

AGENDA
SOUTH CHARLOTTE STORMWATER
MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNIT (MSBU)

ADVISORY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY JANUARY 8, 2024

5:01 p.m., Charlotte Harbor Event Center
75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida

BOARD MEMBERS: Dr. Mary-Ellen Kiss, Chair
Sandra Funk, Vice-Chair
Dave Evans
David Servis
Craig Williams

COUNTY STAFF: Erica LeMaster, Community Liaison
Karlene McDonald, Operations Supervisor
Jason Thomas, Stormwater Engineer
Joanne Vernon, County Engineer

PURPOSE: Special Meeting

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Citizen Input on Agenda Items (3-Minute Limit)
3. New Business:
 - a. Hydraulic Study
4. Citizen Input on Agenda Items (3-Minute Limit)
5. Advisory Board Open Discussion on Agenda Items
6. Motion to Adjourn

**MINUTES
SOUTH CHARLOTTE STORMWATER
MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNIT (MSBU)**

**ADVISORY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023**

**5:01 p.m. – 6:28 p.m.
Charlotte Harbor Event Center
75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida**

Members Present: Dr. Mary Ellen Kiss, Chair
Sandra Funk, Vice Chair
Dave Evans
Dave Servis
Craig Williams

Members Absent: None

County Staff: Karly Greene, Operations Manager
Erica LeMaster, Community Liaison
Karlene McDonald, Operations Supervisor
Jason Thomas, Stormwater Engineer
Joanne Vernon, County Engineer

Guests: See attached sign-in sheet

Call to Order / Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. A roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

Changes to the Agenda / Motion to Approve Changes:

None

Citizen Input on Agenda Items (3-Minute Limit):

- Mr. Servis gave a brief background regarding past meetings that discussed a potential hydraulic study, pointing out the continued efforts made by Mr. Elias Public Works Director and Mr. Thomas Stormwater Engineer, thanking them for addressing the citizens' concerns for the need of a hydraulic study. (Advisory Board Member) thanked the county for making it a priority to address the need for watershed study improvements.
- Concerns were voiced regarding the current system not being able to sustain additional flow from new developments. It was noted that current drainage does follow the 72-hour rule which states with proper drainage water should recede within 72 hours with out any further rain event during a 72-hour period.
- Mr. Schemon proposed that the county develop a master plan to improve the entire area to include all stakeholders within the South Charlotte Stormwater boundary and holding those stakeholders accountable if drainage isn't being properly maintained.
- Mr. Flemming briefed the group on an article regarding Governor Scott and mentioned a questionnaire that can be found on the Burnt Store Coalition Website. Citizens asked questions relating to funding, and cost estimates.

Unfinished Business:

Hydraulic Study: County Engineer Joanne Vernon presented a slideshow presentation overviewing what the study would include if funded solely by the South Charlotte Stormwater MSBU. This would include major drainage infrastructure both private and county maintained but would not include streets and drainage MSBU level drainage detail, i.e., stormwater runoff volume calculations per roadside swales in front of residential properties; Ms. Vernon elaborated that road level swales would have to be funded by the street

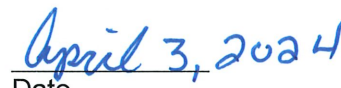
and drainage MSBU's, explaining that we would hire a consultant to oversee cost between streets and drainage MSBU's. Ms. Vernon confirmed this study would only be for one drainage basin. Dr. Kiss requested two items be focused on during the presentation. 1. An area wide plan, and 2. Identify different major structures, county-maintained structures, private community structures, and an interlocal agreement with other counties. Ms. Vernon explained that the hydraulic study would only identify current deficiencies and not provide recommendations for drainage improvements. She noted that even if deficiencies are found, due to the development of the area and the lack of charlotte county property, some options that would've been considered such as retention ponds may not be a possibility.

Advisory Board Open Discussion: The group discussed sheet flow, private communities upstream affecting communities downstream, older constructed homes being at risk to new construction being built at a higher elevation, retention pond overflow, lack of land potentially deterring additional retention ponds. Concerns were raised regarding new developments affecting drainage along the west side of Burnt Store Road. Mr. Thomas explained that nothing can be done regarding past developments, educating the group on new development stormwater management standards, and using the future Firelight development as an example, the development is required to ensure the predevelopment stormwater runoff rate is met in post development. Conversation ensued regarding Federal and State directives, and the group was advised that the county follows Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) guidelines, but the Board of County Commissioners could provide additional restrictions or requirements. Conversation continued discussing the Burnt Store Road Expansion Project and concerns of additional waterflow. Drainage concerns were voiced regarding Prada Road, Dorado Drive, and Zemel Road. The group discussed the 2005 Burnt Store Area Plan, and Mr. Thomas explained the most recent model constructed by Johnson Engineering that includes box culverts and raising Burnt Store Road to a higher elevation to act as a dam, informing the group that this road is an evacuation route. He explained that this model is still being used today to serve as a basis for current development. The group questioned why the Board of County Commissioners hasn't given approval to update the 2005 PPE area plan. Questions were also asked as to why there isn't a comprehensive plan to include all studies per development being integrated. Ms. Vernon informed the group that each studies result is provided, but the studies can't be integrated. The group commented on the need for a representative of SWFWMD to attend an MSBU Advisory Board meeting. Mr. Thomas advised that we have reached out twice with no response and will continue to invite a representative. The group requested cost estimates for the study, and Ms. Vernon will provide an update on current cost estimates. The group discussed the possibility of requesting that the annual assessment rate per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) be raised, and Ms. McDonald advised that there has been pushback in the past regarding citizens not in favor of a rate increase and an increase would only occur if the budget could not afford the annual proposed work program.

Citizen Input on MSBU Items (3-Minute Limit): Discussion ensued regarding the importance of including streets and drainage in the hydraulic study, stating that the county should be responsible in funding a comprehensive study since the county approves the permits and plans for new developments. Ms. Vernon confirmed that stormwater volume calculations for the major stormwater ditches and infrastructure capture the runoff from roadside swales, however stormwater runoff volume calculations per street will not be included in this hydraulic study unless each Street & Drainage MSBU approved funding. Discussion continued stressing the importance for an updated PPE study, also pointing out the imminent need for a cross-county interlocal agreement with Lee County including the four jurisdictions that border the Caloosahatchee.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.
Submitted by: Erica LeMaster
Public Works Department


Chair Signature


Date



South Charlotte Stormwater Municipal Service Benefit Unit

Advisory Board **Special** Meeting Attendance
Monday, January 8, 2024

Location: 75 Taylor Street, Punta Gorda, Florida
Charlotte Harbor Event Center

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