

Minutes

Agricultural & Natural Resources Advisory Committee
Thursday, September 18, 2008 – 9:00 A.M
Charlotte County Administrative Center
18500 Murdock Circle, Room #119
Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1094

MEMBERS PRESENT

Alton Cheatham, Chairman
Andy Dodd
Chris Hencher
Dan Ryals
Matthew Sullivan, Jr.
Arnie Sarlo

STAFF PRESENT

Commissioner Dick Loftus
Allison Turner, Env. & Ext. Services
Jane Starr, Recording Secretary

GUESTS

Rick Joyce, Kitson Babcock, LLC
Barbara Carlton, PRVCGA

Members Excused

Mike Jones, Vice-Chairman
William Federer, Secretary
Orrin Webb

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
The **September 18, 2008** meeting of the **Agricultural and Natural Resources Advisory Committee** was called to order at 9:05am 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 **June 19, 2008** minutes of the **Agricultural and Natural Resources Advisory Committee** as written. Moved by **Chris Hencher** and seconded by **Matt Sullivan**, the vote passed unanimously.
- IV. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS - None**
(Inga Williams Arrived at 9:08am)
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
The Smart Charlotte 2050 Visioning Charrette
Inga Williams provided an update and stated work is being done to finalize the goals and vision established from the Charrette. When completed, an open

meeting will be held to present to the Commissioners and the public. Staff is working on their elements and is moving forward toward completion. Public meetings on the elements will be forthcoming.

Chair Cheatham added that there is still an opportunity to provide input online and requested a schedule of events be provided to the Committee if one should become available.

Review of Requirement of Life Statement

This will be tabled for a future meeting following the provision of additional documentation.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Land Development Regulations (LDR) Status

Inga Williams advised this has been placed on hold pending the completion of the Comprehensive Plan.

Comprehensive Plan Update

No further comments.

East County Plan Update

Inga Williams confirmed the contract with RWA has been signed and a scoping meeting is scheduled for next week to discuss the completion of this project. In addition, Gladding Jackson will be providing guidance to RWA to avoid a duplication of effort. **Ms. Williams** addressed questions and added Wilson Miller is hoping to finalize their contract with the landowners and will be doing a portion of the study as well.

Excavation Issues/ Comments on EIA Handout

Chair Cheatham provided an update and opened the floor for comments and suggestions adding that this will be an ongoing topic for future agendas. Although he is unsure of the exact status, it his understanding that excavation permits are moving forward. The Water Management District's EIA review was discussed and will be provided for distribution.

Barbara Carlton commented on excavations stating it was her understanding the Department of Agriculture has corresponded with the County about their Right to Farm Legislation and the impairment of business related to farm reservoirs. **Andy Dodd** voiced concerns and added he is anxious to hear further input from engineers and owners. **Chair Cheatham** advised this will be tabled for the next meeting and encouraged members to send comments to staff in the interim. **Inga Williams** and **Barbara Carlton** advised additional updates will be forthcoming. **Rick Joyce** suggested the benefit of assembling a matrix to show various requirements and monitoring reports and to help eliminate duplication.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS - None

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At **Andy Dodd**'s request, **Rick Joyce** provided a summary of the progress to date regarding the Babcock project and stated the Master Order for the DRI has been approved and they are in the final stages of settlement with Lee County. He stated they are looking at food production as a community amenity and would partner with food cooperatives in the eastern seaboard to have a year round supply of produce. **Arnie Sarlo** confirmed the management plan on the preserve side has been approved and provided an update regarding same.

Barbara Carlton presented information on the Peace River Basin Advisory Committee and led a discussion on agriculture issues which will be addressed at their meeting tentatively scheduled for January. An invitation was also extended to the Committee to attend the Annual Crop Estimate Breakfast in October. **Chair Cheatham** requested that information on both events be forwarded to the Recording Secretary for distribution to members.

X. STAFF COMMENTS

Inga Williams advised the Large Scale Petition's were adopted by the Board and advised of the changes and revisions that have been made.

XI. MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair Cheatham identified members whose terms are expiring in December and requested they make their intentions known regarding reappointment.

XII. FUTURE MEETING TOPICS - None

XIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **October 16, 2008** at 9:00 a.m. in Room #119, however, if agreeable, future meetings may be rescheduled for alternate months.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Starr

Jane Starr
Recording Secretary