

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 28, 2003**

**PRESIDENT:** Mayor J. J. Beyrouti, Town of Redington Shores  
**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Mayor Mike Kelly, City of Belleair Beach  
**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** Mayor Tom De Cesare, City of Madeira Beach

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council, held at the Treasure Island Community Center Garden Room, One Park Place, Treasure Island, Florida, was called to order by President J. J. Beyrouti at 9:10 a.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: (Voting = V; Alternate 1 = A1; and Alternate 2 = A2)**

Belleair Beach	Mayor Mike Kelly (V)
Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson (V)
Clearwater	Commissioner Hoyt Hamilton
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner James R. Palamara (V)
Indian Shores	Mayor Don Taber (V)
Madeira Beach	Mayor Tom De Cesare (V)
No. Redington Beach	Mayor Harold Radcliffe (V)
Redington Beach	Mayor Bob Fontaine (V)
Redington Shores	Mayor J. J. Beyrouti (V)
St. Pete Beach	Commissioner Peter Blank (V)
Treasure Island	Vice-Mayor Barbara Blush (V)

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Joe Burnett	Government Comm., Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce
Mary Burrell	Editor, Beacon-Bee
Marlene Clausen	Property Owner, Indian Shores
Lee Daniel	Asst. Director, CVB
Bob DiNicola	Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach
Donna Draper	Town Clerk, Redington Shores
Linda Fisher	Program Planner, Pinellas Planning Council
Joan Herndon	Councilor, Indian Shores
Jerry Knight	Commissioner, North Redington Beach
Richard Kraus	Commissioner, Treasure Island
John Leahy	Fire Chief, Pinellas Suncoast
Mary Maloof	Mayor, Treasure Island
Mike Nadeau	Building Official, Redington Shores
Bill Ochunzzi	Commissioner, Indian Rocks Beach
Vince Robertiello	Reporter, Beacon Bee
Steve Schwalb	Digital Cel, Inc.
Bill Smith	Councilor, Indian Shores
Steven Spratt	County Administrator, Pinellas County
Debbie Stambaugh	President, Tampa Bay Beach Chamber
Steve Sutch	President, ISPOA, Indian Shores
Jan Tracy	Education Coordinator – Cross-Bayou Waste Treatment Plant
Amy Wimmer	Reporter, St. Pete Times

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mayor De Cesare presented the Treasurer's Report for May, which has an ending balance of \$1.544/09. **Motion** made by Mayor John Robertson, seconded by Mayor Don Taber to accept the Treasurer's Report, as presented, carried unanimously by voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion** made by Mayor John Robertson, seconded by Mayor Don Taber to approve the minutes of its April 23, 2003, meeting, as presented, carried unanimously approved by voice vote.

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

President Beyrouti introduced the Guest Speaker Jan Tracy, Education Coordinator, for the Cross-Bayou Waste Treatment Plant.

Ms. Tracy spoke on the educational program instituted at the Cross-Bayou Waste Treatment Plant to educate young and old on the importance of proper usage of waste disposal.

A program curriculum was written by instructors of science to be taught in the classroom as well as at the plant. This educational packet has been sent to science teachers in preparation of students acquainting themselves with what they will see when they visit the plant. Videos are also available.

Mr. Pick Talley, from the Pinellas County Utilities Department, was instrumental in the preparation of the educational material.

Tours are available for the public as well as students. Ms. Tracy works a regular day but is available after hours or in the evening if some one cannot make it during the day time. It is important that everyone understand the importance of what to put and what not to put into their sinks and toilets.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Gulf Boulevard Undergrounding and Beautification Report

President Beyrouti reported that this project will not happen this year. He indicated that the County Administration tried to institute a Gas Tax to fund this project, but it was not passed. President Beyrouti said the Council should not forget the project but to keep trying. In the meantime, the Council should try to work to obtain grant money for funding. He is looking for ideas.

2. Legislative Issues

President Beyrouti updated the Council on legislative issues. The legislature just passed a bill allocating \$22.5 million funding for the beaches. Senator Jones and Representative Carcasses were instrumental in obtaining ½% of the bed tax dedicated for beach funding. The money cannot be deferred for other expenses.

President Beyrouti asked the Council to call their representatives to oppose the signing of HB43A which would eliminate the "Doc" stamp which was signed by Senator Jones when he was a State Representative for funding for beach renourishment. The "Doc" stamp is essential for beach renourishment projects.

President Beyrouti said that he has been working with Florida League of Cities and National League of Cities in receiving Federal Funds to be allocated through the State to cities for expenditures incurred as a result of Homeland Security. The Governor has indicated that 80% will be given. The Fire Department is included as well as the Police Departments.

The Density Bill presented by Senator Jones and Representative Carcasses will not be passed this year. John Burdett said it is being attached to the Hurricane Bill.

3. American Assembly

President Beyrouti indicated that County Commissioner Karen Seel was scheduled to come to the meeting to discuss the American Assembly, but could not make it. The Assembly has been organized for the county and cities to work together as 2 task forces. No meeting has been scheduled yet.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Proclamation – National Small Cities and Towns Day

A proclamation was included in your packet which was received from the National League of Cities. This proclamation calls attention to the issues and concerns facing America's smaller communities. Mayor Radcliffe made a motion that the BIG C pass a proclamation, seconded by Mayor Robertson and carried unanimously by voice vote.

2. Gas Tax

This will be brought up at the Mayors' Council Meeting. This tax is needed to help fund the Gulf Boulevard Project.

Steven Spratt, County Commissioner, reported on the gas tax. He indicated that the County Commission was not ready to pass the gas tax. They wanted more information on projects throughout the county. He encouraged the BIG C members to bring their projects to the County.

President Beyrouti indicated that the gas tax monies is used for infrastructure of roads and cannot be used on the beautification portion of Gulf Boulevard – but the Pennies for Pinellas can.

Mayor De Cesare said that many of the communities are funding their projects on Gulf Boulevard and that these communities should work jointly in adopting similar guide lines. Make a uniform plans so when we go to the County, we can get help.

Vice Mayor Blush said that the City of Treasure Island is planning to underground their utilities lines at the Sunset Vista Trailhead Park. Phil Graham and Company, the landscape architect, has prepared a comparable project that can be adopted by all communities.

President Beyrouti thanked Treasure Island for hosting the BIG C meeting this month. He also said he enjoyed the Symphony on the Beach on Saturday.

Commissioner Blank reported on the Trolley in St. Pete Beach and Treasure Island. The two communities are working together to try and extend the contract for another year. The present contract runs out at the end of the year and there is not grant funds available for funding next year. Money is significantly higher this year and alternative programs are being considered. The City Manager will be bringing his proposals and any information from PSTA to the meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The trolley has been very successful.

Debbie Stambaugh, President of the Gulf Beaches Chamber, presented the Council with packets containing information on the "Mile Markers". FDOT will support these markers if the Chamber will pay for them and the Cities install them. PSAT will put the numbers. In order for this to happen, the support of all 10 communities is necessary. Ms. Stambaugh said the cost will be \$3,000 and the Chamber will commit to raise the money.

Motion was made by Mayor Kelly and seconded by Commissioner Blank to support this project and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Joe Burnett said that St. Petersburg is considering changing the alcohol Sunday hours. He indicated that the beach communities should investigate this situation – he could have an impact on the beach hotels.

President Beyrouti reminded everyone about the Suncoast League of Municipalities mini-conference this coming weekend.

**ADJOURNMENT**

10:10 AM

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Sandra Carnevale, Executive Assistant – Treasure Island

Approved by the BIG-C on  
June 25, 2003

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Barbara A. Blush, Commissioner – Treasure Island