



MINUTES

CHARLOTTE COUNTY MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 11, 2025

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 Darden** called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.
2. Roll Call - Upon the roll being called it was determined a quorum was present.
Sign-In Sheets attached.
3. Chairman's Comments
 - a. Reminders to All Members, and Staff, Visitors: "Please sign in on the sheet provided. State your name and organization when addressing the committee to assist with minutes. Silence cell phones and keep conversations to a whisper, as the recording system captures all sounds."
4. Changes to the Agenda –
Janette Knowlton, County Attorney addressed members regarding sub-committee meetings, communication with Commissioners, and procedures for submitting recommendations to the Board. Topics included the Sunshine Law, applicable statutes, and sub-committee guidelines. Questions were answered, and a discussion followed.
5. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items –
Garrett Geiger spoke to the members for requesting two motors for the safety boats.

Chuck Witzke spoke about the Sunshine Law, Kelly Brothers and community service.
6. Regular Business
 - a. The minutes from the June 12, 2025, regular meeting was approved as submitted.

Bob Mayes made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by **Betty Campanella**; motion passed unanimously.

b. The minutes from the September 4, 2025, pre-agenda meeting was approved as submitted.

Betty Campanella made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by **Dave Vigne**; motion passed unanimously.

c. Charlotte County Sheriff's Office and City of Punta Gorda Police Dept. – Marine Updates
Charlotte County Sheriff's Office
Sgt. McRae spoke about Labor Day, and other activities, and a discussion ensues.

City of Punta Gorda Police Department

Cpl. A. Russell spoke about Labor Day, boat traffic and additional information.

- d. Derelict Vessel Report – Liz Eastes



Liz Eastes spoke about her report with the members and a discussion ensued.

- e. FY25/26 Fiscal Reports/Grants – Debbie Thibideau



Debbie Thibideau spoke on her report and a discussion ensues.

Mr. Killion asks if we still have the \$150,000 to **Chair Darden**, a discussion ensued with **Debbie Thibideau, Garrett Geiger**, additional members, and staff regarding the motors.

- f. MSBU Update – Matt Logan

Matt Logan spoke on DeWayne departing the county, and advised his replacement will be introduced next month, and a discussion ensued.

- g. Community Services Update – Tina Powell



Tina Powell spoke on her reports and a discussion ensued.

7. New Business –

Hank Killion made a motion to approve Richard Sluzewski as representative for the Punta Gorda Boat Club, seconded by **Betty Campanella**; motion passed unanimously.

8. Old Business -

Chair Darden discussed agenda adjustments, including the County Attorney presenting first, noting that the Sunshine Law and Robert's Rules video would be shown after the meeting, and including MSBU updates from Matt. The Chair also addressed the anchoring law, followed by a discussion.

Hank Killion made a motion to table anchoring limitation law, seconded by **Betty Campanella**; motion passed unanimously.

9. Citizens Comments –

Commissioner Deutsch requested that the County Attorney investigate the Anchoring Law. He also discussed the county's hurricane-related damages, the rebuilding process, FEMA reimbursements, and the involvement of the Army Corps of Engineers and contractors, noting that the process takes years and that citizens may not realize the full scope.

Chuck Witzke thanked the committee for allowing him to speak. He inquired about if the county could get one dredge contractor for a five-year contract as a reasonable price and discusses it.

10. Member Discussion –

Ms. Ginsberg spoke on two large marine projects, including a county-approved 400-slip marina in South Gulf Cove currently in the permitting process with the Army Corps of Engineers. She outlined the project details and the tender house.

Mr. Hyde expressed concern over ongoing delays in projects, citing issues with funding, engineering, scoping, permitting, and procurement. He also noted that he had expected Joanne Vernon from Engineering/Public Works to attend for clarification. **Chair Darden** responded, and a discussion followed.

11. Next Meetings

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Conference Room of the **E. Jay Carlson Community Development Building (18400 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte)**.
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in **Room B-106 in Building B of 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte**.

12. Adjournment

Ms. Campanella made a motion to adjourn, seconded by **Mr. Lombardo** at 11:49 a.m.

Submitted by Kimberly Sargent, recording secretary
Community Development Department

Jim Darden, Chair

Date

Chuck Witzke thanked the committee for allowing him to speak. He inquired about if the county could get one dredge contractor for a five-year contract as a reasonable price and discusses it.

10. Member Discussion –

Ms. Ginsberg spoke on two large marine projects, including a county-approved 400-slip marina in South Gulf Cove currently in the permitting process with the Army Corps of Engineers. She outlined the project details and the tender house.

Mr. Hyde expressed concern over ongoing delays in projects, citing issues with funding, engineering, scoping, permitting, and procurement. He also noted that he had expected Joanne Vernon from Engineering/Public Works to attend for clarification. **Chair Darden** responded, and a discussion followed.

11. Next Meetings

- The next **Pre-Agenda Meeting** will be held Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Conference Room of the **E. Jay Carlson Community Development Building (18400 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte)**.
- The next **Regular Meeting** will be held Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in **Room B-106 in Building B of 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte**.

12. Adjournment

Ms. Campanella made a motion to adjourn, seconded by **Mr. Lombardo** at 11:49 a.m.

Submitted by Kimberly Sargent, recording secretary
Community Development Department

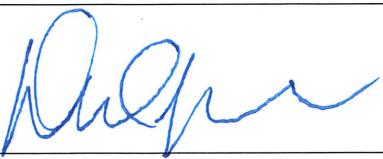


Jim Darden, Chair

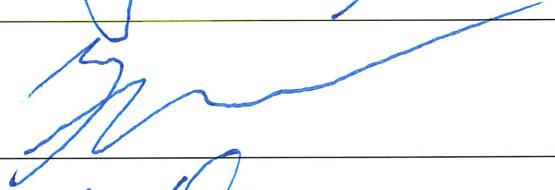
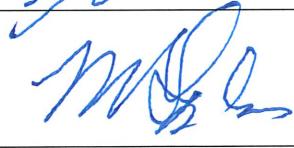
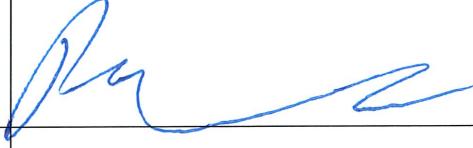
11/13/25
Date

Sign-In Sheet
MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEMBERS - Agenda
September 11, 2025

PLEASE SIGN NEXT TO NAME ON SHEET

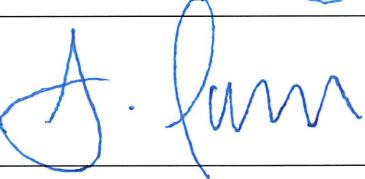
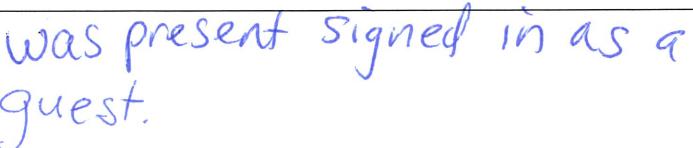
Jim Darden, Chair Member-at-Large	
Hank Killion, Vice-Chair Member-at-Large	
Betty Campanella, Secretary America's Boating Club - Peace River	
Robert Eckert U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 87 Englewood	
Jenna Ginsberg South Gulf Cove Yacht Club	
Robert Magliozzi Member-at-Large	
Richard Russell Member-at-Large	
Robert Hickey Punta Gorda Boaters Alliance	
Dave Vigne Pirate Harbor Yacht Club	
William H. Kumm Punta Gorda Boat Club	
Bob Mayes Punta Gorda Isles Fishing Club	

PLEASE SIGN NEXT TO NAME ON SHEET

Mike McIntosh Punta Gorda Sailing Club	
Michael Walsh Harbor Heights Yacht Club	
Laura Gassett-Shoemaker U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 99 Cape Haze	
Jim Pase Isles Yacht Club	
William F. Moran <i>Vacant</i> Burnt Store Isles Boat Club	
Angus McKinnon U.S.C.G.A. Flotilla 98 Charlotte Harbor	
Zach Gloer Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club	
Noel Hyde City of Punta Gorda	
Ralph Lombardo Member-at-Large	
Vacant Port Charlotte Yacht Club	

Sign-In Sheet
MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF - Agenda
September 11, 2025

PLEASE SIGN NEXT TO NAME ON SHEET

DeWayne Nodine , Dredging Project Manager	
Debbie Thibideau , Grants Analyst Budget & Administrative Services	
Liz Eastes , Marine Environmental Specialist	
Matthew Logan , Projects Manager Engineering	
Tina Powell , Parks & Natural Resources Manager Liaison	
Robert Campbell (Eric) , Signing and Marking Coordinator, Public Works	
Matthew McElroy , Deputy Chief Charlotte County Fire and EMS	
Chris Mott , Battalion Chief Charlotte County Fire and EMS	
Janette S. Knowlton , County Attorney Office of the County Attorney	 was present signed in as a guest.

Sign-In Sheet

MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GUESTS

September 11, 2025

Please PRINT Your Name and Affiliation