



**Belleair Beach**  
**Belleair Shore**  
**Clearwater**  
**Indian Rocks Beach**  
**Indian Shores**  
**Madeira Beach**

**North Redington Beach**  
**Redington Beach**  
**Redington Shores**  
**St. Pete Beach**  
**Treasure Island**

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**OFFICERS**

**Michael E. Kelly**  
**President**

Mayor, Belleair Beach  
444 Causeway Boulevard  
Belleair Beach, FL 33786  
(727) 595-4646 Fax: (727) 593-1409

**Don Tabor**  
**Vice-President**

Mayor, Indian Shores 19305  
19305 Gulf Boulevard  
Indian Shores, FL 33785  
(727) 595-4020 Fax: (727) 596-0050

**Bob Fountaine**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**

Mayor, Redington Beach  
105 - 164th Avenue  
Redington Beach, FL 33708  
(727) 391-3875 Fax: (727) 397-6911

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**August 25, 2004**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Barrier Islands Governmental Council, held at the Belleair Beach City Hall, 444 Causeway Boulevard, Belleair Beach, Florida, was called to order by President Mike Kelly at 9:03 AM, followed by a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**ROLL CALL:** Each person present was asked to introduce him/herself.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** (Voting = V; Alternate 1 = A1 and Alternate 2 = A2 member)

Belleair Beach	Mayor Mike Kelly (V)
Belleair Shore	Mayor John Robertson (V)
Clearwater	(None present)
Indian Rocks Beach	Vice Mayor Bill Ockunzzi (A1)
Indian Shores	Mayor Don Taber (V)
Madeira Beach	Vice Mayor John Wolbert (A1)
North Redington Beach	Mayor Harold Radcliffe, (V)
Redington Beach	(None present)
Redington Shores	Mayor J. J. Beyrouti, (V)
St. Pete Beach	(None Present)
Treasure Island	Vice Mayor Richard Kraus (V)

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Katherine Burbridge	AICP, Pinellas County Administration
Doris Burns, Representative	State Senator Dennis Jones
Phil Collins	Commissioner, City of Treasure Island
Bert Cutler	Councilmember, City of Belleair Beach
Linda Fischer	Program Planner, Pinellas Planning Council
Nick Fritch	Sand Key Civic Association
Joan Herndon	Councilor, Town of Indian Shores

Jade Jackson Lloyd	Reporter, St. Petersburg Times
R. B. Johnson	Commissioner, City of Indian Rocks Beach
Nancy Loehr,	Community Relations, Progress Energy
Bob MacPherson	Beach Beacon Newspaper
Mary Maloof	Mayor, City of Treasure Island
Nancy G. McCollum	City Clerk, City of Belleair Beach
Vince Robertiello	Editor, The Reporter
Tina Skaggs	Mayor's Assistant, City of Belleair Beach
Bill Smith	Councilor, Town of Indian Shores

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

President Kelly requested that the Agenda be amended to include 5 a. – Election of Vice President to replace Mayor Tom DeCesare, 8. New Business c. –Discussion of BIG-C Dues and 9. Miscellaneous b. – Update on Beach Renourishment by Nick Fritch.

**A motion was made by Mayor Robertson, seconded by Mayor Taber, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A motion was made by Mayor Robertson, seconded by Mayor Taber to approve the Minutes of the meeting of July 28, 2004, as amended to read on page 5, paragraph 2, the Mayor expressed concern that the Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District had approved as opposed to the Indian Rocks Beach Commission had approved. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer's Report for August 2004, was presented by President Kelly in Secretary/Treasurer Bob Fontaine's absence and the balance on hand as of August 18, 2004 was \$966.72.

**A motion was made by Mayor Robertson, seconded by Vice Mayor Ockunzzi, to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.**

**ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT:**

**A motion was made by Mayor Robertson, seconded by Vice Mayor Ockunzzi to nominate Mayor Don Taber, Town of Indian Shores as Vice-President of the BIG-C.**

**Mayor Beyrouti made a motion to close the nominations.**

**The motion and second to approve Mayor Don Taber, Town of Indian Shores as Vice President of the BIG-C was unanimously approved by voice vote.**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

President Kelly introduced Nancy Loehr, Community Relations, Progress Energy.

Ms. Loehr introduced David Phillips, Vice President, Progress Energy, who gave a brief report on Hurricane Charley.

Mr. Phillips reported that Progress Energy uses a national forecast system that looks at all the models across the United States. He explained one of the things that happened during the storm surge was Progress Energy had to cut power off to the Barrier Islands. He advised on the eastern part of the peninsula Progress Energy has two sizeable units the Bartow Plant and the Anclote Plant. He explained when the storm took that late hour escalation those plants were in jeopardy. He further explained if those plants are online with a storm surge like that they are subject to severe damage. He stated what we have to do is take those plants offline which takes time and put them in an off status during the storm and bring them back up quickly afterwards.

He advised as the storm took that final hour of escalation, they found themselves having to reduce power almost immediately. He explained they targeted reducing loads where mandatory evacuations would occur because even though it was bearing down on us, we still had significant load in the peninsula. He further explained with the two power plants taken offline, they were forced to shed some of the load. He stated in hindsight, the one thing they felt they could have done better was to have a better timeline of communications the Emergency Operations Center and the public. He further stated in that moment of escalation, they should have been able to give us an hour or two hours notice as opposed to fifteen minutes. He advised as soon as we knew the storm had taken a turn away from us, they brought the plants back up quickly. He explained most outages were less than two hours. He further stated after any storm, Progress Energy does a comprehensive lesson learned and builds that back into the plan. He advised that the category four hurricane impacted approximately two million customers with the hardest hit areas being Hardee, Polk, Highlands and Orange County. He stated progress Energy has an extensive storm restoration recovery plan and has developed mutual aid agreements with utilities across the United States. He further stated we had 2,700 Progress Energy workers and brought in 3,500 additional workers from seventeen other states. He advised as of yesterday, there were approximately 40,000 homes and businesses in DeSoto, Port Charolette and Punta Gorda counties without power. He explained there were over 700 miles of transmission lines down which is the distance from Miami to Atlanta and they had to rebuild 100 miles of those lines to give those substations power. He stated the work and cleanup continues and it takes a great plan and a commitment to recognize where the plan needs to be improved.

President Kelly thanked Mr. Phillips for attending the meeting and wished him well with Progress Energy.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **A. FLORIDA SHORE & BEACH PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION**

President Kelly announced that the conference would begin on Wednesday, September 29, 2004, in Marco Island instead of Captiva Island. He explained it has been the tradition of the BIG-C to sponsor a breakfast with the officials from the conference.

Discussion ensued in regard to the main purpose of the breakfast is to be in contact with State Officials, people from the Army Corp of Engineers and an opportunity to meet with the higher ups all in one place with representatives of the BIG-C.

**Motion was made by Vice President Taber, seconded by Mayor Robertson, to sponsor the BIG-C breakfast at the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Conference on Thursday, September 30, 2004. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.**

President Kelly discussed the need for funds in the BIG-C. He stated we do not have a lot of money in the BIG-C and the idea of generating revenue from the mile marker signs or through the Chamber of Commerce is essential for our preservation. He asked do we want to assess ourselves as it states in our by-laws or create dues on an annual basis for the Council?

Mayor Maloof stated because of the impact the BIG-C has made in the past several years that communities who are members ought to be happy to contribute to this organization.

**Motion was made by Vice Mayor Ockunzzi, seconded by Mayor Radcliffe to approve an assessment for operating expenses in the amount of \$250.00. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.**

President Kelly introduced John Wolbert, the new Vice-Mayor from Madeira Beach. He formally asked Vice Mayor Wolbert if he is the new voting delegate for Madeira Beach?

Vice Mayor Wolbert responded he was the First Alternate and automatically became the Voting Delegate. He stated he would advise the BIG-C of the names of the Alternate and First Alternate.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

##### **A. LEGISLATIVE TOPIC – JACK SCHLECHT**

President Kelly introduced Jack Schlecht, who gave a brief presentation on the issue of unregistered vehicles.

Mr. Schlecht advised that there are public safety concerns brought on by the proliferation of consumer products known as go-peds, skateboards, gas and electric powered bicycles and scooters. He stated nationwide emergency rooms treat accidents involving these devices is approaching 80,000 per year mostly to children under the age of fifteen. He explained conflict within the Florida Statutes is such that the police do not issue citations because judges have no choice but to dismiss the citations due to these conflicts. He further stated that a copy of his report will be sent to the Florida Legislature with his recommendations for each product type as well as a proposal for resolving both short and long term issues regarding all such unregistered consumer products.

It was suggested that Mr. Schlecht address the Pinellas County Mayors Council with this issue.

##### **B. BEACH RENOURISHMENT:**

Nick Fritsch, Sand Key Civic Association, gave an update on beach renourishment. He advised the cost estimate for beach renourishment is approximately \$15 million with the federal government responsible for \$10 million. He further explained Pinellas County and the State would divide the balance. He stated Pinellas County has already initiated the permit process and it will be presented on September 15, 2004. He stated construction would begin in 2006 following the winter storms.

Discussion ensued in regard to the mixed messages that were sent in the relief efforts from municipalities immediately after Hurricane Charley.

President Kelly announced that the next BIG-C Meeting would be held on Wednesday, September 22, 2004, at the City of Indian Rocks Beach and the October Meeting will be hosted by Belleair Shore at the City of Belleair Beach.

It was the consensus of the Council to host the BIG-C breakfast at the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Conference at 7:00 AM.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

*Michael E. Kelly*

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Michael E. Kelly, Mayor  
City of Belleair Beach