



Mexico Beach Community Development Council Monthly Meeting

Thursday, Feb 20, 2025 | Conference Room, Welcome Center

I. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Carroll called the meeting to order at 9:00am

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Robert Carroll (Chairman)

Jack Mullen (Vice Chair)

Ethann Oldham (Secretary/Treasurer)

Tim Linderman

Gloria Sanchez

Betsie Welle

Shawna Wood

- a. Approve minutes from January 27, 2025 annual meeting- A motion was made by Director Mullen and seconded by Director Oldham to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Approve minutes from January 27, 2025 monthly meeting- A motion was made by Director Oldham and seconded by Director Sanchez to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. Tourist Development Tax Collections- President Shoaf presented the monthly tax collections stating that December collections are down, however she is working with the Clerk's TDT office to determine a possibly why and is awaiting their feedback. Discussion followed.

III. Financial Report- President Shoaf presented the year-to-date financial report. Discussion followed. After discussion a motion was made by Director Mullen and seconded by Director Oldham to approve the year-to-date financial report. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Presentation: Beach Restoration Project, Michael Dombrowski, MRD Associates- Mr. Dombrowski thanked the board for allowing him to come present. He stated he would be giving a status update on the project as well as additional background information. Mr. Dombrowski gave an overview of the project, how it came to fruition, and the positive impact this project will have for both residents and environmental habitats. He described the critically eroded shoreline area, being deemed by the State of Florida, and how if additional nourishment is warranted, that there are grants as well as utilizing the sand from the canal that the city dredges and stockpiles on the beach. Mr. Dombrowski stated the number of cubic yards of sand that will be placed along the shoreline and depict the berms and dunes that will be established from this sand. He gave an overview of the dune construction and the significance on keeping the dune one solid structure; stating that the reason for this is to ensure upland structures are protected. Mr. Dombrowski stated that when the FEMA emergency berms were created, the city administrator at the time wanted to place cuts between the dunes for walking paths, however these cuts weaken the dune system. He stated that by keeping dune as one continuous structure, this provides the necessary storm protection and less damage to the dune itself. The location of the canal inlet and the 8th Street outfall, being at outer edges of the project area, will not weaken the overall dune system. Mr. Dombrowski noted that the resorted dunes with a



consistent height, uniformity and without gaps provides a continuous line of upland protection. Discussion was made. The board thanked Mr. Dombrowski for his presentation and his work on the restoration project.

V. Sponsorship Request

- a. **Mexico Beach GollyWhopper Classic**-President Shoaf presented the Mexico Beach GollyWhopper request for a marketing sponsorship, noting they had requested an amount of \$2,250.00. Director Welle gave an overview of the Fire Department and how the tournament will serve as a fundraiser for their not-for-profit. Discussion followed. After discussion a motion was made by Director Oldham and seconded by Director Sanchez to award a marketing sponsorship for \$2,250.00 to the Mexico Beach GollyWhopper Classic. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Ongoing Business

- a. **Winter resident coffee & donuts event**-President Shoaf gave a recap on the past two events, stating that the attendance had increased from the first week to the second and she reported on the states that attendees were from. She stated that the event has been well received and appreciated.

VII. New Business

- a. **Dune walkovers, Tim Linderman**- Director Linderman gave a presentation stating that the City is looking to establish three ADA beach access points. He noted that the city had applied for a grant to cover the design, engineering and permits for one access point and that the city will know shortly if they are awarded the grant. Director Linderman asked the MBCDC board if they would be willing to help support the cost of this project. Chairman Carroll asked Mr. Dombrowski if some of the engineering work from the restoration project could be used for this purpose, to which Mr. Dombrowski stated that they could. Discussion followed. Chairman Carroll opened for audience participation. Mr. Dan Rowe, Bay County TDC Director, congratulated the board on their achievements and noted that the MBCDC would continue have the support of the TDC for their projects. He stated that the TDC has support the MBCDC throughout the restoration project and will continue to assist, noting that the TDC asked the State if they would allow the uses of ARPA funds to be used towards walkover, but the State denied the request. Ms. Lisa Logan, Mexico Beach resident, asked Director Linderman what they City would be doing to better beach access for the public in the next six months. Director Linderman said that the city would be discussion this topic at the City Council meeting on Friday. Chairman Carroll closed audience participation and brought the discussion back to the board. Director Linderman said he will come back to the Board once he knows the status of the grant and what the City will need assistance with.
- b. **Staff update, Kimberly Shoaf**- President Shoaf informed the board that she has hired Adrienne Glass to fulfill the interactive marketing position. She stated Ms. Glass will start on March 3rd and holds a knowledgeable background in both marketing and the destination.

- VIII. Presidents Report**- President Shoaf stated that a nice article had been published in Southern Living online and was good press. She noted that she had been on both news stations and the



News Herald for discussion of the beach restoration project and letting the public know that the website is a great resource for information relating to the project. President Shoaf gave a recap of Ms. Krum's attendance to the I-95 Welcome Center Showcase and noted that Ms. Krum interacted with over 300+ visitors. President Shoaf said that snowbirds are here and have been enjoying the destination.

IX. Audience Participation – none

X. Adjournment- A motion was made by Director Oldham and seconded by Director Sanchez to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Krum, Recording Secretary