

# Minutes

**Agricultural & Natural Resources Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, June 19, 2008 – 9:00 A.M**  
**Charlotte County Administrative Center**  
**18500 Murdock Circle, Room #119**  
**Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1094**

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Alton Cheatham, Chairman  
Mike Jones, Vice-Chairman  
Chris Hencher  
Dan Ryals  
Andy Dodd  
Matthew Sullivan, Jr.

## **Members Excused**

William Federer, Secretary  
Arnie Sarlo  
Orrin Webb

## **STAFF PRESENT**

Commissioner Dick Loftus  
Inga Williams, Principal Planner  
Jason Thompson, Env. & Ext. Services  
Barbara Jefferies, BCS - Land Development  
Jamie Scudera, Growth Management  
Ryan Poland, Growth Management  
Jeff Ruggieri, Director of Growth Mgmt.  
Jane Starr, Recording Secretary

## **GUESTS**

Alan Reynolds, AICP  
Nigel Morris, WilsonMiller, Inc.  
Barbara Carlton, PRVCGA  
Ron Hamel, Gulf Citrus Growers Assn.  
Sunny Diver, Earth Balance  
Alan Reynolds, WilsonMiller, Inc.  
Rick Joyce, Kitson Babcock, LLC

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**  
The **June 19, 2008** meeting of the **Agricultural and Natural Resources Advisory Committee** was called to order at 9:00am by **Chair Alton Cheatham** noting a quorum was present.
- II. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA** - None
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
**Chair Cheatham** entertained a motion to approve the **April 17, 2008** minutes of the **Agricultural and Natural Resources Advisory Committee** as written. Moved by **Chris Hencher** and seconded by **Mike Jones**, the vote passed unanimously.
- IV. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**  
**Commissioner Loftus** advised the Comprehensive Plan is coming up for review in the next few months and he feels it is important ANRAC be involved to protect agriculture interests. **Chair Cheatham** confirmed the Committee will be represented by one or more members.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

### *Environmental Review Update*

**Barbara Jefferies** provided an update on excavation and stated there has only been one permit application requiring rezoning since the adoption of Ordinance 2007-090. She spoke on the Excavation Code and read into record information regarding the Environmental Impact Statement. Handouts were provided to members and she reported this information will be provided to the first applicant tomorrow. **Ms. Jefferies** stated she supports the Commissioners' unanimous decision to work diligently toward a better Environmental Impact Statement process.

*(Dan Ryals arrived at 9:06am)*

Members reviewed the EIS outline and **Ms. Jefferies** addressed questions and concerns. A discussion ensued. Mike Jones felt the process is moving in a positive direction and suggested that members review the outline and provide an assessment at the next meeting. In response to **Ms. Jefferies** request that input be emailed before the next meeting, **Chair Cheatham** advised that individual comments are personal views and are not representative of the Committee. Further discussion continued and it was stated the issue would be tabled for the next meeting. **Ms. Jefferies** added that a Requirement of Life Statement has not yet been addressed and requested that a discussion of the requirement in the Excavation Ordinance be added to the next agenda. **Chair Cheatham** was advised that all Excavation Ordinances are available for review on the County website.

**Chair Cheatham** commented on concerns related to a motion that was passed at the last meeting and confirmed that information was shared with Commissioners. **Inga Williams** stated that when the ORC Report is returned from DCA, she will remove the requirement that the EIS be submitted along with a Large Scale application and it will be rewritten to show a more general environmental requirement.

### *RSLA Update*

**Alan Reynolds** introduced himself and presented members with a PowerPoint presentation on the Rural Land Stewardship Program:

- How will Privately Owned Rural Land with High Natural Resource Value be Permanently Protected?
- What does the Future Hold for our Farming and Ranching Industry?
- Will Rural Regions Grow Smarter than Urban Streets?
- The Toolbox Needs a New Tool
- RLS History – 1999-2008
- RLS Legislation – Chapter 163.3177, F.S.
- Key Provision of Stewardship Law
- Natural Resource Index System
- The Overlay Map
- Stewardship Sending and Receiving Areas
- Ave Maria Stewardship Sending and Receiving Areas

- Ave Maria University
- Mobility Network & Public Benefits
- Natural Resources
- Stewardship
- RLS areas
- Collier County RLSA Review - Data, Process, & The First Five Years
- DCA – RSL Rule Development

**Mr. Reynolds** addressed questions and concerns from members. **Chair Cheatham** thanked Mr. Reynolds for his time and responded that the Committee is very interested in keeping abreast of this issue.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

*Land Development Regulations (LDR) Status*

**Inga Williams** reported that staff and consultants are working together on revisions and anticipate a document being ready for public review by the end of July.

*Comprehensive Plan Update*

**Ms. Williams** advised of a workshop scheduled next week before the Board of County Commissioners to introduce the interactive website and to explain the process going forward. Although the dates are unknown at this time, ANRAC will be asked to participate in the upcoming Charrettes and workshops.

*East County Plan Update*

**Ms. Williams** further stated she has negotiations this afternoon with the consultant and advised they will be working closely with Gladding Jackson and their sub-consultant. She will be speaking to the Babcock Steering Committee in July and is looking forward to partnering with them and a representative of a large number of private property owners in East County. Information was also provided regarding the helicopter tour that took place last week.

**Chair Cheatham** returned to the topic of the Comprehensive Plan Update and asked how the Committee could be more involved in the process. **Ms. Williams** offered information on upcoming activities and procedures.

*Excavation Issues*

There were no further comments.

**VIII. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS - None**

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**

**X. STAFF COMMENTS**

**Jeff Ruggieri** reiterated ways the Committee could be more involved with the Comprehensive Plan and said information will be forthcoming on upcoming workshops and Focus Groups.

**XI. MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Chair Cheatham** led a discussion regarding the need for a July meeting. **Inga Williams** stated she was unsure if negotiations would be complete in time for the next meeting, however she suggested the Committee meet to discuss issues to be addressed at the upcoming Charrettes. **Jeff Ruggieri** advised that consultants will be putting together packets and added that the interactive website will allow citizens to openly comment on issues pertaining to the Comprehensive Plan and to stay up-to-date on the process. More information will be provided at next week's Kickoff meeting.

**XII. FUTURE MEETING TOPICS**

- Issues to be discussed at upcoming Charrettes
- Continuation of Old Business

**XIII. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for **July 17, 2008**, at 9:00 a.m. in Room #119.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jane Starr*

Jane Starr  
Recording Secretary