

**MINUTES
TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND
BEACH PROTECTION DISTRICT MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 21, 2025**

TIME: Monday, July 21, 2025 – 11:15 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**

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

MOTION: *Vice Mayor Scott/Commissioner Warner moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.*

ACTION: *Motion Passed 5-0.*

- a. Minutes of the June 10, 2025, Beach Protection District Meeting
- b. Monthly Finance Report

2. **Memorandum of Agreement- Martin County Cost Share**

Director Duchock requested that this item be heard during tomorrow's Town Commission meeting due to scheduling conflicts. The Commission agreed.

3. **Model Turtle Lighting Ordinance (Sea Turtle Conservancy)***

Director Duchock introduced the topic and provided background for reference. He introduced guest speaker Emily Wooley of the Sea Turtle Conservancy.

Ms. Wooley provided a presentation regarding sea turtle lighting models. She explained why lighting decisions matter to sea turtles. She stated that lighting disrupts natural orientation cues in both nesting females and hatchlings, which ultimately can lead to fewer nests and hatchling mortality. She listed the three general lighting rules that include 1) keep it low, 2) keep it shielded, and 3) keep it long (long wavelength LED), noting that sea turtles are protected by Federal, State and Local Governments. She added that enforcement occurs at the local level. She referred to the resources available online, and explained available grants to assist local governments in updating their ordinances to better protect sea turtles.

Ms. Wooley explained how Jupiter Island scores on their model and provided the following recommendations:

- Expand the definition section of the ordinances
- Adjust the jurisdictional boundary
- Strengthen lighting requirements for exterior and interior lights.

Discussion ensued regarding limiting beach parking at night, especially during turtle nesting season.

Ms. Wooley noted that the Sea Turtle Conservancy assists local governments by reviewing draft ordinance language, providing educational presentations, and by providing other resources to educate the community. Director Duchock stated that the Town does provide notices to residents, especially during beach projects. He noted that the District could increase notifications and community education. He reviewed the Town's current lighting ordinance language and noted areas that could be improved.

The Town Commission expressed interest in improving the Town's lighting ordinances, and engaging with the Conservancy to assist in the process. Director Duchock stated he will bring back details of engagement.

4. **Beach Status***

Director Duchock noted the current sea turtle nest update:

- Loggerhead 5180
- Green 1949
- Leatherback 438

He added that this year's numbers are above average for the turtle nesting season.

Regarding the current beach status, Director Duchock noted that the beach is experiencing minor erosion along most of the nourished beach with losses associated with profile adjustment. There is mild to moderate escarpment formations with significant escarpments north of 113 North Beach Road. He provided drone images of the beach, compared to the same areas last year, before the beach was renourished.

5. **Coastal Engineering Services Contract - RFQ 2025-06**

This item will be heard during tomorrow's Town Commission meeting due to scheduling of bid opening and selection committee review.

6. **Borrow Site Investigation**

As requested, Staff has solicited a proposed approach to initiate the permitting and engineering investigations to secure a new offshore borrow site for future beach nourishment projects. Gahagan and Bryant has provided a detailed, multi-year task list with associated cost estimates to accomplish the following key tasks:

- Initial permitting
- Field Surveys
- Vibracore sampling

Director Duchock stated the request is for approval of Task 1 "De Minimis Permitting and Cultural Resource Review" at a lump sum cost of \$24,000.

MOTION: *Commissioner Field/ Commissioner Warner moved to approve Task 1 "De Minimis Permitting and Cultural Resource Review" at a lump sum cost of \$24,000.*

ACTION: *Motion Passed 5-0.*

7. **Local Government Funding Request Application**

Director Duchock provided an explanation of the Local Government Funding Request with background information for reference. He explained that the estimated value of the grant reimbursement is up to \$142,500 for monitoring and feasibility/design. A Resolution will be brought forward in September.

8. **Other Items***

No other items were discussed.

Mayor Townsend adjourned the meeting at 1:09pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Kogos, Town Clerk