



MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, December 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

None offered.

6. Regular Business

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Pre-Agenda Meeting from September 1, 2022
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting from September 8, 2022.
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

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

Lieutenant Aaron Williams said a lot has changed since the hurricane. The Sheriff's department took half of their assets up to Highlands County and they put half at Chaney Brothers so they could deploy quickly if needed. Unfortunately, we did have some damage at Sebring because they had a hurricane Cat 1. One

trailer and boat had some light damage. There was one boat here that also received some damage. After the hurricane, we helped out with the roads and then went to get our equipment in Highlands County. Took about 2 weeks to get everything back since we had to make sure the roads were clear of debris and wires. Palm Island had some damage to it. Little Gasparilla Island was completely inaccessible. We needed to get access to a tractor and go to each dock to make sure they were cleared. That took a lot of time and we brought some items to the barrier islands. Many people stayed off the water after the hurricane, so we did not have too many calls. One call was people on jet skis and they ran out of gas, so we helped them out. We did help clear some debris out of the water. Most of the marinas were not functional initially but were finally getting back up to speed. Palm Harbor marina was pretty hard hit. Gasparilla lost a lot of buildings, but they are now functional. It is slowly getting back to normal. As for the derelict boats, we partnered up with FWC. They helped out tremendously. They brought in officers from outside of the region and set up a command center in Fort Myers. They took the lead on identifying all the boats. We contacted FEMA and they helped with drums for spill material. We are better equipped now to handle spills. There was a moratorium on derelict boats until November 15th, so they could identify them. The removal process started on November 15th for everything they had tagged.

Commissioner Deutsch said when he first became a commissioner in 2010, they were still dealing with boats from Hurricane Charley in 2004. He said for people not to go out and try to clean the canals. He knew of a man who lost his life trying to clean the Manchester waterway. He said if you have anything in the waterways, let Public Works know. They will schedule to go out and clean up.

Lieutenant Williams said they have seen many things in the canals, even a shed. He said they have had several complaints where citizens see neighbors throwing things in the canals, concrete and such. Guess they feel it's just a canal. He said they have seen some seawalls coming apart, but nothing has collapsed bad enough to shut down the canal.

City of Punta Gorda Police Department

Corporal Joe Trufan was not present at today's meeting.

John Welsh, City of Punta Gorda, said there are about 10 miles of seawalls that have collapsed in Punta Gorda. The Boater's Alliance is partnering with the City to get boaters with sonar to go through the canals to find items so the City can get contractors to go in and remove those items. The City is going after the canal seawall issues and will be having a meeting on December 15th with the boaters who are going to go out looking for the submerged items.

D. FY22/23 Financials – Jim Darden

Jim Darden said he passed out the Fiscal Report for f/y 2022. Those are the final numbers. On this form, he showed if the project was extended or closed out. Total is at the bottom.

Mr. Ireland asked if we tapped into the million dollar fund we are trying to keep?

Mr. Darden said not so far. There are a few logistical hurdles to go through. FEMA is involved and will reimburse 95% of some things. We decided to chart all of that to a single fund/one account, then we will do a FEMA reimbursement. Some may have a grant with WCIND and we do not want double dipping. We are trying to keep some accounts separate, then we can do a transfer of funds into accounts when it's all said and done and we find out what FEMA is not covering.

Mr. Ireland asked as far as you can see, we are not needing to set aside monies to build that back up to the million dollars we want to keep in there.

Mr. Darden said nobody has mentioned to cancel the F/Y 2023 grants and I have notified Gordon of the million-dollar availability and WCIND. Everyone agrees not to do it on the front end, it gets confusing and can take a long time. He will put a call into Justin at WCIND and ask if there is any leeway on the private channels.

Mr. Hickey said it is hard to hear, and he has turned his hearing aid up. He asked if they can get a microphone or go back into Room 119.

Mr. Hickey said Roger knows, we had some damage done to our sailing equipment for junior sailors. He said he asked Roger if he thought maybe they can get some money out of MAC for doing repair work or replacing some of our equipment.

Mr. Darden said there is no money for recreational type of stuff. He said the CNIF, which is the County navigation fund, which is restricted to boat launches and navigation aid, repairs and those types of things.

Ms. Bareither asked are there any changes to the dates, deadline dates?

Mr. Darden said he completed the new applications and had that uploaded, the program, sources of revenue, awards and videos. The 2024 grant application is now online. Deadline is still January 31, 2023. If the application is not here by January 31, it will not be considered.

E. MSBU Update – Zach Patchell/Matt Logan

Zach Patchell went over his on his report. He said they also checked the waterways, damage reports, and clearing roads. They also are working with FEMA and what will be reimbursed. Private waterways are not included. We will be asking for additional crews. Due to the hurricane issues, many of the projects have been put on hold. For example, the Hayward canal, we are halfway through the dredging, but we had to put that on hold. We cannot allow the contractor to go back in there until the debris is cleared out.

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 was selected and negotiations for scope and fees failed to reach an agreement. The award was rescinded, and the design project was offered to second place. Negotiations for scope and fees are underway and will be finalized soon.

Buena Vista Area Waterways -

- 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 at this time.

Gulf Cove Waterways –

- The county is currently working to find a planned upland spoil site for the project and is in talks with the Gulf Cove POA.
- Hurricane Ian contributed to added sediment into the canal system by washing out roadside swales. The county is setting up a post-storm bathymetric survey and results will be compared to the current project quantities. Cost related to storm impacts will be applied to FEMA for reimbursement.

Harbour Heights –

- No active project at this time.

Hayward canals –

- Sea and Shoreline had dredged close to half the project before hurricane Ian. The project has been on hold since. The county had to initiate the emergency debris removal contract and clear the waterway before the project could resume. Currently we await a post dredge bathymetric survey to determine dredge results.

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 30 percent plans.
- Recently Atkins had a survey crew out to survey and collect data for the Manchester at Indianapolis WW, as part of the requested addition.

Northwest Port Charlotte –

- This project (Interior Canal Dredge) was successfully bid to Arbor Tree and Land Inc. ATL was unable to mobilize in on the original notice to proceed date of 8-1-22 due to covid delays on other projects and then hurricane Ian impacts to the area. The County agreed to give additional contract time to move the project start into the new year. A new start date will be negotiated on Jan. 16th.

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 at 60 percent design and the Tender House design change order was just approved on the Sep. 13th
- The Tender House Design and Parallel Lock design components will be advanced together.

- US Fish and Wildlife has finally issued a response to ACOE after reviewing this project, and they cannot recommend it. They believe it will further threaten the West Indian Manatee. This has stalled receiving the USACE permit. Staff is still working on getting a meeting set up with Army to find out how to get this authorization.

Suncoast Waterway – No active projects at this time.

Matt Logan said we plan for storms on the beach. We had coastal engineering to perform pre-storm surveys to get a snapshot of what was there before the storm and then after the storm they ran Manasota Key and the erosion control project which is Stump Pass State Park, Don Padro Knight Island and the long stretch to the south. What they found was Manasota Key did pretty well. We lost about 10,000 c.y. on the Charlotte County portion, Sarasota also lost about 10,000 c.y. For FEMA, there's different pots of money out there and right now we are focused on FEMA because there is a timeline. They want to restore the shorelines. We are working with the State. The erosion control project lost about 77,000 c.y. that is not confined to the state park. About 24,000 on the state park, 14,000 on the north end of Don Padro Island and the long end of Palm Island resort is about 34,000 c.y. We are working with FEMA to come up with numbers but do envision there will be a supplemental funding with the state to offset some of the cost. We lost several Australian pines and I am working with the emergency contractor and we will go along the shoreline and try to remove those pines off the beach.

F. Derelict Vessel Report – Roger DeBruler

Roger DeBruler said information coming out of the hurricane has been very slow. When the hurricane came through, there were some derelict boats. Just after the hurricane, there was also a lot of damage to boat lifts. He recorded on Oct. 3rd and 4th, there were 114 boat lifts that crashed and damaged boats. Boats that are attached to private property are not a DV. All the boat lifts that I saw in just the Lemon Bay area are not DV's. The first list broke down what FWC and the US Coast Guard are doing. They identified using NOAA imagery that there are 587 targets in Charlotte County. A target can be anything. It can be a boat, a trash can, or an outhouse. They would then have to go in and actually have the US Coast Guard as well as FWC to identify those. After identifying them, they came up with 178 targets they could not find. There were 215 targets that needed to be identified and 115 targets that were identified as boats. Out of those, US Coast Guard was working 6 of them. To date, I have no idea because they don't tell us much. FWC has been holding back information. I requested several times and I sat down and did my own survey and I identified 57 DV's. Some are in Punta Gorda, some up the Peace River, Manchester waterway has a lot and Lemon Bay has a lot. Myakka really didn't have any. I know of 10 boats that have been removed from the water by the owner or Insurance. FWC has not done any removals to date. It is slow going. FWC has hired 4 contractors to remove boats from hurricane issues. Most contractors are in Lee County working.

G. Community Services Update – Tina Powell

Tina Powell went over her monthly report.

Ainger Creek –

- Park Redevelopment project is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following: The project is in schematic design and the consultants are conducting fieldwork for data collection of existing site conditions.

Allapatachee Park –

- The erosion project is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance Department. Facilities provided the following: Weiler Engineering submitted Task 2 draft report with repair recommendations of Allapatachee and Live Oak Point for review. Weiler Engineering is currently working on finalizing their report.

Anger Fishing Pier –

- Community Services is managing repairs to the sidewalk undermining and rock revetment; the design team has completed data collection and are working on 90% designs.

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 is anticipated to start the work in early December.

Cedar Point Environmental Park –

- Pier replacement is being managed by Community Services; PO has been issued, design team to start data collection in December. 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; the design team is working on options for permitting with the regulatory agencies.
- HURRICANE DAMAGE may affect the status of this project moving forward.

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 is anticipated to start the work in early December.

El Jobean Fishing Pier –

- Community Services is managing minor repairs to the fishing pier, (along with additional repairs at Butterford and the El Jobean boat ramp); the project is anticipated to start work in early December.

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; the project is anticipated to start work in early April.

Harbour Heights Park –

- Community Services is managing the seawall replacement project; design team is in process of 30% design plans.

Hathaway Park – No projects at this time.

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

Live Oak Point –

- Facilities Construction & Maintenance is managing the sunken pavers and erosion issues (also at Appapatachee) Facilities provided the following for the paver/erosion project: Facilities provided the following: Weiler Engineering submitted Task 2 draft report with repair recommendations of Allapatachee and Live Oak Point for review. Weiler Engineering is currently working on finalizing their report.
- Facilities Construction & Maintenance is managing the boardwalk that was damaged during the big windstorm in December. Facilities provided the following for the boardwalk project: Repair materials have been ordered and have an 8-10 week lead time.

Placida Fishing Pier – No projects at this time.

Placida Park –

- 2014 Sales Tax project for the boat ramp expansion is being managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following: A response to permitting comments from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection are in progress. Further design development is awaiting comments from the Army Corp of Engineers.

Port Charlotte Beach Park –

- 2020 Sales Tax project for the Recreation Center is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance; project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following: Schematic design underway for Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center.
- Community Services is managing the T-dock replacement project; design team is in process of 30% design plans.

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 Updates webpage. Facilities provided the following: Dock addition is being implemented into the design of the Riverside Boat Ramp.

South Gulf Cove Park – No projects at this time.

Spring Lake Park –

- Community Services is managing the project that includes minor repairs to the boardwalk and boarding pier; work on boardwalk to start early February. HURRICANE DAMAGE may affect the status of the c/k launch boarding pier project.
- Community Services on options for permitting with the regulatory agencies.

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; work to start early February.
- The ADA canoe/kayak launch project is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance Department and have the following: Contractor has requested a status update from ACOE. Please note the Corps is inundated with emergency permitting, and contractor's opinion is the permitting is going to take some time.

7. New Business -

None offered

8. Old Business –

Mr. Darden said for the F/Y 2024 grant cycle, I have been in a dialoging with someone who asked about U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary process for grants. This year all the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Association have to apply for their grants and reimbursements would have to go through the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Association before coming to the County. Preliminary info came to me and I sent an email to the U.S. Coast Guard Association for additional guidance for that.

Larry Piper said we did get a mandate that any grants would have to be approved by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary management. Also, the funding has to come through that. That is all I know about it.

9. Other Business –

Election of Officers

Mr. Ireland said, we each have a year left on our contract commitment and we will stay on for one more year unless someone else wants to run.

Mr. Bigness moved to keep all three members where they are, second by **Mr. Killion**.

10. Citizen Comments –

None offered

11. Good of the Order -

None offered

12. Next Meetings

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, January 5, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. in the **E. Jay Carlson Large Conference Room. (f/k/a Building Construction Services)**

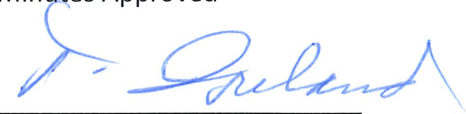
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at 18500 Murdock Circle 2 Story Building Room B-106, Port Charlotte.

13. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Minutes Approved



Tom Ireland, Chair