

**BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2005**

A budget public hearing of the Board of County Commissioners was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida. The following members were in attendance: Chairman Sara Devos and Commissioners Thomas G. Moore, Thomas C. D'Aprile, Adam Cummings and Matthew D. DeBoer. Also in attendance were County Administrator Bruce D. Loucks, Deputy County Attorney Daniel E. Gallagher, Jr. and Supervisor of Minutes Diane J. Nice. The public hearing was called to order at **5:01 P.M.** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. (**Proof of Publication was in order.**)

**A. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

**1. Opening Comments**

Bruce D. Loucks, County Administrator, explained this was the first of two budget public hearings required by Florida Statutes, and there were two significant decisions to be made - one, to keep the General Fund millage rate at the same level as last year which will generate funding for reserves to deal with hurricane recovery costs still looming; and two, an increase in the Capital Projects Fund to fund six important projects ranging from the jail for additional bed space to hurricane recovery projects such as the auditorium.

**B. COUNTY BUDGET OFFICER**

- 1. Proposed aggregate County millage rate**
- 2. Discussion of percentage increase in millage over the rolled-back rate to fund the tentative budget**

Raymond Sandrock, Budget Director, recalled at the September 13, 2005 Board meeting staff was requested to bring back the issue of the Buena Vista Grassy Point Waterway Unit assessments for dredging, the proposed budget presented tonight has the properties north of Edgewater at a zero (\$0.0) rate and the properties south of Edgewater at \$200 and this is included in the changes to be approved by the Board. Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed aggregate County millage rate was 7.2407 mills which was 40.78% over the

current year aggregate rolled-back rate of 5.1433 mills, certified property valuations of existing properties at January 1, 2005 increased by 27.44%, this percentage was reduced to approximately 24% after the netting of new properties added for the first time and those properties taken off the tax rolls as a result of damage from Hurricane Charley, and additionally other funds with ad valorem revenues such as the MSTUs had valuation increases both below and in excess of the 27.44% within the General Fund. Mr. Sandroock stated the proposed millage rate increase of 0.6 mills in the Capital Projects Fund for priority projects has an impact to the roll back rate of 11.6%. Mr. Sandroock advised the additional revenue over roll back was proposed to be utilized to fund 51 new staffing requests, costs associated with opening new facilities, funding of increases in the Sheriff's budget as well as other Constitutional Officers, cola as well as pay for performance increases, funding for the priority projects within the Capital Projects Fund, and funding reserve levels at the point that it's recommended for FY05/06 to position the County to remain fiscally stable as we continue to move through and finalize recovery.

### **3. Presentation of Proposed Budget**

Mr. Sandroock advised the total proposed budget for FY05/06 is \$749,180,596 an overall increase of \$11,603,265 from the prior year's amended budget, and the chart on page 16 shows the major areas of increase or decrease from the prior year.

### **4. Changes resulting from the July 13, 2005 Budget Workshop and other changes to the tentative budget as listed on pages 8 through 11**

Mr. Sandroock stated the significant monetary changes result from the following: certifications of property values on July 13, 2005; final distribution of central and indirect charges; funding for housing of prisoners outside the County; the Buena Vista Waterway changes to rates and dredging work program; and funding for the auditorium from FEMA, insurance, sales tax extension and ad valorem moved forward to FY05/06 previously in FY06/07. Mr. Sandroock said the net change to the County's budget from all of these funds was an increase of \$21,709,034 that can be found on page 11 of the material. **COMMISSIONER MOORE MOVED APPROVAL TO ADOPT THE CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED BUDGET AS LISTED ON PAGES 8**

**THROUGH 11 OF THE MATERIAL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DeBOER AND DECLARED UNANIMOUS.**

**5. Discussion of reserves and latest recovery costs projection and other factors, pages 18 through 21**

Mr. Sandrock reviewed the following: Page 18 - Hurricane Financial Impacts, Total Expenditures to date of \$90 million; Page 19 - Hurricane Reimbursements, Total Reimbursements of \$60.7 million; Page 20 - Final Un-reimbursed Costs, estimated at \$17 million; and Page 21 - General Fund Reserves, FY06 Estimated of \$17,896,778, a proposed increase of \$3,417,369 in the Contingency Reserve. **Commissioner D'Aprile** requested clarification of the additional \$20 million obligated by FEMA. Mr. Sandrock explained this would be a reimbursement back to the Transportation Trust Fund that was the fund that has really funded the whole debris removal.

**6. Priority Project Funding, pages 22 through 25**

Mr. Sandrock stated there was a 0.6 mill increase in the Capital Projects Fund as shown on page 22, total revenues over the four year period were \$44,178,000 and project expenditures were \$37,508,000 leaving a contingency of \$6,670,000 for final cost requirements. Mr. Sandrock reported Carter Goebel Associates working on the jail expansion project will provide a workshop to the Board in mid-October and the final cost estimate was anticipated to be near \$30 million but there was just over \$23 million in this proposed budget. Mr. Sandrock said page 23 detailed the changes in the estimated project costs since the July 13, 2005 workshop, the Jail Expansion project has increased in total project costs by \$11,579,000 and the Public Safety Building project costs decreased by \$10,100.

**I. COUNTYWIDE FUNDS**

Mr. Sandrock read into the record the following proposed budgets and millage rates on page 2 and stated the proposed Countywide Millage Rate of 5.3709 mills was over the rollback rate of 3.7435 mills by 27.44%:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Millage</u>
	<u>Proposed Budget</u>	<u>Rate</u>
A. General Fund	\$127,175,265	4.2537
Sheriff - \$45,406,410		
\$24,221,263 - General Fund		
\$21,185,147 - Charlotte Public Safety Unit		
B. County Transportation Trust Fund	26,125,717	0.0000
C. Charlotte County Health Unit	1,604,797	0.1027
D. Capital Projects Fund	40,902,190	1.0145
E. Charlotte County Law Library	36,255	
F. Charlotte County Legal Aid	57,000	
G. Local Housing Assistance Trust Fund	6,514,975	
H. Special Grants Fund	2,027,619	
I. Tourist Development Tax Trust Fund	2,172,322	
J. One-Cent Sales Tax Fund	415,000	
K. Charlotte County Landfill	20,298,749	
L. Health Self-Insurance Trust Fund	19,467,479	
M. Self Insurance Fund	9,056,393	
N. Road Improvement Fund	60,425,547	
<b>Total Countywide Proposed Budget</b>	<b>\$316,279,308</b>	<b>5.3709</b>

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Barry Snider requested clarification on the difference between the 7.2407 mills on page 1 and 5.3709 mills on page 2 and asked if the residents were really scheduled for a 40.78% increase in their property taxes.

Lou Pesca asked if the Herald Tribune was correct last September when it reported a \$3.2 billion tax base increase and if 27.44% was the increase from last year.

Mr. Sandrock responded to Mr. Snider, explained the first rate of 5.3709 mills was the total County-wide millage rate which includes the General Fund, Capital Projects Fund and Health Unit; and the second rate of 7.2407 mills was the aggregate which includes all of the MSTUs. Mr. Sandrock responded to Mr. Pesca, stated this issue more directly related to the Property Appraiser's Office, the \$3.2 billion was in fact the increase in property valuations from one year to the next, and the overall property valuation increase in the General Fund was 27.44% but it was reduced to about 24% due to hurricane damage.

**BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**Commissioner Cummings** asked the total revenues generated by the proposed increased millage rate. Mr. Sandrock responded \$18,585,169. **Commissioner Cummings** summarized no one in the County would be paying 7.2407 mills, this was more of an academic measure and 5.3709 mills was the actual rate paid by everyone and added to that would be the MSTU or MSBU rate if applicable depending on where a person resides. Mr. Sandrock agreed. **COMMISSIONER D'APRILE MOVED APPROVAL TO ADOPT THE TENTATIVE COUNTYWIDE AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATE AND THE TENTATIVE COUNTYWIDE BUDGET AS READ INTO THE RECORD BY Mr. SANDROCK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE.** **Commissioner DeBoer** said at this point the only thing they were comparing was the amended budgets and not the approved budgets, his concern was the way this organization was structured and runs today, it can't spend the money providing the services to the public as quickly as this Board has increased the funding to the organization, and he felt there was a lot of room in here to give the taxpayers a break so he will vote against the motion. **Commissioner Cummings** agreed with **Commissioner DeBoer's** previous concerns that they weren't getting the projects done as fast as the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) would anticipate and agreed they need to look at this process to ensure they collect and do the projects on a parallel basis. **Commissioner D'Aprile** said he didn't agree with any ad valorem increase at all, recalled last year they even reduced it, he felt there was a lot to be discussed before the final budget hearing, and he wanted staff to go back and sharpen their pencils. **Commissioner D'Aprile** agreed that if they're going to get things done they need the money to do so, said he thought the \$20 million from FEMA was going into reserves not to reimburse the Transportation Trust Fund, for the purposes of discussion he wanted everyone to

understand he's not happy with the motion, by the final public hearing he many change his mind because by then he wants a 5:0 vote on this budget and he wants more projects finished but he fears the hurricane may have created a deficit in our workforce that would prevent that from happening. **CALL ON THE MOTION: CHAIRMAN DEVOS AND COMMISSIONERS CUMMINGS, D'APRILE AND MOORE VOTED "YES" AND COMMISSIONER DeBOER VOTED "NO." MOTION CARRIED: (4:1).**

**II. AD VALOREM - MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNITS (MSTUs) (Must be separately adopted)**

Mr. Sandrock read the proposed millage rates, increases and decreases of the rollback rates of the proposed budgets for each of the Special Districts as listed on pages 3 and 4 of the agenda.

**A. Greater Charlotte Street Lighting District**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed ad-valorem tax for this district is 0.2000 mills, which is a 34.62% increase over the rollback rate of 0.1486 mills for a total proposed budget of \$5,029,162.

**B. Stump Pass Beach Renourishment Unit**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed ad-valorem tax for this district is 0.1927 mills, which is a 35.24% increase over the rollback rate of 0.1450 mills for a total proposed budget of \$6,878,820.

**C. Port Charlotte Bicycle Path Unit**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed millage rate is 0.0000 mills, which is the same as last year for a total proposed budget of \$0.00

**D. Don Pedro/Knight Island Street/Drainage Unit**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed millage rate is 1.7100 mills, which is a 24.03% increase over the rollback rate of 1.3787 mills for a total proposed budget of \$3,716,630.

**E. Manasota Key Street/Drainage Unit**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed millage rate is 0.8000 mills, which is a 29.33% increase over the rollback rate of 0.6186 mills for a total proposed budget of \$991,528.

**F. South Charlotte Marl Street/Drainage Unit**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed millage rate is 0.0000 mills, which is the same as last year for a total proposed budget of \$0.00.

**G. Ackerman Waterway District**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed millage rate is 0.0000 mills, which is the same as last year for a total proposed budget of \$0.00.

**H. Alligator Creek Waterway Unit**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed millage rate is 0.4900 mills, which is a 14.36% increase over the rollback rate of 0.4285 mills for a total proposed budget of \$798,062.

**I. Charlotte Public Safety Unit**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed millage rate is 1.8524 mills, which is a 32.30% increase over the rollback rate of 1.4001 mills for a total proposed budget of \$52,083,531.

**J. Sandhill Municipal Service Taxing Unit**

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed millage rate is 0.8500 mills, which is a 9.198% increase over the rollback rate of 0.7784 mills for a total proposed budget of \$252,383.

Mr. Sandrock stated the proposed aggregate County millage rate is 7.2407 mills which is 40.78% over the current year aggregate rolled-back rate of 5.1433 mills.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

COMMISSIONER D'APRILE MOVED APPROVAL OF THE AGGREGATE COUNTY MILLAGE RATE OF 7.2407 MILLS WHICH IS 40.78% OVER THE CURRENT YEAR AGGREGATE ROLLED-BACK RATE OF 5.1433 MILLS, AND TO ADOPT THE MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT BUDGETS AND MILLAGE RATES AS READ INTO THE RECORD BY MR. SANDROCK AND LISTED ON PAGES 3 AND 4, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MOORE. Commissioner Moore said it was a compliment to our community that they support the Sheriff even though his budget was up a lot. CALL ON THE MOTION: CHAIRMAN DEVOS AND COMMISSIONERS CUMMINGS, D'APRILE AND MOORE VOTED "YES" AND COMMISSIONER DeBOER VOTED "NO." MOTION CARRIED: (4:1). Commissioner DeBoer explained what he's actually voting against was the aggregate County millage rate not necessarily the MSTUs.

III. NON-COUNTYWIDE FUNDS AND NON-AD VALOREM MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT UNITS (MSBUS)

Mr. Sandrock stated the Board may adopt by one motion the budgets of the following funds totaling \$363,076,103 as listed on pages 5, 6 and 7 of the agenda:

**A. Special Revenue Funds**

Special Assessment - Road Revolving	\$ 293,440
Special Assessments - Boaters Revolving Fund	721,000
Special Assessment - Water Improvement	3,327
Special Assessment - Canal Maintenance Fund	249,566
Drug Abuse Trust Fund	125,150
Charlotte County Fire Rescue Department	27,703,502
Barrier Islands Fire Service Unit	207,977
Fine and Forfeiture Fund	2,394,324
Student Driver Fund	120,600
Impact Fees Trust Fund	21,846,870
Law Enforcement Trust Fund	50,000
Native Tree Replacement Trust Fund	605,784
Open Space/Habitat Acquisition Trust Fund	200,816
Utility Regulatory Fund - Solid Waste	451,340
Enhanced 9-1-1 System	932,900
Vehicle Purchase Program	1,808,150
Parks Equipment Replacement Fund	217,769
Economic Incentive Program	246,271

One-Cent Sales Tax Extension Program	\$ 3,731,350
One-Cent Sales Tax Extension 2002 Fund	68,064,000
IT Equipment Replacement	223,000
Charlotte Harbor Redevelopment Fund Fund	82,293

**B. Proprietary/Enterprise Funds**

**Sanitation Districts**

Charlotte	\$ 12,494,595
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**Utilities**

Charlotte County Utility Fund	\$ 66,456,633
Charlotte County Utility Connection Fee Fund	37,654,809
Charlotte County Utility Debt Service Fund	28,737,425
Charlotte County Utility Renewal & Replacement Fund	8,314,241
South Gulf Cove Municipal Service Water & Sewer	2,831,241
Charlotte County Utility System Growth Fund	689,743
Pirate Harbor Water Unit	330,188

**Internal Service Funds**

Fleet Management Fund	\$ 2,794,276
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**C. MSBUs**

**Stormwater Utility Districts**

Mid-Charlotte	\$ 6,788,547
Oyster Creek/Newgate Waterway	0
South Charlotte	1,231,128
West Charlotte	990,228

**Street/Drainage Units**

Boca Grande (Maintenance)	\$ 102,564
Burnt Store Village (Maintenance)	309,091
Charlotte Ranchettes (Capital)	0
Charlotte Ranchettes (Maintenance)	248,662
Cook & Brown Street (Capital)	0
Cook & Brown Street (Maintenance)	183,261
Deep Creek Non-Urban (Maintenance)	1,342,906
Englewood East Non-Urban (Capital)	0
Englewood East Non-Urban (Maintenance)	10,332,627
Farabee Road (Capital)	0
Farabee Road (Maintenance)	91,302
Gardens of Gulf Cove	1,412,631

Greater Port Charlotte (Capital)	\$ 32,617
Greater Port Charlotte (Maintenance)	7,140,710
Grove City	1,411,240
Gulf Cove (Maintenance)	708,431
Harbour Heights (Capital)	841,568
Harbour Heights (Maintenance)	678,201
Lemon Bay (Capital)	0
Lemon Bay (Maintenance)	284,763
Northwest Port Charlotte Non-Urban (Capital)	2,046,563
Northwest Port Charlotte Non-Urban (Maintenance)	1,962,290
Peace River Shores (Maintenance)	277,356
Placida (Maintenance)	1,062,602
Punta Gorda Non-Urban (Capital)	2,035,804
Punta Gorda Non-Urban (Maintenance)	1,376,488
Rotonda Broadmoor Subdivision	606,061
Rotonda Heights	294,571
Rotonda Lakes	738,311
Rotonda Long Meadow	975,238
Rotonda Meadows	925,817
Rotonda Meadows and Villas	0
Rotonda Pinehurst	644,628
Rotonda Pine Valley	1,024,895
Rotonda Sands	621,603
Rotonda Villas	0
Rotonda West	3,397,251
Rotonda White Marsh	1,274,904
Sabal Palm Drive	0
South Burnt Store	5,050,291
South Gulf Cove (Capital)	6,812,909
South Gulf Cove (Maintenance)	1,760,515
South Punta Gorda Heights (Maintenance)	147,309
South Punta Gorda Heights East (Maintenance)	763,614
South Punta Gorda Heights West (Capital)	0
South Punta Gorda Heights West (Maintenance)	157,467
Suncoast Boulevard	14,664
Three Rivers	0
Town Estates	244,528
Tropical Gulf Acres (Capital)	0
Tropical Gulf Acres (Maintenance)	982,524

**Waterway Maintenance Units**

Buena Vista (Maintenance)	\$	847,908
Gulf Cove (Maintenance)		392,416
Harbour Heights (Maintenance)		4,031
Hayward Canal Area		7,576
Lee Branch Creek		13,589
Manchester (Maintenance)		278,301
Northwest Port Charlotte (Maintenance)		417,850
Pirate Harbor (Maintenance)		465,264
South Gulf Cove (Capital)		0
South Gulf Cove (Maintenance)		504,292

**Beach Nourishment Unit**

Palm Island Beach Nourishment Unit	\$	233,688
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**PUBLIC INPUT**

Lou Pesca asked how waterway maintenance units were formed if you weren't already part of one.

Anthony Iannuccia said he resided on Gardner Drive, commented on the lack of canal maintenance even though he has been paying \$735 a year for the last 10 years and asked if it's realistic to believe there's a solution to the un-navigable canal situation.

Gene Osborne opined no road paving was needed in Gulf Cove, said the canal behind Foresman Boulevard drains into the Myakka River through a drainage ditch that has never been cleaned out even though the residents have been told each year it would be done; they were told three or four years ago an overpass bridge would be built for which \$60,000 came out of their fund, went to the County and disappeared but it still hasn't been built; and now the mowing and general maintenance expense was going to double and he wanted to know what's happening.

Thomas Vick noted there was a 133% increase for the Mid-Charlotte Stormwater Utility Unit, agreed with previous Board comments that the County was collecting money faster than the projects were getting done, he hopes he's not paying for projects scheduled five or more years out, opined the MSTUS/BUS were being abused, and a 25% increase would fund the projects for the Mid-Charlotte Stormwater.

Bruce Pomeroy distributed a map showing 13 segments making up Englewood East, said the budget for this area was scheduled to increase about \$17 million to \$18 million and it was comprised of between 16,400 to 17,300 ERUs. Mr. Pomeroy noted the expansion of the Englewood Water District (EWD) will consist of about 12,000 lots in about five years, suggested establishing another MSBU for properties east of David Boulevard going east to C.R. 771, and reported the County Attorney's Office and Public Works were willing to work with the citizens.

Granville Pennypacker said the roads in Englewood East were repaved in 1989 and 1990, the MSBU committee approved a Public Works three year paving program and endorsed the project unanimously, Public Works determined the roads have a lifespan of 15 to 20 years, all roads in Englewood East will be 16 to 17 years old next fiscal year and asked the Board not to delay the road repaving as that will only increase the costs.

Barry Snider commented on the lack of communication in his Edgewater Drive area, stated he's a boater and very interested in the waterways but he knew nothing about the MSBU, he chose Port Charlotte because of the slower pace and he doesn't want this town to become another Naples.

Jack Donkel said he and his neighbors were upset when they learned their taxes were quadrupled for no apparent reason but Ms. Harrison clearly explained the reasons behind the increase and they were now 100% for this paving program. Mr. Donkel recalled during the last paving program they'd been promised the rusted out culverts would be replaced but that didn't happen and he hoped it would be taken care of this time.

Robert Wilgus said everyone should know how their dollars are being used, their MSBU was going from \$25 to \$50 per lot but there's no proposed budget to justify the increase, agreed with previous speakers that more communication was needed, recalled \$60,000 was taken out of their MSBU supposedly for a bridge from C.R. 776 into Gulf Cove only to find out they shouldn't be building it because it's County and State, and asked where the money went.

Greg Brown said he was part of the Buena Vista MSBU and asked for a breakdown of what the \$200 would be used for.

Aleshia Macomber stated she'd written numerous letters to Mr. O'Kane, Mr. Quick and **Commissioner D'Aprile** but has received no response regarding what her MSBU dollars were being used for; she lives off Harborview Road on a road the County does not maintain and hasn't maintained for 25 years; there's no mowing, no paving and no garbage collection; she wants to know why her taxes were going from about \$10 to \$120 an acre which for her means \$1,200 on her 10 acres and how her dollars were going to be used; she's had to dig two ponds on her property to keep from getting flooded; reiterated she's on a non-County maintained road and not receiving any services or benefits, and she wants a response from the people she wrote to.

Chuck Crafton said he's not opposed to the infrastructure improvement in Gulf Cove but he questioned the increase since the MSBU committee has not identified projects for the increase.

Gene Dobrowolski said he went to the meeting at Lemon Bay High School, their increase was going up 346% from \$41.20 to \$185, he'd like to receive information regarding the make-up of the committee and opined the meetings should be held in the evenings not at 8:30 A.M.

Mike Hadsell, Englewood East Homeowners and Property Association President, said he supported the proposed road improvements, the real tragedy was the roads were allowed to decay to the point where they now have this huge bill, voiced concern on repaving roads where there's no housing and probably won't be for the next five years, and opined a maintenance fund needs to be established somehow through some fund to keep these roads maintained.

Edward Hatten said he's a tax freedom fighter who will band together with his brothers to fight all outrageous taxes; a 133% increase was unfair, unreasonable and unacceptable; and when his neighbors try to sell their houses he will tell the prospective buyers he's afraid to live here.

Paige Vickers thanked **Commissioner DeBoer** for not being a 'yes man'. Ms. Vickers said she's lived on Greenway Avenue in East Englewood on the Butterford Waterway for 11 years, she wonders if it isn't really a drainage ditch because Public Works came out and put a big pipe to drain into there but on the other end

they've dammed it up, and asked if this was going to be cleaned up because you can't get out on it so it's not really a waterway, it's simply a ditch.

**BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

Thomas F. O'Kane, Jr., P.E., Public Works Director, suggested anyone not in an MSBU but needing canal dredging or other work projects should contact Public Works. Mr. O'Kane responded to the speaker who resided on Gardner Drive regarding his dredging assessment, explained they'd been working on the channels leading out to the harbor but there hasn't been enough money to do the canals which was the reason for increasing the amount from \$100 to \$200 in the hope they'd be able to get into some of the canals, County Engineer Dan Quick monitors the dredging contracts and both he and Mr. Quick will be available to answer questions after the meeting. Danny Quick, P.E., County Engineer, responded to the questions regarding the Mid-Charlotte Stormwater Utility Unit; stated the majority of the assessment was to pay for water control structures located within Greater Port Charlotte area with a secondary benefit that these structures were underneath major roadways like Peachland, Olean and Midway, and if those structures fail then the roadway will fail along with the adjacent utility lines; funds would be available in other areas as needed to do major drainage improvements in Northwest Port Charlotte, Greater Port Charlotte and Deep Creek although no specific projects have been identified at this time; the Butterford Waterway has not been identified and was not included the Gulf Cove Waterway Unit; and the Butterford Waterway was a drainage facility not a navigable waterway because there was no direct access to the Myakka River. Mr. O'Kane responded to comments regarding Gulf Cove, said there's been no continuity in purpose regarding what was wanted in this area, the funds set aside were for some pipe replacement, and this fall there will be a meeting about paving and a long-term maintenance program. Dawn Harrison, Municipal Services District Representative, explained the \$60,000 for the Gulf Cove sidewalk work went back into the MSBU's reserves, and the meetings were always posted on the County website and in the newspaper; for Englewood East they have already replaced the pipes for Sections 1, 2 and 3, and in Section 4 there were 30 metal pipes that will have to be replaced; and to the woman who doesn't live in an MSBU, and unfortunately she doesn't contribute any funding to maintain a roadway but she will talk with her. Mr. Quick responded to Mr.

Donkel, stated he will look at the waterway pipe and explained the pipe that runs under Gulfstream Boulevard was replaced because the pipe had failed and Gulfstream Boulevard was caving in. Mr. Sandrock responded to comments on communications, stated since the July MSBU public hearings staff has had discussions about this and some proposed changes for next year, new procedures will be initiated along with using Channel 20 to the best benefit, and they will be creating supplemental mailings to provide taxpayers with more detailed information. Mr. O'Kane announced pamphlets regarding MSBUs were available tonight on the table out front. **Commissioner D'Aprile** asked for clarification on the MSBU that includes the Butterford Waterway and if it covers dredging. Mr. O'Kane said it covers roads and drainage not dredging but unfortunately many of the large ditches have the name waterway and admittedly Butterford Waterway sounds better than Butterford Ditch. **Commissioner Cummings** asked if the big assessment increase for the lady with 10 acres off Harborview Road was for the Mid-County Stormwater instead of for Road and Bridge. Ms. Harrison said yes that would be accurate, she's paying for the Mid-Charlotte Stormwater Utility District. **Chairman Devos** responded to the Edgewater area assessment, explained \$100 per year only gets the mouths of the canals dredged which was recently done but not into the canals, the \$679 fee was for the canal dredging and the \$200 was still not going to do anything for canal maintenance, it's just to keep the openings to the canals dredged. Mr. Quick added the \$200 will certainly fund more work but the amount of work will depend on the quantity of materials and the amount of work. Ms. Harrison responded to Mr. Pomeroy regarding establishing new MSBUs and explained if another MSBU was created it would mean less money to fund the paving program in the Englewood East MSBU. **Commissioner D'Aprile** said he would speak with the lady who lives off of Harborview Road and he apologized that her telephone call wasn't returned. **Commissioner D'Aprile** said they need to do a better job of educating the public because not everyone gets a newspaper or has cable television. **Commissioner D'Aprile** referred to the MSBU Advisory Committees and said members of these committees have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure the people they represent are notified of any meetings and then if people don't attend that's not the committees' responsibility. **Commissioner D'Aprile** referred to the Buena Vista Waterway Maintenance Unit, said he personally felt not charging the residents of the northern portion of this unit was one of the most unfair things they could possibly do, the southern portion of

Buena Vista has taken the heat along with the expenditures that the northern portion benefits from, he's received many calls from residents on the northern side asking why they've been excluded and opined they should charge both areas the same to get more work done in that area. **Commissioner DeBoer** said raising the assessment from \$100 to \$200 because if there's more money then more work can be done wasn't sufficient reason to increase the taxes to people, so he has a problem with that particular one. **Commissioner DeBoer** asked why they were raising the assessment this year since \$60,000 went back into the Gulf Cove Maintenance MSBU reserves. Ms. Harrison explained there's only \$40,000 left in reserves, this year some of the project costs increased so they spent \$20,000 more this year than what was brought in in revenues, so we had to use some of the reserves that were put back in. **Commissioner Moore** said the Charlotte Citizens' Academy was an eight week, one day a week program which was an awesome educational tool for how the County functions. **Commissioner Cummings** asked if additional information could be added to the TRIM notices. Bruce D. Loucks, County Administrator, said he didn't think so but the telephone number of the applicable taxing authority was included. **Commissioner DeBoer** suggested they check the Florida Statutes to find out specifically what can be on the TRIM notice or what can be included in the envelope with the TRIM notice and if all else fails find out if they can put something on the envelope itself. **COMMISSIONER DeBOER MOVED APPROVAL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2005-184 AND THE BUDGETS ON PAGES 5, 6 AND 7 AS READ INTO THE RECORD BY MR. SANDROCK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BY COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS.** **Commissioner DeBoer** said he's not comfortable with the Gulf Cove Maintenance assessment, he also has a problem in that he doesn't think the Utilities run efficiently, he's yet to see the efficiencies back from programs the Board funded years ago, reiterated he still thinks the assessment should be kept at \$100 until they resolve what's going to be done and said he will oppose the motion. **Commissioner D'Aprile** disagreed and reiterated he felt it should be \$200 but both north and south residents should be paying equally and he has no choice but to oppose the motion for that particular reason. **CALL ON THE MOTION: CHAIRMAN DEVOS AND COMMISSIONERS CUMMINGS AND MOORE VOTED "YES" AND COMMISSIONERS D'APRILE AND DeBOER VOTED "NO." MOTION CARRIED: (3:2).**

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:20 P.M.

Signature on file in Commission Minutes  
Sara Devos  
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

/ksm