



PUNTA GORDA ENGLEWOOD BEACH

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The Charlotte Harbor Gulf Island Coast

Charlotte County Tourist Development Council Meeting Minutes Friday, February 13, 2026

A meeting of the Charlotte County Tourist Development Council was held Friday, February 13, 2026, at the Murdock Administration Building, Conference Room B-106, 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL.

Members Present

Commissioner Christopher Constance
Kathy Burnam
David Haynes
Councilmember Janis Denton
Vince Parrotta
Gary Butler
Councilmember Melissa Lockhart

Members Absent

Robin Madden
Keith Farlow

Staff Present

Emily Lewis, Deputy County Administrator
David Moscoso, Assistant County Attorney
Sean Doherty, Tourism Development Director
Lois Croft, Public Relations Manager
Maureen Morgenthien, Marketing Manager
Sean Walter, Sports Sales Manager
Robyn Price, Meetings Market Sales Manager
Roger Davis, Fiscal Services
Kimberly Powell, Admin. Services Coordinator
Sean Walter, Sales & Sports Manager
Julie Pennock, Sr Admin Assistant
Katie Patterson, Marketing Assistant
Dan Roe, Tax Collector's Office
Amy Cantrell, Sales Assistant
Brynja Phipps, Admin. Services Coordinator

Guests

Chris Lopez – FRLA, Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association
Doug Izzo – Englewood Chamber of Commerce
Bob White - Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce
Jim Finch – Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center
Craig Holt – Four Points by Sheraton Punta Gorda Harborside
Mike Robertson - Arrivalist

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Christopher Constance called the Charlotte County Tourist Development Council (TDC) meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

- II. **Roll Call**
A quorum was established.
- III. **Approval of the Agenda**
A motion was made by Kathy Burnam and seconded by Janis Denton to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **Citizens' Input**
There was no citizens' input on any agenda items.
- V. **Approval of TDC Meeting Minutes**
A motion was made by Janis Denton and seconded by Kathy Burnam to approve the minutes of December 5, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.
- VI. **Budget Report - Roger Davis**
The fiscal report was presented by Roger Davis. Davis provided a FY26 Budget Summary. Davis advised that operating expenditures are \$6,307,078.00, transfers \$754.819 with \$1,313,561 encumbered. Total budget expended is 32.97%. The largest portion was for promo activities advertising, salaries and benefits, and interfund transfers. Davis reported the tourist development trust fund, fourth and fifth cent, total of \$600,000 with \$478,943 encumbered for advertising promotional activities.
- VII. **Tourist Tax Report- Dan Roe**
The tax collector report was presented by Dan Roe. Roe reported that 1st Quarter 2026 October through September collections were at \$1,607,097.38. Roe continued to report that there were 600 suspect accounts on file. Roe reported inactive suspect accounts found in the 1st quarter are 0. Roe reported 3108 active accounts with 100 new accounts added.
- VIII. **Budget Review**
Gary Butler confirmed that the budget is in order.
- IX. **Presentations**
Maureen Morgenthien, Marketing Manager, delivered a presentation on Flavorcoast.com
Mike Robertson, Arrivalist, provided a presentation on Tourism media measurement.
- X. **Director/Staff Report - Sean Doherty**
Sean Doherty, Tourism Director, provided a recap of the Tourism Department Board Report. Doherty provided a recap on the marketing, sports, leisure, meetings, and public relations departments. Doherty provided a legislative update. Doherty discussed partnering with Grand Valley State University to allow students to work on a service project in our area during Spring Break. Doherty provided an update on hotel openings. Doherty provided an update on Gulf Coast Host and the upcoming requests and presentations.

XI. Citizens' Comments

Bob White, Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce, discussed the 15th Annual Community and Business Expo on February 19, 2026. White informed of the 15th Annual Charlotte County Chamber Golf Classic on May 15, 2026.

Chris Lopez, Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association, discussed the legislative initiatives. Lopez informed that FRLA, along with the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce, is sponsoring a speaker at the Military Museum. Lopez discussed the student FRLA scholarship program. Lopez discussed partnering with Fisherman's Village for an upcoming event.

Jim Finch, Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center, reported 47 bookings for FY26 – October – December.

XII. Council Comments

David Haynes welcomed Melissa. Haynes reported an increase in business due to the adverse weather conditions in the north and an adjustment to their cancellation policy. Haynes loved the presentations.

Melissa Lockhart reported that the information was great, and she appreciated Flavor Coast and the benefits it would bring to visitors and locals.

Janis Denton reported that she thought the presentations were great.

Gary Butler welcomed Melissa. Butler offered an update on the Sales Tax Focus Group. Butler informed that the Military Museum had been open in their new location for 5 years and that sales are up 11%.

Kathy Burnam welcomed Melissa. Burnam informed that business at Fishermen's Village is great, and the Suites are doing well. Fishermen's Village is 100% occupied, and Burnam offered an update on the restaurants and businesses there. Burnam thought the meeting and presentations were great.

Vince Parrotta welcomed Melissa. Parrotta said the presentations were great. Parrotta offered an update on Sunseeker Resort Florida Gulf Coast, Curio Collection by Hilton.

Commissioner Christopher Constance welcomed Melissa and asked her to be the vice chair for 2026. Constance discussed workforce development and scholarships for students in the community.

XIII. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next scheduled TDC meeting is at 9:00 a.m. Friday, April 17, 2026. The meeting will be held in Conference Room B-106, 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948.

XIV. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Approved