

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**WEST CHARLOTTE STORMWATER UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**January 20, 2015 – Regular Meeting**  
**10:00 a.m. – Rotonda West Community Center**

**Attendees:** Henry Killion, Glynn Perkins, Stanley Plizga, and Lawrence Harrod

**Absent:** Scott Schermerhorn (excused) and Laren Armstrong (excused)

**County:** John Elias, Joanne Vernon, Judith Nothdurft, and Karly Greene

**Guests:** Sign-in sheet attached

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with a roll call that determined a quorum was present.

The meeting minutes from November 20, 2014 were unanimously approved as written.

**Citizen Input on Agenda Items Only (3 Minute Limit)** None

**Election of Chair and Vice:**

- Mr. Perkins nominated Mr. Killion as Chair and discussion ensued related to the number of terms a Chair can serve. Ms. Nothdurft indicated the elections would be tabled until the following meeting and additional information was received via the County Attorney's Office.

**Unfinished Business:**

- Weiler Engineering Presentation: West Charlotte Stormwater, Water Quality & Environmental Improvement Project – Jason Green, Weiler Engineering, recapped the project area, commented on surrounding area, build out percentages, portrayed a map signifying contributing areas, and spoke to areas that naturally treat the water. Robin Palmer, Weiler Engineering, provided an update regarding the project including an explanation of water quality testing results focusing on nitrogen and phosphorous levels, indicated phosphorous is a main concern, and stated the site was to have a littoral area. Mr. Green spoke to the treatment of stormwater moving through the system and its trends as the water flows through the lagoon area, listed project highlights including additional littoral area, increased water storage, improved water quality and stormwater management, reduction of development, listed Lee County project examples, commented on challenges for projects within urbanized areas, and expressed his preference to work with County staff to address the stormwater issues faced now and in the future. Ms. Slater questioned the existence of a weir, requested additional information related to the 400 acre area, and spoke to previous water quality testing. Mr. Green advised the weir is part of the project plans, noted it would be located towards the southern end of Whidden Creek, and pointed out the area on the map. There was discussion of recent testing results, questions related to future EPA regulations, project benefits, and an inquiry if the County was concerned about the proposed EPA regulations. Mr. Green indicated testing results were in line with the trend, noted the length of time required for the proposed project, stated all areas would eventually be required to meet EPA targets, and noted phosphorous and nitrogen are focal points. Ms. Vernon affirmed the County has concerns as to how the regulations would be addressed and stated results from the enactment of the Fertilizer Ordinance have not yet been reviewed. Mr. Plizga noted past efforts to reduce nutrient levels, expressed his belief that littoral zones would not reduce levels, and indicated the nutrient level coming into the area needed to be addressed. Mr. Green indicated the canal system does not treat stormwater adequately. Mr. Lyons questioned the owner of the proposed project area, requested the purchase price of the area, asked if Stock Development would be required to meet the future EPA requirements, and inquired about the party responsible for the project plans to date. Mr. Green advised Stock Development owns the property, he did not know the purchase price for the property, estimated \$2.8 million for permitting and construction, stated Stock Development does not have a water quality issue, indicated mining operations could continue, and affirmed Stock Development funded the project plans to date. Ms. Slater spoke to environmentally sensitive lands, noted the effective treatment of water in the area, and questioned if it could be considered in the future. Ms. Vernon affirmed the area could be considered. Mr. Green indicated the environmentally sensitive lands cannot be excavated. Discussion continued. Mr. Killion questioned if the project was planned in conjunction with Southwest Florida Water

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Management District (SWFWMD). Mr. Green affirmed they worked with Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Perkins asked if Stock Development was required to conduct site reclamation at the completion of the mining operation and suggested Stock Development restore littoral areas for a benefit to the Community.

Mr. Perkins motioned that no recommendation be made to the County regarding the project, seconded by Mr. Plizga and passed unanimously.

- Newgate Waterway Spoil Removal – Ms. Vernon indicated the project has started, noted 7 gopher tortoises were relocated, and affirmed the total cost of relocation would be provided. Ms. Nothdurft read an update provided by Karen Bliss on the project indicating the contract was awarded to Gator Dredging for a bid of \$400,942. Additionally, the amount of lots to be cleared of tortoises was reduced from 7 to 3 lots; this resulted in a higher unit cost of \$790 per tortoise. Even with this increase in unit cost, the final cost of the contract is \$8,165 less than the original contracted price of \$16,155.
- Oyster Creek – Ms. Vernon stated the project has started and includes an aggressive timeline. Ms. Nothdurft read an update provided by Karen Bliss regarding the project indicating the contract was awarded to Earth Balance at a bid of \$42,747.
- Grass Carp – Ms. Nothdurft indicated the RFQ was resubmitted, no responses were received, and work was being done to expand vendor contacts. Mr. Killion questioned the timeframe. Mr. Elias discussed the Purchasing process to recruit new registered vendors with the County. There was discussion related to the length of fish required. Mr. Elias affirmed options would be explored with Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) for fish length. Mr. Perkins motioned to move forward if FWC accepts the 10-12 inch carp, opposed to the 12-14 inch, seconded by Mr. Killion and passed unanimously.
- Erosion Locations (Monitor/No Action at this time) – There were no comments.
  1. 899 & 902 Boundary Blvd. (Erosion around manhole)
  2. 193 West Pine Valley (Previous broken main)
  3. 790 Boundary Blvd. (Swale eroding)
- Coral Creek Restoration Project – Ms. Vernon indicated an update would be provided to the Committee.
- Buck Creek (Monitor No Action at this time) – Mr. Lyons stated he was awaiting a letter from Bill Byle, County Environmental Specialist, regarding mangroves that fell into the water as brazilian pepper trees were removed and indicated he would inquire further to provide an update to the Advisory Committee.
- Future Projects for 2-Year Budgets FY 2016 & FY 2017 – Mr. Killion indicated a partnership was proposed with Rotonda West Street and Drainage for drainage issues in Rotonda. No decision has been made on the project. He stated he has not had any other MSBU bring forward any other projects for funding partnerships, and requested Ms. Nothdurft notify other MSBU Advisory Committees. Ms. Slater noted attempts to reduce mangroves at Linear Park and stated she is looking for partnerships for funding although it is steered from a Beautification standpoint. Mr. Killion asked if South Gulf Cove Waterway MSBU had any relevant projects for partnering for FY 2016. Mr. Ireland noted there were currently no projects. Ms. Nothdurft affirmed that beautification is not included within the SGC Waterway Ordinance. Mr. Elias noted an upcoming mechanical project for the lock that may allow partnering.

**New Business:**

- Financial History / Year End Financials FY 2013/14 – Ms. Nothdurft provided the year end financials for Committee review.
- Activity Report (11/19/14 – 1/15/15) – Ms. Nothdurft provided the Activity Report for Committee review.

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- Draft FY 2016 & FY 2017 Budgets - Mr. Killion noted an increased budgeted item for aquatic weed services. Mr. Elias indicated a budget was requested to maintain the grass portion and aquatic weeds of Coral Creek. Discussion continued.

### Open Discussion:

- Mr. Killion commented on previous Committee discussion regarding inclusion of the Newgate Waterway on the maps. Ms. Vernon confirmed it could be included for Committee review. Ms. Slater requested that the map also include the Interceptor Lagoon.
- Mr. Elias noted there is a meeting set with the Assistant County Attorney to discuss issues and indicated areas are being compiled to discuss.
- There was discussion regarding whether Stock Development pays into the West Charlotte Stormwater Utility MSBU. Ms. Vernon will follow up.
- Mr. Plizga questioned if Mr. Elias spoke with Mr. Dallenbach regarding the plan to service maintenance areas identified in the Rotonda West Drainage Study. Mr. Elias affirmed a plan was being formed and would provide additional information.
- Mr. Harrod questioned if the dam was addressed at the previous meeting. Ms. Vernon advised MSBU funds cannot be expended on private property and indicated she did not receive a reply to letters written in the past requesting maintenance of the dam. Mr. Lyons provided detail of the matter, questioned if the dam is operating as required, and noted the gate valve is rusted shut. Ms. Vernon stated her understanding that the dam was originally constructed to be a saltwater intrusion barrier. Discussion continued. Ms. Vernon affirmed she would discuss the dam with SWFWMD.
- Mr. Killion questioned the status of Charlotte County Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Maps. Ms. Vernon indicated coastal areas were currently being addressed by FEMA.

### Citizen Input on MSBU Related Items Only (3 Minute Limit) None

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Building Construction Services Conference Room.

The meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Submitted by:



Karly Greene  
Public Works Department

**CHARLOTTE COUNTY  
 PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION  
 WEST CHARLOTTE STORMWATER UTILITY UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
 ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, January 20, 2015

**MEETING TIME:** 10:00 A.M. – Rotonda West Community Center

**INFORMATION SUPPLIED ON THIS FORM BECOMES  
 PUBLIC RECORD**

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