

MINUTES OF THE COLLIER COUNTY
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Naples, Florida, August 19, 2020

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Collier County Floodplain Management Planning Committee in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 9:00 a.m. in REGULAR SESSION at the Collier County Growth Management Division Building, Conference Room #609/610, 2800 N. Horseshoe Drive, Naples, Florida, with the following members present:

Chairman: Jerry Kurtz, CC Staff
Vice-Chairman: Craig Pajer, CC Staff
Kenneth Bills (Excused)
William Lang, CC Staff
Christa Carrera, City of Naples
Kelli DeFedericis, City of Marco Island
Duke Vasey
Lisa Koehler (Excused)
Terry Smallwood, Everglade City (Excused)
Stan Chrzanowski
William Miller
Deborah Curry, CC Staff

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Mason, Floodplain Coordinator
Howard Critchfield, Sr. Project Manager

Chairman Kurtz called the meeting to order at 9:00am. The meeting was held via Skype and telephonically.

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes from February 19, 2020

Mr. Vasey moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2020 meeting as presented. Second, by Mr. Chrzanowski. Carried unanimously 9 – 0.

2. Annual CRS Certification

Mr. Mason reported that Collier County successfully completed its annual CRS Recertification 7 months after its 3 year Verification Cycle was completed. 1400 Elevation Certificates were submitted to the auditing firm Insurance Services Office (ISO) and the County scored a 97% accuracy rating. The accuracy rating is based on compliance and form/cosmetic errors with no compliance errors recorded.

3. Preliminary Coastal Study Open Houses

Mr. Mason reported Floodplain Management Staff attended three separate Preliminary Coastal Study Open houses. The open houses were held within Unincorporated Collier County, City of Naples, and City of Marco Island. Staff assisted property owners with the interpretation of the Preliminary Coastal Study FIRM's and provided flood zone determinations for property owners.

Ms. Carrera and Ms. DeFedericis provided updates on their community's respective open house engagements noting equivalent services offered to open house attendees. Staff from all participating communities noted considerable attendance totals.

Ms. Defedericis reported that the City of Marco Island has contracted with a local engineering firm to review the Preliminary Coastal Study and is offering additional study data to FEMA for their review.

4. 2020 Flood Exercise

Mr. Mason reported:

- Floodplain Management Staff and other Collier County Departments, South Florida Water Management District and partnering jurisdictions participated in a simulated flood exercise from July 21st through July 23rd.
- The exercise was in support of Community Rating System (CRS) Activity 610 and was conducted in a virtual environment.
- The participants engaged in pre-flood event planning and flood response activities while utilizing WebEOC and Crisis Track.
- An analysis was developed to identify processes which were effective or could be improved and an After Action Report was created as a result of the meeting.

5. Mitigation Action Items Update

Mr. Mason provided the "Collier County Floodplain Management Planning Committee Progress Report for 2020 Action Items - 3rd Quarter 2020" for information purposes. The following was noted during Committee discussion:

Section 3.2 - **Mr. Vasey** inquired if violations are being heard by the Special Magistrate. He also queried on social media analytics regarding views of media. He stated the data could be retrieved by the aforementioned social media platforms.

Section 3.5 – **Ms. DeFedericis** queried on whether the County receives any benefits for the installation of the catch basin screening baskets installed by the City of Marco Island as they are a maintenance issue during times of major storms.

It was noted during discussions it is beneficial to clean these type devices after the “first flush” when generally the largest amount of debris is deposited into the devices. This may help ensure the systems do not get clogged and function adequately over the season.

Section 4.2 – Mr. Vasey noted the Open Space Program is too broad and expressed concern regarding the functionality of the parcels are not taken into account. The lands may not assist in achieving the goals of floodplain management especially given many of the parcels are separated from one another which impacts the connectivity of flow-ways and other features which may be beneficial to stormwater management.

Mr. Mason noted the lands involved are qualifying parcels/tracts located in the Special Flood Hazard Area and the County receives CRS credit for these lands based on deed restrictions and management plans (County, Private or State owned).

Mr. Vasey requested Staff furnish him the information utilized to determine the credits awarded to the County under the Open Space Program.

6. Repetitive Loss Study Update

Mr. Mason reported the data from Hurricane Irma will be incorporated into the updated Floodplain Management Plan.

7. Floodplain Management Plan Update

Mr. Mason noted:

- The Plan is required to be updated every 5 years and Staff has contacted representatives of the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to request permission to incorporate the new FIRM maps into the document when they become available.
- Also under consideration is Staff undertaking the update as opposed to utilizing a consultant.
- The process will include public meetings and input from the Committee.

During Committee discussion, the following was noted:

- Staff should ensure they have the dedicated resources and time to update the plan, if not consideration should be given to engaging an outside consultant.
- An action report was developed by the County following Hurricane Irma and Mr. Vasey requested a copy of the report.
- An update on the County’s NOAA Grant should be placed on the next meeting Agenda.

Mr. Mason reported he will place the following items on the next Agenda:

- 1. An update on the process for revising the Floodplain Management Plan including whether use of an outside consultant is necessary.*
- 2. An update on the County’s NOAA Grant.*

Mr. Pajer left the meeting

8. Development Review from the Last Quarter

Mr. Mason provided the “*Building Plan Review Statistics*” which outlined data for new construction for the month of July 2020 with activity in the County remaining steady.

9. Other Items/Committee Correspondence

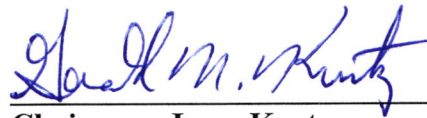
Mr. Mason noted:

- Mr. Vasey has recommended, and the Members agreed to change the day of the Committee meeting to the first Tuesday of the month.
- Mr. Vasey has relocated from District 3 to District 2. There is an opening for a District 2 representative on the Committee and he has requested he be appointed to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Chrzanowski moved to recommend Duke Vasey be appointed to the Committee to represent District 2. Second, by Mr. Lang. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by the order of the Chair at 10:04AM.

**COLLIER COUNTY FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**



Chairman, Jerry Kurtz

These Minutes were approved by the Board/Chairman on Dec 10, 2020, as presented ✓, or as amended _____.