

**Sebastian Inlet District**  
Regular Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, 4:30 PM, March 11, 2026  
North Indian River County Library  
1001 Sebastian Boulevard  
Sebastian, FL 32958

Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Chairman David Barney, Commissioner Michael Rowland (Secretary/Treasurer), Commissioner John Campbell and Commissioner TJ Marshall. Commissioner Lisa Frazier (Vice Chair) was absent (excused). Also, in attendance were: Executive Director James Gray, SID Public Outreach Associate Ed Garland, SID Legal Counsel Shawn Demers, Jeffrey Bergmann (WGI), Ashri Lutha (GrayRobinson), Dr. Gary Zarillo (FIT), Marc DiCiccio (FIT), Quintin Bergman (IRC), Dakota Whelan (IRC), Johnnie Sabin (IRC), James Towner (public -West Palm Beach resident), Katie Crocker (AtkinsRéalís), Bryan Flynn (ESA), Calvin “Tres” Holton (public), and Jon Pine (Vero News).

Under Agenda Item I

Call to Order – Chairman Barney called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Under Agenda Item II

The Commission discussed the minutes of the regular Commission meeting of Feb. 11, 2026. Commissioner Marshall requested the removal of the last sentence in Agenda Item XI. Sunshine law training was done February 8, 2026.

Under Agenda Item III

Additions and Deletions

Under Agenda Item IV

Presentations

2025 Wind, Wave and Weather Presentation, Dr. Gary Zarillo, Florida Tech

Dr. Zarillo gave his annual Wind, Wave and Weather presentation of Sebastian Inlet data collected in 2025. Collected inlet data includes current, current velocity, current length and speed. He also described how the weather station located at the tip of the north jetty records water temperature, water level, air temperature and barometric pressure, wind speed and direction. He shared the updated and publicly accessible Florida Tech website offering real-time data information. This year’s presentation included wave and meteorological statistics spanning from 1996 to 2025. Dr. Zarillo’s entire presentation is in the recorded minutes.

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 a PowerPoint presentation updating the Commission on the 2025/26 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project. ATL, the contractor is currently placing sand on Sector 1. Inlet channel dredging is complete and the dredge is now working in the middle of the sand trap. Under a proposed change order (Item VI B 1), beach construction would occur through April and all non-construction activities, such as demobilization, would be complete by May 30.

2. FDEP Grant 26IR1 – Application For Payment No. 1 – Reimbursement  
Mr. Gray said FDEP sent the District a payment of \$1,286,032.83 for the partial reimbursement of the 2024/2025 North Jetty Revetment Improvements Project – Phase 1.

Under Agenda Item VI  
Consent Agenda

A. Authorized Work for Commission Review

1. Change Order No. 6 - Work Order No. 2425-006-ATL Diversified, Inc. 2025/26 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project – Dredge Pipe Anchoring  
Mr. Gray provided a brief history of the change orders that led to ATL’s request for Change Order No. 6. During the February 11, 2026 District Commission meeting, the Commission approved staff’s request to proceed with Change Order No. 6 in the not-to-exceed amount of \$50,000. This amount allows ATL to recover some of its costs for repairing and anchoring damaged dredge pipe and equipment caused by unexpected beach erosion. This change order increases the overall contract amount by \$48,313.75, raising the contract amount to \$8,502,718.75.

B. Recommended for Approval

1. Change Order No. 7 (Contract Time Extension 2) – Work Order No. 2425-006-ATL, ATL Diversified, Inc. 2025/2026 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project  
Mr. Gray said ATL has requested the Commission to consider a no-cost-increase, Change Order No. 7, to extend its contract deadline from March 30, 2026 to May 30, 2026. ATL has completed approximately 70 percent of the sand placement completed. All beach construction and equipment demobilization must be completed by April 30, 2026, and all non-beach construction activities must be completed by May 30, 2026. Responding to Chairman Barney’s questions, Mr. Gray said ATL is placing between 1,000 and 2,000 cubic yards daily. He said there are about 40,000 cubic yards in the DMMA that will need to be screened prior to beach placement in the future. He said that placement of DMMA sand on the beach will be predicated on FDOT’s bridge construction schedule.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve Change Order No. 7 and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

2. Change Order No. 1 – Work Order No. 2526-007-ATKR, AtkinsRéalis 2025-2026 Sebastian Inlet Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project  
Mr. Gray said additional engineering services will be required due to the time extension granted to ATL for the 2025/2026 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project. Change Order No. 1 to Work Order No. 2526-007-ATKR will

cover the additional construction engineering and observation services needed to complete the project in conformance with the permit and design requirements. The total amount of Change Order No. 1 to Work Order No. 2526-007-ATKR is \$50,625 and will be invoiced on a not-to-exceed fee basis only for actual expended effort. Mr. Gray said the District doesn't expect the fees to be exhausted but the proposed change order will allow work to continue uninterrupted in case costs are exceeded. For consistency, AtkinsRéalis' labor rates will be based on the October 14, 2020 Master Services Agreement (MSA) and not the higher rates under MSA Amendment 1. The total revised Work Order amount is \$195,864. ATK's services are eligible for 50 percent state cost share under the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Beach Management Funding Assistance Program under grant No. 24IR1.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve Change Order No. 1 to Work Order No. 2526-007-ATK to the contract with AtkinsRéalis and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

3. General Legal Representation 2025-2028 GrayRobinson, P.A. – Amended and Restated Engagement Work Order No. 2526-005-GR  
Mr. Gray said the Commission approved a three-year contract with GrayRobinson P.A. in September 2026. Chapter 119.0701 of the Florida Statutes requires each public agency contract for services entered into or amended on or after July 1, 2016 to include specific language relating to public records. GrayRobinson has amended and restated its engagement with the District to include a "Miscellaneous" section for consistency with Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. No other terms of the GrayRobinson contract have been amended.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve Amendment No. 1 to Work Order No. 2526-005-GR and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

4. Work Order No. 2526-010-ESA, Environmental Science Associates 2026 Sebastian Inlet North & South Jetty Assessment Services  
Mr. Gray said the proposed work order will complete the recommended 2026 structural assessments on the north and south jetties and will include evaluations of the full length of each structure. Assessment are recommended to occur every two years. The most recent assessments occurred in October 2021, but due to emergency repairs following Hurricane Nicole and the 2025 North Jetty Revetment Improvements project, assessment were not conducted, Mr. Gray said. He noted that Shoreline Foundation, Inc. provided a one-year warranty on the 2024/25 North Jetty Revetment Improvement Project that expires on June 30, 2026. The timing of the 2026 North Jetty Assessment will be within Shoreline Foundation's warranty period. The total amount of the work order is \$60,990 and will be invoiced on a not-to-exceed, time-and-materials, basis. Mr. Flynn responded to several engineering-related questions from the Commissioners. Commissioner Marshall requested District staff conduct robust outreach efforts prior to the inspection process, which requires the temporary closure of the north jetty.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve Work Order No. 2526-010-ESA to the contract with Environmental Science Associates and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

5. Work Order No. 2526-011-ESA, Environmental Science Associates Sebastian Inlet North Jetty Revetment Improvements Project – Phases 2 and 3 – 100% Design and Bidding Phase Services

Under the proposed work order ESA will provide complete design, engineering and support services needed to complete Phases 2 and 3 of the North Jetty Revetment Improvements Project, Mr. Gray said. The total amount of the work order is \$246,264 and will be invoiced on a not-to-exceed, time-and-materials, basis. Mr. Gray said bidding the project this summer will assist staff to more accurately budget for jetty project construction costs on the FY 2026/27 budget. The total amount of the work order is \$246,264 and will be invoiced on a not-to-exceed, time-and-materials basis. Mr. Flynn responded to questions about planned improvements to the interior crib of the north jetty. Granite armor stone will be placed within each section of the crib to attenuate waves.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve Work Order No. 2526-011-ESA to the contract with Environmental Science Associates and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

6. Work Order No. 2526-012-FIT – Florida Institute of Technology, Inc. Wave, Weather, and Tide Data Collection at Sebastian Inlet, Florida, for 2026-27

Under its Master Services Agreement with the District, FIT provides services that include the collection of wave, water level, water temperature, and meteorological data required to document and understand the natural forces occurring in the vicinity of Sebastian Inlet, Mr. Gray said. Work Order No. 2526-012-FIT allows this work to continue. The total amount of the work order is \$162,100 which includes a \$12,500 allowance in the event sensitive data collection equipment needs maintenance, repairs or replacement. The total work order amount is the same as last year.

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Commission approve Work Order No. 2526-012-FIT to the contract with Florida Institute of Technology and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

7. Sebastian Inlet District Administrative Policy Manual (Draft)

Mr. Gray said Administrative Policy Manuals are common and transparent instruments for local governments, including independent special districts, to formally adopt an internal governance structure and minimize risk. The District currently does not have an Administrative Policy Manual. Staff recommended the Commission review and discuss the draft manual this meeting and adopt a final manual during the April 8, 2026 Board meeting. Commissioner Marshall said he has not thoroughly reviewed the draft document. Chairman Barney said some chapters of the draft manual were straightforward and should not need much review, but he recommended tabling the topic until the April 8, 2026 Commission meeting so that a full board is present (Commissioner Frazier was absent – Excused). Commissioner Rowland made a motion to table Item 7 until the April 8, 2026 Commission meeting.

Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Chairman Barney asked if the public would like to speak on the item, hearing no comment **The motion carried 4-0.**

#### Under Agenda Item VII

##### Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

Mr. Towner, a West Palm Beach resident, predicted the District will not complete the 2025/2026 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project based on the current placement rates. Mr. Towner also commented his on other concerns about the project and contractor (ATL Diversified, Inc.).

#### Under Agenda Item VIII

##### Board Vote on Consent Agenda

Commissioner Rowland made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 through 6. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. **The motion carried 4-0.**

#### Under Agenda Item IX

##### Unfinished Business

A) Commissioner Marshall requested motions under New Business – February 11, 2026  
Commissioner Marshall asked Mr. Demers whether he was retracting a January 27 email he sent recommending Commissioners from contacting one another outside of public meetings. Mr. Demers said he was not retracting the guidance and that its intent was to remind Commissioners to simply err on the side of caution. Mr. Marshall's second item to discuss the creation of a package of itemized invoices from counsel at the end of each fiscal quarter. Mr. Gray noted and discussed the District internal structure for approving and paying invoices that includes review and approval by the Board Secretary/Treasurer and/or the Board Chairman. Commissioner Rowland said he trusts staff and counsel. Further itemization is an unnecessary cost to taxpayers, he said. Commissioner Campbell said the District has a budget for legal representation and that checks and balances are in place. **The motions died for failure to receive support.**

#### Under Agenda Item X

##### New Business

Commissioner Marshall asked whether the Commission was interested in “flip-flopping” monthly Commission meeting locations between the Sebastian Inlet Fishing Museum and the North Indian River County Library, which would allow meetings to be recorded and streamed for the public. He requested staff to research the potential for video streaming meetings. Commissioner Campbell saw potential pitfalls in technology and expense. Responding to a question, Mr. Gray said he has not seen public interest in District meetings during his tenure and noted that the library is very popular and difficult to secure the meeting space. Commissioner Rowland said he prefers the inlet location and noted that meeting minutes are available and all meetings open to the public. Mr. Gray said staff can research the potential for video recording meetings and noted that video is not required by Florida statutes. **The motion died for failure to receive support.**

Under Agenda Item XI

Public Outreach Activities

Mr. Garland gave an update on the District's outreach activities. He gave two presentations to the public and will assist Coastal Connections with a quarterly cleanup event at the state park on March 17, 2026.

Under Agenda Item XII

Park Matter – Ken Torres

Mr. Torres was unable to attend the meeting but he emailed Mr. Gray a park update prior to the meeting. On behalf of Mr. Torres Mr. Gray reported that the new concessionaire has begun operating at the park with priority on the four campground glamping sites, state park marina and bait house.

Under Agenda Item XIII

Legal Counsel Update – Shawn L. Demers, GrayRobinson

Mr. Demers had nothing to report.

Under Agenda Item XIV

Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

Under Item XV

Commissioner Items

Chairman Barney — Reviewing and revising the draft Commissioner Orientation Guide.

Vice Chair Frazier— Absent (Excused)

Secretary/Treasurer Rowland — Nothing to add.

Commissioner Campbell — Boaters are pleased with dredging operations.

Commissioner Marshall — Gave a presentation proposing the creation of a SharePoint site for Commissioners to use as a repository for District documents. Commissioner Marshall said he would maintain the Commission resources on SharePoint. Staff will research the feasibility and associated costs for the District to use SharePoint as suggested.

Under Item XVI

Adjournment — Chairman Barney adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

  
Secretary/Treasurer

  
Date