



## MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, March 9th, 2023

**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 **February 2, 2023**  
Additions, Corrections or Deletions, none offered; Approved as submitted, by acclamation.

B. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting from **February 9, 2023**.  
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

**Charlotte County Sheriff's Department**

**Lieutenant Aaron Williams** said we just have a couple updates and if I am not loud enough definitely, please let me know. So, I had to leave early last meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>, we ended up going up to

Sarasota/Charlotte County line we did a rescue it was a joint effort among several agencies on a missing diver. So, it involved Coast Guard, several fire departments, Boca Grande, Englewood, Charlotte Fire and then Sarasota County Sheriff as well as Charlotte County. Long story, basically the short story of it is the only right decision that was made by the diver or anyone on the boat that day was to call 911 after two hours. He had apparently told the people on the boat who don't know about diving and other things he had two of air in his tanks so. There is just a lot of safety issues, he was in the water for about 6 hours and drifted right around 9 miles before we were able to locate him with the Coast Guard aviation asset. So that was kinda a bigger rescue it was definitely a learning experience on safety as far as taking our people that you know can operate a boat and what to look for with a diver in the water. Bring an anchor to anchor your boat if you don't have anybody capable of running a boat. That sort of thing, that was one of the bigger rescues we had. Then I also had an opportunity this past month to be out with Orange County Sheriff's Office and Broward County Sheriff's Office through the department of emergency management request on the count side. They came in to scan sonar all the canals, all the county-maintained canals within Charlotte County. And they have completed that I know when I was out riding with them, they were marking between 50-80 objects submerged a day for debris removal. So now that that's complete, I believe it is going to be bid out and that debris will start getting removed and that's a lot of the submerged debris that you can't necessarily see. That is a positive thing that they are really making an effort to get these canals cleaned up. So, they are doing a pretty good job of it. Those are really the two major updates that I have for this month. As you go through your business today if there is any questions by all mean feel free to ask and I'll do my best to answer them.

#### **City of Punta Gorda Police Department**

**Corporal Joe Trufan** we have not had any exciting water rescues since the last meeting. But um we are still moving forward with debris removal. The state contractor for water way debris removal and our submerged debris removal actually got mobilized yesterday. So there started the ponds and clean up our canals and stuff. Moving thru whatever they can. Other than that, I believe we are down to the 13 derelict vessels in the city that were storm related. So, we are still chipping away at getting some of these big boats out of the water. A majority of them are still at Gilcrest area, Fisherman's Village area and there is a couple still in PGI canals. So were moving forward it's progress and everything is slow moving but it is moving. I am glad to answer any questions anybody has, other than that that's about all we have with updates.

**Mr. Ireland** we appreciate you being here thank you!

**Corporal Joe Trufan** no problem.

**Mr. Ireland** hey Jim just a quick question should this be fiscal year 24?

**Mr. Darden** yes.

**Mr. Ireland** ok on here it says 23. So, we head into the 10 minutes limit for the whole thing. We used to do this in two days. But anyhow Jim Darden is gonna lead us on a run thru of the grant applications and everybody has to keep in mind a couple things 1. Is we don't have the money we have had in the past because our monies are derived from boat registrations and there are fewer boats and fewer registrations this year. So, we need to be careful of this money and someone had come in the last couple meetings and pointed out that it's not our money. Well, it kinda is and our aim in this whole thing is to keep our waterways safe and everything covered there so we are straying a little bit in some cases being asked to

buy everything from helicopter, winches to a truck and we need to think seriously about that. But anyways Jim you're running this.

**D. FY24 MAC Grant Application Review – Mark Snow**

**Mr. Darden** no Mark is.

**Mr. Snow** the way this will work is I will read the description of the item I will pull up the application budget page and then we'll discuss through the budget page.

**Mr. Ireland** sounds good.

**Mr. Snow** starts with the first one.

**1. Englewood Fire Department – Fire Boat Replacement (\$200,000)**

Mr. Snow stated they are seeking an updated fire rescue vessel capable of providing Advanced Life Support to us. As well as they're right on the border of Charlotte County and Sarasota so they do have a dual application thru Sarasota. It will go up WCIND there was some issues as you recall last time, we discussed the amount of the boat request. Discussion takes place on this.

**Mr. Ireland made a motion and some discussion took place. Mr. Welsh asks to amend the motion to read that the entire \$200,000 would be rejected and second by Mr. Kumm; unanimously approved.**

**15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**2. Charlotte Harbor Ambassadors Program – Heal the Harbor Program (\$9,600)**

Mr. Snow said they asked for program provide scientific, education and perspective on the health of the Charlotte Harbor watershed; training materials; lab fees; promotional materials.

**John Welsh made a motion to approve this and second by Roger Strube; unanimously approved.**

**15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**3. Civil Air Patrol – Sundown Flights (\$26,250)**

Mr. Snow said it is to offset costs of operating aircraft on 4 Harbor Patrols each week. The flights provide search for boaters in distress and facilitate SAR missions.

**Tom Ireland made a motion to approve this and second by Betty Campanella; unanimously approved.**

**15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**4. Charlotte County Public Works – New Marine Markers (\$30,000)**

Mr. Snow said this grant would assist in establishing new navigation aids in Charlotte County-maintained waterways. Day boards, pilings, solar marine lights, and buoys.

**Roger Strube made a motion to approve this and second by Richard Russell; unanimously approved.**

**15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**5. Punta Gorda Police Department – Boats, DV Removal, Holiday OT (\$104,495)**

Mr. Snow said Funds to purchase new safety equipment, marine equipment, boat motor replacement, vessel lift for Public Safety vessels; DV removal; and holiday OT.

**Roger Strube made a motion to approve this and second by Bob Mayes; unanimously approved.  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

Mike McIntosh has a discussion on we have the funding now that we didn't approve the fire boat. Can we consider talking to him and see if there is something they cut that they really need if we don't add back in today. That we might be adding back in next year. Mr. Snow has a discussion on the money with the members.

Susan Bareither speaks on the matter of overtime.

Mr. Darden speaks on the overtime pay.

**6. Peace River Sail & Power Squadron – Boater Safety Materials (\$4,000)**

Mr. Snow said on the safety materials and education materials, it's for student manuals, ABC manuals and charting materials and tools.

Mr. Ireland asks do we have an idea how many students that they now educate.

Members have a discussion that this has slowed down due to Hurricane Ian.

**John Welsh made a motion to approve this and second by Susan Bareither; unanimously approved.  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**7. Peace River Sail & Power Squadron – Boater Safety Materials (\$1,150)**

Mr. Snow said this is for handheld GPS, a laptop to support the classes in the coastal and a couple of life vests.

**John Welsh made a motion to approve this and second by Bob Mayes; unanimously  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**8. Charlotte County Sheriff – Vessel, Motors, LE Equip., OT, Training (\$192,445)**

Mr. Snow said they are asking for replace marine equipment; new safety equipment for helicopter and Dive team for maritime operations and training; provide additional manpower and increase patrols for Holidays and Special Events. They did prioritize those items; he explains the items. The first one with the three total motors and some replacement weather gear. The second one is the holidays overtime for the special event manpower holiday fare. The third the dive equipment. The fourth one is the aviation equipment.

Mr. Ireland I think we asked this question before guys \$16,000 to train a guy to raise a hoist. A discussion takes place with Lieutenant Aaron Williams on the training of around 12 to 14 people to be trained via a third party with special training involvement.

Ms. Bareither asks how often do you need to retrain again and they discuss.

Mr. Hickey last week we talked about the fact that this is used for both marine and over land, hoisting people say out of the forest somewhere. Is this reflecting just the marine portion or the total portion.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams has a discussion on this.

Mr. Welsh asks if we approve a portion of this money is their money in your budget to pick up the rest of it?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams I will have to talk to our chief warrant officer, he handles that side of the budget, I do not have access to that part of the budget. He explains how things work for their grant applications to the members. Talks about the delays on getting equipment.

**William Kumm made a motion to approve this and second by Bob Mayes.**

**13 Aye / 2 Nay**

Mr. Killion speaks to Lieutenant Aaron Williams and has a discussion.

Mr. Darden speaks on this and the stuff that has been ordered.

Mr. Welsh talks about the crane and most is overland. I would think that we would want to not approve this or approve a portion of it. Since this is supposed to be money spent for marine issues and that's my thought and discusses this.

Mr. Russell I guess the question is how many rescues and time you may go out for marine service and rescue? You may not find people, same thing with the land in other words how much time is devoted to each one. What percentage is searching over water and searching over land? Whether you get somebody or not you were sent out to find them. So that maybe the point and if you all would provide that information then that way, we will have a break down for future. Now past doesn't mean predict the future but it gives you an idea of what likely will happen.

Mr. Nowak since we don't have a crystal ball, I think it's a moot point to try to predict how many land rescues were gonna do, how many water were gonna do. That piece of equipment is a very expensive piece of equipment and it's gotta be there when ever you need it and you gotta train for it. You got to have it available whether it's land or it's sea. I don't think it makes a difference.

Mr. Stube there has got to be historical data in here where you can actually do a percentage. The only question is addressing that issue is are we gonna approve it anyway, is the board gonna approve it anyway because it's Sheriff's Department. The bottom line is we are just beating ourselves up here. We should have had a report that says you know 78% of it is over land and 22% of it is over water. We don't have that, that may be critical if you want to hold this up til the next meeting. I don't think it's that critical so I would call for the vote.

Mr. Welsh the question is for us is this money being spent for marine related and I agree this is important for water rescue. My point is it's important for land rescue as well and I would think the funding should come equally depending on how much it's used. You have to look historically you can't look into the future. What's it's been used in the past and according to you a majority of the use of the crane is over land.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams if I could clarify we don't, we currently do not have a crane or hoisted system. I am talking just general, the actual rescued individuals. We're currently using a long line system that differs from a crane.

Mr. Darden did we buy that?

Lieutenant Aaron Williams yes that was MAC funding and continues with the discussion.

Mr. Ireland I think it's obvious that we need this, for it is a needed entity and when we come back next year when you guys come back next year. We would like to see if could hear, we made 30 land and 20 sea of something like that. Just keep a hand count with that we would appreciate it.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams absolutely I can work on those numbers.

Mr. Ireland so is there a motion yes

Mr. Welsh a couple of points, just because the County Commissioners we think are going to approve something should not be the reason we approve it. A small discussion takes place.

Mr. Snow this is a point to clarify that whole systems gonna come out of BIF Local if you approve it or just keep that in mind.

Mr. Darden aviation does not qualify.

Mr. Snow WCIND will not support aviation because of the fact that it can be used on land as well as on the water. So just keep that in mind.

Mr. Darden talk of the WCIND criteria.

Mr. Nowak the wench on the helicopter is used for three reasons. Bring people up out of the jungle, bring people off a mountain, bring people out of the water. Now we got a jungle out here I admit it but for the most part were not in Vietnam were not dropping a torpedo down thru the to get a guy out. I would say that that thing is going to be used for water rescue not gonna be used for land rescue primarily. I think denying it would be a mistake.

Mr. Welsh I'll say, I love the idea of having it but historically it's not been used what the system they have now. Historically this not primarily been used for water rescue.

Mr. McIntosh the long system that you have today have you used it in the past to pick people up on land or on the water.

Lieutenant Aaron Williams yes, we have used it in both situation, and both discuss.

Mr. Ireland speaks to Mr. Killion whom he says call to question, we have a second, it's on the floor all approved and opposed for the Motion stated prior and now taking the vote.

#### **9. Charlotte County Public Works – Marine Debris Removal (\$80,000)**

Mr. Snow This grant will assist in the removal of trees, docks, and other materials floating or submerged that impede boater access in County waters.

**Susan Bareither made a motion to approve this and second by Betty Campanella; unanimously  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**10. Charlotte Harbor Environmental Ctr - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Environmental Education, Sign (\$48,000)**

Mr. Snow the 4<sup>th</sup> grade program is designed to give students a better understanding of the water systems of Florida and an introduction to safe & courteous boating.

**Hank Killion made a motion to approve this and second by Bob Mayes; unanimously  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**11. US Coast Guard Flotilla Auxiliary 87 – Boat Motor (\$31,099)**

Mr. Snow that is a replacement motor and propeller for their boat. We do have a representative.

Mr. Ireland asks where are you getting the motor do you know?

Representative says yes that's from Royal Palm Marine it's the best price I was able to find, and they discuss. This comes with a five-year warranty which I thought was important to us.

**Susan Bareither made a motion to approve this and second by Robert Hickey; unanimously  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**12. US Coast Guard Flotilla Auxiliary 99 – Class Materials and Equipment (\$26,783)**

Mr. Snow this is to purchase teaching equipment and materials for boater education.

Ms. Bareither asks a question, were your materials that you had from last year where those all used during the year do you know or for your classes?

Ms. Gassett-Shoemaker answers yes last year we handed out printed documents. The books that we use in the Boat America and the GPS and navigation courses. Last year over 9 courses we delivered training to 109 students. So far this year we are in a pace where we've delivered training to 71 students in three months.

**Susan Bareither made a motion to approve this and second by Roger Strube; unanimously  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**13. City of Punta Gorda – Pump Out Boat (\$5,000)**

Mr. Snow Augments of Department of Environmental Protection grant to conduct pump out activities with Charlotte Harbor & Laishley Park Marina. The grant also would pay for vessel maintenance and fuel.

**Robert Hickey made a motion to approve this and second by Richard Russell; unanimously  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

**14. Learn to Sail – Docking Floats (\$26,648)**

Mr. Snow this is a continuation of expansion of lifts and floating docks in Gilchrist Landing Boat Basin. Provides safety improvements for students, volunteers, and harbor walk pedestrians. They do have a representative.

**Robert Hickey made a motion to approve this and second by John Welsh; unanimously  
15 Aye / 0 Nay**

### **15. US Coast Guard Flotilla Auxiliary 98 – Boat Equipment/Vehicle (\$80,5620**

Mr. Snow the grant would be used to purchase teaching equipment and materials for boater education, vessel radio and operational equipment replacement as well as a utility van.

Mr. Ireland this has been revised a number of times and still have come back with this truck in the middle of it. I understand the need that they have to move their boat around but as we said at last meeting. There are places you could find to store the boat, that don't require a trailer, don't require a truck to move it. Are there any other questions or comments on this request? None.

Robert Hickey might want to make maybe a revision that we'll remove the vehicle cost.

Mr. Ireland is that broken out as what?

Mr. Snow says \$70k.

Mr. Ireland say 70.

Mr. Snow says yes.

Carl Moore Representative speaks on behalf of Flotilla 98 says I am the vice boat commander, the vehicle request is very important to Flotilla because right now we have the boat parked at different spots at different times of the year. We ask people if we can use their lift or the driveway whatever. And because people come in and out for vacation and snowbirds, we have to constantly move the boat around. And always have access to a vehicle to tow it with. The current vehicle we use is a 1995 Ford ambulance which is pretty much seen its best days. We have spent a lot of money trying to save it, it's just not savable anymore. Talk of storage issues with this matter.

Ms. Bryant says right here on the front page of the grant application, it says any projects for which funds are requested must have a public purpose. It doesn't say specifically marine, it says a public purpose. A public purpose is to serve all things marine. We even use the vessel in parades occasionally. She explains the need for this.

Mr. Strube says there are multiple sailing events around the state of Florida that we would qualify for. We would be able to go to if we had a tow vehicle to hook our trailers up to and take our kids there. This is what I am looking at is this thing, this is not directly marine related to waterways and access.

Carl Moore could I address this comment, the entire purpose of this vehicle would be to move our ready boat to water to do search and rescue and help save lives. Which is what the Coast Guard Auxiliary does. If we get invited to go to a parade yes, the vehicle would be used to tow the boat in the parade which would also help us recruit new members by seeing we are actually doing our job. This is not a toy we are asking for; we are asking for a vehicle to specifically get our ready boat to the water to go out and save lives which is what we do. Your comment I believe is totally out of bounds in regards to what this vehicle is going to be used for. It is going to be used for search and rescue to get that boat to the water and to save lives that's what we do.

Mr. Ireland how many rescue missions have you had this year?



Carl Moore we have not had any yet this year, but we did have to get called out on the last one was the Sheriff's Department went out on. If we had gotten called, we would have been out there.

Mr. Welsh for the third time, the boater's alliance will offer to work with the Coast Guard to find a boat lift within PGI we've offered twice, and nobody's took us up on it. That would be better than having a boat you have to pull to launch. Secondly having been the president of the civic association when the Coast Guard left, they were not kicked out. I just wanted to straighten that out. Both have a discussion.

Mr. Ireland had to call to order!

**Robert Hickey I had a motion on the floor we take the vehicle out of the rest of it, second by Roger Strube.**

Mr. Ireland states the vote will be on this request minus \$70,000 (the vehicle cost).

**14 Aye / 1 Nay**

**Henry Killion made a motion to approve the remainder of the request.**

Mr. Ireland yes, good idea.

**Roger Strube seconded the motion for approval.**

**15 Aye / 0 Nay**

Mr. Strube asks what does that bring that total to so I can pencil in please?

Mr. Snow says \$10,562.

Ms. Gassett-Shoemaker did they widdle the funds down on the coms trailer? My point is that they put in a lot of effort to come up with the reasonable number. We've taken out the vehicle, but they also had to cut from getting their coms trailer, which I think I heard was 29 years old. Rejuvenate it.

Carl Moore the van is the com trailer, it's all in one.

Mr. Ireland the vehicle they have is their com's trailer. They all have a discussion on this.

Ms. Gassett-Shoemaker, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Ireland, and Carl Moore they all have a discussion on this.

Mr. Ireland states that vote has already been held.

**16. Manchester Waterway Civic – MWW Water Testing (\$9,460)**

Mr. Snow Funding for lab and miscellaneous expenses to continue monthly testing of the Manchester waterway for contaminants.

**Roger Strube made a motion to approve this and second by Robert Hickey**

**4 Aye / 9 Nay**

Mr. Ireland has a comment on that, we live in South Gulf Cove, and we pay for our water testing thru our MSBU. We don't pay for it through the county.

A gentleman from the back of the room who is with the Manchester Waterway Civic Association, and I had a long discussion with Brandon Moody about that yesterday. In fact, I brought a memo that he gave me. This question has come up before, we would be happy to have the county pick up the expense. The fact is though if Brandon Moody says that if he picks up the expenses, he pays a contractor \$560.00 for every sample. If he did what we do, for \$9000 a little more than \$9,000. It would cost the county \$40,300. The fact is we have a volunteer who's trained and works with Brandon Moody. He goes out on a volunteered basis, uses his boat, his time, his car to deliver the samples to Benchmark Lab which is the testing laboratory that the County uses. So were doing everything we can as an association on a volunteer basis in order to avoid the County having to pay \$40,000.

Mr. Ireland speaks to him on this, they discuss this matter regarding Brandon Moody.

Mr. Welsh this has come up before, refresh my memory if I am correct. I believe that because of the way the MSBU is set up, you can not use the money from the MSBU to do water testing is that correct? This came up last year as well and we talked about this.

Mr. McIntosh I live in a neighborhood that has MSBU and we are in the same situation. We have a volunteer that goes out and collects the water and drives it down. Does basically the same exact thing as your volunteer is doing. Our neighborhood, our volunteers pay for out of our pocket as well. I don't think this is the proper entity to support that.

#### **17. Charlotte Harbor Youth Sailing – Sailing Camp (\$3,669)**

Mr. Snow this is Youth Program Summer Sailing Camp Educational Materials & Wheel Replacement Boat Carts.

**Mike McIntosh made a motion to approve and second by Betty Campanella; unanimously.**

**15 Aye / 0 Nay**

#### **18. Englewood Beach Waterfest – Waterfest Event Support (\$69,500)**

Mr. Russell has a question, are they posting their P&L statement for our review? And if there is a profit then why are we contributing?

Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch no there is no profit, I can comment on that only cause we dealt with them for so many years. No there not making profit, they get volunteers and what happens is the money goes back to the groups of volunteers who are involved in the community. It's not a profit thing. A small discussion takes place.

Mr. Welsh having been a hospital administrator of a not-for-profit hospital. Which made \$35 million in excess revenue not profit. I think it's a legitimate question, we would like to see a profit and loss statement. To see how much money is brought in. Because two years ago when they were here, I asked the question of the person presenting. How much money did you make, and he couldn't tell me? I asked if they have seed money left over for the next year. Oh yeah, they had seed money and what did they do with the rest of the money. Well, they gave grants away, but we have no idea how much money they gave away. We have no idea how much excess revenue that they have. And yet they come, and we originally

told when this was first applied for that they only want money for a year or two. And then they would be self-sustaining and here we are year 5 or 6.

Mr. Darden more than that.

Mr. Welsh continues with this matter. We have no idea how much money they are walking away with at the end of the day. Whether there giving away in grants or whether there having it for seed money. Again, one on the things that I think this group falls short on not because of us but because of the process is we get requests with very little information about I want money for. But we don't know how much money this group has in the bank, and should the County be supporting it because they got \$2 million dollars in the bank should we be giving them \$70,000. We don't know this fine line. That's the other thing they haven't been here for the last two or three years. A small discussion takes place.

Mr. Ireland well that said, this is as Commissioner brought up earlier this is one of the only two in the past 18 years that the commission has overridden our denial of a grant. I don't think it will change.

Mr. Killion could we ask the Commissioner to ask those questions that have just been brought up here.

Commissioner Deutsch I seem to think we should be able to get money from tourism. Because they are a big positive effect for tourism, and you know it's been successful. I don't know what I would say cause I would ask them the questions that you're asking here now. I think there valid, and I'd want to see that stuff. And I can only speak for one commissioner, and I want to see what they need the money for and use it for. Yeah, I can see a little bit of seed money but ya know, with most things were as tougher than I thought than you guys. So, you know we'll go through a process with them, but I think that being tourism happy. Tourism has money and if they can justify this involvement with tourism, they can probably get the money from tourism and not take it out of here and maybe these guys could get their van.

Mr. Ireland will you ask those questions for us?

Commissioner Deutsch absolutely, of course you guys are all welcome to come to the meeting to when we deal with this.

Mr. Strube I think it would be appropriate before this could be approved or denied to require 3 years P&L statements from these guys to see exactly what was happening. Making claims again in request from whether should even come out of this group vs. come out of tourism that's another red herring throughout a discussion.

Mr. Ireland alright the Commissioner has said he will get them for us right?

Commissioner Deutsch No I said I will bring up the questions.

Mr. Strube you need to make the motion we deny the request until the substantiate the request now by submitting P&L statements for the past two years.

Mr. Ireland alright we have a motion is there a second to that?

Mr. Welsh seconds the motion.

Mr. McIntosh question, either Mark or Jim does this actually fall into WCIND's realm? Are we even legally eligible for providing funding for this type of an event?

Mr. Darden some of it, and he discusses everything that is involved with this.

Mr. Strube said this motion is different than a usual motion where you approve or deny, you approve or deny it goes to the county supervisor and the commissioners can decide yes or no. This one says if there going to override it why are you overriding it when we are asking for specific information to justify it, so it's not your standard approval/denial we're saying we want these things.

Commissioner Deutsch it won't be dealt that way, what we'll do is we'll get with you what will be presented to the commission. Will be the package you have here, what you approved and what you didn't approve, and it will come before the board to go through all those items.

Mr. Darden it's sad to say we gave a month for you guys to tell us what you needed to make the decisions here today so to ask for three months of three years of statements at this point. It's kinda, we could have done this last month. I have their 2018 financial statement but that's from another grant they get. They also get grant money from tourism with event development course funds and also for the from the BCC for the in-kind services.

Commissioner Deutsch my guess on this and I hate to do this, my guess on this if they don't have the funding available, they'll probably still be able to run the event but if they went ahead and got their volunteers the event might come closer to being break even so the volunteers wouldn't get money donated back to their agencies. That's sorta what they do with any profit from that, and it's been very successful. I don't any of that information that's just purely a guess and it's been a successful thing in the community. I appreciate your comments I think there valid.

Mr. Welsh I agree that this should come out of tourism. This is all about tax revenue and I think that's great for the county that we get taxes out of it. I would say the same thing about beach restoration, what does that have to do with marine industry but yet we give \$250,000 a year. That should come out of tourism.

**Roger Strube I withdraw the first motion and make a motion to deny the request and second by John Welsh; unanimously denied.**

**15 Aye / 0 Nay**

Commissioner Deutsch speaks on Gaines Park we are doing the groundbreaking on the memorial tower event next Wednesday March 15, 2023, it is probably going to an event unlike up to this point that anyone has ever seen in Charlotte County. You are all welcome it's gonna be starting at 10 am be about an hour program, the people involved in it are sort of impressive. Most of them were in the United States Marines, some of them were Beirut Veterans, we have the provost, the Army war powers coming here, we have the National chairwoman of the gold star mother. The only marine who was in Berit in Congress coming in flying in from Indiana Gregory Pence, happen to be the brother of a former Vice-President. It's gonna be an amazing program, all or our veterans' organizations were involved. For those of you that were interested in the air, we probably gonna have three fly overs as part of the program. It's gonna be pretty amazing!

**19. University of Florida Sea Grant – Seagrass Monitoring (\$5,000)**

Susan Bareither makes a motion to accept and second by Robert Hickey; unanimously approved.

15 Aye / Nay

**20. Charlotte County Public Works – Maintenance to Navigation Aids (\$90,000)**

Mr. Snow this grant would assist in maintaining the existing navigation aids in Charlotte County- maintained waterways, day boards, pilings, solar marine lights, and buoys.

Mr. Ireland asks what did they get last year do you know? \$80,000

Mr. Sow said it should be on sheet there.

Mr. Ireland it is, I didn't look at it.

Bob Mayes makes a motion to approve and second by Henry Killion; unanimously approved.

15 Aye / 0 Nay

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

Mr. Logan I will give you one of the updates the reason Zack is not here this morning is because he has a meeting to discuss the engineering firm that will be performing the navigational bathymetry post storm. So next month he will be able to give you an update on who was selected and that were getting done. Until then I will defer to the information he's provided in his report.

**Ackerman Waterway:** No active project at this time. Refer to Manchester Waterway.

**Alligator Creek:** CEC started design phase receiving initiation docs from county. CEC has drafted and submitted permit application to State and Federal agencies.

**Buena Vista Area Waterways**

- FDEP and ACOE permits have been received
- Design deliverables have been received
- The MSBU Advisory Board and county staff is now waiting on the post-storm bathymetric survey results to dial in the exact limits of the upcoming dredge event. The Sunrise Channel is at the top of the list for dredging needs and will be included in this event.

**Edgewater North:** No active project at this time.

**Gulf Cove Waterways:**

- The county has submitted a purchase request to hire a firm to perform a post- storm bathymetric survey. Project design will be adjusted as need be based off that survey. Application for FEMA funding will be made for any storm impacts to waterways.

**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.
- Post-dredge bathymetric survey results were just received, and the county and contractor are working out details on resuming the project after a long delay due to hurricane Ian.

**Manchester Waterway:**

- Recently Atkins had a survey crew out to survey and collect data for the Manchester at Indianapolis WW, as part of the requested addition. There was no material above the target depth found within those limits
- Atkins submitted 90% deliverables to county staff, those documents were reviewed and sent back with comments.
- We are currently awaiting a before dredge bathymetric survey to update quantities ahead of the dredge bid process.

**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. 16<sup>th</sup>.
- County staff and ATL is in negotiations on a new start date for this project. Currently, we are considering pushing the start date to late this year to get through emergency cleanup due to hurricane Ian.

**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.
- A post-storm survey will be performed, and project data updated. FEMA aid may be applied for.

**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. 13<sup>th</sup>
- The Tender House Design and Parallel Lock design components will be advanced together.
- DMK just submitted to the county the siting report for proposed Tender house and a new environmental report. Those reports will be submitted to permit agencies for review.

**Suncoast Waterway:** No active projects at this time.

## F. Derelict Vessel Report – Roger DeBruler

Mr. DeBruler all I can say is there getting removed, still got some boats over there we still have boats in the County. The contractor is still working diligently to remove. It's moving forward but slower.

Mr. Ireland are you finding, cause I saw them pull out cars yesterday and putting them on barges. So, there is cars to be removed too huh?

Mr. DeBruler yes.

Mr. Ireland asks for Tina.

## G. Community Services Update – Tina Powell

Mr. DeBruler said he is standing in her place, and he goes over her report.

- **Ainger Creek Park:**
  - o 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: Boundary surveys are complete; the project will now move into the preliminary design phase.
- **Allapatachee Park:**
  - o The erosion assessment project has been completed. Community Services is reviewing the repair options.
- **Anger Fishing Pier:**
  - o Community Services is managing repairs to the sidewalk undermining and rock revetment; the permitting package has been submitted.
- **Bayshore Live Oak Park:**
  - o Fishing Pier replacement is being managed by Community Services; additional project information can be found on the County's Project Status Updates webpage. The project is under review by the regulatory agencies; 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:**
  - o Pier replacement is being managed by Community Services; minor repairs were completed in July. The design team has in the data collection phase.
- **Centennial Fishing Pier:** No projects at this time.

- **Darst Park:**
  - o Community Services is managing the boarding pier replacement and seawall replacement along with ramp scour protection; the design is in progress.
  - o HURRICANE DAMAGE may affect the status of this project moving forward.
  
- **El Jobean Boat Ramp:**
  - o Community Services is managing a ramp scour protection project; the design is in progress.
  
- **El Jobean Fishing Pier:** No projects at this time.
  
- **Englewood Beach at Chadwick Park Fishing Pier:**
  - o 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 work to start in April.
  
- **Harbour Heights Park:**
  - o Community Services is managing the seawall replacement project; permitting package has been submitted to the regulatory agencies.
  
- **Hathaway Park: No projects at this time:**
  
- **Lemon Bay Sunrise Rotary Park:** No projects at this time.
  
- **Live Oak Point:**
  - o The erosion assessment project has been completed. Community Services is reviewing the repair options.
  
- **Placida Fishing Pier:** No projects at this time.
  
- **Placida Park:**
  - o 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: FDEP requested a reevaluation of mangrove impacts, and the design team is currently evaluating design options to minimize environmental impacts with limited project adjustments.
  
- **Port Charlotte Beach Park:**
  - o 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: Sweet Sparkman has submitted Schematic Design package for the project. Schematic Design package is being reviewed by Community Services and Facilities for any discrepancy within the overall design requested. There will be a meeting scheduled with Sweet Sparkman, Community Services, and Facilities to further discuss any issues that we may have and our next steps in the process moving forward.
  - o Community Services is managing the T-dock replacement project; project is in purchasing to bid out the construction.



- **Riverside Park:**

- o Ramp has been closed due to safety issues for motorized vessels due to safety issues cannot be address 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: FDEP- RAI #2 is with us and will be submitted later this week. We met with the FDEP a few weeks ago regarding the RAI comments and finally reached an agreement yesterday on the direction for stormwater management. USACE- The revised plans with the dock addition were submitted on November 7, 2022.

- **South Gulf Cove Park:** No projects at this time.

- **Spring Lake Park:**

- o Community Services is managing the project that includes minor repairs to the boardwalk and boarding pier; work on boardwalk started last month.
- o HURRICANE DAMAGE may affect the status of the c/k launch boarding pier project.
- o Community Services is also managing a ramp scour protection project the design is in progress.

- **William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park:**

- o 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.
- o Community Services is also managing a repair project for the fishing pier; work started last month.
- o The ADA canoe/kayak launch project is managed by Facilities Construction & Maintenance Department and have the following: No February update provided.

7. New Business -  
None

8. Old Business –  
None

9. Citizens Comments –  
None

10. Good of the Order –  
None offered

11. Next Meetings

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held **Thursday, April 6, 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, April 13, 2023** at 9:30 a.m. at 18500 Murdock Circle 2 Story Building Room B-106, Port Charlotte.

Mr. Ireland we had a pretty good group at the pre-agenda meeting last week and we would like to get more of that. Susan Bareither we accomplished a lot.

Commissioner Deutsch let's everyone know that we are losing Roger Strube.

Mr. Ireland says we miss you Roger and asks who is taking your place. Mr. Strube says I do not know yet.

Mr. Ireland says we appreciate all you've done and you're a very strong influence thank you.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Ireland at 11:06 a.m.

Minutes Approved



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Tom Ireland, Chair