



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER (Time Stamp: 0:12)

The Shore Protection Board meeting was called to order on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 9:00am

II. ROLL CALL (Time Stamp: 0:23)

All of the Board Members were present with the exception of Board Member Doug Rogers.
Melissa Ceriale, Chairperson
Warren Belmar, Vice Chairperson
Peter Matwiczuk, Shore Protection Board Member
Ronald Matzner, Shore Protection Board Member
Erick Reickert, Shore Protection Board Member
Joel Zylstra, Shore Protection Board Member

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Time Stamp: 0:25)

Chairperson Melissa Ceriale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Time Stamp: 1:16)

Motion was made by Board Member Ronald Matzner, seconded by Board Member Joel Zylstra to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 30, 2023, MEETING (Time Stamp: 2:17)

Motion was made by Board Member Ronald Matzner, seconded by Vice Chair, Warren Belmar to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS - 3 MINUTES LIMIT PLEASE (Time Stamp: 2:58)

Nicholas Borden, 2020 Center Park West Drive, West Palm Beach, spoke regarding a new product being offered by Hedrick Brothers Construction that assists with shoreline protection stabilization and regrowth. It is a large concrete structure which goes across the shoreline which prevents high wave energy from crashing into mangroves and keeps beach from "running away". Paul Brazil, Director of Public Works, requested additional information to be provided.

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Chairperson Melissa Ceriale requested information on Mr. Borden's product. Mr. Brazil requested information be sent to Public Works to be distributed to the SPB members. Mr. Borden answered questions from Board Members.

(Time Stamp: 11:36) Lawrence Kaplan, 2299 Ibis Island Road, Palm Beach, spoke regarding a prior meeting discussion on solutions to asking homeowners to possibly raise seawalls. He requested that the Board revisit that conversation. Mr. Brazil spoke regarding the Town Council's discussion on policy decision around resiliency and explained what is being considered. There is a lot of work to be yet to be done. Ms. Ceriale spoke regarding the necessity for consistency for seawalls and spoke regarding the Board's priority of transparency and open communication. Mr. Brazil answered questions regarding seawalls in the Town. Board Member Joel Zylstra asked if the private homeowners own them and are they responsible for their maintenance and modifications. Mr. Brazil responded that is correct, and the Town works on their seawalls.

(Time Stamp: 18:08) Diane Buhler, Friends of Palm Beach, spoke in support of the new product that Mr. Borden discussed. She provided an update on the beach cleaning activities of the Friends of Palm Beach. Ms. Buhler spoke regarding hoping to speak with the condominium associations regarding maintaining the beaches adjacent to their properties.

VII. CURRENT SHORELINE CONDITIONS (Time Stamp: 20:47)

[Paul Brazil, Director of Public Works & Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer]

Tom Pierro, P.E., D.CE, Principal Engineer, Coastal Protection Engineering, presented a slideshow presentation on the shoreline conditions and provided additional information on the key areas of interest. Mr. Pierro answered questions from Board Members. Discussion ensued regarding the dunes and dune restoration.

VIII. COASTAL PROJECTS UPDATE (Time Stamp: 31:16)

[Paul Brazil, Director of Public Works]

[Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer]

- Lake Worth Inlet
 - Maintenance Dredging
 - Sand Transfer Plant
- 2024/2025 Mid-Town Beach, USACE Sand Placement – Hurricane Ian/Nicole Recovery Response
- 2024 Reach 7 & 8 Beach Nourishment and Dune Restoration

Dr. Michael Jenkins, Coastal Principal, Applied Technology & Management, provided an update on the coastal projects. Dr. Jenkins spoke regarding the dredging project and explained that this year is the smaller scale project and explained what is being done for the project. He spoke regarding the projects that are being planned in the next couple of years. Dr. Jenkins spoke regarding two (2) major upcoming projects, Mid-Town renourishment and Phipps renourishment. Discussion ensued on these projects. Dr. Jenkins spoke regarding State and Federal funding that is available to the Town for these projects. Mr. Brazil spoke regarding the challenge of access to the beaches.

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Lake Worth Inlet - Board Member Joel Zylstra addressed the Inlet Maintenance Project that is going to be 2025 and after that is possible to streamline some of these activities. Is it possible to submerge the pipe in a semi-permanent way and have laterals discharged strategically to have the sand be where the sand is needed most. Ms. Strayer was to have a discussion with the USACE. Mr. Zylstra explained that it is an important discussion and issue as the project happens every other year and should have an ongoing effort to make it more unintrusive.

Mr. Brazil stated that the Town Council has put a hold on a Town-wide effort to be paid by the Town to rehabilitate the groins. He spoke regarding private homeowners who are in discussions with the Town to rehabilitate certain groins. Dr. Jenkins provided additional information on extending the Army Corps of Engineers permit. Discussion ensued on the timing of upcoming dune reconstruction project, specifically in Reach 8. Chairperson Ceriale spoke regarding communication being important in ensuring the public knows the timeline. Dr. Jenkins addressed questions from Ms. Ceriale regarding projects being done by The Breakers that are currently in the FDEP permitting process. Discussion ensued.

**IX. 2023 TOWN-WIDE SAND MOVEMENT REVIEW AND EROSION RATES
DISCUSSION (Time Stamp: 1:07:33)**

[Michael Jenkins, Ph.D., P.E., Coastal Engineering Principal, Applied Technology & Management, Inc.]

Dr. Jenkins provided an update on the BMA program and stated that the overall volume of sand in the Town has not had a significant change, although some of the sand has shifted from one area to another area in Town. Discussion ensued. Chair Ceriale inquired about whether the number of sea turtles has increased since turtle protections have been put into place, to which Dr. Jenkins responded regarding further information on the migration of sand down the beach. Dr. Jenkins and Mr. Brazil answered questions from Board Members. Discussion ensued regarding the sand transfer plant and the activity adjacent to Reach 1 and 2.

**X. DISCUSSION REGARDING BEACH SIGNAGE FOR TURTLE & SEA BIRDS
(Time Stamp: 1:31:19)**

[Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer]

Ms. Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer, presented the current sign that is posted at certain beach accesses in Town. Ms. Strayer stated that the new sign will be presented to the Board at the next Shore Protection Board meeting.

**XI. ESTABLISH SHORE PROTECTION BOARD GOALS FOR 2024 CALENDAR
YEAR (Time Stamp: 1:32:47)**

[Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer]

Discussion ensued on the following items that were raised by Board Members:

- Communicating to residents, the benefits and importance of dune planting.
- Ways in which the Board can assist with engaging and communicating with the City of Lake Worth and the Town of South Palm Beach. Mr. Brazil and Ms. Strayer spoke regarding this item.
- Reach 8 the need to keep communication open. Discussion ensued regarding working with the Citizens Association.

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- Communication on Reach 1 and 2, activity and accesses for construction.
- The possibility of producing another video to post on the Town website to identify the issues that the Town will be addressing about coastal projects in order to provide transparency to residents on the projects. Ms. Strayer recommended reviewing how often the videos have been viewed prior to expending funds on another video.
- Send a press release to the media on the activities of the Shore Protection Board and the success of the BMA Program. Ms. Strayer and Mr. Brazil spoke regarding this item.

XII. DRAFT 2023 ANNUAL REPORT (Time Stamp: 1:46:30)

[Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer]

Chairperson Ceriale reviewed the draft report. She inquired about the sand search, discussion ensued. Ms. Ceriale inquired if the Shore Protection Board would agree to request the Town Council to officially oppose the permit that the Breakers has outstanding to increase their groin field in front of Lauder property. Mr. Brazil expressed concern that the Council has taken a different position previously and explained what the Town's position was. Discussion ensued. Mr. Brazil recommended that the Board review the Town's previous position prior to taking action on this item, to which the Board concurred. Ms. Ceriale stated that she would add an item to the Annual Report that the Board will be discussing this matter at the April meeting.

Ms. Ceriale inquired about what the cost will be to the Town due to a lack of perpetual easements in one certain area, to which Mr. Brazil and Ms. Strayer responded and explained that there is a pending lawsuit on this matter. Discussion ensued. Mr. Belmar requested that the documents pertaining to the pending lawsuit be provided to the Board Members prior to the next meeting.

The following items were requested by Board Members to be added to the Annual Report:

- The abovementioned list of goals of the Shore Protection Board for the upcoming year.
- The 2-year extension for the permit for the groins.

XIII. 2024 MEETING SCHEDULE (Time Stamp: 2:09:23)

- Next SPB Meetings:
 - Thursday, April 4, 2024
 - Thursday, November 7, 2024

Clerk's Note: At this time, Chairperson Ceriale passed the gavel to Vice Chairperson Belmar and left the meeting.

XIV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEMBERS (Time Stamp: 2:09:53)

There was no other communication from the Shore Protection Board Members.

XV. ANY OTHER MATTERS (Time Stamp: 2:10:05)

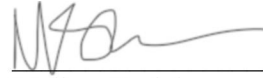
There were no other matters to discuss.

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XVI. ADJOURNMENT (Time Stamp: 2:10:06)

There being no further business, the Shore Protection Board of January 25, 2024, was adjourned at 11:15am. Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Board Member Matzner, seconded by Board Member Reickert.

APPROVED:



Melissa Ceriale,
Chairperson

Meeting audio is located at:

https://townofpalmbeach.granicus.com/player/clip/2912?view_id=5&redirect=true&h=1629a732903f816151cc9b76c7fccbf