

Sebastian Inlet District
Regular Commission Meeting
Wednesday, 4:30 PM, September 4, 2024
North Indian River County Library
Sebastian, FL, 32958

Minutes

Present at the meeting were: SID Chairman Jenny Lawton Seal, Commissioner Beth Mitchell (Vice Chair), Commissioner Michael Rowland (Secretary/Treasurer), and Commissioner David Barney. Commissioner Lisa Frazier was absent (excused). Also, in attendance were: Executive Director James Gray, Contracts & Budget Director David Kershaw, SID Public Outreach Associate Ed Garland, SID Legal Counsel Shawn L. Demers, Ken Torres (SISP), JR Bergman (WGI), Bryan Flynn (ESA), Quintin Bergman (IRC), Eric Charest (IRC), Kenra Bergman (CCinc), and Scott Abel (IRC resident).

Under Agenda Item I

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

Under Agenda Item II

Additions and deletions

There were no items.

Under Agenda Item III

Approval of the Minutes of the regular Commission meeting of August 14, 2024. Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Barney seconded the motion. The **motion carried 4-0**.

Under Agenda Item IV

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Under Agenda Item V

Information and Discussion Agenda

A. Executive Director's Reports

1. Update on the 2024/2025 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project
Mr. Gray said there is a pre-bid meeting on September 5, 2024, for the 2024/25 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project, with a bid opening scheduled for October 4, 2024. The project calls for placing about 300,000 cubic yards of material on Sectors 1 and 2. Approximately 200,000 cubic yards will come from the District's sand trap in the inlet channel, with about 80,000 cubic yards will come from an upland sand source. Mr. Gray will provide an update during the October 9, 2024, Regular Commission meeting.

2. Discussion on FDEP Resilient Florida Program FY 2024/25 Grant Award 25SRP04
Mr. Gray said FDEP has awarded the District \$95,002 toward its Sebastian Inlet District Coconut Point Shoreline Resilience project. The District had applied for the Innovative Technology grant two years ago but Hurricane Nicole delayed the project. The District has identified a sole source reef arch contractor to install 15 reef units as part of a living

shoreline. Mangroves will also be planted as part of the project. Staff are working through the required grant pre-application process.

3. Discussion of Consent Agenda

Mr. Gray reviewed a Consent Agenda item for the Commission's consideration. (Details are found under Item X).

Under Agenda Item VI

Public Outreach Activities

Mr. Garland provided an overview of recent and upcoming public outreach activities. He noted that there were more than 68,000 visits to the District's website in August, the third highest on record.

Under Agenda Item VII

Park Matters – Sebastian Inlet State Park Manager Ken Torres

Mr. Torres said he received an email from FDOT indicating that it may repave the parking lot prior to constructing the new Sebastian Inlet Bridge. He noted that the state park was crowded during the Labor Day weekend.

Under Agenda Item VIII

Legal Counsel Update — Shawn Demers (Gray Robinson)

Mr. Demers had nothing to report.

Under Agenda Item IX

Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

Under Agenda Item X

Consent Agenda

A. Authorized Work for Commission Review

There were no items.

B. Recommended for Approval

1. Work Order No. 2425-002-CCinc., Coastal Connections Inc. FY 24/25 Beach Basket Program – North Shore Project Area

Mr. Gray said the work order is a continuation of the Beach Basket Program, which began as a pilot project with CCinc in 2022. Commissioner Mitchell asked Mrs. Bergman for an update on the program's accomplishments over the past year. Mrs. Bergman described the year as fantastic, with inlet visitors collecting about 25 pounds of trash from the north shore and tidepool beach basket locations. She added that Keep Florida Beautiful intends to loan out its BeBot to filter microplastics from the tidepool beach during the next fiscal year.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Board approve Work Order No. 2425-002-CCinc in the amount of \$5,200.

2. House Bill 7013 – New Reporting Requirements for Special Districts

Mr. Gray said House Bill 7013, which the Governor signed in April, amends portions of Chapter 189 relative to performance measures and standards for Special Districts. Beginning on October 1, special districts must establish goals and objectives and identify how well the District has implemented them. By December 1, the adopted goals and objectives and performance measures must be posted on the District's website. Mr. Gray proposed focusing

on District operations, administration and finance. Commissioner Mitchell asked whether the goals and objectives must be approved by the board or whether it is an administrative action. Mr. Gray said he interpreted the requirement as a board-approved action since the goals and objectives will be posted on the District's website. Commissioner Mitchell said that the District established goals and objectives years ago and thought that the legislative amendment was redundant. Mr. Gray said the District's auditors will likely be aware of the legislative amendment and that the District is being cautious since it is a statutory requirement. Mr. Demers added that there is no reporting requirement and that the process will likely develop over the next couple of years.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Board approve FY 2024/2025 District Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures and authorize the Executive Director to publish them on the District's website.

3. Award of Bid – 2024/2025 North Jetty Revetment Improvement Project – Phase 1
Mr. Gray said Shoreline Foundation, Inc., was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the North Jetty Revetment Improvement Project at \$1,842,329.36. The project will rehabilitate approximately 190 linear feet of revetment structure with granite and construct a steel seawall and sidewalk along portions of the north jetty that were impacted by storms. Funding is available through the District's North Jetty Maintenance and Repair Account and the District has submitted a grant application to FDEP's Beach Management Funding Assistance Program. Commissioner Mitchell expressed concern that Shoreline's bid was about \$1.5 million less than the next lowest bid and sought assurance that the project costs wouldn't escalate via change orders. Mr. Gray said Shoreline Foundation has been in business for 38 years and successfully completed similar projects. The District's project consultant, Mr. Flynn, scrutinized the bids and said that Shoreline Foundation was able to slash its mobilization costs compared to competitors. Mr. Bergman, the structural engineer for the project, supported Mr. Flynn's statement.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Board award the 2024/2025 North Jetty Revetment Improvements Project – Phase 1 to Shoreline Foundation, Inc. in the amount of \$1,842,329.36. Staff also recommends that the Board approve the attached sample agreement and authorize the Executive Director to execute said agreement after receipt and approval by the District Attorney of the required Performance Bond, Payment Bond, and Certificate of Insurance. In the event the District is unsuccessful contracting with Shoreline Foundation, Inc., staff requests Board approval to contract with the second lowest, responsive and responsible bidder, Vecellio & Grogan, Inc.

4. Work Order No. 2425-03-ESA, Environmental Science Associates Sebastian Inlet North Jetty Revetment Improvements Project – Phase 1 Construction Services
Mr. Gray said the proposed work order provides construction observation and engineering services throughout the construction of the 2024/2025 North jetty Revetment Improvements Project – Phase 1.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Board approve Work Order No. 2425-03-ESA in the amount of \$331,237.50.

5. Work Order No. 2425-004-LLW, Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. 2024-2025 Legislative Representation
Mr. Gray said the District has been contracting with the lobbyist for several years with good results. This work order engages LLW to represent the District during the 2025 Legislative Session.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Board approve Work Order No. 2425-004-LLW in the amount of \$48,000.

6. Windward Marine Boat Slip Rental Agreement 2024-2026

Mr. Gray said the District's two-year rental agreement with Windward Marina for indoor dry storage of the District's boat expires on September 30, 2024. The new two-year agreement of \$633.38 per month is \$137.88 per month higher than the existing agreement, but it represents a 30 percent discount from the boat slip rental rate charged for new customers. Funding is available under Natural Resources Programs – Marine Services, Account No. 5376-309.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Board authorize Mr. Gray to sign the two-year agreement with Windward Marina for the amount of \$633.38 per month.

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

Under Item XI

Commissioner Items

Vice Chairman Mitchell – Nothing.

Commissioner Frazier – Nothing.

Chairman Lawton Seal – Reminded Commission that Final Millage and Budget Hearing will be held on September 18, 2024, at 5:01 p.m., at the District Office in Indialantic.

Commissioner Barney - Nothing

Secretary/Treasurer Rowland – Nothing.

Under Item XII

Unfinished Business

No Unfinished business.

Under Item XIII

New Business

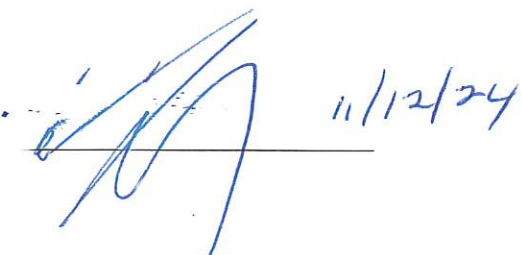
No new business.

Under Item XIV

Adjournment — Chairman Lawton Seal adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m.


Secretary/Treasurer

Date


11/12/24