

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 17, 2010

A meeting was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida.

Members present were: Chairman Starr, Commissioner Cummings, Commissioner Duffy, Commissioner Loftus, Commissioner Skidmore, Interim County Administrator Sandrock, Assistant County Attorney Rooney, and Deputy Clerk Lansing. The following members were absent: None

The meeting was called to Order at **9:00 AM** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes to the Agenda: None

A. PLANNING AND ZONING PUBLIC HEARING

(1) **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Request the Board of County Commissioners continue this item to October 19, 2010, at 9:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard - Revisions to Manasota and Sandpiper Zoning Overlay. **BUDGETED ACTION:** None

Jeff Ruggieri requested the Manasota and Sandpiper Zoning Overlay First Public Hearing be postponed to the October 19, 2010 Land Use meeting.

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO CONTINUE REVISIONS TO THE MANASOTA AND SANDPIPER ZONING OVERLAY TO OCTOBER 19, 2010, AT 9:00 AM, OR AS SOON THEREAFTER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

(2) **RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approve an ordinance adopting Petition #Z-10-04-14-TDU, amending the Charlotte County Zoning Atlas from Agriculture Estates (AE) to Planned Development (PD); for property located north of Minorca Drive, south of Zemel Road, east of Burnt Store Road and west of Charlotte County Landfill and Weigh Station, in the Burnt Store area; containing 96.99± acres; Applicant: Prince Ranch, LLC; Commission District II.
BUDGETED ACTION: None

(Deputy Clerk Lansing administered the oath to all prospective witnesses. Chairman Starr polled the Board for ex parte disclosures and there was none.)

Jie Shao provided a visual PowerPoint overview which paralleled packet materials and noted staff recommendation is for approval.

Alexis V. Crespo gave an informational PowerPoint presentation, said the Applicant is in agreement with all staff conditions, and requested Board approval.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2010-052 WITH 22 CONDITIONS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE

Commissioner Duffy commended the Applicant on the presentation and thanked staff for their hard work.

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

B. CITIZEN INPUT - ANY SUBJECT - None

AA. County Administrator: None

BB. County Attorney: None

CC. Commissioner Comments:

Chairman Starr said some outside Veteran organizations are soliciting in Charlotte County, indicated local Veteran organizations are complaining that their fundraising efforts are being negatively affected, and opined this money should not be leaving our county. Attorney Rooney announced he would look into the issue. **Commissioner Skidmore** commented that the plan handling on US 41 is aggressive, noted Representative Kreegel pledged his full support to our Veterans, and mentioned conversations he had with County Attorney Knowlton on the subject. **Commissioner Loftus** agreed the donations need to stay in Charlotte County. **Commissioner Duffy** opined our residents are not aware that these organizations are not Charlotte County groups, commented on the danger of groups collecting at busy intersections, and agreed they need to pursue the issue.

Chairman Starr commented on the situation related to Mr. Baltz's resignation last week, mentioned low employee morale, indicated his disappointment in **Commissioner Loftus'** comments in the newspaper, commended many departments for their contributions and the way they handled direction related to budget reductions, opined the Commission may be close to Charter violations, said they must provide leadership and support the Administrator, announced he personally backs every department head and thanked them for being there for him during his two year tenure, and suggested Administrator and Department Head issues should be worked out behind closed doors.

Commissioner Loftus stated he is appalled with **Commissioner Starr's** comments in the newspaper related to possible Sunshine Law violations, expressed concern with the dysfunction of the Board, said the Commissioners are elected leaders who need to unite and move forward on behalf of the citizens, and indicated he was unaware of Mr. Baltz's decision to resign prior to Tuesday's meeting.

Commissioner Duffy said they need to work to heal the Board, noted past achievements and important projects in progress, opined the Board needs to be more professional, mentioned the mean-spirited campaign season, discussed the need to get back to business, expressed confidence in Interim County Administrator Sandroock, and commented that employees will be recognized for a great job.

Commissioner Skidmore expressed regret for how the resignation occurred, mentioned private conversations with Mr. Baltz outlining 8 pages of substantial concerns, suggested unanimous support for Mr. Sandrock and the organization, announced the need to unify as a Board and move forward, said Commissioners need to be careful what they publicly say, and noted the opportunity to create a better plan for Charlotte County.

Commissioner Cummings indicated he could not find anything productive to add to the conversation, said they have put themselves in a hard position, and announced he would support the new team.

ADJOURNED: 9:34 AM

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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