

# City of Jacksonville

*1st Floor - Council Chamber  
117 W. Duval Street*



## Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, September 14, 2022**

**9:00 AM**

**Council Chambers 1st Floor, City Hall**

### **Jacksonville Waterways Commission**

*CM Nick Howland, Chair*

*CM Randy DeFoor, Vice Chair*

*CM LeAnna Cumber*

*CM Tyrona Clark-Murray, Alternate*

*Jon Michael Barker*

*Robert Birtalan*

*Lane Burnett*

*Senator Audrey Gibson*

*Mark Devereaux*

*Andrew Fraden*

*Marc Hardesty*

*Richard Hartley*

*Jill D. Haskell*

*Raymond S. Pringle, Jr.*

*Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio*

*Adam Hoyles, Ex-Officio*

*Barbara Ireland Hobson, Legislative Assistant*

*Sharon Wyskiel, Asst. General Counsel*

*Dr. Gerard Pinto, Jacksonville University*

*Richard Distel, Research Assistant*

*Jim Suber, Waterways Coordinator*

**1. Call To Order****RULE 4.505 DISRUPTION OF MEETING**

No member of the audience shall applaud nor make any noise or remarks that are audible to the Committee that would indicate approval or disapproval of anything being discussed. Any disregard of this rule may result in removal by the Sergeant at Arms.

**REQUEST TO SPEAK:**

1. Fill out a speaker card.
2. Sign it if you are going to speak.
3. Read the rules on the back of the card.
4. Return the card to the Legislative Assistant.

**2. Roll Call****3. St. Johns River Status Report on Water Quality - Dr. Quinton White - 10 Minutes**

Dr. White said there has been double the amount of rainfall as this time last year and that hurricane season might shift to late September and October.

**4. St. Johns River Status Report on Manatees - Dr. Gerard Pinto - 10 Minutes**

Dr. Pinto said there have been two manatee deaths which puts the official number of manatee deaths at 6 for the year. Dr. Pinto said at this time most of the manatees have left the area due to the water temperatures.

**5. ADA Waterways Status Report - Kara Tucker - 10 Minutes****6. Approval of Minutes**

The commission approved the minutes 10 - 0 with Mr. Birtalan, Mr. Pringle, CM DeFoor, CM Howland, CM Cumber, Mr. Fraden, Ms. Haskell, Mr. Barker, Mr. Burnett and Mr. Hartley.

**7. New Business****Discussion - Right Whale Speed Zones Resolution**

Chair Howland explained the slow speed zone for the right whales that was introduced by NOAA. Chair Howland suggested that the commission write a resolution to ask for there to be an extension of the comment period to December 31st. Sharon Wyskiel, Office of General Counsel, read the resolution to the commission. CM Cumber emphasized the need to weigh in on this topic. Mr. Hardesty said this rule will stop fishing all over the river. Mr. Adkison said that this rule will create over fishing in certain areas. CM Cumber stressed the economic impact this will have on the area. CM DeFoor said this would be a big loss for the local economy. CM Cumber emphasized a comprehensive response. The resolution will include the objection from the commission of the rule and a request for an extension to the comment period.

Mr. Birtalan, Mr. Pringle, CM DeFoor, CM Howland, CM Cumber, Mr. Hardesty, Mr. Fraden, Ms. Haskell, Mr. Barker, Mr. Burnett and Mr. Hartley voted 11-0 to approve the drafting of a resolution against the right whale speed zones.

**8. Old Business**

**2022-0463-W** ORD-MC Etab a Boating-Restricted Area in the Arlington River Around the Cesery and University Blvd Bridges; Amend Chapt 614 (Public Order and Safety), Sec 614.132 (Reg on Operations of Boats), Ord Code, to Etab the Boating-Restricted Area; Prov for Design and Implementation; Prov for Oversight. (Grandin) (Introduced by CM Ferraro)  
6/14/22 CO Introduced: NCSPHS, TEU, JWC  
6/21/22 NCSPHS Read 2nd & Rerefer  
6/21/22 TEU Read 2nd & Rerefer  
6/28/22 CO PH Read 2nd & Rerefer: NCSPHS, TEU, JWC  
9/19/22 NCSPHS Withdraw 6-0  
9/20/22 TEU Withdraw 6-0  
9/27/22 CO Withdraw 19-0  
Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & C.R. 3.601- 6/28/22

DEFER

**Representatives from the rowing club spoke in support of this legislation and members of the boating community said this legislation was not needed and would lead to harsh restrictions on boaters.**

**Speakers: Graham Hill (oppose), Kathy Driscoll (oppose), Lisa Almeida (oppose), Deborah Lents (oppose), Joshua Dixon (oppose), Al Kinard (oppose), Daniel Bierman (oppose), Mike Murphy (oppose), Ken Branholm (oppose), Jeff Bell (oppose)**

**Azi Yavari (support), Daniel Bierman (support), Davis Bales (support)**

Contact: Susan Grandin - OGC

**Discussion - Inshore Artificial Reef Subcommittee - 10 Minutes**

Contact: Commissioner Jill Haskell

**Discussion - Offshore Artificial Reef Subcommittee - 10 Minutes**

**Dr. White talked about the studies done on artificial reefs. Captain Suber talked about the differences between inshore and offshore reefs. One artificial reef committee was created to be chaired by Ms. Haskell.**

Offshore Reefs Presentation - Marshall Adkinson - Ex Officio

Contact: Commissioner Bob Birtalan

**Discussion - St. Johns River Shoaling Subcommittee - 10 Minutes**

**Mr. Hardesty talked about the shoaling and the need for finding what is the cause of this impact.**

Contact: Commissioner Marc Hardesty

**11. Public Comment**

**John Nooney talked about the need for an artificial reef in Jacksonville.**

**12. Adjournment**

**Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please allow 1-2 business days notification to process; last minute requests will be accepted; but may not be possible to fulfill. Please contact Disabled Services Division at: V 904-255-5466, TTY-904-255-5476, or email your request to KaraT@coj.net.**

**Rollcall**

**Present**      13 - Commissioner Raymond Pringle, Commissioner Lane Burnett, Commissioner Marc Hardesty, Commissioner Jon Michael Barker, Chair Nick Howland, Vice Chair Randy DeFoor, Commissioner LeAnna Cumber, Commissioner Robert Birtalan, Commissioner Jill Haskell, Ex-Officio Marshall Adkison, Ex-Officio Adam Hoyles, Commissioner Andrew Fraden, and Commissioner Richard Hartley

**Excused**      1 - Commissioner Audrey Gibson

**Absent**        1 - Commissioner Mark Devereaux

Minutes: Richard Distel, Council Research

RDistel@coj.net 904.255.5140

Posted 10.7.2022 5:00 pm