

MEETING MINUTES
CHARLOTTE RANCHETTES STREET & DRAINAGE UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
June 11, 2015 – Regular Meeting
9:00 a.m. – Public Works Conference Room

- Attendees:** Doug Buuck, Victor Dudash, and William Gomes
- Absent:** Joe Dutton and Charles Rinehart (excused)
- County staff:** Mike Dallenbach, Kelly Louttit, Phil Aiuto, and Dawn Harrison
- Guests:** Sign-in sheet attached

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. A roll call was taken that determined a quorum was present.

The minutes from March 19, 2015 were unanimously approved as amended.

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

- Mr. Frank Hall, 7208 Alan Drive, is concerned about the backyard drainage and pig farm located behind his property. Discussion continued relating to welfare of the animals, size and type of pen securing the animals, sanitary conditions, and limits on the amount of pigs allowed in the area. Ms. Harrison suggested contacting Code Compliance to report the pig issue and SWFWMD would handle the blocked drainage.
- Mr. James Staffan, 9241 Sweden Boulevard, stated his neighbor has dumped approximately 3 yards of dirt in the ditch causing backyard drainage problems in surrounding areas including his property. Mr. Staffan believes the problem could be fixed if all property owners agreed to have the backyard ditches excavated. Mr. Gomes discussed a possible fix with a culvert. Mr. Staffan stated a culvert will not solve the problem. Discussion continued regarding the backyard drainage issues. Mr. Dudash has filed a complaint with the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department regarding non-compliance of the offending property owners. Mr. Gomes would like a certified letter sent to the offenders. Discussion continued.
- Mr. Michael Szuba stated MSBU money cannot be used for private property and believes the issue is a civil matter.
- Mr. Aiuto stated property owners are not legally allowed to block the flow of water and asked the Committee if the swales were originally man made. Mr. Morris confirmed. Mr. Aiuto suggested if the drainage is blocked intentionally it could be a legal matter. Discussion continued regarding the Central Charlotte County Drainage District Committee jurisdiction within the County.

New Business:

- Financial Report: Ms. Harrison provided the 3 month actual report for committee review. Line items were reviewed by Ms. Harrison.
- Activity Report: Ms. Harrison provided the Activity Report for Committee review. Ms. Harrison will review the trouble call charge and report findings back to the Committee.
- Work Plan cost review and scheduling- Mr. Dallenbach stated a quote from Gator Grading based on the modified grading map will be \$150,000 dollars. The road will be graded to 18 feet wide and work will begin in the back section first. Mr. Morris would like the road crowned when graded. Ms. Harrison will provide updates on a start date when available.
- Discussion of back yard ditch cleaning and maintenance (Ross Morton, SWFWMD)-

Mr. Morton provided updates via a conference call and stated backyard drainage issues on private property can be called into the SWFWMD as a complaint. Mr. Buuck stated the properties in question have blocked and altered backyard ditches on private property. Mr. Morton stated Adam Hange at SWFWMD 941-377-3722 would be the point of contact for compliance matters. Discussion continued regarding Ordinances and State Statues. Mr. Morris discussed lack of easements for the East/West ditches and easements for the backyard ditches. Mr. Dallenbach will pursue clarification on easements with the County Attorney and updates will be provided.

Advisory Committee members open discussion:

- Mr. Gomes believes follow through on the issues are needed.
- Mr. Dudash will mail the three (3) certified letters and will follow up with the property offenders.
- Mr. Aiuto asked if there are drainage maps available. Mr. Buuck confirmed. Discussion continued regarding flow of water, pictures of offending properties, and drainage maps of the area.

Citizen Input on MSBU Related Items Only (3 Minute Limit):

- None

Items for next agenda:

- Sunshine Law/ Roberts Rules of Order presentation
- Grading
- Backyard Ditches
- Financials

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 9:00 am, in the Public Works Conference Room.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 am.

Kelly Louttit
Public Works Department

