

**MINUTES
TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND
BEACH PROTECTION DISTRICT MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024**

TIME: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 – 9:00 AM
PLACE: Town Hall Island Room – 2 Bridge Rd., Hobe Sound, FL
PRESENT: Present were Mayor Penny Townsend, Vice Mayor Marshall Field VI, and Commissioners Anne Scott, Patricia Warner and Joseph Taddeo. Also present were Town Manager Robert Garlo, Town Clerk Kimberly Kogos, Town Attorney Thomas Baird and IT Director Bill Sutton.

1. Consent Agenda

Mayor Townsend asked if the darilict boat had been removed. Duchock confirmed.

Commissioner Scott asked how much clean up is near the public beach and where are the access points. Duchock stated that there is access at 123 SB and by town property.

MOTION: *Commissioner Scott/Commissioner Warner moved to approve consent agenda as presented.*

ACTION: *Motion Passed 5-0*

Category A- To be reviewed and approved (as is or as edited) by the Town Commission

- a. Minutes of the March 21, 2024, Beach Protection District Meeting
- b. Beach Cleanup Report

2. Work Authorization Annual Physical Monitoring (GBA)

Director Duchock provided background information stating that Gahagan & Bryant Associates, Inc. (GBA) provides annual physical monitoring survey services and related reports as required by the Joint Coastal Permit issued by the State and Federal regulatory agencies. Under Task Order No. 24.2, GBA will perform topographic and hydrographic surveys along fifty-nine (59) beach profiles between R-68 and R-121, extending from the dune approximately 4,000 feet offshore at roughly 800-foot spacing. He noted that the Town's offshore borrow site will also be surveyed as part of this work effort.

Director Duchock explained that surveys will be performed for the length of the dune restoration project between 601 and 619 South Beach Road, and all work will be conducted following accepted State and USACE standards. GBA will furnish survey data and maps along with a summary report documenting the changes in beach volume and shoreline position. He noted that this report is utilized by the State and the Town to understand the performance of the beach nourishment program and help plan for future beach nourishment needs.

MOTION: *Commissioner Scott/Vice Mayor Field moved to approve the work authorization for annual physical monitoring in the amount of \$56,898.00.*

ACTION: *Motion 5-0.*

3. Beach Project Update*

Director Duchock provided a beach project update, highlighting the current timeline. He explained the town is in the bidding phase of the project and a recommendation will come forward once bids are received and reviewed.

4. Biological Monitoring Presentation - Pinnacle Ecological*

Director Duchock introduced town consultant Paul Fitzgerald of Pinnacle Ecological, Inc. Mr. Fitzgerald provided a brief background of his company and began an overview of the findings of the 2023 Biological Monitoring efforts as required by the Town's permits for beach renourishment.

Mr. Fitzgerald provided photographs of the nearshore hardbottom and explained how it is a very unique habitat, transitioning from tropical to subtropical and allowed for a nursery ground for recreational, commercial and protected species.

Mr. Fitzgerald explained that the objective of biological monitoring is to assess and report the environmental (sediment cover, sediment depth, and biological cover) changes observed from year to year. He explained the process of mapping the hardbottom and data collection noting various challenges including severe weather and poor underwater visibility.

Commissioner Taddeo asked how the data is used once it is collected. Mr. Fitzgerald responded that data is submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) who assesses the origin of the sand (if it is coming from beach nourishment, and how much sand is there). Mr. Fitzgerald explained that this monitoring helps the Town obtain beach permits for projects.

Town Manager Garlo asked about the depth and location of the divers and monitoring. Mr. Fitzgerald noted the depths range from 2 to 25 feet with an average depth of 9 feet. He added that the reef structure photographed in his presentation is just south of Pecks Lake.

5. Beach Status*

Director Duchock reported there are 114 leatherback nests to date and noted the loggerhead and green turtles nest a little later.

Director Duchock stated that the winter season conditions persist with a steeper and rolling beach face and no escarpments. He explained that while there are no active hotspots, there are a few potential hotspots. He added that there has been minor erosion over the last 30 days.

Director Duchock reported that Colorado State University issued its first seasonal forecast for expected hurricane activity in the Atlantic Ocean (April 4, 2024):

23 named storms > 39 mph wind (14.4 avg)

11 Hurricanes >74 mph wind (7.4 avg)

5 major hurricanes >111 mph wind (3.2 avg)

Director Duchock provided drone photographs of the beach and compared current conditions with those of last summer.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

6. Other Items*

No other topics were discussed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Kogos, Town Clerk