

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of The Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Shore Protection Board was called to order at 1:03 p.m., on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, in the Emergency Operations Center, 355 S. County Road, Palm Beach, Florida.

II. ROLL CALL

On roll call, all Members were found to be in attendance, except for Member Katz, who arrived later in the meeting.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Ecclestone led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the Agenda as printed was made by Member Goldstein, seconded by Member Cooper. On voice vote, the motion carried 6-0, as Member Katz had not yet arrived.

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 22, 2010 MEETING

At the request of Member Lindsay Buck, the approval of the minutes was deferred until the next meeting since the distribution of the agenda, back-up, and minutes were not received until late Friday. She had made several changes that the other members had not seen yet. Town Manager Elwell again reiterated that the minutes were to be abbreviated but would have them redistributed before the next meeting.

Note: Board Member Katz arrived at 1:08 p.m.

VI. SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEMBER OATHS

Town Clerk Cunningham administered the Oath of Office to the Shore Board Members, as requested by the Town Council at the last meeting.

VII. PRESENTATION OF APPRECIATION TO PREVIOUS SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Ecclestone announced that he had two plaques to present to the former Shore Board Members, Mr. Richard Raffo and Mr. Scott Hicks.

Mr. Raffo was present and accepted his plaque. Mr. Hicks arrived later during the meeting and was presented with his plaque.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS FROM SHORE PROTECTION BOARD MEMBERS

Member Bobbie Lindsay Buck made several of the following comments:

- Regarding her participation in meeting with the local environmental advocacy groups, she noted that a meeting was held with staff members, the Snook Foundation, Surfrider Foundation, and Gail Coniglio from the Town Council.
- One of the issues discussed was the Reach 8 Feasibility Study.
- The environmental groups expressed concern about the beach fill portion of the proposed scaled back nourishment and dune project's impact to the near shore hard bottom and reef south of the pier.

Chair Ecclestone noted appreciation of Member Lindsay Buck's effort.

Responding to Chair Ecclestone, Public Works Director Brazil noted that Reef Rescue would probably be the next group in which to have a meeting.

Member Lee Goldstein provided several of the following comments:

- In reference to the Town dune project, he thanked Town staff for working with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and obtaining permits. Mike Barnett, FDEP, and his team worked well with staff in order to obtain the permits for the dune restorations for the entire town.
- The NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has been unable to complete their recommendations to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) prior to turtle nesting season (March 1, 2010), which delayed the project until winter of 2010 and early 2011.
- He would like staff to research Sealand type barges to see if there was a place to load quality sand onto the barges; he could not find anyone that would agree with trucking sand every seven minutes for four months, which was totally disruptive to the Town.

- 1
2 • In Boca Raton, Juno Beach and Delray Beach sand was being dredged offshore and
3 placed back on the beaches. He said that this was why there was a need for a project on
4 Reach 8, to be done the same as Mid Town Beach.
5

6 Discussion occurred among the Board Members, Public Works Director Brazil and Town
7 Manager Elwell regarding the following:
8

- 9 • Searching for sand, the lack of budget for it, and alternative delivery methods;
10 • Explanation of the budget process;
11 • The Isiminger Report was being finalized and would be distributed when received; and
12 • A budget for fiscal year 2011, based on the SPB's 10-Year Plan, will be discussed at the
13 next meeting;

14 Chair Ecclestone said he wanted to thank those that supported the Palm Beach Civic
15 Association's event yesterday, the "Shore Protection Forum".
16

17 Vice Chair Frank made several of the following comments:
18

- 19 • The approval for allocation of \$75,000 to pursue their studies and \$20,000 for peer
20 reviews was a good system.
21
22 • Mr. Katz would observe the peer review selection process by Town staff.
23
24 • He requested specific details on the use of the \$75,000.
25

26 Discussion occurred among Vice Chair Frank, Mr. Brazil, and Mr. Elwell regarding the specific
27 details of \$75,000 and several of the following comments were made:
28

- 29 • The \$75,000 deliverable was in last month's back-up with an outline of the expenditures.
30 In summary, it was the permit application of the final design.
31
32 • The estimates will be refined into data from the actual design of the project of how much
33 sand, method of delivery, estimated cost of providing it, and the performance of the
34 project.
35
36 • Discussed using a heavier grain sand that would last 30 % longer than sand used on the
37 beach.
38
39 • Staff was working on physical access to deliver the sand.
40

- After the grant from the state of about \$3 million, the net cost was \$12 million, but the \$15 million had to be paid up front, which included everything, such as: engineering, mitigation, and sand placement restoration.

Member Cooper commented on yesterday's forum and stated that staff did a great job; he asked if there was a method to get information out in a less complex way on a regular basis that would educate the citizenry.

Discussion occurred among Member Cooper, Chair Ecclestone, Mr. Brazil and Mr. Elwell regarding the various means of updating the public, in a user friendly format, as the information provided by staff was sometimes too technical for the public to understand. Member Cooper suggested a four page presentation with bullets of answers to basic questions. Chair Ecclestone asked that Member Cooper look into ways of providing information to the public.

Member Katz made several of the following comments:

- The Town Council approved that the Citizens' Association of Palm Beach would conduct a survey to accept trucking on Reach 8. If trucking was not acceptable to the residents, how could the project move forward?

Mr. Elwell responded that the feedback on the trucks would not be necessary before the engineering started. The intent was that the Citizens' Association of Palm Beach would gather the information alongside the effort that Town staff was pursuing in order to get the project designed and back to the Board as quickly as possible in the next few months with answers to both.

- How much of the minimum amount of sand was acceptable to call it a project, as the size of the sand was bigger, was 40% of the minimum acceptable?

Mr. Brazil responded that performance would be addressed and the data will be offered up as part of all the other constraints, which was the life expectancy of the project, and weighing against cost and impact to the neighborhood.

- Regarding Rob Weber's future presentations to the condominiums, Mr. Katz expressed concern about sensitivity to Sloan's Curve, Reef, Harbor House and Tres Vidas condominiums as they had no sand left. Mr. Weber's presentation indicated that 80% of sand on Reach 7 was still in the system.

Mr. Brazil responded that Mr. Weber's presentation indicated that 88% of sand was there, and very deliberately said that it moved quickly out of the north end of Reach 7. Staff recognized an issue regarding the north end of Reach 7 and south end of Reach 8, and was dealing with both. The presentation did not leave out the needs on both extremes of the area.

Lee Goldstein noted that the Board would need to look for another solution and that Jimmy Ryan had a friend that used to work for Sealand, and he recommended great big thousand foot barges,

1 but would need to be railed to a certain point; if they could get the barge there, it would be a
2 better way, which was what he wanted Mr. Brazil to research.

3
4
5 IX. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS - 3 MINUTE LIMIT PLEASE

6 Larry Goldberg, 3360 S. Ocean Blvd., made several of the following comments:

- 7
8 • Inquired about engineering on the current project and survey at same time for citizens to
9 decide if they want trucking or not, and if the people don't want trucking, what happens
10 to the \$95,000 already spent on a project design that had no way of getting sand to it?

11
12 Mr. Elwell explained that the feedback would indicate the level of tolerance that the south end
13 residents would have for the number of trucks that would be bringing sand.

- 14
15 • The current project was an incomplete plan and the current proposal on Reach 8 did not
16 consider any kind of structure. He read from the Town's strategic plan. He suggested
17 using sand from the borrow areas on rejected Reach 8 project, as the sand was accepted
18 by FDEP and USACE.

19
20 Mr. Elwell noted that the structures did not relate to the project being considered, as it was for
21 the north end of Reach 7 and south end of Reach 8, which were outside of the area of this
22 project, which was in the northern and central part of Reach 8.

- 23
24 • The agency liaison officer should be a position that would bring a broad perspective in
25 achieving the Board's objectives. This person may help coordinate month to month and
26 project to project activity, and contact the Governor, U.S. Representatives, Senators, and
27 anybody else to talk to as the ground rules needed to be changed to provide permitting
28 capabilities.

29
30 X. SUMMARY OF THE TOWN-WIDE PHYSICAL MONITORING REPORT AND
31 PRESENTATION OF THE SEDIMENT BUDGET [Mike Jenkins, Ph.D., P.E., Applied
32 Technology & Management, Inc.]

33 Mike Jenkins, Applied Technology & Management, Inc., distributed maps to the members that
34 have been updated from last year. The maps show the changes in volume of sand (measured in
35 cubic yards) that has occurred town-wide over the past year and the annualized rate of change
36 since 1990 (19 years). The analysis measured the volume change in sand on
37 the beach, in the near-shore up to 26.5 feet of depth, and just offshore
38 (between 26-40 feet of depth) every 1,000 feet (at each R-monument.)

39 Discussion occurred among the Board Members, staff, and Dr. Jenkins and several of the
40 following items were discussed:

- 41 • The Sand Transfer Plant was not operating between 1990 and 1996, which skewed the 19-
42 year, long-term data, particularly in the north-end, as there was significant erosion in that area
while the STP was not operating.

Note: Board Member Katz left the dais at 2:20 p. m.

- There is an abrupt change from gains in sand volume to losses of volume at a point approximately 2,500 south of the current discharge point, supporting placement of the second discharge pipe at or south of the 2,500 foot mark.
- The permitting process for the piping was underway and Applied Technology Management had the contract.
- Details for a second discharge, immediately south of Reef Road, just a little more than 2500 feet south of the current discharge pipe, is being developed.
- In answer to a question about the drop off in the contour area at the 40-foot point in the south end of Reach 8, it was noted that the 40 ft. contour area in reach 8 was also the borrow area for the Reach 7 Phipps project. The hole dug in that area is partly responsible for the change in contour.
- The successive re-nourishments that had been done had led to a net gain Townwide over this time period; if the repeated projects had not been done, there would be a distinct loss right now.

XI. AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH FOR PROTECTING PALM BEACH, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE SOUTH END OF TOWN [William Dally, Ph.D., P.E., Surfbreak Engineering Sciences, Inc.]

William Dally, Ph.D., P.E., Surfbreak Engineering Sciences, Inc, provided a PowerPoint presentation and submitted a copy into the record.

Discussion occurred among the Board Members, staff, and Dr. Dally regarding alternative approaches to beach nourishment and several of the following items were discussed:

Vice Chair Frank left the dais at 3:06 p.m. and returned at 3:08 p.m.

- Cost was needed for the options for Reaches 7 and 8.
- The option of owning a dredge was the key to rainbow placement.
- Another option was to take a half step, by testing and refining the methods using a leased dredge and contract labor; lease a dredge, hire contract labor for a year or two and see how it goes. State approval was needed to do any of these alternatives.

- Staff is evaluating an effort with the Port and the County (through the Tri-Party Coalition), to obtain a state and federal permit in order to do maintenance dredging and place it where the USACE is currently permitted to place it.
- There was a universal agreement about using sand from the Inlet, but the long term use of sand would be a quantity issue.
- Enhancing the growths of reef could disturb the action of waves offshore, but money and time was needed.
- The rainbow dredge could be outfitted on any of Great Lakes Dredging hopper dredge barges, and was a worldwide technique that was used, but not used extensively in the states.
- Richard Kleid, 2660 S. Ocean Blvd., Town Council Member, said that this was the first time that he heard of rainbow placement and wanted to know if it was worthwhile, and what were the advantages and disadvantages.
- One detractor of the rainbow discharging was that it does not raise the beach elevation and raise the dune.
- Another disadvantage is that rainbow discharging has not been permitted by FDEP, and it has not been performed in Florida.
- Approximately 250,000 cubic yards of sand is in the shoals, just north of the Inlet.
- 20,000 to 30,000 cubic yards per year can be estimated to be dredged out of the Inlet for maintenance.
- There is a deficit of sand in the Town due in part by the inlet jetties.
- Two large feeder beaches: Mid-Town and Reach 7 help reduce the Townwide deficit.
- A large quantity of good offshore material should be used primarily for the Mid-Town and Reach 7 projects (the large scale beach projects in Town).
- There was a potential sand source on Rush's Reef, as a huge volume of sand from previous dredging events had gone back into it, after one of the storms.

Chair Ecclestone extended his appreciation to Dr. Dally for his presentation.

XII. LAKE WORTH INLET COALITION UPDATE [Peter B. Elwell, Town Manager]

Town Manager Elwell provided an update of the Tri-Party Coalition (referred to now as the Lake Worth Inlet Coalition) that was included in the backup material.

In summary, Mr. Elwell indicated that all parties (the Town of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County and the Port of Palm Beach) agreed that specific inlet related issues be addressed together. He noted that Palm Beach Shores had expressed interest in joining the Coalition, which was back on track, the relationship with the USACE was rapidly improving, and the Town had high hopes for the near and farther future.

XIII. DISCUSSION REGARDING LEGISLATIVE LIAISON FOR COASTAL MATTERS [Peter B. Elwell, Town Manager]

Town Manager Elwell submitted a memorandum to the Board and recommended that the Shore Protection Board not forward a request for additional staffing or funding to the Town Council, for this effort, due to the financial constraints.

Discussion occurred among the Board Members and Mr. Elwell regarding a legislative liaison, and following were several of the comments made:

- There has been a significant amount of progress since it had been put into their plan in October.
- There has been good, continuing communication with Senator Nelson and his staff. Good communication by the staff has been maintained with the Senators, and with Congressman Klein.
- Some municipalities do not use lobbyists at all, and for those who do, there were other municipalities within Palm Beach County that use the same state lobbyists: Smith and Ballard, and possibly Greenberg Traurig.
- Larry Goldberg, 3360 S. Ocean Boulevard, suggested the possibility of the approach that the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), which was the hardbottom obstacle to test for modification to obtain recognition of the hardbottom that had been uncovered, should be covered up again, as it never was fish habitat to begin with.

After discussion, **it was the consensus of the Shore Protection Board to accept Mr. Elwell's memorandum.**

XIV. PREPARATION FOR A DISCUSSION WITH PALM BEACH COUNTY REGARDING COST-SHARING OF COASTAL PROJECTS

Town Manager Elwell talked about preparing for a discussion with Palm Beach County regarding the cost sharing of coastal projects.

Discussion occurred among the Board Members, Mr. Elwell, and Mr. Brazil and several of the following comments were made:

- The Tourist Development Council (TDC) has money dedicated just for the beaches within Palm Beach County, and the Town has not received any of the funds.
- William Diamond, 220 Wells Road, Town Council Member, commented that it was important to meet with the County one-on-one to show that the Town was interested in the County's futures, if they were interested in the Town's current situation.
- Since 1996, the Town had paid for the operation of the Sand Transfer Plant, and the Town would need to be careful not to give up control of it, when talking to the County.
- A cost analysis would need to be done regarding whether or not the Town should obtain control of the operation of the Sand Transfer Plant; it now has new equipment, which may require less maintenance due to a reduction in problems.

Mr. Elwell commented that the obtaining control of the Sand Transfer Plant would be considered during this budget cycle.

The Shore Protection Board decided not to formally approach the County at this time, but would continue informal discussions.

XV. FUTURE MEETINGS [Peter B. Elwell, Town Manager]

A. Upcoming Topics

Reach 7 Structures Study (March 2010)

Representative from Palm Beach County (March 2010)

FY 2011 Coastal Budget (March 2010)

Grant Funding Overview

Jocelyn Karazsia, National Marine Fisheries Service (May 2010)

Please see Item B below for more information on the Future Meetings.

B. 2010 Meeting Schedule

Fourth Thursday of each month:

March, April, November, and December dates to be determined

May 27, June 24, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28

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2 The Shore Protection Board decided to schedule every fourth Thursday for the rest of the year
3 for their meetings. All meetings will begin at 9:00 a.m.
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5 After discussion among the Shore Protection Board Members, it was decided that:
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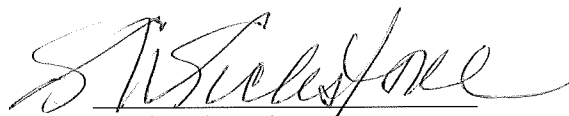
- 7 • The March 19, 2010, meeting would focus on the Budgetary Request, a consultant report
8 from Isiminger & Stubbs, and that they would not ask for a representative from Palm
9 Beach County to appear at a meeting.
10
- 11 • The April 22, 2010, meeting would have a consultant report from Taylor Engineering,
12 Inc., and discuss the Reach 7 Structures Study.
13
- 14 • The November meeting will be held on November 18, 2010.
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- 16 • No meeting would be scheduled in December, at this time.
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- 18 • The meetings might be suspended for the summer.
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20 *Note: Member Katz left the dais at 4:27 p.m. and did not return.*
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23 XVI. ADJOURNMENT

24 There being no further business to discuss, the Shore Protection Board meeting of Tuesday,
25 February 23, 2010, was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.
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29 APPROVED:

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32

33 E. Llwyd Ecclestone
34 Chairman
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