

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**APRIL 28, 2014**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Workshop between the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) of Charlotte County, City of Punta Gorda, and the Charlotte County School Board was held at the Murdock Administrative Complex, Room B-106, Port Charlotte, Florida.

The following BCC members were present: Vice Chair Bill Truex, Commissioner Christopher Constance, Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch, and Commissioner Tricia Duffy. The following BCC members were absent: Chair Kenneth Doherty. The following Charlotte County School Board Members were present: Chair Ian Vincent, Vice Chair Lee Swift, Member Alleen Miller, Member Barbara Rendell, Member Robert Segur, and Superintendent Dr. Doug Whittaker. The following Charlotte County School Board Members were absent: None. The following Punta Gorda City Councilmembers were present: Mayor Rachel Keesling, Councilmember Nancy Prafke, and Councilmember Tom Cavanaugh. The following Punta Gorda City Councilmembers were absent: Councilmember Kim Devine and Vice Mayor Carolyn Freeland. Also in attendance were: Charlotte County Administrator Ray Sandrock, Charlotte County Attorney Janette Knowlton, Chief Planner for the City of Punta Gorda Joan LeBeau, Director of Information and Communications Systems for Charlotte County Public School District John Weant, Assistant Superintendent for District Support for Charlotte County Public School District Jerry Olivo, Comprehensive Planner of Charlotte County Community Development Department Inga Williams, Minutes Clerk Karly Greene, and Minutes Clerk Trainee Shelly Russo.

**1. Call to Order**

**BCC Vice Chair Truex called the meeting to Order at 2:00 pm**, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Welcome and Introduction of Workshop Participants**

**3. Public input on agenda items only**

**4. Slide Presentation of Packet Materials**

**A. Welcome**

Joan LeBeau, Chief Planner, City of Punta Gorda

Ms. LeBeau, spoke to the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and its requirements, and introduced the group responsible for bringing together the packet of information.

**B. School Boundary Update**

John Weant, Director, Information and Communication Systems, Charlotte County Public School District

Mr. Weant explained a public hearing must be conducted each year, prior to the regular meeting scheduled for May, to review enrollment data for East Elementary and Sallie Jones Elementary Schools

to determine whether their attendance zones should be modified and noted that the residents in the portion of East Elementary School attendance zone located within the City of Punta Gorda are still permitted to attend Sallie Jones Elementary School.

**C. 5-Year District Facilities Work Plan for 2013-2014**

Jerry Olivo, Assistant Superintendent for District Support, Charlotte County Public School District

Mr. Olivo spoke to the 5-Year District Facilities Work Plan including a small increase in property taxes for the past year, noted no funds are available for new construction, remodeling, or renovations, stated Legislation continues to be a problem throughout the state of Florida, and indicated the 2013-2014 Plan is only able to continue to fund the Lemon Bay High School Project.

**D. School District Building Update**

Jerry Olivo, Assistant Superintendent for District Support, Charlotte County Public School District

Mr. Olivo paralleled visual slides that depicted the status of Phase Five (5) of Lemon Bay High School construction, detailed the Phase Six (6) rendering for the Gymnasium and Labs, and responded to related inquiries.

**E. Residential Land Use Approvals**

Inga Williams, Comprehensive Planner, Charlotte County Community Development Department

Ms. Williams spoke to the following for the year 2013 regarding both the City and County: no Multi-family Permits were pulled, Residential Construction Permits, Rezoning and Plan Amendments, and Site Plan Review Applications.

**4. Questions from the Workshop Participants**

Mayor Rachel Keesling commented on the kickoff meeting for the upcoming Charter School, questioned the interrelation between the Charter School and Charlotte High School, asked if students enrolled in schools other than Charlotte High will be permitted to enroll in the Charter School Program, and inquired of the related timeframe. **Commissioner Constance** asked the purpose and benefits of the Charter School Program. **Commissioner Duffy** requested further detail of a recent past Land Use Change for the School Board property located on Suncoast. Councilmember Nancy Prafke inquired how the School Board handles changes in demographics within neighborhoods. Councilmember Tom Cavanaugh questioned the status of School Board negotiations relating to natural gas powering vehicles.

Vice Chair Lee Swift, School Board Member, indicated the Charter School is a part of the Charlotte High School, noted the Charter School will not be accepting students enrolled outside of Charlotte High, commented on Grant Funding not received, stated implementation is delayed due to the lack of funding,

stated the Charter School is a Pilot Program to be expanded throughout the District, and mentioned the Program purpose is to pursue a different approach to curriculum. Ms. Williams stated the School Board Suncoast property was originally a portion of the Maple Leaf Development of Regional Impact (DRI), indicated the property was removed from the DRI in the past, and noted the Land Use had never been changed since the removal of the property from the DRI. Mr. Swift noted the property is still available for future use by the School Board indicating a school may be needed in the vicinity between Charlotte and Port Charlotte High Schools. Mr. Olivo affirmed the Charlotte County School District is able to accept the change in demographics due to planning with the end in mind, stated that negotiations with NoPetro are ongoing, and indicated the closing negotiations are anticipated in the near future.

**5. Closing Comments**

**BCC Vice Chair Truex** thanked all participants for attending.

**ADJOURNED: 2:32 pm**

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**Ken Doherty, Chair**

**DATE ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTEST:**

**BARBARA T. SCOTT, CLERK  
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND  
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Deputy Clerk**