

Sebastian Inlet Tax District

Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.

Regular Commission Meeting

Sebastian Inlet State Park Fishing Museum

9700 SRA1A

Vero Beach, Florida 32963

Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Chairwoman Jenny Lawton Seal, Commissioner Beth Mitchell, Commissioner Chris Hendricks, and Commissioner Lisa Frazier. Vice Chairman Michael Rowland was absent (excused). Also, in attendance were: Executive Director James Gray, Contracts & Accounting Manager Dave Kershaw, SID Public Outreach Associate Ed Garland, SID Legal Counsel Jack Kirschenbaum, Jennifer Roberts (SISP), and Bryan Flynn and Doug Skurski (ESA), Don Deis (Atkins), Marie Yarbrough (Atkins), Douglas (Alex) Kinder (SISP) and Eric Charest, (IRC).

Under Agenda Item I

Call to Order – Chairman Lawton Seal called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

A. Election of Officers for 2021-2022

Commissioner Frazier made a motion to reappoint Chairwoman Lawton Seal, which was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. **The motion carried 4-0.** Commissioner Frazier made a motion to nominate Commissioner Mitchell as Vice Chairwoman and Commissioner Hendricks as Secretary Treasurer. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. **The motion carried 4-0.**

Under Agenda Item II

A. Tentative Millage and Budget Workshop of September 8, 2021

B. Final Millage and Budget Hearing of September 22, 2021

C. Regular Commission Meeting of October 13, 2021.

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to approve all the minutes. Commissioner Hendricks seconded the motion. **The motion carried 4-0.**

Under Agenda Item III

Information and Discussion Agenda

A. Media and information

No discussion

B. Executive Director's Reports:

1. Update on FDEP Grant 20IR1 closeout

Mr. Gray said that on August 14, 2019, the District and FDEP entered into Grant 20IR1 for the partial reimbursement of the 2018/2019 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project. The total grant was \$3,819,648, with the State contributing 75 percent and the District providing the remaining match of about \$1 million. The grant is completed, and the District received the anticipated State funds. The District expended the local share except for approximately \$23,000, due to the project cost coming under budget.

2. Update on Post-Construction Monitoring

Mr. Gray reported that biological monitoring (sea turtle and hardbottom) is completed for the year with data review and reports underway. Beach and Inlet surveys have been delayed due to rougher seas the past few weeks. While the Brevard portion of the surveys are completed, the Indian River County portion has not been attempted. The main reason is to avoid large survey time gaps between the onshore and offshore profiles. Mr. Gray introduced Mr. Deis, who provided a seagrass update. Mr. Deis reports that the largest shoals are above 90 percent occupation, with much of the species comprising shoal grass and Johnson's seagrass. When monitoring began, there were 112 acres of seagrass. The total, he said, now stands at 123 acres. Mr. Deis also provided highlights on seagrass planting project in other areas of the lagoon being conducted by FWS, Brevard Zoo and Satellite Beach.

3. Update on USACE beach renourishment permit

Mr. Gray said that the permit authorizing the continued dredging of the channel and sand trap and placement of sand on the beach is still under USACE review and is pending consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Services. The next dredging project is not scheduled until 2024-2025, so there is plenty of time to complete the permitting process, he said.

4. Discussion of recent erosion to Sectors 1 and 2

Mr. Gray reported that the most recent Nor'easter and rough seas compounded with King Tides resulted in significant erosion to the dunes and berms along the Sectors 1 and 2 beaches. Near the McLarty Museum, most of the dunes constructed during the 2020 Dune Project were impacted, causing large escarpments. Beaches south to Ambersand Beach Park had mostly berm and lower dune erosion.

5. IRL Beach Project Update – Eric Charest

Mr. Charest said same storms that impacted SITD also impacted Indian River County's Beach Renourishment Program. Mr. Charest said IR County has begun phase two, which spans from Wabasso Beach to South Turtle Trail. Nor'easters have hampered construction due to erosion. Sector Three, located north of Treasure Shores Park, is going more smoothly, and should be completed by mid-December, he said.

6. Discussion of Consent Agenda

Mr. Gray reviewed the four Consent Agenda items for the Commission's approval. (Details are found under item IX).

Under Agenda Item IV

Public Outreach Activities

Mr. Garland provided a brief overview of outreach activities, noting that the District reached more than 29,000 Facebook viewers when announcing the temporary closure of the jetties for a biennial inspection. He also noted an uptick in the response to the "commonly caught fish species campaign," with more people sending in fishing photos. He was interviewed on November 1 on WFIT and shared the District's message with listeners. He will also be participating in an Indian River Lagoon event on Saturday in downtown Melbourne. Between October 12 and November 8, the District's Facebook reach jumped by 642 percent over the previous month.

Under Agenda Item V

Park Matters — Jennifer Roberts, SISP Park Manager

Mrs. Roberts discussed the new panels that are part of the new birding trail at SISP. A ribbon-cutting event was held on November 6 to celebrate this new addition. She also said that the mold to be used to create the new turtle statue is different from the original, so she and other staff will be inspecting the mold to ensure it is suitable. Mrs. Roberts also announced that she has been promoted within District 3 and that her current position is being advertised. She will still be involved with SISP, but not daily. She said she has enjoyed working with SITD over the past three years.

A. Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation

During a brief ceremony, Chairwoman Lawton Seal presented Mrs. Roberts with a Certificate of Appreciation for her work with SITD.

Under Agenda Item VII

Legal Counsel Update — Jack Kirschenbaum, Gray Robinson

Nothing to report.

Under Agenda Item VIII

Public Comment Period

No public comments.

Under Agenda Item IX

Consent Agenda

A. Authorized Work for Commission Review

B. Recommended for Approval

1. Work Order No. 2021-011-01, ATK, Atkins North America, Inc.
There has been additional review required for seagrass monitoring, as well as RAIs from DEP in April, Mr. Gray said. He requested authorization for final report revisions to DEP, as well as additional coordination with ATM, USACE and NMFA, increasing the cost by \$8,950, thereby raising the work order to \$34,070.
2. Work Order No. 2021-018-01-ESA, Environmental Science Associates, Sebastian Inlet North & South Jetty Assessment Services – Change Order 1
Mr. Gray said the requested change order was due to the additional cost for removing grates during the recent jetty inspection. In the past, SISP staff removed the grates during inspections, but a subcontractor was required to complete this process for safety reasons. The change order was for a \$6,204 increase for labor and parts, raising the total to \$31,953.
3. Work Order No. 2122-004-SEA, Scientific Environmental Applications Technical Advisory Committee Management and Scientific Evaluation Services
Mr. Gray prefaced his comments by explaining that in March 2000, the DEP and the District adopted a management plan and established bypass requirements at 70,000 cubic yards of sand. In 2005, a TAC reset the bypass requirements to 90,000 cubic yards and requested that the management plan be updated. Mr. Gray said the District and FDEP have been in discussion to set up a TAC to establish a sediment budget and bypassing objectives. Mr. Gray recommended that Dr. Gary Zarillo serve as the

sole-source consultant for the process because of his unique qualifications and knowledge of the Inlet. DEP must approve the scope of work for the TAC and which is eligible for a 50 percent cost-share grant funding. Commissioner Hendricks recommended that Dr. Zarillo provide additional assistance and even serve as an expert witness during the review process as the plan will be reviewed and possibly challenged.

4. DMMA Operations and Management Plan

Mr. Gray brought the Commission up to date on the status of the draft DMMA management plan, which now includes sections on addressing how to fill the DMMA to capacity and how to best address water quality issues. It will be a fluid document and will be a useful guidance tool when hiring contractors to work at the DMMA. Commissioner Frazier requested that edits be included in the latest version of the management plan and that the use of herbicides also be addressed thoroughly. Mr. Gray said he expects to bring the edited plan back to the Commission in December.

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with requested changes and Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. The **motion carried 4-0**.

Under Agenda Item X
Commissioner Items

Commissioner Frazier — Absent

Commissioner Rowland — Nothing to share.

Commissioner Hendricks — Nothing to share.

Commissioner Mitchell — Nothing to share.

Chairwoman Lawton Seal — Nothing to share.

Under Item XI

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was discussed.

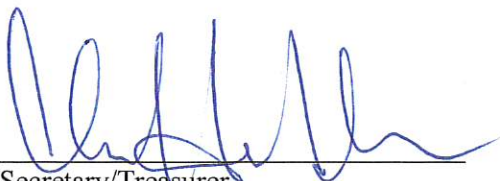
Under Item XII

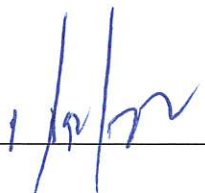
New Business

No new business was discussed

Under Item XIII

Adjournment — Chairwoman Lawton Seal adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.


Secretary/Treasurer


Date