

DUCK KEY SECURITY DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting July 5, 2023

Location: Hawks Cay Conference Center, Room C

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT/ZOOM (Z)

Rick Sherman, Chair
Laurie Oestreicher, Secretary
Tim Abner, Vice Chair
Jon Porter
Bob Kelley (Z)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Megan Merryman

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tamara Lamarche - Executive Asst. for Comm. David Rice
Christina Cory, Assistant County Attorney (Z)
Frank Jackson – DKSAB Technical Asst.
Bob Moore – Hawks Cay General Manager (Z)
Susan Abner, Resident
Laurie Keiling, Resident
Scott Keiling, Resident
Ex-Officio DKSAB Member MCSO – Detective Fernandez
MCSO - Lt. Donny Barrios
Luis Requejo – Ralons Security (Z)

ABSENT

Officer Brian Sapp – FWC (Report emailed)
Judy Clarke, Engineer, Monroe County (Bridge Update emailed)

PROCEEDINGS:

- Meeting called to order at 4:05 by Chair Rick Sherman
- Meeting held in person with ZOOM Hybrid Communication Media Technology (CMT)
- Date of meeting: July 5, 2023

Rick Sherman welcomed all and noted the meeting was being held at the Hawks Cay Conference Center, room C, as well as via ZOOM.

Roll call: All board members present, 1 members by ZOOM. Quorum achieved. See listing on first page.

Item II. Approval of July 5, 2023 Meeting Agenda.

Motion to approve by Laurie Oestreicher; second Rick Sherman, none opposed.

MOTION CARRIED

Item III: Approval of the meeting minutes of May 2, 2023

Motion to approve by Jon Porter; second by Tim Abner, none opposed

MOTION CARRIED

Item IV. Comments from the Public

None were made. Rick said questions can be asked by the public at any time during the meeting.

V. STANDING REPORTS

MCSO

Detective Fernandez advised that he and others from MCSO have been attending SPI training for the past 6 months, and apologized for not attending meeting in person. He reported it has been quiet in Duck Key, no incidents to report. He introduced Lt. Donny Barrios who is the “Acting Captain” for the area now, and will be attending the DKSAB meetings as well. There will also be a MCSO boat housed in the Hawks Cay Marina full time, for more MCSO presence. They advised there will be more patrols during Mini Lobster Season, the last week in July, and if there are incidents of people breaking the Mini Season lobster rules to call MCSO at 305-289-2430 and/or FWC at 305-956-2500.

Ralons Security

Luis Requejo reported that Duck Key has been quiet for the last 2 months, July 4th was relatively uneventful. There were a few noise complaints about excessive music/noise levels during late hours, reports of some people fishing off bridges/docks. The police were called and the offenders complied with their requests to comply with the rules. As in the past, many Duck Key residents are leaving the Island for the summer. Ralons Security can provide drive by checks of homes/lots for those residents. Residents who want this service must email Luis Requejo at Ljrequejo@Ralonsamerica.com. The requests cannot be made

personally with a Ralons Guard, residents must email their requests with dates of them leaving/returning, any special instructions of the homes needs on the request. A reminder to all residents that the normal hours for the security guards to patrol the Duck Key Island are 8 p.m. to 4 a.m., and the number to call to report incidents to the guard on duty is 305-731-8238, NOT the owner of the Ralons Company.

Motion to add extra hours of Ralons Security patrols for the Mini Season time period of July 26, 27 and 28th from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. by Bob Kelley; seconded Tim Abner.

MOTION CARRIED

Hawks Cay Resort

Bob Moore reported that Hawks Cay had a very good July 4th and credits this to the support and participation of MCSO. He expects to be busy now through August. The Marina renovation is ongoing, but Hawks Cay expects the store to open with a “soft opening” November 15, 2023.

FWC

Lt. Brian Sapp was absent, but sent in a report.

About three dozen Officers are actively patrolling near shore waters for Operation Dry Water, which runs from July 1st- July 3rd. The mission is to keep our waters safe by ensuring that boaters are not impaired while operating vessels. Officers are checking for safety gear and keeping a sharp eye out for any careless or reckless behavior out on the water. FWC is working closely with our friends at USCG and MSCO.

-Operation Vigilant Sentry continues in South Florida. Extra officers continue to rotate into the Florida Keys to assist and respond to migrant activity. This mission is expected to continue for some time.

-FWC now has very few vacancies in Monroe County as our staffing levels have greatly improved. You may notice more FWC trucks on the roadways due an influx of new hires and extra officers from Operation Vigilant Sentry.

VI. OLD BUSINESS/Technology Report

Technology Update – Frank Jackson reported no problems with the camera equipment, all are operational. There had been an issue with a damaged dome lens on a camera, Barnes Security replaced it and it is functioning now. 1 Radar sign on N. Indies was not functioning properly due to an issue with the control board, the new control board should arrive July 10th and the repair will be done as soon as it arrives.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Bridge Update - Judith Clarke, Chief Engineer, Monroe County, was not able to attend the meeting. The following report was sent:**

Duck Key Bridge Update June 29, 2023

American Empire Builders (AEB) completed installation of the five arch beams on the north side of the Bimini Drive Bridge on June 17th and has continued construction of the MSE wall on both ends of the north lane. The forms and steel rebar for the concrete deck top have been installed. The concrete pour for the north lane deck is scheduled for Wednesday July 5th at 8 p.m. In order to minimize vibration caused by traffic on the bridge during the pour and initial curing period, the work will occur at night. The speed limit over the bridge will be temporarily reduced to 5 MPH and county staff will be onsite during the work and through the day on Thursday to assist with traffic control.

Temporary signage will also be installed. These precautions will minimize the potential for cracking during the early curing period. The Bimini Bridge project is scheduled to be substantially complete in September 2023. AEB mobilized the barge to the Seaview Drive Bridge and removed the steel girders from the north lane of the bridge. The contractor is preparing to install the steel I beams for the temporary critical wall along the center of the roadway next week.

Substantial completion of the Seaview Drive Bridge project is scheduled for July 9, 2024, which is 540 days after the date of commencement. The county received two responses to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for construction engineering and inspection (CEI) services for the Harbour Drive Bridge project on June 27 th and will proceed with reviewing and ranking the responses. The construction plans and specifications for the Harbour Drive Bridge construction project were advertised for bids on June 1st, with a bid opening date of July 6th .

Duck Key Bridge Additional Update July 11, 2023

American Empire Builders (AEB) completed the concrete pour for the deck on the north lane of the Bimini Drive Bridge on July 5th; the contractor is continuing with the construction of the MSE wall and placement of fill on both sides of the bridge. AEB will be working on the bridge railing and also preparing to construct the sidewalk on the bridge.

The Bimini Bridge project is scheduled to be substantially complete in September 2023.

AEB mobilized the barge to the Seaview Drive Bridge and removed the steel girders from the north lane of the bridge. The contractor will be constructing the temporary critical wall along the center of the roadway and upon completion will begin demolition of the back walls on the bridge abutments.

Substantial completion of the Seaview Drive Bridge project is scheduled for July 9, 2024, which is 540 days after the date of commencement.

The county received two responses to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for construction engineering and inspection (CEI) services for the Harbour Drive Bridge project on June 27th and will rank the responses on August 1st. The County received one bid for the Harbor Drive Bridge construction on July 6th. American Empire Builders submitted a bid of \$5,780,000; staff is preparing a construction contract for approval.

Rick Sherman requested Judith Clarke advise the public how to advise/handle property damages from the bridge construction/vibrations. Christina Cory advised she will follow up on this request with Christina Limbert and advise all how to report damages and get resolution for any issues local residents may have.

X. Public Comments

There was a question on Vacation Rental violations on Duck Key and how to handle questions/concerns on this issue. Anyone with a Code Compliance issue/concern should call Cynthia McPherson with the Monroe County Code Compliance Division at 305-289-2810. There is also an on-line complaint form available on the Code Compliance webpage at: <https://www.monroecounty-fl.gov/167/Code-Compliance>

Motion to adjourn made by Bob Kelley: second by Tim Abner Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Next DKSAB meeting will be September 5, 2023, at 4 p.m. at the Hawks Cay Resort Meeting room and via Zoom, details to follow.

Minutes submitted by: Laurie Oestreicher laurie.oestreicher@gmail.com