



Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee

Murdock Administration Building, 18500 Murdock Circle,
Building B, Room B-106, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

BOARD MEMEBERS

DISTRICT

Wendy Lang, Chair	District 5
Robert Wibbeler, Vice Chair	Member-at-Large
Gregory Garvey	District 1
Robert Hancik	District 2
Ralph Lombardo	District 3
Jay Lorance	District 4
Hank Killion	Member-at-Large

MINUTES

May 7, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Wendy Lang, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Wendy Lang, Chair, led those in attendance for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL / DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Per Melissa Mason calling roll, it was determined that a quorum was present.

Committee Members Present:

Wendy Lang
Robert Wibbeler
Gregory Garvey
Ralph Lombardo
Jay Lorance

Committee Members Absent:

Robert Hancik
Hank Killion

County Staff Present:

Brandon Moody, Water Quality & Resiliency Manager
Matt Logan, Coastal Projects Manager
Jamie Scudera, Environmental Specialist

Elizabeth Eastes, Environmental Specialist
Zachary Zampella, Natural Resources
Melissa Mason, Recording Secretary / Senior Administrative Assistant

Guests:

Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch
Damian Ochab – SMSKA
Mary McMurray – Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Rick Rocoski - citizen

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of Minutes from [April 2, 2026](#), approved.
Motion moved by **Member, Lombardo**: Seconded by **Member, Garvey**: Motion carried unanimously.

5. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- a. None.

6. CITIZEN INPUT AGENDA ITEMS

- a. None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Organizations to invite for presentations: (MAC, Tourism, Parks and Recreation)
There was a discussion on:
 - Need for clarification on vendor changes for the annual boat races.
 - Desire for tourism staff to present reasoning behind vendor switch and contract duration.
 - Concern that contacting Tourism during race season may delay progress.
 - Agreement that outreach should proceed, regardless of logistical limits.
 - Consideration of outreach to additional community organizations for collaboration.
- b. Conservation & Land Management updates
 - i. Newly Acquired and Preserved Properties
There was a discussion on:
 - Cedar Point Preserve and additional upland parcels.
 - Sam Piper Chief Reserve property management and restoration plans.
 - ii. Overview of Conservation Nomination Process
There was a discussion on:
 - Public can nominate properties for county acquisition.
 - Small shares of nominated properties with willing sellers.
 - Committee reviews and scores that properties use as environmental criteria.
 - iii. Explanation of Funding

There was a discussion on:

- Conservation Charlotte Program has remaining in funds with approaching sunset.
- Program continuation depends on voter approval of a revised ordinance.

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. WATER QUALITY

Brandon Moody, Water Quality Manager provided updates on:

iv. Algae Bloom Monitoring

There was a discussion on:

- Multiple bloom sites under study: several with no clear nutrient source.
- Quarterly sampling cycles underway to distinguish wet vs. dry season conditions.

v. Expansion of groundwater monitoring to better understand nutrient infiltration.

vi. Partnership with Florida State University to improve septic-to-sewer prioritization using soil and nutrient data.

vii. Stormwater & Tide Flow Monitoring System

There was a demonstration on the County's developing interactive gauge map:

- Real-time tide, rainfall, and water level indicators.
- Issues noted with readability and unit conversions: feedback requested.
- Upcoming expansion of 20-25 new water gauges.

There was a discussion on potential enhancements:

- User-filtering of gauge types.
- Multiple map layers (tidal, inland, stormwater).
- Integration with emergency management for real-time storm response.

b. PUBLIC WORKS

Matt Logan, Public Works Manager, provided updates and a discussion on:

i. Holding a series of MSBU outreach: Manasota Keys, Don Pedro/Knight Island, Milton Pass (plugged itself up).

ii. FEMA funding claim issuance delays affecting project clarity

iii. Solicitation bids.

iv. Local MSBU assessments will be required to meet the local share.

v. Pre-construction storm-impact monitoring is recommended to document existing conditions.

vi. Ski Alley complaints of sand issues.

vii. Ongoing collaboration with Sarasota County remains under discussion.

c. PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Zachary Zampella, Environmental Specialist provides update:

- i. Sea Turtle Season:
 - o First nest spotted
 - o Manasota Key has 2 nests
 - o With construction, coastal lighting has increased, with lighting compliance improving among businesses and residents.
 - a. 15 inspections
 - b. 35 reviews in May- June
 - o Light violations sent to Alexandria or Zachary
- ii. Shorebird Nesting:
 - o Boca Grande – 25 nests
 - o Active Black Skimmer and Seabird colonies on Boca Grande.
- iii. Bald Eagle Monitoring:
 - o 4 eagle nests
 - o 43 eaglets successfully fledged this season.

Elizabeth Eastes, Environmental Specialist presented the Derelict Vessel Report, (refer to handout):

- i. 2 open derelict vessel cases
- ii. 5 removed
- iii. 2 relocated
- iv. 2 pending
- v. Annual FWC Block Grant contract increases vessel-removal efficiency.

9. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

- a. None.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. Information presented on “reef arches” as a potential erosion-mitigation alternative to traditional beach renourishment.
- b. Concerns voiced regarding environmental impacts of renourishment and long-term shoreline sustainability.
- c. Significant concern about proposed development at the Manasota Key/roundabout area
 - o Rezoning will not be heard at the upcoming May 11 meeting.
 - o Expected to be delayed to July meeting.
- o

11. COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OR CONSULTANTS

- a. None.

12. MEMBER COMMENTS

- a. **Member Lombardo** informed the committee that recent discussions in the MAC Meeting are focused on permitting long-term anchorage and investment funds.

- b. **Chair, Lang** Intention to draft a letter to Tourism for clarification and to invite them to future meetings.

13. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, June 4, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

The Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee Regular Meeting will be held at:

Murdock Administration Center, Room B-106

18500 Murdock Circle

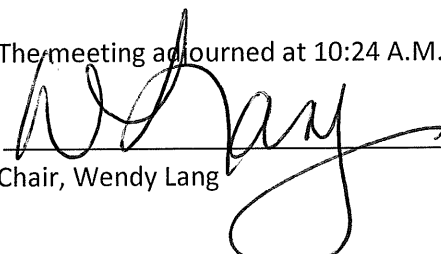
Port Charlotte, FL, 33948

***Unless otherwise announced. ***

14. ADJOURNED

Motion moved by Member, **Lombardo**: Seconded by **Vice-Chair, Wibbeler**: Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 A.M.


Chair, Wendy Lang