



# Captiva

## Erosion Prevention District

## WELCOME THE NEW CEPD TEAM

### JENNIFER NELSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jennifer Nelson was raised in Houston, Texas. She is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art history. She had a 24-year long career with Goodwill Industries prior to accepting the role of Executive Director for Uncommon Friends Foundation in April 2017. In November 2017, she was elected to Cape Coral City Council to represent District 4. Jennifer is very passionate about sustainability in all facets and believes in developing initiatives that focus on the future of our community.



**RENÉ MIVILLE**  
CHAIRMAN

**JOHN SILVIA**  
VICE CHAIRMAN

**HARRY KAISER**  
SECRETARY

**RICHARD PYLE**  
TREASURER

**MICHAEL MULLINS**  
COMMISSIONER



### DANIEL MUNT TECHNICAL POLICY DIRECTOR

Daniel Munt is originally from Orlando, Florida. He holds a bachelor's degree in computer networking and a master's degree in business administration. Following a nine-year career in the United States Army as a Geospatial Engineer, he worked with the Lee County Department of Community Development. He is very enthusiastic about innovation and planning for the future of our beaches.

### JOHN RIEGERT ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

John Riegert is a Captiva native. He holds two associate degrees in liberal arts & sciences and journalism and is an active student in the Marine Sciences program at Florida Gulf Coast University. John is a strong environmental advocate and is excited to utilize his passions to serve his community.



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS UPDATES

In the December 2020 and January 2021 board meetings, three seats on the CEPD Board of Commissioners were filled, one by election and two by appointment, and the roles of the commissioners were reorganized.

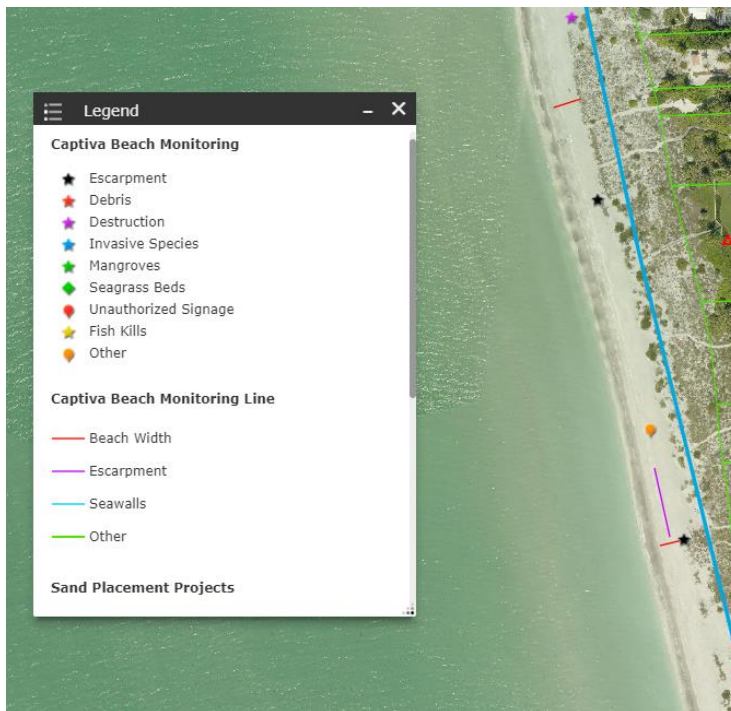
Rene Miville and Richard Pyle were appointed to seats 2 and 5. John Silvia was elected to seat 4. The roles and duties of the Commissioners are reorganized annually and voted on by the board members.

This year, René Miville was elected Chairman, John Silvia was elected Vice Chairman, Harry Kaiser and Richard Pyle remain in their roles of Secretary and Treasurer, and Michael Mullins will serve as Commissioner.

The next seats available for election will be 1 and 3 in November 2022. Commissioners are elected to a 4-year term during general elections of even numbered years. If you are interested in becoming a Commissioner, please stay engaged with the CEPD and regularly attend board meetings. Meeting information can be found at [www.mycepd.com](http://www.mycepd.com).



## BEACH MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE 2021



*Screenshot of the ArcGIS mapping system*

One of the core responsibilities of the CEPD is to monitor the conditions of Captiva Island beaches. CEPD Staff has taken the initiative to incorporate a technological approach to beach monitoring by utilizing the ArcGIS Collector application from the ArcGIS Online suite of products.

The Collector App will enhance our ability to efficiently collect, monitor, and store location data of observable beach conditions. This tool will be invaluable in the collection of location data for observable beach conditions such as narrow beach width, escarpments, debris, destruction to dunes or wildlife,

invasive species, seawalls, mangroves, seagrass beds, unauthorized signage, fish kills, and harmful algal blooms. The functionality of the tool will allow the collection of data utilizing a mobile device and attach visual evidence of the beach condition as witnessed using photos, videos, or audio recordings.

The integration of ArcGIS Online supports our mission through readily available tools, applications, base maps, and operational data that enhance collaboration; improve communication; and support more informed decision making that can be accessed by knowledgeable workers, managers, policy makers, and staff, whether on-site or off-site.

## 2021-2022 BEACH NOURISHMENT PROJECT – SAVE THE DATE



*The late Bob and Nancy Odem, Captivans, relaxing on the pipeline c. 1950's.*

Planning for the 2021-2022 beach nourishment project is well under way. The CEPD has been working closely with its engineering firm, economists, and the local wildlife commissions. To keep the cost of this periodic beach nourishment as low as possible, the CEPD will consider a project start period within the next twelve-months when considering the bids from contractors. Once the project begins, construction will take place for approximately four to six months until completion. Public bidding for a contractor will take place by mid-April. Once a contractor is selected, the project timeline will be solidified by May or June.

The CEPD has utilized APTIM Engineering, and Coastal Planning & Engineering to develop plans for the beach nourishment. The engineering firms have also analyzed the storm protection benefits to the individual properties that the project will provide. CEPD has been working with economists out of Boca Raton, Dr. William Stronge and Dr. Gary Jackson of Stronge Properties, LLC, in the development of an apportionment model to determine the cost shares for the individual properties within each benefit category. Final apportionment will not be determined until approximately one year following the conclusion of the project.

The period of construction may coincide with sea turtle nesting season. To ensure the safety of the animals, the CEPD has partnered with the Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF). The CEPD will continue to follow all Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) guidelines throughout the project. Should the project take place during turtle nesting season, the SCCF will assist in moving the nests to a safe location as well as the required monitoring for new nests and activity. This monitoring will continue for three years after the project is completed.

### UPCOMING CEPD MEETINGS 2021

Board meetings are held the Monday before the second Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM. Workshops are held every Thursday at 1:00 PM and are subject to cancellation. Please call the office at 239.472.2472 or visit the website at [www.mycepd.com](http://www.mycepd.com) for updates, cancellations, and meeting information.

February 8<sup>th</sup>  
March 8<sup>th</sup>  
April 12<sup>th</sup>  
May 10<sup>th</sup>  
June 7<sup>th</sup>  
July 12<sup>th</sup>  
August 9<sup>th</sup>  
September TBD  
October 11<sup>th</sup>  
November 8<sup>th</sup>  
December 13<sup>th</sup>



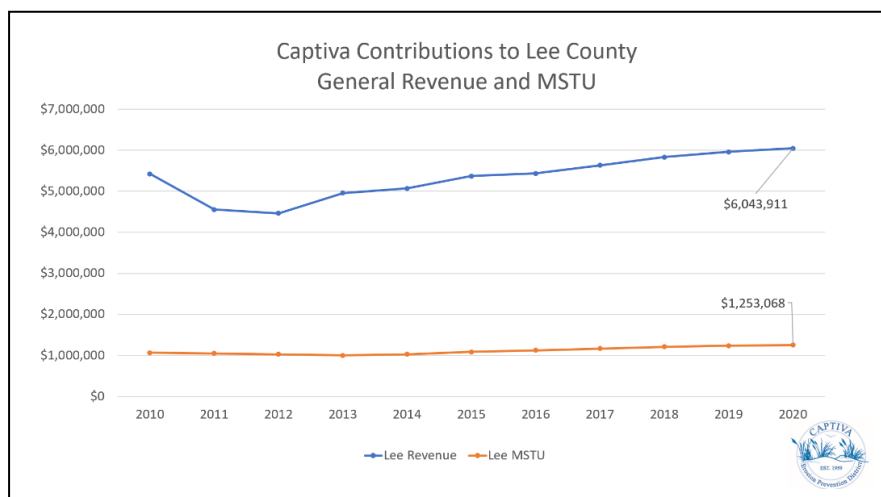
## INCREASED RATES AT ALISON HAGERUP BEACH PARK

Many people have been curious as to the recent parking rate increases at Alison Hagerup Beach Park. As the CEPD is soon embarking on a new project in 2021, estimated to cost \$30 million, the district has had a need for creative ways to find funding. Captiva's registered voters recently passed a referendum to assess property owners up to \$18 million, but that only covers partial funding of the beach renourishment project.

All proceeds from the parking lot will help fund the projects, maintain the beach and parking area, build dunes, and support habitats for native and endangered species. Additionally, the district is working with Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation in providing for sea turtle special needs among other research opportunities. COVID-19 has also increased the need for monitoring of the beach and maintaining the public access areas.

It is true that Captiva looks to the public, who use our beaches and parking, to help in a small way to fund projects and the hourly/daily parking rates are a part of the larger contribution needed to fund a huge expense. Beach management, renourishment, planting native vegetation and supporting turtle habitats are very costly undertakings. The public's participation in helping provide wildlife habitats by frequenting Captiva's beach parking is greatly appreciated.

## CAPTIVA'S TAX CONTRIBUTIONS



Captiva Island has a long-standing tradition as a “donor community” for Lee County. While that is beneficial to our county, Captivans should be sure that they are still receiving fair treatment for their contributions.

Most recently in 2020, property owners on Captiva paid out \$21,306,780 for all ad valorem taxes charged on island with \$7,296,979 of those funds going to Lee County General Revenue and Municipal Service Taxing Unit. Lee County also charges a 5% transient sales tax on all rentals under 6 months and allocates funding for tourism industry related projects, including beach nourishment.

With growing concern about Sea Level Rise and Climate Change, the importance of beach and shoreline restoration is increasing. The beaches not only offer protection to our property and infrastructure but serve as Florida's largest driver of economic opportunity. With COVID-19's effect on tourism, it is important that we double down our efforts and invest more heavily in our main source of revenue.

For a better understanding of what and how you are being charged as a property owner, CEPD staff compiled a report, [found here](#).



## FLORIDA SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

### FSBPA CONFERENCE 2020

The 2020 Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association conference brought together public and private sector professionals from the federal, state, and county levels to address the theory and practice of shore and beach resiliency and the current threat of Climate Change, Sea Level Rise, and Increased Storm Frequency and Intensity. CEPD was represented at the conference by Chairman Michael Mullins, Consultants Bob Gray and Evan Cutler, and Administrative Director John Riegert. To review staff report [click here](#).

US Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection all have faced major changes with the new Federal and State administrations, expanding funding opportunities. The Return on Investment in generated tax revenues for Lee County and CEPD projects is staggering; for every \$1 spent on beach nourishment projects, \$590 Federal, \$115 State, and \$28 Local tax revenues are generated.

Florida communities have been shifting their planning from simple nourishment to “resiliency” efforts geared towards adapting to the ongoing trends of increasing climate change, sea level rise, storm frequency and intensity. To view the presentations in full, [click here](#).

FSBPA is hosting a technical conference in February 2021 that will be attended by Executive Director Jennifer Nelson and Technical Policy Director Daniel Munt.

### FROM THE FSBPA BEACH WATCH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

On January 14, Amy Baker, the state’s economist, gave a budget update to the Appropriations Committee. The state’s near-term budget outlook is grim but improving. You may know that the August Revenue Estimating Conference put the two-year budget shortfall at \$5.4B.

After the summer numbers had been crunched, the December revenue estimating conference revised the shortfall to only \$3.3B over the next two years. While that number is still large, it takes the most austere budget cutting measures off the table, which means the base budget will likely be stable and not see major cuts. With tourism being the number one driver of the state’s economy, we expected to see negative industry numbers, and that is in fact what has happened.

Unfortunately, tourism will also be the last to recover with international travel lagging behind all other tourism categories. The COVID-19 pandemic is the sole reason for this. However, anecdotally from many of our members, when beaches reopened, people flocked to them by the millions.

Please Note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from CEPD employees and officials regarding CEPD business are public records available to the public and media upon request.