

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of the Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEETING HELD ON JULY 29, 1997

I. CALL TO ORDER: The Shore Protection Board meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on July 29, 1997, by Chairman Garrison D. Lickle.

II. ROLL CALL: On roll call, the following Board Members were found to be in attendance: Garrison D. Lickle, George M. Moffett II, Eileen C. Curran, Wayne F. Dimm, Edward Hennessy, Jr., Charles D. Isiminger, Gerald H. Levy, and Joel Martino. Richard Raffo was not in attendance. Also attending the meeting were: Palm Beach Town Council members Sam McLendon and Jack McDonald; Projects Engineer Ray Smith, City of Lake Worth; Mayor Margot Roberts, and Commissioner Ernest Muro, Town of South Palm; and Engineering Assistant Bob Clinger, Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management, Town of Palm Beach Town Manager Robert Doney, Assistant Town Manager Peter Elwell, Director of Public Works Al Dusey, and Town Clerk Mary Pollitt.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as printed.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEETING REPORTS FOR MEETINGS HELD ON MAY 15, 1997, AND JUNE 18, 1997:

The reports were approved as presented.

V. STATUS REPORT ON UPDATE OF COMPREHENSIVE COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN - APPLIED TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT:

Chairman Lickle announced that Mayor Margot Roberts reported that South Palm Beach agreed to reimburse the Palm Beach Civic Association for the dollar amount they advanced to cover the cost for the South Palm Beach portion of the updated Comprehensive Coastal Management Plan.

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- 2. PEER REVIEW BY A NAME ENGINEERING FIRM WOULD PROVE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN ELIMINATING, OR AT LEAST REDUCING, THE PERCEPTION BY ANY OF THE PUBLIC THAT THERE MAY BE ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN.**
- 3. PEER REVIEW WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS REDUCING, IF NOT ELIMINATING, CRITICISM OF ANY PARTICULAR IDEA PRESENTED IN THE PLAN (FOR EXAMPLE, ANY FAVORITISM TOWARDS SAND PUMPING, OR HARD STRUCTURES, OR GROINS, OR OTHER EXPERIMENTAL DEVICES).**
- 4. PEER REVIEW IS WELCOMED BY ATM AND IS A STANDARD IN THE INDUSTRY FOR ANY SIZEABLE PROJECT.**

THE ESTIMATED COST OF FOR A PEER REVIEW OF THE ATM REPORT IS \$10,000.

Mr. Lickle indicated he would be unavailable to attend the August 12th Town Council meeting and requested Vice-Chairman Moffett attend the meeting to make the request. Mr. Moffett agreed to attend the meeting.

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

The Shore Protection Board set the next meeting for Wednesday, September 10, 1997, at 1:30 p.m. at the South Fire Rescue Station.

IX. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were no other matters.

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Chairman Lickle expressed his concern with the way the summary portion of the plan was drafted. He suggested the plan should be simplified to allow a better understanding by the Town Council and the general public, who may only read the general summary part of the report. Mr. Lickle compared the summaries of the Long Boat Key and Captiva projects to the plan prepared by Applied Technology & Management. He suggested the summary include some historical background material; explain why a plan is needed; and provide examples of techniques that work and do not work. Mr. Lickle said the report should be more than just a report that updates a prior report.

Members of the Board addressed issues and asked questions regarding the updated Comprehensive Coastal Management Plan to Dave Decker, Karyn Erickson, and Mike Barnett from Applied Technology & Management (ATM). Mr. Decker said to move forward with a large scale beach initiative would require a consensus within the Town that would include engineering, recreational, and storm protection aspects. He said ATM could help identify those issues and work with the Town to collectively identify definitions for further planning.

Responding to Mr. Isiminger's concerns regarding the ten-year proposed span for the plan, Mr. Barnett explained that ATM's updated report was based on assumptions for initial costs and the existing sediment deficit with the exception of the north and south ends and Mid-Town Beach. The reach by reach basis addressed the sand deficit in certain portions of the island. Mr. Isiminger responded that if the costs (including groins) were annualized over a fifty year time period, the total annualized cost may be less. Ms. Erikson said that ATM continually gathers information and analyzes that information.

The Board members discussed with ATM personnel the projected approximately \$68 million cost to implement the recommendations outlined in the plan over a ten year period. The discussion included funding with bond issues and estimates of the cost to individual taxpayers over a ten year period.

Mr. Decker explained that the final report to the Town staff would have additional detailed information including recommendations regarding repair or replacement of existing groins in the Town. Mr. Decker added that the \$68 million amount included rough estimates for groin replacement/repair.

Mr. Lickle emphasized the need to explain to the public the need or justification for the recommendations in the plan. Mr. Decker replied the report contained the engineering information, and that had to be packaged or presented according to the Town's needs and desires. Mr. Lickle said his suggestions to promote the plan included emphasizing the need to protect the values of individuals' properties; breaking down the costs associated with the plan into "necessary", "essential", and "desirable" categories; and showing the cost/benefit

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analysis in relationship to other communities.

Ms. Erikson said that the assumption made for all economic studies was that the first line of construction, i.e. the first ocean front homes, will take whatever action is in their economic best interests; therefore they will always provide protection for their homes. She added that most of the damage is flood and wind damage, not wave damage, and those numbers are not computed or included in any of the previous studies she had worked on.

Responding to questions from the Board regarding other beach renourishment projects in Palm Beach County, Bob Clinger reported that the Delray Beach, North Boca, South Boca, and Jupiter-Carlin projects are considered to be renourishment projects. Mr. Clinger said the Delray project has exceeded the life expectancy for renourishment and is used as a successful model throughout the State.

Mr. Clinger mentioned that the Jupiter-Carlin project has not worked as well as expected; however, it is down-drift from the Jupiter Inlet and receives additional stress. Mr. Clinger reported the Delray project did not construct any hard structures, and a groin was constructed for the North Boca project to protect the down-drift environmentally protected area. Mr. Clinger added that eight "T" groins are planned for the Ocean Ridge project in addition to the removal of eleven existing groins. He pointed out that the Ocean Ridge groins are planned to address the effects of the South Lake Worth Inlet on the immediate down-drift area.

Board Members, Mr. Decker, and Mr. Barnett discussed possible sites for the sand borrow locations that would be required for some of the reaches as shown on the coastal maps that were part of the proposed plan.

Mr. Decker summarized the suggestions from the meeting:

- ◆ Simplify the Executive Summary--Add historical comments, provide background and examples;
- ◆ Provide a definition of success for the overall program using the Mid-Town Beach project as a model;
- ◆ Place additional emphasis on structures (existing and proposed);
- ◆ Identify the benefit(s) of the project to the general public and property owners;
- ◆ Add a discussion on the value of the overall program versus costs;

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- ◆ Further definition of the problem including coastal background information to the present day;
- ◆ Quantify storm damage and relate the damage to project costs;
- ◆ Provide relative comparisons for various project return intervals, i.e. fifteen year storms vs. twenty-five year storms, and the costs/benefits related to those comparisons;
- ◆ Attempt to identify the renourishment requirements for the projects beyond the ten-year planning horizon and project the annualized costs;

A question was raised regarding plans for the area south of Sloan's Curve. Mr. Elwell reported the Town received an initial favorable response from the State regarding abandoning the concept of doing a dune restoration project in the area and, in place of that, pursuing a beach project. He said the State has agreed with the County that when the shoreline conditions in this area plus the feasibility study from 5-6 years ago are considered, a beach project would be preferable. Mr. Elwell cautioned that much work has to be done before any estimate is available regarding timing of the project or the amount of assistance the State would be willing to provide.

VI. CAPTIVA EROSION PREVENTION DISTRICT BEACH RENOURISHMENT VIDEO (17 MINUTES) FROM MS. ALISON HAGERUP, ADMINISTRATOR *(Deferred from June 18, 1997, meeting)*

The Captiva video was shown.

VII. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO TOWN COUNCIL REGARDING PEER REVIEW

After discussing the merits and advantages of peer review, **THE SHORE BOARD RECOMMENDED TO THE TOWN COUNCIL THAT THE FINAL ATM REPORT AND LATER DEVELOPED PROJECTS BE REVIEWED BY A QUALIFIED, PRESTIGIOUS AND INDEPENDENT ENGINEERING FIRM FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:**

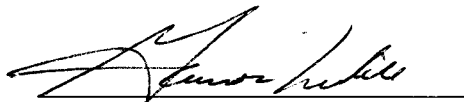
1. **CONSIDERING THE SIZE OF THE PROPOSED INLET TO INLET PROJECT, THE INVOLVEMENT OF SEVERAL MUNICIPALITIES, THE LONG TERM IMPACT AND THE MONEY PROPOSED TO BE EXPENDED, IT IS ONLY PRUDENT TO OBTAIN A SECOND OPINION;**

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X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

SHORE PROTECTION BOARD


Garrison D. Lickle, Chairman

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