

ADOPTED

**Myakka River Management Coordinating Council
Nature Center
Oscar Scherer State Park
1843 South Tamiami Trail
Osprey, Florida 34229**

**August 25, 2006
9:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The meeting started at 9:30 a.m. Jonathan Miller explained the procedure and introductions were made.

Belinda Perry – Sarasota County’s Environmentally Sensitive Lands Program

Since April, the county closed on one property in the Myakka Watershed, the Warm Mineral Springs Priority Site. The 0.3-acre parcel abuts a previously purchased lot, and negotiations are on-going for two additional adjacent lots. If negotiations are successful, the total purchased conservation lands along Warm Mineral Springs Creek will be much larger. The Warm Mineral Springs Priority Site closed in May, and the price was approximately \$39,000, or approximately \$130,000 per acre. Additionally, the O’Neal parcel, in the Old Myakka Protection Priority Site, is expected to close at the end of this month. The O’Neal site is approximately 130 acres. The habitat is sand pine scrub, with some of need for restoration.

On September 13th, the Myakka River State Forest Addition Priority Site goes back to the Board of County Commissioners for approval. The site is 31.3 acres of upland and fresh water wetlands and 69 acres of submerged land.

Other activities ongoing in the Myakka Water Basin are restoration efforts, in particular timber thinning. The thinning is a restoration effort for pine flatwoods and scrub communities. Years of fire suppression has increased pine density. Trees are unhealthy, and some are infested with pine bark beetles. Trees are being thinned in order to preserve the uninfected pines. Restoration work has been in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) and has occurred on the Deer Prairie Creek site. Eighty acres have undergone restoration efforts. Additional timber thinning has been started on the Myakka River Trust and Pinelands Reserve Properties. A total of 400 acres have been thinned between the two properties.

The O’Neal site and the Warm Mineral Springs property maps were available for viewing.

Howard Berna – Sarasota County’s Myakka River Protection Zone Permitting

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One dock permit is under review on the Myakka River in the Myakka River Trails region, and three permits have been issued since the last Council meeting.

Code enforcement staff has been coordinating well with Myakka Management Office, with regard to upholding the Myakka River Protection Zone Rules. Twelve cases are in code enforcement currently, two were determined not to be violations, three are undergoing monitoring, one has met compliance, information letters have been sent four properties, and the remaining two are advancing through code enforcement stages. The violations trend is vegetation clearing on private residences. Clearings are encroaching on the 50-ft vegetative buffer zone. Code enforcement staff continues to educate home owners on the river to ensure understanding of what is allowed. The goal is to get homeowners to ask before acting, rather than ask for forgiveness afterward.

Peggy Morgan asked about the Ramblers Rest Campground and the waste water treatment plant violation. Howard did not know the details.

Maran Hilgendorf – Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program Update.

At the last meeting the Council passed a motion to request the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP) to identify potential wildlife crossings over roads in the Myakka Watershed. Jim Beever met the request. Maran asked Jim to speak about the map at the end of her update.

National Estuaries Days is a celebration held for local estuaries. This year, National Estuaries Days will start at the end of September. Thirty different events are scheduled including day long festivals, boat tours, guided walks, wading trips, paddling trips, and clean-ups efforts. Details of the events will be posted on the CHNEP website.

The Annual Nature Festival has been moved to October 7th to try and avoid weather problems they have previously encountered in the spring. The festival is free and will educate about the natural environment of Southwest Florida. Sixty to 100 exhibitors attend at no charge. Council members who would like to exhibit can contact Maran. The festival raises fund through sponsors and a raffle.

A management plan workshop is planned for December 12 -14th, 2006. The Course will address how to implement and write management plans to protect natural environments. The course is meant to aid CHNEP partners by improving their ability to implement management plans. The workshop will be held at Sarasota County building on Clark Rd. Details about the workshop are posted at the CHNEP website.

CHNEP has decided to produce a 2007 calendar for a third year. The popularity of the calendar in previous years has allowed CHNEP to increase the budget and produce 20,000 this year. Fifty-six people submitted photograph entries, and they are posted on the CHNEP website. You can vote to select the images for the 2007 calendar. If you are a subscriber to the Charlotte Happenings newsletter than you will automatically receive a copy in the mail. Calendars will be sent to 120 locations throughout our 7 counties that

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will including every library and nature center. Members of the Management Committee and some policy committee members will also be sent calendars.

CHNEP has been working with PBS station WDCU, a Ft. Myers station, to produce 5 two-minute videos. One of the videos features Ernie Estevez speaking about estuaries, and a second features Jim Beever addressing the wildlife in the CHNEP study area. The videos are being broadcast by WDCU, but CHNEP own the rights. Copies are available to air at meetings, or on government access channels. The DVD also includes a 7 ½ - minute video about sea grasses for boaters. The Coast Guard is currently using the sea grass video in their boating courses.

Jim Beever – Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program Update.

Jim Beever showed the latest issue of Florida Scientist. The issue is dedicated to lessons learned from the CHNEP symposium titled Transferring Science to Watershed Management. Articles relating to Myakka River are included in the issue, for example there is an article on preliminary observations of estrogenic activity in the surface waters of the Myakka River. The articles can be read on the CHNEP's website.

To determine appropriate wildlife underpasses for the Department of Transportation (DOT), Jim applied the protocols to identify wildlife underpasses for large mammals, small mammals, and aquatic organisms. Sites were plotted on a GIS map where public lands exist on both side of the roadway. Public lands include state, county, or other entities with conservation easements. This project is important because the DOT will only incorporate recommended wildlife underpass locations where conservation lands have been confirmed on both sides of the highway. DOT will not consider wildlife passes where there is a potential for development.

Additionally, wildlife crossings have to be located where animals are actually crossing the road. Typically in large-scale landscape areas you'll have multiple crossings flanking the major riparian corridor. For example, on the Myakka River you'll have a paired set of crossings above the flood plain on each side of the river, rather than one single crossing. Bridge expansion can accommodate wildlife underpasses by extending the bridge ramp.

On SR 72 from I-75 to 776, there were eleven locations Jim was asked to examine, and six of those locations had public conservation lands on both sides of the highway. The GIS map was made available to the Council with the six locations. Jim also made the design standards for wildlife under crossings available to the Council.

Tom Moralee wanted clarification regarding I-75. Jim replied that he could go back and produce a map for I-75. The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission looked at I-75's needs from the Manatee County Line down to the toll both in Collier County. Several wildlife underpasses need to be expanded or constructed. There are several in Sarasota County, mostly through the Myakka River Basin, and in particular there is a need where creek systems crossed the interstate.

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Tom asked if Jim had looked at the idea of overpasses as well as underpasses. Jim responded that the idea of overpasses had been considered when there is sufficient terrain on each side of the highway. Overpasses are commonly used in Canada, however the difference is that Canada has the advantage of being a mountainous country where animals are used to living in high topographic areas. Tunnel structures are set on top of the highway, and corridors to the tunnel were buried underneath the earth. Soil and plants are placed, so from the animal's point of view, they never see the highway as they approach. It looks like continuous habitat.

In Florida, if we do have abutments, they will most likely be a person-crossing rather than an animal-crossing; it is more for a horse trail. Jim said he expects that Florida will see abutments in the northern part of the state, like the red hills terrain, and sand hills terrain. It is unlikely that overpasses will be in a system as level as the Myakka. Tom questioned DOT's explanation for the lack of wildlife crossings. Jim explained that an underpass can occur at the level of the existing upland landscape. If the road is elevated above the upland there is no reason that an underpass could not be done. The water table can be avoided by leveling with the uplands and elevating the road. Problems occur when DOT runs into curves, or approaches adjacent roadways that need to get onto the highway. Building an access ramp to a roadway that has an elevation of sufficient height for an underpass can be challenging. However, DOT has worked on those as well.

A working fencing is required for wildlife crossings. Larger animals require a larger fence. In the Everglades the fence is 10 ft. with a 2-ft. barbed wire return, and it has to be maintained. Places that are not maintained have problems with animal kills. In fact a Florida panther was recently hit in Lee County. The fencing was knocked down by a storm and not fixed.

Manon Lavoie asked where funding would come from for expensive projects like these. Jim responded that there are funds, and every project that he's worked on with the DOT funding was attained. During the Alligator Alley project, DOT quoted \$1 million per underpass, and the actual cost came in under that once they started construction.

Manon raised concern that funding and time were not available for the resurfacing project on SR72. Construction on SR72 is beginning in November. Jim responded that funding can be found, however preplanning is important. When road projects are expanding the shoulder, you are not going to see new underpasses. If they are adding a turning lane, that is not enough to justify rebuilding underpasses. Projects that will include underpasses are targeted when additional lanes are added to a highway. Locating possible sites is useful for groups like this Council to plan ahead, and share the information for progress on good road design.

Teresa Payne, Andy Kelly, Cindi Mick, and Peter Buskirk – City of North Port Update.

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Andrew Kelly and Teresa Payne introduced themselves as new employees to the City. Cindi Mick, from the City of North Port's Utilities Department, discussed how the City would provide water and sewer to the Thomas Ranch development.

To date, North Port will only provide utilities for 2000 homes in the Thomas Ranch development from North Port's current treatment system. Thomas Ranch is responsible for designing a wastewater plant and plan to support its own development. Location, size, and a plan to transfer the system to the City must be approved by North Port. The design for the wastewater plant will be built to City standards, and will be compatible with their existing system. Eventually the new plant will serve the entire Ranch.

The Utilities Department is working diligently with the Thomas Ranch to reach a design that meets City expectations. The site for the plant will be one mile from US-41 on River Road, out of the floodplain, and not next to the Myakka River. The design plans are 30% complete, and will not be a packaging plant. The plant will supply reclaimed water for the villages, starting with producing 2 million gallons-a-day and expanding as the villages grow. Thomas Ranch is required to install the sewer plant (centralized sewer) in large stages. A two million gallons-a-day sewer plant will expand to a four million gallons-a-day capacity. The 2 million gallons-a-day facility should be ready by the end of 2009.

The City of North Port will initially supply drinking water to Thomas Ranch; however, the ranch is required to explore other potential supplies of drinking water within their development. The city anticipates a reverse osmosis water treatment facility that will be constructed in 2011 - 2012 to help supplement water. North Port received grant funding for a reclaimed water master plan. All of Thomas Ranch will be required to utilize as much reclaimed water from the wastewater treatment plant, and will have the ability to produce reclaimed water for public access. The City wants to be able to interconnect with Sarasota County's reclaimed water system and with the Englewood Water District.

Peter Van Buskirk is the Project Manager for the Island Walk Project which is under construction presently. They have the ability to acquire up to 2,000 ERCs (residential connections) from the city. The Island Walk project has reserved 750 connections from the city. Island Walk will build out at just over 1,800 units on 1,000 acres. The density is just fewer than two units per acre. Two units per acre will be the average throughout the ranch.

Cindi stated that they have just recently taken over a booster pump station for drinking water. They have a 16-inch force main that will be serving Thomas Ranch with centralized sewer service until they construct the sewer plant. They also have a 12-inch force main to supply them with water which will also supply the Ranch.

Jim Beever asked what population would be served with a 2 million gallon and the 4 million gallon capacity. Cindi replied 8,000 homes, and that 250 gallons per-day per ERC which is residential homes would be required.

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Belinda asked if all the waste went across the river via the US 41 Bridge, and how the system will be connected to the existing system. Cindi responded that the force main goes underneath the Myakka River and crosses by US 41. The twelve-inch sewer force main currently allows the City to serve the initial 2,000 homes. It will remain connected between the two facilities in case of emergence, like a hurricane, in order to relieve flow from either facility if needed. Peter adds that the force main crosses on the south side of the bridge and the water main crosses on the north side of the bridge.

Tom asked if the force main was for raw sewage, and if a leak is detectable. Peter responded that monitoring of the raw sewage flow is calculated by how many homes are hooked up to the system. There is a calculated expected amount. At the plant there is a monthly usage, and they understand to the gallon per day how much effluent or influent waste they are receiving. Cindi added that lift stations also calculated flow by pumping time. Peter Buskirk, Thomas Ranch design consultants, added the City knows how much flow in gallons per minute, is sent from each lift station. Accurate records are kept every time they turn the pump on and off. Also, pipes are made of high-density polyethylene, and are welded in one continuous piece without joints to prevent leaks.

Manon asked if there is a DRI required for the Ranch. Peter answered, not at this point. Cindi pointed out that from the utilities standpoint, even though you have the different villages, the utilities are looking at it as a master plan for the whole area.

Don asked if there were plans for workforce housing. Cindi responded she didn't know. Discussion occurred about right-of way between the Thomas Ranch and Sarasota County parcels. Jono asked if Peter could get someone from Thomas Ranch to talk about the future plans for the riverfront property and its use. Peter replied that he could, but there are no plans currently.

Sam asked about a back-up plan for effluent disposal or wet weather storage. Cindi responded that it would be a deep injection well. Geology research is needed. The deep injection well would be permitted through DEP, and it will meet their requirements.

Jono asked Cindi what percent of the present or proposed water supply for North Port comes from Myakkahatchee Creek. Cindi replied, right now it's about half and the other half comes from the Peace River.

Jono asked if Cindi had any conversations with Mosaic, their plans for phosphate, and how that might affect water supply? Cindi answered, no. The City of North Port spent over \$1 million in fighting CMI, and won. Now the City relies on the Water Supply Authority to work with and continue the battle.

Peggy Morgan – Department of Environmental Protection Update.

DEP is working with the phosphate management group in Tallahassee to renew a Mosaic permit. Mosaic is not mining at this time, but is doing reclamation and sand tailing work. They do have a surface water discharge permit, but are not currently discharging. One

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other surface water discharge permit exists for a readymix batch plant. The plant has a pert pond, and it is permitted for discharge in intermittent 24-hour, 25-year rain events. The plant is located in Venice and discharges about one mile from the river.

Ramblers Rest has a 1,000 MGD waste water treatment system that does not require a state permit. The system is delegated to Sarasota County, and there is a problem with effluent disposal. Sarasota County is working on compliance.

There are three new permits for dairies: Farren Dakin Dairy, Cameron Dakin Dairy and Jerry Dakin Dairy. Jerry Dakin Dairy is a new dairy. They discharge to ground water. Jerry Dakin Dairy and Cameron Dakin Dairy is in the Owen Creek watershed. They are old dairies that have not been permitted before. Dakin Dairy is also an old dairy that moved to a new location up in Ogleby Creek.

The Myakka Trails dock permit met DEP requirements, and now has gone to Sarasota County, and Parks.

Chuck Downs wanted to know how far the dairies are from the river. Peggy responded that they are within the watershed but she did not know exactly.

Amy Emmert – Myakka Wild & Scenic River Biologist Report.

Violations have not slowed on the river. Vegetation clearing violations are commonly occurring north of Snook Haven and vegetation dumping is also commonly occurring throughout the river. Several homeowners have been asked to clean up debris from the wetlands and river area. Total law enforcement patrolling has been down since 2005; however, Sarasota County is patrolling once a weekend on a regular basis.

The regulatory and informational signs will be replaced on the river through a coordination with Sarasota County. New signs with appropriate code and permit numbers will be available for the river patrols. Additionally, posts will be replaced with as many plastic posts as possible to decrease chemical leaching from treated wood pilings.

Several iguana sightings have been noted in the last three months. Two young green iguanas were sighted at the Clay Gulley bridge, a 4-ft green iguana was seen at the Jelks Preserve, and one spiny-tailed iguana was noted near Myakkahatchee Creek.

The bird rookery had a very successful season. Chicks from anhinga, great egrets, cattle egrets, snowy egrets, wood storks, great blue herons, yellow-crowned night herons, and black-crowned night herons were seen on the island. One survey counted 398 juvenile wood storks in nests or resting on the rookery. Other natural history notes include a resting roseate spoonbill, and the first double-crested cormorant showing nesting behavior on the rookery. Also, an anhinga was seen diving down below the water picking up nesting material and placing it in nest on the mangrove island.

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The Management Office has one new dock application, granted two permit extensions, and two docks are currently under construction. The Management Office is working with Sarasota County in order to bring Snook Haven in compliance with the River Rule. One of the questions posed for the Council is if the concessionaire will be given a seat on the Council to replace Snook Haven's previous private owner.

Tampa DEP, Sarasota County and the Management Office are coordinating on mangrove trimming on the river. The River Rule and Mangrove Act seem to contradict each other. There is a state attorney opinion on what would be upheld, so now the agencies need to develop a plan, and educate the public.

Developing a MOA between the City of North Port, DEP, and the Department of Community Affairs is ongoing.

An acknowledgement and thank you was made to the CHNEP for their support, through a micro-grant, for the Council's website during the 2006/2007 year.

Rachel Shirley – State of Florida Division of Law Enforcement – River Patrol Update.

The Myakka River Law Enforcement Task Force promotes coordination between law enforcement agencies, which will work together for a common mission. The Task Force is beyond the conceptual stage. Law Enforcement from the City of North Port, City of Venice, Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, and DEP are all participating, and there is progress being made. The Sarasota County Sheriff's Department bought a new boat, an 18-ft. john boat, for patrolling the Myakka River. A Sarasota deputy has patrolled the river at least one weekend day a month, and up to one weekend day a week, for the past three months.

DEP has not had the opportunity to patrol the river because of staffing issues. New staff is expected later this month. Ideally the task force was to have a public roll-out for Labor Day Weekend. All agencies would be on the river at once to bring awareness to the public. Unfortunately things have not progressed as quickly as they would have liked, and a public roll-out will be scheduled for a later date.

Questions and answers followed.

Dianne Davies – SWFWMD – District Update.

Diane added that the three Dakin Dairies, Cameron Dakin Dairy, Jerry Dakin Dairy and what they call ESDA Dairy, or the Farren Dakin Dairy, are three of their FARMS projects (Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems). The FARMS projects are a cost-share reimbursement partnership project, and public partnership. The project leads are shared between the Department of Agriculture, and SWFWMD. SWFWMD is responsible for improving water quality for water discharge.

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The August Manasota Basin Board meeting approved the fiscal year 2007 budget. It includes several projects in the Myakka Watershed. At the July/August Governing Board Meeting, the Governing Board approved distribution of their draft Regional Water Supply Plan for public comment. Public comment period ends September 22, 2006. The Regional Water Supply Plan is linked on SWFWMD's website, watermatters.org. You can email public comments directly to SWFWMD through a link on the website. The Myakka is mentioned in the Regional Water Supply Plan as a possible source, but no proposals currently exist.

Lisann Morris – Myakka River Watershed Initiative.

Lisann Morris is a Senior Professional Engineer in Hydraulics Evaluation at Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). She and Stephanie Dunham are co-managing the Myakka River Watershed Initiative. The purpose of the presentation is to provide this council with information on a new project, the Myakka River Watershed Initiative. The presentation was divided into three parts; (1) a brief overview of the watershed, and significant features the initiative will be evaluating; (2) discussion of the mechanism they will use to evaluate the watershed, the District's Watershed Management Program, and (3) an update of the project's process.

The initiative includes the entire Myakka watershed, a total of 600 square miles. The major features identified in the initiative included Flatford Swamp, Tatum Sawgrass, the Upper Myakka Lake weir, Downs Dam, Cowpen Slough Watershed, Blackburn Canal, Deer Prairie Slough Watershed, Myakkahatchee Creek, and Charlotte Harbor.

The District and its partners have participated in many projects throughout the Myakka watershed, but what's been missing is a mechanism to pull together a comprehensive implementation strategy. For example, if the wetlands of Upper Big Slough are restored, what kind of effect will it have on Myakkahatchee Creek and the City of North Port's water supply? If the dikes in Tatum Sawgrass are removed, what will happen to water quality, and what flood protection consequences will happen downstream?

The District's Watershed Management Program is the methodology used to evaluate the capacity of the watershed, then protect, enhance, and restore water quality to related natural systems, while achieving flood protection. There are five elements that make up Watershed Management Program: topographic information, watershed evaluation, watershed management plan, implementation of best management practice, and maintenance of watershed parameters and models.

The Watershed Management Program process has been revised slightly for the Myakka River Watershed Project. The Upper Myakka Water Budget has been pulled from the Watershed Management Plan element. It is scheduled further ahead in the process, and there is an added task called Adaptive Management Monitoring, after the implementation of best management practices. That will be a plan to evaluate the alternative that is constructed for success or need of change.

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The first element, topographic information, will develop a digital terrain model. A plane, using LDAR technology, will gather elevation data for the entire Myakka watershed. The next is the Upper Myakka Water Budget. A computer simulation of the area's response to the hydrological cycle will be modeled. Once the model is calibrated they will test to see how the land reacts to land use changes. Watershed evaluation element is the data collection effort. Existing resources will be acquired through old reports, and talking to people. At this stage, an intensive inventory is made of all the drainage structures, identification of all the storage areas within the watershed, and map water flow as it is conveyed through the watershed. The watershed evaluation includes intensive field work. Field reconnaissance takes photos, and field notes that are transferred into a GIS system. At this stage data gaps are identified and surveyed if needed. An approach for water quality assessment is written. The Watershed Management Plan element is where the intensive modeling takes place and will be integrated into the GIS system for viewing. The water resource assessment will complete the watershed wide water budget and water quality modeling. With Best Management Practices (BMP) Alternative Analysis solutions to identified problems will be answered by modeling. The solutions could either be structural or nonstructural and a matrix will be developed with costs and benefits for each of the alternatives. Implementation of BMP is the final design, permitting, land acquisition easement and construction. Adaptive Management Monitoring will look at the preferred alternative construction, monitor the success rates, and make changes if necessary.

The Myakka River Watershed Initiative is just beginning. LDAR has begun. Consultants have been chosen and are currently in negotiation. The Upper Myakka River budget might start before the end of the year. The Council, individual members, or parent organizations could provide valuable information by prioritized issues or problems in the Myakka. An email or letter sent to Lisann would be helpful.

Questions

Ken Alvarez asked when the data collection phase would be complete. Lisann said they should be through with the watershed evaluation probably by the end of December 2007.

Greg asked if minimum flows and levels (MFL) will be incorporated into the project. Lisann stated that they have timed the Myakka Initiative to incorporate the MFLs.

Jim Beever asked who the consultant would be, and what major hydrological model has been selected. Lisann stated that they have not selected a model. The consultant is a team including: Jim Hoffman and Associates, Jones Edmonds, Interflow, Duberry & David & Janecky, and others. Jono asked if they were negotiating the contract now, when it would be finished. Stephanie thought it would be a month and a half. Jono expressed interest in getting the consultants to talk with the MRMCC at a later date.

Peggy asked if the initiative will integrate with TMDL. Lisann responded that the consultants will be hired to incorporate other research and management plans into this initiative.

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Jono pointed out that Tatum Sawgrass is eligible for acquisition according to the Water Management District's current plan. His understanding is that 1,000 acres is eligible for sale right now. Lisann responded that this is a study that will develop alternatives. Some will move forward to construction, or some may not be entertained until a later date.

MRMCC Business

The meeting was called to order and Roll Call was taken. It was determined there was a quorum.

Corrections to the Minutes were given and minutes are to be adopted next meeting.

Other Agenda Items

New or Other Business

Jonathon Miller reported that he sent out the two letters that were voted on at the last meeting and he has copies of those for the Council to view. One of the letters reiterated the Council's 2000 request for a regional phosphate study.

Jim Beever stated that an emerging issue for the basin is a large Development of Regional Impact being proposed in the northeastern most part of the city of North Port, Isles of Athena. The ranch area is being proposed with a large commercial village center and several different villages along the Orange Hammock Slough and the east branch of Alderman Slough. He suggested a presentation. It will be a significant addition to the population in that part of the headwaters of the system which goes through New Port and down to the Myakka River. Earth Balance is the consultant. Jim mentioned that it would call for an additional exit on the interchange.

Greg asked if the Council needed to go through sunset accountability. Jono explained he did not think that we are subject to Sunset Accountability. Jim Beever stated the Council was formed as an Act of Legislature, and his understanding was that the Legislature would have to dissolve the Council as a specific separate act.

Manon announced State Road 72 construction will begin in November. A coordinated effort between Sarasota County and Charlotte County has begun to designate SR 776, County Rd 771 and County Rd 775, as scenic highways. Jono stated that the most scenic highway in this area is from the end of the western boundary of the Myakka Watershed on SR 72 to about Desoto County. Jono asked for Manon to bring information to the Council about proposing a scenic highway.

Jim Beever stated that there could be unexpected consequences on scenic highways. Tamiami Trail through the Big Cypress area was designated scenic. The drive required more fill and pull offs, for people to see the scenery. It also restricted wildlife fencing to protect listed species at wildlife underpasses.

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Sam Stone made the announcement that the Water Authority is hosting a Water Planning Alliance Board meeting on September 1st, Venice Community Center, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Topics of discussion will be the regional integrative loop system being built, and a routing study. The Regional Water Supply Plan will also be presented by the District at that meeting. Rick Cantrell will talk about the Peace River Cumulative Impact Study Resource Management Plan.

Greg asked about an update for the retention pond for the I-75 expansions and River Road and where they are going to locate it. Manon explained that for the I-75 project retention would be decided in the design stage. There is not enough money at this time for the design phase.

Jim Beever stated a concern that without a DRI for the Thomas Ranch development, a transportation analysis would not be done. No corridor has been set aside for the regional traffic impact caused by the development. There is no regional road planning. Don Caillouette stated that as of September 1st, the state required all counties and municipalities to have funds that will allow FDOT to extract money for any development that would impact roadways. This would create checks and balances for situations like North Port's .

Discussions continued.

The next meeting date change was discussed. Jim Beever made a motion for January 12th, 2007. Dan Caillouette seconded. The motion carried.

Maran Hilgendorf moved for Adjournment. Chuck Downs seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Greg Blanchard Jeff Thirlwall
Jonathan Miller Don Caillouette
Howard Berna Terry Green
Manon Lavoie Gregory Nowaski
Chuck Downs Maran Hilgendorf
Jim Beever Ernie Estevez
Belinda Perry Peggy Morgan
Tom Moralee Teresa Payne
Andrew Kelly Dianne Davies

INTERESTED PARTIES

Amy Emmert Ronald Noce
John Chassey Valinda Subic
Stephanie Dunham Ken Alvarez

ADOPTED

Lisann Morris Sam Stone Mike Hobbie Verica Lacasse
Joe Keans Denise Boyd
Sara Calabrese Rachel Shirley
John Sarkozy Judy Meents
Amanda Dominevez Peter Van Buskirk Scott Browning