



**SANTA ROSA  
ISLAND AUTHORITY**

**SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017  
5:00 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Thomas Campanella  
Chairman  
Jerry Watson  
Vice Chairman  
Karen Sindel  
Secretary Treasurer  
Janice Gilley  
Acting Secretary Treasurer  
Tammy Bohannon  
Member  
Brigitte Brooks  
Member

1-3. A regularly scheduled meeting of the Santa Rosa Island Authority was held on Wednesday September 13, 2017 beginning at 5:02 p.m. Members in attendance were: Ms. Karen Sindel, Ms. Brigitte Brooks, Ms. Janice Gilley, Ms. Tammy Bohannon and Chairman Thomas Campanella. Mr. Jerry Watson was absent. Dr. Thomas Campanella, Chairman, led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of meditation.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Regular Board Meeting – 8/9/2017)

**Upon motion of Ms. Karen Sindel seconded by Ms. Brigitte Brooks, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting (08/09/2017) as presented. (5-0)**

5. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

6. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Upon motion of Ms. Karen Sindel seconded by Ms. Janice Gilley, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented. (5-0)**

7. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

8. PENSACOLA BEACH VISITOR'S INFORMATION CENTER

Ms. Alison Westmoreland presented this month's report for the VIC.

Ms. Sindel pointed out a lot of people commented they found Pensacola Beach through friends and family, and asked if the visitor was asked who actually told them about Pensacola Beach.

Ms. Westmoreland stated that wasn't currently done, but could certainly be added to the process.

SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017  
5:00 P.M.

Dr. Campanella asked how many calls were received regarding Hurricane Irma, and Ms. Westmoreland said there were many, a lot of people were asking about gas availability.

Ms. Bohannon pointed out that the numbers show tourists keep coming back to Pensacola Beach, and stressed the importance of providing a good experience.

CONSENT AGENDA

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. ARCHITECTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE, (8/23/2017) MS. BRIGETTE BROOKS, CHAIRWOMAN, DR. THOMAS CAMPANELLA AND MR. JERRY WATSON, MEMBERS

Item # 1 – Request by Anthony and Susan Cornejo – 250 Sabine Dr. – Lot 51, Block B, Villa Sabine – to construct an in ground swimming pool with an encroachment of 30' into the rear yard setback. (Staff report by Paolo Ghio)

**The Committee unanimously approved staff's recommendation.**

- B. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE, (8/23/2017) MS. JANICE GILLEY, CHAIRWOMAN, MS. TAMMY BOHANNON AND MS. BRIGETTE BROOKS, MEMBERS

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

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

**Upon motion of Ms. Karen Sindel seconded by Ms. Brigitte Brooks, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as presented. (5-0)**

REGULAR AGENDA

10. OLD BUSINESS

Item # 1 – Request by Emerald Isle to exercise a 99 year extension of their Amended and Restated Master Lease. (Staff report by Mike Stebbins)

SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017  
5:00 P.M.

This item was **unanimously approved** at Committee, however the document wasn't completed at that time.

Mr. Stebbins explained the attorney that had originally been working on this for Emerald Isle was no longer with the firm, and a new attorney had taken over for them. She is currently working on the amendment for the extension and the item will be brought back to the Board for a vote once it has been reviewed and approved by staff and legal counsel.

**NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.**

11. REPORTS

A. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

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

B. ENGINEER'S REPORT

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

C. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTOR REPORT

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

A brief discussion followed regarding what equipment, trailers, etc.. are removed from the Island in case of a storm.

12. VISITOR'S FORUM

Terry Preston – She asked the SRIA Board to consider whether or not they endorse Bill 1073 (Fee Simple). She stated public opinion is that the SRIA Board does not endorse the bill.

Ms. Sindel stated she believed part of the reason for that public opinion is due to the *Pulse* article in which Dr. Campanella voiced his opinion on the bill. She stated he is certainly entitled to do so, and she had received calls about it.

Dr. Campanella said he always speaks on his own behalf as a leaseholder, not as an SRIA Board Member. He pointed out that often time when he speaks to a journalist, the article doesn't come out the way he tries to communicate his thoughts.

SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017  
5:00 P.M.

13. BOARD MEMBER'S FORUM

Ms. Brooks thanked Mr. Ghio for the e-alerts throughout the storm, she said a couple of people from the Island had mentioned them to her.

Ms. Bohannon asked that the hurricane information on the SRIA website be moved so it is easier to locate.

A brief discussion followed regarding birds, vegetation, beach erosion and additional walkovers on the Island.

Ms. Gilley stated she received the final traffic management plan link from Mr. Forte. She isn't happy with the proposed lot near the sheriff's substation, and asked if the land is County property and if the SRIA has any say-so on the use of it.

Mr. Stebbins stated he would need to research it, but he didn't think the SRIA signed any rights to the property on the Island away in the Interlocal Agreement of 2015. For instance, the SRIA didn't sign over the Administration Building to the County, so they couldn't just build a parking garage here without our approval. He suggested reminding the County that the SRIA is still the steward of the Island.

Ms. Gilley said she thought the Board had made it clear they didn't like the parking lot near the water on the beach.

A discussion followed regarding how the County is financing this and other projects, as well as the feasibility of roundabouts in the areas proposed, without losing parking.

Mr. Ghio pointed out Phase II is next, which is parking lots. He said the SRIA property is not being considered in this phase. He stated there are 6 lots next to the fire station, the lot over the retention pond to the right of the Sheriff's substation, and a lot to the south of that for the public. Phase III are the underpasses, traffic circles and a lot where the old VIC is now.

Further discussion followed regarding the proposed parking lot to the south of the Sheriff's substation's proposed lot, nearer to the water and dunes. It was pointed out that the Board didn't give Mr. Forte any directive that the lot was unacceptable to the Board. Many Board Members disagreed, and felt they had voiced their objections to that particular parking lot. The question is still being asked, "Can the County legally build on property without the SRIA's approval."

Mr. Stebbins recommended expressing their concerns as a Board, and direct that

SANTA ROSA ISLAND AUTHORITY  
PENSACOLA BEACH, FLORIDA  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017  
5:00 P.M.

he and Mr. Ghio can meet with the County and explain the Board's concerns, both practical and legal.

**Upon motion of Ms. Karen Sindel seconded by Ms. Janice Gilley, the Board unanimously approved directing the Executive Director and Counsel to meet with Escambia County staff to express and address the SRIA Board's concerns over the practical, legal and environmental implications of the construction of a parking lot (in the area south of the Sheriff's substation proposed lot). (5-0)**

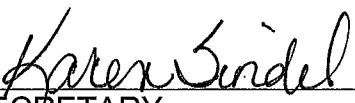
Ms. Gilley stated she went to the Triumph Application Committee Meeting, and it was clear they are looking at funding projects that create jobs and diversify the economy. She still hopes the SRIA can make a compelling case for the Island, as NO ONE got more oil than Pensacola Beach did. She stated they are requiring reporting of the application to the respective County, as a courtesy, to make sure it's nothing they are opposed to.

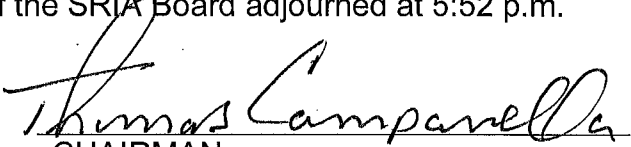
A brief discussion followed regarding lionfish and reefs.

Ms. Sindel asked if the amount of signage at each walkover could be addressed. She said there is no consistency to them, they are ugly and the amount of signs is shocking.

14. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Campanella declared the Regular Board Meeting of the SRIA Board adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

  
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SECRETARY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRMAN

(Please note that the Santa Rosa Island Authority does not make verbatim transcripts of its meetings, although the meetings are tape-recorded. Any person desiring a verbatim transcript of a meeting of the Santa Rosa Island Authority will need to independently secure such verbatim transcript.)