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Southern Lee County Flood Protection Plan (SLCFPP)

Agency Meeting: Collier County

Date: 12/11/18 Time: 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Location: Collier County Growth Management Offices

Agenda (Summary Minutes in italics)

I. Introductions

Attendees plus Stephanie Long/A.D.A. (via phone) introduced themselves.

II. Brief Summary Overview of Project Scope

Anura Karuna-Muni/LCDNR and Steve Neff/AIM reviewed the overall scope and schedule. Stephanie Long reviewed regional modeling effort.

III. AIM's Initial Thoughts on Potential Project Approaches

Steve Neff reviewed overall high level concepts of conveyance and storage.

IV. Collier County Latest Relevant Studies and Documents

Collier County mentioned SFWMD LOS Modeling recently completed (Big Cypress Basin LOS model) and suggested contacts of Ken Konya & Rama Rani/SFWMD. This model was put together by John Loper/Taylor Engineering. Taylor Engineering is evaluating the potential of moving water south from Imperial River. Akin's group (SFWMD) preparing with Taylor to review when complete. The stated purpose of this effort is to reduce the duration of flooding. The concept would convey water into Cocohatchee. Collier staff stated there would be a need to pump at southern edge of Lee County into the Collier County flow way. One option was to potentially open up the western flow way through Bonita National. The potential for pumping water south along the new Logan Blvd extension will also be evaluated. The discussion on this effort has been to look at a total of 200 cfs being directed south into Collier County. The discussion on the project has been to not fight the flood going up, just reduce the duration and only send water south when Cocohatchee has capacity.

Collier staff noted that Cocohatchee flooded downstream of Coco 1. They stated an 1100 cfs design for 25 yr storm. They stated weir was thrown wide open in storm and there was house flooding downstream, although not primary living areas to best of staff awareness. They noted that SFWMD controls all of the weirs and that DBHydro would have this data. Collier suggests including Cocohatchee as part of the Mike SHE model. They stated that Caroline Cilek/Collier flood plain management coordinator (239-252-2485) might have data on resident flooding.

From their recollection, maybe 7 to 8 houses flooded in lower part of houses like garages (not aware of any in living areas); they were likely older houses. They noted it was more of a road flooding issue and that tidal influences may have assisted.

V. Completed Projects Since Later Studies

Collier staff noted the recently completed/under construction Bonita Beach Road developments and those along Logan Blvd. They mentioned Curry Canal – Big Cypress Basin new gated structure on Immokalee Road at Maverick Lane.

VI. Collier County Best Available Data (rainfall, surface water levels, groundwater levels)

Collier staff noted it would all be in DBHydro.

VII. Collier County Identified Issues/Concerns, and Desired Outcomes

Collier County staff not adamantly opposed to flows to Collier County, but desired this issue be addressed to the greatest extent possible within Lee County first.

It there are ways to increase capacity in the Cocohatchee that might be workable to Collier County. Collier County staff desires to see the entire larger watershed efforts coordinated. Jerry Kurtz/Collier County mentioned siltation downstream in the Cocohatchee and Palm River that if addressed might assist with flows. He noted that Big Cypress Basin has committed \$300,000 towards this dredging. Collier County staff mentioned potential head loss in Cocohatchee at I-75 where it runs north and south around the interchange and may not be being maintained well. Perhaps bring it straight through as part of interchange improvement. Collier staff stated that this is primarily a Big Cypress Basin issue. Jerry Kurtz recommends we talk to them. Generally Big Cypress is responsible for the primary system with Collier County responsible for the minor canals/secondary system.

Collier staff mentioned Wiggins Bay water coming down Old 41 to a Wiggins Pass Rd flow way. This water originates in Spanish Wells. They were not aware of any specific problems here.

Jerry Kurtz mentioned a model near Lake Trafford. The effort looked flows south from Lake Trafford through Rural Lands West.

VIII. Discussion of Other Pertinent Items

Collier concern that everyone be on the same page with the modeling, and use the same version of the model. Collier would like to see strong coordination.

IX. Summary

Anura Karuna-Muni mentioned that there would be some a website for this project. Collier County staff suggested a future meeting with Big Cypress Basin, Bonita Springs and them.