

**SOUTH GULF COVE WATERWAY BENEFIT UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**April 3, 2012**  
**10:00 a.m.in the San Casa Conference Room**

**Attendees:** Ron Bick, Clarence Brosmer, Joe Giraldi, Tom Ireland, and Rich Redican

**County:** Judith Nothdurft, Sandy Wright, Matt Logan, Barry DeMello

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

**Minutes:** The minutes from October 12, 2011 were approved as submitted.

**Old Business:**

- Mr. Logan stated that there were 5-8 proposals received for the lock project feasibility study. Southwest Engineering (SWE) who is now a part of Earth Balance was selected based on location and experience. The scope and fees have been sent to the Finance Department for review. SWE would like to meet with the Committee to get their input. The funding for the study was capped at \$50,000. SWE will have the responsibility of finding the best location for the installation of a new lock. The time frame for the project was discussed and Mr. Logan stated that the feasibility study will take the longest time, possibly 3-4 months. When complete a meeting will be scheduled with the Committee. It is impossible to predict the length of time it will take to get the permit, however, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is getting easier to work with.
- Mr. DeMello advised that the locks will be open for 5 days this week during the afternoon high tides to allow water to come inside the locks in order to keep the water level up until the summer rains arrive so he won't have to go through this process again.
- Dredging 2013 – There was discussion regarding the dredging item in the 2013 budget. The Committee agreed there is no need to dredge at this time, and would like the funds to be rolled forward for a future dredging project.
- Electro Hydraulic Machinery (EHM) Maintenance Report – The Committee has not received a copy of the annual report. Mr. DeMello will provide a copy for Ms. Nothdurft to distribute.
- There was discussion regarding an intermittent problem with the lock gates and the remotes. Mr. DeMello reported that when the contractor was there, the remotes and gates were working perfectly with no problems. Mr. DeMello will get a contractor to replace the connector to see if that corrects the problem. If not, he will get an estimate to replace the unit. The Committee recommended looking for a better quality remote that will work with the existing receiver first. If there is no such remote available, they will consider replacing the whole unit.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Water Levels – The levels should be up after the opening of the locks this weekend. Mr. Redican explained the water level process as it relates to the DEP and Swift Mud permitting.

## **SOUTH GULF COVE WATERWAY BENEFIT UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**April 3, 2012**

**Page 2**

- Budget and Finance Reports –The financial data was distributed for review and discussion. A list of work orders was requested. The Committee would like for the descriptions to be more meaningful so the reports would be easier to read. The Committee wants \$50,000 for maintenance, \$50,000 for aquatic weed control and \$4000 for lighting to be added back into the 2013 budget. Mr. Redican made a motion to accept the 2013 budget with the noted changes; Mr. Bick seconded the motion with all the members in favor. Ms. Nothdurft will provide a copy of the 2013 budget after the corrections have been made.
- The Committee agreed to meet quarterly unless special projects or circumstances warrant additional meetings. Ms. Nothdurft will provide an Activity Report for each meeting.
- There was discussion regarding the Environmental Department checking for algae which they agreed are doing a weekly check and correcting problems as they arise. They are doing a good job, noting the fast response they received when water cabbage was reported by a citizen on the Santa Cruz Waterway.
- There was discussion about the cleaning of the locks that would involve taking the gates down. Mr. DeMello suggested getting a diver to inspect the gates first to see if that is necessary. A simple scraping may be all that is needed at this time. He will try to locate a diver to do the inspection.
- There was discussion regarding the quarterly water quality testing and the possibility of decreasing the frequency of the tests. It was agreed that the quarterly checks should continue. The cost is minimal and this allows problems to be corrected before they get out of hand.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the San Casa Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.