

## MBSTAC Information from April 19, 2005

The April meeting of MBSTAC was held in Council Chambers with new member, Bill Kroeschell, present; Jim Rozzi, absent; and prospective member, Al Katz, in the audience to hear the presentation from Norman Beumel of CPE, on the status of RAIs and the dredging schedule.

Most of the session was devoted to the CPE presentation, saying that an easement survey is still needed to be sent to FDEP and/or the COE before the final permit can be issued. This is a formality and other processes can be undertaken as it progresses

The sediment study is now complete.

Sea grass survey is going to be re-evaluated since this is the season when it grows. It will take place next week.

These surveys go before City Council.

Norman Beumel was asked if CPE charges would be increased because of all the additional requests by FDEP and the COE. He said so far all the additional studies are covered by the estimated charges.

We may need to re-examine Inlet Management Plan and plan dredging every 3 years instead of the 4 year interval we now have.

Michael Williams said we should begin the permitting process at 7 years into this 10 year permit because of all the problems we're having now. Everyone agreed.

There was a question of dredging during the time frame of the permits – if we needed to dredge after a major storm or hurricane and we had permits in place, could we immediately arrange for it? Yes, we notify COE that we plan to dredge because of an emergency situation.

Bill Kroeschell asked why the dredging is going to be limited to the areas noted on the drawings because of the previous problems at marker 16 and in front of Beacon House. The answer was that those areas get into silt instead of sand and to add them to the permit request would take much more time as the material cannot be pumped to the current spoils sites. This is a possibility at a later time when we allow more time for the permits to be procured.

Norman Beumel said we probably will have to relocate the containment basin further north of the Pass Entrance since the predominant flow of sand is south and we note it is drifting into the mouth of the Pass now.

The plan is for the dredging bid packages to be sent out to all known qualified dredging companies by May 2. The companies have 3 weeks to respond with bids. There were 6 bidders on the Wiggins Pass project and one was not good. We need a 16 inch dredge to accomplish our project – Wiggins pass operators use a smaller dredge. So we cannot use their equipment.

Our job is too small to do a pre-qualification for the companies. We think we have tightened our specifications enough this time to allow us to turn down the lowest bidder if he indeed cannot meet our requirements. These specifications were not in the previous bid packages and when the lowest bidder was turned down, he brought suit against Naples for excluding him. We have asked the County who they sent bid packages to and what types of companies answered. We know one was not qualified.

Our dredging will take place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in order to have it finished as soon as possible. Since it will occur in the summer months, the least number of residents in our area will be in residence. The plan is for dredging to commence in late July and it is to end before the beach renourishment project begins Nov. 1. If we have no major storms we should be well ahead of schedule, but have some leeway in case there has to be a weather related stoppage.

John Limbach, of Admiralty Point Condominium, spoke of the noise problems of the past dredging so close to his and other condos and said he hoped this would be less intrusive this time. The intent to dredge through the night was a concern.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30.