

MEETING MINUTES
Edgewater North
March 17, 2010
11:11 a.m.

Attendees: Herb Eldredge, Lucius Anthony, and Barry Schneider,
County - Tara Musselman and Bob Halfhill

Business:

- It was decided to hold off on doing the Election of Officers as a number of members were absent.
- Tara presented the proposed FY11 budget. She noted that the proposed budget is basically the same, with the addition of her staff time. All MSDR staff time will be charged out to each MSBU. She has estimated the number of hours to be about 20 hours.
- Financial Reports - Tara noted the current collection of \$13,000.00 of the \$20,000.00 expected. Ms. Musselman stated that there is an adjustment to their account of an addition of \$11,159.00. This is the result of Ms. Musselman researching the last dredging project and sorting through each invoice and staff time sheet. There had been some charges which were allocated incorrectly in the project.
- Edgewater Bridge/Sunrise Waterway -Tara has received several calls on the status of this project. Mr. Halfhill addressed the Committee. He explained that the bridge, which was originally built with sales tax monies, is being replaced to increase the clearance. He explained that the optimum height would be 10.5 feet. To achieve this, the approaches took it out about 300 - 400 feet. It affected the first two houses on the interior or US 41 side of the waterway. The appraisal prices of the houses came in over our budget and the people refused to sell. Going Eminent Domain would have cost even more and could delay the project up to a year. Now the design consultant is working on a 9.5 foot bridge clearance, trying for 10 feet, but being aware of the approaches. As the design is progressing, it is getting closer to being put out for bid. He noted that in conjunction with that, there is going to be re-surfacing, from US 41 down to the harbor, which should be done between 18 and 23 months. The bridge will be closed during renovation. It could be done in stages, which would delay the project about 7 months, or could be done all at once with a detour needed. Tara asked if there would still be access under the bridge. Mr. Halfhill noted that there would be, but might be delayed on specific occasions. Mr. Eldredge noted that the plan to marry up a barge on the other side had failed and asked how they plan to get in there at the current 9.5 feet. Mr. Halfhill explained that a smaller piece of equipment would be used which will add to the length of the project. Mr. Eldredge asked if there was anything else wrong with the bridge. Mr. Halfhill noted that there are structural issues. He noted that it is not unsafe, as of yet. Mr. Halfhill explained that this construction is going to be done in phases, with looking at accelerating the Midway to Collingswood section of it. The contractor

that is currently working on this project is trying to do the job with minimal impact and inconvenience. In response to Mr. Eldredge's comment that the County should have paid a fair price to the homeowners on the approaches, Mr. Halfhill explained with budget restrictions, all the bridge configurations, designs and approaches have been looked at this and it has been decided that this is the best way to go.

- Bathometric Survey - Tara asked the Committee if they wanted her to add an increase to the current \$20.00 rate in the budget to complete a bathometric survey of the canal system. She explained that doing the bathometric survey would cost approximately \$25,000.00, but that the survey could not be done until the rates are raised next July, which means the survey cannot get done until after October 2011. Tara stated that if the Committee raised the rate right now in the FY11 budget to include cost of the bathometric survey, she can order the bathometric survey, which could be done next January. Then the rates would be raised next year, based on the cubic yardage that would need to be removed. The amount to be removed would determine how much the rate needs to be increased next July so dredging can be done starting in November 2011. She stated the bathometric survey would be more than adequate to do the work in 2011. Mr. Snyder noted that in the past, the subject of dredging has come up many times and that the people do not want it and do not want to finance it and why is it coming up again. Tara stated that she put it on the agenda because in the last six month, she has received over 50 phone calls asking when dredging was going to be done. She put it on the agenda based on the increased interest in doing something in Edgewater North. She stated that the Committee could wait until more members were present, but that the budget deadline is March 31, 2010. Mr. Anthony suggested they wait until. Mr. Eldridge stated he would like to see an increase to \$55.00 and the resident survey be done. Tara said she would be able to mail out a survey and if it came back that it is not wanted, she could lower the rate and no notices would go out about a rate increase. If it comes back that the people want this work to be done, then the rate is already in the system. Mr. Eldredge made a motion, seconded by Mr. Anthony, to tentatively increase the rate, at a cost not to exceed \$55.00 per unit, to cover a bathometric survey in FY11, and at the same time send a property owners survey to all units within the MSBU asking their opinion on completing a bathometric survey for the possibility of future dredging. If that survey comes back with a negative opinion, the proposed \$55.00 rate be lowered back down to \$20.00 and no survey will be done. Motion carried 2-1. Tara stated she will direct the mailing out of the survey this week and will make sure it includes what the rate increase would be.
- Mr. Keith Waltz addressed the Committee. He asked what was considered a majority, was it half of the people returning the surveys? Tara explained that normally the return rate is about 15%. In the past, it has been the majority of the responses that have been submitted and returned.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:49 P.M.

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