

# Meeting Minutes for CEPD Board Meeting (06/09/2025)

## Quick recap

The Captiva Erosion Prevention District held its monthly meeting, discussing administrative matters, project updates, and financial challenges. The board reviewed progress on beach renourishment and dune augmentation projects, including plans for equipment mobilization and sand sourcing. Budget negotiations for hurricane recovery funding were addressed, with the board emphasizing the need for stronger advocacy efforts among Florida's beach districts.

## Next steps

- Brighton & Board: Review and make decision on construction starting location
- Project Team: Begin mobilization for beach nourishment project in late July
- Project Team: Start dredging operations in August with expected completion in October
- All Commissioners: Review and sign off on the audit draft before next meeting
- Nicole: Prepare and submit construction administration services proposal for July meeting
- Nicole: Prepare proposals for State/Federal permitting and sand source investigation by end of August
- Nicole: Monitor and verify remaining sand quantity in current borrow area 6-E
- Great Lakes: Finalize construction sequencing in next few weeks after site visit
- Brighton: Coordinate with Great Lakes regarding project mobilization timeline and staging areas
- Brighton: Review and provide feedback on the audit draft within a week
- Brighton: Prepare presentation for July meeting regarding long-term goals and priorities for CEPD
- Brighton: Present to Sanibel and Captiva Association of Realtors on June 26th
- Management Team: Prepare and format engineering plans to communicate dune specifications to property owners
- Management Team: Increase communication efforts with beachfront property owners regarding dune enhancement project details
- Management Team: Provide detailed information to Susie Henry about the planned dune width specifications
- Nick: Monitor budget negotiations and provide updates on hurricane funding status
- County Commissioner: Direct their lobbyist to collaborate with Nick to discuss beach matters with House and Senate representatives

- CEPD: Coordinate with county regarding funding after state participation is confirmed
- Brighton & John: Attend FASD conference next week in Port Charlotte
- Brighton: Finalize furniture procurement for office within budget
- Brighton: Follow up with banks regarding QuickBooks integration for account management
- Petra: Set up and QuickBooks for accounting management

## **Summary**

### **Captiva Erosion Prevention District Meeting**

The monthly meeting of the Captiva Erosion Prevention District was held on June 9th, with several commissioners and staff members present both in person and online. Tim McGowan participated via audio due to being in a car, and the meeting approved his online participation. Evan discussed technical issues with YouTube access and video editing, while Brighton requested that Petra print out some samples for distribution. The meeting began with a roll call led by Brighton, and Evan confirmed that the meeting was being recorded.

### **Board Minutes and Project Updates**

The board approved minutes from April, May, and June to be presented at the July meeting. The chairman discussed progress on getting Brighton up to speed and plans to provide a list of long-term goals for board participation. They also reviewed updates on banking matters, loan setup, and administrative functions. The chairman explained the status of dune augmentation and beach renourishment projects, including the completion of staking out landward dunes and plans for a GPS receiver purchase to improve internal survey capabilities.

### **Legal and Accounting Firm Engagements**

Brighton provided updates on legal and accounting firm engagements, noting progress with two legal firms - Maggie Mooney's firm and Neighbors - while accounting work continues with potential engagement of Eisner. Brighton proposed engaging multiple legal firms to complement Ralph's services, with Maggie Mooney potentially working with Ralph in the short term. The administrative office update included hiring a new bookkeeper, Petra, and ongoing office setup progress, with furniture procurement being discussed.

## **Brighton's Updates and Financial Review**

Brighton discussed the importance of keeping him informed about decisions, particularly regarding the purchase of a channel, and emphasized the need for clear communication. He registered for the FASD conference in Port Charlotte with John and secured accommodation, highlighting the benefits of attending for special districts. Brighton also introduced Petra as the new bookkeeper/administrative assistant and provided updates on financial disclosures, estoppel letters, and recent activities, including a turtle lighting survey and a 40-ton oyster reef deployment. The audit was completed, and commissioners were asked to review it within a week, with any concerns to be discussed at the upcoming workshop.

## **Financial Challenges and QuickBooks Transition**

The meeting focused on financial challenges and updates. Brighton explained that the decrease in revenues was due to unspent funds from the previous year's budget, and property values had decreased significantly after storms, affecting ad valorem taxes. The board discussed the transition to QuickBooks Online, with delays in linking bank accounts due to bureaucratic issues. Evan and Brighton emphasized the importance of resolving these technical issues to streamline financial processes. The conversation ended with Nicole joining to discuss Apple-related matters, but the transcript ended before she could speak.

## **Beach Renourishment Project Update**

Nicole reported that the Beach Renourishment project remains on track for a mid-August start date, with Great Lakes expected to begin mobilizing equipment to the island by mid to late July. The project will use two staging areas at Turner Beach and Allison Hagerup, which will result in temporary parking closures. While Great Lakes is considering starting construction at the north end due to more extensive dune repair needs, the final decision on the start location remains pending, with an update expected in the coming weeks.

## **Sand Borrow Area Exploration Plan**

Nicole and Brighton discussed the need to identify a new borrow area for sand as the current one might be fully utilized for the ongoing project. Nicole explained that after the current project, they would propose looking for another borrow area, noting that existing samples from 15 years ago are no longer available. They also discussed the challenges of using sand from other entities' permitted areas due to potential protests and regulatory changes over the years. Nicole mentioned that sand is a limited and controversial resource, with some projects now requiring sand 30 miles offshore. They agreed to include a sand source investigation and permit renewal in next year's budget, with Nicole promising to provide preliminary cost estimates for these efforts.

### **Borrow Site Reverification and Dune Review**

The team discussed the need to reverify the current borrow site, which was last surveyed in 2010, as it had been 15 years since the last investigation. Nicole confirmed that while there was enough sand for the current and next project, supplies were very limited after that. The team also reviewed dune elevation measurements, which showed heights of 10 to 12 feet NAVD, with some areas historically being 8 feet. Nicole explained that the different dune heights were chosen based on historical data and permit constraints.

### **Florida Beach Restoration Budget Negotiations**

The meeting focused on budget negotiations for beach restoration projects in Florida, particularly addressing hurricane damage from the past year. Nicholas reported that while the House of Representatives increased funding for invasive species projects to \$500,000, the fate of hurricane-impacted beach funding remains uncertain, with the Senate proposing \$52 million and the House \$50 million. John expressed frustration that more communities weren't advocating for hurricane recovery funding, noting that only 6 of Florida's beach districts are currently pursuing beach nourishment projects. The group discussed the need to engage with the Florida Beaches and Shores Preservation Association (FSBPA) and potentially coordinate with other affected counties to strengthen their advocacy efforts.