

**ST. AUGUSTINE PORT, WATERWAY & BEACH DISTRICT**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday, May 16, 2023**

The regular meeting of the St. Augustine Port, Waterway & Beach District was held at the St. Augustine Beach City Commission Meeting Room, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, Florida, on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Matt Brown called the meeting to order at 3:00, p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America followed.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Chairman Matt Brown, Vice-Chairman Chris Way, Commissioner Jane West, and Commissioner Linda Thomson were present in person. The meeting was also attended in person by Secretary-Treasurer Elyse Kemper and Clay Meek, General Counsel for the District. Ken Craig of Taylor Engineering, District Engineers, was present in person as well.

**4. INVOCATION**

The Invocation was passed for the meeting.

**5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**A Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner West, seconded by Commissioner Thomson, and passed by a 4-0 vote.**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**7. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS**

Carl Blow of the Florida Inland Navigation District ("FINN") provided an update and overview of dredging plans at Matanzas Inlet, Ponce Inlet in Volusia County, and Palm Valley. He also provided the District seven (7) Port District flags from years ago that had been recently relocated.

Eric Mauldin, St. Augustine Municipal Marina Harbormaster, notified of a short period of closure of the Lighthouse boat ramp and that boat safety checks would be done in conjunction with the upcoming National Boat Safety Week. Further, he indicated that the municipal marina breakwater dock repairs were to start on July 10, 2023.

Corey Sakryd, Deputy Director of General Services for the City of St. Augustine, briefly addressed the current Salt Run dredging, to be followed by dredging at the Dolphin Drive channel entrance.

#### **8. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT**

Secretary-Treasurer Kemper then delivered the financial report. As of April 30, 2023, the District spent: \$3,082 for overtime hours of police officers of the City of St. Augustine; \$8,742 for overtime hours of deputies of the St. Johns County Sheriff's Department; \$253,400 for marine projects; \$4,339 for derelict boats; and \$9,470 for channel marker repairs. The State Board of Administration account had a balance of \$23,963. The Operating Account had \$728,929 as of April 30, 2023. The money market account had \$0 in the reserve for projects and \$1,115,451 in amounts not reserved for projects. Taxes received as of April 30, 2023, were \$698,303 for the current year and the balance of the remaining expected tax income was \$18,317.

#### **9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A Motion to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2023, regular meeting was made by Vice-Chairman Way, seconded by Commissioner Thomson, and passed by a 3-0 vote, with Chairman Brown abstaining.**

#### **10. ENGINEERING REPORT**

Ken Craig indicated there were no pending District projects and gave an update on other area projects of potential interest.

#### **11. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. Website Update**

Commissioner West gave an overview of the redesign. Links to minutes, agendas, and minutes are all easily accessible. The newly designed site also gives information on District projects with photos, information on Commissioners, contact information, the history of the Port District, links to area information resources and information on making a grant/funding request. A remaining

area to be reviewed and refined was the grant/funding application itself and Chairman Brown agreed to review it and prepare a draft revised/updated application form for review and discussion at a future Commission meeting.

Discussion was also had on making review of the website a more regular process. Having such a review occur during the regular meeting held on the day of the first yearly TRIM meeting was mentioned and tentatively agreed upon as an appropriate meeting for such.

## **12. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Salt Run Dredge Funding Request**

Corey Sakryd, Deputy Director of General Services for the City of St. Augustine, presented the request. He gave a history of prior dredging costs and needs and how the dredging costs and needs had increased. No application was made to FIND this year to assist with the County securing maximum funding for Genovar. For the coming year, the anticipated FIND request was to be for \$300,000.00 with the District funding the \$100,000.00 local match. He indicated that a funding application would be presented at the next District meeting for \$100,000.00 in conjunction with a \$300,000.00 funding request from FIND. Carl Blow also spoke on this agenda item to provide background information and thoughts on potential future FIND funding.

**A Motion to include, within the upcoming year's budget, \$100,000.00 allocated to local funds FIND grant Salt Run dredging was made by Vice-Chairman Way, seconded by Commissioner West, and passed by a 4-0 vote.**

## **13. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nicholas Binder spoke regarding the matter of Ocean Hammock Park beach access and the walkway there. He asked that no further funding applications by the City of St. Augustine Beach to the District be funded until pending questions regarding the project are sufficiently answered.

## **14. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Chairman Brown generally questioned the assembled representatives of other agencies and public entities on behalf of a constituent question on submerged hazard signage. Mr. Blow addressed the

question and indicated that, based upon the information available, it might be an issue for the Department of Transportation.

Commissioner West indicated that Senator Hudson was sponsoring pursuit of \$5,000,000.00 at the state level for funding of managed retreat of Summer Haven.

**15. NEXT MEETING**

June 20, 2023, was announced as the next regular meeting date. As such, the **next regular meeting will be at 3:00, p.m., on June 20, 2023**, at the St. Augustine Beach City Commission Meeting Room, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, Florida

**16. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chairman Matt Brown adjourned the meeting at 3:52, p.m.

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Secretary-Treasurer

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Commission Chairman Brown