

MEETING MINUTES
CHARLOTTE RANCHETTES STREET AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
June 28, 2007

The Attendees: Nigel Morris, Michael Szuba, Ruth Cudzilo, William Faris

Absent: Robert Schaffer, James Howarth

The meeting was called to order by Nigel Morris at 1:03 p.m.

Agenda: There were no additions or deletions requested.

Approval of May 31, 2007 Minutes:

Mr. Morris requested that the spelling of Strausse Boulevard on page 2 be corrected to Strasse Boulevard.

Mr. Morris requested that the second to the last sentence of paragraph 2 on page 2 be modified to read: "Mr. Morris stated that he would follow up with this caller. He also stated that the members need to be informed about all situations that go to save money by preventing unnecessary charges."

Mr. Morris requested that the reference to the Central Drainage District on page 3 be corrected to the Central Charlotte County Drainage District and be referred to as CCCDD.

Mr. Morris requested that the Open Floor paragraph on page three be corrected to refer to Russel Million and Clara Drive, not Clarke Drive. He also requested that the paragraph be modified after the second sentence to read: "Mr. Morris stated that he was aware of this. The culvert has a hole in it which can be repaired. Ms. Harrison said it needs replaced. Mr. Morris requested that it be replaced and that he be informed when Public Works is going out to fix the pipe."

Mr. Morris stated that he had driven past the pipe today. He stated that it would be very simple to take the dirt off the top and put any kind of a plate to hold dirt so that it is not falling into the hole and it will be fine as a hold over measure until we get funds to get it fixed. Mr. Morris stated that he will get people in his district to meet there with a metal plate and fix it until the next fiscal year.

Business:

The Committee discussed the South County Stormwater map and ditches. Mr. Morris stated that the Committee was supposed to be left a map according to the request reflected in the minutes of the May 31, 2007 meeting. He stated that Mr. Szuba had checked with the secretary at Public Works, but no map was left for the Committee. Mr. Morris stated that Mr. Szuba had and

produced a map dated 10th February 04, Charlotte County Stormwater Management, K. Bliss, which identifies the ditches the length of Strasse Blvd., the length of Grove Blvd. the length of Pelican and one numbered 153 going north about one mile north from Pelican to CR 74. After discussion, Mr. Morris stated that the Committee needed to again request that it be provided a map of what is in the South County Stormwater unit in order that the Committee could look at it.

Mr. Morris stated that whatever the Stormwater unit is it is an MSBU and as an MSBU the number of ditches within it should be defined. He stated that until the drainage in the Charlotte Ranchettes is fixed we are throwing money down the drain trying to keep the roads maintained. He stated that since there is an ordinance that created the Charlotte Ranchettes MSBU which was recently redone and created this Committee, presumably one exists for the Stormwater unit. Mr. Szuba stated that it will be found at the courthouse and, at the request of Mr. Morris, he agreed to find it and fax it to the Committee members.

The Committee continued its discussion regarding the ditches within the Charlotte Ranchettes, specifically with respect to the cleaning of the ditches of vegetation and debris, including discarded refrigerators, mattresses and other matter. Mr. Morris stated that research was needed to determine which ditches are in which MSBU. He stated that the Committee needed to determine the overlap of responsibility as to what the Charlotte Ranchettes is responsible for drainage-wise and what the Stormwater unit is responsible for. Mr. Morris volunteered to get a map to Ms. Harrison for clarification as to where the Stormwater unit has responsibility for removal of debris and repair. Mr. Szuba stated that since the percentage of responsibility for an area is usually broken down, if we are paying Charlotte Ranchettes fees and South County Stormwater fees, is there an indication from staff as to the responsibility of each or do they simply come through once and come back again?

Mr. Faris and Ms. Cudzilo each stated that the problem of the dumping of garbage and other debris in the Ranchettes exists in part because the Sheriff's deputies advise that they can do nothing unless they actually see such dumping regardless of whether residents note license numbers. Mr. Morris stated that in his experience a Sheriff's deputy took no action even when a person dumping in the area admitted doing so. He stated that he would make a request to Ms. Harrison regarding these matters.

Mr. Morris then turned the discussion to conditions in each member's area of responsibility and inquired as to the progress of maps of each area. Mr. Morris advised of the mapping he had done and that he had been mapping the houses in the Ranchettes and the lots that are likely to be built on so as to select the roads which would not take too much work in order to provide access. He stated that that should be the plan for the coming year road wise. Mr. Morris stated that we are only three months away from the determination of the money available for the unit and he advised that the citizen's committee would be having another meeting and wished to be advised.

The Committee then discussed the work done at the corner of Alfred and Poplar. Mr. Szuba, Mr. Faris and Ms. Cudzilo advised of the drainage problems concerning water flow north to CR74 and the need to clean and move ditches to improve the flow of water. Mr. Morris stated that this and the proper operation of the drainage system in the Ranchettes are matters the Committee members need to bring to the attention of the residents. He stated that we either do it ourselves or assess ourselves more to have the County attend to these matters.

Public Comments: None

Member Comments: None

Selection of the Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be held on July 30, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at Public Works, 7000 Florida Street, Punta Gorda, Florida.

Mr. Szuba moved to adjourn, the members unanimously agreed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Robert J. Schaffer,
Recording Secretary



Nigel Morris, Chairman