



**LAUDERDALE ISLES  
WATER MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT**  
[www.liwmd.org](http://www.liwmd.org)

PO Box 122271  
Fort Lauderdale FL 33312

**Minutes of the  
Lauderdale Isles Water Management District  
Online Meeting  
March 15, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.**

In compliance with Section 286.011, Florida Statutes, announcement is made of the following scheduled meetings. The District will be hosting virtual meetings using audio/video conferencing software until further notice.

The Zoom registration link for public participation is:

[https://fortlauderdale.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_tLBMneoxSsq-MPH5KghTMA](https://fortlauderdale.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_tLBMneoxSsq-MPH5KghTMA)

To sign up to speak, go to:

<https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-clerk-s-office/advisory-boards-and-committees-agendas-and-minutes/liwmd-signup-form>

Call to Order  
Time: 2:04 p.m.

Roll Call:  
Mr. Geoff Rames – Chairman  
Mr. Kenneth Stauch – Secretary/Treasurer  
Commissioner Ben Sorensen - City of Fort Lauderdale

Others:  
Rhonda Hasan – Asst. City Attorney III  
Reginald White - Code Compliance Supervisor  
D'Wayne Spence – Asst. City Attorney III  
Stephanie Bass – Code Compliance Supervisor  
Lawrence Teich – Liaison, Env. Compliance Supervisor

1. Minutes for approval:
  - a. December 7, 2020 Minutes



LIWMD Minutes  
12-07-2020.pdf

Motion to Approve: GR/BS

**2. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Geoff Rames  
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Provided orally:

A sailboat sank off Whale Harbor Lane. Manny (code enforcement) was called and gave the owner 24 hours to refloat the sunken vessel. Pictures below.



The refloat was conducted by the owner's contractor using a lift bags and pumps.

There was an Australian Pine incident on Friday. Crews were cutting down trees in Davie and floating them in the river. Code from Davie responded and stopped the cutting. The Australian Pine is an invasive species so can be cut without a permit. The association where they were being cut requires trees along the banks of the river per the development agreement. From the LIWMD perspective, removal of the trees is a positive action since they may wind up in the river during storm events.

The attachment below is the water quality data produced by the County for the site at Bradford Marine, just east of Lauderdale Isles. The waterways in Fort Lauderdale have gotten a bad reputation due to the sewer pipe breaks to the east. In speaking with Ileana Hale, Broward County Laboratory Manager, about the single spike in July for the attached data, she suggested that there may have been an accidental vessel discharge that contributed to the high counts that month. These random spikes occur on occasion and may not be traceable. Also, the monthly sampling that was occurring last year are now collected quarterly. They were increased last year due to the monthly checks for Blue-green algae. They collected the bacteria samples incidental to algae collection. Geoff will

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be posting these results to the LIWMD.org website for the neighbors who question the water quality in the District.



Bacteria Levels Site  
20 Bradford Marine 2

As an aside, algae observations in the marine environment has gone down on a yearly basis since the 2017 outbreak.

Miami Water Keepers has been conducting the weekly swim monitoring and making the results available through their application: <https://www.theswimguide.org/>. Testing is done on Tuesday and repeated on Thursday for failing sites.

MISF cleanup is being conducted as a month-long event and remote reporting through an application. There were quite a few participants, but overall participation is down about 50%, (500 participants, down from 1000 participants). Requested an email with a list of participants so we can contact them for another cleanup in September. On a positive note, we're seeing a lot less of the large items in the water during the cleanups.

### 3. Treasurer's Report

#### a. Treasurer report:



Treasurers Report  
Ending 2-28-21.pdf

A review of the expenditures and revenues has the balance at \$106,000 since we are unable to spend any money on the waterway cleanup. The rental unit was discussed. Items such as tables, PA System, records, and other miscellaneous things are stored there rather than at someone's home. Extra Storage is located on 441 and Riverland Road. It is a small unit that is shared with LIWCA. They pay for half of the rental costs and the LWMD just received a \$376 check from them.

Motion to accept Treasurers Report: GR/BS

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b. Budget Proposal



2021-2022 LIWMD  
Budget.pdf

Based on Covid, this budget is uncertain but still maintains the \$15 annual assessment. Vegetation removal and the annual cleanup are still maintained as primary expenditures. Consultant fees identified in the budget were proposed to draft the Districts work scope and service plans.

Motion to accept proposed budget: GR/BS

**New Business**

None

**Pending Business**

1. Crab Study

Larry – In September 2019 the study was completed, and a report review criterion was established. – Pending completion

2. Boundary Conflict with City Boundaries

- a. A letter was drafted, reviewed, and submitted to the City Commission through the Informational Memo process.



Commission Memo   Commission Memo   Commission Memo  
21-015 Lauderdale Isl | 21-015 Attachment 1 | 21-015 Attachment 2

The Commission or a petition of residents will need to request this process move forward through City staff. City staff will need to develop reports to delineate and establish the boundary modifications necessary. The City Attorney's office would provide guidance for the types of reports needed but would not be the responsible parties to generate those reports or initiate the processes. It was suggested that the Commissioner bring this item forward at Commission Conference so a resolution can be brought before a regular

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meeting for approval by City Commission. Studies and reports that need to be completed are at the discretion of the City. Some of the evaluations would involve determinations if the changes proposed would affect the operation of the District and its ability of function either positive or negative. Additional discussions ensued about length of the process and who would assume ownership and maintenance responsibilities of the abandoned southern area.

3. Code compliance reporting for derelict vessels and other waterway matters.

Reginald White reported:

- a. Tortuga Lane boat sinking was already covered by Geoff.
- b. Biweekly waterway inspections will begin starting the first and third Wednesday of each month starting March 17<sup>th</sup>. This scheduled inspection program will bring constancy to the program in coordination with Sgt. Mills, Marine Patrol.
- c. Code is starting an enforcement project for derelict vessels throughout the City.
- d. Matthew Miller is no longer with the City due to family emergency. A new replacement Code Officer is being sought.
- e. Manny is currently serving as the marine inspector and provides regular reports and updates.
- f. The purchase of a boat for Code was brought up for discussion by Commissioner Sorenson. Code could use a boat but that would be pending request by the City Manager and budget approval. Until that time, they are working with Marine PD to perform inspections. Chairman Rames indicated there are 165-miles of waterways in the City and that could be a full-time job. Rhonda elaborated that there are many code issues that can only be observed from the waterway. Many issues such as live-aboards, trash-rubbish & debris, illegal construction, illegal dock construction, derelict vessels, squatters, and a number of other issues can best be seen from a boat. PD has priority for law enforcement and could be pulled away any Wednesday for priority issues.

Boat size was discussed and it was suggested an 18-20 foot shallow draft vessel would be best for maneuverability and versatility in the City's canal systems. Larry offered the Environmental Team's boat for use once the new vessel is purchased.

- g. Rental boats were brought up for discussion. There doesn't appear to be a good system for enforcement. The City Attorney will be consulted for additional input.

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- h. The current code list is mailed out regularly. The most recent report will be attached for review.



WATERWAY\_ENFORC  
EMENT\_Feb 14 2021.pdf

**Discussion Items**

1. Website Update - [WWW.LIWMD.org](http://WWW.LIWMD.org)

- a. Website Statistics



website stats  
031121.pdf

2. Future meetings: These meeting times will be advertised at City Hall and on the LIWMD website.

Meeting dates discussed and finalized:

- a) June 21, 2021 Regular Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- b) September 18, 2021 Waterway Cleanup Planning Meeting
- c) September 20, 2021 Regular Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- d) October 9, 2021 Waterway Cleanup Event

Tide Calendar



Oct 2021 PORT  
EVERGLADES, LAKE M

- e) December 13, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

Dates and times were acceptable. The dates are the day before the Commission meeting and a temporary placeholder invitation was sent to all.

Motion to Adjourn: GR/BS  
Time: 2:50 p.m.

**All motions passed unanimously.**

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**Public Notice: Posted at [www.LIWMD.org](http://www.LIWMD.org) and City Hall starting on February 18, 2021; and noticed in the Sun-Sentinel February 28 and March 7, 2021.**



Posting for City Hall SSC\_6888209\_Affidavi  
03152021.pdf



t.pdf

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