



IRL COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS EMERGENCY MEETING
THURSDAY JULY 28, 2016
SEBASTIAN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Board of Directors Attendance:

Drew Bartlett, Doug Bournique, Doug Daniels, Ed Fielding, Richard Gillmor, Chris Dzadoovsky, Kevin Powers, Curt Smith.

Agenda Item 1. For Information: Call to order.

Ed Fielding, Board Chair, called the IRL Council Board of Directors meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance, and led the attendees in a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 2. Consideration: Agenda revisions.

Mr. Fielding asked that agenda revisions be brought forward. Mr. Dzadoovsky requested the Board discuss the DEP ruling of toxins allowed in Florida Waters. Item was added as 3b. No objections were offered.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CURT SMITH, SECONDED BY DREW BARTLETT, TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Fielding asked for any public comment:

Pam Gillespie from Congressman Posey's office offered a statement from the congressman (attached). She announced her imminent retirement and introduced David Jackson as her replacement.

Gary Ritter, Florida Farm Bureau, offered support of the Board's efforts to call attention to the ongoing water quality crisis in the southern lagoon.

Agenda Item 3a. Consideration: Emergency Business.

Dr. De Freese reviewed the two letters and support documents drafted and sent to the Board, and, a position statement that, in light of the Federal rejection of a State of Emergency may be more appropriate than the letters previously drafted.

He recommended that the document produced during the present meeting be vetted through the Management Board and Citizens' Advisory Committee, and come back to the Board at the September Meeting.

Mr. Dzadoovsky suggested the present meeting may be a moot point, given the Federal rejection of a State of Emergency. Dr. De Freese, Mr. Fielding, Mr. Powers, and Mr. Gillmor agreed that a strong position statement is somewhat time sensitive given that the WRDA bill is coming up for reauthorization and appropriation in Congress.

Mr. Bartlett offered that the document produced in the present meeting should be thought of as final and should be used immediately, rather than waiting for it to be vetted through the management conference.

Mr. Daniels suggested that the Board should give staff the tools they need to be able to send a letter or issue a statement as issues arise rather than waiting for meetings to occur.

Mr. Bournique offered that it is valuable to be able to utilize a position statement immediately once a final draft is completed.

Dr. De Freese offered to share the document with the entire Florida delegation in Congress to assist in stressing the importance of WRDA reauthorization.

MR. POWERS OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. GILLMOR, TO DIRECT STAFF TO USE THE COMPLETED FINAL DOCUMENT PRODUCED DURING THE PRESENT MEETING TO EDUCATE FLORIDA'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION ABOUT THE IRL COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR WRDA REAUTHORIZATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Kathleen Albee, Hobe Sound, supported Board action on this item.

The Board edited the draft position statement (final version attached) and offered their suggestions for edits and amendments. The members of the public in attendance were encouraged to offer their thoughts as well.

Agenda Item 3b. For Information: DEP Ruling for toxins in Florida Waters

Mr. Dzadovsky requested the Board consider a scientific review of the DEP ruling for increased benzene and other pollutants allowed in Florida Waters and how the changes may affect the IRL. Mr. Bartlett suggested that the Department can bring information to staff to be shared with the STEM Advisory Committee and Board of Directors.

Mr. Dzadovsky informed the Board that he is hearing anecdotal reports from anglers and other lagoon users that seagrasses in the Ft. Pierce area are beginning to disappear due to increased flows from C-25 continuing to flow. He cited Ft. Pierce as a source area for fishes. He informed the board that St. Lucie County is purchasing land for increased water storage. Mr. Bournique suggested that each of the 2 water management districts have the capacity to move water north-south rather than to tide.

Agenda Item 4. For Information: General public comment.

Deborah Drum, Martin County gave a brief Water Quality report for the southern IRL. Dr. Chuck Jacoby, SJRWMD, gave a brief Water Quality report for the central and northern IRL.

Katie Albee reported that in Martin County, an environmental company vacuumed algae from a canal in Rio but dumped it into an adjacent park, where Martin County staff had to manually remove this debris from a trail.

Agenda Item 5. For Information: Staff Reports and Board Comments

Dr. De Freese indicated the need, in his discussions with industry, that there will be times when a non-disclosure agreement will be appropriate. He requested staff be authorized to execute standard DNAs, with appropriate advice from legal counsel.

MR. GILLMOR MADE A MOTION THAT THE BOARD ALLOW STAFF TO ENTER INTO NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS WITH POTENTIAL INDUSTRY PARTNERS, WITH APPROPRIATE ADVICE FROM LEGAL COUNSEL. MR. BARTLETT SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item 6. Adjourn

The next meeting is August 12th at 9:30 a.m. at St. Lucie County Commission Chambers, Virginia Ave., Ft. Pierce.