

BEACH AND SHORE PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Indian River County (IRC) Beach and Shore Preservation Advisory Committee (Beach) met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, January 19, 2009, in the County Administration Building, Building B, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida. You may hear an audio of the meeting; review the agenda and the minutes on the IRC website - www.ircgov.com/Boards/BSPC/2009. Please note listed at the end of each agenda item refers to time on the recorded minutes.

Present were Chairman Tom White, City of Vero Beach Appointee; Bill Glynn, David Barney, Cheryl Gerstner, Bob Anderson and Stephen Krasco, Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Appointees; Councilmember Paul Johnson, Town of Orchid Appointee; Councilmember Dale Simchick, City of Sebastian Appointee, and Councilmember William Ahrens, Town of Indian River Shores Appointee.

Absent were Robert Lindsey, BCC Appointee and Joel Tyson, City of Fellsmere Appointee (both excused).

Also present were IRC staff: Commissioner Liaison Peter O'Bryan; Jim Davis, Public Works Director; Dr. Jonathan Gorham, Coastal Resource Manager; James Gray, Coastal Engineer; and Terri Collins-Lister, Commissioner Assistant, District 4. Others present were Robert Tench, Alternate, Town of Orchid Appointee; Stephen Boehning, Coastal Waterways; Michael Walther, Coastal Technology Corporation; Sheryl Koenes, Disney's Vero Beach Resort; Chas R. Cox, Silas Axtell, Barbara and Carl DeSantis, Eddie Huggins, Steve Smith, Cristin Ryan, Lee Cockey, Joan Bryant, Dr. Peter Fallon, Lee Cockey, John Whitton, Barbara Lange, Janyne Kenworthy, Fred Mensing, Bill Johnson, Christian Hendricks, Al Stock, Louise and Bill Schmitt, Interested Citizens.

Call to Order (00:00:05)

Chairman White called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Minutes of December 15, 2008 (00:01:34)

Mr. Anderson made an addition to the minutes of December 15, 2008 to include the following quote by Mr. Jason Brown, IRC Budget Director, "The County is committed to moving forward with Sector 3, assuming we get the state's grant dollars, we should be able to make that happen."

ON MOTION BY Councilmember Johnson, SECONDED BY Councilmember Ahrens, the members voted unanimously (9-0) to approve the minutes of December 15, 2008 as amended

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman (00:03:00)

ON MOTION BY Mr. Anderson, SECONDED BY Councilmember Simchick, the members voted (7-2) to elect Mr. Glynn as Chairman of the Beach and Shore Preservation Advisory Committee for 2009. Mr. Barney and Mr. Krasco opposed.

ON MOTION BY Mr. Glynn, SECONDED BY Mr. Barney, the members voted unanimously (9-0) to elect Councilmember Simchick as Vice Chairman of the Beach and Shore Preservation Advisory Committee for 2009.

ON MOTION BY Councilmember Ahrens, SECONDED BY Councilmember Johnson to commend Councilmember White for his leadership on the Beach and Shore Preservation Advisory Committee for the year 2007 and 2008.

Sector 3 Beach Restoration Update – Dr. Jonathan Gorham, IRC Coastal Resources (00:04:19)

Dr. Jonathan Gorham, IRC Coastal Resources, gave a brief summary of the Sector 3 Beach Restoration Project for those in the audience. He pointed out Sector 3 Beach Restoration Project was one of the County's largest beach restoration projects to date.

Dr. Gorham indicated staff had prepared and submitted a copy of the draft environmental assessment required for major federal projects to both the state and federal agencies. He added for the state process, the County has gone through a series of requests for additional information (RAI) and would submit the latest response on January 19, 2009 to clarify as well as come to a final project design which would shorten the project about 3,000 feet. He pointed out the County was proposing to reduce the volumes of sand being placed south of the new Golden Sands Park in response to the concerns from the Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge regarding larger volume sand placements in the refuge. He added the County had prepared a plant survey of the seven mile Sector 3 project that identifies all native salt tolerant vegetation on dunes and berms or

occurrences of plants being threatened or endangered as defined by the state's criteria.

Dr. Gorham stated the County was at the point of authorizing the engineer of the Sector 3 project, Coastal Tech, to start work on construction plans and bid documents. He felt the project would have permit issuance by June 2009 and then would go out to bid with the start of construction by December 2009.

Mr. James Gray, IRC Coastal Engineer, updated the committee on the Baytree and Marbrisa Dune Restoration Project. He emphasized that the dune restoration projects were 50% privately funded and 50% state funded. He indicated construction on the dune restoration project begun on January 14, 2009 and currently 12,000 of the 19,000 tons of the sand had been hauled and placed by Fischer and Sons from the 99th Street sand pit in Vero Beach.

Final Beach Preservation Plan Presentation – Coastal Tech (00:29:06)

Mr. Michael Walther, President of Coastal Tech, presented the committee with the Final Beach Preservation Plan (BPP), a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

A discussion ensued on the funding for Sector 3 and other dedicated funding sources for beach projects. Chairman Glynn asked if Mr. Brown could attend the February 16, 2009 Beach Committee to update the committee on the funding for the Sector 3 Beach Restoration Project and further discuss the two ongoing funding programs under consideration for future beach maintenance.

ON MOTION BY Councilmember White, SECONDED BY Mr. Anderson, the members voted unanimously (9-0) to recommend that the Board of County Commissioners adopt the Final Beach Preservation Plan.

In response to a question raised at the December 15, 2008 Beach Meeting on whether the City of Vero Beach had a clause in their charter that would prohibit them from participating in the program; Councilmember White read into the record, Section 2.09 of the City of Vero Beach Charter, Referendum Required, "Unless specifically authorized to do so by one or more local binding referendum elections, the City of Vero Beach shall not on beaches owned by or within the municipal limits of the City of Vero Beach, directly or indirectly, expend tax dollars from whatever source (local, state or federal) on beach restoration that involves the direct or indirect placement of sand on the beach except in the amount necessary to protect life or property during storms or other natural disaster" (Resolution No. 89-19, March 15, 1989).

Commissioner Liaison O'Bryan introduced Mr. Fred Mensing, and told the committee he had presented to the BCC at the their January 13, 2009 Meeting, alternative options for putting sand on the beaches as compared to the dredging and the economic benefits to the County.

Mr. Mensing went over his proposal and discussed several options for placing sand on the beach, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

A lengthy discussion ensued concerning upland sand sources. Chairman Glynn asked if staff would bring a report containing the criteria for the selection of upland sand sources to the February Beach meeting. Councilmember Simchick wondered if staff would include in the report the areas within the BPP that would be applicable or not for upland access and the expense of the blending process would be compared to the dredging.

Status of County Beach Parks – Mr. Jim Davis, IRC Public Works Director
(01:28:11)

Mr. Jim Davis, IRC Public Works Director, told the committee the restroom buildings were 70% complete and the boardwalks 50% to 60% completed at Wabasso Beach Park. He stated construction was on schedule and felt the Wabasso Beach Park should re-open at the end of March 2009. He indicated the County had a final inspection on January 16, 2009 at the new Golden Sands Beach Park and would be opened once all of the paperwork had been completed and the old Golden Sand Park closed.

Chairman Glynn asked Mr. Davis when the old cattle dipping site the County had currently de-contaminated would be available for additional parking at Wabasso Beach Park. Mr. Davis stated he was not aware of any plans or funds dedicated for a parking area.

Committee Members Matters (01:31:10)

There were none.

Chairman Matters (01:31:21)

There were none.

Other Matters (01:31:31)

Dr. Peter Fallon commended the Beach Committee for moving forward with the consideration of a Municipal Service Taxing Unit for the exclusive use of maintenance and renourishment of Indian River County Beaches.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.