



## MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 12, 2022

**9:30 a.m.**

Charlotte County Administration Center

18500 Murdock Circle Room B-106

Port Charlotte, FL 33948

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

**Chair Ireland** called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Upon the roll being called it was determined a quorum was present.

3. Chairman's Comments

A. REMINDER TO ALL VISITORS ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE: PLEASE SIGN IN. It is helpful when preparing the Minutes. A clipboard and a pen are provided on the podium for your convenience.

B. REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS STATE THEIR NAME AND ORGANIZATION and TO USE THE MICROPHONE WHEN ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE. It is helpful when preparing the Minutes

C. REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS, STAFF AND VISITORS TO PLEASE SILENCE THEIR CELL PHONES.

4. Changes to the Agenda

None offered.

5. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

None offered.

6. Regular Business

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting from April 7, 2022  
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting from April 14, 2022.  
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

C. Charlotte County Sheriff's Office – Marine update

**Lieutenant Aaron Williams** said they have had a few boats removed. One was removed the other day from the Peace River between I-75 and the US 41 bridges. There are a few others we are verifying the owners and will get those off the list. There was one rescue on the west wall this past weekend. A couple of guys

had trouble, they ended up riding out the storm the other day on a 21 foot boat. He said the only other thing he had was NOAA Fisheries enforcement is going to be starting up and stationing an officer in this area. There is one in the St. Petersburg area and one in our area. They will have a boat. The first couple of months the boat will be stationed in St. Pete, we will be partnering with them.

**Chair Ireland** said he's heard there is a sunken boat in So. Gulf Cove. I think Roger heard about it but someone hit it again just the other day. It is off to the side. There is a blind curve at the top of the lagoon in South Gulf Cove. It is south of the blind curve. It is on the left side if you are coming back in. It was marked but the marker moves.

**Lieutenant Williams** said they tried to check on that a while back and they believe it is a very large rock. The plan is to install a permanent marker but I am not sure of the status of that. He feels with the increase of boating in the area, more people are hitting it.

**Capt. Blago** said last month someone called him to say there was an abandoned boat under the Coral Creek bridge by the legacy trail in Englewood. I told Roger and he said he would look into it. He said he would call the manager of the legacy trail. The last entry on Roger's list was this boat and less than one month, and it was taken care of. Don't be afraid to report a derelict boat. It was a hobie cat.

**Lieutenant Williams** said the day after that was reported to Roger, we went out with Roger and was trying to find ownership. Once they saw no ownership to verify, they were able to pull that and go through a different process rather than the derelict process.

**Mr. Bigness** said there was a little sailboat across from the high school at a park there, beached at Cedar Point.

**Lieutenant Williams** said they are currently working that sail boat. The owner is identified and is homeless. The 21 day clock has started. I don't think there will be any hearings, so after the 21 days, we should be able to move quickly on that.

**Tina Powell** said it is on the list as AV369.

**Mr. Bigness** said a few weeks ago, my son and I and a puppy went out on the boat to the Manasota Key. No one was around. Got out of the boat. An elderly lady, a park ranger, came up and was extremely rude. Said the dog could not be there. She was yelling they are not moving fast enough. I understand there are rules but the way it was handled, they shouldn't be so rude.

**Lieutenant Williams** said she could be turtle patrol. Stump Pass state park has rangers and they include the land across ski alley.

#### D. FY22-23 MAC Grant Application Review – Jim Darden

**Jim Darden** said the Commissioners approved all the grants MAC approved plus the water fest one. Also approved was the Florida Fish and Wildlife vessel removal.

#### E. MSBU Update – Zach Patchell/Matt Logan

**Zach Patchell** went over his monthly letter/updates.

Ackerman Waterway – no projects at this time – refer to Manchester waterway.

Alligator Creek – A request for letters of interest went out to qualified firms for the design, permitting and construction oversight of a maintenance dredge project for a large portion of the Alligator Creek channel. A firm has been selected and negotiations are scheduled for scope and fees.

Buena Vista – FDEP and ACOE permits have been received; CEC has produced project limit options to stay within budget. CEC is currently working on draft deliverables.

Edgewater North – No active project.

Gulf Cove Waterways – CEC has received on behalf of Charlotte County a maintenance dredge exemption from FDEP, and we are covered by the current exemption and permit from ACOE; CEC is working on planning a project that will fit into the planned budget and will likely be targeting 25,000+ cubic yards. County staff and CEC are developing the exact project limits.

Harbour Heights – Both maintenance dredge exemptions are in place and have been verified and approved by FDEP and ACOE. Project management has received final deliverables and are currently reviewing them.

Hayward canals – This project has been bid and a successful low bidder has been selected after additional out of cycle funds were approved to make up the balance of the bid amount. (Sea and Shoreline LLC) has been awarded the project and we await a preconstruction meeting where a notice to proceed date will be agreed upon.

Manchester Waterway – LOI's have been received from engineering firms for the design of a maintenance dredge project of Christopher, Knox and Bay harbor canals and Atkins Engineering was selected. We are currently working through negotiations of scope and fees.

Northwest Port Charlotte – This project (Interior Canal Dredge) was successfully bid to Arbor Tree and Land Inc. and was awarded by the BoCC. A notice to proceed date had been agreed upon. This project is to start August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Peace River shores: No active projects at this time.

Pirate Harbor: Coastal Engineering is the design firm. CEC is working on preparing documents to submit the proposed plan to agencies for permitting.

Southbridge Waterway: No active projects at this time.

South Gulf Cove: Marine Contracting Group has completed this dredge project and we are working through the close out process.

South Gulf Cove Parallel Lock: Lock design working towards 90%. Awaiting ACOE response on permitting, EOR has requested updates, ACOE has provided they are waiting on US Fish and Wildlife approval. ACOE permitting may be further delayed due to a manatee death incident in early Oct. 2021 at the existing lock. US Fish and Wildlife is performing an investigation and will advise on manatee safety conditions. The

County received and reviewed engineering scope for additional services to add a Tender House to the design. Comments and questions were given, and negotiations continue. Currently awaiting fees and a finalized scope. In regard to obtaining the ACOE construction permit, US Fish and Wildlife is requesting the County man the lock full time in addition to being a manatee observer. Charlotte County is reviewing this request. The consultant is looking into a manatee detection device that can be installed on the Locks.

Suncoast Waterway: No active projects at this time.

#### F. Derelict Vessel Report – Roger DeBruler

**Roger DeBruler** was absent. **Tina Powell** said she has his report, if anyone has any questions, she would be happy to answer them.

#### G. Community Services Update – Tina Powell

**Tina Powell** went over her report.

Ainger Creek – The park redevelopment project is managed by the Facilities construction and maintenance department. The most current information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage.

Allapatchee – The fishing pier replacement design budgeted for this fiscal year; the construction bid is being awarded. Staff had pre-construction meeting in February. Project anticipated to start in June; A PSA will go out prior to work starting. Erosion project is managed by Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department. Facilities provided the following: Negotiation scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Anger Fishing Pier – No projects at this time.

Bayshore Live Oak park – Fishing Pier replacement design at the 30% review stage and a meeting with design team scheduled this month; pier is currently closed due to unsafe conditions.

Boca Grande Fishing Pier – no projects at this time.

Butterford Waterway Park – No projects at this time.

Cedar Point Environmental Park – No projects at this time.

Centennial Fishing Pier – No projects at this time.

Darst Park – No projects at this time.

El Jobean Boat Ramp – No projects at this time.

El Jobean Fishing Pier – No projects at this time

Englewood Beach at Chadwick Park Fishing Pier – No projects at this time.

Harbour Heights Park – No projects at this time.

Hathaway Park – Design for the Hathaway Park floating dock and gangway is complete; the construction bid had one response that was significantly over budget; project is in purchasing.

Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary Park – No projects at this time.

Live Oak Point – Facilities Construction and Maintenance will be managing the sunken pavers and erosion issues. Additionally, they are managing the boardwalk that was damaged during the big windstorm in December. Facilities provided the following: Negotiation scheduled for April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Placida Fishing Pier – No projects at this time.

Placida Park – 2014 Sales Tax project for the boat ramp expansion is managed by Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department. Facilities provided the following: Project update was presented to BCC on April 12.

Port Charlotte Beach Park – the 2020 sales tax project for recreation Center is managed by Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department. The most current information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following: conceptual siting reviewed at a meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Public Works is managing the long-term shoreline stabilization and waterway dredge feasibility project. Presentation will be made to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board Committee at their May meeting.

Riverside Park – ramp has been closed due to safety issues for motorized vessels; due to safety issues, cannot be addressed via repairs. Ramp full redesign is managed by Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department. Facilities provide the following: design at the 30% stage and are being reviewed by staff.

South Gulf Cove Park – No projects at this time.

Spring Lake Park – No projects at this time.

William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park – grant for additional trails, boardwalk, fitness equipment and interpretive signs was awarded; ACOE and SWFWMD permits have been applied for and are under review. ADA canoe/kayak launch project is managed by Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department.

**Mr. Russell** asked, Riverside Park - \$2 million dollars?

**Ms. Powell** said this is a full boat ramp replacement. With that replacement, we have to come up to ADA standards which requires the installation of a boarding pier as well as ADA parking. Includes the Engineering fee.

7. New Business -

**Richard Russell** talked about Mosaic workshop. He said last year there were 2 workshops. One was in the summer and the last one was in November. At the November workshop, they said they would have

another one in January of 2022. They decided not to and 2 weeks ago said they will have 3 workshops the balance of this year. They are in the process of rezoning 14,000 acres they need to develop a mosaic mining. This would be about 15 miles up the Peace River/Punta Gorda. The next meeting will be at the Turner Agri Center in Arcadia starting at 9:00 a.m. May 31, 2022. The second one is July 27<sup>th</sup>, same location and time. Those are the 2 before the primary election in August. Four of the commissioners on the board/seats will be up for election in Nov. 2022. We are trying to encourage people to please go. You may say it's in DeSoto County so who cares, but the water flows south to our harbor and goes to the Gulf of Mexico. This effects our waters - drinking waters, water we swim in and fishing waters. They make presentations without being under oath. They can say anything they want. DeSoto County does not record their meetings, only audio, so there is no video of what they say. They say their place will withstand 120 MPH winds. Hurricane Charley came through with 150 mph winds. They don't answer when I asked them what will you do if another hurricane comes through with 150 mph winds. I urge as many people to go that can attend.

**Meetings dates: May 31, July 27<sup>th</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup> – Turner Agri Center 2250 N.E. Roan St. Arcadia All 9:00 a.m.**

**Mr. Welsh** asked Commissioner Deutsch what our commissioners think.

**Commissioner Deutsch** said we came up with a pretty strong statement about 3 months ago banning phosphate mining in Charlotte County. We have had contact with DeSoto County and they know we are against this.

8. Old Business –

**Mr. Hickey** said a number of boats at their alliance heard Allegiant wants to put in a sea plane base by their hotel.

**Commissioner Deutsch** said they've heard some discussion but there is no water there. It is only a couple of feet of water. Sea planes can land there and come in. Once they are on the water, they are considered a boat.

**Mr. Welsh** said he heard from Punta Gorda that this is really up to the FAA.

**Lieutenant Williams** said sea planes are covered under the Rules and roads of navigation. Sea planes have to give way to everything else. They are allowed to land in the harbor.

**Mr. McIntosh** asked if there is an update on the 2<sup>nd</sup> wind station for Marker 2?

**Mr. Hickey** said they have tried many times to get that thing out there. Most days there was small craft advisories or high winds. We need a calm day. It's approved, we have the components, we just need the right day.

9. Other Business –

None offered

10. Citizen Comments –

None offered

11. Good of the Order -

**Ms. Powell** said for the Port Charlotte Beach recreation center project, the consultant will be doing multiple presentations to the BCC for additional input. This will be on the agenda for public input also. She said she will let MAC know when those meeting dates are so they can attend for input.

12. Next Meetings

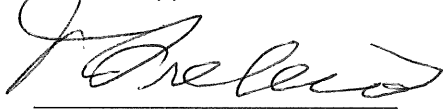
- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. in the **E. Jay Carlson Large Conference Room. (f/k/a Building Construction Services)**
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. at 18500 Murdock Circle 2 Story Building Room B-106, Port Charlotte.

13. Adjournment

**Dr. Strube** made a motion to adjourn, second by **Mr. Hickey**, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes Approved



Tom Ireland, Chair