

**Sebastian Inlet District**  
Regular Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, 4 PM, April 8, 2026  
Sebastian Inlet District Office  
114 Sixth Avenue  
Indianapolis, FL 32903  
Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Chairman David Barney, Commissioner Lisa Frazier (Vice Chair), Commissioner Michael Rowland (Secretary/Treasurer), Commissioner John Campbell and Commissioner TJ Marshall. Also, in attendance were: Executive Director James Gray, SID Public Outreach Associate Ed Garland, SID Legal Counsel Shawn Demers, Christine Noll-Rhan (CRI), Stephen Trbovich (AtkinsRéalis), Calvin "Tres" Holton (public), Marie Yarbrough (AtkinsRéalis), Katie Crocker (AtkinsRéalis), Nicholas Sanzone (Sebastian Chamber of Commerce), Clinton Hodges (ATL), and Quintin Bergman (IRC).

Under Agenda Item I

Call to Order – Chairman Barney called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

Under Agenda Item II

The Commission discussed the minutes of the regular Commission meeting of March 11, 2026. Commissioner Marshall requested that the last sentence of Item II, which stated that he requested additional Sunshine Law training during the January 14 2026 Commission meeting, be struck from the minutes. Following discussion among the Commissioners, Commissioner Frazier made a motion to table the minutes until the May 13, 2026, meeting to allow staff to review the recorded minutes. Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion. Mr. Gray asked whether the written or recorded minutes prevailed. Commissioner Marshall said that the unapproved draft Administrative Policy Manual stated that the written minutes prevail. Commissioner Campbell made a motion to amend the sentence to read, "Sunshine law training was done during the February 8, 2026, Commission meeting." Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion. **The motion carried 5-0.**

Under Agenda Item III

Additions and Deletions

Commissioner Barney said the Scope of Work attachment will be added to Consent Agenda Item VI B (Work Order No. 2526-013-ATKR, AtkinsRéalis) because staff did not include it when drafting the agenda. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to invert Items 1 and 2 Under Unfinished Business (Item IX). Chairman Barney seconded the motion. **The motion carried 5-0.**

Under Agenda Item IV

Presentations

- A. Presentation of independent Auditor's Report for Sebastian Inlet District FY 2025 Financial Statements – Christine Noll-Rhan, Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC  
Ms. Noll-Rhan reported on the District's Financial Statements for the 2025 fiscal year, which was a clean audit as in previous years. She provided copies of the audited financials to the Commissioners so they could follow her report. Property tax revenues increased by \$2.9 million over the previous year, while grants increased by \$3.4 million.

Expenditures were up \$5.4 million. Total revenues were \$11.3 million or \$6.2 million above the previous year.

B. 2025 Seagrass Monitoring Update – Steven Trbovich, AtkinsRéalis

Mr. Trbovich gave a slideshow presentation focusing on key points in the 2025 seagrass monitoring report. He shared the history of the District's seagrass monitoring program, which dates back to 2007. He described how the 2011 harmful algal bloom caused a significant seagrass die-off in the Indian River Lagoon, including the inlet flood shoals which have returned to stable growth in recent years. Data from recent years show a trend toward denser concentrations of manatee grass and shoal grass, which Mr. Trbovich said he hopes will continue. Nearly 45 percent of the quadrats showed 75 to 100 percent coverage, which is a positive recovery sign. Channel dredging pre-construction monitoring conducted in 2024 showed more transects with grass than monitoring conducted following dredging in 2018-19. Monitoring was not done last year because the dredge did not work in this area of the channel, but additional monitoring will be done post-dredging. Mr. Trbovich's entire presentation is available in the recorded minutes.

C. June 20, 2026 Longest Day Surf Event – Nicholas Sanzone, Sebastian Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Sanzone sought the District's support for a planned charity surf contest for Alzheimer's Awareness at Sebastian Inlet on June 20, 2026. Mr. Gray asked the Commission for direction in assisting the Chamber to promote the event. Commissioner Marshall made a motion for the District to promote the event on its website. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Frazier expressed concerns about setting a precedent for supporting other inlet events. Chairman Barney said he was comfortable with promoting the event. Commissioner Marshall said the Commission can use its discretion for choosing which events to support, adding that it is a charitable event and not for profit. Commissioner Rowland said the Commission should consider each event separately on its own merits. **Following the discussion, the motion carried 5-0 to promote the event on the District's website.**

Under Agenda Item V

Information and Discussion Agenda

A. Executive Director's Reports

1. Update on the 2025/2026 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project

Mr. Gray gave an update on the 2025/26 Sand Trap and Beach Placement Project. The Sector Two and DMMA placements are complete, while ATL is anticipated to place 130,000 cubic yards by the end of April 2026. He shared graphics of sand sources within the Inlet channel and sand trap, as well as photos of sand being placed on the Sector 1 beach. Mr. Gray noted that the contractor dredged outside the channel in late February, potentially impacting about one-third of an acre of seagrass. District staff discussed the over dredging with FDEP, and FDEP prescribed a required monitoring survey to determine the extent of seagrass impacts. Once monitoring is completed, an Impact Assessment Report will be sent to FDEP within 20 days. FDEP will determine corrective actions. Staff doesn't anticipate a formal Regulatory determination until June or July. ATL is aware of the situation and has been cooperative, Mr. Gray said. Commissioner Campbell noted that this is the second

time the contractor dredged outside the line. He said the District needs be proactive and determine how to prevent a repeat of the situation.

2. Webcam Upgrade Schedule

The webcam will be shut down for up to a week so that Erdman can upgrade the webcam, which will include the return of the video feature. The District has posted notices on the website, app and social media announcing that the webcam will be down to enable the upgrades to occur.

3. Jetty Structural Evaluation Schedule

Mr. Gray said ESA has found a way to use a camera-based procedure to inspect the jetties that should reduce the inspection time from the typical three-to-five day period down to one or two days by slipping the camera beneath the jetty instead of having to remove most of the grates. Inspections are anticipated to occur on April 21 and 22, 2026.

Under Agenda Item VI

Consent Agenda

A. Authorized Work for Commission Review

No items.

B. Recommended for Approval

1. Work Order No. 2526-013-ATKR, AtkinsRéalis

2026 Flood Tidal Shoal Seagrass Monitoring and Hardbottom Biological Monitoring

Mr. Gray said the proposed work order provides the continuation of annual aerial analysis and field monitoring of the seagrass along the recently dredged Sebastian Inlet navigation channel corridor and permit-required post-construction hardbottom monitoring offshore of the Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project. The total amount of the work order is \$231,305 and will be invoiced on a not-to-exceed fee basis only for the actual expended effort.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve Work Order 2526-013-ATKR and authorize Mr. Gray to sign on behalf of the District.

Under Agenda Item VII

Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

There was no public comment.

Under Agenda Item VIII

Board Vote on Consent Agenda

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion. **The motion carried 5-0.**

Under Agenda Item IX

Unfinished Business

1. Commissioner's Resources Webpage

Commissioner Marshall gave a presentation to explain the purpose and function of SharePoint, which he proposed that the Commission adopt as a file repository for District Commissioners. Mr. Gray said that the District's IT provider, Indian River Networks, said that there would not be an additional cost to the District initially to utilize SharePoint, but that there could be a need for additional storage depending on how much data is stored on the SharePoint site. Mr. Gray cautioned that a District-only repository could be a potential Sunshine Law violation. Commissioner Rowland said he doesn't anticipate using SharePoint and questioned whether it was necessary. He asked whether additional staffing would be needed to maintain the SharePoint site. Mr. Gray said he was concerned about the utilization of staff to maintain the site. He said District staff currently uses servers to back up their files. Commissioner Frazier asked whether SharePoint will simply be file sharing. Commissioner Marshall said Commissioners would be extracting information from the meeting agenda packets. Discussion ensued and Commissioner Marshall suggested that the Commission approve a six-month pilot study for evaluation by the Commission. Chairman Barney said he was not opposed to a pilot program. Commissioner Marshall suggested establishing it as a sunset program that could be unplugged if the Commission decides the SharePoint site isn't needed. Additional discussion ensued. Commissioner Campbell made a motion to implement the SharePoint Pilot Program with a six-month sunset with no staff involvement. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. **The motion carried 4-1, with Commissioner Rowland dissenting.**

2. Draft Sebastian Inlet District Administrative Policy Manual

Chairman Barney suggested that the Commission discuss each chapter of the draft District Administrative Policy Manual, decide whether or not to amend the chapters and vote on the final product during its May 13 meeting. Commissioner Marshall recommended that the Commission begin with Chapter 8, which addresses Ethics, Sunshine and Governance Compliance. Commissioner Frazier shared some of her comments and said the draft Policy Manual needs work. Commissioner Marshall, expressed concern that Chapter 8 was excessive and would like to see whether other special districts include such restrictions. Commissioner Frazier said she saw nothing wrong with Chapter 8 because any government can go above and beyond statutes. Chairman Barney said the draft policy manual is a living document and can be modified as needed. Discussion ensued and the Commission discussed calling a Workshop to further discuss the draft Administration Policy Manual. Commissioner Rowland made a motion to hold a Workshop Meeting at 4 p.m. on April 22, 2026. Commissioner Frazier seconded the motion. **The motion carried 5-0.**

Under Agenda Item X

Public Comment on Unfinished Business

No comments.

Under Agenda Item XI

New Business

No comments.

Under Agenda Item XII

Public Outreach Activities

Mr. Garland gave an update on the District's outreach activities. Activities included assisting with and promoting a Coastal Cleanup event on March 17, website updates and posting project updates on the District's website, app and social media pages.

Under Agenda Item XIII

Park Matter – Ken Torres

Ken Torres was unable to attend the meeting but he emailed Mr. Gray a park update prior to the meeting. Mr. Gray reported that the glamping area is operational, the marina and bait house are expected to be open in a few weeks, and the restaurant is expected to open in May. FDOT will begin mobilizing for the bridge replacement project in May.

Under Agenda Item XIV

Legal Counsel Update – Shawn L. Demers, GrayRobinson

Mr. Demers had no updates. Chairman Barney asked Mr. Demers whether Commissioner Marshall's April 6 op-ed article in Florida Today violated the Sunshine Law. Mr. Demers said he did not see a violation. Chairman Barney said the op-ed piece upset him and that he favored drafting a rebuttal. Commissioner Frazier voiced concern that a rebuttal would draw additional attention. Commissioner Rowland agreed with Commissioner Frazier. Chairman Barney called the op-ed piece inaccurate and premature since the Commission had not yet discussed the draft Administrative Policy Manual.

Under Item XV

Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

Under Item XVI

Commissioner Items

Chairman Barney — Nothing.

Vice Chair Frazier — Nothing

Secretary/Treasurer Rowland — Nothing.

Commissioner Campbell — He was angered by Commissioner Marshall's April 6 op-ed piece in Florida Today. Commissioner Marshall's opinion piece stated that the draft Administrative Policy Manual would cede power from the Commission to the Executive Director. Commissioner Campbell said he will not tolerate any more attacks on the "competency, integrity and intention of District staff." He said it is unprofessional and unnecessary. He has seen no evidence that the comments are needed or warranted and it needs to stop. He said the District is lucky to have its staff.

Commissioner Marshall — He shared information regarding a beach renourishment project in Indian Shores. Also, the Association of Special Districts is offering ethics training in Orlando.

Under Item XVII

Adjournment — Chairman Barney adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

  
Secretary/Treasurer

May 13, 2026  
Date