

MEMORANDUM

TO: Authority Members

FROM: General Manager

DATE: June 26, 2003

RE: Minutes of June 18, 2003 Operations Committee Meeting

A regular meeting of the Operations Committee was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2003. Members present were Mr. Don Ayres, Mr. Thom Blas, and Mr. McGuire Martin. Also present were board members Mr. Bill Griffith, Mr. Jimmie Perkins, and Dr. Thomas Campanella. Mr. Ayres, chairman of the committee, called the meeting to order and presented the following items:

Item #1 – Mr. Scott D. Blair, 19 Calle Hermosa – Physical barriers on public easement at 14 and 16 Calle Hermosa

Ms. Debbie Norton reviewed the background regarding the request by Mr. Blair regarding obstructions of the public access easements in the 1st addition to Santa Rosa Villas. A discussion followed during which the committee heard comments from Mr. Mike McGartland, Ms. Judy Mayock, Mr. Ray Palmer, and Mr. Scott Blair.

Upon motion of Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Blas, the committee unanimously recommended that the board express its continuing intent to maintain beach access and remand the item back to the attorney to furnish clear guidelines on how to proceed in this case. (3-0)

Item #2 – Staff report on review of the entire parking situation on Ft. Pickens Road; improvements to the “No Parking status on Ft. Pickens Road; consider opening the “S” curve on Ft. Pickens Road; and staff review of potential motorcycle parking by The Dock at Casino Beach

Mr. Charles Peeterse reported that staff had met with representatives from the Escambia County Sheriff’s Department to discuss opening additional parking on Ft. Pickens Road. He noted that parking on the apex of the curve on Ft. Pickens Road was prohibited by law. Mr. Peeterse then reviewed the proposed parking sites recommended by staff, noting that opening the sites would provide an estimated 77 additional parking spaces. A discussion followed during which the committee heard comments by Ms. June Guerra.

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Upon motion of Mr. Blas, seconded by Mr. Martin, the committee unanimously recommended accepting staff's recommendation to open approximately 77 additional parking spaces on Ft. Pickens Road. (3-0)

Mr. Peeterse stated that staff recommended against establishing a motorcycle parking area adjacent to The Dock. A discussion followed.

Item #3 – Staff report on investigation into establishing two areas for taxis to include an area for dispatch and a ready area, subject to legal review

Mr. Peeterse said he reviewed this item with Ms. Sandy Johnston of the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce who had been discussing the issue with representatives of some of the hotels and condominiums. He said Ms. Johnston indicated that some of the hotels and condominiums would be willing to allow the taxis to operate from their leaseholds. He said staff suggested pursuing that avenue in lieu of designating areas in the public parking lots for taxis. Mr. Ayres recommended referring this item to the Parking Initiatives Committee of the Pensacola Beach Chamber of Commerce for further investigation. A brief discussion followed.

Item #4 – Public Meetings – Proposed Road Improvement Program

Mr. Hemphill announced that public meetings regarding the proposed road improvement program would be held on July 7 and July 16 at 6:00 p.m. at Beachside Resort. He said Baskerville-Donovan, Inc. (BDI) would present the plans for the 30% road design on July 7 and take comments from the public. He said BDI would then incorporate the comments, make revisions to the 30% design, and present the revised plans on July 16. Mr. Hemphill said at the August 6 board meeting, BDI would ask the board to approve the 30% design and proceed to the 60% design at that time. A discussion followed.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Monte E. Blews
General Manager

MEB:mks

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