

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**SOUTH BRIDGE WATERWAY**  
**April 30, 2008**  
**10:30 A.M.**

**Attendees:** Stacy Calvino, John Woolston, Kevin McKyton, Natalie Reach, Ray Cady, David Cislo, Michael Dewitt  
County - Dawn Harrison, Marty Simone, Kim Raymond  
Coastal Engineering - Jamie Cohlmeier

**Minutes:** No minutes were submitted for approval.

**Dredging Discussion:**

- Mr. Jamie Cohlmeier, Coastal Engineering, presented the feasibility study to the residents. The study shows that 12,000 cubic yards of material will need to be removed, based on a depth of four feet mean low water. The dredging will cost approximately \$600,000.
- Ms. Harrison explained that a ten-year loan would be established. An original assessment of \$525.00--which includes an increase of \$375.00 per ERU (equivalent residential unit), plus the current yearly assessment--will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) in July 2008. This assessment increase would only cover permitting associated with dredging the exterior channel. The yearly tax assessment for the dredging project could possibly reach \$1,600 to \$1,700 per ERU. A prepay option is not available.
- The attendees discussed the advantages and disadvantages of reducing the dredging depth amount.
- Mr. Cohlmeier said no permits currently exist for these canals. He stated that the inner canals can be included with the County dredge permit, but the permits for the outer canals could take up to a year to acquire. The property along the outside of the waterway is owned by the City of Punta Gorda.
- The residents inquired whether the original width of the canals can be restored. Mr. Cohlmeier stated that the study was based on different widths, to keep the amount of removed material down for a lower cost.
- Ms. Harrison needs a consensus from the community for the dredging and to proceed with obtaining a permit.
- Mr. Cohlmeier advised that, if the MSBU has \$25,000 available in its budget, the permit process should be started.
- The residents were informed that dredging funding could be obtained from other sources.

**Business:**

- Ms. Harrison said that five to six volunteers are needed to have a formal MSBU advisory committee for South Bridge Waterway. Volunteers need to submit a resume to the BCC to be considered for appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Harrison  
Municipal Services District Representative

DH:srb

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