

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**SOUTH BRIDGE WATERWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**April 16, 2009**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**Attendees:** Ray Cady, Natalie Reach, Michael Dewitt,  
County - Dawn Harrison, Chuck Mopps  
Absent - David Cislo

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

**Dredging Discussion:**

- Coastal Engineering will be performing a sea grass survey and a depth survey.
- The Committee discussed the width of the channels, where the dredging will take place, and the waterways. Mr. Mopps said the dredging will be 15 feet from the banks, seawalls, and boat lifts.
- The Committee would like to hire a contractor to trim vegetation encroaching into the canals. County and State regulations do not mandate that property owners are responsible for cutting vegetation that grows into the canals from their property.
- Mr. Mopps discussed the process for permit applications. The Army Corps of Engineers has a 15-day return time, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection has a 90-day return. The permits should be in the County's hands by September and in place by October. The process for future dredging will be easier and less time-consuming.
- There was conversation about low tides and when they are at their lowest. In the winter, they are at 4 feet MLW; at this time of year, they are extremely low.
- Ms. Harrison described the loan terms for dredging, the length of time to repay the loan, and current interest rates.
- Thirteen boat slips are recommended for inclusion in the South Bridge Waterway MSBU. They will be presented for approval to the City of Punta Gorda Council prior to presentation to the Board of County Commissioners.
- Mr. Mopps requested that members look for spoil sites for dredging material.

**Business:**

- The Committee elected Mr. Cady to serve as Chair and Mr. Dewitt as Vice Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Harrison  
Municipal Services District Representative

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