

MEETING MINUTES
ALLIGATOR CREEK WATERWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
July 9, 2015 – Regular Meeting
10:00 a.m. – Public Works Conference Room

Attendees: Howard Brooks, Ed Minzer, Michael Shaughness, and Mark Vaivoda

Absent: Kenneth Fahrbach (excused) and Robert Robinson (unexcused)

County: Dawn Harrison, Chuck Mopps, and Kelly Louttit

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. A roll call was taken that determined a quorum was present.

Changes to the Agenda: No items were added to the agenda per the Committee.

The minutes from April 2, 2015 were unanimously approved as written.

Citizen Input on Agenda Items Only (3 Minute Limit)

- None.

Old Business:

- Dredging – Mr. Mopps stated the project is still under review with the National Marine Fisheries. Coastal Engineering's email stated the National Marine Fisheries received the consultation letter on February 13, 2015 but was not assigned a reviewer until April 21, 2015 and a response from National Marine Fisheries until January 2016. Mr. Minzer discussed details surrounding the congressional inquiry by Congressman Rooney's office to the Army Corp of Engineers. Discussion continued regarding timeframe of the project and options to move the project forward. Mr. Shaughness suggested contacting Congressman Rooney again. Discussion continued regarding the permitting process, future maintenance dredges, and the development of a Smalltooth Sawfish key for ease of future permitting, Mr. Mopps noted the Alligator Creek dredge survey has expired and a new survey will be performed once permits are obtained. Discussion continued regarding quantity of material for removal, juvenile Smalltooth Sawfish, and project completion date.
- Cut through/City of Punta Gorda- Mr. Vaivoda questioned boat traffic in south Alligator Creek. Discussion continued regarding residents that have access to Alligator creek but are not paying into the MSBU. Mr. Minzer stated residents in the Ponce Outlet would be added to the Alligator Creek Waterway MSBU and expressed his concerns over the 50 foot channel that will connect to Alligator Creek around Marker 23 and Marker 24. Mr. Mopps explained the permitting process and advised a Public hearing will be held to gather citizen input. Discussion continued relating to the permitting process. Mr. Mopps suggested the committee submit questions and concerns to the County Commissioners. Mr. Brooks believes the committee opinion regarding the project should be noted in the minutes for future. Mr. Minzer will attend the canal maintenance meeting to express his concerns over the project. Discussion continued regarding specific areas on the map identified as private property.

New Business

- Financial Reports – Ms. Harrison provided the 6 month actual, activity report from 10/1/2014-6/30/2015 for committee review. Mr. Minzer questioned the piling replacement at Marker 40. Ms. Harrison will send the information to Signing and Marking for review.

Advisory Committee Open Discussion:

- No discussion by the committee.

Citizen Input on MSBU Related Items (3 Minutes Limit)

- Richard Braun, Long Beach Court, stated the cut through on Bucky McQueen's property will include a seawall. Discussion continued regarding properties required contribute to the MSBU and concerns of heavy boat traffic if the cut through is constructed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 5, 2015 at 10:00 am in the Public Works Conference Room. The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 am.

Submitted by:

Kelly Louttit
Public Works Department

