

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**CHARLOTTE RANCHETTES STREET & DRAINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**September 13, 2007**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Nigel Morris, Michael Szuba, Ruth Cudzillo, William Faris, Robert Schaffer

**Absent:** James Howarth

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

- The Committee reviewed the August 22, 2007, minutes. Mr. Szuba advised that the first sentence in the fourth paragraph (under the heading Develop Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2008) should read that replacement of culverts has already been completed on the CR 74 side of the Ranchettes at Grove Boulevard, Austrian Boulevard, Alan Boulevard, and Strasse Boulevard. He stated that Dawn Harrison had advised that South County Stormwater funds were utilized to pay for the culvert replacements.
- Mr. Faris moved to approve the amended minutes. Mr. Szuba seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Update on Sewer Force Main:**

- Mr. Szuba spoke with Mr. Steve Leonard, City of Punta Gorda Project Manager, who advised that he is awaiting a legal opinion as to whether Pelican is an easement or a right-of-way. Mr. Szuba stated that he would discuss the issue of the Pelican Drive drains/culverts with Mr. Leonard once he has the legal opinion.

**Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2008:**

- Per his discussion at the August 22 meeting, Mr. Morris requested Committee input and proposals regarding roads in the Ranchettes, with particular attention to access issues.
- Mr. Morris reported the following issues in his area:
  - Clara Drive needs a culvert replaced and also needs shell to improve access to homes.
  - Strasse Boulevard is in very bad condition.
- Mr. Faris discussed the following:
  - Strasse Boulevard is also in poor condition in his area.
  - There is a pole in the roadway on Acorn Boulevard. He feel this is FPL's responsibility.
  - Drainage should be the Committee's primary concern.

- Mr. Szuba addressed the following:
  - There is a washout on Grove Boulevard.
  - Roadway repair is needed on Alfred Boulevard, from Pelican Drive to Polk Drive.
  - Mr. Szuba offered his “wish list” of road repair in his area, were funds available.
- Mr. Schaffer described the following problems in his area:
  - Grove Boulevard, between Ameropa to Polk Drive, is in very poor condition, but there are no access issues, as there are no homes.
  - Other than areas of sugar sand on Ameropa and Clara Drive, there are no evident access problems in his area.
  - Routine maintenance is necessary where needed.

**Public Comments:**

- Ms. Betty Vaughn and Ms. Madeline Popejoy expressed concern about traffic through the Ranchettes due to a recent accident on CR 74. The lack of speed limits and weight restrictions for trucks was also a concern to them and other residents. They requested that the Committee explore the matter of street signs, including the cost involved. Ms. Vaughn wished to be advised whether County personnel had to be present—and, if so, why--whenever any work is done in the Ranchettes.

**Member Comments:**

- Mr. Faris requested that the Committee explore the possibility of hiring private contractors to perform road, drainage, and other work in the Ranchettes. He also suggested that the Committee request information as to the amount of Ranchettes MSBU assessment monies retained by the County, other than the statutory reserve.
- Mr. Szuba made a recommendation that the Committee request that Public Works advise them of the cost of any work scheduled for the Ranchettes prior to its start.

The next meeting will be held on October 4, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the Punta Gorda Women’s Club on 118 Sullivan Street in Punta Gorda.

Mr. Szuba made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Faris. Upon unanimous agreement, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Schaffer

Nigel Morris, Chairman