

CEPD Celebrates 60 Years

The Captiva Erosion Prevention District (CEPD) was established June 19, 1959 under the provision of chapter 151, Florida Statutes. It is an independent special beach and shore preservation district governed by an independently elected district board. For the last 60 years, the CEPD has provided beach erosion control and preservation activities for the protection, preservation and restoration of Captiva’s sandy beach.

In 1961, the CEPD had 107,000 cubic yards (CY) of sand placed on Captiva’s beach. Two large wooden groins extended into the Gulf and were later joined by 134 groins. Most of the groins that were constructed have since been removed, buried or destroyed.

The first major attempt to deal with erosion on Captiva Island occurred twenty years later, in 1981, and was undertaken by South Seas Plantation. In this project, 655,000 CY of sand were taken from a borrow pit in the Redfish Pass ebb tidal shoals and placed on the beach at South Seas.

Beginning in the late sixties, pavement on Captiva Drive experienced periodic episodes of erosion as pieces of pavement deteriorated and washed away into the surf. As the only road servicing the residents and visitors of Captiva, as well as the only evacuation route in the event of a tropical storm or hurricane, it was vital to stabilize the Gulf front road. Lee County’s Department of Transportation hauled large volumes of fill and boulders from a spoil site on the Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge Bailey



Captiva Drive, prior to 1988

Track and placed it seaward of Captiva Drive on an as needed basis.

(Continued to  
Page 3,  
Column 1)

Dave Jensen – 25 Years

Most of you already know Dave Jensen who, along with his siblings, co-owns Captiva’s Jensen’s Twin



Palm Resort and Marina & Jensen’s on the Gulf resort. What you might not know is that Jensen has lived on Captiva since 1982 and was appointed by Governor

Lawton Chiles to the CEPD Board in 1994. Over those 25 years, he has served as Treasurer, Vice-Chairman, and Chairman.

In light of his upcoming resignation from the CEPD Board, we caught up him to talk about his years of service and learn his plans for the future. Not only were our questions answered, but we took away a few Dave Jensen-esque gems of wisdom, too.

Q: How did you arrive on the CEPD Board? A: *The CEPD had come to my Dad (Red Jensen) and asked him to be on the Board and he basically coerced me into it. At least that’s the way I remember it... and because Dad’s not around anymore, that’s the story I’m sticking with.*

Q: What’s the biggest change you’ve seen since joining the Board 25 years ago? A: *The biggest change is probably me! When I go to the CEPD office I still choose to take the stairs instead of the elevator, but I definitely feel it more now. Seriously though...in the past 25 years, with the guidance from our engineers and help from our CEPD administrative team, the planning of our renourishment projects has provided an increased confidence our beaches will remain intact and our main road will not wash away in the event of a storm. That, in itself, says a lot has changed!*

(Continued to Page 2, Column 1)

## Dave Jensen – 25 Years

(Continued from Page 1)

Q: What (about the CEPD) has surprised you the most? A: *After joining the Board I began learning about the history of erosion and how and why the CEPD was formed. I was amazed how important the work actually was.*

Q: During your tenure at CEPD, what accomplishment are you personally most proud of? A: *With humility I'd say I'm most proud of suggesting, and then being part of making it happen, the hiring of Hans Wilson and Associates to step in and take care of the administrative duties of the CEPD. Their services have been essential.*

Q: What does the future look like to you? A: *The future looks good. One of the most important things CEPD does is work on increasing partner funding for our projects. Monies for beach protection, provided by Federal, State, and County partners, provide a high rate-of-return in the form of tax dollars. The current CEPD Board recognizes this and also sees the opportunity for our partners to increase their return (more tax dollars) by providing more financial support for our projects. Our future success depends on how we, the CEPD, are able to get our constituents to communicate with our elected officials and ask for increased funding support.*

Q: But Dave, what we're asking is, what does your future look like? A: *I'll be enjoying each day as it comes. Don't be surprised when you see me involved in my most recent passion, enjoying the beach by going out in the Gulf of Mexico chest-to-neck deep and walking parallel to the beach for exercise. It's so cool, enjoying the scene, watching the pelicans coming toward you and then staring at them as they fly directly above. You get a close-up view of their eyes and under-bellies...and that sky, those clouds!...how it all changes in such a short period of time! Then, of course, there's the people-watching. On a recent evening my wife Queenie and I were enjoying our water workout and to the north we spotted a dolphin coming towards us. The dolphin drew a large crowd as it splashed between us and the shoreline, chasing some smaller fish right to the water's edge before circling back around. Give this water workout a try, I highly recommend it! It's a great exercise alternative, especially for our visitors as this is something very special they most likely won't be able to do when they go back home.*

Q: Thanks Dave, just one more question...Aside from being the man who invented the Captiva cardio water workout, how do you hope to be remembered? A: *It would be cool if people remembered me as the guy whose love of his community and Captiva's natural resources encouraged others to participate in organizations that serve their community...like the CEPD!*

If you are interested in serving as a CEPD Commissioner, there will be an open seat. Please send your resume to [mycepd@mycepd.com](mailto:mycepd@mycepd.com) as soon as possible. Jensen's last day is September 26, 2019.

## A Record Year for Turtles

Sanibel and Captiva turtles are having a record year. Jack Brzoza works with sea turtles at the Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF) on Sanibel and said he's seeing high numbers on the two Lee County barrier islands.

"So far our nesting numbers have been really strong," Brzoza said in a Fort Myers News Press article on July 15, 2019. "They're a lot higher than last year. And it's getting into hatching season, so we're getting a lot more hatching each day."

SCCF is expecting a strong hatching season because of the strong nesting success this year, though it's still a bit early to take full stock of the emerging hatchlings entering the Gulf of Mexico. Nesting on Fort Myers Beach and Bonita Beach has already set a new record, and nesting season continues through the end of October.



As of July 31, 2019, there have been 180 turtle nests reported on Captiva; 141 on Sanibel East and 476 on Sanibel West.

To report any issues with nests, nesting turtles, or hatchlings, please call our Sea Turtle Hotline: 978-728-3663

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(Continued from Page 1)

The first island-wide nourishment project began August 17, 1988 and was completed April 22, 1989. The beaches of Captiva were restored with sand obtained from the Redfish Pass ebb shoal borrow area. The project placed approximately 1,596,000 CY of sand along 4.7 miles of beach. The berm width varied from 20 feet at the north end of the island to 100 feet at the south end. The project also included dune construction from monument R96.5 to R108. The project resulted in the establishment of an Erosion Control Line that separates private upland property from public lands.

On February 2, 1996 a “renourishment” project began, the first in a series. Sand placed between Redfish Pass Groin and Blind Pass Terminal group totaled approximately 821,000 CY. An additional 239,000 CY of sand were placed on northern Sanibel as part of an interlocal agreement.

In September, 2005, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers supervised a project to renourish Captiva Island and northern Sanibel. It included compensation for 2004 hurricane losses. A series of storms impacted the project area not only before the construction but also during construction. Captiva received 1,116,387 CY of sand, while northern Sanibel received 244,630 cubic yards.

The most recent project ended in 2013 with a wider beach beckoning residents and visitors to find more time to enjoy this beautiful island. The beach renourishment project extended the beachfront significantly further seaward with beach sand placement of 783,369 cubic yards. Existing dunes were rehabilitated and native dune vegetation installed consisted of 318,750 plants.

On March 5, 2019, the Captiva voters approved the bond referendum for no more than \$18 million, to be assessed at actual cost once the 2020-21 Captiva Island Beach Renourishment project is completed. The restoration is needed and estimated to cost \$30 million. The funding will be provided by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Lee County, the Lee County Tourism Development Council, and Captiva property owners. CEPD is currently communicating with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) about funding possibilities on a federal level.

This project requires a fill volume of approximately 900,000 CY along approximately 25,600 feet of Gulf shoreline between Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) survey monuments R-84 and R-109. The island-wide project extends between Redfish Pass and Blind Pass and would result in an increase in beach width of approximately 90 feet. Construction is authorized by existing state and federal permits. Bidding should occur in early summer 2020, to support competitive pricing. Fill placement will likely be accomplished using a hopper dredge. Beach fill placement will take approximately 4 months, with another 2 months for mobilization and demobilization.

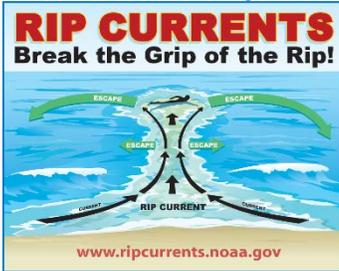
Public access to the project area will be open except where restrictions are necessary in the immediately vicinity of construction activities. The project has a 15-year Joint Coastal Permit (JCP) permit from FDEP, which is valid until December 11, 2029. Likewise, the federal authorization is covered by a Department of Army (DA) Permit issued by the USACE in 2015, which is valid until December 9, 2030.

<b>2020-21 Estimated Beach Renourishment Project Costs</b>	
<i>Assuming funding from FEMA claim, state and county cost-share, and \$2 million CEPD reserves</i>	
Engineering, design, construction admin.	\$ 1,320,000
Monitoring and surveys (6)	780,000
Dredger and equipment mobilization	7,500,000
Dredging and sand filling	17,536,800
Dune and plant re-vegetation	210,000
Post construction monitoring	490,000
Contingency	<u>2,573,680</u>
<i>Total expenses plus contingency</i>	<u>\$30,410,480</u>
Less: estimated funding sources	
FEMA claim for Hurricane Irma	\$ 850,000
State cost-share	6,435,316
County cost-share	8,600,248
CEPD reserves	<u>2,000,000</u>
<i>Total cost-share</i>	<u>\$17,885,564</u>
<i>Estimated cost to Captiva Property Owners</i>	<u>\$12,524,910</u>

### Updated Website

Our website will soon have a new look! Still at [www.mycepd.com](http://www.mycepd.com), the website will be mobile friendly and allow you to submit payoff requests and beach event permits online.

### The Dangers of Rip Currents



According to the National Weather Service (NWS), rip currents are powerful channels of water flowing quickly away from shore which occur most often at low spots

or breaks in the sandbar and in the vicinity of structures such as groins, jetties and piers.

“If you become caught in a rip current, yell for help. Remain calm...do not exhaust yourself and stay afloat while waiting for help. If you have to swim out of a rip current, swim parallel to shore and back toward the beach when possible. Do not attempt to swim directly against a rip current as you will tire quickly,” the NWS website reports.

Some suggestions on ways to avoid being another rip current victim include: check water conditions first, never swim alone, don't panic, take your time, call for help, wear a life vest, and attend a water safety program.

For more information, check out their website at [www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov](http://www.ripcurrents.noaa.gov).

### Annual Budget Process Begins

At their June 10th Regular Board Meeting, CEPD Commissioners approved increasing the District millage rate to 0.4291 for FY2019/2020, an increase from 0.2904 of the prior year. The 2019 taxable value on Captiva is \$1,472,016,428 which is a 1.46% increase of the 2018 value of \$1,450,877,823.

Save the date for the tentative and final budget hearing from the list below.

**SAVE THE DATE**

8/12/2019	Regular Board Meeting	1:00 pm
9/12/2019	Tentative Budget Hearing	5:01 pm
9/26/2019	Regular Board Meeting	3:00 pm
9/26/2019	Final Budget Hearing	5:01 pm
10/7/2019	Regular Board Meeting	1:00 pm
11/12/2019	Regular Board Meeting	1:00 pm
12/9/2019	Regular Board Meeting	1:00 pm

Location: South Seas Island Resort,  
5400 Plantation Rd., Captiva, FL.  
The public is welcome.

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**Captiva Erosion Prevention District**  
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