



Item No. 17f

AGENDA ITEM MEMORADUM

MAYOR

Roseann Minnet

Department

Department Director

COMMISSION MEETING DATE (*) - 7:00 PM	Deadline to Town Clerk
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan 10, 2012	Dec 30 th
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan 17, 2012 SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING	Jan 6
<input type="checkbox"/> Jan 24, 2012	Jan 13
<input type="checkbox"/> Feb 27, 2012	Feb
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feb 28, 2012	Feb 17

*Subject to Change

- Presentation Reports Consent Ordinance
 Resolution Quasi-Judicial Old Business New Business

FY2011 DESIGNATED HIGH PRIORITY ITEM - PRIORITY TOPIC

SUBJECT TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF TOWN'S POSITION ON EFFORTS TO SHIELD OR TURN OUT THE HILLSBORO LIGHTHOUSE LIGHT

EXPLANATION: The turtle conservation group has suggested that the historic Hillsboro lighthouse light be shielded or turned off during turtle nesting season. I wanted to gauge the Commission's feelings about expressing an opinion on that matter. A sample resolution opposing the idea has been sent to me and is attached as an exhibit.

EXPECTED OUTCOME: Commission direction on whether to schedule a Resolution on the topic for formal action in March.

EXHIBIT: Sample Resolution

Reviewed by Town Attorney

Yes No

Town Manager Initials CM

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2012-

2 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
3 COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA,
4 SUPPORTING THE FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATION
5 DISTRICT'S CONTINUATION OF THE HILLSBORO
6 LIGHTHOUSE AS A SAFE NAVIGATION AID FOR THE
7 DISTRICT'S MARINERS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN
8 EFFECTIVE DATE.

9 WHEREAS, the Florida Inland Navigation District ("FIND"), pursuant to
10 Section 374.976, Florida Statutes, has a statutory responsibility to alleviate problems
11 associated with its waterways such as navigation safety for its mariners and
12 constituents; and

13 WHEREAS, FIND, pursuant to Section 374.976, Florida Statutes, is empowered
14 to aid, cooperate with, and assist in planning and carrying out public navigation safety
15 projects to the benefit of our constituents and mariners; and

16 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 374.976, Florida Statutes, FIND has assisted
17 several lighthouses within the FIND district to maintain their continuing significant
18 service as navigation aids for the benefit of our constituents and mariners; and

19 WHEREAS, the Hillsboro Lighthouse is a significant navigation aid to vessels
20 and mariners in the local waters of the District and Broward County, including the
21 Atlantic Ocean; and

22 WHEREAS, the U.S. Coast Guard has requested an informal consultation on the
23 Hillsboro Lighthouse's effect on sea turtle hatching based upon a letter claiming a
24 negative affect by SeaTurtleOversightProtection.org; and

1 WHEREAS, as part of this informal consultation, the U.S. Coast Guard is
2 accepting comments on potential changes to the operation of the Hillsboro Lighthouse,
3 including the ceasing of its operation, from the general public and affected parties; and

4 WHEREAS, the Board supports FIND's efforts to protect, preserve, and enhance
5 the sea turtle population and its habitat, without compromising the public safety and
6 welfare of mariners; and

7 WHEREAS, FIND has reviewed the letter from SeaTurtleOversightProtection.org
8 and finds that the Statement of Concern is without any specific facts to justify changes
9 to the Hillsboro Lighthouse operations; and

10 WHEREAS, based upon its considerable experience managing Florida
11 waterways, FIND believes that there is no factual basis to change the operations of the
12 Hillsboro Lighthouse in any manner that may lessen safety for mariners in the waterway
13 area served by the Hillsboro Lighthouse; NOW, THEREFORE,

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15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
16 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

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18 Section 1. That the foregoing recitals are true and correct and are hereby
19 incorporated into this resolution.

20 Section 2. That the Board of County Commissioners ("Board") hereby
21 recommends to the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that no
22 changes be made to the operation of the Hillsboro Lighthouse that may lessen the
23 public safety and welfare of mariners without a full collection and analysis of scientific
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1 facts regarding the Hillsboro Lighthouse's effect on sea turtle hatching and the effect of
2 any recommended changes to the Hillsboro Lighthouse operations on mariner safety.

3 Section 3. That the Board recommends that the Hillsboro Lighthouse continue
4 its current operations until such facts and analysis have been made, and it is concluded
5 that any changes to the operation of the lighthouse will not lessen the public safety and
6 welfare of mariners.

7 Section 4. That this Resolution be sent to the U.S. Coast Guard and the
8 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and that a copy be posted on the County's website.

9 Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

10 This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

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12 ADOPTED this day , 2012.
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23 AJW:dp
24 02/09/12
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