



**SANTA ROSA
ISLAND AUTHORITY**

BOARD MEMBERS

Dave Pavlock
Chairman

Thomas Campanella
Vice Chairman

Jerry Watson
Secretary Treasurer

Karen Sindel
Acting Secretary Treasurer

Janice Gilley
Member

Tammy Bohannon
Member

**SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 24, 2016**

1-3. A Special Board Meeting of the Santa Rosa Island Authority was held on Monday, February 24, 2016, beginning at 5:38 p.m. Members in attendance were: Mr. Dave Pavlock, Dr. Thomas Campanella, Mr. Jerry Watson and Ms. Janice Gilley. Ms. Karen Sindel and Ms. Tammy Bohannon were absent. Chair Pavlock called the meeting to order.

4. Item # 1 – Discussion on leases.

Mr. Pavlock stated Courtney Fell would be taking notes and writing them on the overhead screen. He stated a synopsis of the BCC meeting on February 11, 2016 had been sent to all the SRIA Board Members and a CD of the meeting had been sent to the ones not present in the meeting. He explained the handouts at each spot, the "SRIA Organizational and financial analysis" done by GAI, a comparative analysis from 2012 by Mr. Guernsey, and the "Importance of the SRIA".

Mr. Pavlock stated the future of lease fees needs to be discussed, along with a funding source. He said the BCC had been asked to give the SRIA a year to settle and come back with some economics. He stated the \$1.3 mill payback to the County is huge, and there is a misconception the SRIA gets the money from the toll. He said Bands on the Beach, Blue Angels and the trolleys are paid for by lease fees, with 50-60% of the fees from Commercial leaseholders.

Dr. Campanella said if the Beach wants services beyond what the County pays for in the rest of the County, an MSBU or MSTU will have to be levied. He questioned what was considered critical for the Island? Were trolleys, Bands on the Beach, and certain events critical? He said the Board needs to focus on events that help the SRIA collect revenue. He stated the Beach is the "hook" for visiting Pensacola. He agreed with Mr. Pavlock that a revenue stream needed to be identified.

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A brief discussion was held on the Public Works department.

Dr. Campanella stated the public needed to be educated on the SRIA, the benefits of having a governing body on the Island, the money that would be lost in emergency situations. He said the people will understand a fee or tax on the Island if they are informed. He agrees with cutting back as much as we can on the budget, but feels there is a tremendous advantage to having the SRIA in place.

Discussion followed on what could be cut, and who could take such functions over, such as advertising and Visit Pensacola.

Mr. Watson questioned the importance the residents place on the SRIA Board. He also agreed a funding source needed to be identified, not necessarily calling it a lease fee.

Ms. Gilley stated perfunctory administration duties could perhaps be performed by Pam Childer's office, but said the SRIA finance department is specialized. Ms. Gilley recalled Ms. Childers suggesting her office take in the finance staff, so as not to lose the expertise the SRIA staff has.

Mr. Pavlock said Ms. Childers' office is overloaded, (according to her), and would need more financial help to take on more staff. He said the SRIA Board has to figure out how to finance and keep current functions, without going into the County coffers. He said the Board has many things to figure out, including revenue streams, and a better grasp of what fee simple would entail.

Ms. Gilley stated the Board did not need to abandon all events, but needed to watch the return on investments. She suggested a Memo of Understanding with Visit Pensacola regarding advertising.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Ghio stated staff has already been looking at the budget and what was actually spent in the last 5 years. He said staff was looking at what was vital and necessary. He said he had reached out to several organizations, some private, and all were receptive to possible partnerships. He explained staff is working on several town hall meetings, to find out what the public wants on the Island. He is hoping for clear direction and an endorsement for work already done by the SRIA. He said careful planning and execution has gotten us this far, and that many communities would love to have our congestion problems. He assured the

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Board he will bring back a realistic 2017 budget and work towards finding a funding source.

SPEAKER:

Jack Womack – Leaseholder – He commended Mr. Ghio, and stated Mr. Ghio understands how the leaseholders feel. Mr. Womack's expectations are that services on the Island will not change, they will only improve. Mr. Womack suggested giving the SRIA .50 car that pays a toll. He pointed out the many services the SRIA provides to the County, including Bands on the Beach and trolley service. He isn't sure the SRIA is getting their money back from providing Bands on the Beach, Mardi Gras and the trolley.

A brief discussion followed regarding use of the toll funds.

Lee Shrewsbury – Leasesholder – He suggested raising the toll to \$2.00, and said it's an obvious revenue stream.

Mr. Pavlock said there would be another Special Board meeting the night of March 30, 2016, immediately following the Committee meetings to continue discussion.

Item # 2 – Discussion regarding Beach Nourishment.

Mr. Ghio explained the situation with Weeks Marine regarding the beach nourishment. Weather has been a detriment to the project, and the contractor has acknowledged the equipment and weather haven't been compatible. He has requested a change order to extend the contract period, demobilize the equipment, and come back with 2 more dredges in mid-June to complete the project. It should take 65-70 days at that point. Mr. Ghio stated it would be the same dredges the contractor is using at Navarre Beach prior to our nourishment, so the contractor is willing to deduct \$875,000.00 against the current mobilization cost. The contractor will also pay for troling. (Turtle nesting season) Mr. Ghio said the permit and grant would still be valid.

Upon motion of Ms. Janice Gilley seconded by Dr. Thomas Campanella, the Board unanimously approved the change order with Weeks Marine to accept a mid-June dredge and an \$875,000.00 credit to the original agreement. (4-0)

Mr. Ghio stated the primary dune has been compromised and he would like to use some of the credit given back by Weeks Marine to revegetate the dunes and install sand fencing.

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Mr. Watson said, "The Lord Giveth and the Lord Taketh Away."


A brief discussion followed.

Upon motion of Dr. Thomas Campanella seconded by Mr. Jerry Watson, the Board unanimously approved allowing Mr. Ghio to investigate the cost of sand fencing and revegetation after completion of the Beach Nourishment. (4-0)

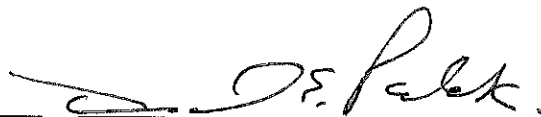
5. ADJOURN

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Pavlock declared the Special Board Meeting of the SRIA Board adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



SECRETARY



CHAIRMAN

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