



MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 8, 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

Commissioner Deutsch said he wanted to comment on the lock in South Gulf Cove. He was told that staff did not support the concept of the second lock being moved down to the south end of cove. They discussed the environmental pluses of having the water flushed in that waterway and the environmental benefits. He would like feedback from MAC to bring to Administration. He does not believe this is dead yet. He can get himself in and out but they are debating if they need a person there or not. He feels it is a waste of money and it is a mistake to put 2 locks right next to each other. An electrical storm would probably affect both locks.

6. Regular Business

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting from June 2, 2022
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting from June 9, 2022.
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

C. Charlotte County and City of Punta Gorda Sheriff's offices – Marine update

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said we made it through all the recent summer holidays this year. The busy Memorial day weekend with the H2O festival was by far the busiest holiday we have seen on the water in Charlotte County. It was packed in that area, estimated about 20,000 people just at the concert (at the sandbar at Boca) not counting other water areas in Charlotte County. Fourth of July was about half the traffic. Maybe it was because of gas prices, even Freedom swim was about half of what it normally is. Labor Day weekend wasn't extremely busy. There was a lot on the water, but not as much heavy boat traffic as on a normal holiday. No accidents this Labor Day. We did respond to Matlacha and assist the County with a lost kayaker in the mangroves. There was one crash at Tom Adams Bridge, a BUI crash but that was it. He also said they are waiting on a part for the motor on one of their boats. There are 2 markers down. Marker #11 by Little Gasparilla Island, we just recovered yesterday that broke off and Marker #25 at the ICW Tom Adams bridge, which is actually in Sarasota County. That's the main update. This coming Saturday is the Sheriff's dive team competition. We have 10 teams competing on Airport Road in Punta Gorda. This benefits the Sheriff's Youth Ranch.

City of Punta Gorda Police Department

Corporal Joe Trufan said Freedom swim was less of a turnout but we still had to pull about 8 or 10 people out of the water. Most just on floaties and drifting the wrong way. One lady was drifting down by Colony Point. She wasn't making any traction. Fourth of July fireworks, we did have a guy run a pontoon boat into the guide waters on the power lines. He was BUI. Everything else was smooth. We did have a lot of derelict boat activity since the last meeting in June. We had 3. One is out to bid by Lashley Park – it's a 47 footer. We put a bid through the City from a grant. 2 others – one in front of Fisherman's Village and another one by Gilchrist and both are in the decal waiting process. 21 days. Then we can contract for removal.

D. Brandon Moody – Discuss Water Quality

Brandon Moody, Water Quality Manager, said he met a few of you here while going to HoA's and Civic groups updating people about the background and back story of water quality in Charlotte County. He has been with the County for about 1.5 years and he was given 2 goals when he started. One was to start to evaluate what we know about water quality in Charlotte County and work on filling in the gaps in terms of monitoring and sampling analysis and also start work and development what we are calling One Charlotte One Water, which is a water quality management strategy for the County. He loaded a power point online on our County website. He said when he first got here, he spent the initial few months trying to understand Charlotte County and Charlotte Harbor's water quality situation. That is what does DEP consider to be impaired and healthy waters in Charlotte County and Charlotte Harbor. What are other agencies doing to protect and monitoring water quality. What are we doing and what could we be doing that we are not. He showed on the screen monitoring efforts by other agencies (The City of Punta Gorda, Peace River Manasota Water Supply authority, DEP with volunteering water quality monitoring program and bacteria monitoring) This will show you who is doing the monitoring, what they are doing and how often. He said there is a lot of monitoring in the harbor itself. There are 60 samples every month in the harbor. DEP has been using this in the bays to assess the waters. He said much of Charlotte Harbor and the Myakka area is considered impaired for high levels of nutrients. He said they did not have much information about our canals which go on to the harbor. South Gulf Cove had been doing quarterly monitoring since about 2009; the Rotonda area has a lake watch program they have been doing with the University of Florida for several years; some

University of Florida for several years; some individual communities have been testing. He discussed what the stars and dots stand for. This information is available on our County website. He said in the middle part of the County where we have a lot of canals that drain Port Charlotte down into the tidal rivers and Charlotte Harbor, we have a lot of connections to the City of North Port. That water can enter Port Charlotte and drain out into Charlotte Harbor. There is a lot of concern about what is in the water that is coming from North Port. We are now collecting water from those North Port canals so we can see what is coming from North Port into our canals and then the Harbor. There are also reports on this site showing nutrients and water clarity in these monitoring areas. We also include rainfall because that could impact the clarity in the waters from run off.

There was brief discussion about mosaic and polluting the waters and water collections samples in this basin. There are samples and monitoring taken around horse creek. He also mentioned others are reviewing if clam beds can help to bring back natural populations of the clam beds and that seems to help with the seagrass.

E. FY22/23 Financials – Jim Darden

Jim Darden said he put together a grant status financials for your review. He has an out of cycle grant application from Public Works to replace the navigation aids by Ainger Creek. They are asking for \$43,000.00 this will go to the BCC at their next meeting. They had estimates from WCIND and navigation aids. Ms. Powell said the item is going to the BCC and in addition to the funding, will be transferring ownership of those pilings over to the County so we can do the long term maintenance. The funding is to bring them all up to current standard.

There was discussion about who owned them originally and boaters complaining these pilings are gone.

Captain Blago made the motion to replace these pilings, **Mr. Strube** seconded, motion pass with a unanimous vote.

F. MSBU Update – Zach Patchell/Matt Logan

Zach Patchell was not present. Below is what was on his report.

Ackerman and Manchester Waterway – no active project 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. Design deliverables have been received. Bidding of project is on hold until the next MSBU Advisory meeting when the board will decide on whether to proceed with the project. The AB is considering halting the project due to dredging prices.

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

County staff and CEC are developing the exact project limits. The County is currently working to find a planned upland spoil site for the project and is in talks with the Gulf Cove POA.

Harbour Heights – The interior dredge project bid and only received one bid over budget. The Harbor Heights Waterway Advisory Board requested the project be canceled and revisited at a later time.

Hayward canals – Sea and Shoreline started dredging this project in early July and is working towards the halfway point by volume. So far, the project is going smoothly with slight weather delays.

Manchester Waterway – Atkins has begun the engineering design work for this project. Their team has made the first site visit to collect samples and record ATONs. Atkins is reviewing all data received from the County and is working towards 3 percent plans.

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 1st. ATL is behind schedule on other projects and has not mobilized to this project. County staff is in communication and working through the submittal phase. ATL is working to get the County a schedule for this project and has stated a possible start of October 1st.

Peace River shores: No active projects at this time.

Pirate Harbor: Coastal Engineering has started the design phase of this project, submitting permit application to FDEP and USACE. We recently received a permit from FDEP and still await USACE.

Southbridge Waterway: No active projects at this time.

South Gulf Cove: No active project at this time.

South Gulf Cove Parallel Lock: The design project is between 60 and 90 percent and is currently in a holding pattern awaiting the Tender House design change order to be approved. It's slated for approval on the September 13th BoCC agenda. Once the Tender House Design is approved, both design components will be advanced together. US Fish and Wildlife is still in review of this project and has stalled receiving the USACE permit. Staff is still working on getting this authorization.

Suncoast Waterway: No active projects at this time.

G. Derelict Vessel Report – Roger DeBruler

Roger DeBruler was attending a WCIND meeting. **Tina Powell** went over his report. She said Mr. DeBruler had updated his report the past 3 months, sending July, August, and September. Currently, there are 5 open cases. One case is cited. 5 vessels are ready for removal. 3 of those have been updated since this last report came out, they are with WCIND and their contractor. One is a quick removal through FWC and the other one is a small dingy at Chadwick Park that Roger will be removing himself. One was removed at the end of last month and a total of 3 since we last met.

H. Community Services Update – Tina Powell

Tina Powell went over her monthly report.

Ainger Creek – The park redevelopment project is managed by the Facilities construction and maintenance department. Project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following: A kickoff meeting was held with Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc. for the engineering and design of the Ainger Creek Boat Ramp project. The design will incorporate the master plan, which includes relocation of the current boat ramp, improved parking and traffic flow, and a pre-manufactured restroom building.

Allapatachee Park – The fishing pier replacement is being managed by Community Services and is complete. The erosion project is managed by Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department. Facilities provided the following: Task #1 was submitted by Weiler Engineering for review of their assessment and evaluation of Allapatachee and Live Oak Point Parks. Task #2 is due in October.

Anger Fishing Pier – Community Services is managing repairs to the sidewalk undermining and rock revetment; negotiations have been completed with the design team and data collection has begun.

Bayshore Live Oak park – Fishing Pier replacement is being managed by Community Services; additional project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Design team completed 60% designs and have submitted them to the regulatory agencies for review; pier is currently closed due to unsafe conditions.

Boca Grande Fishing Pier – No projects at this time.

Butterford Waterway Park – Community Services is managing a repair project that includes repairs to the boarding piers, along with additional repairs at the El Jobean boat ramp and fishing pier; the project has been awarded to a contractor and a pre-construction meeting is scheduled for September 6th.

Cedar Point Environmental Park – Pier replacement is being managed by Community Services; staff is in negotiations with the design team. Minor repairs were completed in July.

Centennial Fishing Pier – No projects at this time.

Darst Park – Community Services is managing the boarding pier replacement and seawall replacement along with ramp scour protection; staff is in negotiations with the design team.

El Jobean Boat Ramp – Community Services is managing a repair project that includes repairs to the boarding pier, (along with additional repairs at Butterford and the El Jobean fishing pier); the project has been awarded to a contractor and a pre-construction meeting is scheduled for September 6th. Community Services is managing a ramp scour protection project; staff is in negotiations with the design team.

El Jobean Fishing Pier – Community Services is managing minor repairs to the fishing pier, (along with additional repairs at Butterford and El Jobean boat ramp); the project has been awarded to a contractor and a pre-construction meeting is scheduled for September 6th.

Englewood Beach at Chadwick Park Fishing Pier – Community Services is managing a repair project that includes repairs to the fishing pier at Chadwick, as well as to the boardwalk pavilions on the Englewood Beach portion of the park; bid will be awarded to contractor in early September.

Harbour Heights Park – Community Services is managing the seawall replacement project; negotiations have been completed with the design team and data collection has begun.

Hathaway Park – The repairs to the floating dock and gangway being managed by Community Services is complete.

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 (also at Allapatachee). Facilities provided the following for the paver/erosion project: Facilities provided the following: Task #1 was submitted by Weiler Engineering for review of their assessment and evaluation of Allapatachee and Live Oak Point Parks. Task #2 is due in October. Facilities Construction & Maintenance is managing the boardwalk that was damaged during the big windstorm in December. Facilities provided the following for the boardwalk project: Design has been completed and a contractor has been awarded the bid; kick-off meeting to be held soon.

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. Project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updated webpage. Facilities provided the following: Permit applications were submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for the Placida Boat Ramp project. Both entities confirmed receipt and they are in the review queue.

Port Charlotte Beach Park – the 2020 sales tax project for Recreation Center is managed by Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department. Project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updated webpage. Facilities provided the following: All parties involved have been working diligently through design concepts with Sweet Sparkman to arrive at the best design for the community. Sweet Sparkman has submitted schematic design progress for review. In September, there will be a presentation to the Board. There is a public input meeting tentatively planned for October. Community Services is managing the T-dock replacement project; negotiations have been completed with the design team and data collection has begun.

Riverside Park – ramp has been closed due to safety issues for motorized vessels; due to safety issues, cannot be addressed via repairs. The project is being managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updated webpage. Facilities provided the following: Weiler Engineering submitted 60% plans for review and Community Service requested that a boarding pier be added to ADA compliance and will be on the BCC agenda in September.

South Gulf Cove Park – No projects at this time.

Spring Lake Park – Community Services is managing the project that includes minor repairs to the boarding pier; bid will be awarded to contractor in early September. Community Services is also managing a ramp scour protection project; staff is in negotiations with the design team.

William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park – The trails, boardwalk, fitness equipment and signage project is being managed by Community Services; additional project information can be found on the County’s Project Status Updates webpage. The project is approved by SWFWMD and under review by ACOE as well as the County DRC process. Community Services is also managing a repair project for the fishing pier; bid will be awarded to contractor in early September. The ADA canoe/kayak launch project is managed by Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department and has been assigned a project reviewer by ACOE.

7. New Business -
None offered

8. Old Business –
Mr. Hickey asked about the Riviera marina. He said there was a fire not long ago. He wondered the update. **Mr. Moody** said he knows the enforcement orders for that marina have been the long standing legal wrangling of who actually owns that. He said there was a settlement agreement reached between the two parties. This is pending close of sale, but he has not received an update yet from DEP.

9. Other Business –
Mr. Ireland said 5 members terms expire end of December this year. Please get your applications in if you wish to remain a member on this Committee.

10. Citizen Comments –
Robert E. Lee said he is a marine contractor and said he felt he and other marine contractors are on the water almost daily, we might be able to assist with monitoring the water quality.

11. Good of the Order -
None offered

12. Next Meetings

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, October 6, 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, October 13, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. at 18500 Murdock Circle 2 Story Building Room B-106, Port Charlotte.

13. Adjournment
Mr. Killion made a motion to adjourn, second by **Mr. Hickey**, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Minutes Approved



Tom Ireland, Chair