

## **BEACH & SHORE PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The Indian River County (IRC) Beach and Shore Preservation Advisory Committee (Beach) met at 3:00 p.m. on **Monday, June 19, 2017**, in the County Administration Building, Building B, 1800 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Vero Beach, Florida. You may hear an audio of the meeting; review the agenda and the minutes on the IRC website: [www.irccgov.com/Boards/BSPC/2017](http://www.irccgov.com/Boards/BSPC/2017).

### **Members Present were:**

**Mike Ochsner**, Chairman, Town of Indian River Shores Appointee Councilman  
**Christian Hendricks**, BCC Appointee  
**Francisco San Miguel**, BCC Appointees  
**Joel Tyson**, City of Fellsmere Appointee  
**Linda Kinchen**, City of Sebastian Appointee  
**Richard Winger**, City of Vero Beach Appointee  
**Commissioner Susan Adams**, Board of County Commissioners, non-voting member

### **Members Absent:**

**Bob Anderson**, BCC Appointee  
**David Barney**, BCC Appointee  
**William "Tuck" Ferrell**, Vice-Chairman, Board of County Commission Appointee  
**Howard Thrailkill**, Town of Orchid Appointee  
**Mark Tripson**, Vice-Chairman, BCC Appointee

### **IRC staff present were:**

**James Gray**, Coastal Engineer  
**Lisa Hill**, Commissioner Assistant, Transcribing Secretary

### **Others Present:**

**Noah Powers**, Town of Orchid, City Manager

### **Others Absent:**

**Marty Smithson**, Sebastian Inlet Representative

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Ochsner called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. Mr. Ochsner noted that there were only five members present, which did not reach a quorum. A quorum was later reached at around 3:12 p.m. when another member arrived.

### **Approval of Minutes from April 17, 2017**

**ON MOTION BY Mr. Tyson, SECONDED BY Mr. Hendricks, the members voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the minutes of April 17, 2017 as presented.**

### **Coastal Engineering Division Updates - James Gray, IRC Coastal Engineer**

#### **A. Wrap-up from 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lionfish Festival – Kendra Cope**

Ms. Cope noted the success of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lionfish Festival. There were 550 people in attendance with four tournament teams that removed a total of 278

Lionfish from the local waters. An addition of 1,283 Lionfish were used for the cook-off, making a total of 1,571 Lionfish removed in total. Educational booths demonstrated fileting techniques as well as research on the impact of the Lionfish on the native species and environment.

**B. Sea Turtle Program as of June 15, 2017 – Kendra Cope**

Ms. Cope advised that there were the following nests County-wide as of June 15, 2017:

Loggerhead – 2,051  
Green – 55  
Leatherback – 29

She added that it is projected that it will be a high nesting year for green turtles. One Leatherback and one Loggerhead nest have already hatched.

Ms. Cope stated that there will be sea turtle nest digs in July and August at Vero's Sexton Plaza Beach which will be used to evaluate the nests after the turtles eggs have hatched.

The first lighting survey was completed by the County's consultant, EAI, with a second one scheduled for later in the summer. As a reminder, Ms. Cope advised that there should be no lights visible from the beach as of 9 p.m. and that only turtle friendly lights (red, amber or orange LED) with shields should be used along the beach.

The Traveling Turtle Trunk Education Program has received positive reviews from teachers using the program in the elementary schools. Three more schools have been added for the upcoming school year and staff have purchased a second trunk to allow more time for each classroom to use the exhibit. Grant funds are being requested for a second traveling trunk program for the middle school students.

A Turtle Walk has been scheduled for June 23 to be led by the Archie Carr Refuge Foundation.

**C. FEMA Hurricane Matthew Update – James Gray**

Mr. Gray updated the Committee on the progress of completing the FEMA reports, which have been filed. Mr. Gray explained that there are two FEMA categories that Indian River County is requesting assistance on: Category "B" – Temporary Projects and Category "G" – Permanent Projects. The Category "B" projects would be for dune repair at several County beach parks. The Category "G" projects would cover the boardwalk repairs as well as the replacement of sand at the engineered beaches.

The Committee members discussed the various eligibility requirements for FEMA funds as well as other Federal grants and programs.

**D. Statewide Beach Management Funding Update – James Gray**

Mr. Gray noted that the FY 17/18 Legislature appropriation for beaches did not include any funding for Indian River County's Sector 5 Beach Restoration Project as the project did not rank high enough for FDEP funding. He added that the project funding will be requested in the upcoming FY 18/19 requests which are due to FDEP by August 1, 2017.

**E. Wabasso Fishing Pier Demolition Project Update – James Gray**

Mr. Gray advised that the demolition of the Wabasso Fishing Pier is moving forward with the required permitting requests to the Florida Department of Emergency Management. It is anticipated that the actual demolition will not occur until summer 2018.

**F. Artificial Reef Update – James Gray**

Mr. Gray noted that the artificial reef is proceeding with a +/- 40 acre site near Golden Sands Beach with five reefs to be placed in August, 2017. He stated that the Wabasso Pier concrete debris will be repurposed as part of the reef restoration once the demolition has been completed.

**G. Status of County Beaches – James Gray**

All County beaches and parks are open and operating on schedule.

**Update from the Sebastian Inlet District Commission (the District)**

Mr. Smithson was not in attendance to provide an update on the Sebastian Inlet.

**Committee Members Matters**

There were no Committee Member matters.

**Commissioner's Matters**

Commissioner Adams suggested that the Beach and Shores Preservation Advisory Committee consider changing from monthly meetings to bi-monthly meetings at this time as there is a lull in any actionable items. The Committee expressed agreement and decided that it would cancel the July 2017 meeting, but would leave the option of calling a meeting if there becomes a need.

**ON MOTION BY Mr. Tyson, SECONDED BY Ms. Kinchen, the members voted unanimously (6-0) to move toward a bi-monthly schedule for the summer months, May through September, starting with the cancellation of the July, 2017, meeting.**

**Chairman's Matters**

There were no Chairman matters.

**Public Discussion Items**

There were no Public Discussion matters.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chairman Ochsner adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:55 p.m.

The next meeting of the Beach and Shore Preservation Advisory Committee is scheduled for **August 21, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.**, in Building B, Conference Room B1-501.