

May 30, 2019

MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COLLIER LAND ACQUISITION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Naples, Florida, May 30, 2019

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 11:30 A.M. in REGULAR SESSION at North Collier Regional Park, Naples, Florida with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN:	Bill Poteet
VICE CHAIRMAN:	Pat Sherry (Excused)
	Susan Calkins
	Michael Seef
	Carol Pratt
	Gary Bromley (via telephone)
	Brittany Patterson-Weber
	Michele Lenhard

ALSO PRESENT:

Summer Araque, Conservation Collier Coordinator, Program Manager
Jennifer Belpedio, Assistant County Attorney
Melissa Hennig, Sr. Environmental Specialist
Barry Williams, Director, Parks and Recreation

Any person in need of the verbatim record of this meeting may request a copy of the video recording from the Collier County Communications and Customer Relations Department of view it online.

I. Roll Call

Chairman Poteet called the meeting to order at 11:30 A.M. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

Mr. Seef moved to allow Mr. Bromley to participate in the meeting via telephone due to an extraordinary circumstance. Second by Ms. Calkins. Carried unanimously 6 – 0.

Ms. Lenhard was welcomed as a new member of the Committee.

Brad Cornell, Audubon of Southwestern Everglades and Gladys Delgadillo, Conservancy of Southwest Florida were also present and were allowed to provide comments throughout the meeting.

II. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Patterson-Weber moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Ms. Calkins. Carried unanimously 7 – 0.

III. Approval of April 8, 2019 minutes

Mr. Seef moved to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2019 meeting as presented. Second by Ms. Pratt. Carried unanimously 6 – 0. Ms. Lenhard abstained as she was not serving on the Committee at the time of the meeting.

IV. Coordinator Communications

a. Results of Acquisition History item to the May 28th BCC Meeting

Ms. Araque reported that at the recent Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting direction was given for development of an acquisition strategy plan before consideration will be given to the referendum language.

b. Miscellaneous items

None

V. Referendum Language Task Force

a. Review of information found to date

i. Acquisition and other costs through FY18

Ms. Araque provided the “*Conservation Collier Program 5/8/2019 Cash Sources & Uses FY03 through FY18*” and “*Total for All Cycles*” spreadsheet for informational purposes.

The following was noted during Committee discussions:

- That the pie chart should be amended to reflect the timeframes from 2003 – 2013, and 2013 – present given acquisition of properties were ceased in 2013 and reinitiated in 2018.
- The “*Land acquisitions & Capital Improvements*” section should be separated into two different categories.
- Mr. Seef has developed an optional format for on the “*Total for All Cycles*” which he will forward to Staff.

- It would be beneficial to include data on the amount authorized for land purchases during certain years versus funds actually spent for the “*Total for All Cycles*” spreadsheet as not all monies were expended in some years; as owners did not accept the County’s offer for purchase.

ii. Other action items

Discussion occurred on the format the item will be presented to the BCC (Ordinance change vs. Resolution) and Ms. Belpedio noted that she will review historic data from the previous initiative to determine the most optimal format for the item.

b. Proposed Components of ballot language

Ms. Araque provide the “*Project Management Plan: Drafting of Conservation Collier Ballot Language*” for informational purposes.

i. Schedule for November 2020 election

The referendum is anticipated to be placed on the November 2020 ballot and Staff will confirm the deadlines required for the voting process.

ii. Ad Valorem tax proposed

Funding for this program is intended to be through an Ad Valorem Tax on the Collier County property owners.

iii. Millage rate

Millage rate would be set over a 10-year period.

iv. Number of years for ad Valorem tax

Ad Valorem Tax would be for a 10-year term to include a sunset provision.

v. Allowance of bonding and/or a preference for a cap

Bond funding is to be included in the referendum language, if not, it is possible the option may not be utilized by the County. The other alternative is to limit the program to “*pay as you go.*” **Mr. Williams** will clarify the BCC’s philosophy for the funding/financing and report his findings to the Committee.

Discussion occurred on whether the referendum should provide specific program funding allocations for land acquisition, management and capital improvements. Concern was expressed designating categories with specific percentages for each funding allocation which; may limit the County’s flexibility in utilizing the assets within the program. It may be more beneficial to simply cite the intended uses for the funds (i.e. including language such as “compatible public access and amenities” for the preserves or similar wording).

c. Discussion of Project Management Plan and Task Force Timeline

Ms. Araque provided the “*Draft – Project Management Plan: Acquisition Plan*” for informational purposes which outlined the timeline for development of the plan and delivery to the BCC. The Committee noted:

- That the intent is to deliver the proposed acquisition plan to the BCC in October, and the final ballot language in November.
- It is anticipated that the BCC will consider the ballot language in December of 2019.
- It would be beneficial to expand the responsibilities of the Referendum Language Task Force to include the development of the Acquisition Strategy Plan.
- The referendum language and acquisition plan will be forwarded to the full Committee for consideration.
- The next regularly scheduled Committee meetings are in July and October however, a meeting in September and/or November may be required to complete the tasks.

d. Subcommittee for Acquisition Plan

The Committee reported that the Task Force is charged with preparing the referendum language will now be the "Referendum Language and Acquisition Plan Task Force Subcommittee."

VI. Chair Committee Member Comments

Chairman Poteet reported that he will be meeting individually with BCC Members to provide updates on the acquisition plan and referendum language, Staff may attend as well.

VII. Public General Comments

None

VIII. Staff Comments

None

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by order of the chair at 1:00 P.M.

**Conservation Collier Land Acquisition
Advisory Committee**



Bill Poteet, Chairman

These minutes approved by the Board/Committee on July 8, 2019
 as presented ✓ or as amended _____
 sba