

**MINUTES OF THE  
FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT**

**Board of Commissioners Meeting**

**9:00 a.m., Friday, October 14, 2016**

**Marriott Hotel Pompano Beach**

**1200 North Ocean Boulevard**

**Pompano Beach, Broward County, Florida 33062-4061**

**ITEM 1. Call to Order.**

Chair Cuozzo called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEM 2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

Commissioner Chappell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**ITEM 3. Roll Call.**

Secretary Donaldson called the roll and Chair Cuozzo, and Commissioners Blow, Chappell, Crowley, Sansom, and Williams were present. Vice-Chair Netts and Commissioner O'Steen attended by telephone. Treasurer McCabe, Commissioner Dritenbas and Commissioner Isiminger were absent. Secretary Donaldson stated that a quorum was present.

**ITEM 4. Consent Agenda.**

Chair Cuozzo asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Crosley stated that the recommendation for Item B. should read; Approval of the "Palm Beach County" Small Scale Derelict Vessel Removal Application in the amount of \$30,000.00.

Commissioner Blow made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sansom. Chair Cuozzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM 5. Additions or Deletions.**

Chair Cuozzo asked if there were any additions or deletions to the meeting agenda.

Mr. Crosley stated that he would like to add to the agenda: Item 16A, Storm Damage Discussion; and Item 16B, Request to Use District Site DMMA BV-11 for a Storm Staging Area, Brevard County.

Commissioner Sansom made a motion to approve the final agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Secretary Donaldson. Chair Cuozzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM 6. Public Comments.**

Chair Cuozzo asked if there were any public comments on issues that are not on today's agenda. There were none.

**ITEM 7. Board Meeting Minutes.**

Chair Cuozzo asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the September 8, 2016 First Budget and Tax Hearing Meeting Minutes, September 9, 2016 Finance and Budget Committee Minutes and the Board Meeting Minutes and the September 28, 2016 Final Budget and Tax Hearing Meeting Minutes. There were none.

Mr. Crosley stated that Commissioner O'Steen filled out and signed Form 8B, Memorandum of Voting Conflict for County, Municipal, and Other Local Public Officers, for: Item 16, Engineering Services Construction Observation for Pipeline Easement Modifications at Dredged Material Management Area SJ-14, St. Johns County, Florida; and, Item 20A, License Agreement to Provide Temporary Truck Access Through Dredged Material Management Area SJ-14, St. Johns County, Florida. The completed Form 8B will be attached to and become part of the official September 9, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes.

Secretary Donaldson made a motion to approve the September 8, September 9, and September 28, 2016 Meeting Minutes, as amended to include attaching Form 8B Memorandum of Voting Conflict for County, Municipal, and Other Local Public Officers to the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blow. Chair Cuozzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM 8. Staff Report on Broward County Area Projects.**

Mr. Crosley stated that Phase I of the Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) for the Intracoastal Waterway in Broward County was completed in 2003. Phase II of the DMMP was completed in 2004.

Mr. Crosley stated that the 50-year dredging projection for the 25 miles of channel in Broward County is 33,644 cubic yards and the storage projection is 72,334 cubic yards. This is the lowest dredging projection of any of the District's twelve (12) counties. The majority of this dredging (81%) is associated with the Hillsboro Inlet area.

Mr. Crosley stated that three upland Dredged Material Management Areas (DMMA) and one beach placement area will manage dredged materials from the waterway. A western long-term storage site was suggested in the original DMMP, but this has not been realized because of costs and logistics. Land acquisition possibilities, especially for waterway access, continue to be a challenge in this county. However, the District remains open to future acquisition opportunities through exchange or at a reasonable cost.

Mr. Crosley stated that the existing District-owned DMMA's are currently leased to the City of Pompano Beach, MSA 726 (aka: Exchange Club Park); and MSA 727 (aka: Alsdorf Park 14<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Ramp); and Broward County, MSA 783 for parks, a boat ramp and port facilities, respectively. Through a series of public meetings, the District notified and coordinated with the citizens and officials of the City of Pompano Beach and City of Lighthouse Point regarding the clearing of invasive plants from MSA 726, the planting of a native plant buffer along the site perimeter, and the preparation of the site to support the forthcoming dredging of Broward Reach I and future dredging or access needs.

Mr. Crosley stated that the District is currently deepening the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW) from the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Causeway north past the Las Olas Bridge. The project is projected to be completed by December 2016 (more than six (6) months early). Funding for this \$19 million project was accumulated in the District's budget over three (3) fiscal years and distributed over two (2) fiscal years. This project will create navigation and docking opportunities for deep draft and larger vessels, and result in an increase in marine-related business. This economic benefit has been successfully demonstrated when the District completed the deepening of the Dania Cut-Off Canal between the Port and US Route 1. The completion of that project, with a project depth of -15' MLW, lead to the stimulus of additional marine-related business on the waterway. The Broward County IWW Deepening project is expected to result is similar marine-related benefits. Both projects are cooperative efforts with the Marine Industries Association of South Florida,

Broward County (including Port Everglades), and the cities of Fort Lauderdale and Dania Beach.

Mr. Crosley stated that additionally, maintenance dredging of Broward Reach I has currently been scheduled for 2017 with beach-quality dredged material being placed on the beach south of the Hillsboro Inlet. Any non-compatible material would be temporarily placed on MSA 726 for removal. This project may be completed by a USACE Hopper Dredge.

Mr. Crosley stated that the Broward County Waterways Economic Study was completed in early 2008 and updated in 2011. The study documented 1,767 marine-related businesses in the county employing approximately 21,455 people, with salaries of approximately \$1 billion and a total economic impact of \$4.5 billion. Property values were determined to be increased by \$6-7.2 billion by the presence of the IWW channel.

Mr. Crosley stated since 1986, the District has provided \$26.1 million in Waterways Assistance Program funding to 121 projects in the county having a total constructed value of \$62.8 million. The county, ten cities, and the Hillsboro Inlet District have participated in the program.

Mr. Crosley stated that notable projects funded include: The Fort Lauderdale Riverwalk, construction or rehabilitation of most of the area's saltwater boat ramps, maintenance dredging of the Dania Cut-Off Canal and the New River System, construction and improvements to the Dania Beach, Hollywood, Birch/Las Olas, Hillsboro Inlet and Cooley's Landing marinas, West Lake Park projects, and improvements to the Hillsboro Inlet channel.

Mr. Crosley stated that the District's Cooperative Assistance Program has provided funding assistance for the following projects with elements in Broward County: Florida Marine Patrol Officer Funding; Clean Marina Program, Clean Vessel Act, Manatee Acoustic Warning System, Hillsboro Canal Bank Stabilization, and Phase I of the Hugh Taylor Birch State Park Boat Dock and Education Center project. The District's funding assistance for the Broward County portion of these 19 individual projects was approximately \$2.9 million.

Mr. Crosley stated that the District's Interlocal Agreement Program has developed the following projects with elements in Broward County: Dania Canal Deepening, New

River Deepening, Clean Marina Program; Clean Vessel Act, the installation and maintenance of Broward County Boating Safety Signage, the Demonstration of a Manatee Acoustic Warning System, and Phase I of basin dredging for the Bahia Mar and Las Olas Marinas.

Mr. Crosley stated that the District has partnered with the Marine Industries Association of South Florida for over 23 years on their waterway cleanup. The District provides up to \$10,000 per year for this program.

Mr. Crosley stated that the District has funded six (6) Small-Scale Derelict Vessel removal projects with the City of Fort Lauderdale through this program. He asked for questions, there were none.

Mr. Crosley introduced Ms. Lori Brownell, Broward Deepening Project Manager, with Taylor Engineering to provide a Broward Deepening project update. The primary project components include dredging, development of the DMMA access road, permit modifications for utility crossings, and the project schedule.

Ms. Brownell stated that the project contractor is Cashman Dredging and Marine Contracting. This project is utilizing the Port Everglades Dredged Material Management (DMMA) site. The 720-day Notice to Proceed (NTP) was authorized on January 21, 2016, immediately following the pre-construction meeting. The NTP project completion is January 21, 2018. Cashman has done a great job dredging and handling the dredged material. The project is ahead of schedule and dredging should be completed by the end of November. Per the agreement with Port Everglades, the DMMA is to be offloaded within 90-days after dredging has been completed.

Ms. Brownell stated that the project contract price is \$16.9 million with an alternate bid of \$200,000.00 to dredge the area at Las Olas Boulevard. There have been five (5) project change orders increasing the contractor cost to \$17 million. This project is to dredge the -10-foot+2 project channel depth to a -15-foot +2 project channel depth. Approximately 183,000 cubic yards of material will be removed. The project area is from the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge to Las Olas Boulevard. The contractor is currently dredging just south of where the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show will take place. The Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF) has been very helpful in explaining and educating the boating public

about the project and now, larger boats know they can come by water to the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show.

Ms. Brownell stated that every morning Cashman Dredging, Inc. provides a marine traffic “Daily Position Report”. Anyone can join and receive this “Daily Position Report” by providing your e-mail to Cashman Dredging, Inc.

Ms. Brownell stated that, to date, there have been no complaints from Port Everglades about the District’s use of the DMMA. Once the project is completed and the DMMA has been off-loaded, the District will receive a return of the DMMA use deposit.

Ms. Brownell stated that the project access road is owned by Port Everglades, Broward County and Florida Power and Light Company. It is limited to one-way traffic and no hauling from 6 to 8 a.m. and from 4 to 6 p.m. on N.E. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue. A minor issue with the use of N.E. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue arose and the MIA SF was been helpful in resolving the minor problem.

Ms. Brownell stated that Florida Power and Light (FP&L) was concerned about project dust causing a problem with the electric lines, but to date that has not been an issue. four (4) utility crossing were identified and each crossing contractor conducted their own utility crossing survey. The utility crossing at the Swimming Hall of Fame area is currently being relocated. There are three (3) utility crossings at the Las Olas Boulevard area, with one (1) of the crossings in the process of being relocated. The City of Fort Lauderdale water line and the AT&T crossing have become a problem. AT&T is working to obtain the permits to relocate that line. It is hopeful that AT&T will have those permits by the end of October of 2016. Once the permits are obtained it will take six (6) to eight (8) weeks to relocate the line. The City of Fort Lauderdale water line will be completed by mid-December and then tested for water quality before approved for use. If those utility lines are not relocated and completed by the time the dredging contractor is working in that section of the waterway, that section will not be dredged. There would be 3,100 cubic yards of material left to be dredged from that area and that would be done later, probably by a USACE hopper dredge.

Commissioner Sansom noted that if that section of the waterway is not dredged it may not have a huge impact on the finished product.

Ms. Brownell stated that the District has received all required permits, change orders permit modifications, and Department of Transportation (DOT) general use permits. It is expected that this project will be completed by the end of December of 2016.

Mr. Crosley thanked Cashman Dredging, Inc, Taylor Engineering, Inc., Port Everglades, the Marine Industries Association of South Florida, the Cities of Fort Lauderdale and Dania Beach, and Broward County for their help with this project.

Mr. Steven Tobin with Cashman Dredging, Inc stated that the District and Taylor Engineering, Inc. have been fabulous clients to work with.

**ITEM 9.**      **Comments from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.**

Ms. Shelley Trulock, the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW) Project Manager with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), will not be making a presentation today.

**ITEM 10.**      **Presentation – Professional Federal Legislative Services.**

Mr. Jim Davenport, with Alcalde & Fay, stated that the Federal FY 2016 budget provided \$3.3 million for FIND IWW projects. He stated that is the most funding the District has received since the earmark framework was eliminated in 2011. In addition, the President’s FY 2017 Budget Work Plan has included \$850,000.00 for the Intracoastal Waterway (IWW).

Mr. Davenport stated that he is working to obtain waterway funding in the Federal 2017 Work Plan, which is currently being formulated and will be released in early February 2017. Alcalde & Fay, the Jacksonville USACE, and FIND are working to obtain funding, approximately \$8 million, to dredge the Broward Reach I, Sawpit, and Crossroads projects. For the past decade, the Federal Work Plan amount has either been \$0 or \$250,000.00.

Mr. Davenport stated that this is the first year, that he can remember, that the House of Representatives has failed to pass an Energy & Water appropriations bill. The bill was not passed because it included several controversial provisions. This bill will be included into an Omnibus spending bill in the future. This spending bill will include a line item for funding the IWW and the waterways, \$25 million for navigation and \$45 million for Inland Waterways. Congress returns November 14, 2016.

Mr. Davenport stated that the “no mitigation for maintenance dredging” wording was presented in the Magnuson Stevens bill but was not addressed in this Congress and the bill at present is dead. The House Water Resources Minority Staff would not allow the

wording to be included, suggesting it was controversial. Representative Frankel decided not to go forward with the amendment with the assumption that the Committee Chairman or Ranking Member of the Subcommittee would object to its consideration and likely it's approval.

Mr. Davenport stated that at the beginning of this calendar year, Alcalde & Fay will try to put language in the Water Resources Development (WRDA). A new "no mitigation for maintenance dredging" language draft has been developed and he has discussed the new language with the USACE. He also met with the Minority Staff Chairman Shuster and discussed the issue, FIND and the new language. Chairman Shuster now understands the issue. Also, the National Wildlife Federation has objected to the language. He noted that the National Wildlife Federation does not support dredging projects.

Mr. Davenport stated that the USACE has sent the "no mitigation for maintenance dredging" language draft back to him with some changes referencing the Magnuson Stevens Act. The USACE also sent the revised "no mitigation for maintenance dredging" language draft to the Minority Staff. The Minority Staff recessed and when they came back from recess, there was an urgency to get WRDA done. The Minority Staff contacted Representative Frankel's office and said they wanted to keep the WRDA bill limited and the "no mitigation for maintenance dredging" language could be controversial. Mr. Davenport stated that this is aggravating because he felt that going to the USACE for a language review would be helpful. He contacted Representative Frankel's office and was advised that she will offer this language as an amendment with a Republican co-sponsor. There was not enough time to obtain Republican co-sponsor. Efforts will continue at the next legislative session.

Commissioner Blow suggested contacting the various Marine Industries Associations and Boat US to obtain voices in favor of the "no mitigation for maintenance dredging" language to counteract the National Wildlife Federation's opinion. Mr. Davenport stated that he agrees and will coordinate the proper time to contact other industries to weigh in on this topic.

Commissioner Sansom suggested letting the parties involved in this discussion know that the District is not trying to change their ideas about dredging. That FIND only wants them to know that this is not new dredging, it is maintenance dredging of areas that



were previously dredged, often many years ago, to allow commerce operate on the IWW. Mr. Crosley agreed that is a good approach.

Commissioner Crowley questioned if it would be helpful to send a letter listing the work the District completes, including the various types of grant projects that the District has been involved in that have produced significant environmental benefits such as living shorelines.

Commissioner Sansom stated that the information should be kept focused, limited, and specific to only what the District is asking for help with, maintenance dredging of the IWW for marine commerce and the limited amount of dredging it takes to maintain the IWW for that commerce. The District should not take on a dredging of the waterways battle.

Mr. Davenport stated that there is an item of interest in the Senate WRDA bill called the “Non-Federal Interest Dredging Authority”. He stated that the way he reads the bill is that groups like FIND, that partner with the USACE and use their own money for dredging projects, could complete the dredging project and then ask the Federal government for reimbursement. This should be looked at once the bill is completed and passed.

Commissioner Blow stated that he appreciates Mr. Davenport’s work on behalf of the District.

Commissioner Crowley stated that Mr. Davenport’s strategies have greatly assisted the District in securing additional Federal funding.

Mr. Davenport stated that he looks forward to the District’s Washington visit in early March of 2017.

**ITEM 11. Fiscal Year 2017 Work Plan and Fiscal Year 2018 Federal Funding Request.**

Mr. Crosley stated that staff has discussed the FY 2017 Work Plan with the District’s federal legislative representative and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Attached is the proposed FY 2018 Federal funding request package that will be distributed during the District’s Washington D.C. visit. Mr. Davenport noted that the Work Plan projects can change as long as the request stays in line with the USACE’s requests.

Mr. Crosley noted that the most significant project is the \$14 million maintenance dredging in the vicinity of the Ponce de Leon Inlet which includes offloading Rattlesnake Island. The next project is the Brevard County Reach II maintenance dredging project and

then the Broward County Reach I maintenance dredging project. It is essential that federal funding assistance is received for these projects.

Commissioner Crowley asked about the Baker's Haulover dredging. Mr. Crosley stated that project is a Regional Sediment Management Project with the USACE and it has been listed on the USACE Status Report. This is a Shore Protection funded project. Sand from this project will be placed on the beach, as needed. Because the Regional Sediment Management Project could be a long process, FIND should be prepared to dredge the area if necessary.

Commissioner Crowley stated that the area is close to half-way blocked. He stated that understanding the amount of time it takes to permit a project like this makes him nervous that FIND is not moving forward at this time. Mr. Crosley stated that staff will talk to Ms. Trulock about this project in November.

Commissioner Sansom made a motion to approve the District's 2018 Federal funding requests. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blow. Chair Cuzzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM 12. Presentations from the Selection Committee's Top-Ranked Firms for Completion of the Update of the Economic Analysis of the District's Waterways, Initiating with Palm Beach County, Florida.**

Mr. Crosley stated that at the previous regular meeting on September 9, 2016, the Board reviewed and discussed the Selection Committee rankings for the referenced project. The Board then elected to hear presentations from the top three ranked firms.

Mr. Crosley stated that each firm will be given twenty (20) minutes for their presentation, including their questions and answers. Presentations will be held in random order. All other presenters will be requested to wait outside of the meeting room once the presentations have begun.

Mr. Shelton Perry and Mr. Danny Mayer, with GEC, Inc., presented the proposal to complete the Economic Analysis update of the District's waterways for 2017. Mr. Perry stated that GEC is a multi-disciplined planning and engineering firm specializing in water resources, transportation structure, planning, and design. GEC has multiple offices, with an office located in Vero Beach, Florida. GEC has conducted hundreds of feasibility studies and navigation economic studies throughout the United States.

Mr. Perry stated that GEC has abundant knowledge of marine feasibility, dredged material management plans, and economic impacts in Florida. GEC developed the scope of work to conduct multiple economic analyses for FIND from 2001 through 2008 with an updated analysis in 2011. GEC also worked with the USACE on feasibility and impact studies of the Jacksonville Harbor, Palm Beach, Tampa, and Panama City projects. GEC has complete analysis for the Palm Beach County Deepening Mega-Yacht Study, surveyed boating activity along the IWW in Broward County, and performed an Economic Analysis of the St. Lucie, Lake Worth and the Hillsboro Inlets. GEC has extensive experience beyond Florida including analysis of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System, Red River Waterway, Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and the Memphis Tennessee Riverfront Development project.

Mr. Perry stated that GEC has studied every county in Florida and is knowledgeable about Florida's waterways. In addition, GEC has knowledge of Florida's marinas, inlets, recreational and commercial boaters, what the IWW means to the quality of life in Florida, and property values.

Mr. Mayer stated that GEC's experienced technical approach will draw from, identify, and quantify the economic impact of the waterways on business sales, personal income, employment, and tax revenue. The influence of the IWW on property values will be estimated. GEC will complete marine business, employment, boat owner, and property value surveys. Boat owners will be surveyed and questioned about their boating, gas and food purchases.

Mr. Mayer stated that GEC questioned if FIND would like inlet economic impacts included in the approach. Inlets are critical features for boating on Florida's East Coast.

Mr. Mayer stated that the study would include the effects of restricted draft waters in certain counties, the impact of different waterway maintenance scenarios and property value impacts. He asked for questions.

Chair Cuzzo asked about the marine-related business survey. Mr. Mayer stated that GEC will search key words in the yellow page ads for marinas, biz code, and talk to boat owners. Boaters would be surveyed about their marine related food, gas, and clothing purchases.

Chair Cuozzo asked if GEC will talk to the District Commissioners for suggestions. Mr. Mayer stated that GEC will talk to the local Marine Industries Associations and Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Chappell asked about the percentage of the effort/cost that will go toward data collections. Mr. Mayer answered 80%. Commissioner Chappell asked if any of the data from previous FIND economic research could be used to save the District money. Mr. Mayer there could be cost savings by use of e-mail versus USPS.

Commissioner Blow asked the source used to determine the IWW economic impact on real estate. Mr. Mayer stated that they would use the property appraiser's records and recent real estate sales. Adjustments would be based on those ratios. Commissioner Blow stated that the property appraiser's records do not always reflect the true value of a property. He suggested Zillow and Realtor.com.

Mr. Dan Levy, with AECOM, presented the proposal to complete the Economic Analysis update of the District's waterways for 2017. He stated that AECOM employs 85,000 people in 150 countries. In Florida, AECOM has 12 offices, 1,206 employees and 4 local accessible subcontractors. AECOM has local knowledge of, and interaction with, the local government. He introduced Mr. Michael Giovanniozzi, PE, Project Manager for this project. Mr. Giovanniozzi lives in Palm Beach County.

Mr. Giovanniozzi introduced Mr. Joseph Berlin, Technical Lead for this study. Mr. Berlin has extensive experience performing economic studies. Mr. Berlin was employed by GEC in 2007 and worked on the FIND Economic Analysis at that time.

Mr. Berlin stated that surveys would be sent and followed-up to over 800 marine-related businesses in Palm Beach County. The general boating public would be surveyed to obtain their recreational boater spending. Property appraiser and property evaluation information would be collected. A data base would be developed to assimilate this data. Business data would be collected under a non-disclosure agreement. Starmark would be involved in public outreach and discussion.

Mr. Giovanniozzi stated that as the project manager, he would be the primary contact for this project. Several management staff have experience in navigation, dredging, and waterway planning. Two technical advisors that will be working on this project are Mr. Joseph Wagner and Ms. Nancy Leikauf.

Mr. Giovanniozzi discussed similar projects that AECOM has performed and provided a project cost estimate, additional services, and project talking points. This project is about gathering solid information in a timely fashion. He asked for questions.

Chair Cuozzo asked about the approach to contacting Palm Beach County businesses. Mr. Levy stated that the Florida Department of Revenue has a sales-tax base that can be used to identify the marine-related businesses with contact information. The Marine Industries Association would be contacted for information. Marine business revenue is confidential and there would be a non-disclosure statement to keep that information confidential. The District's web page with a hot-link could be used to collect data as well.

Commissioner Blow asked about using Facebook and Twitter. Mr. Levy stated that proper use of social media will provide valuable information.

Secretary Donaldson asked about coordinating the various people and sub-contractors for this project. Mr. Levy stated that all staff selected to work on this project are here today, are local to South Florida, are experienced and have worked together on previous projects. All data would be collected and assimilated in a timely manner.

Ms. Valerie Seidel, with the Balmoral Group, presented the proposal to complete the Economic Analysis update of the District's waterways for 2017. She introduced Ms. Cortney Cortez, Research Analyst and Mr. David Rivenbark, Ph.D., Consulting Economist who will be working on this project.

Ms. Seidel stated that the FIND Request for Qualifications (RFQ) requested several required elements be included in the Economic Update, including: reports in plain English, literature review, interviews and surveys, input-output model, hedonic property model and alternative scenarios.

Ms. Seidel stated that the literature review will include data from prior reports, and relevant recent studies by FIND and other agencies. Property evaluations will include the 2014 economic valuation of the St. Johns River. Primary economic impact comes from recreation boaters, boating commerce, public fishing expenditures, residential property adjacent to the IWW and Lake Okeechobee, and the increase of property values, including FIND's procurement of land and land management.

Ms. Seidel stated that The Balmoral Group will identify businesses along the waterway from several sources, the Arc GIS, property appraiser's offices, water-dependent business employment via Nielsen site reports, and the Department of Revenue. Also, business located on the waterway and businesses will be included that are related to boating but not directly located on the waterway that provide services.

Ms. Seidel stated that interviews will be conducted using best management practices, meaning that the questions will be asked with sensitivity. The questions will be structured to identify links between business revenues and the waterway and asking business owners about their proprietary information in a non-threatening manner is essential.

Ms. Seidel stated that a list of licensed boaters will be created from boating license data, which will then be buffered to delineate various boat sized groups. A postcard will be mailed and the survey can be completed on line. The boater spending detail will include, but not be limited to, repairs, fuel, food and beverage, rental fees, guide map/books, and lodging.

Ms. Seidel stated that the alternative scenarios will include the economic impact to the IWW with and without proposed dredging and channel maintenance. The scenario would show the economic impact to marine business, property owners, service providers, employment, restaurants, gasoline, etc.

Ms. Seidel stated that there is a property valuation premium attached to waterfront property. That premium extends about one-mile from the waterfront and homes with proximity value left-out of the survey would leave out about one-half of the property impact value.

Ms. Seidel stated that that the Balmoral Group was founded in 2004 as a Florida professional engineering firm focusing primarily on water resources. The Balmoral Group has worked for 67 counties within the State of Florida. Projects include: Tampa Bay Estuary, 2011; St. Johns River, 2014; Indian River Lagoon, 2013; Martin County Coastal Evaluation, 2012; and EASS water demand, 2015. She asked for questions.

Chair Cuozzo asked how the Balmoral Group would physically contact the business to survey them. Ms. Seidel stated that several methods will be used. Businesses can be

contacted by: telephone; physical surveying within the community; electronic surveys; and boater survey information distributed at boat ramps.

Commissioner Williams noted that Florida has a high degree of transient boaters and he asked how those boaters would be surveyed. Ms. Seidel stated that the most popular and frequently used areas for transient boaters would be identified and those areas would physically be surveyed. Also, the Lightspeed GMI on-line panel would establish transient boater activity. She stated that the Balmoral Group is currently completing that survey for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Chair Cuozzo stated that because the FIND staff must work with the company selected to complete this project, he asked for staff input.

Mr. Crosley noted that the selection committee ranked GEC just slightly above the Balmoral Group. At the last District Board meeting, staff heard considerable positive feedback about the Balmoral Group. From the presentations, graphics, and information provided today, he feels that the Balmoral Group would be a good fit for the District's economic impact study.

Ms. Zimmerman stated that any one of the three companies presenting today could perform this study. She was most impressed with the Balmoral Group's economic experience, their potential cost savings, and the use of Lightspeed GMI to survey transient boaters.

Commissioner Crowley asked if staff has checked company references. Mr. Crosley stated, not at this point. Today the companies will be ranked one, two, and three. Then references are checked. Negotiations would then be completed with the top-ranked firm and if unsuccessful, negotiations would then begin with the second ranked firm.

Commissioners commented on the three (3) firm's presentations and qualifications.

Secretary Donaldson stated that he is ready to rank the applicants.

Commissioner Williams stated that one presentation was outstanding. He stated that he is ready to rank the applicants.

Ms. Zimmerman asked for commissioners on the telephone to rank the firms and send them to her in an e-mail.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the final ranking of the firms in descending order as; the Balmoral Group, AECOM, and GEC. The motion was seconded

by Secretary Donaldson. Chair Cuozzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed. Commissioner Crowley voted against the motion.

Commissioner Crowley stated that he would rank GEC ahead of AECOM. He asked that the vote be re-considered and that all the ranking sheets be turned in and tabulated before voting.

Secretary Donaldson made a motion to approve to re-consider the motion ranking the firms. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Crowley. Chair Cuozzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Zimmerman stated that the ranking forms have been tabulated and the results are; the Balmoral Group first with a tie between GEC, and AECOM for second.

**ITEM 13. Board Ranking and Selection of the Top-Ranked Firm for a Continuing Services Contract for the Update of the Economic Analysis of the District's Waterways, Initiating with Palm Beach County, Florida.**

Secretary Donaldson made a motion to approve the Board's recommended final ranking of the firms in descending order; the Balmoral Group, with a tie between GEC, and AECOM for a continuing services contract for Economic Analysis Services to update the analysis of District waterways, initiating with Palm Beach County, Florida. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Crowley. Chair Cuozzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM 14. Review of the Navigation District's Proposed 5-Year Dredging and Dredged Material Management Area (DMMA) Plan.**

Mr. Crosley stated that because of time constraints, he suggested moving this item to the District's November 2016 agenda.

**ITEM 15. Interlocal Agreement with the Jupiter Inlet District for Intracoastal Waterway Maintenance Dredging near Jupiter Inlet, Palm Beach County, Florida.**

Mr. Crosley stated that the Navigation District (District) and the Jupiter Inlet District (JID) have developed an Interlocal Agreement to share costs associated with maintenance dredging in the vicinity of the Jupiter Inlet.

Commissioner Sansom made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Jupiter Inlet Dredging to proportionally share costs associated with dredging of the Intracoastal Waterway and the Jupiter Inlet, Palm Beach County, Florida. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blow. Chair Cuozzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.



**ITEM 16. Finance and Budget Committee Report.**

Acting Committee Chair Sansom stated that the District's Finance and Budget Committee met before today's Board meeting and the committee reviewed and recommends approval of the August 2016 financial statements, the delegation of authority and the expenditure and project status report. He asked for questions. There were none.

Acting Committee Chair Sansom made a motion to approve the August 2016 financial statements, the delegation of authority, and the expenditure and project status report as recommended by the District's Finance and Budget Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blow. Chair Cuzzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Crosley stated that the District's Finance and Budget Committee also discussed and recommends approval of the Engagement Letter from Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank for the FY 2015-2016 audit. He noted that last year was the first audit with rotation of the audit shareholder/partner.

Committee Chair Sansom made a motion to approve to accept the Engagement Letter from Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank for the FY 2015-2016 audit. The motion was seconded by Secretary Donaldson. Chair Cuzzo asked for any additional discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM 16A. Storm Damage Discussion.**

Mr. Crosley stated that staff completed a post-Hurricane assessment of the District's DMMA sties from North (DMMA NA-1) to Central (DMMA V-20). Fortunately, the District DMMA sites sustained only minor damage. DMMA SJ-20A has approximately twelve (12) trees down along the south fence at the following residences 104 Bilboa, 108 Bilboa, and 112 Bilboa where tree tops have crossed the fence. Staff is working on this and the damages are expected to be within his spending authority of \$10,000.00. If the damages go over \$10,000.00, he will bring it to the board for approval at the District's November meeting. Staff has not surveyed Rattlesnake Island in New Smyrna but, he is not anticipating problems at this site. He asked for questions. There were none.

Mr. Crosley stated the Vilano Beach residents north of the St. Augustine Inlet have contacted the District regarding erosion damages from Hurricane Matthew. He then

referred to a letter from the St. Augustine Port, Waterway and Beach District regarding an urgent request to pursue waivers to the current permits for placement of flood-shoal dredging material south of the inlet in Anastasia State Park, north to the Inlet. This request originated because of critical damage due to Hurricane Matthew.

Commissioner Blow stated the Port, Waterway District may be able to pay for the additional costs to put sand north on Vilano Beach. They are requesting that the Board authorize Mr. Crosley to write a letter to Colonel Kirk at the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Colonel Kirk requesting the USACE change the location of the sand placement to Vilano Beach with the location of the sand placement being worked out between the county and USACE.

Commissioner Blow stated that he will go back to the county and request that the county also write a letter to Colonel Kirk and include the language that the county will be responsible for the easements above mean high water and request an expedited permit or permit waiver from USACE. The Board would authorize Taylor Engineering to coordinate with the USACE.

Mr. Crosley noted that this is officially a USACE project. This area may qualify for federal funding relief. The community would take care of the problem and then would ask the federal funding relief program for reimbursement.

Mr. Millan Mora with the USACE, stated that he does not believe that the USACE opposes the idea of placing sand to the north of the St Augustine Inlet, but there are some hurdles to overcome: (1.) The District does not have the easements to place sand to the north. Real estate easements need to be secured; (2.) Permit modification or a new permit needs to be submitted; (3.) There may be additional costs above the federal standard to place the sand further to the north (increased distance and possible booster pumps) therefore this would not be the least cost option and some entity would need to pay the difference. There would also need to be a modification to the Weeks Marine contract. The contract has already been awarded and the Notice to Proceed will be issued around the end of the month (October 29/30th), with commencement being mid-November. The dredging contractor will be using a 24" dredge and will be in and done with the project very quickly. Those three (3) items mentioned must be completed very quickly.

Commissioner Blow requested that FIND ask the dredger to start with Matanzas and then complete St Augustine. He stated that he will attend Saturday's South Ponte Vedra/Vilano Beach Preservation meeting and let them know that FIND is willing to make efforts to get sand to Vilano Beach, but it is ultimately up to the USACE to make the decision as FIND's partner. The county and the state will need to work out the necessary items as well. Also, the project is only 200,000 cubic yards of material and the county will need much more to begin to fix their beach erosion problem. The county will be responsible to obtain the project easements, and citizens need to sign the easement documents ASAP.

Secretary Donaldson made a motion to approve the Board modify the project permit to allow beach disposal north of the inlet and the local government be the co-applicant or applicant for the beach project, securing all easements and property rights. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Chair Cuzzo asked for discussion.

Commissioner Blow requested his fellow commissioners support this request and help the citizens in his county.

Secretary Donaldson amended the motion to include authorization for Mr. Crosley to: write a letter to Colonel Kirk requesting the USACE modify the St Augustine ICW dredging project to allow the placement of sand to the north of the St Augustine Inlet; request St Johns County get the required emergency permits with FIND as the co-applicant if necessary; request St Johns County be responsible for quickly securing all easements necessary for placement of the sand to the north; and authorize staff to issue a task order to Taylor Engineering for up to \$25,000 for any work required on behalf of FIND. The amended motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Chair Cuzzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM 16B. Request to Use District Site DMMA BV-11 for a Storm Staging Area, Brevard County.**

Attorney Breton stated that the recommendation is that the Interlocal Agreement between FIND and Brevard County should be changed to a simple six (6) month Lease Agreement.

Mr. Crosley stated that he is asking for authorization for staff to extend the Lease Agreement an additional six (6) months, if necessary.

Commissioner Sansom made a motion to approve a six (6) month Lease Agreement with Brevard County to use District Site DMMA BV-11 for material placement, with the

ability for the FIND Executive Director to authorize an additional six (6) months use. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Blow. Chair Cuozzo asked for discussion. Hearing none, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sansom stated that he wanted to make all commissioner aware that FIND has a \$1 million for emergency funding for damage to previously funded FIND projects.

Ms. Zimmerman stated that she has had heard from Fernandina Beach, the City of Jacksonville, St Johns and Indian River Counties regarding storm-related damage.

**ITEM 17. Additional Staff Comments and Additional Agenda Items.**

Chair Cuozzo asked if there were any additional staff comments or agenda items.

Mr. Crosley stated that the Okeechobee Waterway (OWW) Trip scheduled for October 25, 2016 through October 27, 2016 has been cancelled.

Mr. Crosley stated that a thank you letter has been sent to the USACE and Congresswoman Frankel for their support of the Intracoastal Waterway.

**ITEM 18. Additional Commissioners Comments.**

Chair Cuozzo asked if there were any additional commissioner comments.

Commissioner Sansom noted that last evening's Community Outreach Event was well-attended and very nice. The IWW location was beautiful.

Commissioner Blow stated that he was speaking with Ms. Cohn of the Marine Industries Association of South Florida last evening and she mentioned that 30 large super-yachts, of which five (5) are over 300-feet long and have never been a part of the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show, will be able to participate this year due to the Broward County Deepening project.

Commissioner Sansom stated that Ms. Cohn also mentioned that several yachts are coming to Fort Lauderdale for maintenance for the first time because of the Broward County Deepening project.

Chair Cuozzo stated that because of the public records laws, FIND is responsible for keeping all commissioner e-mails. Commissioners were recently the recipients of a barrage of e-mails that must be kept. He encouraged commissioners to move those e-mails into a FIND folder. He stated that he is requesting that commissioners have a FIND e-mail

address that is posted on the District's web site. Also, he would like all commissioners to get new FIND business cards with the new e-mail address on them.

**ITEM 19.    Adjournment.**

Chair Cuozzo stated that hearing no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

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Donald J. Cuozzo, Chair

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Attest:            Don Donaldson, Secretary  
(SEAL)