

MAY 25, 2005 MINUTES

The meeting of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council, held at the Treasure Island City Hall, 120 108th Avenue, Treasure Island, Florida, was called to order by President Don Taber at 9:00 am.

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** President Taber led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. ROLL CALL:** President Taber requested that each person introduce him/herself.

Members:

Belleair Beach	Mayor Rudy Davis
Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson
Clearwater	Councilman Hoyt Hamilton
Indian Rocks Beach	Commissioner Jim Palamara
Indian Shores	Mayor Don Taber
Madeira Beach	Commissioner John Wolbert
No. Redington Beach	Vice Mayor Jerry Knight
Redington Beach	Mayor Bob Fountaine
St. Pete Beach	Vice Mayor Debra Nicklaus
Treasure Island	Commissioner Richard Kraus

Guests:

Rand Baldwin	Government Affairs – S. W. Fla. Water Management
Katherine Burbridge	Intergovernmental Liaison, Pinellas County
Phil Collins	Vice Mayor – Treasure Island
Lee Daniel	Asst. Director – Convention & Visitors Bureau
Leslie Peck-Epstein	Commissioner – Public Safety – Redington Beach
Linda Fisher	Program Planner – Pinellas Planning Council
Nick Fritsch	Clearwater
Ed Gayton	Commissioner – Treasure Island
Joan Herndon	Councilor Indian Shores
Bob MacPherson	Report – Beach Beacon
Mary Maloof	Mayor – Treasure Island
Dave Moore	Exec. Director – S. W. Fla. Water Management
Jennifer Nye	Deputy City Clerk – Treasure Island
Len Piotti	Commissioner – Madeira Beach

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Angelo Rao	Volkert & Associates, Inc.
Vince Robertiello	Reporter – St. Pete Post
Ed Ruttencutter	Commissioner – St. Pete Beach
Dean Scharmen	Public Services Director – Indian Rocks Beach
Bill Smith	Councilor – Indian Shores
Ralph Stone	City Manager – Treasure Island
Art Thomas	Commissioner – Madeira Beach
Linda Wilson	Vice Mayor Redington Beach

ANNOUNCEMENT: President Don Taber announced that there would be a news conference at 11:00am at Ft. DeSoto. Ft. DeSoto was voted Number 1 in the Nation according to a press release.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 25TH BIG-C AGENDA. President

Motion was made by Mayor John Robertson, seconded by Mayor Bob Fontaine to approve the May 25th agenda, carried unanimously by voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 7, 2005, BIG-C MINUTES. Motion was made by Mayor John Robertson, seconded by Mayor Bob Fontaine to approve the April 27, 2005, minutes, carried unanimously by voice vote.

5. APPROVAL OF MAY 2004 TREASURER'S REPORT. Treasurer Bob Fontaine read the Treasure Report to the council. Motion was made by Mayor John Robertson and seconded by Commissioner Richard Kraus to accept the May 2005 Treasurer's Report as read, carried unanimously by voice vote.

6. GUEST SPEAKER – DAVE MOORE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (SWFWMD)

Dave Moore, Executive Director, Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) was the guest speaker. He gave an update of the water supply in the State of Florida. He indicated that the water supply is meeting the needs of the Tampa Bay area. Our water supply is in good condition.

He attributed this to the use of reclaimed water and conservation. He said the water use today in 2005 is the same as it was in 1997 and 1998.

He said there is still research going on especially in desalination. Conserving water is a positive step in maintaining an adequate water supply.

At this time, there is not a water shortage.

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**7. PRESENTATION BY ANGELO RAO, P.E., VOLKERT & ASSOCIATES,
REAGRNDING PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLE SAFETY**

Angelo Rao, Volkert & Associates, Inc., presented a power point presentation on Pedestrian Safety issues. He showed what is out there and what is working.

Among his presentation were the following:

Probability of Pedestrian Fatality with increasing speed. The faster a motorist drives, the more likely of a pedestrian fatality – we need to consider the speed in highly pedestrian areas.

There are many cities that consider their pedestrian first

The 5-minute walking rule which is a comfortable walking distance. If there are amenities within a 5-minute distance, people are more likely to walk the distance rather than drive.

Other pedestrian safety considerations are narrow roadways, mediums, colorize crossing lanes and changing some of the dynamics.

Mr. Rao showed different signage that can be used as safety factors – Of particular interest to the council was the Count Down Pedestrian Signal. Pedestrian would know how many seconds they had to cross at the lights. The other was the flashing speed indicator on the side of the road rather than the smart cart used in most areas. The cost of the Count down is in the area of \$400. The speed sign is about \$65,000.

He presented a number of pictures of the above mentioned safety factors that are in place in various neighboring communities.

For Gulf Boulevard, he feels the best solution is concentration – repetitiveness along Gulf Boulevard and neighbor friendly. Make the environment pleasing.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Report from Mayor Bob Fontaine relative to Gulf Boulevard – “Speed Limit”

Mayor Bob Fountain said he met with MPO, FDOT and the Sheriff’s Department. They were all very supportive. With FDOT, he met with Ken Hartmann, Secretary of District 7, and his replacement Don Skeleton, and they were very supportive.

There was some discussion about lowering the speed limit. It was suggested that if motorists exceeded the speed limit by 5 miles that the law enforcement could give them a warning rather than ticketing them. The Sheriff’s Department indicated they would work with the communities in promoting safety.

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9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. New Letterhead Stationery for BIG-C

President Taber had the new stationery. He showed the new logo and said that Clearwater would be added to the list of communities.

10. MISCELLANEOUS

A. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

None

**B. BEACH UPDATE BY NICOLE ELKO, COASTAL COORDINATOR,
PINELLAS COUNTY**

Nicole Elko was not present. Nick Fritsch said the contract should be ready by the 20th of the month of June. The pre-conference should be in July with construction sometime in late August of early September.

Nick passed out brochures for the communities to view and comment on. President Taber said the brochures will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

Mayor David said that Belleair Beach passed a resolution supporting Project Safety. Commissioner Kraus indicated that Treasure Island did also. There are still a couple of communities that have not passed a resolution.

Next meeting will be at St. Pete Beach.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

**Richard Kraus, Commissioner
Treasure Island, FL**

ATTEST:

**Executive Assistant
Treasure Island, FL**