

MEETING MINUTES
CHARLOTTE RANCHETTES STREET & DRAINAGE ADVISORY BOARD
MARCH 20, 2009
6:35 p.m.

Attendees: Nigel Morris, Michael Szuba, William Faris, Doug Buuck, Robert Schaffer and David Choken

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

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: No additions or deletions to the agenda were requested.

Overview of Advisory Board Activities Since 2007:

The meeting was attended by 59 residents of the Charlotte Ranchettes. Mr. Morris advised that initially the Board had determined to address the matter of improving drainage in the Ranchettes by determining where ditches needed to be cleared and restored, but that it was subsequently determined that the first order of business was to insure that residents had adequate road access to their residences. As such, he advised that the Board addressed its efforts to road grading and repair of culverts where needed. He advised that in fiscal year 2007-2008, \$211,000.00 had been expended in that regard.

Mr. Morris advised that in going forward road repair was the first priority. He advised that each Board member had been assigned responsibility for a specific section of the Ranchettes. He advised that Public Works had been requested to contact the assigned Board member prior to work being performed in the member's assigned area, but doing so was determined to be too difficult to administer. However, the residents were advised that as a result of the efforts of the Board in meeting with Public Works and addressing needed road and culvert repair, Public Works was performing the work proposed by Board members.

Mr. Morris advised the residents in attendance that the Public Works representative now assigned to the Ranchettes MSBU was Tara Musselman who was unable to attend the meeting. Finally, he advised that although a vote on whether to increase the annual MSBU assessment for residents of the Ranchettes had been intended to be addressed, due to the economy and other matters, that issue had been deferred to a later date.

Public and Member Comments:

Differing public opinions were expressed regarding the MSBU assessments. The first speaker proposed that the assessment be left as is due to the administrative costs imposed by the

County. Another speaker proposed that the assessments be increased incrementally each year. Others wished to know whether the assessments were to be by acre or some other method. A third expressed the opinion that we would still be behind in the monies available due to the numbers of foreclosures in which no payments would be made. Mr. Morris explained that the assessments were per acre and no change in that regard was imminent. He advised that a straw poll regarding assessments would be held before adjournment.

It was proposed by a resident that the residents were able to perform the necessary work without County assistance. Mr. Faris explained that that matter had been discussed with Ms. Musselman. He advised of the County requirements regarding qualified contractors and the awarding of contracts for such work.

Several residents expressed the opinion that the roads in the Ranchettes would not be damaged to the extent they are if a speed limit of 20 miles per hour was imposed and ATVs and heavy trucks were prohibited. Mr. Morris advised that that matter was not within the purview of the MSBU Board. Mr. Buuck advised that that was a matter which had to be approved by the County Commission and that signage would be imposed on the MSBU at \$50.00 per sign.

A resident expressed that all residents should contact one of the members of the Board rather than Public Works concerning any matter which needed to be addressed concerning repair of any kind in the Ranchettes in order to keep the Board advised and avoid the time and costs involved by contacting Public Works directly. The members of the Board concurred in that suggestion.

At the conclusion of the comments from the residents, Mr. Morris conducted a straw poll concerning any increase in the annual MSBU assessments. When asked by him who would consent to an increase of \$100.00 per year in addition to the current assessment, three residents answered in the affirmative. When asked by him who would consent to an increase of \$50.00 per year in addition to the current assessment, twelve residents answered in the affirmative. Given those responses, no further proposed increases were proposed.

Selection of Next Meeting Date: Selection of a date was deferred.

Adjournment: The members unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:30 p.m

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Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Schaffer

Nigel Morris, Chairman