

**DUCK KEY SECURITY DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes of Meeting January 3, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Rick Sherman, Chair  
Laurie Oestreicher, Secretary  
Tim Abner, via Zoom  
Bob Kelley  
Megan Merryman, via Zoom  
Jon Porter, via Zoom  
Mike Weber, via Zoom

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tamara Lamarche - Executive Asst. for Comm. David Rice  
Judith Clarke - Chief Engineer, Monroe County, via Zoom  
Christina Cory, Assistant County Attorney, via Zoom  
Captain Don Hiller - MCSO  
Sgt. David Fernandez - MCSO  
Officer Brian Sapp - FWC, via Zoom  
Frank Jackson - DKSAB Technical Asst.  
Ron Oestreicher - Resident, President DKPOA  
Dan Hayes - Resident  
Kerry Kelley - Resident  
David Williamson - Resident, via Zoom

ABSENT

Hawks Cay Resort - Bob Moore, Manager  
Ralons Security - Luis Requejo

PROCEEDINGS:

- Meeting called to order at 4:00 by Chair Rick Sherman
- Meeting held via ZOOM and in person meeting at Hawks Cay Resort
- Date of meeting: January 3, 2023

Rick Sherman welcomed all and noted the meeting was being held at the Hawks Cay

Resort as well as via ZOOM.

MOTION: To Approve January 3, 2023 Meeting Agenda.

Motion to approve: by Bob Kelley; second Tim Abner.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: To approve the meeting minutes of November 1, 2022

Motion to approve: by Bob Kelley; second by Jon Porter.

MOTION CARRIED

### **STANDING REPORTS**

**MCSO** – Captain Don Hiller introduced Detective Sargent David Fernandez who will be attending-reporting for MCSO at the DKSAB meetings, representing MCSO for Duck Key. Sgt. Fernandez reported there had been a lot of watch activity on Duck Key, but no significant crimes. Refugee landings are the “hot topic” on Duck Key at the present time. There have been numerous Cuban “Chugs” vessels, with Cuban refugees landing on the Island since January 1, 2023. Residents are encouraged to call 9-1-1, or MCSO at 305-289-2430 if they see such activity. MCSO will then respond, detain the people involved, provide any water or medical needs necessary as well as alert Border Patrol of the location and situation. All involved know there are Environmental and Navigational water hazards with the abandoned vessels left on the breakwaters and shores. MCSO will work with FWC and the Coast Guard concerning this issue. It is a major funding issue for all agencies involved with no Federal Plan. Captain Hiller will get with Captain David Dipre of FWC to coordinate the reporting of the abandoned vessels. Captain Hiller advised that the refugees landing on our Coastlines create a Humanitarian need, call them first to alert of any arrivals and they will take over. He also advised that throughout the Keys even with the influx of so many refugees there have not been any cases of car theft, boat theft, or break-ins related to the refugees. Be aware and report any arrivals.

**Ralons Security** – Luis Requejo was absent. Frank Jackson did want to advise the residents of Duck Key not to call Luis Requejo personally with any concerns, as he is not on the Island patrolling. The correct number to call is 305-731-8238 during the hours the guard is on duty from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., any other times call MCSO at 9-1-1

or 305-289-2430 for non-emergencies.

**Hawks Cay Resort** – Bob Moore was absent. Rick Sherman advised he had received questions for Bob Moore from Sylvia Hernandez, a Duck Key resident not able to attend the meeting. The questions concerned were about the “Pins” at the Duck Key entrance, which he reported at the last DKSAB meeting the permits were obtained and contracted work was set to start, but the work/replacement of them has not as of yet, and also if Monroe County has a plan to repair the minimum wake sign on the E. Seaview canal near the entrance to Lake Lucille which Hurricane Ian tilted to one side. DKSAB will contact Bob Moore to have the “Pins” question answered and Tamara Lamarche, Executive Asst. for Comm. David Rice will contact Monroe County Marine Resources

**FWC** – Lt. Brian Sapp reported that the Cuban “Chuggs” are not considered derelict vessels, like those abandoned during hurricanes, storms and other reasons. There is a separate reporting system for them versus derelict vessels. The reporting and request for removal goes in immediately and should have the Chuggs removed more rapidly than derelict vessels. FWC can advise MCSO how to file the documents needed as they are called onsite to aid the refugees, then FWC will coordinate with the Coast Guard for removal.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Technology Update** – Frank Jackson reported that all cameras are working, and the Radar speed signs are all working as well. There was some loss of information during the Christmas time frame due to issues with Comcast and billing but the Monroe County Clerk’s Office has corrected the problem and the system is working well now, the modems have been rebooted and are working, the E. Seaview Bridge camera had to be rebooted as well but is now functioning. Rick Sherman thanked Frank Jackson for setting up and facilitating the Zoom function for the meeting at Hawks Cay and asked Frank to put together some suggestions on further technical needs for the meetings, and present them at the next meeting March 7, 2023.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Bridge Update as of January 6, 2023 – Judith Clarke, Chief Engineer, Monroe County**

Bimini Bridge Phase II Traffic Plan

AEB’s maintenance of traffic subcontractor is scheduled to be on site at the Bimini

Drive Bridge on Tuesday January 10th to relocate barricades and traffic control equipment for the commencement of Phase II of the Project.

The phase II traffic plan opens access to Corsair Road and Harbor Drive, so vehicles traveling west will cross the Bimini Bridge and be able to continue left onto Schooner Drive, straight onto Corsair Road or right onto Harbor Drive.

The east bound traffic will be routed to Corsair Road where a traffic signal will control traffic from Corsair and Harbor Drive. Schooner Drive will be closed to eastbound traffic between Schooner Lane and Bimini Drive; eastbound vehicles from Plantation and Yacht Club Islands will be routed onto Schooner Lane and around to Corsair Road to cross the bridge. A detailed map of the Traffic Plan is posted on Nextdoor. The completion date for the Bimini Bridge is September 2023.

E. Seaview Bridge planning meeting will be held January 10<sup>th</sup>. The North side of the Bridge will be started first, but prior to this the South side temporary bridge will be widened. When the actual construction of the E. Seaview Bridge commences the traffic lights to coordinate traffic will be up and speed bumps will no longer be necessary. The schedule for the E. Seaview Bridge will be published after the January planning meeting, but the bridge is scheduled to be complete in 18 months.

Judith Clarke was questioned on the problem throughout Duck Key with trenches on the streets getting deeper and/or not being finished/paved, the trenches seem to be getting deeper. She advised the temporary repairs and repave of the road cuts for utility service lines for new homes built on the Island are the responsibility of the utility companies, in particular, water and sewer lines. They make “temporary” cold patch on a cut and will make a final repave when possible. They are also to maintain/repair the cold patch if it becomes sunken before final repave can be done. The County reminds them frequently from road inspections, and in response to complaints from residents. The County has no direct authority over the utility companies to compel them to beyond the codes that are in place. The Engineering Department is in regular communication with the utilities to urge repaving impacted areas. The lengthy time period between cold patch and final repave we are told by the utility companies is due to the fact that there are now only one asphalt company that serves the Keys, and scheduling is a long term issue, from the new home construction occurring all through the Keys. Duck Key has had a significant number of new homes constructed on the Island in the past couple of years, making a considerable impact on the roads. It is a frustrating issue for all. Commissioner Rice has experienced it as well. His road in front of his home was all repaved, and a week later a new cut was made in the road for a new home being constructed. He will be speaking with FCAA to seek improvements in this issue for Keys neighborhoods.

Nominations for DKSAB Chair and Vice-Chair Position – Rick Sherman advised the Board Members of the need for a new Chair and Vice-Chair for DKSAB, and the responsibilities of the positions. There were no nominations for Chair, and Rick Sherman agreed to stay on as Chair until his term is limited out. Tim Abner indicated

he would be interested in being Vice-Chair.

MOTION: Rick Sherman stays in the position of DKSAB Chair.

Motion made by: Bob Kelley; second by Tim Abner.

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: Tim Abner to become Vice-Chair of DKSAB

Motion made by: Laurie Oestreicher; second by Bob Kelley.

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion of proposed hourly rates for IT Contractor Frank Jackson. Mr. Jackson left the room prior to discussion.

MOTION: Request the BOCC approve a pay raise for Frank Jackson from \$25.00 an hour to \$35.00 an hour, keeping the cap of 10 hours per week per the current maximum in the existing contract. The Board also approved the increase be retroactive to January 1, 2023.

Motion made by Bob Kelley; second Laurie Oestreicher.

MOTION CARRIED

There were no Public Comments prior to adjourning

There were 8 people on the ZOOM call  
Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Next DKSAB meeting will be Maarch 7, 2023, at 4 p.m. at the Hawks Cay Resort Meeting rooms and via Zoom, details to follow.

Minutes submitted by: Laurie Oestreicher, Duck Key, FL  
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