Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee

Murdock Administration Building, 18500 Murdock Circle,
Building B, Room B-106, Port Charlotte, FL 33948

BOARD MEMEBERS	DISTRICT
Wendy Lang, Chair	District 5
Robert Wibbeler, Vice Chair	Member-at-Large
Gregory Garvey	District 1
Robert Hancik	District 2
Ralph Lombardo	District 3
Jay Lorance	District 4
Hank Killion	Member-at-Large

MINUTES

June 4, 2026, at 9:01 A.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Wendy Lang, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
   Wendy Lang, Chair, led those in attendance for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ROLL CALL / DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
   Per **Melissa Mason** calling roll, it was determined that a quorum was present.

   Committee Members Present:
   Wendy Lang
   Robert Wibbeler
   Gregory Garvey
   Ralph Lombardo
   Jay Lorance
   Robert Hancik
   Hank Killion

   County Staff Present:
   Brandon Moody, Water Quality & Resiliency Manager

Jamie Scudera, Environmental Specialist
Elizabeth Eastes, Environmental Specialist
Tina Powell, Parks and Natural Resources Manager
Melissa Mason, Recording Secretary / Senior Administrative Assistant
Jane Babler, Recording Secretary / Senior Administrative Assistant

Guests:
Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch
Nick Bourdon, Cofounder of Reef Arches
Rick Rocoski - citizen

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
   a. Approval of the Minutes of May 7, 2026, was approved.
   Motion moved by **Vice Chair, Wibbeler,** seconded by **Member, Lombardo** and **Member Garvey** called for the question; the motion carried unanimously.

5. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**
   a. Nick Bourdon will be arriving late. Proceed to Old Business, then return to New Business.

6. **CITIZEN INPUT AGENDA ITEMS**
   a. None.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**
   a. Nick Bourdon of Reef Arches presented.
   He discussed:
      - How his device is used to restore living shorelines, breakwaters, and barrier reefs.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**
   a. **WATER QUALITY**
   Brandon Moody, Water Quality & Resiliency Manager, provided updates on:
      i. June 23, 2026, County Board Presentation: The presentation simulates tidal flooding and storm surge impacts to coastal communities, focusing on critical assets, including hospitals, shelters, county facilities, and areas where resiliency efforts should be prioritized.
      ii. Grant funding has been received. After County Board approval, efforts will focus on resiliency strategies and community impacts.
      iii. University of Florida partnership: the project is scheduled for County Board approval during the week of June 8, 2026. The county received $2 million in state funding for a comprehensive flood risk assessment of rainfall, storm surge, and tidal flooding.
      iv. The dashboard for the One Charlotte, One Water webpage has been updated and the expansion of that network, including the RP monitoring network, is underway.

The department plans to deploy additional sensors in the winter to test water quality.

v. Member Garvey asked where Charlotte County is compared to the rest of the counties in Florida in terms of vulnerability per capita. Brandon stated that coastlines are not as densely populated, however, our population is older and predates many modern building elevation requirements. Areas like Punta Gorda and Manasota Key were built very close to sea level. Grant funding will come from state and federal sources, and the presentation must be completed to be eligible for Resilient Florida funding.

b. PUBLIC WORKS – none

c. PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Zachary Zampella, Environmental Specialist, provided an update:

i. Sea Turtle Season:
   - 410 sea turtle nests: 407 loggerhead, 1 green, 1 Kemp's ridley, 1 leatherback.
   - Shorebirds: 1 nest
   - Seabirds: 220 adult nests and 24 chicks

ii. Milton Pass has closed, which is good for monitoring purposes.

Elizabeth Eastes, Environmental Specialist, presented the Derelict Vessel Report (refer to handout):

i. 4 open derelict vessel cases

ii. 1 vessel removed

iii. 6 vessels relocated, which is a lot. Liz explained the "21 Day Notice" process and the hold placed on their registration. Tina Powell explained the benefits of using the state versus Charlotte County to enforce these penalties. Law enforcement is utilized to begin the process.

9. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

a. Chair Lang asked who we contact regarding Waterfest. She believed it to be a 501(c)(3) organization. She questioned where the proceeds were going. Tina Powell stated that a permit application is submitted, and a quote is provided for staff to prepare the rental of the pavilion. Then that quote goes to the County Board for approval. Waterfest was hoping to attract bigger boats and crowds. Chair Lang would like to write a letter after more information is gathered. Commissioner Deutsch advised the committee on how to proceed.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

a. Citizens asked about Stump Pass. No one is present from Public Works to answer question. Commissioner Deutsch stated that Reef Arches may help our area.

b. Citizen asked about Milton pass. Chair Lang stated that Public Works would normally answer that question, but they are not present. She believes that nature is doing what it should, and it is starting to close and will close eventually.
c. Significant concern was expressed about proposed development at the Manasota Key roundabout area
    - Rezoning will not be heard at the upcoming May 11 meeting.
    - The matter is expected to be delayed to July meeting.

11. COMMENTS BY ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OR CONSULTANTS

a. Melissa Mason introduced Jane Babler, the new Senior Administrative Assistant.

12. MEMBER COMMENTS

a. **Member Lorance** asked if the Conservation Charlotte Preserves could be renamed. Tina Powell responded that perhaps the name may be added to. He suggested "Forever Wild"
b. **Member Killion** asked about parking and Charlotte County purchasing land for parking. Chair Lang explained this has been an issue for years. Tina Powell said no one used the tram that was offered or any allocated funding for land acquisition.
c. **Member Hancik** commented on the presentation. He also discussed the effectiveness of the committee.
d. **Vice Chair, Wibbeler,** believes that attending the CHNEP meetings will be informative. **Chair Lang** asked for a list of emails to be sent to Melissa to forward to the members of this committee so that members can remain informed.

13. NEXT MEETING – Thursday, September 3, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

The Beaches and Shores Advisory Committee Regular Meeting will be held at:
Murdock Administration Center, Room B-106
18500 Murdock Circle
Port Charlotte, FL, 33948
***Unless otherwise announced. ***

14. ADJOURNED

Motion moved by Member **Lorance** and seconded by **Vice-Chair Wibbeler.** Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 A.M.

Chair, Wendy Lang