

Sebastian Inlet District
Regular Commission Meeting
Wednesday, 4 PM, August 14, 2024
Sebastian Inlet District Office
114 Sixth Avenue
Indialantic, FL 32903

Minutes

Present at the meeting were: Chairman Jenny Lawton Seal, Commissioner Beth Mitchell (Vice Chair), Commissioner Michael Rowland (Secretary/Treasurer), Commissioner Lisa Frazier and Commissioner David Barney. Also, in attendance were: Executive Director James Gray, SID Contracts and Accounting Manager David Kershaw, SID Public Outreach Associate Ed Garland, SID Legal Counsel Shawn Demers, Alex Kinder (SISP), Marie Yarbrough (AtkinsRéalís), and John Campbell (SID Commissioner-elect).

Under Agenda Item I

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

Under Agenda Item II

Approval of the Minutes of the regular Commission meeting of May 8, 2024. Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Barney seconded the motion. **The motion carried 5-0.**

Under Agenda Item III

Additions and deletions

1. Commissioner Frazier made a motion to add the item, FDEP Grant Agreement No. 24IR1 – Amendment 1 Sebastian Inlet IMP Implementation, to the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion. **The motion carried 5-0.**

Under Agenda Item IV

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Under Agenda Item V

Information and Discussion Agenda

A. Executive Director's Reports

1. Update on the 2024/2025 Sebastian Inlet North Jetty Revetment Improvements Project – Phase 1

Mr. Gray said Phase 1 of North Jetty Revetment Improvements Project bids are under review. He shared a chart depicting six bids ranging from \$1.84 million to \$4.49 million, with four bids clustering around the \$3.5 million range. Staff will bring a recommendation to the board during the September 4, 2024, meeting. Commissioner Barney asked whether all the bidders are vetted, to which Mr. Gray confirmed. Commissioner Mitchell asked whether the lowest bidder, Shoreline Foundation, Inc., could withdraw its bid. Mr. Gray confirmed that bidders could withdraw their bids and would confer with Mr. Demers if that were to occur. Commissioner Frazier asked whether the bids represent construction only. Mr. Gray answered in the affirmative, noting that construction-based services, such as permitting, design and project inspection are included in the \$4.7 million project cost estimate.

2. Update on the 2024/2025 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project
Mr. Gray provided an update on the upcoming 2024/2025 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project, which will include dredging the sand trap and the inlet channel, and bypassing the sand to Sector 1 and portions of Sector 2. Non-compatible material will be pumped to the Dredged Material Management Area (DMMA) for future use. Responding to Commissioners' questions, Mr. Gray explained how beach quality sand is separated from lesser quality materials and the process of pumping materials from the inlet to placement on the beach. Staff will put the project out for bid no later than August 21, 2024, and expects the project to be awarded by November. Estimated sand placement is approximately 173,000 cubic yards from the dredging and an additional 80,000 cubic yards placed via truck hauling.
3. Review of the District 2023/2024 Accomplishments and 2024/2025 Goals and Objectives
Mr. Gray shared District accomplishments during the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and goals and objectives for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. His list included implementation of the Inlet Management Plan, inlet maintenance activities, public outreach activities and grant-related activities. The complete list of accomplishments, goals and objectives is available in the recorded meeting minutes. Commissioner Mitchell recommended that staff add the 2023 Sebastian Inlet Management Plan update to the District accomplishments.
4. Discussion of Consent Agenda
Mr. Gray reviewed the Consent Agenda items for the Commission's approval. (Details are found under Item XI).

Under Agenda Item VI

Public Outreach Activities

Mr. Garland provided an overview of recent and upcoming public outreach activities and his participation in training courses focused on website ADA compliance.

Under Agenda Item VII

FY 2024/2025 Second Budget Discussion

Mr. Gray said the 2024/25 Tentative Millage and Budget Hearing is scheduled for September 4, 2024, followed by the Final Millage and Budget Hearing on September 18, 2024. Mr. Gray noted that full Commission participation may be required to vote on the Final Millage and Budget Hearing based on TRIM statutory requirements. Mr. Kershaw provided additional details, explaining that certain tax rates requires a unanimous vote. Mr. Gray presented a draft budget summary with three millage rates: the roll-back rate of 0.1164 mills, 0.2057 mills and 0.1628 mills. Under the proposed roll-back rate, the District could fund the North Jetty Revetment Improvement Project and the Sector 1 Sand Trap Dredging and Beach Placement Project, while the other two millage rate options would also allow for the completion of sand placement in Sector 2. Following discussion by Commissioners about the various proposed millage rates, Commissioner Frazier said she would support the rate of 0.1628 mills, using money from the District's reserves to help fund the upcoming projects. Commissioner Mitchell said she has the same preference as Commissioner Frazier. Mr. Gray noted that the District would be using \$8 million of the \$13 million of its reserves under the 0.1628 mills, which is a significant withdrawal from the District's funds. Commissioner Frazier said the District should consider a policy that would require the agency to retain a minimum amount of funds in its savings for operational purposes. Mr. Gray agreed and will prepare a policy for Board consideration.

Under Agenda Item VIII

Park Matters — Alex Kinder

Mr. Kinder said the state park will undergo road improvements in 2025. State park officials are also collaborating with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on future safety improvements at the park. The state park has also hired additional park rangers to fill position vacancies.

Under Agenda Item IX

Legal Counsel Update — Shawn Demers (Gray Robinson)

Mr. Demers said he has been working with Mr. Gray to schedule a four-hour online ethics course that Commissioners are required to complete before the end of the calendar year.

Under Agenda Item X

Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

Under Agenda Item XI

Consent Agenda

A. Authorized Work for Commission Review

1. No items.

B. Recommended for Approval

1. Work Order No. 2425-001-M&E, Morgan & Eklund, Inc., 2024 September/October Hydrographic Survey

In September 2023, the Commission approved a continuing services contract with Morgan & Eklund, Inc., for hydrographic surveying services. The semi-annual surveys are conducted approximately 40,000 feet north and 30,000 feet south of the inlet, as well as the inshore portions of the inlet. The additional monitoring on the north side, required by FDEP, will provide additional data to help improve the District's management of the inlet system. The work order provides the 2024 September/October hydrographic survey to support the District's monitoring program. The total amount of the work is \$108,232.

2. FDEP Grant Agreement No. 24IR1 – Amendment 1 Sebastian Inlet IMP Implementation
Mr. Gray said the District received notice from FDEP that its grant agreement with the District, FDEP Grant Agreement No. 24IR1, needs to be amended to reduce internal FDEP accounting conflicts with funding reimbursement to the District. The proposed amendment revises the grant task start date from September 28, 2023, to September 28, 2022, revises terms and conditions and revises the grant work plan. Mr. Gray said the amendment does not adversely affect the FDEP's reimbursement of \$625,000 to the District for the completed 2022/23 Upland Sand Truck Haul and Beach Placement Project.

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

Under Item XII

Commissioner Items

Secretary/Treasurer Rowland – No items.

Vice Chair Mitchell – No items.

Commissioner Frazier – No items.

Commissioner Barney – No items.

Chairman Lawton Seal – No items.

Under Item XIII

Unfinished Business
No Unfinished business.

Under Item XIV
New Business
No new business.

Under Item XV
Adjournment — Chairman Lawton Seal adjourned the meeting at 5:19 p.m.

Secretary/Treasurer

Date

8/20/24