



CHNEP Management Committee Meeting

Friday September 9th, 2022, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Charlotte County Utilities Building, Training Rooms A & B
25550 Harborview Rd., Port Charlotte, FL 33980

Management Committee Meeting Draft Minutes

September 9, 2022

Members Present

Corey Anderson	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)
Jennifer Codo-Salisbury	Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC)
Margaret Wuerstle	Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC)
Phil Flood	South Florida Water Management District (SWFMD)
Vivianna Bendixson	Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
Jim Guida	Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority
James Evans	Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF)
Brandon Moody	Charlotte County
Amanda Boone	Sarasota County
Laura Gibson	City of Bonita Springs
Craig Hankins	City of Cape Coral
Elizabeth Wong	City of North Port
Dana Dettmar	City of Sanibel
Kristina Rimes	City of Venice
Chad Chustz	Town of Fort Myers Beach
Debi Osborne	Conservation Foundation of the Gulf Coast
Harry Phillips	City of Cape Coral
Ernesto Lasso De La Vega	Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control District

Others Present:

Jennifer Hecker	Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership
Nicole Iadevaia	Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership
June Jackson	Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership
Dr. Barry Rosen	Florida Gulf Coast University
Mr. Ed. Smith	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Dr. James Douglass	Florida Gulf Coast University
Dr. Mike Parsons	Florida Gulf Coast University
Rachel Hart	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Kris Kaufman	NOAA
Kraig Hawkins	City of Cape Coral
Nancy Gallinaro	City of North Port

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order and Introductions — Corey Anderson, Co-Chair

Co-chair Corey Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Introductions were then made.

Agenda Item #2 – Agenda Additions or Deletions — Corey Anderson, Co-Chair

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

AMANDA BOONE MOVED, SECONDED BY ERNESTO LASSO DE LA VEGA TO ADOPT THE AGENDA. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NO FURTHER DISCUSSION.

Agenda Item #3 – Public Comments on Agenda Items – Corey Anderson, Co-Chair

No public comments on agenda items were made.

Agenda Item #4 – Management Committee May 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes — Corey Anderson, Co-Chair

No edits were made to the May 13, 2022 Management Committee Meeting Minutes.

VIVIANNA BENDIXSON MOVED, SECONDED BY PHIL FLOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH NO FURTHER DISCUSSION.

Agenda Item #5 – TAC Report — Ernesto Lasso de la Vega, TAC Co-Chair

Ernesto Lasso de la Vega, TAC Co-Chair, started by stating how he appreciated the technical report that was prepared by Sarina Weiss of CHNEP. Then, he presented the report of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) held on August 11, 2022 meeting highlights. The TAC meeting included many important technical presentations and discussions such as: Brandon Moody, Charlotte County Water Quality Manager, presented the Charlotte County Water Quality Plan, and Nicole Iadevaia announced Charlotte County’s plans to develop their plan by October 2023; “Place-Based Fishery Conservation” was presented by Mr. Corey Anderson, with FWC. He provided TAC members with an overview of the Habitat Conservation Subcommittee (HCS) Place-Based Fishery Conservation Draft Report, research, and policy work plans; Mr. Roger Copp from Water Science Associates presented updates on the “Lower Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Hydrological Restoration Project. CHNEP is a member of the Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Initiative (CHFI) comprised of multiple local, state, and federal agencies; A “Water Quality Trend Analysis Project” was presented by Dr. Miles Medina, at the Center for Coastal Solutions at the University of Florida. He provided committee members with updates on the Water Quality Trend Analysis Project for the CHNEP Water Atlas. The CHNEP recently engaged with researchers at the University of Florida’s Center for Coastal Solutions (CCS) to complete an updated Water Quality Trend Analysis which uses a more sophisticated and flexible approach to estimate long-term trends and seasonal cycles in water quality dynamics over 10-year and 5-year timeframes, following recently published work by Beck et al. (2022); “Seagrass and Algae Changes in Charlotte Harbor and Estero Bay” was presented by Mr. Mike Wessel, from Janicki Environmental. He shared an overview on a recent report for the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves which aims to identify potential drivers of seagrass and algal change throughout Charlotte Harbor and Estero Bay. Noticeable declines in seagrass have occurred since 2017 in several strata; CHNEP staff provided a Program and Technical Project update presentation, and then TAC members shared updates

with each other on their respective natural resource related activities and projects. There were no recommendations formed by the TAC pertaining directly to Management Committee agenda items this cycle.

Agenda Item #6 – TAC Report — Harry Phillips, CAC Co-Chair

Harry Phillips, CAC Co-Chair, started by thanking CHNEP staff, Nicole and Sarina, on their TAC related efforts. He then presented the report of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) August 24, 2022 meeting highlights.

Four new conservation grant projects were reviewed and approved for funding: a project for educational signage about gopher tortoises at Cape Coral Wild Wildlife Trust properties; another for restoration and gopher tortoise signage at Pederson Preserve Pine Restoration Habitat Area; the bacteria analyses of water bodies being done by Suncoast Waterkeepers; and, a bird count that was completed with the use of drones.

Six completed conservation grants that CHNEP helped fund and their deliverables: Charts and multi-media diagrams from a project with Nature Folks for their Go Hydrology Journal; the Great American Clean up (with the local project managed by Keep Charlotte Harbor Beautiful) picked up over 70,000 pounds of debris; a program that provided 24 underserved children with scholarships to an environmental education summer camp; CHNEP funding of the Myakka River Management Coordinating Council Myakka council for some website enhancements; the Captiva Foundation (SCCF) website now has drone footage from Sanibel up to Lake Ochachobee; Northport received money for scrub jay habitat restoration; and, the final projects mentioned were CHEC signage where you can scan a digital code for guided educational information and an educational video provided to CHNEP.

The CAC Co-Chair also talked about how the resiliency needs surveys are being done, and that letters of support can be supplied from CHNEP upon request for grant applications. He wanted to let people know about this, if it would help with their projects.

Next, he summarized what CAC members reported on the resiliency needs survey results from each respective county: Manatee County partnered with Tampa Bay to conduct their needs survey, and a website now details their plan; Sarasota County identified their needs in areas such as septic-to-sewer conversion, flood maps, and a disaster recovery plan for sea level rise; Glades County is mapping road improvement needs, storm water, damn safety, and public education (The Co-Chair noted this is really important since they are inland with potentially less focus to date); Polk County identified needs for ground water, water quality, and stormwater management, and septic to sewer planning; Estero Township is working on an inventory of native plants, natural areas, and plans to acquire more land, e.g., for stormwater management; Cape Coral has identified what they need for stormwater and backpressure because when they need a better plan for where the water can go when they are inundated. They changed sea wall standards (making them higher), and they are going to hire a flood planning and compliance coordinators.

Mr. Phillips concluded with saying that at the CAC meeting members reviewed the overreaching goals of committee and discussed how we need to continue to bring partners and stakeholders together. He expressed that there are many needs for grants, research, and projects and that more cohesion is needed. He stated that CAC members would also like to see more education in schools, more outreach, more buy-in with community and suggested that new marketing approaches for outreach might be beneficial.

A member thanked CHNEP for the grant for the drone and stated it demonstrates the great partnership with CHNEP.

There were no items for CAC input pertaining to Management Committee agenda items this cycle.

Agenda Item #7 – CHNEP Update — Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP

Ms. Jennifer Hecker presented on programmatic activity occurring since the last Management Committee meeting and highlighted the following: The Spring cycle of meetings was completed, and she thanked CHNEP staff for the successful outcomes; new lease space for the CHNEP office at 1050 Loveland, along with an invitation for members to come see/visit; two abstracts were completed and both were selected and will be presented at the conference in October; CHNEP staff launched NEPORT data entry as required by EPA, which is a collective effort and the information goes to Congress so they can see how federal funds are being leveraged to provide even more benefit; and Ms. Hecker said she served as peer evaluator for San Juan Bay and brought back some ideas for CHNEP, plus she wrote a letter of support of NFWF and more letters of support have been requested, which CHNEP can accommodate.

Her funding overview included mention of \$1,060 in small, private donations from the local community which Ms. Hecker said can come in as \$5 to \$100 or more. She stated the number of conservation grants awarded and completed (which Mr. Harry Phillips detailed earlier). Then, she mentioned that the F23 EPA application will need reentered with the new host and that requests for reimbursements from SWFWMD and FDEP were completed and that contingency funds were also approved by FDEP.

She also highlighted some of CHNEP's outreach activities: Earth Echo – water quality kits were well received; CHNEP participation in planting a community garden, and attendance at the "Wildcat" event in Hardy county; CHNEP's 2023 Calendar should begin being printed in the next few weeks, and she thanked CAC members, such as Ernesto, for their assistance in this year's edition; Citizen science events were held such as training on seas grass and horseshoe crab (and she referenced a recent Facebook post of a citizen scientist tagging a crab), and there was a presentation in Hendry County to 52 students utilizing the Kids Activity Book; Professional meeting were attended, as well, such as the 2022 Gulf of Mexico Conference (GOMCON); CHNEP's new Kids Activity Book was printed and 4,000 copies are being distributed – said members should feel free to ask for a box and that we are working with Ernesto on a Spanish version; CHNEP also had 6000 copies of the Harbor Happenings publication distributed; and, metrics for outreach continue to increase - over 1,000 YouTube views and 115 YouTube hours, and nearly 2,000 unique visitors to the CHNEP website. Finally, she shared save the dates for the upcoming Watershed Summit (June 20-22, 2023) and Southwest Florida Climate Summit (March 15-16, 2023) which the CHNEP is organizing to be held in-person (with a video recordings to be shared later). She concluded by thanking CHNEP staff for assisting in all these efforts. There was no further discussion from committee members of this item.

Agenda Item #8 – Charlotte County Hosting Proposal — Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP

Ms. Hecker discussed the hosting proposal and the Memorandum of Understanding with Charlotte County, stating that the CHNEP's budget is doubling with a significant increase in revenues which, therefore, means double the projects as well as additional staff for the increased operational/project needs. She stated how Charlotte County is set up well to provide for these growing operational needs - HR for additional staffing needs, more office space, and so on. This was followed by a discussion of the shared synergy between Charlotte County and CHNEP and mention of how what Brandon Moody,

Charlotte County's Water Quality Manager, is doing compliments CHNEP's efforts. She stated there is a holistic vision to serve the whole 10-County area and that CHNEP is working on educational workshops to collaborate.

She went over the timeline for the host transition saying that at the May 2022 CHNEP Policy Committee meeting, the Policy Committee conceptually approved and authorized CHNEP staff to work with Charlotte County staff to craft the aforementioned draft agreement. CHNEP moved to Charlotte County office space in August. The Charlotte County Commissioners will take up the final hosting MOU for potential approval at their September 13, 2022 meeting. Once approved, the MOU will go to the CHNEP Policy Committee to review and vote on whether to approve at their September 22, 2022 meeting. If approved by all parties, the agreement should go into effect October 1, 2022, the beginning of CHNEP's fiscal year – with all funds and agreements transferred between hosts as quickly as feasible thereafter.

Ms. Hecker went on to state how we already set up transfer agreements with many of our partners. With EPA, we are leaving FY20-22 open with the City. The FY23 grant will be opened with Charlotte County. She reiterated some of the benefits of the MOU with the County. For example, the compensation for hosting is based on a percentage, so CHNEP can scale up or down based on funding. It is capped at 10% of revenue which is extremely competitive for the services being provided by Charlotte County.

A question was presented by a committee member about changes to the invoicing process. Ms. Hecker confirmed that it will switch from the County to the City, and she explained that the City will close out FY22 and prior, and then all FY23 will occur with the County. Processes will be a similar to what occurs now with the City. The member furthered that CHNEP needs to get verification from the City that they will handle FY22. Ms. Hecker and CHNEP staff confirmed that an agreement with the City was drafted making assurances that FY22 will be handled by the City, and the only prior-year project moving to the County is Myakka headwaters. Ms. Hecker also talked about efforts underway to assign Purchase Orders to the County.

One more question from the member was about any timing impacts for FY19 and FY21 agreements, specifically the status of the SWFWMD agreements. CHNEP staff confirmed that those agreements are nearly ready to go to the County for review, after hearing if there are any City edits to consider.

The Co-chair asked if there were any questions for this action item. Being none, he recommended a vote to approve the Charlotte County Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

MOTION TO RECOMMEND TO POLICY THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU). JAMES EVANS MOVED, SECONDED BY MARGARET WUERSTLE TO RECOMMEND TO POLICY THE APPROVAL OF THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU). THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED WITH NO ABSTENTIONS OR OBJECTIONS.

Agenda Item #9 – CHNEP Amended FY22 & FY23 Work Plans & Budgets — Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP

Ms. Jennifer Hecker presented the FY2022 Amended Work Plan and outlined pertinent removals, carryovers, decreases, updates, and overall adjusted funding in detail for both revenue and expense tables and narrative task descriptions.

She stated it is unusual to amend FY22 at this time, but it must be done due to funding changes related to the host change, especially since the EPA wants the pre-FY22 and FY22 EPA 320 left open. Therefore, the cleanest way found was to move funding to the Tiki Point Living Shoreline project and

leave it with the City. Tiki Point was previously in BIL funding. CHNEP is putting all unused funds (e.g., travel and some funding related to outreach which was unspent due to the pandemic) for projects that didn't kick off into Tiki Point using EPA 320 FY22 funding. This is cleaner since it is the City's project and the grants can stay open until the Tiki Point project is done. That is the rationale behind all the number changes.

Regarding the technical project table, Ms. Hecker discussed which funds shifted to Tiki Point, and she also clarified that the other projects are still going to be done, just in future years. She discussed BIL funding and how FY22 funds come with FY23, but it is still in FY22 as far as EPA is concerned. She talked about how CHNEP is switching out FY22 & FY23 projects. Then, she went into the changes on positions, such as the City position no longer being required. She finished with a review of the narrative on projects and any funding changes for each and stated that CHNEP worked with the City and EPA to make all these Work Plan changes.

A member asked a question about the intern position. Ms. Hecker explained that Charlotte County requires an intern to be a student rather than a full-time staff person. Therefore, the position was changed to full-time given the increasing projects forthcoming with BIL funding.

She talked about how the Tiki Point Living Shoreline project is vital and how DEP is providing \$500K for it, noting that the project was perfect for BIL, but this new plan (leaving FY22 EPA funds with the City) helps the City start the Tiki Point project sooner. Therefore, CHNEP is looking for other projects that fit the BIL funding guidance.

The Co-chair had a question on the edited hard copy provided noting a corrected subtotal of \$433,017. He shared this so that those online would also know. CHNEP staff indicated that it was already fixed in the online presentation. Another member asked about the \$75K position and where that funding went. Ms. Hecker stated it was reallocated to other tasks because the position the City wanted (to help with administrative tasks related to hosting CHNEP) is not required by Charlotte County.

Ms. Hecker also discussed how the FY2023 Work Plan & Budget which was reviewed and approved last cycle, and which was submitted to the EPA on June 1, 2022, needed revised due to the potential host change; the EPA has voided the application and wants CHNEP to reapply with an amended Work Plan once the new host agreement is approved. She also discussed how with Work Plans being prepared so far in advance, it is customary that some projects and funding sources be identified as To Be Determined (TBD). She reviewed the slides of changes highlighting that salaries are increased due to, for instance, the intern change. A member had a question about the \$709,800 in BIL funding. CHNEP staff indicated the \$709,800 is correct as \$200,000 in BIL is allocated to a vulnerability assessment which brings the total to the expected \$909,800/year in BIL funding. The next page showed how the \$709,800 for the Tiki Point project is no longer BIL (because it shifted to EPA 320, staying with the City). Lastly, the narrative changes for FY23 projects were reviewed.

A committee member noticed that \$994,758 in the Table hard copy didn't match up with the online presentation. Ms. Hecker determined the online Power Point presentation had a typo and the correct number is \$994,758 which was on the hard copy.

The Co-chair asked if there were any other questions for this action item. Being none, he recommended a vote to approve the FY22 Work Plan and Budget & then the FY23 Work Plan and Budget.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND TO POLICY THE CHNEP PROPOSED FY2022 WORKPLAN & BUDGET. PHIL FLOOD MOVED, SECONDED BY JAMES EVANS TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED FY2022 WORKPLAN & BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED WITH NO ABSTENTIONS OR OBJECTIONS.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND TO POLICY THE CHNEP PROPOSED FY2023 WORKPLAN & BUDGET. PHIL FLOOD MOVED, SECONDED BY JENNIFER CODO-SALISBURY TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED FY2022 WORKPLAN & BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED WITH NO ABSTENTIONS OR OBJECTIONS.

Agenda Item #10 – CHNEP Amended FY22 & FY23 BIL Work Plan & Budget — Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP

Ms. Hecker talked about how BIL funding must be tracked separately, and it is \$909,800 each year (FY22 & FY23). The two core goals are Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice. Projects will also align with the CCMP and 40% should be targeted to reach disadvantaged communities. She stated that CHNEP is going to do a call for projects to meet the 40%.

Next, she said how mitigation, adaptation, and education are also the focus, and projects need to be forward-looking and to address how they will meet future climate change factors. She discussed education and the climate mapper and posed a concern on how do we create forums to gather and disseminate information to the public?

Regarding timing, she mentioned that the EPA is allowing a combined BIL Work Plan at this time for both FY22 & FY23. The EPA 320 needs resubmitted on 9/23 for FY23. Then she talked about FY24 is already coming up soon, too, in order to present at scheduled committee meetings early next year.

Ms. Hecker discussed how projects labeled TBD will be filled by the call for projects. She also mentioned it would be more efficient to have projects counties adjacent to Charlotte and Polk to be included in additional Vulnerability Assessments. A call for TBD Resiliency projects also needs to be completed, and she discussed the new provisions, such as Buy American, stating CHNEP will work with Charlotte County to ensure we request the right type of projects.

A member asked what happens if CHNEP doesn't get BIL funding. Ms. Hecker discussed how it is a small amount for FY23, and she thinks CHNEP's budget (reserves and other revenue streams) can cover it. The member stated that they would like it moved out of BIL funding in the future. Ms. Hecker agreed and talked about how CHNEP had to utilize a small amount of BIL funding for staffing due to the host transition, but after that she would like it taken out of BIL funding.

The Co-Chair had a question about prioritizing disadvantaged communities and how is it defined. Ms. Hecker talked about how EPA has tools, but they seem to need adjusted for our area. Therefore, CHNEP is looking into State tools, as the EPA will allow substitute measures.

For the FY24 Work Plan, CHNEP also needs to have their equity strategy developed for the EPAQ. The Co-chair suggested the equity tools/strategy should be identified as soon as possible.

Another member stated it is quite an endeavor understanding all the restrictions, that hopefully Charlotte County can help, and that sometimes there is a waiver. Ms. Hecker agreed that Charlotte County will help with their grant team working closely with CHNEP grant staff.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND TO POLICY THE CHNEP PROPOSED FY2022 & FY2023 BIL WORKPLAN & BUDGET. MARGARET WEURSTLY MOVED, SECONDED BY HARRY PHILLIPS TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED FY2022 & FY2023 BIL

WORKPLAN & BUDGET. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED WITH NO ABSTENTIONS OR OBJECTIONS.

Agenda Item #11 – NOAA Federal Funding Opportunities — Kris Kaufman, NOAA

Ms. Kris Kaufman with the Restoration Center in the Office of Habitat Conservation, NOAA Fisheries, discussed how this is an unprecedented opportunity with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law which provides nearly \$3 billion for NOAA to take action over 5 years in the areas of habitat restoration, coastal resilience, and weather forecasting infrastructure. She shared where information can be found since a significant portion of the funds will be issued through competitive grants to organizations to do on-the-ground work around the country. She talked about fish habitats importance to NOAA and resiliency. Funding highlights included: \$491M to habitat and \$400M for fish passage (some closed this week); \$300M currently available from Seagrant (due 9/15), \$56M (due 10/5) and \$16M (due 10/13); most of \$492M with NCRF has been awarded but some funding is still available; \$207M (due 7/29/22). Sub awards are available, and she encouraged members to reach out to DEP.

She restated NOAA's focus is to enhance habitats, ecosystems, and communities. They want to fund organizational and technical capacity. Capacity building can be paid positions and internships or meeting space. She reviewed the program priorities and their focus on accessibility to underserved communities, noting \$10M for resiliency efforts in underserved communities. Then, she discussed her slide about Definitions of Key Terms and said that NOAA is asking applicants to define their underserved communities, tribal included.

CHNEP's Executive Director had asked for examples of projects in the region. Ms. Kaufman provided a few examples, such as a large scale oyster project with Texas A&M, a project in Jacksonville which used construction dollars, and the City of Venice's oyster project. She mentioned that Lemon Creek is a wetland restoration project which required extensive invasive removal. It also identified a tarpon nursery. McCoy Creek, in urban Jacksonville, is in an underserved community, and the project will design daylighting and improve outfall results.

Ms. Hecker asked if any questions and commented on the incredible amount of funding opportunities. Ms. Hecker also referenced the Fact Sheet CHNEP developed which list many federal funding opportunities. The presenter appreciated the Fact sheet.

Agenda Item #12 – Overview of Other Federal Funding Opportunities — Jennifer Hecker, CHNEP

Ms. Hecker of the CHNEP also stated there are unpreceded funding opportunities with the focus on climate change stressors. She stated that climate change is occurring now; we have had 20 weather/climate events in 2021 that resulted in losses exceeding \$2 billion each.

Open funding opportunities were discussed such as: DOT funding to enhance connectivity, \$100K to \$100M due Oct 13, the National Fish Passage Program with no maximum and rolling acceptance. FEMA 2023 funding (which is not only for preparing, but it can also be for mitigation), \$800M for mitigation and building resiliency, upcoming culvert removal projects to improve fish passage, the NCRF resiliency fund, PROTECT which is for resiliency and to improve surface transportation, etc. A funding Fact Sheet was referenced again which summarizes many opportunities, and CHNEP also offered to provide letters of support.

The Co-Chair and a member both thanked CHNEP for the Fact sheet.

Agenda Item #13 – CHNEP Technical Projects Update — Nicole Iadevaia, CHNEP

Nicole Iadevaia, CHNEP’s Director of Research & Restoration, presented several research and/or restoration projects (or phases of projects) currently underway with CHNEP FY19-22 funds. A brief overview was also given on projects currently identified in the FY23 Work Plan (including both EPA and FY22-23 BIL funding).

Ms. Iadevaia started with the Water Atlas/CHNEP Water Atlas Trends Enhancements which is ongoing. She referenced some of the enhancements made this year and informed the committee about a Fact Sheet. Then, she detailed some of the enhancements such as expanding to Dona & Roberts Bay and the Coastal Conditions Map. She expressed thanks to our partners that provide data. Next, she discussed some improvements that are coming soon, such as updates to the Seagrass page by basin, site specific water quality, and clam habitat restoration map. She mentioned the new University of Florida trend analysis that will go on the water quality trends page and that future projects will make all the data easier to use and access. She said CHNEP will also be bringing in healthy beach information, and the goal is for this map to be a one-stop-shop for water quality. For example, the landing page for lakes will include Winterhaven, and algae and epiphyte data is also being added. Nicole mentioned many partners are helping with CCHMN - Coastal Charlotte Harbor Monitoring Network Project. Then, she discussed the Lower Charlotte Harbor Flatwoods Hydrological Modeling Project – which is a one-time project with the objective to create an integrated model for an area that runs from east side of Charlotte Harbor down to Lee County. CHNEP funded modeling and tool design with DEP funding. She talked about how water has been artificially impounded in the area, and the model helps determine where it should go; the model mimics what is occurring and then derives potential models - moving water where it is needed. Ms. Iadevaia said the draft report is completed which details how hydro periods can be improved and other corrections made such to cypress wetland which is not wet and other areas have too much water.

Other projects discussed were: Myakka Headwaters Preserve Restoration Project – an on the ground restoration of recently conserved land (363 acres). CHNEP is working with SWFWMD to fund invasive treatment and install native plantings. The goal is for a report that can be used for restoration of similar areas going forward; Pine Island Flatwoods Restoration Project – is not yet kicked off. This project is with Lee County for 4 abandoned shrimp ponds. Lee County funded the design, so we are partnering with federal funds to complete construction of local and regional projects; Tiki Point Harbor walk Living Shoreline Restoration Project – a partnership with City, DEP, and federal funding to create a living shoreline of oyster reefs and mangroves; and, County Climate Vulnerability Assessments – Starting in FY23. Eventually all 10 counties. Data collection and analysis, scenarios, and recommended projects. CHNEP is helping with design and/or implementation.

She finished by directing members to the fact sheets which are available on the CHNEP website: <https://www.chnep.org/chnep-fact-sheets>. Stated that CHNEP will be putting out a competitive call for projects that meet CCMP and to leverage federal to do larger projects or projects that cannot get done without some funding.

Corey expressed that there is a lot of activity. Nicole thanked our partners for helping.

Agenda Item #14 - Management Committee Member Updates — Corey Anderson, Co-Chair

Each Management Committee member was encouraged to bring and share an update with the rest of the Committee. Management Committee Co-Chair Corey Anderson facilitated this discussion and led with his update.

Corey Anderson, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission: The Regional Working Group for coastal habitat restoration will be on September 27 at Rookery Bay Nursery at 10am. Reach out to him if any questions. Also, FWCC's 5-year plan for landscape conservation has developed the "CCC" which stands for Conserve, Connect, and Collaborate, and an internal team developed a process that looks at "Corridors" in the area. Lastly, there will be a public summit in summer of 2023 to rollout the process and focal area and to create partnerships with other conservation organizations.

Ernesto Lasso De La Vega, Lee County Mosquito/Hyacinth Control District: Thanked CHNEP for funding the Florida Lake Management meeting and the "Watershed Allocation Planning workshop" which covered erosion control and three other topics. A video will be posted on the Wetland website.

Brandon Moody, Charlotte County: Stated some positive comments about the new hosting arrangement of CHNEP by the County. He also expressed satisfaction in kicking off of Charlotte County's monitoring program which is a long-term program. They are now doing bi-weekly sampling throughout the County, and he wants to build a data set to rival what neighboring Counties are doing. Data should be available online soon.

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, South Florida Regional Planning Commission: They completed a pilot project in the Wildlife Corridor and are working on other areas that are most threatened by development, such as in Northern Polk County. They hope to use the pilot as a state-wide model. Also, mentioned that the Resiliency Council will be having a summit later this fall, including DOT and WMD.

Amanda Boone, Sarasota County: Thanked CHNEP for the letter of support for their Alligator Creek Restoration project. She stated that an evaluation of the stormwater environmental utility was completed over the past 4 years and in July there was initial approval of how to set rates with final approval in September. This means that Sarasota County will now be able to officially focus on water quality; Mentioned hosting a 2022 Water Quality Update webinar on December 5 from 3-5pm.

Vivianna Bendixson, Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD): Highlighted that the 35th anniversary of the SWIM program will be presented in October. The District is looking to apply for grants for restoration projects and water quality and did submit to NOAA (outside of CHNEP area), further mentioning the agency may need construction funding and may be reaching out to CHNEP for a letter of support and to FWC on components related to fisheries and monitoring plans; Myakka bank stabilization project construction is almost completed.

Laura Gibson, City of Bonita Springs: She didn't have an update for the City, but she wanted to mention that she is working to provide a training panel for property management companies to encourage working more closely with private preserve management. Planning to hold it on November 29th at the Collaboratory.

Harry Phillips, City of Cape Coral: Next Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 10 am is a conference call with SWFWMD and parties involved with the LCHFI.

Rachel Hart, US Environmental Protection Agency – Complimented Ms. Hecker for covering everything, and said that there is a lot of effort in trying to get BIL funds out the door.

Dana Dettmar, City of Sanibel: They have completed a 3rd living shoreline on Sanibel which was in a high-energy area, so it included an offshore break. They are also working on completing updates to waste water treatment plant. It will be an advanced plant which will have a significant impact on water quality related to reuse water on Sanibel.

Elizabeth Wong, City of North Port: They have executed an agreement with DEP for a Vulnerability & Adaptive Plan and are going out for a consultant very soon.

Nancy Gallinaro, City of Northport: Newly hired as their Utility Director in February, and she is looking forward to partnering and providing back up to Elizabeth. She has been involved in these meetings and is encouraged by the work we are all doing.

Agenda Item #15 - Public Comment — Corey Anderson, Co-Chair

There were no comments from the public.

Agenda Item #16 - Future Meeting's Topics and Date — Corey Anderson, Co-Chair

The next meeting will be held on January 13th, 2023. The Co-Chair mentioned to let us know if members have any future meeting topics.

Agenda Item #17 - Adjourn — Corey Anderson, Co-Chair

Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

DRAFT