

Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management

The regular meeting of the Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management was held on Monday, April 10, 2017 at the 9:30 AM at the SWFRPC offices. The approved minutes of the February 13, 2017 meeting are attached.

There was presentation on the project to maintenance dredge New Pass between Estero Bay and the Gulf of Mexico by Mr. Michael Poff. A copy of the presentation will be posted at the EBABM web page at <http://www.swfrpc.org/abm.html>

Old Business included discussions on the Comprehensive Plan process for the Village of Estero, the proposed developments in the DRGR, and the South Lee County Watershed Initiative.

Emerging Issues include the Corkscrew Road Overlay Study, and proposal to fill submerged lands north of Bonita Beach road, and the offshore drilling issue.

The **next IAS Subcommittee Meeting** is Monday, April 24, 2017, 1:30 PM, SWFRPC

The **next Meeting Time and Place**, for EBABM is May 8, 2017 9:30 AM, SWFRPC.

Recommended Action: Information only.

Summary Activity by Dr. Everham) from
Cela Tega - Resiliency and Adaptations in the Estero Bay Region
December 12, 2016

As the closing activity for the conference, participants were asked to respond to two questions as a group activity: 1) What was the most important thing you heard today?, and 2) What did we miss? Group responses are summarized below.

Most Important Points:

Impacts:

- Sea level rise and groundwater interactions
- SLR impacts on building foundations and other underground effects
- Saltmarshes, peat loss, subsidence, loss of islands and changing geomorphology
- Differences between sea level rise, storm surge and king tides
- Sea level rise AND run

Actions:

- All the community-based planning already happening
- Simple approaches in Punta Gorda give hopeful realistic response
- Opportunities are still out there
- Find ways to get the general public involved, encourage public input
- Resiliency planning needs to start early and be integrated in all aspects of community planning
- How planners need the buy-in of the general public and elected officials
- Utilize existing, particularly free, resources, and many tools that are already out there
- Local communities are able to organize and have impact – grassroots networks to work together
- Work on parallel tracks with planning and mitigation actions
- Senate Bill 1094

Things that were missed:

- Collier County missing from the conversation (there was a presentation on Collier County plans)
- We need a regional model for SLR (these exist)
- Need a coordinated regional advisory network
- What is happening in the State Legislature? Nationally? What should be?
- Funding sources
- Ties to economics and the business community, Chambers of Commerce
- Have the insurance industry represented
- The economics of building demolition and cleanup
- Water management and water resources
- Habitat migration, impacts to wildlife
- The difficulty of communicating urgency with incremental change

Following the discussion of these two questions, the participants were charged with determining individual actions that would follow. () represent comments by JWB3)

W. Everham 1/9/2017

**Draft ESTERO BAY AGENCY ON BAY MANAGEMENT (EBABM)
PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES 2017**

- 1. Provide Comments and Report to the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) and others on relevant Items of Review such as: Comprehensive Plan Amendments, Developments of Regional Impact, update of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, Intergovernmental Coordination and Review projects, etc.**
- 2. Develop strategies and recommend actions to reduce impairment to Estero Bay waters. This will include comment on important initiatives including Surface Water Improvement Management (SWIM), development of TMDLs, establishment of Minimum Flows and Levels, Pollution Load Reduction Goals (PRGs), Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs), Numeric Nutrient Criteria (NNC), and refinement of the Southwest Florida Special Basin Rule.**
- 3. Seek continuing funding support from EBABM partners and external grant sources for special projects, event, and staff support of the EBABM.**
- 4. Coordinate activities with the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP) and the Southwest Florida Watershed Council.**
- 5. Collect and maintain a data library for Estero Bay at the offices of the SWFRPC and contribute to the CHNEP water atlas.**
- 6. Explore the addition of these Estero Bay materials to Digital FGCU.**
- 7. Review and comment to regulatory and infrastructure agencies on issues affecting Estero Bay and its watershed.**
- 8. Review and participate as appropriate on other current issues affecting Estero Bay, such as the Caloosahatchee watershed and its tributaries.**
- 9. Assure effective dissemination recommendations and findings to decision makers and the public.**
- 10. Support land acquisitions and protections in the Estero Bay Watershed including participation in the implementation of the Florida Water and Land Conservation Initiative, (Amendment 1)**
- 11. Continue mapping project that shows relationship of projects that impact conservation lands, critical habitats, watersheds and flow-way areas.**

THIS EVENT WAS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



AGENDA/SCHEDULE

2016 Cela Tega: Resiliency and Climate Change Adaptation
in the Estero Bay Region
FGCU Sugden Resort and Hospitality
Management Building Room 111

December 12, 2016

Cela Tega is the southwest Florida native (i.e.: Calusa) term for “A view from high ground”. We used it here to symbolize “overview”. The term was inspired from the Carib Native North American term epopopanana meaning:


this is Meeting (Epopo) + And (ana) +Place (Pa) which in Carib syntax is Epopopanana

Scroll down to see the abstracts and presentations

here is a [scan of the sign in sheet](#) and a [list of registrants](#)

Monday December 12, 2016		
8:00 – 8:55	BREAKFAST	
8:55	WELCOME	
9:00 - 10:30	Technical session I	Vulnerability assessments
9:00 - 9:20	Lisa Beever, PhD , Director-emeritus Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program	Climate changes and local planning responses See Dr. Beever's presentation here
9:25 -9:45	Rachael Kangas, Public Archaeology Coordinator, Florida Public Archaeology Network	Assessing Vulnerability at Archaeological Sites in Florida: Case Study from Pineland in Lee County (abstract) See Ms. Kangas presentation here
9:50-10:10	Mike Savarese , Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University	Dramatic Changes within Coastal Wetlands of the Ten Thousand Islands as a Consequence of Sea-level Rise: Lessons for Estero Bay (abstract) See Professor Savarese's presentation here
10:15 -10:30	BREAK	BREAK
10:30 - 12:00	Technical session II	Adaptation and resiliency plans 1
10:30 - 10:45	Tessa LeSage , Southwest Florida Community Foundation	Regional Change for the Common Good See Ms. LeSage presentation here

10:50 - 11:10	Nader Ardalan , Chief Advisor, Harvard SLR Project	The Harvard GSD Project on Southwest Florida and Sea Level: The Case of Collier County (including Naples, Marco Island, and Everglades City) (Abstract) See Dr. Ardalan's presentation here
11:15 - 11:40	Ricardo Alvarez , MITIGAT.com, Inc Vulnerability, Assessment and Mitigation	Sea level rise and the built environment: Expected impacts and solutions (abstract) See Mr. Alvarez's presentation here
11:40 - 12:00	Dr. Jennifer Shafer and Dr. David Shafer, Co-Executive Directors, Science and Environment Council	Climate Action Update from the Science and Environment Council of Southwest Florida (abstract) See the Shafers' presentation here
12:00 - 1:00	LUNCH	WGCU Video premiere: Preserving our waters: Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve at 50 years.
1:00 - 1:45	Craig Pittman , author, investigative journalist	Oh Florida! Wacky Florida Weather and other stories
1:50 - 5:00	Technical session III	Adaptation and resiliency plans 2
1:45 - 2:05	Joan LeBeau , Chief Planner, Mitchell Austin , Planner, City of Punta Gorda, FL	Adaptation Planning: The Punta Gorda Experience (abstract) See their presentation here
2:05 - 2:25	Randall W. Parkinson, Institute for Water and Environment, Florida International University	An Update on Adaptation Action Activities Undertaken Since Completion of the City of Satellite Beach (FL) Vulnerability Assessment to Rising Seas (2010) (abstract) See Dr. Parkinson's presentation here
2:30 - 3:00	Keren Prize Bolter, PhD, Climate, Policy, & Geospatial Analyst at the South Florida Regional Planning Council	Coastal Flood Resiliency: South Florida Initiatives See Dr. Bolter's presentation here
3:00 - 3:25	Jim Beever , Planner, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council	Public Climate Change Adaptation Process Driven by Public Input Using Public Participation Games, Interviews, Pre and Post Surveys and Other Tools (abstract) See Mr. Beever's presentation here
3:30 - 3:50	Win Everham Professor of Environmental Studies, FGCU	Conference wrap up

3:55 - 5:30	reception, appetizers, cash bar The Wayne and Win Happy Hour	 <p data-bbox="743 556 1253 590">Grass at FGCU (digital, Andy Morris, 2011)</p>
SUMMARY AND CLOSING		

APPROVED MINUTES ESTERO BAY AGENCY ON BAY MANAGEMENT

Monday, February 13, 2017 – 9:30 AM.
 SWFRPC Offices
 1400 Colonial Boulevard, Suite 1
 Fort Myers, Florida

Call to Order – Mr. Daltry called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM.

Attendance- As usual attendance was taken from the sign in sheet:

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Tom Babcock	Beach Area Civic Association
Peter Cangialosi	ECCL
Brad Cornell	Audubon of Florida
Wayne Daltry	RGMC
Nora Demers	Happehatchee
Liz Donley	CHNEP (telephone)
Win Everham	FGCU
Lisa Kreiger	Lee County
Sean McCabe	Conservancy of Southwest Florida
Laura Miller	LWV
Cecil Pendergrass	Lee Board of Commissioners
Pete Quasius	Audubon of the Western Everglades
Lisa Richards	FGCU Student
Martha Simons	SWFRPC
Charlie Whitehead	Beach Area Civic Association
Patty Whitehead	Bonita Lion's Club Green Team

Staff in Attendance: Jim Beever

- 1) **Election of Officers** :Dr. Demers nominated Mr. Daltry for Chair, herself as continuing vice chair Nora, and Ms. Whitehead as Secretary. Ms. Simons also nominated Mr. McCabe for Secretary. The list of nominees was approved unanimously.
- 2) **Motion to Approve the Minutes** of the January meeting was made by Mr. Daltry and seconded by Dr. Everham. Approved unanimously.
- 3) **Approval of the 2017 Workplan** Discussion was held on the Workplan (attached). Win slowed work plan approval down to do introductions for new FGCU student member Lisa Rickards, graduate student examining sea grass beds in Estero bay. Small changes to the wording were suggested and approved by consensus. Motion by Mr. McCabe, second by Ms. Simons for approval of the revised Work Plan. Approved unanimously. A subcommittee was formed to work on implementation of the work plan.

- 4) **Review of absent memberships.** the EBABM reviewed cases of absent membership. The Port Authority, Vester Lab and SFWMD did not attend in all of last year. Darren Rumbold no longer director of Vester Marine Lab. It is now Mike Parsons, Dr. Everham is concerned that FGCU would look like a voting block with so many seats on the EBAM. Mr. Beever will reach out via letter that also tells them they can attend by phone. Ms. Simons asked that the letter contain information about why we want them to be at our table. Ms. Simons also mentioned that Bonita Springs has a zoning meeting schedule conflict that they may change. Mr. Daltry will be willing to help draft the letter. Motion to send letter by Ms. Simons, second by Charlie Whitehead. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5) **Old business-** Mr. Cangialosi has asked Chip Block with Lee County about the status of projects in the DR/GR. Update:
 - a) Wild Blue- no current activity.
 - b) Place at Corkscrew- under construction,
 - c) Pepperland Ranch-(1:10 to 1:1) zoning case tentatively set March 23rd zoning May 4th before hearing examiner. Asked for comprehensive plan amendment for some sort of environmental zoning overlay to increase density. Cecil met with them, he suggested they meet with Estero group also. Cecil would not support transmittal until they met with other groups, and after traffic study was at least started. (East Corkscrew alliance). Traffic study scope postponed until March. Cecil- property already zoned for mining claims a decrease in nitrogen load to convert to residential, Martha remarks that better to do restoration of land than to convert to residential. Adjacent to Pepperland
 - d) Verdana 1425 homes was found insufficient, response due March 10th.
 - e) Corkscrew crossing in Estero.
 - f) Troyer Bros mine insufficient.
 - g) Old Corkscrew plantation- insufficient. Response march 21st.
 - h) King Ranch, no response.
 - i) Ms. Simons discussed the mine in Bonita Springs titled Bonita Grand Aggregate of 1300 acres trying to de-annex form Bonita Springs to Lee County in order to obtain less restrictive standards.. They were denied extension of mining rights by the City of Bonita Springs.
 - j) Edison Farms is looking for offers for purchase of the property. The Lee Count Commission approval for purchase will being discussed on March 13th. Appraisers going to parcel this week. All will be expedited. The proposal is to purchase all of it. Lee County is making it a priority to purchase. Mr. Daltry said it is a good idea to resend the letter- purchase of all 4000 acres and land in conservation in perpetuity. Commissioner Kiker is going to Villages of Estero and City of Bonita Springs to discuss. Motion by Mr. Quasius, second by Dr. Everham. Approved unanimously.

- 6) **Emerging Issues** included Charlie Whitehead- current zoning and comp plan proposal pending on San Carlos Island for high rise parking lot. (current is water-industry overlay). Request is for central urban designation –which could lead to proliferation of central urban request along that area. There is undeveloped, and underdeveloped all along there that may change if this designation changes could impact the Estero Bay itself. Motion by Dr. Demers, second by Mr. McCabe Passed unanimously to ask County Staff for presentation about Central urban designation and alternative designation and its potential impacts. There is interest to get planning ahead of the development in this situation. Southern end of Estero bay facing similar situation with high rises. Ms. Simmons suggest Beach folks may want to coordinate with the(Village of Estero and City of Bonita Springs. Mr. Babcock wanted to know if there is a correlation between density limits and flood maps? Mr. Beever stated that no there is not right now, but it is a problem Mr. Daltry stated that central designation is supposed to pull in people from elsewhere.
- 7) **Announcements** included South Lee County watershed initiative with Steve Sentes second meeting March 2nd. Objective to look at projects in DR/GR that will benefit looking at funding sources to provide collaborative opportunity to seek funding for projects that will benefit watershed. Sean will send information around. Lee County looking at comp plan. These work sessions are not involving the public like before. Village of Estero is doing a stormwater management study Gopher tortoise day is April 10th. Registration for the FGCU biodiversity conference Mar 7-9 is filling.
- 8) The **next Meeting Time and Place**, for EBABM is March 13, 2017 9:30 AM, SWFRPC
- 9) The **next IAS and Workplan Implementation Subcommittee Meeting** is Monday, February 27, 2017, 1:30 PM, SWFRPC
- 10) **Adjournment** was at 11:37 A..M.