

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**NORTHWEST PORT CHARLOTTE WATERWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**October 23, 2012**  
**2:00 p.m. at Building Construction Services Conference Room**

**Attendees:** Richard Hopkins, Ron Larrivee and Renee Larson

**Absent:** Stanley Bliss (unexcused), Joseph Fabini (unexcused), and Ronald Olson Jr. (excused)

**County:** Chuck Mopps, Judith Nothdurft, and Sandy Wright

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 P.M. with a roll call of members.

The status of the Committee members and terms was reviewed. Mr. Ronald Olson Jr. was newly appointed on October 9, 2012. This is a full Committee; all vacancies have been filled.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the June 28, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

**Public Input:**

- Mr. Pilikian - asked the Committee to consider reviewing the process of how property owners get notified when the dredging is done by their docks. There are several owners who would like to have dock side dredging when the contractor is in the area. Can the Contractor's go door to door or can a mail out be done? Mr. Mopps responded that private owners can negotiate with the contractor individually to have the areas around their dock dredged. The County is only responsible for the dredging of the canals and must not come any closer than 15 feet of a seawall or piling to avoid a liability. Once the contractor is selected, their name and numbers will be available on the County Website.
- Mr. Pilikian asked if the dredging contract can be changed to address the upland canals so that the narrow end of the bridge up the canals will all be at a depth of 5 feet? Ms. Larson stated that there is no money in the budget to address upland canals at this time.
- DEP wanted to dredge where the natural flow is coming out of the interior waterway; if interior canals were also dredged, the channel markers on the Apollo could be removed.

**Unfinished Business:**

- Dredging Project – Mr. Mopps from the Engineering Department gave a status of the project, reiterating the schedule that was stated during the last meeting. The project is currently on schedule. A pre-bid meeting will be held in December with the bid going out in January. The dredge will have to be performed during the summer months to ensure there is enough water present for the contractor's equipment. This project will coincide with 2 other dredge projects in the County. The bid is for dredging from the mouth of the canals to the river only; there are not enough funds available to dredge inland canals. Mr. Mopps stated that the Army Corps of Engineers has issued a letter of intent to issue the permit. After Engineering receives the Army Corps permit, all of the permits will be accessible on the County Website. The project will likely begin in April 2013.

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- There was more discussion regarding private dredging for property owners. Mr. Hopkins stated that there is a private Website set up for residents in Northwest Port Charlotte. He will research who may use the website and forward it to Ms. Nothdurft and the Committee members if allowed to do so. Mr. Mopps suggested using that Website as well as Community meetings to get an idea of how many people would be interested in private dredging. That information could be supplied to the contactor in hopes of getting a discount depending on the quantity of work. Mr. Mopps warned that the contractor will have to get temporary off load permits for the private jobs. There won't be enough space available to use the County's approved site. Spoils coming from private dredge projects will have to go to a legal spoil site.

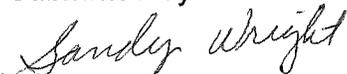
### New Business:

- Activity Report - Ms. Nothdurft distributed the Activity Report for the Committee's review and questions. The Committee agreed that the report looks fine and there are no questions at this time.
- Ms. Nothdurft explained that next year is the beginning of a 2 year budget cycle for fiscal years 2013/2014 and 2014/2015. All future projects will have to be identified in that budget. Changes will not be allowed unless there is an emergency situation. Mr. Mopps stated that a sweep of the canals will need to be included in the budget for 2014/2015 fiscal year. A sweep dredge is normally done 2 years after a full dredge project is completed. This is to help level out the amount of silt that settles back into the canal. Ms. Larson stated that it will take the next 10 years to pay for this dredge project and doesn't know that funding will be available to do a sweep. The preliminary budgets are due to Financial Services by mid January 2013. Mr. Mopps stated the Committee can discuss a sweep dredge, annual surveys and a work plan at a budget planning meeting. He stated that the Committee can use Alligator Creek to compare to for the costs relating to a dredging project. The two MSBU's are close in size. This will enable the Committee to plan.
- Ms. Larson requested that the bid documents be made available to the Committee members if possible, prior to the December meeting. This will allow the members time to review and make any notes of questions prior to the meeting.

The next two meetings are scheduled for Thursday December 13, 2012 at 3:00p.m. and Thursday January 17, 2013 at 3:00p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Submitted by:



Sandy Wright  
Public Works Department