

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MAY 13, 2008

A regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida. The following members were present: **Chairman D'Aprile, Commissioner Duffy, Commissioner Cummings, Commissioner Moore, and Commissioner Loftus.** Also in attendance were County Attorney Knowlton, Interim County Administrator Baltz, Chief Deputy Board Services White, Executive Assistant Hunter, and Deputy Clerk Lansing. The following members were absent: None. The meeting was called to order at **9:00 AM.**

The Invocation was given by Father Leo Riley, St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes to the Agenda:

Change #1-Z-4- All references to the GMP total should be changed from \$26,215,281 to \$26,715,281; and add User funded-Inmate Welfare Fund for Video Visitation Equipment (-\$500,000.00).

Addition #1-Z-1 - Addendum to Proposed Sales Tax Project List

Addition #2- Reports Received and Filed - Murdock Village Community Development Agency Advisory Committee Minutes - May 9, 2008

Addition #3- Reports Received and Filed - Charlotte Harbor Community Development Agency Advisory Committee Minutes - April 24, 2008

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO APPROVE CHANGES TO THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.
Motion Carried 5:0.

Special Recognition

Proclamations - Commissioner Adam Cummings

Arts and Humanities Council Artist of the Month

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO PROCLAIM RUTH SPIES AS ARTS AND HUMANITIES COUNCIL ARTIST OF THE MONTH OF MAY 2008, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.

Motion Carried 5:0.

Arts and Humanities Council Artist of the Month Ruth Spies accepted the proclamation and thanked the Board for their continued to support.

Commissioner Moore commended three Arts and Humanities Council members for showing their support by attending today.

Charlotte County Tourism Week

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO PROCLAIM MAY 11 THROUGH 17, 2008 AS CHARLOTTE COUNTY TOURISM WEEK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Motion Carried 5:0.

Becky Bovell accepted the Proclamation on behalf of the Visitors Bureau staff and Tourism partners throughout the County, mentioned looking forward to new opportunities and growth in tourism, and thanked the Board for the recognition.

Darrell Demonbreun's Day

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO PROCLAIM MAY 13, 2008 AS DARRELL DEMONBREUN'S DAY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.

Motion Carried 5:0.

Chief DiDio accepted the Proclamation on behalf of Mr. Demonbreun.

Emergency Medical Services Week

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO PROCLAIM MAY 18 THROUGH 24, 2008 AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Motion Carried 5:0.

Chief DiDio accepted the proclamation on behalf of Emergency Medical Personnel

Hurricane Awareness Week

**COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO PROCLAIM MAY 17 THROUGH 24, 2008 AS HURRICANE AWARENESS WEEK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.
Motion Carried 5:0.**

Emergency Management Coordinator Gerald Mallet thanked the County for acknowledging the importance of storm preparation, commended residential and commercial sectors for making tremendous strides in preparing, and accepted the proclamation on behalf of his department.

Commissioner Cummings pointed out the importance of being prepared, noted how unpredictable hurricanes can be, and commented on the danger of storm surges.

National Historic Preservation Month

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO PROCLAIM MAY, 2008 AS NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.
Motion Carried 5:0.**

Historical Division Manager Linda Coleman accepted the Proclamation, mentioned this year's theme is "This Place Matters", noted history is good business, helps tell our story, indicated historical preservation is green, talked about several preserved historical sites, and thanked the Board for the acknowledgement.

Veterans Appreciation Month

**COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO PROCLAIM MAY, 2008 AS VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.
Motion Carried 5:0.**

Joan Jacobsen and several veterans stood up to accept the Proclamation, expressed the importance of those who protect our freedom, and mentioned 58,471 men and 8 women who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Veteran Service Manager James Barrett spoke on behalf of 33,000 veterans in our County, said this month gives everyone the chance to remember and honor those service men and women who are now and have in the past fought for us.

Chairman D'Aprile commented on the importance of our veterans, noted he has been a member of the Veterans Association, mentioned a current fundraiser program designed to send World War II Veterans to Washington DC, stated many are in their 80's and 90's, said \$35,000 was needed per trip, and asked for donations from those able to participate.

Employee Recognition - Roger Baltz & Commissioner Cummings

5 YEARS: Joseph Arsenault, Public Works; Amanda Barber, Utilities; Bonnie Blair, Commission Office; Tammy Crabtree, Utilities; Michael Gibson, Real Estate Services; James Huish, Utilities; David Sipper, Building Construction Services; Bradford Walter, Real Estate Services; Thomas Woods, Public Works; 10 YEARS: Charles Koons, Public Works; 15 YEARS: Kenneth Ciolfi, Growth Management; Dave Mathewson, Jr., Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources; 20 YEARS: Richard Allen, Environmental & Extension Services; Andrew Amendola, Public Works; Dianne Dykes, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources; Oswald Henry, Public Works; Marianne Taylor, Fire/EMS.

Award Presentations- None

I. CITIZEN INPUT - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

South Gulf Cove Advisory Board Member Kendall Leach referred to Agenda Item Z-3, asked the Board to approve the Resolution extending the South Gulf Cove Advisory Committee term, said they need more time to complete several projects, and thanked the Board and **Commissioner Moore** for continued support.

Dave Hackett suggested extending the sales tax for twenty years and indicated several ways to solve the County's debt and MSBU issues.

South Gulf Cove Advisory Board Member April Chattinger spoke in support of Z-1 Sales Tax Extension.

South Gulf Cove Advisory Board Chair Sandy Slater spoke in support of the sunset review on the regular agenda and stated achievements and challenges the Board has faced over the last five years.

II. COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Charlotte County is seeking volunteers to serve on the following Committees:

Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee - one member to serve as the District #4 representative. Must be a resident of Charlotte County and have an interest in the preservation of beaches and shores.

Boca Grande Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer who is a landowner and resides within the boundaries of the Unit to serve as the alternate member. The term shall be for two years.

Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer to be the Residential Representative and must live within the Community Redevelopment Area. This term is effective immediately.

Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals - seeking one member to serve as the alternate. Must be a member of the construction industry with a current license. Term will expire April 2009.

Charlotte Ranchettes Street & Drainage Unit Advisory Board - seeking one alternate member. Volunteer must be a resident of Charlotte County and reside within the unit.

Deep Creek Non-Urban Street & Drainage Unit Advisory Committee is seeking one volunteer to fill a vacancy created by a resignation. Volunteer must own property and live in the unit. This term will be effective immediately and expire in January 2009.

Gardens of Gulf Cove Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - seeking four regular members and one alternate member. Must be land owners who reside within the unit.

Gulf Cove Waterway Advisory Committee - seeking one member to serve as the alternate for a two year term. Must be a land owner and reside within the unit.

Harbour Heights Street & Drainage Unit Advisory Committee is seeking one volunteer to finish the remainder of a three (3) year term. This term is effective immediately and expires on February 13, 2011.

Harbour Heights Waterway Maintenance District is seeking one volunteer to serve a term of three (3) years. This term is effective immediately and will expire March 13, 2011. Must live within the Unit.

Lemon Bay Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking two volunteers to serve as regular members, and one volunteer to serve as the alternate member. The terms for the regular members are for two and three year terms, and the term for the alternate member is for two years. All volunteers must be landowners and reside within the boundaries of the Unit.

Manasota Key Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer who is a landowner and resides within the boundaries of the Unit to serve as the alternate member. The term shall be for two years.

Marine Advisory Committee is seeking two volunteers to fill the unexpired terms of two Member-at-Large positions. These terms will expire December 31, 2008 and December 31, 2010.

Placida Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer who is a landowner and resides within the boundaries of the Unit to serve as the alternate member for a two year term.

Rotonda West Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer who is a landowner and resides within the boundaries of the Unit to complete a vacated term as the alternate member. The term shall expire on February 27, 2009.

South Gulf Cove Waterway Advisory Committee - is seeking one volunteer who is a landowner and resides within the boundaries of the Unit to complete a vacated term as the alternate member. The term shall expire on January 9, 2009.

Tourist Development Council is seeking one member who is involved in the tourist industry, who has demonstrated an interest in tourist development but who is not an owner/operator of motels, hotels, recreational vehicle parks or other tourist accommodations in the county and should be an elector of the county. This term is for four years.

South Gulf Cove Street and Drainage Advisory Committee - is seeking two volunteers who are landowners and reside within the boundaries of the Unit, 1) one regular member to complete a vacated term ending January 9, 2010, and 2) one alternate member to complete a vacated term ending February 13, 2009.

Tropical Gulf Acres Street and Drainage Unit Advisory Board - seeking one member and one alternate. Volunteers must be a resident of Charlotte County and reside within the unit.

West Charlotte Stormwater Utility - is seeking two volunteers who are landowners and reside within the boundaries of the Unit to serve three year terms.

III. REPORTS RECEIVED AND FILED

County Investment Report

Murdock Village Community Development Agency Advisory Committee Minutes May 9, 2008

Charlotte Harbor Community Development Agency Advisory Committee Minutes - April 24, 2008

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE IV. CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.
Motion Carried 5:0.**

Clerk of the Circuit Court

A. Finance Division

*(1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Clerk's Finance Memoranda.
BUDGETED ACTION: None*

B. Minutes Division

(1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve minutes. BUDGETED ACTION: None

- 1. February 26, 2008 9:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting*
- 2. February 27, 2008 9:00 a.m. Executive Session*
- 3. March 4, 2008 9:00 a.m. MSBU Workshop*

Board of County Commissioners

C. Commission Office

(1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Reappoint Mr. Jim Marshall as the District #4 representative on the Planning & Zoning Board for a four year term. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(2) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Appoint Mr. Arthur E. Hanson, Jr. to the Placida Street and Drainage Advisory Committee to complete a term vacated by Ms. Mary Smith on April 2, 2008. Mr. Hanson's term shall expire on February 12, 2010. The vacancy has been duly advertised. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(3) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Appoint Shirlou Fisher to the Tropical Gulf Acres Street & Drainage Unit Advisory Board. Term expires February 27, 2009. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(4) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Appoint Nancy R. Budd to the Tropical Gulf Acres Street & Drainage Unit Advisory Board. Length of term - three years. BUDGETED ACTION: None

(5) *RECOMMENDED ACTION: Reappoint two members, whose terms have expired, to the Tourist Development Council; Deborah Weston, new term expires April 1, 2012 and Michele Valencourt, new term expires June 1, 2012. BUDGETED ACTION: None*

D. Administration - No Items.

E. County Attorney - No Items.

F. Budget Office

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a revised schedule of the Strategic Financial Review meetings, as attached. BUDGETED ACTION: None*

(2) *RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the elimination of 54 full-time positions under the Charlotte County Board of Commissioners. BCC action is formally required for such action to occur. BUDGETED ACTION: None*

G. Growth Management

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION: Set public hearing for Tuesday May 27, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard, to a) Consider adopting a Resolution establishing the Boca Grande Advisory Committee to implement the Boca Grande Community Plan and b) Appoint the members of the Advisory Committee. BUDGETED ACTION: None*

H. Economic Development - No Items.

J. Environmental Services

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION: Set a public hearing for May 27, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard, to consider approving changes to Chapter 4-4 of the County Code changing the Sanitation District boundaries to include Don Pedro and Knight Islands. BUDGETED ACTION: None*

Resolution 2008-004

K. Facilities Construction and Maintenance

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve a Resolution authorizing the Chairman to sign and execute a three year Lease between The Charlotte County Council on Aging and Charlotte County for the Rebecca Neal Owens Center. *BUDGETED ACTION*: None

Resolution 2008-044

L. General Services

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve Amendment #3 to Contract #02-201, Airport Commerce Park Design-Piper Road, with Johnson Engineering, in the amount of \$311,275.73 for a revised total amount of \$2,393,251.03. This Amendment is for work associated to the additional effort required in the dealings with various property owners and the Airport Authority. *BUDGETED ACTION*: The amount of this change order is budgeted in the 2002 Sales Tax Extension Fund. Project c410202, Piper Road, Enterprise Charlotte Airport Park. The project total is \$42,062,000.

(2) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve Change Order #2 to Contract #07-211, Stormwater Improvements - Atwater Street, in the amount of \$4,420.59 for a revised total cost of \$232,088.75. There are three items which comprise this Change Order: 1) to reflect actual quantities used; 2) for additional items that were needed but were not reflected in the original contract; and 3) \$0.43 of the requested change is to correct a mathematical error. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Budget of \$4,420 is available in the Transportation Trust Fund.

(3) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: a) Approve Change Order #1 to Bid #07-349, US 41 Revitalization - Phase I, with Peter A. Basile Sons, Inc., of Arcadia, FL, in the amount of \$166,453.39, with a revised total of \$3,422,562.03 and b) Approve CIP Amendment #08-C13 in the amount of \$79,010. This change order reflects costs associated with resolving unforeseen conflicts in the field and are not associated with any changes in the original scope of work. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Funding is supplied from the CCU portion of the 2002 Sales Tax Extension Fund and the Road Improvement Fund. CCU's portion is \$87,443.81 in project c350705, US 41 W Tarpon to Orange Reclaimed Water and Wastewater. Project total \$1,550,000. Road Improvements portion of \$79,009.58 is in project

c410304, US 41 Corridor Revitalization. Project total \$15,930,000.

(4) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve Change Order #1 to Contract #07-396, Fordham Waterway Bridge Replacements, with Engineer Systems Corporation (ESC) to increase the contract in the amount of \$29,532, with a revised total contract of \$899,063.88. The revised design would extend the retaining wall 56.89 left (west) centerline of the construction or 25.26 feet beyond the original design. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Funds for this change order are available in the Transportation Trust Fund. CIP project c410519, Fordham Waterway Bridge Replacement. Project total \$937,000

(5) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve Change Order #6 to Bid #08-054, 2008 County Paving Program with Ajax Paving, Inc. of Nokomis, FL in the amount of \$1,445,353.99 for a revised total of \$9,767,013.46 with a sixty (60) calendar day extension to the contract, for repaving of additional roadways in the Greater Port Charlotte MSBU area. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Budget for this change order is available in the Greater Port Charlotte Streets and Drainage MSBU fund. CIP project c410311, Greater Port Charlotte Paving Program. Project total is \$134,184,000.

(6) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve Change Order #1, of Sole Source Purchase File No. 08-055, Jail Intelligent Automation (hereafter I/A) and Network 8000 Upgrade, to Tekplan Solutions, of Fort Myers, Florida in the amount of \$8,000 with a revised amount of \$134,600, to furnish and install air temperature sensors. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Budget amount for HVAC repairs at the Jail is \$210,972.00.

(7) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve the award of Bid #08-070, Public Works-San Casa Campus, with the responsive, responsible bidder, White General Constructors, Inc., of Naples, FL, for the negotiated amount of \$400,000. This project is for the construction of new offices for the Charlotte County Public Works Department. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Budgeted amount in FY08 is \$546,000 in CIP Project San Casa Satellite Operations Facility Addition.

(8) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve award of Bid #08-186, Water Booster Station Upgrades, to General Contracting Services Inc. of Port Charlotte, FL for

a) The base bid in the amount of \$1,960,134.75 and b) The bid option for Gulf Cove Water Booster Station in the amount of \$441,929.25 for a total amount of \$2,402,064. BUDGETED ACTION: Budgeted Amount \$2,500,000 in CIP c339701 Water Pumping Stations.

(9) RECOMMENDED ACTION: a) Approve ranking of firms for Request for Proposal #08-212, Environmental Services - Coral Creek Bridge; 1st, WilsonMiller; 2nd, Scheda Ecological Associates, Inc; and 3rd, Johnson Engineering; b) Approve start of negotiations; and c) Authorize the Chairman to sign the contract after completion of negotiations providing the fee does not exceed \$50,000. BUDGETED ACTION: Budget is available in the Road Improvements Fund. CIP project c419801 Coral Creek bridge Replacement. Project total \$9,051,000.

(10) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Change Order #6 for additional professional services to Contract #99-126, Manchester Waterway Lock Removal Ecosystem Management Permitting, with EarthBalance in the amount of \$17,960 for a total revised contract amount of \$517,825, for additional professional services which include: monitoring and reporting on restoration of the Lewis Creek oxbow; monitoring and reporting on rip-rap obstructions to prohibit motorized vessels at three (3) locations within the Manchester Canal System and restoration of (eradicate exotic vegetation) approximately 34 acres of island habitat in West Spring Lake and Manchester Waterway. BUDGETED ACTION: Budget for this change order is available in the Mid-Charlotte Stormwater MSBU, project c390001, Alligator Bay Water Quality Projects.

(11) RECOMMENDED ACTION: a) Approve ranking of firms for Request For Proposal #08-148 Charlotte County Administration Center Wind Mitigation Construction Manager (CM) at Risk: 1st - Mathew Taylor Construction, LLC; 2nd - Owen-Ames-Kimball Company; and 3rd - Kraft Construction Company, Inc.; b) Approve start of Negotiations; and c) Authorize the Chairman to sign the contract after completion of negotiations, providing fees do not exceed \$1,897,520. BUDGETED ACTION: Budgeted amount in FY08 is \$1,947,520 in CIP project Administration Window Mitigation.

(12) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: a) Approve Amendment #2 to Contract #05-193, Engineering Services - Pirate Harbor Waterway, with Coastal Engineering Consultants in the amount of \$12,390, for a revised total contract amount of \$94,090 and b) Authorize the Chairman to sign the Amendment. *BUDGETED ACTION*: Budget for the amount of this change order is available in the Pirate Harbor Waterway MSBU fund. CIP project c390504, Pirate Harbor Rock Ledge and 2,300 Ft Channel Dredging. Project total \$740,000.

(13) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Approve deletion of the property inventory items listed on the attached for the month of May, 2008. *BUDGETED ACTION*: None

(14) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: a) Terminate Contract Numbers:

#05-083 - Remaining elements associated with Bachmann Project

#06-283 - Design and build of a new Human Services Building

#07-288 - Public Works Complex-CM at Risk

#07-362 - West County Sheriff's Office

#07-155 - West County Regional Library

b) Cancel RFP #08-051 - Family Services Center renovation. *BUDGETED ACTION*: CIP Amendments will be presented at a future BCC Meeting.

M. Human Resources - No Items.

N. Human Services

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION*: Request the Board set a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on May 27, or as soon thereafter as may be heard, to consider an ordinance amending County Code Section 1-8-64 creating the affordable housing advisory committee. *BUDGETED ACTION*: None

P. Information Technology RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve an Abbreviated Dialing Contract with Alltel Communications.
BUDGETED ACTION: None

Agreement 2008-020

Q. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources RECOMMENDED ACTION: Re-approve Partnership Agreement between Charlotte County and the State Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry regarding timber management.
BUDGETED ACTION: None

X-REF Agreement 2007-072

R. Public Safety

(1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a Novation of Contract to the Medical Director's existing contract. BUDGETED ACTION: None

X-REF Bid 2003-129

S. Public Works

(1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Set a public hearing for May 27, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard, to consider approving an ordinance to create an advisory board for the Mid-County Stormwater Utility Unit, to include one representative from the Deep Creek, Harbor Heights, Northwest Port Charlotte and Suncoast MSBU's and two representatives from the Greater Port Charlotte MSBU. BUDGETED ACTION: None

T. Real Estate Services

(1) RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the attached Resolution approving the release of a portion of a twenty-foot (20') wide canal maintenance easement located in Port Charlotte Subdivision, Section Eighty-Two, and further authorizing the Director of Real Estate Services to execute the County Deed releasing said portion of said easement. (Owners: Stephen Balha, a single man and Irmhild Thein, a single woman, Trustees of the Balha-Thein Revocable Living Trust dated August 15, 2006) BUDGETED ACTION: None

Resolution 2008-045

V. Tourism Development - No Items.

W. Utilities

(1) *RECOMMENDED ACTION:* Approve the Chairman to sign the Certification of Financial Responsibility for the annual cost estimate of \$434,280 to conduct plugging and abandonment of two (2) Injection Wells and related monitoring wells at the Burnt Store Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities, if and when the time comes to abandon the use of the wells. The Certification of Financial Responsibility is a Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) permit requirement for both Underground Injection Wells located at the Burnt Store facilities. *BUDGETED ACTION:* Funding is available in the Utilities Operation and Maintenance Fund.

(2) *RECOMMENDED ACTION:* Approve the amendment to update the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority's Master Water Supply Contract. *BUDGETED ACTION:* None

X-Ref Agreement 2005-048

X. Building & Construction Services - No Items.

Y. Other Agencies - No Items.

RECESS: 9:50 - 10:00 AM

(Chairman D'Aprile advised Agenda Item Z-1 would be taken out of order prior to the 10:00 AM Public Hearing since it would affect another Item on the Public Hearing Agenda)

V. REGULAR AGENDA

Z. Regular Agenda (Z-1 being taken out of order prior to 10:00 AM Public Hearing, Regular Agenda will resume after the 10:00 Public Hearing)

(1) *Communications and Marketing: RECOMMENDED ACTION: Review and selection of projects to be funded by the proposed local option sales tax extension, which has been placed on the August primary ballot. Direction regarding the length of time the Board would like the proposed extension to run.*

Joyce Ross Director of Communications provided a brief overview of the proposed sales tax projects, indicated the Sales Tax Focus Group recommended a 10 year extension or the shortest time necessary to take advantage of bonding or grant opportunities, stated the non-ranked projects should be fairly distributed between South, Mid, and West County, mentioned phone and on-line survey results and priorities, noted 1,000 County Residents were directly asked their opinion related to the Sales Tax, mentioned the focus group and residents were very vocal in their desire for infrastructure over more buildings, and asked the Board to select the projects to be funded with the Sales Tax and to decide on the length of the extension.

Chairman D'Aprile thanked Ms. Ross for the information, asked the Board for their comments, stated infrastructure was on each of the proposed projects, and advised the issue was to decide the number of years for the extension and determine the number of projects they would like to accomplish within the extension period.

Commissioner Loftus agreed with the Advisory Committee recommendation for 10 years, stated this funding should be dedicated to roads and road expansion only, and expressed concern that voters might not agree with the length of the extension.

Commissioner Cummings indicated the shorter extension would limit the projects offered to the voters, indicated voters were not in the mood to give a long extension on the sales tax, and opined the voters were unlikely to approve an extension beyond 4 or 6 years.

Commissioner Moore indicated he was in favor of dedicating funding to roads, said they were politically limited to the time they asked for, mentioned several West County cost figures, and personally favored a 6 year extension.

Commissioner Duffy agreed with roads and asked for clarification on if sidewalks were included. Ms. Ross explained the Committee recommended sidewalks be included especially completion around schools. **Commissioner Duffy** said citizens were unhappy with sidewalks going no where. Ms. Ross indicated sidewalks installed with the previous sales tax were determined by the School Board. **Commissioner Duffy** agreed with several County road projects, opined 6 years would be better for the projects, noted 4 years was too short, and commented on a 5 year compromise.

Commissioner Cummings indicated the importance of sidewalks around schools, explained it is less expensive to add sidewalks during road widening, noted those sidewalks were being confused with those funded with the Sales Tax, opined 6 years might not provide enough money to complete all of the projects, said the projects would need to move faster, mentioned several project locations by level of need, and pointed out the possibility of West County using their funding on water issues.

Commissioner Loftus said the County should consider purchasing right of ways now, questioned why Toledo Blade was not on the list, opined the money should be divided among the priority projects, agreed sidewalks were important around the schools, noted they saved the School Board over \$80,000 in student transportation, and commented on upset citizens stating they do not see children using the sidewalks.

Chairman D'Aprile noted 4 years could gain the much needed support of the voters but would only generate about \$72 Million and would not cover the expense of many important projects, said 6 years would include more projects, mentioned lending over \$3 Million to build an airport tower, and advised the Board needed to decide on the length of the extension. Attorney Knowlton advised they were required to pick the projects now.

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO APPROVE A 6 YEAR SALES TAX EXTENSION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Commissioner Duffy agreed a 6 year extension was best but 4 years would be more likely and asked if anyone would consider a 5 year extension. **Commissioner Cummings** explained they would have to hold a special election at the end or have it a year earlier to avoid the extra costs.

Motion Carried 5:0.

Commissioner Cummings looked at the project list and asked Ms. Ross to confirm the anticipated amount 6 years would bring. Ms. Ross advised our conservative share would be \$108 Million with \$11 Million to the City of Punta Gorda. **Commissioner Cummings** mentioned some of the projects and calculated their costs.

COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO CONTINUE SIDEWALK PROGRAM AROUND SCHOOLS AS LISTED AND THE BURNT STORE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Commissioner Duffy asked if sidewalks were included with the Burnt Store Project and noted citizens strong view against them. **Commissioner Cummings** advised sidewalks were included and explained although they may not be used immediately the cost to install them during the road project was almost free and would be a positive over the long term.

Commissioner Loftus stated his strong belief in sidewalks around the schools and expressed his concern that citizens would possibly reject if sidewalks are included. **Chairman D'Aprile** was confident people would understand children's safety is important especially around schools and mentioned seeing children walking on lawns and in the streets. **Commissioner Duffy** asked if they could get information related to Elementary school sidewalks. Dan Quick, Charlotte County Public Works, provided the Board with the requested information, said they had completed the last list of sales tax projects previously requested by the School Board, and noted they had expended the funding. **Commissioner Duffy** asked if the \$10 Million set for sidewalks could be saved since they had completed the sidewalk list. Mr. Quick explained there was an additional sidewalk list. **Commissioner Loftus** referred to the list and stated \$6 Million had already been spend installing sidewalks around schools, expressed concern that another \$10 Million was being considered, and questioned the cost. Mr. Quick explained sidewalks cost \$100 per running foot, noted the \$10

Million was a cost estimate provided by Public Works based on the requested total footage, mentioned updating an ongoing School Board "needs" list, indicated the recommended sidewalk list was shown on number 12. Mr. Quick noted many citizens in the Burnt Store area are in favor of sidewalks in their neighborhoods. **Commissioner Cummings** agreed and mentioned Punta Gorda has been installing sidewalks for many years, noted the increase in usage, and opined sidewalks change the character of the community in a positive way.

Commissioner Duffy opined the majority of citizens are against sidewalks. **Chairman D'Aprile** expressed confusion that people would not be concerned for the safety of County kids. **Commissioner Loftus** explained citizens complain that children are not using the sidewalks. **Commissioner Duffy** stated many kids are attending daycare and may not be walking to school.

Commissioner Moore noted many people do not want sidewalks on State Roads such as Veterans, SR776, and Winchester and opined keeping the term "around schools" in the language. **Chairman D'Aprile** thanked the Board for their comments, noted sidewalks should be available to kids who need to walk to school, and called for the motion.

Motion Carried 3:2. Commissioner Duffy, and Commissioner Loftus opposing.

Commissioner Duffy asked if Burnt Store was the only road project to be approved. **Commissioner Cummings** explained he had only picked two projects he thought had consensus. **Commissioner Moore** commented on Project #8 County Road 775 in West County, moved to approve, and asked that it did not exceed \$38 Million. **Chairman D'Aprile** questioned the \$38 Million cap. **Commissioner Moore** explained it was to be fair to the other projects and opined it could be done for \$38 Million. **Commissioner Cummings** note if approved there would only be \$40 Million left for Mid-County where 50% of the population resides. **Commissioner Loftus** agreed Mid-County was in desperate need of roads.

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO WIDEN COUNTY ROAD 775 FOR \$38 MILLION (PROJECT #8), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY

Chairman D'Aprile asked the Board to consider what projects could be done with the remaining \$40 Million prior to a vote. Commissioner Loftus asked that only \$28 Million be applied to West County and suggested using \$20 Million for Edgewater and \$30 Million for Midway. Commissioner Cummings agreed on the \$28 Million figure for West County but expressed hesitation with partial funding. Commissioner Loftus agreed and opined there was other funding available to cover the Midway project.

Motion Failed 1:4. Chairman D'Aprile, Commissioner Duffy, Commissioner Cummings, and Commissioner Loftus opposing.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE \$28 MILLION TO WIDEN COUNTY ROAD 775 (ITEM #8), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUFFY.

Commissioner Cummings asked if West County residents would support reclaimed water issues over roads and mentioned the funds would not complete the road project. Commissioner Moore opined reclaimed water was an important issue but explained it was more cost effective for new developments and not as enticing to existing homeowners.

Motion Carried 5:0.

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO APPROVE \$20 MILLION FOR EDGEWATER CORRIDOR (ITEM 3) AND \$30 MILLION FOR MIDWAY WIDENING (ITEM 11), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS.

Commissioner Cummings questioned the timeline for the Edgewater Corridor and opined it takes several years to complete. Mr. Quick advised there was no timeline, noted what would be needed prior to construction, and opined construction could be started in 3 years with final completion within 4 to 5 years.

Commissioner Duffy asked for clarification of certain areas and the costs related to them.

Motion Carried 5:0.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA - 10:00 A.M.

(1) Public Works - RECOMMENDED ACTION: Conduct a public hearing to consider approving an Ordinance adding territory and creating an advisory board for the Suncoast Waterway Maintenance MSBU.

Dawn Harrison from Public Works provided a brief overview of the request.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.
Motion Carried 5:0.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-039 ADDING TERRITORY AND CREATING AN ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE SUNCOAST WATERWAY MAINTENANCE MSBU., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.
Motion Carried 5:0.

(2) Public Works - RECOMMENDED ACTION: Conduct a public hearing to consider approving an Ordinance adding territory and creating an advisory board for the South Bridge Waterway MSBU.

Ms. Harrison provided a brief overview of the request.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.
Motion Carried 5:0.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-040 ADDING TERRITORY AND CREATING AN ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE SOUTH BRIDGE WATERWAY MSBU., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.
Motion Carried 5:0.

(3) Public Works - RECOMMENDED ACTION: Conduct a public hearing to consider approving an ordinance amending the size of the slow speed/minimum wake zone on Alligator Creek.

Tara Musselman from Public Works provided a brief overview.

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.
Motion Carried 5:0.

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-041 AMENDING THE SIZE OF THE SLOW SPEED/MINIMUM WAKE ZONE ON ALLIGATOR CREEK., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.
Motion Carried 5:0.

(4) *Public Works - RECOMMENDED ACTION: Conduct a public hearing to consider approving an ordinance establishing speed limits of 40 mph on the following roadway segments:*

- 1) *Prineville Street, from Hillsborough Boulevard to Paulson Drive;*
- 2) *Ravenswood Boulevard, from Hillsborough Boulevard to Kenilworth Boulevard;*
- 3) *Kenilworth Boulevard, from Ravenswood Boulevard to Yorkshire Street; and*
- 4) *Atwater Street, from Hillsborough Boulevard to Veterans Boulevard*

Mr. Quick provided a brief overview of the request.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Motion Carried 5:0.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-042 ESTABLISHING SPEED LIMITS OF 40 MPH ON THE FOLLOWING ROADWAY SEGMENTS:, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Motion Carried 5:0.

(5) *County Attorney - RECOMMENDED ACTION: Conduct a public hearing to consider approving an Ordinance providing for a referendum election, to be held in conjunction with the August 26, 2008, primary election, providing for an extension of the one percent (1%) local sales tax by the voters of Charlotte County.*

County Attorney Knowlton explained the recommendation was to conduct a Public Hearing to consider the sales tax extension referendum with changes discussed earlier during Regular Agenda Item Z-1.

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.

Motion Carried 5:0.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-043 PROVIDING FOR A REFERENDUM ELECTION, TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE AUGUST 26, 2008, PRIMARY ELECTION, PROVIDING FOR AN EXTENSION OF THE ONE PERCENT (1%) LOCAL SALES TAX BY THE VOTERS OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Motion Carried 5:0.

Chairman D'Aprile stated they would take Item Z-3 next since Z-2 was scheduled to include a presentation that was not ready.

Z. Regular Agenda

(3) Growth Management: RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a resolution extending the term of existence of the South Gulf Cove Advisory Committee ("Committee") after reviewing the activities of the Committee in order to determine whether the Committee still serves a necessary function and should continue in existence based on the Sunset Clause that was included in the Resolution (Number 2003-072) which established the Committee on May 13, 2003.

Jie Shao provided detail and history related to the proposed resolution and introduced South Gulf Cove Advisory Committee Chair Sandy Slater.

Ms. Slater stated they are active and aggressive, mentioned committee achievements, noted raising funds to build sidewalks to connect their parks and provide paths for bike riders, and again requested approval to continue working on their projects.

Chairman D'Aprile commended Ms. Slater and South Gulf Cove residents for raising money for their Community.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2008-046 EXTENDING THE TERM OF EXISTENCE OF THE SOUTH GULF COVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (X-REF RESOLUTION 2003-072), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Motion Carried 5:0.

(2) Growth Management: RECOMMENDED ACTION: Update on excavations. The presentation will include an update of: the number and size of existing and proposed excavations,

application requirements, process and procedures, and the environmental impact summary and cumulative impact process, and a brief summary of the latest information regarding the mining legislation.

Barbara Jefferies of Growth Management apologized for the delay and provided the Board with a very detailed excavation update followed by a presentation given by Bob Hebert Director of Community Initiatives. Mr. Hebert gave an illustration of the latest mining legislative available.

Chairman D'Aprile commented on the staggering numbers, noted 540 Million cubic yards of dirt removed from Charlotte County, mentioned having 56 active mines, stated only 9 active mines in Lee County and 4 in Sarasota County, opined Charlotte County is being used for dirt, and advised he had suggested a moratorium years ago. **Commissioner Duffy** opined mining is necessary to provide aggregate for roads and noted other counties have been more restrictive. Mr. Hebert stated Collier County has only 2 permitted mines and opined developers go to the County where it is easiest to get the mine permit. **Chairman D'Aprile** opined the County has been lax in permitting and service fees and noted other counties are charging higher fees. **Commissioner Cummings** mentioned thermal imaging and it's inexpensive benefits.

(4) Purchasing: RECOMMENDED ACTION: a) Approve Amendment #2, GMP #2 to Contract #07-011, Jail Expansion - CM at Risk, with Bovis Lend Lease, in the amount of \$26,715,281.00 and b) Authorize Chairman to sign the Amendment. User funded - Inmate Welfare Fund for Video Visitation Equipment (-\$500,000.00)

Cheryl Mastin, Purchasing provided a brief overview of the proposed amendment and requests.

Commissioner Loftus said this is a hard decision to make, mentioned the new jail was built and opened in 2001 through the penny sales tax, noted it was supposed to last 10 years but was filled to capacity within 6 years, talked about the serious economy downturn and the increase in gas, food, energy, and unemployment, explained non-profit organizations and social service funds are being cut and are needed now to help keep citizens out of the judicial system, expressed concern with

spending \$26 Million now for the jail expansion, spending another \$8 Million later staff it, and advised it could be filled within 2 years. **Commissioner Loftus** talked about reviewing the judicial system on a whole, suggested the possibility of a regional jail, indicated conversations with a private jail developer, stated his position was to delay for a year, and expressed his desire for Board support.

Commissioner Cummings is struggling with this decision, opined there is not enough money to cover the expansion or pay the operational costs, said the costs will come back to the County eventually, suggested phasing in the \$8 Million operational cost by budgeting a \$2 Million increase per year over 4 years, noted once completed judges will expand their sentencing, expressed concern with cutting the funding for mental health during the downturn in the economy, opined the necessity for a needs based budget, said funding can not tax people out of their homes, opined the need to shift the burden away from County government for the provision of services and infrastructure, and said being proactive would be less expensive.

Commissioner Moore asked what the County gave the non-profit organizations last year, was advised it was \$890,000, agreed the system is not working, stated they need to reach the legislators, and opined they might have to go ahead with the jail expansion.

Commissioner Duffy suggested the County create a jail like the Sheriff in Arizona, explained he provided tents with no air conditioning or televisions, noted the savings involved, and opined it would be a crime deterrent. **Commissioner Duffy** commented that surrounding counties were not ready to consider a regional jail, expressed confusion with jail funding, and asked what would be done with the existing ad valorem funds if they did not approve the jail extension. Interim County Administrator **Baltz** explained several available options. **Chairman D'Aprile** questioned whether the jail extension is necessary now, said the economy will improve in time, opined it will cost more to build later, asked the Sheriff to confirm build time and operational costs. Sheriff **Davenport** said it would take 2 years to complete, explained \$8 Million would cover operational costs at capacity, and

indicated empty beds would generate revenue since other counties are also faced with over crowding. Sheriff Davenport commented on the Arizona Sheriff's tactics, expressed the need to increase staff no matter what, explained the difference between pre-trial detainees versus sentenced prisoners, agreed with **Commissioner Loftus** related to a regional jail, opined hiring a private company to build and run it, made suggestions related to budgeting, said jails will always be needed, and urged the Board to move forward. **Chairman D'Aprile** and **Commissioner Cummings** asked several additional questions related to possible revenues and operational expenses.

COMMISSIONER DUFFY MOVED TO APPROVE AMENDMENT #2, GMP #2 TO CONTRACT #07-011, JAIL EXPANSION - CM AT RISK, WITH BOVIS LEND LEASE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,715,281.00 AND AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE AMENDMENT., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.

Motion Carried 4:1. Commissioner Loftus opposing.

(5) Commission Office: **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Select by ballot, one person to replace A.J. Tousignant, who resigned March 17, 2008 as the Member-At-Large on the Murdock Village - CRAAC.

The Commissioners completed their ballots, handed them to Mr. Baltz who read them out loud for the record: **4 Votes - Andy Dodd** / 1 Vote - Bill Weller

CHAIRMAN D'APRILE MOVED TO APPROVE ANDY DODD AS THE NEW MEMBER-AT-LARGE ON THE MURDOCK VILLAGE - CRAAC., AND A SECOND WAS NOT REQUIRED

Motion Carried 5:0.

(6) Commission Office: **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Select by ballot the Residential Representative position for the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee to fill the void created by the resignation of Melissa Levine. This term is effective immediately.

The Commissioners completed their ballots, handed them to Mr. Baltz who read them out loud for the record: **3 Votes - Charlotte G. Ventola** / 2 Votes - Troy M. Bettencourt

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE CHARLOTTE G. VENTOLA AS THE NEW CHARLOTTE HARBOR COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE RESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVE. (THIS TERM IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY), SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.
Motion Carried 5:0.

X. CITIZEN INPUT - ANY SUBJECT

AA. County Administrator:

Interim County Administrator Baltz reported he, Chairman D'Aprile and Mr. Hebert had met with Dr. Bradshaw, President of Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), noted discussing their plans for Southwest Florida and for possible expansion into Charlotte County. Mr. Baltz stated FGCU's desire to receive a unified message from Charlotte County expressing interest.

Chairman D'Aprile said FGCU indicated their interest in expanding to Charlotte County in the future, requested a survey be taken from surrounding areas to provide a better idea of future enrollment, and mentioned their desire for at least 100 acres. Commissioner Loftus requested a letter be sent to FGCU indicating Charlotte County's interest. Commissioner Cummings said a satellite campus would be positive but opined it would not bring in the economic development needed. Chairman D'Aprile explained the letter would only advise FGCU of our interest in future discussions related to the possibility of a County campus and advised FGCU is presently partnered with Manatee Community College and is already holding classes on their campus.

COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED TO REQUEST THE CHAIRMAN TO SEND A LETTER TO DR. BRADSHAW, PRESIDENT OF FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY EXPRESSING CHARLOTTE COUNTY'S STRONG INTEREST IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE COMMUNITY AND A FUTURE PARTNERSHIP., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.
Motion Carried 5:0.

Mr. Baltz reminded the Board that the Bi-Centennial Time Capsule was dug up when building began on the Charlotte County Event and Conference Center, mentioned several options being considered for it's future, and advised no decision was needed today.

Mr. Baltz discussed parking throughout the County and related to the Events Center, mentioned several locations with 24 hour parking costs of \$.75 cents an hour or \$50.00 per annual permit, said the City of Punta Gorda is considering charging for boat ramp parking, Events Center overflow parking, the possibility of a downtown parking garage, and asked the Board to think about it.

Mr. Baltz asked Mr. Hebert to discuss a possible concept for the use of left over Hurricane Recovery Grant money. Mr. Hebert noted at the last Joint Meeting, the City of Punta Gorda had asked the County to work with them to expand the Cooper Street facility, advised 30 kids were already on a waiting list and an increase was expected, said there were no other funding options available, explained grant rules and the reason for the excess funds, indicated any surplus from the \$9 Million grant must be used by February 2009, indicated the approximate balance is \$550,000, and asked for Board direction to proceed.

Commissioner Loftus was disturbed in learning of the available excess grant funds in a newspaper article prior to the Board being informed, said funds should not be taken away from the Charlotte Harbor area, and agreed excess funds should be used for this project.

Board consensus directed Mr. Hebert to move forward.

BB. County Attorney:

None

CC. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Cummings brought up Ryals Ranch acquisition issues, opined its ecological importance, and environmental significance. **Commissioner Moore** applauded the Commissioner's comments. **Commissioner Duffy** agreed and opined the Board did what the voters asked for.

Commissioner Cummings commented on the need to discuss the County Administrator position and suggested it be added to the next agenda. **Commissioner Duffy** agreed.

Commissioner Loftus commended Mr. Baltz on providing the list of projects completed with the tax extension funds, indicated hope that it would be printed in the newspaper, and commended Andrew Baker, his employees, and staff for their energy conservation efforts, and announced a \$613,000 savings over six months.

Commissioner Moore asked if the Sales Tax Ordinance included Punta Gorda. Attorney Knowlton replied they were included.

Chairman D'Aprile asked for Board consensus to have Attorney Knowlton write a Resolution to continue the International Space Shuttle program. All Commissioners agreed for the record.

Chairman D'Aprile explained **Commissioner Cummings** has always attended the National Association of Counties meetings in the past, advised their National meeting would be held in Jackson County, Missouri, and asked for Board consensus to send **Commissioner Cummings** if it was important he attend. **Commissioner Cummings** explained his reasons for attending the meetings and said he would represent the County but was not advocating it. **Commissioner Loftus** noted budget restraints.

Chairman D'Aprile advised he was unhappy with the Tramell-Webb decision and would like the Board to reconsider. **Commissioner Duffy** indicated conversations with Mr. Baltz to see if staff could do this themselves, mentioned Mr. Baltz would look into the time it would take, noted the Comprehensive Plan, explained her understanding was that Tramell-Webb would have additional responsibilities, and said she would be willing to reconsider. **Commissioner Cummings** asked Mr. Baltz to clarify what the motion was. Mr. Baltz stated they were directed to negotiate and return with information.

Chairman D'Aprile said he was absent when the decision was made related to Motorola and provided a detailed account of his understanding of what took place. Assistant County Administrator Kelly Shoemaker responded with a brief overview of the process so far. **Chairman D'Aprile** indicated his disbelief in excepting the Motorola proposal, explained his reasons, and opined the Board needed to reconsider their decision. **Commissioner Loftus** agreed, expressed concern with selecting Motorola, and is worried the equipment would not communicate during an

emergency. **Commissioner Duffy** agreed this was a patch job, noted even televisions are changing to digital within the next year, and stated she was in favor of choosing the new system. Attorney Knowlton and Ms. Shoemaker discussed the impact on the CIP and clarified the procedures necessary for the Board to modify their decision. **Commissioner Loftus** again expressed his concern with safety and communications. **Commissioner Cummings** confirmed his original direction and desire was that emergency services would be able to effectively communicate among each other in as cost effective a manor as possible, said he was not prepared to conclude he would vote for one system or the other, stated he was willing to reconsider, and discussed if the mileage rate is being kept the same the budget will be a major concern.

Chairman D'Aprile discussed lease options. **Commissioner Duffy** asked why the Board was not told about a lease option. Ms. Shoemaker explained lease options were not part of the original RFP or included in the original scope. **Commissioner Duffy** discussed system to system costs. **Chairman D'Aprile** asked the Board to use good business sense and opined the change should not affect the CIP dramatically. Mr. Baltz noted staff would provide the Board with more data and said the presentation was given in the context of reducing costs.

Chairman D'Aprile explained staff had done a great job, stated he was not blaming anyone, and said if present he would not have agreed with the decision. **Commissioner Moore** suggested the item be brought back as an Agenda Item on May 27, said staff could invite both manufacturers to appear, and opined a final decision could be made at that time. **Chairman D'Aprile** agreed.

RECESS: 12:55 PM - 2:00 PM

(Internal Audit Director Michael Byrne replaced Chief Deputy White for the remainder of the meeting.)

VII. PRESENTATION AGENDA - 2:00 P.M.

Presentation by Peace River Water Authority regarding the Regional Expansion Project

Mr. Pat Lehman, Executive Director of the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority advised he and his Director of Facilities Kevin Morris would provide a detailed update of the Regional Expansion Project.

Commissioner Cummings interrupted, asked Mr. Lehman to contact the County's IT Department in the future when the backup materials are too large to email for website posting, advised they have file transfer protocol to allow streaming over the internet so the material can be viewed ahead of time.

Mr. Lehman referred to a visual presentation, described the Existing Regional System, noted new Partnerships, Drought Transfers, and provided a brief WTP Expansion Construction Update.

Mr. Morris took over, referred to a slide presentation while providing background information related to the projects, talked about consultants, timeframes, permits, construction, water use, and expressed the importance of planning.

Mr. Baltz reminded the Board that in 2005 the County entered into a Master Contract along with surrounding partnering Counties, explained Charlotte County had agreed to pay 27% of the cost beyond grant money for the Expansion, and advised the County will receive an additional 3.342 million gallons of water per day.

Mr. Morris continued to describe construction progress in detail, showed monthly aerial pictures of the new treatment facility, and described the responsibility of each unit. Mr. Morris discussed cables, electrical wires buried under the ground, mentioned tank sizes, risk management, concrete pouring procedures, talked about tank installation and their contents, mentioned two ways to create a reservoir, explained fill material and storage, talked about pipe installation progress, wildlife found on the site, and commented on the economic impact a project of this size creates.

Mr. Lehman summarized the presentation, stated total construction cost is \$140 Million, announced South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the State Legislature through SP44 was supplying \$65 Million to offset the local costs, stated the reservoir will combat future draught by storing water, and discussed environmental studies being conducted to provide a 20-Year Vision.

Chairman D'Aprile asked about fill dirt and how long it would take to fill the reservoir. Mr. Morris explained the fill dirt procedures and noted the reservoir is filled based on river flow, demands, and rain fall. **Commissioner Duffy** asked what the reservoir is lined with? Mr. Morris explained the system used to repel seepage. **Commissioner Cummings** mentioned dig alternatives and asked if revenue could be created by selling a portion of the fill. Mr. Morris responded affirmatively. **Commissioner Cummings** brought up questions related to a future proposed expansion plan for the Peace River. Mr. Lehman answered. **Commissioner Moore** asked what the maximum depth was. Mr. Morris explained the depth varied from 28' to 37'.

Chairman D'Aprile thanked Mr. Lehman and Mr. Morris for the presentation. Mr. Lehman invited the Commissioners to take a tour of the site.

Signature on file in Commission Minutes
Chairman

ATTEST:

BARBARA T. SCOTT, CLERK
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: Signature on file in Commission Minutes
Deputy Clerk

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