



**SANTA ROSA  
ISLAND AUTHORITY**

**SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 9, 2019  
5:00 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Karen Sindel  
Chairwoman  
Janice Gilley  
Vice Chairwoman  
Brigette Brooks  
Secretary Treasurer  
Thomas Campanella  
Acting Secretary Treasurer  
Jerry Watson  
Member  
Liz Callahan  
Member

1-3. A scheduled meeting of the Santa Rosa Island Authority was held on Wednesday January 9, 2019, beginning at 5:02 p.m. Members in attendance were: Ms. Karen Sindel, Ms. Elizabeth Callahan, Dr. Thomas Campanella, Ms. Brigette Brooks, and Mr. Jerry Watson, and Ms. Janice Gilley participated via teleconference. Ms. Sindel, Chair, led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of meditation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Regular Board Meeting – 12/12/2018)

**Upon motion of Mr. Jerry Watson seconded by Dr. Thomas Campanella, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting (12/12/2018) as presented. (6-0)**

5. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

6. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Upon motion of Ms. Brigette Brooks seconded by Mr. Jerry Watson, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented. (6-0)**

7. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Sindel wished everyone a Happy New Year, and said she was happy to see law enforcement as well as Commissioner Bender present this evening in the audience.

8. COMMISSIONER BENDER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Bender thanked the Board for having him, and stated he understood how it appeared the BOCC had sent mixed signals in the past to the SRIA. He encouraged the SRIA Board to reach out to their Commissioner for discussions on items of concern. He said he's trying to help figure out how to deal with leases as

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they come up for renewal and how to make them more congruent with newer leases. He stated the CPI wasn't enacted on the last cycle, as the SRIA was getting mixed signals from the BOCC. He stated the lease fees need to stay on the Beach, with the SRIA in control of them, in order to take care of Escambia County's greatest asset. He encouraged the SRIA Board to look for ways to make lease fees fairer across the board, perhaps using size and location to help determine the annual lease fee.

He stated he is in support of the 2<sup>nd</sup> dedicated lane for SunPass, and he's looking at other things too, in order to make traffic smoother, and would like to implement all ideas at one time to make the transitions easier.

He requested support from the SRIA Board for removal of the sunset provision from the Dog Park Ordinance, as he has only received positive feedback on the Dog Parks.

Mr. Watson asked what lanes Commissioner Bender was considering for the 2 SunPass lanes.

Commissioner Bender stated the lanes haven't been addressed yet, and this item is not on the January 10, 2019 agenda for discussion. He said staff had discussed the two outside lanes for the safety of the booth workers.

Ms. Brooks asked Commissioner Bender what he considered a "fair" lease renewal.

Commissioner Bender said that the language in the leases vary greatly, and what others are paying currently needs to be taken into consideration, because a lot has changed since 1947. He said some lease fees are \$100.00 and some are thousands of dollars. He explained the best interests of the SRIA and the citizens of Escambia County need to be taken into account when considering renewals. He would like to see leases more level across the board.

9. PENSACOLA BEACH VISITOR'S INFORMATION CENTER

Ms. Alison Westmoreland presented this month's report for the VIC and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

CONSENT AGENDA

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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A. ARCHITECTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE, DR. THOMAS CAMPANELLA, CHAIRMAN, MS. KAREN SINDEL AND MS. JANICE GILLEY, MEMBERS

Item # 1 - Request to modify Land Development Code (LDC), Chapter 2, Article 6, Sec. 2-6.3 and Chapter 4, Article 7, – Regarding swimming pools on Pensacola Beach . (Staff report by Paolo Ghio)

**The Committee unanimously approved the request to modify Land Development Code (LDC), Chapter 2, Article 6, Sec. 2-6.3 and Chapter 4, Article 7, – Regarding swimming pools on Pensacola Beach.**

B. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE, MS. JANICE GILLEY, CHAIRWOMAN, TBD AND MS. BRIGETTE BROOKS, MEMBERS

Item # 1 – Report on Financial Statements and Expenditures. (Staff report by Vickie Johnson)

**The Committee unanimously accepted the report on Financial Statements and Expenditures as presented.**

Item # 2– Request by Russell Bartlett, Kona Ice, to renew the license agreement for a 12 month period in 2019. (Staff report by Robbie Schrock)

**The Committee unanimously approved the request by Russell Bartlett, Kona Ice, to renew the license agreement for a 12 month period, ending December of 2019.**

**Upon motion of Dr. Thomas Campanella seconded by Ms. Brigette Brooks, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as presented. (6-0)**

REGULAR AGENDA

11. OLD BUSINESS

Item # 1 – Request by Ray Palmer, Pensacola Sports, for a \$1,000.00 sponsorship for the Pensacola Beach Firefighters Challenge. (Staff report by Robbie Schrock)

Ms. Robbie Schrock gave the background on the item and explained staff's recommendation of \$1,000.00 sponsorship for this event.

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**Upon motion of Dr. Thomas Campanella seconded by Ms. Liz Callahan, the Board unanimously approved the request by Ray Palmer, Pensacola Sports, for a \$1,000.00 sponsorship for the Pensacola Beach Firefighters Challenge. (6-0)**

Item # 2 – Request by Ray Palmer, Pensacola Sports, for a \$1,000.00 sponsorship for DeLuna's Beach Games. (Staff report by Robbie Schrock)

Ms. Robbie Schrock gave the background on the item and explained staff's recommendation of \$1,000.00 sponsorship for this event.

**Upon motion of Dr. Thomas Campanella seconded by Ms. Brigette Brooks, the Board unanimously approved the request by Ray Palmer, Pensacola Sports, for a \$1,000.00 sponsorship for DeLuna's Beach Games. (6-0)**

Item # 3 – Request by Ray Palmer, Pensacola Sports, for a \$5,000.00 sponsorship of the Double Bridge Run. (Staff report by Robbie Schrock)

Ms. Schrock gave background on the item and explained staff's recommendation of a \$500.00 sponsorship for this event.

SPEAKER:

Jason Libbert – Pensacola Sports – He said he was here to answer any questions the Board has.

Ms. Brooks said Pensacola Sports projected 5500 participants, and asked how many were already signed up for the Double Bridge Run.

Mr. Libbert stated they were on track with 2600 already signed up, which was up 5% from last year.

Mr. Watson said he appreciated staff getting information to the Board on this topic, but wondered how organizations get notified of the availability of funds.

Ms. Schrock stated the SRIA doesn't solicit organizations to give them funds.

Ms. Sindel said the SRIA doesn't actively put out that this money is available, and typically the money is gone rather quickly.

Discussion followed.

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Dr. Campanella explained it is usually by word of mouth that organizations find out the SRIA has sponsorship funds. He stated funded events provide receipts for advertising, which includes the SRIA name, and the SRIA reimburses them.

Mr. Watson said if he was seeking funding for a beach activity, he would be concerned if all the SRIA funds were already used up, prior to his request.

Ms. Sindel stated staff had already been asked to work on this policy, and would be coming back with recommendations in the future. She said Impact 100 and Visit Pensacola have strong grant programs that these organizations could be utilizing.

Mr. Watson stated he had nothing against Pensacola Sports, but wanted it to be known that the SRIA believes in other organizations as well.

Mr. Libbert said Pensacola Sports just wants to put on events that bring people to the Beach.

Brief discussion followed.

Mr. Watson asked how much automatically went to Pensacola Sports.

Ms. Schrock stated \$2,500.00 was approved as a line item in last years' budget, and would be up for discussion at the Budget Workshops for 2020.

**Upon motion of Dr. Thomas Campanella seconded by Mr. Jerry Watson, the Board unanimously approved a \$500.00 sponsorship for the Double Bridge Run, bringing the total sponsorship by the SRIA to \$3,000.00. (\$2,500.00 line item in budget, additional \$500.00 approved 1/9/2019) (6-0)**

\*\*\* With the approval of # 1, 2, & 3 above, Pensacola Sports has reached the suggested \$5,000.00 sponsorship cap per organization, per fiscal year.

Item # 4 – Remove the sunset provision in the Dog Parks Ordinance. (Staff Report by Paolo Ghio)

Mr. Ghio gave background on this item.

**Upon motion of Ms. Brigitte Brooks seconded by Dr. Thomas Campanella, the Board unanimously approved sending a letter, signed by the Chair, to the BOCC recommending removal of the sunset provision from the Dog Park Ordinance. (6-0)**

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Item # 5 - Approval to award the bid for the Dredging/Nourishment project. (Staff report by Selection Review Committee Member Brigette Brooks)

Ms. Brooks gave background on this item and commended BDI on their work on this project. She said the Selection Review Committee, along with the Project Manager, BDI, recommended the Energy Resources bid be accepted.

**Upon motion of Ms. Brigette Brooks seconded by Dr. Thomas Campanella, the Board unanimously approved the acceptance of the \$ 533,000.00 bid for the Little Sabine Bay Channel Dredge – Quietwater Beach Nourishment project to the lowest bidder, Energy Resources, Inc., contingent upon on the company obtaining all necessary contractors licenses required by Escambia County and the Escambia County Contractor Competency Board. (6-0)**

Item # 6 – Ongoing lease renewal discussion.

Ms. Sindel said this item would stay on the agenda, and encouraged Board Members to speak with their Commissioners.

## 12. REPORTS

### A. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Stebbins presented his report for the review of the Board.

**Upon motion of Ms. Brigette Brooks seconded by Dr. Thomas Campanella, the Board unanimously accepted the Attorney's report as presented. (6-0)**

### B. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Huggins submitted his report for the review of the Board.

Brief discussion followed regarding mobi-mats and the Little Sabine Bay Channel Bulkhead.

### C. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Ghio submitted his monthly report for the review of the Board.

## 13. VISITOR'S FORUM

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SPEAKER:

John Nixon – He stated he is a supporter of Commissioner Bender as well as the “Save Pensacola Beach” campaign. He stated he is on a fact-finding mission, and would like to see “as deemed in the public interests” added to the SRIA mission statement. He said the founding principles of the SRIA are important to him, including “never conveying” the land.

Diane Krumel – She is with “Save Pensacola Beach” group and thanked Commissioner Bender. She stated the referendum on the fall ballot, (prohibiting any privatization through sale or lease of currently unleased properties on Santa Rosa Island), was highly supported, and it encouraged upholding the 1947 restrictions that forbid conveyance of property on the Island. She encouraged the Board to take this into consideration when looking for solutions to the equitable lease questions, and requested the SRIA Board not support automatically renewing leases. She stated she is working with Commissioner Bender and others on lease issues.

14. BOARD MEMBER'S FORUM

Mr. Watson recognized a former Ferry Pass administrator in the audience, Ms. Lily Eubanks, and said she was an outstanding principal. He also thanked staff for providing any information that is requested of them, and looks forward to Ms. Sindel's term as Chair.

Dr. Campanella asked Commissioner Bender about the congestion management plan.

Commissioner Bender stated the old VIC had been removed, and consequently the right hand turn lane on Ft. Pickens was being extended, and parking spaces were being created on the property. He said the complete congestion management design plan should be completed in April or May, and he was interested to see if some or all of it could be useful.

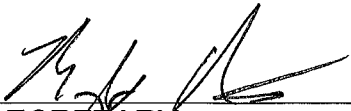
Ms. Sindel thanked Commissioner Bender for attending the meeting.


Mr. Watson thanked Ms. Schrock and Mr. Ghio for having security present in the meeting tonight.

15. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Sindel declared the Regular Board Meeting of the SRIA Board adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
VICE CHAIR

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