

Captiva Erosion Prevention District (CEPD)

Board of Commissioners – Regular Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2026

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: CEPD Office & Virtual (Zoom)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at approximately **1:00 PM**.

2. Roll Call

Present:

- John Wade, Chairman
- Bob Walter, Commissioner
- Bernie Dupre, Commissioner
- Rene Miville, Commissioner
- Brighton Heard, General Manager

Joined Remotely:

- Tim McGowan, Commissioner (approved later in meeting)

Staff / Consultants Present:

- David Jackson, District Counsel
- Evan Cutler, Technical Advisor
- Nicole Sharp, APTIM
- Members of the public

A quorum was established.

3. Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2025

Motion: Approve the minutes of the December 8, 2025 Board Meeting.

Vote: Unanimous approval.

4. Changes to the Agenda

There were **no changes** to the agenda.

5. Chairman's Update

The Chair reported **no updates** at this time.

6. Administrative Update – Brighton Heard

Beach Renourishment Status

- Sanibel/Captiva Renourishment is complete.
- Great Lakes Dredge & Dock (GLDD) has fully demobilized.

Tree Removal Program

- Approximately **60 mature trees** scheduled for removal under the invasive species program.
- Strong community participation; less than **25% of grant funds** expended to date.
- Some removals near an active eagle nest were **rescheduled to April** to comply with wildlife protections.
- Program expected to continue through **June 2026**.

Banking / Custodian Update

- Regions Bank requested an update to authorized custodians.
- **Motion:** Remove René Miville as bank custodian and temporarily designate **Brighton Heard** as custodian until a new Treasurer is appointed, with dual approval safeguards remaining in place.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously.

Remote Participation

- **Motion:** Allow Commissioner Tim McGowan to participate remotely.
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously.

Staffing / Scheduling

- Limited staff availability through the end of January due to travel and professional obligations.
- Brighton will attend the **FSBPA National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology** in early February.

Rules & Procedures

- No written commissioner comments received to date.
- District Counsel continues work on edits.
- Consensus to circulate a **redlined draft** prior to the next meeting and determine whether a workshop is needed.

7. Old Business

a. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / WRDA Update – Evan Cutler

- Reviewed historical background of CEPD’s **1988–89 federal nourishment project**.
- Explained implications of the **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)** providing a **two-year window** for potential federal cost-share participation.
- Multiple **FOIA requests** submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers seeking:
 - Easements and acceptance records
 - Design and construction documents
 - Financial and reimbursement records
 - Environmental compliance documentation
- Initial FOIA responses were incomplete; additional requests are pending.
- Evan will continue gathering documentation and coordinate with Brighton on **next steps**, including potential engagement with federal advocates or peer districts.

Board Direction:

- Proceed on a **dual-track approach**: continue document recovery while identifying potential external assistance (lobbyists, legal counsel, or peer district coordination).
- Provide interim updates to the Board prior to the next meeting.

8. Consultant Update – APTIM (Nicole Sharp)

Post-Construction Compliance

- Post-construction surveys completed; draft report under review.
- Final reports will be submitted to FDEP in accordance with permit requirements.

Permitting

- State permit valid through **December 2029**.
- Federal (USACE) permit valid through **early 2030**.
- Renewal efforts typically begin approximately **two years prior to expiration**.

Funding & Reimbursements

- APTIM assisting with:
 - Hurricane Ian grant close-out and compliance
 - Approximately **\$3 million** in state Beach Management Funding Assistance Program reimbursements
- Coordination ongoing with Brighton regarding Lee County cost-share documentation.

Board Discussion

- Commissioners expressed interest in pursuing **additional Lee County funding**, similar to a \$1 million supplemental contribution received in 2021.
 - Direction given to develop **clear talking points, strategy, and timeline** for engagement with County Commissioners and Natural Resources staff.
 - Board requested a defined plan and official response from the County.
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9. Great Lakes Dredge & Dock – Payment Application

- GLDD submitted final payment application.
 - Commissioners expressed concern about approving payment without a consolidated **executive summary** of total project costs and payments to date.
 - District Counsel advised of obligations under the **Florida Prompt Payment Act** for undisputed invoices.
 - Board consensus:
 - No formal action taken at this meeting.
 - Staff to confirm whether any portion of the invoice is disputed.
 - Additional financial clarity to be provided promptly while remaining compliant with statutory timelines.
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10. Public Comment

No formal public comment recorded.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.