

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of the Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEETING Tuesday, October 21, 1997

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Shore Protection Board Meeting was called to order at 1:38 P.M. on October 21, 1997, in the Town of Palm Beach South Fire-Rescue Station Meeting Room.

II. ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following Shore Protection Board Members were in attendance: Chairman Garrison D. Lickle, Vice Chairman George M. Moffett, II, Eileen C. Curran, Wayne F. Dimm, Edward Hennessy, Jr., Gerald H. Levy, Joel Martino, and Richard Raffo. Board Member Charles C. Isiminger was absent from the meeting. Others in attendance included: Town of Palm Beach Councilman Sam McLendon, Town of South Palm Beach Mayor Margot Roberts, Manalapan Town Manager Charles Helm, Lantana Director of Marine Safety/Sports Complex Dan Reidy, Applied Technology & Management (ATM) Vice President Dave Decker, and Dr. Tom Curtis of the University of South Florida. Staff members from the Town of Palm Beach in attendance for all or part of the meeting were: Town Manager Robert Doney, Assistant Town Manager Peter Elwell, Director of Public Works Al Dusey, and Deputy Town Clerk Susan Eichhorn.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was unanimously approved as printed, through motion of Board Member Richard Raffo, seconded by Board Member Joel Martino.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEETING REPORT FOR MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1997

The Shore Protection Board Meeting Report for the meeting held on September 10, 1997,

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was unanimously approved through motion of Board Member Edward Hennessy, Jr., seconded by Board Member George M. Moffett, II.

V. DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF COASTAL PROTECTION PROJECTS WITH DR. TOM CURTIS, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA.

University of South Florida Economist Dr. Tom Curtis addressed the Shore Protection Board, summarizing his involvement with coastal protection of beaches and shores in the State of Florida. He explained that there were two basic benefits from a beach nourishment project: storm protection benefits and recreation benefits. He emphasized the importance of calculating benefits and costs so that applicable tax rates could be used. He suggested that a questionnaire/survey for the project be developed in order to obtain a sampling of people using the beaches in all seasons of the year, as well as a survey of businesses in the area, as taxes could be levied on businesses related to their economic benefits. The approach used would identify a legally defensible analysis to support necessary tax increases. He noted that a bond issue would typically be over a 25 year period with a 25 year nourishment project. Distribution of the tax impact to pay off the bonds would be based on benefits received.

Mr. Doney noted that if a special taxing authority was to be used as the funding alternative, a sound formula must be developed.

Discussion took place of alternative methods of paying for the project, keeping with state and federal guidelines.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE UPDATE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN AND DRAFT "LAYMAN'S OVERLAY" DOCUMENT PREPARED BY CHAIRMAN LICKLE.

Chairman Lickle had drafted an overview of the project for consumption by the general public, with the help of Kate Gooderham. A copy was furnished to each Board Member with their back-up materials for this meeting.

Applied Technology & Management Vice President Dave Decker reported that a review of the Summary Report, as well as the Technical portion had been done, and the documents would be refined before finalization. He commented that the overview of the project prepared by Chairman

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Lickle was very thorough and would be much more effective for educating the general public than the technical document that had been prepared by ATM. He noted that he had a few comments on the overview that he would incorporate on the document itself before returning it to Chairman Lickle.

Chairman Lickle referred to the addition of the overall map and breakdown of the reaches on a township by township percentage basis, asking if that had been added to the ATM report?

Mr. Decker replied that it had been partially completed, with an 11" x 17" map covering inlet to inlet that could be used to delineate the projects proposed.

Board Member Raffo expressed concern regarding the proposed placement of groins, and discussion took place regarding the conditions that would dictate the design and location of groins in each reach.

Mr. Decker commented that the message received from the State of Florida was that they would consider approving groins if a unique need for the groins was demonstrated, such as accelerated erosion in a localized area, or if there was a necessity for construction of a beach project with a different fill template required. He agreed with Mr. Raffo in that the overview implied that the proposed forty groins would be spaced uniformly throughout the project, and suggested that it be clarified to specify that the groins would actually be installed in seven or eight groin fields that would be strategically placed to serve a particular purpose.

Mr. Doney suggested that Mr. Kirby Green be presented with a complete package of the ATM Report for a final review before presentation to the Town Council.

Board Member Joel Martino commented on the Executive Summary, distributing his written comments to those present. He questioned Mr. Decker on the expected extent of beach erosion and damage to upland structures in the event of a 15-year storm?

Mr. Decker replied that the effect would vary with each individual property. The design accounted for placement of an adequate volume of fill to provide a beach in front of beachfront properties that would withstand a 15-year storm event. The amount of sand placed in front of each property would assume that when the project life was at an end and the beach had eroded back to the point where renourishment was planned, the remaining beach would still withstand a 15-year storm. In year 1, the beach was capable of withstanding a much more severe storm. He explained that the term "15-year storm" was a measure of energy imparted on the shoreline. That energy could come in a short period of time with intense application of force, or a long, gradual application of force. If a shoreline had the capability to withstand the energy imparted by a 15-year storm, and a hurricane equivalent to a 50-year storm occurred, the shoreline could absorb enough energy from the 50-year

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storm to reduce the amount of damage imparted. The sand placed in front of a seawall designed to withstand the forces of a 50-year storm could make the difference between it failing and not failing.

Mr. Elwell clarified that a 15-year design was the minimum, rather than the maximum--it was not 15 years or less. Immediately after the construction of a 15-year design there was much more protection than just for a 15-year storm. The least protection that would ever be provided would be for a 15-year storm.

Board Member Martino explained that he was interested in putting some sort of information together with protection limits explained, so that people would understand to what degree they would be protected and to what degree they would not be protected. After discussion with Mr. Decker, he requested that ATM put together an informational sheet to be presented at the next meeting.

Mr. Martino commented that he would like to see the Executive Summary include some emphasis on values other than storm protection, as he believed people would need to be offered more than storm protection as a reason for beach stabilization.

In response to Chairman Lickle, Assistant Town Manager Elwell explained that he believed that the Town Council would consider this matter at the November Town Council Meeting, with the potential of setting a firm date for a Special Town Council Meeting, which could be as late as February, in order to give time for the peer review to be completed and the Shore Protection Board to make its recommendations.

Chairman Lickle replied that February would then become the anticipated target date. Aubrey Consultants would hopefully have prepared and finalized their review for presentation at that time. In the interim, Mr. Lickle urged the completion of a newsletter and the necessary educational process so that there would be a basis of understanding by both the Town Council and the general public.

Vice-Chairman Moffett suggested that the entire plan, with all four components (financial, educational, legal, and technical/engineering) be presented to the Town Council at the February 1997 Town Council Meeting.

Chairman Lickle responded that he did not believe all four components could be ready for review by the Town Council in one special meeting. He suggested that a newsletter be started immediately in order to educate the general public.

Mr. Elwell suggested that perhaps the broad perspective could be given at the February Town Council Meeting, with suggestions made as to the financial direction that could be taken.

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Town Manager Doney pointed out that before any information was disseminated to the public, the approval of the Town Council would be needed. He noted that after the peer review was conducted the results would be brought back to the Shore Protection Board, and then would be presented to the Town Council. The Town Council would make its decisions based upon the recommendations of the Shore Protection Board--the ATM report, the peer review, and the input of the members of the Shore Protection Board.

Chairman Lickle commented that he believed it was important for Town staff to conduct a dialogue with Dr. Stronge (who would be asked to speak at the next Shore Protection Board meeting) informing him of the status quo, before he addressed the Shore Protection Board, so that he would understand the direction they were taking.

Discussion took place concerning the funding mechanisms necessary to finance the beach restoration project. Mr. Decker of ATM explained that each municipality was unique, and the financing of the project would need the input of staff as well as financing specialists. Town Manager Doney suggested that the Town would eventually have to develop an objective fact sheet that would be presented to the general public that would indicate all the pros and cons.

Chairman Lickle advised that he was confident that any newsletter, fact sheet, etc., could be written and drafted in such a manner that it would in no way address the ATM report until such time as it was approved by the Town Council. Even if the report was disapproved for some reason, the educational process would be a positive step in making the public aware of shoreline issues. He maintained that any survey taken should be taken after the public had been educated via newsletters.

At this time, several Shore Protection Board Members contributed to the costs acquired by Chairman Lickle in preparation of the draft "Layman's Overlay" document.

Board Member Levy moved that Chairman Lickle be authorized to present to the Town Council at the November 12, 1997, Town Council meeting, the proposal that the Shore Protection Board would like to be able to start the educational process, with funding for an educational brochure, that could be used by the Town as soon as possible. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Moffett, and passed unanimously.

VII. STATUS REPORT ON TOWN SELECTION OF A COASTAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANT TO PERFORM "PEER REVIEW" ON THE COMPREHENSIVE COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (CCMP) UPDATE.

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The Aubrey Consulting, Inc. peer review should be completed by early December, with the anticipated date to present the peer review and final review of the ATM report to the Town Council in February 1998.

**VIII. IDENTIFICATION OF TIME, LOCATION, AND ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION
AT THE NEXT SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEETING**

The next meeting of the Shore Protection Board was scheduled to be held on November 25, 1997 at 1:30 p.m. at the Town Hall of South Palm Beach.

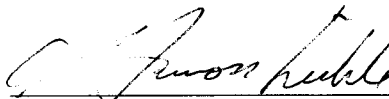
IX. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 P.M.

SHORE PROTECTION BOARD



Garrison D. Lickle, Chairman

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