave presentations.

Vice Chair Frazier— Asked the Commission to consider moving Unfinished Business and New Business agenda items prior to Public Outreach on the agenda.

Secretary/Treasurer Rowland — Asked Commissioner Marshall to reveal his "end game" so that the Commission can approach it directly.

Commissioner Campbell — Absent. (Excused.)

Commissioner Marshall —

1. HB 203 & 213 Discussion

Per Commissioner Marshall's request, Chris Lyon of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., via phone call, provided the Commission with an update on the status of House Bills 213

and 203. HB 203 proposes a 10-year phase-out of homestead properties, while HB 213 would slow down the increase in taxable property values for both homestead and non-homestead properties. The Commission directed District staff to compose a letter of concern to Senators. Erin Grall and Debbie Mayfield that Chairman Barney will sign on behalf of the Commission.

2. Sunshine Law – Legal Counsel

Commissioner Marshall provided a presentation to the Commission.

Under Item XIV

Unfinished Business

Commissioner Marshall requested the Commission to create a policy for addressing situations where there isn't unanimity among Commissioners outside of a Commission meeting. He said staff could table the issue or call a special meeting as examples. The Commission agreed to table the issue until the March 11, 2026 meeting.

Under Item XV

New Business

No new business.

Under Item XVI

Adjournment — Chairman Barney adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

  
Secretary/Treasurer

  
Date