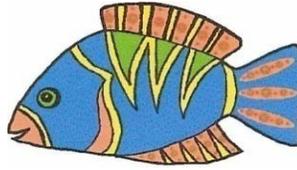


# ***BIG C***

## ***Barrier Islands Governmental Council***

*Belleair Beach  
Belleair Shore  
Clearwater  
Indian Rocks Beach  
Indian Shores  
Madeira Beach*



*North Redington Beach  
Redington Beach  
Redington Shores  
St. Pete Beach  
Treasure Island*

### **OFFICERS**

**George N. Cretekos**  
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**Mayor, Clearwater**  
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**Clearwater FL 33758**  
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**Mayor, Treasure Island**  
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**Secretary/Treasurer**  
**Vice Mayor, Indian Rocks Beach**  
**1507 Bay Palm Boulevard**  
**Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785**  
**727 517-0204 FAX 727 595-4627**

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### **Meeting Minutes** **January 30, 2013**

Present: Belleair Beach  
Clearwater  
Indian Rocks Beach  
Indian Shores  
Madeira Beach  
North Redington Beach  
Redington Beach  
Redington Shores  
St. Pete Beach  
Treasure Island

Mayor Kathy Mortensen  
Mayor George N. Cretekos  
Vice Mayor Terry Hamilton Wollin  
Mayor Jim Lawrence  
Mayor Travis Palladeno  
Mayor Bill Queen  
Mayor Nick Simons  
Mayor Bert Adams  
Commissioner Jim Parent  
Mayor Robert Minning

Guest Speaker:  
University of South Florida St. Petersburg

Bill Hogarth

Guests Present:  
Baker  
City of Belleair Beach  
State of Florida – District 69  
State of Florida – District 69  
State of Florida – District 22  
City of Indian Rocks Beach  
City of Indian Rocks Beach  
Indian Rocks Beach  
Town of Indian Shores  
Town of Indian Shores  
Indian Shores  
North Redington Beach  
Pinellas County Emergency Management  
Pinellas County  
Pinellas County MPO  
Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority

Jerry Dabkowski  
Councilmember Wanda Schwerer  
Representative Kathleen Peters  
Legislative Assistant Lizbeth Mabry  
Legislative Assistant Bob Esposito  
Mayor R.B. Johnson  
Chuck Coward  
Jose L. Coppen  
Vice Mayor Joan Herndon  
Councilor Carole Ireland  
Matt Towson  
Bill Part  
Rick Walker  
Andy Squires  
Sandra Knoebel  
Bob Lasher

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# *BIG C*

## *Barrier Islands Governmental Council*

Progress Energy	Melissa Saixas
Redington Beach	Mark Deighton
Town of Redington Shores	Vice Mayor John Branch
The Scene	Phyllis Johnson
Social Light Media	Debb Pauley
Southwest Florida Water Management District	Danny Kushmer
Tampa Bay Newspapers	Bob McClure
University of South Florida St. Petersburg	Helen Levine
University of South Florida St. Petersburg	Tom Scherberger
City of Clearwater Board Reporter	Patricia O. Sullivan

BIG C President George Cretekos called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Redington Shores Town Hall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and welcoming remarks by Redington Shores Mayor Bert Adams.

**To provide continuity for research, items are in agenda order although not necessarily discussed in that order.**

### 3 - Approval of Agenda

Vice Mayor Hamilton Wollin moved to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

### 4 - Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2012 meeting.

Mayor Lawrence moved to approve the minutes of the regular BIG C (Barrier Islands Governmental Council) meeting of December 5, 2012, as submitted in written summation to each member. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

### 5 - Approval of Treasurer's Report for November 2012 and December 2012.

Treasurer's Reports were submitted: November 2012 balance was \$6,236.17 and December 2012 balance was \$7,409.25.

Mayor Mortensen moved to accept the November and December 2012 Treasurer's Reports. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

### 6 - Correspondence:

A letter from Mayor Lawrence suggested BIG C action regarding FDOT (Florida Department of Transportation) MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) language that conveys to individual municipalities responsibility for potentially high costs to maintain the Gulf Boulevard RRFB (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon) system. This item will be on the BIG C February 27, 2013 agenda. Pinellas County MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) representative Sandra Knoebel will invite a FDOT representative to attend and will report on MOU language re RRFB system on County's portion of the road.

A letter from Pinellas County Coastal Manager Andy Squires requested a BIG C appointment to the Evaluation Committee to score proposals for the Environmental Consultant Services Coastal

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# *BIG C*

## *Barrier Islands Governmental Council*

Management. It was reported that Mayor Minning previously served on the committee and was willing to serve again.

Mayor Lawrence moved to appoint Mayor Minning as the Big C representative to the Evaluation Committee that will score proposals for Environmental Consultant Services Coastal Management. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.

### 7 - New Business:

#### **a) Bill Hogarth, University of South Florida St. Petersburg**

Bill Hogarth, Interim Chancellor of USFSP (University of South Florida St. Petersburg) and Director of FIO (Florida Institute of Oceanography) discussed USFSP enhancements, student body activities, and the university's value as a community resource.

Dr. Hogarth said FIO has a marine lab and 2 research vessels and discussed FIO participation in the aftermath of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon/BP oil spill, resulting coastal issues, grants, and restoration efforts. Research continues on impacts to socio economics, long term health, the environment, and fish populations and plans for future mishaps. He reviewed the complicated formula for distribution of fine proceeds. He said municipalities could contact FIO for grant information and invited the BIG C to schedule a meeting at USFSP to tour a research vessel following breakfast at the student union.

In response to questions, Dr. Hogarth anticipated the Restore Act will fund future monitoring of the gulf. He said Florida is home to 40% of the country's recreational fishing, which has a \$25 billion economic impact. He said the Gulf of Mexico is an important resource and major economic driver for Florida and would benefit from increased investment by the State.

#### **b) Restore Act (Oil Spill Litigation)**

Mayor Cretekos said Pinellas County will receive some proceeds from the Restore Act to fund multijurisdictional projects that provide environmental stewardship, sustainable practices, restore past environmental economic damage, or protect against future damage. He suggested the funds could be used for the economic restoration of Gulf Boulevard. He will report further as information becomes available.

#### **c) Meetings for the Year**

Invitations will be sent for the Coastal Community Summit now scheduled for the April 24, 2013 BIG C meeting at the Holiday Inn Harbourside in Indian Rocks Beach from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The focus will be on hurricane recovery issues. Public Works staff who deal with emergency management are encouraged to attend. A request was made to distribute information prior to the summit.

The November/December BIG C meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2013 at the Indian Shores Town Hall.

### 8 - Old Business:

#### **PSTA Update**

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# ***BIG C***

## ***Barrier Islands Governmental Council***

Mark Deighton, BIG C PSTA (Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority) representative, discussed the bus study underway and encouraged the BIG C to request more frequent beach trolley service and perhaps additional connections to mainland shopping areas. He reviewed projected shortfalls based on the current ad valorem rate and discussed efforts to merge PSTA with HART (Hillsborough Area Regional Transit). He said it is important that the region work together on transportation solutions as the Federal government only will help fund regional transportation plan proposals.

Mr. Deighton was thanked for his hard work. A formal presentation on PSTA will be scheduled on the BIG C March agenda.

### **Legislative Update**

State Representative Kathleen Peters anticipated most work in the upcoming Legislative Session will focus on Medicaid. She is watching for legislation that affects home rule. She requested help on her initiative to designate Pinellas County as the country's Center of Excellence for orthotics and prosthetics, which would create significant economic growth, serve as a regional economic engine for biotechnology partnerships with St. Petersburg College, and provide destination education opportunities. .

Legislative Assistant Bob Esposito reported Senator Jeff Brandes is Chair of the Florida Senate Committee on Transportation.

### **Beach Update**

Mr. Squires said the Upham Beach groins are performing well but will need refurbishing/replacement. He said funding for the Treasure Island Long Key renourishment projects looks favorable; the Sand Key renourishment project was successful. Mr. Squires was thanked for his efforts.

### **MPO/PPC Update**

On the February agenda, City of Indian Rocks Beach Commissioner Cookie Kennedy will provide an update on the MPO and PPC (Pinellas Planning Council).

### **9 - Miscellaneous:**

Members reviewed recent and upcoming events in their cities.

### **10 - Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

February 27, 2013 BIG C meeting is scheduled at North Redington Beach Town Hall, 190 173<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

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President, Barrier Islands  
Governmental Council  
Mayor – City of Clearwater

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