

Captiva Erosion Prevention District (CEPD)

Board of Commissioners – Regular Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2026

Time: 1:02 PM

Location: CEPD Office & Virtual (Teleconference)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present:

Rene Miville, Commissioner

Bob Walter, Commissioner

Bernie Dupre, Commissioner

Tim McGowan, Commissioner

John Wade, Commissioner (via teleconference)

Staff Present:

Brighton Heard, General Manager

Lisa Batchelor, Office Manager

Members of the public

A quorum was established.

3. Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2026

Motion: Approve the January 12, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes as written.

Motion by: Commissioner Dupre

Second by: Commissioner McGowan

Vote: Unanimous approval

4. Changes to the Agenda

A new business item regarding Blind Pass discussion was added prior to adjournment.

5. Administrative Update – General Manager (Brighton Heard)

Beach Renourishment Financial Closeout

- Final payment to Great Lakes Dock & Dredge (GLDD) has been completed.

Rope & Bollard Installation

- Bob Johnson mobilized for installation of ropes and bollards.
- Work intended to protect newly planted sea oats and stabilize dune systems.

Andy Rosse Beach Access

- Discussion regarding potential modification of the Andy Rosse beach access path.
- No formal action taken.
- Board requested additional design input prior to moving forward.

Dune Protection & Signage

- Signage prohibiting unauthorized motor vehicle access on dunes to be installed.

Australian Pine Removal Program

- Several hundred invasive Australian Pines have been removed.
- Funding remains available through June 30, 2026.
- Program continues to see strong participation.

Public Outreach

Discussion regarding methods of public communication, including:

- CEPD website
- Beach Brief email updates
- Islander publication
- Captiva Community Panel distribution list

Financial Reporting / CPA Coordination

- Consultation with EisnerAmper discussed.
- Potential workshop presentation on governmental financial statements for Board education.

Economist RFQ

- Request for Qualifications (RFQ) sent to 22 firms.
- Responses pending.

Assessment Timeline

- Assessment deadline anticipated in early August 2026.
- Timeline planning underway.

Susie Henry Reimbursement Request

- Request for \$930 reimbursement for post-storm debris removal.
- Deferred pending legal review and Board direction at a future meeting.

6. Board Reorganization of Officers

The Board conducted its previously deferred annual officer reorganization.

Chair: Bob Walter – Unanimous approval

Vice Chair: Tim McGowan – Unanimous approval

Secretary/Treasurer: Bernie Dupre – Unanimous approval

7. Consultant Update – APTIM

Post-Construction Report

- Draft post-construction report expected within two weeks.
- FDEP permit closeout pending submission and review.

DEP Funding

- June 1 deadline for DEP funding requests.
- Discussion regarding potential retroactive funding for storm-related overages.

Escarpment Management / Tilling

- Discussion regarding escarpments along portions of the beach.
- Consideration of mechanical tilling prior to April 1 (sea turtle nesting season).

Permitting

- Existing state permit remains valid through December 2029.

8. Bayside Resiliency Pilot Project Discussion

The Board discussed the status and future direction of the Bayside Resiliency Pilot Project.

Discussion included:

The origin of the project through the Captiva Community Panel.

Transfer of leadership to CEPD due to the District's financial capacity and taxing authority.

Current competing priorities before the District.

Consideration of whether to continue advancing the project at this time.

A motion was made to temporarily postpone further work on the Bayside Resiliency Pilot Project.

After discussion, the motion carried.

Vote: Approved.

9. Emergency Beach Maintenance Referendum Discussion

Discussion held regarding potential emergency beach maintenance authority and referendum capacity.

An initial motion to proceed with a referendum was made and subsequently withdrawn.

Motion: Conduct a 30-day research period to evaluate:

- Existing referendum language and remaining millage capacity
- Emergency response framework
- Potential updated referendum language

Vote: Unanimous approval

Staff directed to return with findings and recommendations.

10. Legislative Update

- Florida House proposed \$250,000 appropriation for invasive plant replacement.

- Senate’s initial budget did not include the item (not uncommon at early stages).
- Ongoing monitoring of property tax reform discussions at the state level.

11. Rules & Procedures Update

- Redlined draft circulated for review.
- Discussion regarding administrative authority provisions.
- Board consensus to schedule a workshop for further review and refinement.

12. Dune Enhancement Concept Drawings – Coastal Vista

The Board discussed the Coastal Vista dune enhancement concept drawings for the District’s public beach entrances, including the status of the remaining balance due and additional scope for concept development.

Discussion included:

Completion status of the concept drawing package for the four public entrances.

Remaining payment needed to close out the current concept design work.

Direction to expand concept work to include Turner Beach.

Motion: Approve payment to Coastal Vista for the remaining balance for the concept designs for the four public entrances, and authorize staff to engage Coastal Vista to add Turner Beach to the list of concept designs.

Vote: Approved

12. Blind Pass Discussion (Added Item)

Discussion held regarding Blind Pass conditions and coordination considerations.
No formal action taken.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.