



Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee

Murdock Administration Building, 18500 Murdock Circle,
Building B, Room B-106, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Board Members

Robert Wibbeler
Don McCormick
Vacant
Stas Matias, Chair
Wendy Lang
Hank Killion
Vacant

District

District 1
District 2
District 3
District 4
District 5
Member-at-Large
Member-at-Large

MINUTES

March 7, 2024, at 9:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order:

Mr. Stas Matias called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Killion asked those in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call / Determination of a Quorum

Upon Secretary Kim Sargent calling the roll call, it was noted that a quorum was **present**.

Present

Stas Matias
Don McCormick
Robert Wibbeler
Wendy Lang
Hank Killion
Stephen R. Deutsch

4. Approval of Minutes

- Approve the Minutes from January 4, 2024.

Mr. McCormick made a motion to approve the January 4, 2024 minutes, seconded by **Ms. Lang** the motion passed unanimously. The February 1, 2024 minutes were for an informal meeting with no quorum, therefore

did not require approval.

5. Changes to the Agenda

Mary McMurray will attend the April 4, 2024 meeting to give a presentation on the Overview of Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves.

6. Citizen Input on Agenda Items

A Charlotte County citizen said they had some questions regarding sand placement. **Mr. Matais** stated that **Mr. Logan** would speak on that subject.

7. New Business

Mr. Matais announced that there is still one position open for Member-at-Large. If anyone knew anyone that was interested, please let them know.

8. Old Business

- **Brandon Moody, Water Quality Manager**
 - Water Quality

Mr. Moody stated they are researching new technologies for future water quality practices. There was a trial run for an autonomous surface vessel. RanMarine manufactures a programmable boat for cleanup of waterways. A trial run was done in Flamingo Canal on picking up duck weed, but the vessel filled up very quickly. A grant request was put in for the larger model that is manned which could collect several tons at a time. If the request is granted, the test area would be for the Punta Gorda Reservoir.

Commissioner Deutsch asked if this would work on algae. **Mr. Moody** stated that it would work on algae and floating plants. **Commissioner Deutsch** added that disposal would have to be addressed. **Mr. Moody** stated that disposal shouldn't be a problem except if there is a bacterial bloom issue because the toxicology levels are not known.

Mr. Matias asked "what is the likelihood of getting the grant and the timeframe for getting a vessel?" **Mr. Moody** stated that the company is anxious to make in-roads in the State of Florida and that he should know in the next couple of months.

Mr. Moody mentioned the Water Quality Town Hall. The presentations and the results from the polls that were presented at the meeting are on-line.

Mr. Matias asked if there was any update on Riviera Marina. **Mr. Moody** said that he has not been out there for a couple of months but he knows the new owners are making strides in getting it together. **Mr. Matias** stated that he would try to take a drive out there soon.

- Matt Logan Public Works
 - South Beach (Knight-Don Pedro Island) Renourishment
 - Stump Pass navigation channel project
 - Mitigation reef
 - Terminal Groin placement on Stump Pass
 - Engineering Projects Update Report

Mr. Logan talked about recovery project program for hurricane impacts of Ian, Nicole, and Irma. Sand will be trucked in for Manasota Key. The cost of trucking in sand from an approved sand source is far lower than the cost of a dredging. These repairs will be either federally or state funded. For the state beach, sand will be pumped from Stump Pass. The state will fully pay for projects on the state beach.

A Charlotte County citizen asked what the time frame for this work is. **Mr. Logan** replied that it would be November because of an environmental window.

Mr. Matias inquired about the cost savings for this project. **Mr. Logan** will provide the engineering report and the presentation for the storm recovery efforts.

Regarding the mitigation reef, **Mr. Logan** stated that he just received the Year Three monitoring report. Tracking is still being recorded.

Regarding the Terminal Groin, the channel between Stump Pass and Palm Island has been maintaining depth. The sand is constantly migrating, but the area is always monitored. Five feet is the controlling depth.

The two main changes in the engineering report are regarding Buena Vista. The Port Charlotte Beach Complex Channel has been a hot topic as well as the other entrance channels which will be addressed soon. Northwest Port Charlotte dredger is in the area, moving from the Apollo and Ingram Waterways to the Jupiter Waterway.

There is a storm debris removal contract in place and they did a fantastic job in south county. The contract exceeded the budget therefore more money is being requested to continue those efforts. This funding would come from FEMA.

Commissioner Deutsch asked if FEMA money could be used for freshwater and canals. **Mr. Logan** replied that it cannot be used for that purpose. The money for freshwater is coming from the Department of Agriculture and National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Ms. Lang suggested that a public service announcement (PSA) might be helpful for the public to have knowledge of who to contact for reports of water debris. **Mr. Logan** said he would check into that.

- Parks and Natural Resources
 - Parks and Natural Resources Update
 - Derelict Vessel Update Report

Ms. Jamie Scudera, Natural Resources Projects Manager, announced that shore bird monitoring started on February 15. **Ms. Scudera** spoke further about shore birds and sea turtles. There is a need for volunteers. **Ms. Scudera** stated that **Ms. Elizabeth Eastes** has been doing a great job on the Derelict Vessel list.

9. Correspondence and Communication
None offered.

10. Public Comments
None offered.

11. Comments by Administrative Staff or Consultants
None offered.

12. Member Comments

Mr. Matias announced that there are currently 2 open positions. District 3 has an open position and there is a Member-at-Large position open.

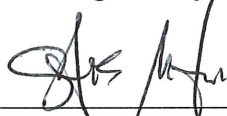
Mr. Matias asked if the board members wanted to vote on whether to have meetings in July and August of 2024. **Ms. Lang** made a motion to cancel the meetings for July and August 2024. **Mr. McCormick** seconded the motion. The motion passed.

13. Next Meeting

- The next Regular Meeting of the Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee will be **Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, Room B-106 Port Charlotte unless otherwise announced.

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.



Stas Matias, Chair