

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

JULY 16, 2024

A Utilities Department Quarterly Update Meeting was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Commission Chambers; Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida.

The following members were present: Chair Truex, Commissioner Constance, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Doherty, and Commissioner Tiseo. Also in attendance were: County Administrator Flores, County Attorney Knowlton, and Minutes Clerk Welsh. The following members were absent: None.

The Meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Administrator Flores highlighted Utilities Department Quarterly Update Meeting.

Changes to the Agenda - None

Public Input

Percy Angelo remarked on Charlotte County Utilities (CCU), Cape Haze Water Quality Improvement (WQI) Project, funding request, nitrogen discharges, cost, reclaimed water, advanced wastewater treatment (AWT), affordability, value, septic to sewer conversion, water testing, Lemon Bay, Coral Creek, Charlotte Harbor, and Water Quality Manager Brandon Moody.

Rob Robbins discussed water impairments, data, Cape Haze WQI Project, paid consultants, Florida Department of Health (FDOH) records, Sewer Master Plan, nitrogen sources, AWT, Lemon Bay, Coral Creek, and septic to sewer conversion.

1. Fiscal Update

Rick Arthur, Fiscal Services Manager gave a brief overview of Agenda, Bond-Related Regulatory Disclosure Requirements, Project Tiering Process, Raftelis Rate Model Review, Two-Year Budget Process, Assumptions, Exclusions for Exercise, Targets for Exercise, and Results of Exercise.

Chair Truex mentioned rate payers and repair and replacement (R&R) costs. Commissioner Constance commented on Results of Exercise, expansions, Assumptions, Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (PRMRWSA), funding, Reserves, rate payers, O&M (Operations and Maintenance), R&R, life cycles, infrastructure, existing transmission, and plant treatment capacity. Commissioner Doherty noted affordability, Exclusions for Exercise, Results of Exercise, phased approach, and requirements. Commissioner Tiseo spoke to existing and new rate payers, value, life cycles, replacements, O&M, costs, funding sources, responsibility, AWT, capacity, demand, growth, and connection fees.

County Administrator Flores replied to Assumptions and July 23, 2024 BCC Regular and Land Use Meeting.

2. Utility Update

Jeremy Frost, Utilities Superintendent gave a brief overview of Monthly Purchases from Water Authority Average Daily Per Month, Water Produced at Burnt Store Average Daily Per Month, Reclaimed Distributed, Reclaimed South and Master

Contracted, Water Distribution, Wastewater/Reclaim Events, Sanitary Sewer Overflows Per Year, Sanitary Sewer Overflows in Deep Creek and Harbour Heights, Sources of Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs), Causes of SSOs, Customers Per System Type, Water Reclamation Facilities Percent of Capacity – Last 12 Months, New Customers, Concurrency, Reservation of Capacity, South County Projects, Burnt Store Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Remaining Equivalent Residential Connections (ERCs), Sanitary Sewer Utility Capacity Report, East Port WRF Remaining ERCs, West Port WRF Remaining ERCs, Rotonda WRF Remaining ERCs, Peace River System, Burnt Store System, Miscellaneous Data, Business Services, Accounts Turned off for Non-payment, Customer Support Data, Public Relations, Employee Performance Measures, and Department Overtime.

Chair Truex discussed AWT, salt infiltration, direct potable reuse, benefits, Burnt Store WRF Remaining ERCs, feasibility, and alternatives. **Commissioner Constance** mentioned Reclaimed South and Master Contracted, capacity utilization, contract language and terms, sea level rise, salinity, PRMRWSA, water sources, National Association of Counties (NACo), Grants, funding requests, and Burnt Store WRF Remaining ERCs. **Commissioner Doherty** commented on Reclaimed South and Master Contracted, direct potable reuse, contracts, water sources, Burnt Store WRF Remaining ERCs, increased capacity, and funding. **Commissioner Tiseo** noted transparency, increased capacity, AWT and wastewater treatment expansions, Burnt Store WRF Remaining ERCs, and funding sources.

County Attorney Knowlton interjected on contract language and liability.

3. Projects Update

Ken Stecher, Utilities Operations Manager gave a brief overview of Engineering Projects, Development Projects, East Port Expansion, Burnt Store Water Reclamation Facility Alternatives, Construction Manager at Risk Option, Feasibility/Alternatives Study, Do Nothing Option, Burnt Store WRF Capacity Project Major Plant Permit Modification, Burnt Store WRF Required Maintenance, Ackerman – Water Quality Improvement, Lakeview/Midway – Water Quality Improvement, Cape Haze – Water Quality Improvement, Water Authority Phase 2B Joint Project Hillsborough Water Main, Table 1: Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Water, Table 2: CIP Wastewater, Master Plans & Reports, West Port Expansion, South County Upgrades, MT003: Resiliency and Modernization Grant, and Babcock Ranch Water Supply Project Status Update.

Chair Truex spoke to construction inflation, funding, House Bill (HB) 1379 requirements and language, AWT, and South County Projects. **Commissioner Constance** discussed South County Upgrades, Tuckers Grade, South County Projects, line extensions, Burnt Store WRF Remaining ERCs, Reservation of Capacity, cost, and Babcock Ranch Water Supply Project Status Update. **Commissioner Doherty** mentioned Burnt Store Water Reclamation Facility Alternatives, capacity, phased approach, affordability, Comprehensive Plan, AWT requirement, timeline, Burnt Store WRF Capacity Project Major Plant Permit Modification, South County Projects, Babcock Ranch Water Supply Project Status Update, timing, and permits. **Commissioner Tiseo** commented on Do Nothing Option, HB 1379, mandate, sewer availability and planning, AWT, funding sources, State Revolving Fund (SRF), Sewer Master Plan, cost, Burnt Store WRF Capacity Project Major Plant Permit Modification, Request for Proposals (RFP), Reservation of Capacity, contract language, disclaimers, and South County Projects.

Deputy County Administrator Emily Lewis responded to Land Conservation Trust Fund, Water Quality Grant dollars, HB 1379, staff analysis, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), work program, and projects.

COMMISSIONER DOHERTY MOVED TO APPROVE AUTHORIZING STAFF TO PUT OUT AN REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR ENGINEERING FOR THE BURNT STORE WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY CAPACITY PROJECT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TISEO

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

4. Sewer Master Plan Update

Tom Friedrich, Jones Edmunds Senior Consultant highlighted Sewer Master Plan Update, introduced Jones Edmunds Project Manager Chris Makransky, replied to Compliance Monitoring for Little Alligator C Basin, Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP), Discussions and Recommendations, funding, One Charlotte One Water, Average Ranking, Reasonable Assurance Plan (RAP), FDEP, and water quality monitoring.

Mr. Makransky gave a brief overview of Agenda, Overview/History, Regulatory Drivers, Compliance Monitoring for Little Alligator C Basin, CCU Septic to Sewer (S2S) Projects, Environmental Scoring Criteria, Environmental Assessment: Criteria 1 - Proximity to Waterways, Criteria 2 – Age of Septic Systems, Criteria 3 – Density of Septic Systems, Average Ranking, Water Quality Improvements CIP: 5-year Plan, 10-year Plan, 15-year Plan, and Discussion and Recommendations.

Chair Truex noted Average Ranking, FDEP, Average Ranking, CCU S2S Projects, water quality testing, waterway impairment, funding, Water Quality Improvements CIP: 5-year Plan, and density. Commissioner Constance spoke to Compliance Monitoring for Little Alligator C Basin, Environmental Assessment: Criteria 1 – Proximity to Waterways, Water Quality Improvements CIP: 5-year Plan, 10-year Plan, 15-year Plan, Environmental Scoring Criteria, Average Ranking, CCU S2S Projects, waterways, Water Quality Manager Brandon Moody, project funding, BMAP, Pirate Harbor, sewer connection, location, septic system, and costs. Commissioner Doherty discussed Grants, funding applications, RAP, BMAP, funding, and process. Commissioner Tiseo mentioned Regulatory Drivers, Compliance Monitoring for Little Alligator C Basin, Manchester Lock, Overview/History, CCU S2S Projects, affordability, reprioritization, subsidies, funding, Average Ranking, and Pirate Harbor.

Assistant County Administrator Claire Jubb responded to One Charlotte One Water, October 15, 2024 BCC Monthly Workshop, RAP, and process.

Mr. Stecher replied to Pirate Harbor.

5. Cape Haze Preliminary Engineering Report Update

Dennis Croyle, Giffels-Webster Engineers Vice President gave a brief overview of Project Need, Cape Haze WQI Project Overview, Purpose: Obtain Approval of the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), Preliminary Engineering Report Objectives, Collection Systems Evaluated, System Evaluation: Cost Considerations, Pump Station Site Selection Process, System Evaluation: Other Considerations, Recommended Sewer – Low Pressure, Potable Water, Estimated Construction Costs Only, Estimated Project Schedule, and Construction Phasing Plan.

Chair Truex commented on Cape Haze WQI Project Overview, Estimated Construction Costs Only, maintenance, System Evaluation: Cost Considerations, vacant and occupied parcels, R&R, water quality testing, Pump Station Site Selection Process, low pressure sewer (LPS) and vacuum sewer systems, generator accessibility, paving program, FDOH, Geographic Information System (GIS) map, and installation. Commissioner Constance spoke to Cape Haze WQI Project Overview,



Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) assessments, System Evaluation: Cost Considerations, Estimated Construction Costs Only, LPS and vacuum sewer systems, vacant and occupied parcels, banyan trees, roadways, water quality testing, Pump Station Site Selection Process, paving program, affordability, market forces, timeline, financing, and road conditions. Commissioner Doherty noted water quality testing, Cape Haze, O&M, costs, subsidies, MSBU assessments, methodology, Estimate Construction Costs Only, paving program, LPS and vacuum sewer systems, road conditions, and project deferral. Commissioner Tiseo discussed Estimated Construction Costs Only, Cape Haze WQI Project Overview, pre-construction water quality testing, O&M cost, System Evaluation: Other Considerations, sewer systems, service area, FDEP, permits, existing conditions, reprioritization, paving program, Sewer Master Plan, environmental scoring, affordability, federal formula, SRF, and project deferral.

Mr. Stecher remarked on water quality testing, negotiations, process, sewer and septic systems, paving program, MSBU, and postponement.

Mr. Arthur responded to calculations, subsidies, MSBU assessments, LPS and vacuum sewer systems, affordability, Cape Haze WQI Project Overview, System Evaluation: Cost Considerations, Estimated Construction Costs Only, and Sewer Master Plan.

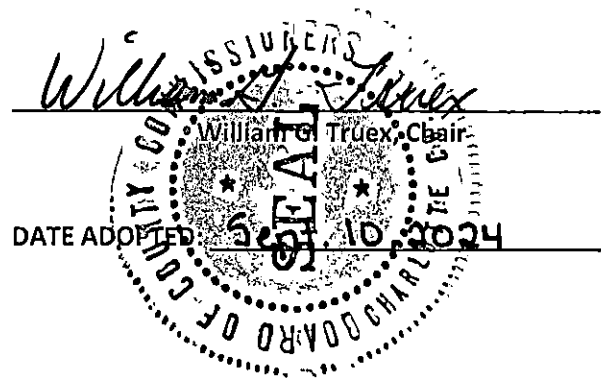
County Attorney Knowlton interjected on MSBU assessments.

AA. County Administrator Comments – None

BB. County Attorney Comments – None

CC. Commissioner Comments – None

ADJOURNED: 4:52 pm



ATTEST:

ROGER D. EATON, CLERK
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: 
Deputy Clerk