

# TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: December 13, 2022

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TO: Mayor and Town Council

VIA: Kirk W. Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: Melissa Ceriale, Shore Protection Board Chairperson  
Robert Weber, Coastal Program Manager

RE: Shore Protection Board Annual Report

DATE: November 2, 2022

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The Shore Protection Board (SPB) is currently comprised of seven (7) regular members by the Town Council for three-year terms.

A chairperson and vice-chairperson are selected by the members. The 2022 SPB membership was as follows:

2022 Shore Protection Board Member	Position	Current Term Expires
Melissa Ceriale	Chairperson	12/2022
Warren Belmar	Vice-chairperson	12/2024
Robb Allan	Regular Member	12/2022
Peter Matwiczuk	Regular Member	12/2024
Ronald Matzner	Regular Member	12/2024
Erick Reickert	Regular Member	12/2022
Vladimir Rapoport	Regular Member	12/2022
Doug Rogers	Regular Member	12/2024

Melissa Ceriale and Erick Reickert are currently completing their first full term, and both are eligible for reappointment in December 2022 for a second full 3-year term. Robb Allan is currently completing a partial term taking the seat from Vladimir Rapoport, who resigned April 22, 2022. Mr. Allan is eligible for reappointment in December 2022 for a first full 3-year term. Warren Belmar is currently serving in his second full term. Peter Matwiczuk, Ronald Matzner, and Doug Rogers are all serving in their first year of their first full 3-year term, as appointed by Town Council in January 2022. SPB members are allowed to serve for two (2) consecutive full 3-year terms.

The Board met three (3) times during the 2022 calendar year.

2022 Shore Protection Board Member	Meetings Attended	Absences	Mar 24	Apr 28	Nov 2
Melissa Ceriale	3	0	P	P	P
Warren Belmar	3	0	P	P	P
Robb Allan	1	0	NA	NA	P
Peter Matwiczuk	2	0	P	P	E
Ronald Matzner	3	0	P	P	P
Vladimir Rapoport	0	1	E	NA	NA
Erick Reickert	3	0	P	P	P
Doug Rogers	2	0	P	P	E

P = Present

E = Excused

U = Unexcused

### CURRENT SHORELINE CONDITION

The Town's proactive on-going coastal management efforts have maintained storm protection along the 12.2 miles of Town shoreline. The shorelines in Reaches 1 and northern part of Reach 2 were further stabilized with beach placement of inlet-management sand and sand forepassing efforts in early 2022. As a result of Hurricane Ian, most of the sand from the sand forepassing project was displaced.

Hurricane Nicole Update: On Tuesday, November 8, 2022, a hurricane warning was issued for the Town of Palm Beach. In the early morning hours of Thursday, November 10, Hurricane Nicole made landfall approximately 60 miles north of Palm Beach, just south of Vero Beach as a Category 1 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson scale. Town staff made an initial assessment of the shoreline later that morning and requested state and federal personnel plan to perform an preliminary damage assessment. On Wednesday, November 16, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and the Florida Department of Emergency Management toured both the Federal and non-Federal beach project areas with Town staff. Estimated sand losses were made based on visual observations and dry beach shore-perpendicular measurements. It is indeterminate at this time if the erosion in Mid-Town and Phipps will result in action to be taken by both the Corps in Mid-Town and FEMA in Phipps/Reach 8/Reach 9. Post-storm survey data is being collected by a Town consultant. This information will be used to help the agencies confirm any disaster declarations and determine if any relief is eligible. Although some areas sustained high volumetric sand losses, no habitable structures along the shoreline were damaged and the current shoreline conditions do not warrant any emergency action in our project areas to be taken at this time.

### 2022 COASTAL PROTECTION PROJECTS

The Town worked closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the next inlet maintenance

dredging project with dry beach placement of sand. The project started in January and was completed by May 15, 2022. The volume of sand to be placed on the beach was approximately 300,000 cubic yards, of which 15,000 cubic yards was stockpiled in Reach 1 for Sand Forepassing in Reach 2. Sand Forepassing in Reach 2 was completed by May 1, 2022, placing sand between Palmo Way and approximately Queens Lane.

Biological, physical, sea turtle nesting, and shorebird monitoring work continued, as required by State's Beach Management Agreement (BMA) and/or Federal permits, as previously approved by Town Council.

### 2022 SHORE PROTECTION BOARD ACTIONS

During the March 24, 2022 SPB meeting, the SPB members discussed goals for the upcoming calendar year and held a subsequent workshop on April 28<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the 2022 SPB was to "Improve Communication and Public Relations" as the primary goal to address in 2022 in an effort to increase public engagement and participation. The following four (4) goals and objectives will be evaluated and reconsidered again as necessary in future years:

- Support and Implement a coastal vulnerability and resiliency implementation plan;
- Develop and implement permitted coastal hard structure technology;
- Work with State and Federal agencies and governments to implement projects; and
- Continue maximal sand bypassing and inlet dredging.

Each of these four (4) goals were considered ongoing or completed and required no additional input by the board during the 2022 calendar year.

The board determined that the four (4) topics that requires improved communication included:

- History of Beach Nourishment
- Reach 8
- Hard Structures
- Easements

Professionally produced videos for each of these four (4) topics were developed during 2022. These videos are to be distributed in various outlets in late 2022 to promote viewing by the public. This may include YouTube, the Town's website, the Palm Beach Post, and partnering with the Palm Beach Civic Association, and Citizens' Association of Palm Beach.

### ANTICIPATED 2023 SHORE PROTECTION BOARD ACTIONS

With three (3) of the seven (7) Shore Protection Board positions to be filled potentially with new appointees, and two (2) members currently serving their first year on the Board, it is expected that the SPB will schedule some additional educational and informational sessions. The first meeting in January 2023 always includes a presentation of the sediment budget with the short-term and long-term shoreline and volumetric changes of our beaches. The January 2023 meeting will also include a presentation on coastal resiliency.

The Board is expected to continue the Education Videos Series to promote and support the Coastal Management Program.

cc: H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works

Patricia Strayer, P.E., Town Engineer