

MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING OF THE GASPARILLA ISLAND
BRIDGE AUTHORITY
November 15, 2017

A Quarterly Board Meeting of the Gasparilla Island Board of Supervisors was called to order at 1:00 pm on November 15, 2017. The meeting was held in the Woman's Club room at the Boca Grande Community Center. Voting Board members present were Gay Darsie, David Hayes, Lee Major, Drew Tucker, and Ginger Watkins. Advisory members present were Randy Hicks and Peter Strong. Jay Feinberg was present via phone and absent was Bill Klettke. Also present was Executive Director Kathy Banson-Verrico, and GIBA attorney Rob Berntsson

Public Comments/Questions on Agenda Items: No Comments

Minutes Approval:

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from previous meetings. **On motion by Hayes and seconded by Darsie the minutes from the Special Board Meeting on June 28, 2017 were unanimously approved. On motion by Tucker and seconded by Major the minutes from the Quarterly Board meeting on June 28, 2017 were unanimously approved.**

Chairman Report:

Watkins discussed her perspective of being in Boca Grande during the time of Hurricane Irma.

Executive Director Report:

Traffic/Revenue

Fourth quarter traffic counts were down -5% compared to last year with a corresponding -5% revenue decrease. 60% of the overall decrease can be attributed to Hurricane Irma and 21% is attributed to last year's revenue earned for the temporary overweight program.

Bridge Openings

Bridge openings for the fourth quarter were down -28% and boats were down -19%.

Iguana Control

Over the summer GIBA decided to develop a specific in-house managed iguana control program. The costs were \$400 and to date GIBA has removed 120 iguanas.

Engineering Committee:

Strong informed the Board that the remediation plan for the pinion girder movement was successfully performed on August 7, 2107 and the cost was \$18,950.00.

Finance/Audit Committee:

Tucker reviewed the unaudited FY17 financial statements. The cash position is up 36% compared to FY16 as reserves are being accumulated for the planned new toll collection system and next year's SunTrust Bank load principal prepayment. GIBA remains in a strong financial position and is meeting all required loan covenants. Revenue was even with the projected budget and expenses were down -18%. The FY17 audit fieldwork was completed on October 26, 2017 and the final audit report will be discussed at the February 2018 Board meeting. The annual audit requires a Board vote on approval of assets disposed during the year. Tucker reviewed the asset disposal report for FY17. Report is attached to minutes. **On motion by Tucker and seconded by Watkins the asset disposals for FY17 were unanimously approved.**

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Governance Committee:

Major discussed the discretionary Valic contribution approved each year by the Board for GIBA employees. **On motion by Darsie and seconded by Tucker the Board unanimously approved an 8% Valic contribution for 2017.**

Legal:

Joiner Lawsuit

Berntsson updated the Board on the Joiner release. **On motion by Watkins and seconded by Major the Board unanimously approved the Joiner release.**

Old Business:

Toll Collection System

The final version of RPF2017-04 was advertised on October 31, 2017. There is a pre-bid site visit for prospective bidders planned for December 14th and the bids are due January 14th. The new toll collection system will upgrade the technology to ensure a modern user friendly experience.

New Business:

Banson-Verrico discussed the post Hurricane Irma southern roadway flooding. GIBA hired local engineering firm Giffels Webster to provide an engineering report on the flooding. The report confirmed the three conditions which affected the normal drainage pattern of the southern roadway:

- 18 inches of rain in a short period of time.
- The high water level of Lake Gasparilla caused the inflow culverts to be submerged and unable to function.
- High groundwater tables caused the cross drain sumps to fail.

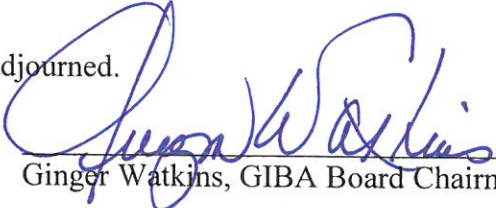
The Board discussed the southern roadway storm restoration. The restoration project will include the storm water pipes to be jet sprayed and cleaned, the damaged shoulders will be graded and sodded, and the overgrown foliage will be removed along the 10 ft. drainage and utility easement. **On motion by Darsie and seconded by Major the Board unanimously approved RFP2017-05 for advertisement and also to authorize the Executive Director to award the project to the lowest responsive bidder or to throw out all bids.**

The Chairman and Executive Director have scheduled a public meeting to receive input from interested parties effected by the storm water accumulation after Irma. All comments will be discussed with the engineers before the distribution of the RFP.

Public Comments/Questions on Non Agenda Items: No Comments

Board Member Comments: No Comments

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Ginger Watkins, GIBA Board Chairman