

**MINUTES OF THE
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 20, 2014 MEETING**

The meeting of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council was held on February 20, 2014 at the offices of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council – 1st Floor Conference Room at 1926 Victoria Avenue in Fort Myers, Florida. Chair Teresa Heitmann called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. Vice Mayor Shaw then led an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrative Specialist II, Nichole Gwinnett conducted the roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Charlotte County: Commissioner Chris Constance, Commissioner Tricia Duffy, Councilwoman Nancy Prafke, Ms. Suzanne Graham, Mr. Don McCormick

Collier County: Commissioner Georgia Hiller, Mr. Bob Mulhere, Mr. Alan Reynolds, Councilwoman Teresa Heitmann

Glades County: Mr. Thomas Perry

Hendry County: Commissioner Karson Turner, Mr. Melvin Karau

Lee County: Commissioner Frank Mann, Councilman Forrest Banks, Councilman Jim Burch, Commissioner Brian Hamman, Vice Mayor Joe Kosinski, Vice Mayor Doug Congress, Ms. Laura Holquist

Sarasota County: Commissioner Charles Hines, Commissioner Carolyn Mason, Vice Mayor Willie Shaw, Councilman Kit McKeon, Commissioner Cheryl Cook for Commissioner Rhonda DiFranco

Ex-Officio Members: Mr. Shawn Hamilton for Mr. Jon Iglehart-FDEP, Mr. Phil Flood-SFWMD, Ms. Melissa Dickens-SWFWMD

MEMBERS ABSENT

Charlotte County: None

Collier County: Commissioner Tim Nance

Glades County: Councilwoman Pat Lucas, Commissioner Tim Stanley

Hendry County: Commissioner Don Davis, Commissioner Daniel Akin, Mayor Phillip Roland

Lee County: None

Sarasota County: Mr. Felipe Colón

Ex-Officio Members: Ms. Carmen Monroy – FDOT

Ms. Gwinnett announced that there was a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM #4 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments on agenda item 11(a), Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management:

Ms. Patty Whitehead, resident of Estero, board member of the Responsible Growth Management Coalition of Southwest Florida (RGMC), and newly appointed member of the ABM, expressed her concerns regarding the Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management (ABM). She stated that she had heard that the Council may be considering dissolving the ABM as a committee of the Council, and that she believed that this would be a move in the wrong direction, since the ABM serves a unique function and role in the protection of the Estero Bay watershed, which is both an environmentally sensitive area and a valuable environmental asset for Lee County that is subject to development pressure. She stated that she supports the mission and work of the ABM, and asked that the Council preserve the ABM.

Ms. Martha Simons, appearing as Council's representative on the ABM, stated that she supported the staff recommendation under Agenda Item 11(a), to continue to support the ABM as a Council committee, since it brings value to the regional planning council, and furthers the Council's mission statement and policy plan. The ABM operates at no cost to the Council, and performs valuable services that are not duplicative of other entities. There are other agencies, such as FDEP, that do a good job of furthering their mission, but their work differs from that of the ABM. Estero Bay is the State's first aquatic preserve, and it has unique archaeological, environmental and wildlife features that need to be preserved. The ABM brings value not only to the regional planning council, but to local governments that it provides technical assistance to, thereby saving taxpayers' monies. She closed by stating that she supported and thanked staff for its recommendation.

Dr. Lisa Beever, Director of the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP), and Chair of the ABM, encouraged the Council to maintain the ABM as a committee of the Council. She invests her own time as chair of the ABM, and in the development of the 10-year restoration plan for the Estero Bay Basin, Ceta Tega workshops, and State of the Bay Reports. She stated that she makes this investment because the CHNEP Policy Committee, composed of elected officials and heads of agencies, sees great value in the work of the Estero Bay ABM. She stated that it is common for different basins to have a focus group to look at basin issues, and each of the groups operates differently based on the needs and opportunities within those basins, and their legal underpinnings. She gave as examples the Myakka River Coordinating Committee, the Peace River Basin Management and Advisory Committee, the Lemon Bay League, the Caloosahatchee River Citizens Association, the Estero Bay ABM. She stated that the ABM is the premier organization focusing on the needs and opportunities within the Estero Bay Basin.

Mr. Brad Cornell, representing Audubon Florida, which owns Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, and is a member of the ABM. Mr. Cornell stated that he supported the first option outlined in Mr. McCabe's memorandum, to continue to support the ABM as a Council subcommittee, including providing staff support to the committee. Although the ABM had its origins in litigation and controversy, its charge is to protect the Estero Bay watershed, which is fundamental to the interests of all citizens of southwest Florida. He stated that he believed that most people understand that land uses upstream affect water quality in the estuary downstream, and everything in between. He stated that the quality of the Estero Bay affects the economic as well as ecologic interests of all the citizens of the region, and urged Council to support the option to continue supporting the ABM. He stated that the ABM serves as a forum that can't be replicated by any individual organization or agency, and that collectively, the group has a lot to offer - the diverse interests of the group result in more well-considered conclusions and recommendations. The forum creates great opportunities, and provides advice and input for deliberations on land use and other issues by Council and local governments that make decisions that affect the Estero Bay watershed.

AGENDA ITEM #5

AGENDA

Ms. Holquist requested that Agenda Item 12(a) be pulled, to be reconsidered at the March 2014 meeting, since there would be meetings and actions affecting the agenda item over the course of the next week that would make discussion of the item premature.

There being no discussion or objection, Item 12(a) was pulled.

AGENDA ITEM #6

Minutes of the January 16, 2014 Meeting

**Commissioner Turner moved to approve the minutes of January 16, 2014;
Councilman Burch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

AGENDA ITEM #7

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Ms. Wuerstle presented the item. She stated there were several items that she wanted to review. She mentioned that the Florida Regional Council Association (FRCA) Legislative Priorities were in the agenda package. She stated that there had been a meeting the previous week regarding the retreat at which they reviewed some of the findings from the retreat. FRCA is still working on determining what issues they are going to work on and what priorities the issues will be given. In the mean time, Ms. Wuerstle stated that she has started to develop a list of items that Council would like to see FRCA address for the Council. Ms. Wuerstle stated that Council had executed an agreement with FRCA in 2008; she would like to update the agreement, incorporating the list of items she has been working on, and bring it back to Council for approval in March.

Commissioner Turner endorsed Ms. Wuerstle's proposal, stating that the Council should put some parameters into its agreement with FRCA in regards to how the Council would monitor its

relationship with FRCA. He stated that it was good fiscal policy to monitor the return on investment in any relationship, especially when taxpayers' money was paying part of the Council's FRCA dues. He further stated that he felt that the Council had made a positive step forwards by making FRCA aware of problems it perceived in their relationship.

Ms. Holquist stated that she had received an email from Ms. Coven at FRCA, stating that if the Council left the organization of regional planning councils, it could have a negative impact on the ability of the group to get grant funding, and that it was very important to keep the group united to maximize its ability to seek federal and state funding; i.e., that by pulling out of FRCA, the Council would be hurting the ability of the other ten regional planning councils in the state to get funding.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that this was one of the reasons why she has advocated for giving FRCA the opportunity to amend its structure and leadership prior to withdrawing from the organization.

Mr. Mulhere observed that, as an attendee at the recent FRCA board retreat in Tallahassee, he believed that the SWFRPC is not alone as a regional planning council with its concerns about the manner in which FRCA has been managed and the focus of the organization; he stated that a majority of the regional planning councils concurred in the concerns voiced by the SWFRPC board members, and that the message was heard by FRCA. He stated that we should wait to find out what actions were being proposed by FRCA in response to the concerns raised at the meeting. He then stated that he liked Ms. Wuerstle's proposal, and would look forward to seeing her recommendations next month.

Ms. Wuerstle pointed out that the SWFRPC would not be the first Council to pull out of FRCA; there is already one RPC that does not participate or pay dues, the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council covering both Central and West Central Florida.

Commissioner Turner moved that the Council continue its membership in FRCA for the time being, pending further review once additional information is provided by the Executive Director; the motion received unanimous approval.

Councilman McKeon stated that before making a decision to pull out of FRCA, he would like to have a dialogue concerning the pros and cons of such a decision. For instance, if the SWFRPC pulled out, and FRCA was still in existence, they could make negative statements about the SWFRPC that would have negative impacts on the Council.

Ms. Wuerstle mentioned that she had included a draft letter from the Council to Speaker Boehner and Chairman Hensarling of the U.S. House of Representatives, supporting quick action by the House to mitigate the impact of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act.

Councilman Banks moved that the Council send the letter, and Mr. McCormick seconded; the motion received unanimous approval.

Ms. Wuerstle mentioned the inclusion in the Director's Report of the schedule of Discovery Meetings being conducted by FEMA for a coastal Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning project with counties in Southwest Florida.

Mr. Perry explained the current state of affairs in Hendry and Glades counties regarding FEMA maps. The maps are being redrawn, and the big issue is the condition of the levee around Lake Okeechobee.

Ms. Wuerstle referenced and summarized the list of SWFRPC's committees included in the Director's Report. The table includes a description of all of the committees, the date established, and the current members and chairperson of each committee. She stated that Council Chair Heitmann had appointed chairs to the committees at the Council's last meeting in January, and that a number of people had expressed interest in serving as members of the committees, and were listed as members in the table. She referenced one additional appointment, Commissioner Frank Mann to the Regional Transportation Committee.

Commissioner Hiller asked to be appointed to Economic Development Committee. She stated that she is currently the chair of economic development for Collier County, that Collier County recently joined the Southwest Regional Economic Development Alliance, that Collier County was a proponent of regionalism at the county board level, and that she is personally committed to regionalism; for these reasons, she is very interested in working with the committee with its efforts to promote regional economic development.

Councilwoman Heitmann thanked Commissioner Hiller for her willingness to serve. She stated that she would complete the process of appointing committee members and chairs, and asked members to let her know if they wanted to serve on a committee they were currently not appointed to.

Councilwoman Prafke asked to be appointed to the Economic Development Committee; Commissioner Hines volunteered for Transportation Committee; and Mr. Mulhere volunteered for the Legislative Affairs Committee.

Councilwoman Heitmann read through the chairs of the Council committees.

Ms. Wuerstle made a correction that Mr. McCormick is the chair of the Energy & Climate Committee.

Councilwoman Heitmann explained that the committee chairs would set meeting schedules, with assistance from staff; staff make sure that meetings received adequate public notice as required by law.

At the request of Councilwoman Heitmann, Ms. Gwinnett explained the online Doodle poll process utilized by Council staff to find meeting times and dates that worked for committee members.

Councilman Burch, referring back to the prior motion by the Council to send a letter supporting prompt action by the House on the Biggert-Waters issue, asked whether the Council would want to consider supporting a two-year extension rather than a four-year extension of time, since this would be better than no extension of time for delaying rate increases. Brief discussion ensued.

Ms. Wuerstle stated that the budget was on target, with approximately a \$100,000 surplus, and that the audit report would be presented by the auditors at the March meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #8(a)
Grant Activity Sheet

No discussion; informational item only.

AGENDA ITEM #9
CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Turner made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. The motion received unanimous approval.

[The order of agenda items was changed to accommodate technical difficulties; Item #11(a) was discussed prior to the discussion of the comprehensive plan amendments.]

AGENDA ITEM #11(a)
Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management Discussion

Mr. McCabe presented this item; he reviewed the specific questions presented by the Council at the last meeting, and the responses covered in his memorandum were included in the agenda package. After summarizing the responses, he asked whether the Council had any questions.

Councilman Banks asked for the mission statement of the ABM. Mr. Beever stated that the mission was basically to consider the issues within the Estero Bay watershed, review and make comments on them to the RPC and to regulatory agencies.

Mr. Perry asked to be reminded which agencies had signed the Settlement Agreement; Mr. McCabe responded that the signatory agencies were FGCU, SFWMD, SWFRPC, and DCA (the stipulation was signed April 10-11, 1995, in re DOAH Case No. 95-569; parties included: Responsible Growth Management Coalition and Ellen Peterson, Petitioners (counsel: Thomas Reese); Florida Board of Regents of the State University System of Florida (Robert Rhodes, counsel; Charles Reed, Chancellor, BOR) and the South Florida Water Management District (John Fumero, counsel; Sam Poole, Exec. Dir.), Respondents; Lee County Board of County Commissioners, Intervenors; the Department of Community Affairs also signed the agreement (Linda Shelley, Secretary of DCA.)

Mr. Perry asked about the FGCU College of Arts and Sciences being listed in the membership list.

Mr. Beever responded that Win Everham, a member of the College of Arts and Sciences, was appointed by FGCU to represent the university on the ABM.

Mr. Perry asked how members were appointed to the ABM.

Mr. Beever explained the ABM membership appointment process. (Note: the process established in the Settlement Agreement (§ 5, pg. 6, ABM Settlement Agreement) is as follows: “ABM members shall initially be appointed to one year terms by the Arnold Committee. Thereafter the ABM shall determine the method of membership appointments. ABM membership shall consist of, but not be limited to, Lee County legislative delegation members who desire to participate, and shall include, but not be limited to, members from the following: local Chambers of Commerce, Citizen and Civic Associations, Lee County, the District, the Department of Environmental Protection, the FCFWFC, the FGCU, the SWFRPC, commercial and recreational fishing interests, environmental and conservation organizations, Responsible Growth Management Coalition, Fort Myers Beach Civic Association, Citizens Association of Bonita Beach, scientists, affected property owners, and the land development community.”)

Each organization that is specified as an ABM member in the settlement agreement appoints a person to represent them, possibly with an alternate. New members are accepted if they are involved in and active in the Estero Bay watershed.

Mr. Perry stated that he was bothered by the absence of landowners on the committee.

Mr. Beever stated that there are land owners on the committee, but not developers. He explained that private land owners used to have more representation on the committee, including representatives from WCI and other land development groups. However, when the economic downturn occurred circa 2009, they began to submit letters withdrawing from membership, stating that they no longer has sufficient staff or time to participate in the ABM. In subsequent years, the ABM wrote letters to private land interests, inviting them to appoint members; however, they have so far declined to participate. (Note: Johnson Engineering is a current member of the ABM.) Other private sector businesses represented in the past or present on the ABM include the marine trades industry, commercial fishing industry, and other businesses; the most recent member to join is the Lion’s Club.

Councilman Banks stated his belief that the ABM was created by the settlement agreement to ensure that as the university area was developed, that there would not be negative impacts on the Estero Bay.

Mr. Beever clarified that the ABM was established to protect the entire Estero Bay watershed.

Councilman Banks questioned whether the ABM should go on in perpetuity; he stated that at some point in time, the ABM should determine whether it had met the purposes for which it had been created, after which the members would be free to pursue other worthwhile activities.

Mr. McCabe stated that in determining the meaning of legal documents, if the actual language does not provide an answer, it is appropriate to look at other evidence that is indicative of the intent of persons who were involved in the creation of the document. He stated that the attorney for the plaintiffs in the underlying case had written a letter regarding the intent and purpose of the ABM; in the letter, the attorney states that the Estero Bay ABM was modeled after the Tampa Bay ABM, and that no end date was foreseen; both ABMs were intended to operate for an indefinite time period, as the water quality of the bays was of ongoing concern to residents of both watersheds. Mr. McCabe stated that he was merely providing this information for consideration by the Council, and

that it was up to the Council to debate the merits of the ABM and make a decision based on its evaluation of all factors, knowing that its actions could have legal consequences based upon its perceived obligations under the ABM settlement agreement.

Councilman Burch asked for clarification concerning the potential for duplication of efforts, given the large number of groups involved in work on the Estero Bay; specifically, how the ABM communicates with the groups to ensure that multiple agencies are not duplicating the same work, and whether their work is coordinated to enhance the research done by separate groups.

Mr. Beever stated that most of the entities working in the Estero Bay are also members of the ABM. The ABM doesn't do actual research work such as water sampling, permitting, or compliance review in the field; the member agencies do the research and field work. The ABM is a meeting place, that serves as an inter-entity coordination group, where the members share information on the work they are doing and share their information, which in part is how the ABM creates its periodic State of the Bay reports evaluating the overall condition of the bay. Each agency has their particular specialty that they concentrate on, and the ABM provides synthesis: it allows people to work together to build consensus and reach a better understanding of the watershed.

Councilman Burch asked whether ABM participants have an agreement or obligation to share the information they collect, so that it can be evaluated in its entirety and compiled into the State Of The Bay Reports.

Mr. Beever stated that the data sharing does occur, in a friendly fashion, without any requirement or charter. The agencies continue to meet and participate in the ABM because they want to; it furthers the missions of the individual organizations, the ABM, and the Council. It acts as the guild hall for the Estero Bay. In addition, the ABM is still evaluating the impacts of the university: the MPO recently did a presentation for the ABM on proposed roads associated with the university; there are plans for new research parks; etc. The ABM is also working on the harmful algae bloom problem, the unified general permit for maintenance dredging, and other projects.

Mr. Flood commented that the issue was being discussed due to concerns over the direct and indirect costs of maintaining the ABM, and that even if funding was covered for the current fiscal year, financial concerns were bound to come up again in the future. He suggested that the ABM could be placed on hiatus, as the Council has done with the Regional Watersheds Subcommittee, and brought back as needed. This would allow staff resources to be utilized for more pressing matters of concern to the entire region, rather than one watershed.

Commissioner Mann provided a view of the university permitting process from the benefit of his historical perspective. He stated that although the fiscal impact appears to be relatively minor, finances were tight for most local governments. Lee County had continued to fund the ABM after the SFWMD and FDEP ceased funding, but that they had decided not to continue funding for the current fiscal year, presumably because they felt that the work of the ABM had been essentially completed.

Commissioner Mann stated that the ABM was created as a result of permitting of a university in a swamp, and that since a large part of it drained into the Estero Bay, there was great concern about its potential impact on the bay, and people wanted to monitor the development and construction

of the university. However, 20 years have gone by, the agreement is silent on how long the ABM should exist, and several state agencies formerly involved in funding the ABM have now ceased their funding; therefore, the Lee County manager stated that he could not recommend continued funding for the ABM. Essentially, the county is stating that they feel that the job of the ABM is completed, and that the county does not feel that by doing so, they are promoting increased pollution of the waters of the Estero Bay, since there are still a number of agencies involved in monitoring the bay. In stating that it was his opinion that the specific purpose of the settlement agreement was to deal with the construction of the university, and Lee County was not going to pay for continued funding for the ABM.

Commissioner Mann stated that the issue boils down to a simple question: whether the Council wants to assume the entire cost of the ABM, which appears to be approximately \$7,500 per year. If the Council decides that it does not, he stated, this would not mean that the Council does not care about the Estero Bay; Council's staff has demonstrated its concern for the water quality of the bay many times over the years. He closed his comments by stating that the Council should consider a motion to continue to support the ABM out of its own funds, and decide whether it could afford to do so, given its current financial condition.

Vice Mayor Shaw moved that the Council continue to support the ABM as a Council subcommittee, including providing staff support to the committee. Commissioner Cook seconded.

Discussion ensued.

Councilman Banks asked what had been allocated for the ABM in the Council's budget.

Ms. Wuerstle stated that annual costs for the ABM were running around \$7,500 in recent years. Mr. Beever stated that the average budget for the ABM was \$7,500; in some years, it was as low as \$5,000. The projection from Council's accountant was that the budget for the current year would be about \$9,298, due to contributions from three entities, plus a match for the State Of The Bay document. Generally, special projects such as Cela Tegas come from special funding that is received from sponsors.

Mr. McCormick asked whether Lee County would be contributing to funding for the ABM.

Commissioner Mann stated that it would be decided on a year to year basis, but that he did not foresee funding assistance from Lee County.

Councilman Banks stated that if Council was going to proceed with funding the ABM, there should be a cap established for the ABM that would not be exceeded.

Commissioner Turner provided additional clarification; he stated that the Council should have a specific "not to exceed" number in the budget, and that if it needed to be adjusted, it would be brought back to Council.

Commissioner Constance agreed that he believed that the annual funding coming from the Council should not exceed \$5,000 in a given year; if the ABM found additional monies from other

sources, its overall budget might be significantly higher, but the amount from Council should not exceed \$5,000.

Commissioner Constance moved to amend Vice Mayor Shaw's original motion by adding the condition that the Council limits its support to the ABM to an amount not to exceed \$5,000 per year. Commissioner Mann seconded; the amendment to the motion received unanimous approval.

Councilwoman Heitmann called for a vote on the main motion, and asked Vice Mayor Shaw to restate the motion as amended.

Vice Mayor Shaw restated his motion: that the Council continues to support the ABM as a Council subcommittee, including providing staff support to the committee, not to exceed \$5,000 per year. The motion passed, with two opposed votes (Commissioners Mason and Hines).

AGENDA ITEM #10(a)

Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan Amendment (DEO 14-1ESR)

Prior to discussing individual projects on the agenda for the day, Mr. Crawford presented a summary of the comprehensive planning process from the perspective of the regional planning Council.

He stated that staff review of the proposed amendments was based on whether they were likely to be of regional concern. This is determined through assessment of the following factors:

Location—in or near a regional resource or regional activity center, such that it impacts the regional resource or facility; on or within one mile of a county boundary; generally applied to sites of five acres or more; size alone is not necessarily a determinant of regional significance;

Magnitude—equal to or greater than the threshold for a Development of Regional Impact of the same type (a DRI-related amendment is considered regionally significant); and

Character—of a unique type or use, a use of regional significance, or a change in the local comprehensive plan that could be applied throughout the local jurisdiction; updates, editorial revisions, etc. are not regionally significant.

Mr. Crawford presented a summary of the proposed comprehensive plan amendments to the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan.

Commission Cook stated that she was concerned with whether the proposed amendments were consistent with Sarasota County's 20/50 Plan.

Mr. Crawford stated the form has to be a village, and one of the factors in determining consistency with the plan is to determine whether the proposed changes will affect the viability of the village concept. The proposed changes involve moving some of the commercial development up to Clark Road, away from the village center. Mr. Crawford stated that in past development projects, they have found that if the commercial is confined to just the village center, they often do not work because there is no drive-by traffic.

In regards to the proposed change, staff discussed the project with the county and pertinent state agencies. In this case, since the county believes that the changes will work and are consistent with their plan, the changes are consistent with the regional plan, and do not have a significant impact on regional resources, that the relatively minor adjustments to the plan were a decision best left to local determination.

Councilman Burch stated that he had seen a change in development patterns from larger parcels of single family development to higher density development, which he believes does impact transportation systems. He asked whether the village concept is defined by the density, and the number of housing units in an area.

Mr. Crawford stated that yes, the village concept is confined to a specific number of units, and that the total number of units would not be adjusted very much, just how it is formed. He also stated that in general, higher density development results in less sprawl.

Councilman Burch asked whether more specificity could be provided regarding the impact of the proposed plan changes on density.

Mr. Paulmann of Stantec, representing the Clark Road property owners, spoke to the issue. Regarding transportation impact, he said that the issue is tied in part to the fact that there are no parallel roads to relieve traffic. The project will provide a north-south connector road between Venice and Clark Road in Sarasota, SR 72. Density in the project is two units per gross acre. The 20/50 Plan contemplates a range from three to six units per acre, so the project meets plan requirements.

Commissioner Hines stated that Mr. Crawford had done an excellent job summarizing the 20/50 plan, and that he did not see any potential for regional impact from the proposed changes. He stated that he believed the 20/50 plan requirements were too rigid, and that the flexibility provided in the plan under review would increase the likelihood that the project would succeed.

Mr. Mulhere commented that he had never seen a plan that did not require changes over time; nobody had a crystal ball that goes out so far as to know everything. One of the recurring flaws in the process that requires people to make these changes is that we often do not develop a plan that reacts appropriately to the marketplace. The market is constantly changing – if the county wants to see the development happen, and there needed to be changes made to the project to reflect current market conditions, we ought to be making those changes. Also, when you talk about transportation impacts, you can't discuss them in a vacuum, because, e.g., a low density development without a mixture of uses will have a greater traffic impact than a higher density development with mixture of uses that is capturing traffic.

Commissioner Cook stated that although changes may need to be made periodically to accommodate changes in the market, the 20/50 Plan was put in place over many years, with a lot of input by the community and elected officials, and she want to make sure that changes to the plan are not blithely made. The plan is intended to be a long-term plan.

Commissioner Hines moved to approve staff recommendation for approval of the plan amendment; Councilman McKeon seconded:

Approve staff comments, and authorize staff to forward comments to the Department of Economic Opportunity and Sarasota County.

The motion received unanimous approval.

AGENDA ITEM #10(b)

Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan Amendment (DEO 14-2ESR)

Mr. Crawford presented a summary of the proposed comprehensive plan amendments to the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan.

He stated that this is a change to an existing DRI, and DEO's state planning division made a determination that there is no need to do a Notice of Proposed Change for the plan amendment, because they are merely shifting residential units from the north side of the road to the south side of the road, removing some industrial uses, and adding some residential, which could result in less traffic impact. Since the predicted impacts to the project are not changing, staff does not have any objection to the proposed changes.

Commissioner Hines moved to approve staff recommendation for approval of the plan amendment; Vice Mayor Shaw seconded:

Approve staff comments, and authorize staff to forward comments to the Department of Economic Opportunity and Sarasota County.

Commissioner Hines stated that this was another example of changing economic markets requiring plan amendments to adjust to the market changes.

Councilwoman Heitmann asked for a vote on the motion.

The motion received unanimous approval.

AGENDA ITEM #10(c)

Hendry County Comprehensive Plan Amendment (DEO 14-1SP)

Mr. Crawford presented a summary of the proposed comprehensive plan amendment to the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan. He explained that this is a sector plan development, and provided a summary of the Sector Plan process. Sector plans are intended to recognize and

encourage the benefits of long-range planning for specific areas within a region or local governmental jurisdiction. The minimum size of the land area for a sector plan is 15,000 acres.

The primary goals of a Sector Plan include:

- Promoting long-term planning for conservation, development and agriculture on a landscape scale;
- Supporting innovative and flexible planning and development strategies;
- Facilitate protection of regionally significant resources;
- Ensure adequate mitigation of impacts to regional resources and facilities, including extra-jurisdictional impacts; and
- Emphasizing urban form in those areas designated for development.

The main stated purpose of the King Ranch Sector Plan is to undertake planning in a regional context in such a manner that the environmental opportunities are enhanced, while economically via agriculture is supported, and economic development through conversion to new, more urban oriented land uses, is encouraged. Without a Sector Plan that provides the necessary protections, assurances and incentives for the land owners within the proposed study area, the opportunity to develop a long-term, balanced plan could be lost to future fragmentation of the subject lands.

Mr. Crawford stated that the applicant has applied for a large scale comprehensive plan amendment to re-designate approximately 23,500 acres of land located in two separate parcels in the southwest portion of Hendry County through the Sector Planning process as allowed by the State of Florida. The subject area is comprised of two separate planning areas. The larger planning area known as the West Planning Area consists of approximately 19,798 acres. The West Planning Area is bounded by Collier County to the south and Lee County to the west. The northern boundary is adjacent to the Lee/Hendry County Landfill and the previously approved Rodina Sector Plan. The eastern boundary is generally consistent with the western boundary of the Felda Community Planning Area. The smaller planning area known as the East Planning Area consist of approximately 3,697 acres that connect Dinner Island Ranch Wildlife Management Area to the Okaloacoochee Slough.

The Southwest Hendry County Sector Plan will allow for urban type development in designated areas, long term agriculture and conservation that has an estimated buildout of 50 years. The Sector Plan site is located in an area of the region that is surrounded by existing and planned development, long-term agriculture, and conservation areas.

Mr. Crawford explained that the sector plan process limits the role of the Regional Planning Council to that of a commenting agency to DEO on projects that are by definition regional in scope, since they will have multi-jurisdictional impacts.

Mr. Crawford explained that the law concerning Sector Plans does not identify a specific role for the Regional Planning Councils to take in the review process even though developments the size of the Southwest Hendry County Sector Plan will have significant impacts on multiple jurisdictions, which is regional by definition, given that the subject site is located adjacent to Lee County on the west and Collier County to the south. Council staff believes that regional impacts and appropriate

mitigation for these impacts may not be addressed adequately under the current local review and approval process. Council staff concerns in this matter could be addressed if the County would add language to the amendments that would require the Council to provide input at such time as future DSAPs is reviewed, and recommended proposed language.

Commissioner Constance asked what constitutes a sector.

Mr. Crawford stated that it has to be at least 15,000 acres, and the applicant is required to undergo the planning process specified in the sector planning process.

Commissioner Constance asked what differentiates the sector planning process from the DRI process.

Mr. Crawford stated that among other things, the regional planning council is not involved in the process, other than the opportunity to comment on the plan.

Commissioner Constance asked why an applicant would choose the sector plan process over the DRI process, and why the law allows a choice between the two processes.

Mr. Crawford stated he could not speculate as to the reasons the legislature decided to allow both sector plans and DRIs.

Commissioner Turner stated that from his perspective, from a magnitude scale, DRIs were much smaller than sector plans, and that sector plans were used for longer range planning than DRIs. He stated that Hendry County was excited about the plans, and that they believe that they provide good long-range planning for the future of the county.

Commissioner Turner moved to approve staff recommendation for approval of the plan amendment; Mr. Perry seconded.

Mr. Mulhere stated that sector plans provide the opportunity for the holder of a large piece of land to do long range planning in conjunction with the local government, so that the maximum entitlements are established for the property. It differs from the DRI process in that it is not as detailed and specific; it leaves the more detailed and specific review process for a future date, when the market will be there for the project to move forward. Generally, from a planning perspective, he believes that it is a good process, since we don't have enough money to protect the resources that need protection; the process allows for the land owner to commit to protecting some resources in return for a level of entitlement for future development.

Commissioner Constance asked what the scale was for the circles that would contain future development.

Mr. Hutchcraft, representing King Ranch, responded to the question. He explained that there are two planning areas. The eastern planning area, consisting of about 3,700 acres, is essentially being put into long-term agriculture, and will have virtually no residential development (one unit per 100 acres.) The circles represent the location of future neighborhoods; the goals, objectives and policies establish that a neighborhood can only be 1,000 acres in size. The boundaries are

somewhat conceptual; the specific boundaries for neighborhoods would be established in the next step in the sector planning process, the detailed specific area plan.

Councilman Burch asked about the analysis of traffic impacts to the proposed development.

Mr. Hutchcraft explained that the discussions to determine the methodology for determining traffic impacts included other potentially affected counties, including Lee County, Collier County, and Hendry County; once the methodology was agreed upon, the applicant used an FDOT regional model to run the analysis, and they gave the information back to them to evaluate..

Mr. Hutchcraft also commented that the sector plan process gives an applicant an opportunity to do long-term planning on large pieces of property before they get fragmented. One of the unique aspects of the property at issue is that it abuts three counties – Collier, Hendry and Lee. The analysis showed that the roads at issue did not all connect, which gave the property owners, local governments, and FDOT an opportunity to make the road connections link up and make sense. It also resulted in some surprising findings, particularly on SR 82; they found that when they made the connections, it built a better network, and resulted in less improvements being necessary for a longer period of time.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Reynolds asked whether the applicant is comfortable with the two staff recommendations.

Mr. Hutchcraft stated that he had briefly reviewed them. He said that the applicant's plan is consistent with the state statutes, and they have every intent of remaining consistent with state law. He said that the applicant had also coordinated with RPC staff, and that RPC staff had provided comments to Hendry County; therefore, he stated, the RPC has had the opportunity to provide input into the process.

In regards to staff's second comment regarding the applicant's Environmental Analysis, he suggested that Council members to read the letter regarding the project from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). The applicant met with FWC, and incorporated their suggestions into the plan; Mr. Hutchcraft stated that the FWC agreed that how they treated the eastern property was a significant regional solution to the environmental issues associated with the property. He also took exception to the staff report statement that the Environmental Analysis indicated that there was only one federally listed species, the Florida panther, within the east parcel; he stated that the intent of the Environmental Analysis was to use the Florida panther as an umbrella species, and that when they addressed panther habitat, they also addressed a lot of other environmental issues. He stated that he felt that they had not done an inadequate job, but rather a phenomenal job of addressing natural resources, including providing environmental connections that link CREW to the Spirit of the Wild in perpetuity.

Councilwoman Heitmann asked who they worked with regarding water issues.

Mr. Hutchcraft stated that within the property, there are a number of landowners, and they worked with all of them; in addition, they reached out to all of the adjacent landowners, including Duda to the north and the Felda community to the east. They met with Collier County to give them an

overview of the project; Lee County was invited to their regional stakeholders meeting, at which there were also a number of community activists, including Audubon, Florida Wildlife Federation, and Defenders of Wildlife. They have had a number of meetings with the water management district, and met with the PSC.

Councilwoman Heitmann asked whether the water management district had made any comments. Mr. Hutchcraft said that the water management district's comment was that they wanted to be provided with a copy of the DSAP at the time that it was submitted.

Mr. Perry commented that the site was, for the most part, intensely developed as an agricultural site. Mr. Hutchcraft agreed; he said that the entire area is converted primarily to citrus crops, some pasture land, a little bit of row crops, and some mining activity, with little natural features remaining. He commented that their analysis documented that there really isn't any regionally significant natural resources within the boundary of the western property, and that what makes the project unique is that the regional natural resources are on either side of the property, making their ability to make connections to the regionally significant natural areas an important and significant asset of the proposed project.

Mr. Reynolds, posing a question to Mr. Crawford, stated that the staff recommendation for the project implies that the region has an ongoing role to play in the sector planning process; he asked what the mechanism was that provided the ongoing involvement.

Mr. Crawford stated that once the Council made its comments, its involvement with the process was essentially completed, as was the case with the Rodina sector plan area, located to the north of the plan currently under review. He stated that the Council, like the water management district, merely wants to be included in the planning process for the smaller planning areas, as plans for those areas are developed in the future. He commended the applicants for the quality of their plan, and for their coordination efforts. However, from a regional planning perspective, he would like for the Council to have the opportunity to review the plans in the future, to make sure that the regional impacts of the development will be adequately addressed. If the Council does not claim a role in the process now, it will not be guaranteed an opportunity to comment on the future impacts of the development, which could be significant given the size of the project.

Mr. Reynolds asked Mr. Crawford to confirm that under state laws, the Council does not have a specified role in the planning process.

Mr. Crawford said that he believes that the state statutes are silent on the matter, and that he did not see any abuse of the law in conditioning a recommendation for approval upon a future obligation to notify the Council and provide the Council with the opportunity to comment on future planning efforts.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated the Council could work on tightening the details of the staff recommendations if needed, and asked for a vote on the motion.

The motion received unanimous approval.

Mr. Mulhere asked to confirm that the motion included the two staff recommendations, to have a clear record of the vote:

SWFRPC Recommendation #1:

The Council would request that technical assistance and comments concerning regional issues associated with the future development of the Southwest Hendry County Sector Plan community are provided to Hendry County during the Detailed Specific Area Plans (DSAP) review process as they are submitted and reviewed by Hendry County. The Council would encourage the County to continue to coordinate with the Council staff at the time of each subsequent DSAP application.

SWFRPC Recommendation #2:

Prior to any DSAP, the applicant should address the survey for and, if present, plans to protect, avoid impacts to, and if necessary, mitigation for these species. This survey should provide the following information:

- a. Identify the dominant species and other unusual or unique features of the plant communities on the DSAP site. Identify and describe the amount of all plant communities that will be preserved in a natural state following development as shown on a map of the DSAP;**
- b. Discuss what survey methods were used to determine the absence or presence of state or federally listed wildlife and plants. (Sampling methodology should be agreed to by the reviewing agencies at conference stage.) State actual samplings times and dates, and discuss any factors that may have influenced the results of the sampling effort. Show on a map of the DSAP the location of all transects, trap grids, or other sampling stations used to determine the on-site status of state or federally listed wildlife and plant resources;**
- c. List all state or federally listed wildlife and plant resources that were observed on the site and show location on a DSAP map. Given the plant communities on-site, list any additional state or federally listed wildlife and plant resources expected to occur on the site and show the location of suitable habitat on a DSAP map. Additionally, address any unique wildlife and plant resources, such as colonial bird nesting sites and migrating bird concentration areas. For species that are either observed or expected to utilize the site, discuss the known or expected location and population size on-site, existence (and extent, if known) of adjacent, contiguous habitat off-site, and any special habitat requirements of the species;**
- d. Indicate what impact development of the site will pose to affected state or federally listed wildlife and plant resources; and**
- e. Discuss what measures are proposed to be taken to mitigate impacts to state and federally listed wildlife and plant resources. If protection is proposed to occur on-site, describe what legal instrument will be used to protect the site, and what management actions will be taken to maintain habitat value. If protection is proposed to occur off-site, identify the proposed amount and type of lands to be mitigated as well as whether mitigation would be through a regional mitigation land bank, by acquisition of lands that adjoin existing public holdings, or by other means.**

Council affirmed by unanimous consent.

AGENDA ITEM #10(d)
Palmer Ranch Increment XVI DRI - NOPC

Mr. Crawford presented a summary of the Palmer Ranch Increment XVI NOPC. He stated that the DRI has been under development for a number of years, and in his opinion is one of the finest developments in the Region.

Mr. Crawford stated that the Council's role in coordinating the review process of an NOPC is to determine whether "any proposed change to a previously approved development creates a reasonable likelihood of additional regional impact, or any type of regional impact created by the change not previously reviewed by the regional planning agency." § 380.06(19)(a), Fla. Stat.

Mr. Crawford explained that the proposed change was to reduce the amount of approved commercial in Increment XVI from 200,000 square feet to 100,000 square feet, to add 78 residential units on Parcel P3, and incorporate the adjacent 14.06 ± acres in Restoration Area D into Increment XVI; the added property would be incorporated into Increment XVI and would remain in open space.

The staff recommendation is that no additional regional impact will occur from the proposed change that was not previously reviewed by the SWFRPC; therefore, staff does not object to any of the proposed changes. Furthermore, staff agrees that the applicant rebutted the presumption of a substantial deviation with the information provided in the NOPC.

Commissioner Hines moved to approve staff recommendations; Vice Mayor Shaw seconded:

1. Notify Sarasota County, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the applicant that SWFRPC staff has no objection to the change, which is found not to be a substantial deviation and found not to create additional regional impacts not previously reviewed by the Regional Planning Council.
2. Request that Sarasota County provide SWFRPC staff with copies of any Development Order amendments related to the proposed changes not contained in the NOPC, as well as any additional information requested of the applicant by DEO or the County.

The motion received unanimous approval.

AGENDA ITEM #10(e)
Babcock Ranch DRI – Master Development Order (MDO)

AGENDA ITEM #10(f)
Babcock Ranch DRI – Increment I Development Order

(Both items discussed together)

Mr. Crawford stated that in 2013, Council conditionally approved the NOPC for the Babcock Ranch Community MDO and the Increment I development order.

There were two issues with the MDO: affordable housing and an extension of time for the buildout and expiration dates for the DRI. In regards to the Increment I development order, there were three issues: the two issues in the MDO, and a revision to the IDO to increase the acreage of Increment I by approximately 992 acres in order to increase flexibility in community planning alternatives for the subject site.

Mr. Crawford stated that procedurally, this was the final step in the DRI NOPC process; it was Council's opportunity to review the development order to ensure that the language reflected the conditional approval previously issued by the Council.

Mr. Crawford stated that it was staff's opinion that the final development order is consistent with the Council's prior conditions, and that staff recommended final approval of the development orders.

Mr. Mann stated that he had several comments to make. He thanked Charlotte County representatives for their sensitivity to Lee County's concerns with this development. It is a huge project on SR 31, and the transportation impact will be borne for the most part by Lee County. He stated that for the record, his concerns continue to be the transportation impact, and to make certain that in the long term, the developer pays for those impacts, not the county taxpayers who live adjacent to the property. He closed by stating that the changes being reviewed were essentially internal changes that staff had concluded do not have a regional impact, that he agreed with staff's conclusion, and that he would supporting the Charlotte County motion to approve the agenda items.

Commissioner Constance moved to approve staff recommendations for the Master Development Order, agenda item #10(e); Mr. McCormick seconded:

1. Accept the Charlotte County approved Development Order as rendered; and
2. Notify Charlotte County, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and the applicant that the approved Development Order is consistent with the Council approved NOPC.

The motion received unanimous approval.

Commissioner Constance stated that the school siting provision in the development order said that the developer would offer land for schools, but did not specify who would actually build the schools. He asked how this would be worked out with the Charlotte County School Board.

Mr. Crawford stated that historically, developers offer land for school sites, and the school boards have built the actual school buildings and facilities, but that he was not sure about this project.

Commissioner Duffy stated that she was aware that the developer was planning on building the schools, that they had already had discussions with the Charlotte County School System, and that they were planning to construct and run the schools in cooperation with the Charlotte County School Board.

Ms. Erica Rogan with Kitson and Partners stated that the developer is dedicating a specific number of school sites as part of the DRI process; that the construction funding would be part of the concurrency discussions with the school board. She stated that those discussions had not taken place yet, but would take place at the time of site plan approval.

Commissioner Constance stated that he assumed that the funding source for the schools would come from the tax base of Babcock; Ms. Rogan agreed.

Mr. Crawford asked for motion for approval for Increment I, Agenda Item #10(f).

Commissioner Constance moved to approve staff recommendations for the Increment I; Ms. Holquist seconded:

1. Accept the Charlotte County approved Development Order as rendered; and
2. Notify Charlotte County, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and the applicant that the approved Development Order is consistent with the Council approved NOPC.

The motion received unanimous approval.

Councilwoman Heitmann stated that she believed that the discussion and debate on these issues were, from her perspective, a positive change from some of the acrimonious discussions in prior years regarding regional planning councils, and that she believed that we are on a new road, limiting our review to the regional impacts that we are statutorily charged with reviewing, and having good debate on the issues. Referencing Mr. Reynolds' comments regarding Council's role in the sector planning process during discussion of Agenda Item #10(c), she stated that she would like to make sure that Council did not overstep its statutory role in its review of projects.

AGENDA ITEM #11(b) FRCA Discussion

This item was discussed under Director's Report.

AGENDA ITEM #12(a)
Economic Development Initiative of Southwest Florida

Councilman Banks reported that there have been many economic development meetings, stemming from the grant to provide a business plan for the Economic Development Alliance that Ms. Pellechio has worked many hours on.

Commissioner Constance observed that this was the Economic Development Initiative of Southwest Florida, and that we are the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. He asked if he was mistaken in his belief that Sarasota County has been left out of the initiative, and whether the Economic Development Initiative of Southwest Florida was a subcommittee or adjunct to the SWFRPC.

Councilman Banks stated that he believed that Commissioner Constance's assumption was correct. He stated that he had worked hard to get Sarasota County involved in the process, and that since Sarasota is in the Region, that they should be involved in the initiative.

Discussion ensued.

AGENDA ITEM #13(a)
Budget & Finance Committee

This item was discussed under Director's Report.

AGENDA ITEM #13(b)
Economic Development Committee

Committee report was covered under Councilman Bank's report of the Councilman Economic Development Initiative of Southwest Florida above.

AGENDA ITEM #13(c)
Energy & Climate Committee

Mr. McCormick reported that the committee would be convening shortly to discuss the impact of solar energy. The Council was awarded a \$94,000 grant that is designed to facilitate the use of solar energy by developers and homeowners.

AGENDA ITEM #13(d)
Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management Committee

Mr. Beever gave a report for the Estero Bay Agency on Bay Management Committee. He stated that they had held several meetings, and had reviewed road projects in the watershed with the MPO, including new roads associated with the university, including a new entrance road to the university. A resolution of appreciation had been given to Martha Simons for her service as an

ABM member, and the 2013 ABM Environmental Stewardship Award was awarded to Mr. Church Roberts IV with Johnson Engineering for his work with filter marshes and the mitigation area with the regional airport.

The committee held elections, electing Dr. Lisa Beever as chair, Dr. Nora Demers as vice-chair, and Mr. Wayne Daltry as Secretary for 2014. The committee also reviewed and adopted a draft 2014 work plan for the ABM, which was included in the Council's agenda package for review. Mr. Beever stated that there were two action items for Council, that were presented in February: approval of elected officers, and approval of the work plan.

Commissioner Mann moved approval of both items; Councilman Burch seconded; the motion received unanimous approval.

AGENDA ITEM #13(e) Legislative Affairs Committee

Vice Mayor Congress gave the report for the Legislative Affairs Committee. He reviewed Council's legislative priorities, including an update on water policy issues and the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Act.

Mr. McCabe provided an update on several bills of potential concern to the Council:

- SB 372 - Developments of Regional Impact: further reduces the number of developments subject to DRI review; thereby failing to provide a mechanism for addressing the impact of proposed development on nearby local governments (multijurisdictional impact) or regional resources.
- HB 395 - Growth Management/Private Property Rights
- HB 703 - Environmental Regulation
- HB 7023 - Economic Development

The reason for concern with these bills is that they violate local government Home Rule principles.

After a brief presentation on the bills, Mr. McCabe opened the issue of what action to take on the proposed bills to the Council for discussion.

Discussing SB 372, Commissioner Mann stated that Florida had enacted growth management legislation in prior years in reaction to type of development that was happening in the absence of laws requiring adequate planning, and that this legislation demonstrated concern for the future of Florida. He stated that he now sees the pendulum swinging in the opposite direction; SB 372 would eliminate a substantial portion of the DRIs that the Council would review, and he was frightened of what the long-term impact of this might be.

Discussion ensued.

Councilman McKeon moved that the Council take a position in opposition to SB 372, and send a letter stating the Council's opposition to the bill to our legislative delegation and the author of the bill; Vice Mayor Shaw seconded. After brief discussion, the motion received unanimous approval.

Commissioner Constance said that not only should the Council oppose the bill, but that member local governments should oppose the bill with letters from the individual member governments. Such action will be an exercise in responsible stewardship.

Mr. Reynolds suggested that this was an issue where FRCA could demonstrate its value to the Council, by coordinating legislative action with other organizations that are similarly aligned.

Mr. McCabe presented a brief synopsis of HB 395, Growth Management/Private Property Rights; HB 703, Environmental Regulation; and HB 7023, Economic Development.

Commissioner Mann stated his displeasure with the bills, and of the preemption of local control demonstrated by the legislature. With these bills, the legislature is stating that it doesn't matter what the local governments that are the closest to the people think.

Councilman Bank suggested that similar to the Council's decision to oppose SB 372, that the Council sending letters opposing HB 395, HB 703, and HB 7023, on the grounds that the bills constitute a preemption of local control and violate local government Home Rule principles.

Discussion ensued.

Councilman Bank moved that the Council take a position in opposition to SB 372, HB 395, HB 703, and HB 7023, on the grounds that the bills constitute a preemption of local control and violate local government Home Rule principles; Commissioner Cook seconded. The motion received unanimous approval.

Commissioner Constance stated that it would be better to have four separate letters, since there were four subsets of legislators, and drafting one comprehensive letter would water down the impact of the opposition.

Vice Mayor Congress asked whether the Council wanted the letters sent out immediately, or brought back for review by the Council.

By unanimous consent, the Council agreed to send the letters before the next Council meeting.

Vice Mayor Congress agreed to work with staff on the drafting of the letters.

Discussion of the role of the Legislative Affairs Committee and the legislative process ensued.

Commissioner Constance stated that we don't seem to originate any of the discussion; we're always playing defense, rather than offense. He would like for the Council to urge all of its members to hold their legislative delegation meetings early in the process, with August as a cutoff date, so that

they can bring their legislative priorities to the Council and provide direction to Council's Legislative Affairs Committee. This would allow the Council to decide on its priorities well in advance of the start of the session – what its members want, and what to look out for. This would allow the Council and its members to have an offensive strategy for the session.

The next meeting is set for March 6 at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Flood mentioned that the governor's budget included \$100 million in projects to specifically address the Council's water policy projects, including Everglades restoration projects, water storage projects, and projects that will facilitate moving water south into the Everglades.

Mr. McKeon suggested that when drafting the Council's letters of opposition, Mr. McCabe also draft model letters that local governments could modify for their use in opposing the bills.

AGENDA ITEM #13(f)
Quality of Life & Safety Committee

No report for the committee; however, Vice Mayor Shaw provided an explanation of the charge of the committee; that it would provide input to the Council on programs and policies to enhance the quality of life and the safety of residents of the region. The committee will bring together leaders and stakeholders to discuss crime issues and develop recommendations for innovative programs to assist local leaders in addressing their needs.

AGENDA ITEM #13(g)
Transportation Committee

No report at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #14
NEW BUSINESS

None.

AGENDA ITEM #15
STATE AGENCIES COMMENTS/REPORTS

SFWMD – Mr. Flood commented that the SFWMD governing board had recently met in Fort Myers at the Lee County Commission chambers; next month, the District will be holding a workshop on lessons learned as a result of the rainy season – how the system operated, and how the process can be improved; he will try to bring a summary of the workshop to the next meeting.

SWFWMD – There is a new appointment to the district's governing board representing Sarasota and Charlotte County, Mr. Michael Moran of Sarasota; appointed in December 2013, he will serve until March 2015.

FDEP – Guest representative Shawn Hamilton from Pensacola was welcomed. Terry Cerullo mentioned that the 2nd Annual South Florida Brownfield Symposium will be held on March 28, 2014 at the Lee County Education Center in Fort Myers.

FDOT – no report.

**AGENDA ITEM #16
COUNCIL ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS**

None.

**AGENDA ITEM #17
COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

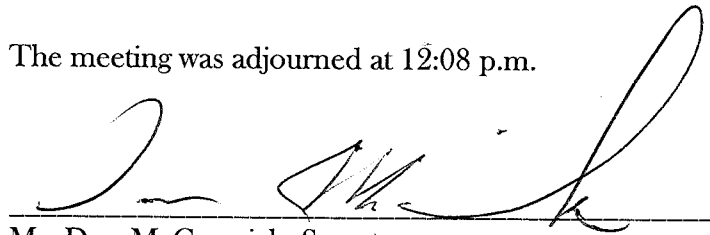
Mr. McCormick commented that the representative from King Ranch was present at the meeting today, one of largest developers in the nation. The representative was very comfortable with our process; we worked well with him, rationally and agreeably, demonstrating that the system is working well. Now, some legislators in Tallahassee want to change the playing field. We should let people know that we work with the biggest and the best, rationally, and that it's micromanagement like this that makes it impossible to work effectively.

Mr. Perry mentioned that the annual Chalo Nitka (Seminole for Big Bass) Festival and Rodeo was being held in Moore Haven the first weekend in March, which made him happy because there were three swine in his back yard that were preparing to move to the fairgrounds.

Commissioner Hamman was also welcomed; he stated that it was good to be on the team.

**AGENDA ITEM #18
ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.


Mr. Don McCormick, Secretary

The meeting was duly advertised in the February 10, 2014 issue of the FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER, Volume 40, Number 27.

REQUEST FOR PLACEMENT ON AGENDA
OF THE

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Name:

Brad Cornell

(Please Print)

Organization (if any):

Audubon Florida

Address:

1020 8th Ave, S #2

Naples, FL 34102

Agenda Item Number:

11a - Estero Bay ABM

Amount of Time Requesting:

3 minutes

Signature

Date

2/20/14

H11A

17a4



REQUEST FOR PLACEMENT ON AGENDA - Public
OF THE Comments
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Name:

Lisa Beaver

(Please Print)

Organization (if any):

Charlotte Harbor NEP

Address:

1926 Victoria

Agenda Item Number:

11a

Amount of Time Requesting:

1 minute

Signature

Date

2-20-2019

✓
REQUEST FOR PLACEMENT ON AGENDA
OF THE

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Name:

MARTHA SIMMONS

Organization (if any):

SWFRPC (Please Print)
appt to ABMA

Address:

9052 Somerset

Agenda Item Number:

11A

Amount of Time Requesting:

3 minutes at most

Signature

Martha Simmons

Date

2/21/2014

Nikki's Computer: Council/Form Letters/Request Form.wpd

REQUEST FOR PLACEMENT ON AGENDA
OF THE

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Name:

PATTY Whitehead
(Please Print)

Organization (if any):

Address:

20791 Tanglewood Lane
ESTERO, FL 33928

Agenda Item Number:

4

Amount of Time Requesting:

2 minute

Signature

Patty Whitehead

Date

2/20/14

Nikki's Computer: Council/Form Letters/Request Form.wpd

Growth management - ABM member