

## LOWER WEST COAST WATERSHED SUBCOMMITTEE

**Held on February 21, 2008**

The meeting of the Lower West Coast Watershed Subcommittee was held on January 18, 2008 at the offices of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council at 1926 Victoria Avenue, Fort Myers, Florida.

Those present included:

David Crawford	Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
Mayor Mick Denham	City of Sanibel
Mayor Jay Arend	City of Bonita Springs
Mike Valiquette	Purre
Jon Iglehart	Department of Environmental Protection
Jim Beever	Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
Rae Ann Wessel	SSCF
Catherine Corbett	Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
Pete Quasius	Audubon
Craig Bartoshak	Duda & Sons
Phil Flood	South Florida Water Management District
Bob Pickney	Adenus
Wayne Daltry	Lee County Smart Growth
Carla Palmer	CP&A
Bob Himschoot	CREWS Environmental
Commissioner Adam Cummings	Charlotte County

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Denham called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. and welcomed Mike Valiquette, Chairman of Purre and a prominent developer on Sanibel.

Mayor Denham said that the document that was distributed to the committee was an overview of what the subcommittee has done. We are moving effectively towards better implementation and focusing on urban pollution. He stated that he would like to focus on on-site water disposal septic systems.

Mayor Denham stated that we should have resolutions that consider the appropriate type performance of system depending on amount of land available for the building. It is the management of the system once it is on the ground is an issue.

Discussion on the content of the resolutions. Jim Beever stated that provisions cover maintenance issues.

Discussion on growth management approach and on-site wastewater treatment system and integrated comprehensive plans, which areas were appropriate for septic and mandatory maintenance ensued.

Commissioner Cummings discussed broader growth management plan and while he felt the matrix for the size of the property is a useful tool, the growth management approach is the broader issue. Nitrogen loading was to be a deterrent. Charlotte County is doing septic management. He stated that he was trying to encourage Charlotte County Commission to split urban service areas into a four zone split.

Mayor Denham asked Mike Valiquette to elaborate on septic systems.

Mr. Valiquette gave a brief report.

Discussion ensued regarding facilities on barrier islands. Mayor Denham requested a copy of Charlotte County ordinance.

Commissioner Cummings said the key is buildout scenarios and trying to figure out what destination is.

Mr. Iglehart stated that the key point is maintenance and organized maintenance schedule with annual pumpout.

Mayor Denham asked Mr. Valiquette to explain about the process of installing septic systems. He explained the ecopure system for the benefit of the committee.

Mayor Denham asked Mr. Valiquette for his input on the resolution before being brought before the Council.

Discussion ensued on central sewers, decentralized septic tank systems, cluster systems, clustering of treatments and package treatment systems.

Discussion on presumptive standards for nitrogen and eliminating some nitrogen to improve water quality.

Discussion ensued on denitrification process and the ecopure system of handling nitrogen.

Commissioner Cummings discussed comp plan actions of county and how Charlotte County started process and the legal nexus for densities.

Mr. Beever reviewed the structure of the draft resolution document.

Mayor Denham requested the committee members to review the resolution for their input.

Ms. Corbett said that she would add a section on comprehensive plans.

Mayor Denham stated that would like Ms. Corbett to look at Charlotte County and that the industry would also review the document.

Discussion on holistic approach.

Commissioner Cummings discussed cost effectiveness, monitoring systems and real time flow analysis.

Mr. Beever addressed the climate change efforts by local governments and the opportunities to take a look at the means local governments might do to maintain adaptability as result of climate change.

Mayor Denham asked the committee members to have their various utility departments to review the resolution document before the next committee meeting.

Mr. Iglehart said that judging from council feedback with the last resolution, this item should be brought back to the committee in March and then taken to the Council in April.

Ms. Palmer initiated the discussion on stormwater management resolution and ordinances from other cities in Florida.

Ms. Beever reviewed the retrofits, regional conveyances and BMP process

Mr. Beever said that this stormwater resolution draft would be brought back in about three months.

Mayor Denham requested the utility issue to be on the next agenda.

The next meeting will be on March 20<sup>th</sup>.