



CONSERVATION CHARLOTTE



Environmentally Sensitive Lands Oversight Committee Conservation Charlotte is a program of Charlotte County Government

April 19, 2021 - 3 – 4:30 p.m.

Community Development/BCS Building
18400 Murdock Circle
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Agenda

Public Meeting

- I. Call to order
- II. Minutes: October 19, 2020 to be Approved
- III. Old Business: None
- IV. New Business
 1. Management Plan of Amberjack Environmental Park
- V. Staff Reports
 1. Land Management Update
 2. HCP Update
 3. Coastal Update
 4. Manager Comments
 5. Referendum Renewal discussion
- VII. Members Comments
 1. Meetings for 2021

Next Meeting: September 2021

Centennial Park
1120 Centennial Blvd.
Port Charlotte, FL 33953

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

April 19, 2021 – 3 PM to 4:30 PM

Community Development/BCS Building
18400 Murdock Circle
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

Members Present

Jack Pryor
Derek Miller
Alan Maki
Benton Hester
Shaun O'Rourke

Charlotte County Staff

Tina Powell, NR Div. Mgr.
Jamie Scudera, NR
Jason Thompson, NR
Jane Ravella, Sr. Admin. Asst.

Members Absent

Ed Toth
Dianne Quilty

Guests

Call to order

The April 19, 2021 meeting of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Oversight Committee was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Jack Pryor.

ROLL CALL – Jane Ravella

Motion to Accept the Minutes: October 19, 2020 made by **Alan Maki** – to approve the minutes as presented. **Benton Hester** seconded. **All approved.**

- I. **Old Business** – Jack Pryor asked Tina if they have heard from Purchasing about the bridge at Charlotte Flatwoods – Tina was going to bring it up in her managers comments, so we'll do it now - we have chosen an engineering firm to do the design and we are currently in scope negotiations with them. Jack also brought up the fact that the sign hasn't been replaced yet at Prairie Creek. Jason stated that it isn't just replacing a sign, it must go through Public Works to match all their specifications. We are working on it.
- II. **New Business – Amberjack Environmental Preserve**
Benton asked about the scrub burning for Amberjack – mechanical has been done on 74 acres so small unit fires will be our priority due to the residences in the area. Discussions took place and it moved on to Lemon Lake. Any testing done on the water quality? Tina said not in recent years. The lake is connected through culverts from

Fiddlers Green, Wildflower community and the county and we will partner with them to help with the tidal flow when asked. Commissioner Tiseo asked about the CIP but Tina said pipe and drainage is on private property and we can't do anything as we are a stake holder but it's still private property. We would be willing to partner on a fix. We are a stakeholder. List of species? Wrong list, there is a typo – gopher tortoise, Derek asked if there is room for more. NO! I'll have an updated list and have Jane send that out.

Jack had questions like Dianne usually comes up with: page 5 Tours? Who? CHEC does the tours. (Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center)
Terms on Page 6 -7 Rec (County's comp plan) end policy

I. Staff Reports

Land Management Update – Jason Thompson – lots of time on scrub jays in east county properties and Tippecanoe! Also doing vegetative plot monitoring. Eagle nests were found at Cedar Point and Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park.

HCP Update – Jamie Scudera – Maps are great acquired conservation easements only in reserve. The current acreage since our last meeting no new acquisitions so we have acquired just under 175 acres we are making great progress we have people who are willing to sell their properties to us in Prairie Creek we have a list. We have gotten \$2 million since the program started, 21 Pre-payment and 136 Development permits.

Coastal Update – Jamie Scudera – my staff observed avian species – 9 are state listed. Sea Turtle nesting was 1852 (not a final but close) listing 1670 of Loggerhead; 178 Green; 4 Kemps Ridley everything is increasing. We are now getting ready for Beach Re-nourishment.

Manager Comments – Tina Powell – It was brought up at the last meeting that summer meetings don't usually bring enough members together for a quorum and a recommendation to change our meeting dates. A discussion took place – and a motion was made by Al Maki, seconded by Derek Miller to approve the change of meetings to take place in January, May, September, and a Field trip in November.

Tina also brought up the Referendum Renewal - for the Charlotte Conservation that was in 2006-2007. Administration is considering bringing that back in 2024. It was for the acquisition of 5 properties. Tina is asking for your input – desire to renew? Millage land acquisition? Habitats and areas more valuable? Do we consider hybrid land and water quality? She will send out the Referendum for you to look over and to please send any comments you may have.

Members Comments:

Adjourned the meeting at 4:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Jane Ravelle

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