

Captiva Community Panel

MINUTES

July 13, 2010

Attending: Gordon Hullar, Mike Mullins, Nathalie Pyle (via phone), Dave Jensen, Sandy Silverglide, Harry Silverglide, Jim Boyle, Rene Miville

Audience: 15

The meeting was convened at 9:05 a.m. Reading of the June 15 minutes was waived, and unanimously approved on a motion by Mullins (Boyle second).

LDC survey: Gooderham noted that the LDC Survey Committee had met following the June 15 panel meeting to discuss the survey draft. Based on those comments, a revised draft which included suggested graphics and hyperlink text had been created and sent to the committee members electronically for comment. No comments had yet been received, and the committee hoped to meet or collaborate digitally to craft a final draft to present to the panel at its August meeting.

Bylaws: SSilverglide and Gooderham provided a summary and history of the proposed changes, which would change the amendment notification time from 60 days to two panel meetings and allow for electronic surveying. The proposed bylaws changes were approved unanimously on a motion by Miville (Hullar second).

LCEC update: SSilverglide provide a summary of the background behind the panel's letter to LCEC requesting an update on how the utility was planning to address recent continuing power outages and issues affecting the island. Discussion also included the impact on property owners to replace electronic equipment destroyed by brownouts or power fluctuations, as well as to install generators to compensate for lost power. LCEC CEO Dennie Hamilton and representative Tricia Dorn were introduced, and Hamilton went through his PowerPoint presentation. (A PDF of the presentation is available through the panel's website.)

Hamilton said that LCEC did not meet its objectives last year, that service to the islands was not acceptable. Using an industry-wide measurement of service called the System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI), the SAIDI level in 2009 was 20.1, mostly due to major events, compared to 4.5 in 2006, 5.8 in 2007, 4.9 in 2008 and 3.1 in 2010 to date. The two major events in 2009 were a Nov. 1 sailboat incident affecting the overhead line from St. James City, and a Nov. 21 insulator and relay failure at the Sanibel substation. The SAIDI number covers the entire LCEC system, so outage minutes are spread over the entire customer base to calculate the figure. Hamilton noted one major event this year,

on March 8 when a sailboat hit the overhead transmission line in Pine Island Sound.

HSilverglide asked whether the line could be put under water. Hamilton said it would be costly and it may not be able to obtain a permit for it from the Corps. LCEC has also considered raising the line higher, which would help if the boats are in the channel where they're supposed to be, but not elsewhere. SSilverglide asked if LCEC was working to correct or lessen the brownouts. Hamilton said LCEC can install voltage recorders out here, but had not done so yet. Miville asked what could be done about sophisticated electronic systems subject to power fluctuations? He said that Captiva is the country's most corrosive microclimate, according to one expert. What can be done about that -- more of a maintenance procedure to counter climate issues? Hamilton said they would need to look at procedures, which is now in the process. Sharon Michie related a recent problem she had with a supply line to rental home, where a problem was reported, LCEC came out and determined nothing was wrong, and soon thereafter the line overloaded and damaged electric items in the house.

Mullins asked about the SAIDI measurements, and if there was any regulatory agency to which LCEC answers. Hamilton said they work with the state Public Service Commission concerning service and the rate structure. Mullins asked if the loss of income from some market areas affect service systemwide? Hamilton said it would not, that 2009 was first year LCEC lost customers and they've responded to this downturn internally. They changed some maintenance procedures, not affecting services, and they're back to normal practices at this point. Boyle asked whether the capital budget was down. Hamilton said it was, but that was mostly driven by adding new service which is not happening in Lehigh and Marco at this point. Boyle asked if capital expenditures were spent on reliability and improvements. Hamilton said those were not tied to the capital budget.

Mimi Schwartzel asked if underground lines were a dead issue, and would that help with reliability? Hamilton said LCEC had no issue with placing lines underground, the issue is who pays for it. For LCEC, standard service is overhead, so the customer pays the difference in cost for putting lines underground. Undergrounding does not necessarily improve reliability; overhead lines are easier to repair, underground lines are not exposed to all the elements. Mullins asked if there are any subaqueous lines in the LCEC system? Hamilton said they were all overhead or over water. Boyle confirmed that installing cameras to monitor the over-water lines was the only response LCEC planned to the outages. Hamilton said they will watch what happens, it won't reduce outages but could reduce recover time to restore power. The LCEC board has to approve any capital expenditures, including changes in water crossings. Boyle said the cameras will reduce time out of power, not number of times your power goes out. That means LCEC is not interested in stopping outages, just reducing length of

outages. Hamilton said LCEC cannot afford cost to stop all outages, the cost to do so would be prohibitive.

Miville said outages will happen on barrier islands, but he would like to address power fluctuations and putting lines underground. Hullar said that won't affect sailboats hitting the line, that there's a disconnect between underground lines and power outages. Mullins asked if there was any way to generate power on the island in this service area, if we were willing to pay for it -- such as a generator that could bridge outages and fluctuations. Hamilton said they would have to look into that. SSilverglide noted that the cost of maintaining generators for individual properties is not a small amount of money. Miville asked about a miniature atomic station as a power source? Hamilton said that his background actually was in nuclear engineering, but that would not likely be feasible. A solution will involve a spectrum of solutions, including a look to renewable sources.

Mullins asked what was LCEC's primary source of power. Hamilton said they currently purchase 70% of their power from Seminole (which is 70% coal generated) and 30% from FPL (which is 50% gas generated). They were planned to switch totally to FPL in 2013. (Note: Pyle leaves meeting). Doris Holzheimer asked if there would be fewer events if LCEC had a better maintenance cycle out here? Hamilton said they are looking at that now... trimming, maintenance, etc. Jensen noted that LCEC once offered a meter plug for generators and whole-house surge protector. He thought both had helped at his house...could you communicate to customers and offer to them? HSilverglide said those items can't not help, but they can't last forever. Real issue is maintenance and increasing reliability; LCEC is being reactive rather than proactive to this point. Brownouts are the real issue, since you can't prevent every outage. Lost equipment means lost time means lost money. SSilverglide noted that ruined vacations cost us in both money and reputation. Mullins reminded the group that LCEC provided tremendous support after Hurricane Charley, and recommended the panel create an electric interface subcommittee to work with LCEC as there may be opportunities that could be allocated to this service area. Boyle said the cumulative losses would add up to the cost of raising that line, and hoped they would consider that in their calculations.

Oil spill: Lt. Joe Poppolardo with the Lee County Sheriff's Office and Gerald Campbell with Lee County Emergency Management were introduced. Poppolardo said they were not planning on a Coastal Watch program like Sanibel was pursuing, but they will use existing patrol units – marine and aviation – to watch for evidence of oil. The county will establish protocols if any oil is spotted, incorporate existing teams and plans if something lands on Captiva's shores...establish chain of custody, etc. They will work with CEPD on small-scale cleanup efforts, and establish a group of volunteers to address future needs. Baselines have been established on beach cleanliness already. Mullins asked if the Captiva Fire District was involved in this process. Poppolardo said they will be assisting and monitoring, and are incorporated into efforts.

Campbell explained that he came from a private sector background, having worked for Amoco and left when the company were acquired by BP. He was part of Amoco's national oil spill response team. He said Lee County has a plan and a procedure in place. The county emergency response plan guides our efforts; we don't have specific emergency plans but have overall plans that guide us in responding to emergencies. We can use the pieces that we need to achieve the outcome we all want to achieve. The area contingency plan as a result of Exxon Valdez disaster: Tap local experts and community to identify the most sensitive areas and how to protect them. The main tool is a booming strategy; most crucial areas are mangroves and estuaries, least is the white sand beach. Plan is being continually refined, recognizing it will work but will not work perfectly...will not prevent oil from coming here.

Campbell said we should not see slicks on this coast, but can't say no oil will come here. Will see tar balls on the beach, those are manageable. It's important to manage the process, keep chain of responsibility intact. Need to document where the oil comes from. BP will do they have to but will vigorously defend their rights, so we have to do everything correctly and properly. BP wants to fix this, we're dealing with a big leak and everything they do here has never been done before. Response will be handled in a top-down response, due to the 1990 federal law reacting to the Exxon Valdez disaster. That means that locals are left out of this regulation. In Florida, locals and emergency managers are very vocal and we're not taking this quietly. How we usually approach issues such as this is very different from how the Unified Command is structured; we're working hard to make sense of it. We will be prepared to respond to whatever ends up happening here. There are trigger points in the Gulf...when the edge of uncertainty cone arrives at these points, it triggers certain responses. The county will look at small skimmers to work around passes and mangroves if necessary. They will also consider that some mangrove cleanup may be more harmful than leaving the tar balls in place.

Miville asked if they could have been able to stop the leak with a targeted explosion. Campbell said BP went with tried technology in pursuing a relief well instead. Partial solution so far has been able to slow or collect leak...if you blow it up you could lose all means of control. Could go from one leak to several, from a barely controllable leak to an uncontrolled leak. Schwartzel asked what happened to the agencies who were supposed to oversee the offshore drilling. Why weren't safeguards anticipated? Campbell said it comes down to what we're willing to pay for as taxpayers and as consumers as to how much oversight and how rigorous it will be. This was a test drill situation, and too much regulation will discourage such exploration if the costs are too high to try. The oil companies often do drill other wells if the first one turns out to be profitable. Blowout preventer failed in this instance...explained process. Questions arise: Do they work, is one enough, are pipes too hard to allow jaws to cut off flow? Clearly, we

need better functioning regulations. Miville said it should not be a cost to consumer, it's all supply and demand.

Hullar asked how you deal with booming the passes with their velocity? Campbell said sometime you can close a high velocity pass, or use a deflection boom to push oil onto to a beach where it can be cleaned up more easily. Hullar asked what about the columns of dispersed oil? Campbell said the county was not working directly with Mote and other private partners, but was working with Coast Guard on this issue. Media reports may have jumped the gun on finding and tracking oil columns. HSilverglide asked how long does this plan stay in place, since oil damage could take years to surface. Campbell said he was not a big fan of dispersants, scares him the amount they've used on this spill. Stuff won't go away, won't sink to the bottom or float to the top. Contingency plan will last indefinitely, daily engagement probably drops as soon as the well is capped but will remain watchful of long-term damage probabilities. Right now, we're in the hyper-vigilant stage – but we can't sustain this level for years. So becoming routine is our goal...clean up visible oil (which will take years), procedures have been and will be in place into the future. BP will have a presence in the Gulf for quite a long time, and will be held accountable through the media and coastal communities. The level of response will decrease over time as we move into a management scenario.

Mullins asked what is a worst-case scenario for us at this point? Campbell said it was significant amounts of floating oil mixed with tar balls coming in to our coastal areas. That won't happen, but we're planning for that. Level of economic impact would be harder for us to recover from over time. The wild card is a hurricane or storm event. Mullins asked if there was a potential for explosive damage? Campbell said in the vicinity of the spill, certainly. Polluting some place in the atmosphere, more of the issue is the VOCs (volatile organic compounds) coming off the light oil. Boyle asked about training – will it be local or prequalified outside teams? Campbell said a combination -- oil is considered a hazardous substance by law, can only be handled by trained and qualified people. Ostego Bay training allows you to be a qualified observer. If oil hits trigger point in the Gulf, we will; be asked to ramp up training. We will discourage volunteers on the beach – it's BP responsibility, given the amount of danger and skill involved. Local volunteers can handle regular beach cleanup, which helps response. Poppolaro said additional trainings are planned, space is limited in some instances. Will work with CEPD to work with volunteers. Campbell noted this was not a certified training in accordance with certain federal regulations. He warned people not to pay for a training certification that won't apply.

Hurricane Response: Doris Holzheimer noted that Campbell was the one who would decide if we need to evacuate Captiva. It is still expected to be an active season, even a tropical storm could stir up the Gulf and create an issue with the oil as well as the usual concerns. Campbell said the Lee Emergency Operations Center would offer 12-hour additional notice on watches and warning, which will

allow us to do some things we have not been able to do before. They have decoupled storm surge information from the Saffir Simpson wind speed scale, which was only meant to address wind speed. They've stopped considering a "typical" hurricane that tied wind to likely surge. Instead, they will look at the size of the storm, amount of lead-in to landfall over water; the surge credited by history of wind, not speed at landfall, etc. Surge and wind speed will be separate forecasts. As always, pay attention to evacuation orders, we will be using evacuation zones using SLOSH models. We take evacuation orders very seriously, we understand the impact on you and your life.

Mullins said the cone of uncertainty was an issue for him. Is predictability of surge same as wind? Campbell said it was, but neither of them are very good. On track we do better, timing forecast skills are OK, but about storm intensity we have no skill in forecasting. Can do no better than averaging past storms, historic data and models. HSilverglide asked whether evacuation notices will be sooner, the same or later? Campbell said this year they will be about the same. We're mostly concerned with tropical-storm-force winds, science is going to need to get better. We will change evacuation zones, county is working with Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council on that and should see changes next year.

Mullins asked what was being done to improve the potential of evacuating the county. Campbell said they plan to use the resources available to us... use school district buses, LeeTran buses, to move people in high-ridership areas to shelter. In Katrina, many died in the aftermath of the initial flooding; we don't have that risk here since most of the water will run off. We have plans in place to move people to safety...go to shelters if you don't have any other choices. Discussion of shelters followed... Best Western near Interstate 75 is designated for Captiva as a gathering point for islanders. Holzheimer said communication in advance was always crucial, to tell us what to do if we have to evacuate. She offers an update on the letter send to property owners: Got about 600 letters back, we had less than 100 before. It was a good idea with a lot of responses. She noted there was a committee meeting scheduled on July 15.

CEPD update: Kathy Rooker noted that the district had held four training sessions for oil spill response; 217 people have gone through it. The next beach renourishment project is scheduled for 2013, depending on storms, etc. The district's engineers are working on new design plan for the next project, and they will be at the CEPD meeting to discuss it, to be July 14 at noon in this room. Also, the board will discuss setting a referendum for the November ballot, which would give the district the authority to start looking for funding to do the next project. We encourage people to register to vote; on Oct. 4 rolls close for the next election. There will be a budget meeting this afternoon at 1 p.m. and tomorrow as well. Millage cap rate will be decided at tomorrow's meeting as well. Sept. 7 is the date for the first budget hearing, Sept. 21 for the second hearing; both will be 5:01 p.m. in this room. SSilverglide asked if the board has adopted formula for project yet? Rooker said the economist's survey was done, and he is working

with Coastal Planning & Engineering to develop an apportionment plan to be presented at September meeting. The summer newsletter mailed yesterday and should be arriving soon.

ROW tree plan: Gooderham provided a brief overview of the Division of Forestry grant, explained that he had met with Jenny Evans (SCCF Native Plant Nursery, Joe Sulak (Lee DOT) and Mike Weston (local DOF ranger) on June 17 to drive Captiva Drive and identify possible planting sites. Due to the infrastructure issues on the bay side of the road, it was eliminated as an option. Then, the group looked for places on the Gulf side with sufficient space in the right of way to accommodate a grouping of trees, and identified 15 sites. Evans had developed a plant list using the grant options, and Sulak had developed an aerial showing the possible sites and the adjacent addresses.

Since there would not be enough sites on Captiva Drive to utilize the full grant amount, and since it was limited to public lands south of the first S curve, the group discussed using some of the funds to enhance the vegetation at Turner Beach. DOT was planning to install/clean up a retention area that was part of the original permit for the Blind Pass bridge, and the county's Natural Resources Division had done some plantings there after the Blind Pass opening project and after the lift station work was completed. DNR had some additional plants they planned to replace, so the grant funds could be combined with the DNR and DOT plant budgets to allow for more planting than would have been possible otherwise. Both projects would need to be bid, although Gooderham hoped to be able to work with SCCF on both, and they would be timed to take advantage of the rainy season to minimize the need for follow-up irrigation.

The panel was asked to respond to the proposals, which was generally positive. It was expressed that those adjacent property owners should be contacted and possible offered a choice of plants. Gooderham said he had planned to contact them by mail (as all he had was property appraiser addresses), but offering them a plant choice would probably delay the project until next spring since it would take at least six weeks to send letters and get responses. There was time to do that under the grant conditions, but the panel needed to be aware that the county would make the final decision on plantings as it was in the public right-of-way.

A number of panel members wanted to alter the plant list, and finally Mullins asked for the DOF contact to call him to discuss adding royal palms and limiting some of the other choices on the SCCF list. Miville asked why the owners could not be called to enable the project to move forward this year. Gooderham explained that he did not have current phone numbers for them, nor did he have the time to take this on due to other client commitments. Miville offered to attempt to contact the owners if Gooderham would develop a list. Hullar said the owners needed to be engaged in the process. Mullins made a motion to move forward with the projects, and to ask Miville to contact the affected owners and offer them

the tree options to be determined (Hullar second). The motion was approved on a 6-1 vote (Boyle dissented).

Nominating Committee: SSilverglide noted that the panel seats coming open by the end of the year had been identified. Mike Boris, Denice Beggs and Paul McCarthy have agreed to serve on the committee. She encouraged the community to suggest names to the committee to make suggestions to the panel in the fall. Hullar asked who would serve as chair? Mullins recommended Beggs; Miville said McCarthy would be a good choice as well. SSilverglide said that would be a presidential appointment, and she will make a decision soon.

Financials: Gooderham provided an update from the handout provided to the panel, and noted that he anticipated the \$25,000 reimbursement for planning would be at the post office when he checked after this meeting. The next TDC reimbursement for water quality monitoring was in the process and expected by the next meeting.

Water quality: Jensen provided an update, noting that SCCF had installed monitoring wells on the island to test the water quality and track the flow of subsurface water leading to the Gulf or bay. The lab said that more samples are in process, with more results shortly. The goal was to track pollutants to nearshore waters to see how water table works, and 10-12 more testing events planned. Mullins asked if the wells were on the bay side only. Jensen said they were on both sides elsewhere on the island. Mullins said he would love to see SCCF staffers Mark Thompson and Erick Lindblad at a panel meeting together. We seem to have gotten conflicting reports in past, may be useful to hear from both of them. Jensen said they told him that they've learned a lot quickly and recently, and should have more to report with more results. Hullar said in the past the data was presented in a way that led some to misunderstand its impact... factual and perspective important. Boyle hoped there would be a better comparison before and after opening of Blind Pass. Mullins noted that the CEPD commissioned similar study in 1972 which he recently had found; it could be a good anecdotal comparison against current data.

Other business: Mullins noted that Jason Maughn was organizing something concerning BP claims on the island this Friday, but he was not clear on what's planned at this point. Gooderham reiterated the county planning meeting scheduled for the Alpha Cone Room in Chadwicks Square on Wednesday, July 14, beginning at 9 a.m. It would be a chance to meet with county planners to discuss Captiva issues in general, and he hoped the community would be interested in attending.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

--Ken Gooderham, administrator