



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Town Manager's Office

MINUTES OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Shore Protection Board meeting was called to order on Thursday, March 29, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Council Chambers.

II. ROLL CALL

On roll call, all of the board members and alternate board members were present with the exception of Lewis Katz, Vice-Chair, who had an excused absence and William Lorentzen, Alternate Board Member, who arrived at 9:02 a.m.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Ecclestone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. SENIORITY FOR SHORE PROTECTION BOARD ALTERNATE MEMBERS

[H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works]

Coastal Program Manager Robert Weber explained that with alternate members appointed to the Shore Protection Board, voting rights would be assigned to those alternate members based on the number of absent regular members for a particular meeting. Seniority has been based on how long a member is in their position and how many votes they received from Town Council during their appointment. Since Alternate Board Member Jacoby has been in his position the longest, Jacoby would be the first alternate. Alternate board members Belmar and Lorentzen received full 5 votes each when appointed. Director Brazil indicated that other boards use a coin toss. Director Brazil suggested a coin toss to determine the order of alternate members for the year. Board Member Ceriale conducted the coin toss. The result of the coin toss was that Alternate Board Member Belmar would be the second alternate and Alternate Board Member Lorentzen would be the third alternate. Due to the absence of Board Member Katz, Alternate Board Member Jacoby would retain voting rights for the meeting.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Board Member Baker, and was seconded by Board Member Ceriale, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

1 **VI. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 23, 2018 MEETING**

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3 **Motion was made by Board Member Ceriale, and was seconded by Board Member Jacoby,**
4 **to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2018 Shore Protection Board meeting. The**
5 **motion carried unanimously.**

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7 Chair Ecclestone expressed that the minutes do not explain what is discussed and they are very
8 abbreviated.

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10 Coastal Program Manager Weber explained that the minutes were intentionally abbreviated and the
11 full record can be listened to online.

12
13 Director Brazil stated that staff will stay within Council guidelines.

14
15 Board Member Johnson asked whether the audio or the abbreviated minutes were the legal or
16 official record.

17
18 Director Brazil indicated that staff would find out and return to the board.

19
20 Board Member Ceriale stated that she does not entirely recall meeting details when there is
21 significant time between meetings and requested minutes of previous meeting to be provided
22 earlier.

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24 Director Brazil indicated that staff would send minutes separately from back up once completed.

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26 **VII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEMBERS**

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28 Board Member Kinzelberg expressed concerns regarding the scope and cost of the groin
29 rehabilitation plan.

30
31 Board Member Johnson expressed frustration that Town Council did not approve the Sand Transfer
32 Plant Feasibility Study and added that the study could identify potential cost savings for the overall
33 program.

34
35 Board Member Gavigan agreed with Board Member Kinzelberg on comments made regarding the
36 groins. Board Member Gavigan also stated that he looks forward to the shoreline update following
37 the recent and ongoing storms.

38
39 Board Member Ceriale expressed that the timeline in the backup for the groins was confusing and
40 she looks forward to some explanation. Board Member Ceriale also mentioned that she has noticed
41 that the recent wave events have moved sand around the vicinity of The Breakers.

42
43 Board Member Baker explained that beaches handled the recent storms well and added that the cost
44 of the groin at Gulfstream Road is misleading because the \$1.7 million includes sand as well. Board
45 Member Baker expressed that he looks forward to identifying new technology to reduce the cost of
46 groin construction.

47
48 Chair Ecclestone asked staff what cost of the study that was presented to Town Council.

49
50 Director Brazil indicated the estimate for the Sand Transfer Plant Feasibility Study was not inflated
51 and was the same value that was presented to the board.

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Director Brazil suggested that the board to direct staff to include the Feasibility Study in their proposed budget request that will be presented to the board at the next meeting.

Chair Ecclestone expressed his support of the Groin Rehabilitation Plan in order to help minimize the amount of sand needed for the Town's overall program and improve safety on the beaches.

Chair Ecclestone and Board Member Kinzelberg made comments regarding the Groin Rehabilitation Plan.

Director Brazil suggested that the consultant should make their presentation before the board makes a motion.

Alternate Board Member Belmar questioned the \$2.75 million bond transfer from groins to capital improvements and asked if those funds could be put back.

Director Brazil stated that groin construction would not be finished before the bond money expires and that another funding source would need to be identified.

Board Member Kinzelberg questioned if a rock rubblemound groin is unique to Mid-Town. Coastal Program Manager Weber stated there are groins in Reach 6 that are rubblemound as well.

Board Member Johnson questioned whether there was a scientific reason to use a rubblemound groin at Gulfstream Road. Coastal Program Manager Weber responded that the rubblemound groin was permitted through BMA in 2013 and the construction materials needed to be consistent with the BMA in order to construct immediately without a permit modification.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS - 3 MINUTE LIMIT PLEASE

Diane Buhler, Friends of Palm Beach, spoke regarding her organization's clean up event on the beach occurring on April 28, 2018 and invited the Shore Protection Board members to attend.

Tom Warnke congratulated Paul Brazil and Rob Weber for their persistence in moving forward with the project to address erosion near The Breakers. Mr. Warnke expressed support for the Town moving forward with the Sand Transfer Plant Feasibility Study and urged the Town to discuss innovative technologies.

IX. CURRENT SHORELINE CONDITIONS

[Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager]

Coastal Program Manager Weber provided an update of the shoreline for each Reach.

X. COASTAL PROJECTS UPDATE

[Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager]

Coastal Program Manager Weber provided an overview of the Breakers/Clarke/Mid-Town project and indicated that a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) had been formed. Coastal Program Manager Weber added that the initial TAC meeting has been rescheduled for Friday, April 27, 2018.

Director Brazil added that there is a plan in place and that the TAC is working through the details.

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1 The TAC is taking the conceptual project to design, so that the project can be permitted.
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3 Discussion ensued regarding the specifics of the project and the timing of the TAC meetings.
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5 Paul Leone, CEO, The Breakers, shared the frustration and need for urgency and hopes that a
6 project can be permitted and constructed by next winter.
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8 Coastal Program Manager Weber provided a brief overview of the Gulfstream Road Groin and
9 indicated that project's completion date is the beginning of May 2018.
10

11 Coastal Program Manager Weber provided a brief overview of the Lake Worth Lagoon Dredging
12 project that is underway and explained that the project would be completed in November 2018.
13

14 Town Council Member Margaret Zeidman, 229 Barton Road, stated that if the Shore Protection
15 Board would like, that they could send the Sand Transfer Plant Feasibility Study item back to Town
16 Council for reconsideration. Council Member Zeidman added that the groin at Gulfstream Road is
17 urgent and, therefore, what was permitted is what needs to be constructed.
18

19 Director Brazil suggested incorporating a Sand Transfer Plant Feasibility Study into the next fiscal
20 year budget as staff is currently preparing the budget. Director Brazil added that there will be a
21 budget discussion at the next meeting.
22

23 Board Member Ceriale questioned if the study could be brought back to Town Council right away.
24

25 Director Brazil responded that the board could vote to take the item back to Town Council. Director
26 Brazil added that Town Council is trying to control the 10-year plan and that the study might be
27 better received by Town Council if the item was included in the budget.
28

29 **Motion was made by Board Member Ceriale, and was seconded by Board Member Johnson,**
30 **to request Town Council to reconsider funding for the Sand Transfer Plant Feasibility Study.**
31 **The motion carried unanimously.**
32

33 Coastal Program Manager Weber provided a brief overview of dune planting and informed that
34 invasive and exotic plants would be removed, but that new plantings would not be placed until after
35 sea turtle nesting season.
36

37 Board Member Ceriale asked staff if measures can be taken to ensure that new dune planting would
38 occur on November 1, 2018 immediately following the current sea turtle nesting season.
39

40 Director Brazil agreed that preparations can be made but that the activity was weather dependent
41 and would need Town Council approval.
42

43 Board Member Ceriale requested that staff find out if a contractor can start growing plants in the
44 summertime in preparation for the installation of plants after November 1.
45

46 Director Brazil informed that staff will look into that request and will return to the board at the next
47 meeting.
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XI. REVIEW OF STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITTING PROCESSES

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

Coastal Program Manager Weber provided an overview of the permitting process.

Alternate Board Member Jacoby wanted to know if there was anything that the board could do to facilitate responsiveness by the regulatory agencies.

Director Brazil indicated that intergovernmental communication is assigned to the Mayor. Director Brazil added that the permitting problems are not exclusive to the Town and that all permit applicants have a similar situation.

Board Member Ceriale would like to see a visual of the projects in the 10-year plan and show where we are in permitting. Board Member Ceriale added that she is interested in who is involved at the agencies, who is making decisions, and who they report to. Board Member Ceriale requested this information at the next meeting.

Director Brazil confirmed that the requested detailed information would be provided.

XII. REVIEW OF GROIN REHABILITATION PLAN

[Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager, and Thomas Pierro, P.E., APTIM]

Mr. Dave Swigler of APTIM provided a presentation.

A lengthy discussion ensued between APTIM, the board members, and Town staff.

Chair Ecclestone concluded the discussion for staff and APTIM to continue permitting.

Director Brazil added that at some point Town Council was to be afforded with an update similar to what was provided to the board.

XIII. 2018 GOALS FOR SHORE PROTECTION BOARD

[Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager]

Coastal Program Manager Weber provided an overview of the item and each of the following items were discussed:

- Reflect on implementation of the current 10-year plan and have a summary of projects and performance measures to help with plan development in the future.
- Develop and recommend a 'rolling' 10-year plan.
- Search out technologies and best practices done by others to help make informed decisions on SPB activities.
- Evaluate and make a recommendation for Reach 8.
- Evaluate and make a recommendation to replace the sand lost from the 2016 and 2017 storms.
- Become familiarized with both the budget and budget process.
- Move forward quickly on stabilizing the shoreline in Mid-Town with The Breakers.
- Make a definitive decision on the Groin Rehabilitation Plan.
- Reduce regulations with respect to environmental impacts through lobbying and legal work.

- Consider a more modern and updated system to Sand Transfer Plant.
- Search for more offshore sand.
- Improve internal communications.

Director Brazil reiterated to the board members that the budget and 10-year plan would be a discussion item at the next Shore Protection Board meeting.

Board Member Ceriale stated there has been no discussion on new technology.

Director Brazil mentioned that staff is looking to obtain information from FDEP regarding innovative technologies and to return to the board with that information.

Board Member Ceriale questioned whether it would be possible to put out a notice for innovative technology companies to present to the board.

Director Brazil affirmed that such a solicitation could occur, but warned that a lot of sales people would participate and such a process may not be effective.

Board Member Baker stated regulations always get in the way of innovative thinking and that board needs to think 'out of the box'.

Board Member Ceriale suggested to improve internal communications by having a forum where the board can learn of each other to trade information.

Director Brazil mentioned if it is information that is to be traded, that the board must adhere to Sunshine Law. Director Brazil added that such an activity must be done at a board meeting in a public setting.

Board Member Ceriale asked how an item can be added to the agenda.

Director Brazil explained that a board member can email Coastal Program Manager Weber to have an item added to the agenda. Chair Ecclestone approves the agenda.

Alternate Board Member Belmar suggested that the board have a workshop.

Director Brazil informed that it would be possible for the board to have a workshop, but that the workshop would still need to be available for the public to participate. Director Brazil added that a workshop would be less informal and would allow the board members to have conversations with the structure typical with board meetings.

XIV. TOPICS AND SCHEDULING OF FUTURE MEETINGS

[H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works]

Director Brazil indicated that the issues related to beach accesses have been resolved and that this item does not require any action by the board. Director Brazil explained the beach access points within the Town's right-of-ways and how they are maintained.

Alternate Board Member Belmar requested an update on the Coastal Vulnerability Assessment.

Director Brazil informed that staff would be returning to Town Council with an expected change

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1 order increase of \$59,950 in order for Woods Hole Group to apply a dynamic modeling effort to
2 identify where water goes during a flooding event.
3

4 **Motion was made by Board Member Ceriale, and was seconded by Board Member Jacoby,**
5 **to strongly recommend that Town Council approve the additional modeling effort by Woods**
6 **Hole Group. The motion carried unanimously.**
7

8 Director Brazil informed that the next Shore Protection Board is scheduled for Thursday, April 26,
9 2018 at 9:00am.
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11 Chair Eccelstone mentioned that the date of a possible May meeting will be discussed at the next
12 meeting on April 26, 2018.
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14 **XV. ANY OTHER MATTERS**
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16 **XVI. ADJOURNMENT**
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18 **There being no further business, the Shore Protection Board of March 29, 2018, was adjourned at**
19 **1:00 p.m.**
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24 APPROVED:

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E. Llwyd Ecclestone
Chairman

Meeting audio is located at:
<https://www.townofpalmbeach.com/853/Meeting-Audio>