

Minutes
Agricultural & Natural Resources Advisory Committee
Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 9:00 am
E. Jay Carlson Building
Large Conference Room
18400 Murdock Circle
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1094

MEMBERS PRESENT

Andy Dodd, Chairman
Nigel Morris, Vice-Chairman
Lindsay Harrington
Dan Ryals
David Kemeny
Joe Beverly

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Mitchel Aman

MEMBERS ABSENT

GUEST SPEAKERS

STAFF

Joanne Vernon, County Engineer
Morgan Cook, Commission Admin
Kellyann Eller, Sr. Administrative Assistant

GUESTS

Carole Estes, SWFWMD
Jeff Whealton, SWFWMD

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The **June 10, 2021** the meeting of the ***Agricultural and Natural Resources Advisory Committee*** was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by ***Chairman Dodd***.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 2021 minutes were approved.

ANRAC Minutes

June 10, 2021

Page 2 of 3

OLD BUSINESS

- **Earthmoving Ordinance**

Joanne Vernon stated that the latest amendments to the earthmoving ordinance, as they applied to agriculture, essentially amounted to clarification of the process and that had resulted from previous changes in 2013. Those changes, which required agricultural project review by the County, had been brought before ANRAC in 2013 prior to adoption.

Nigel Morris stated that he would like to see agricultural excavation less than or equal to 15 acres in extent and larger excavations that did not entail removal of excavated material from the property, being totally exempt from county review provided they had appropriate authorization from the relevant water management district. He also reiterated his view that, as currently written, the ordinance may be in conflict with Florida's Right to Farm Act.

Discussion ensued in which the guests from the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) explained how agriculture is regulated by their district. It was noted that the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMMD) generally had more stringent requirements for agricultural projects.

Joanne Vernon volunteered to revisit the ordinance with a view to lessening the impact on farmers and bring it back to ANRAC for review before offering it to the BOCC.

A motion supporting Ms. Vernon's offer was made by Nigel Morris, seconded by Lindsay Harrington and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Membership – Joe Powell**

The application for appointment to ANRAC by Joe Powell was discussed. A motion to recommend the BoCC appoint him to the committee was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

None provided

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None provided

STAFF COMMENTS

None provided

ANRAC Minutes

June 10, 2021

Page 3 of 3

MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Harrington suggested in the month we have no quorum; we then meet the following month and then resume meetings regularly following the cycle established earlier in our year.

Mr. Dodd said there could be a meeting room conflict.

Mr. Harrington discussed the Conex boxes and how two property owners were having difficulty with the County and that the County was asking the boxes to be permitted.

Discussion led to the fact that the actual use of the land was not Agriculture but residential and that the permitting rule could possibly apply. The Commissioner's Administrative Assistant was going to look into it.

NEXT MEETING

- ❖ September 9, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the E. Jay Carlson Building large conference room. (there will not be a meeting in July 2021)

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dodd asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Harrington made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Beverly; the Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.



Andy Dodd,
Chairman

Minutes of the Agricultural & Natural Resources Advisory Committee
Approved this 9 day of Sept. 2021.