

City of Marco Island Florida

*51 Bald Eagle Drive
Marco Island, Florida
cityofmarcoisland.com*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Thursday, August 21, 2025

8:30 AM

Community Meeting Room

Waterways Advisory Committee

Chair: Elliott Mascoop

Vice-Chair: Daniel High

*Committee Members: Chris Lewandowski,
Ralph Rohena, Jim Snider,
Martin Winter, Rick Woodworth*

City Staff: Justin Martin, Tara Kosieracki

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mascoop called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

(2) ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Winter, Member Woodworth and Chair Mascoop

Absent: 1 - Member Snider

Also Present**CITY COUNCILORS**

Rene Champagne

Tamara Goehler

Deb Henry

Bonita Schwan

CITY STAFF

Zurima Luff, Storm Water Engineer

Martin Luna, Audio/Visual Technician

Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist

(3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Chair Mascoop.

(4) APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION by Member Winter, seconded by Member Lewandowski, that the
Agenda be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE:**

Yes: 6 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Winter, Member Woodworth and Chair Mascoop

(5) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

ID 25-4605 Approval of the Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of July 17, 2025

Committee Member Ralph Rohena proposed two modifications to the Minutes of July 17, 2025.

1) Under Agenda Item 6C (ID 25-4537 - K&K Super-Blend Fertilizer Information)

Mr. Rohena requested that the observations that he and Committee Member Snider offered noting that the fertilizer blend offered by the creator and patent-owner of K&K Super-Blend was already commercially available and present in naturally-composted material, and;

2) Under Agenda Item 7B (ID-25-4538 - Depth Survey)

Mr. Rohena requested that his recommendation that a canal condition survey (not just a depth survey) be noted in the Minutes for this item.

[Editorial Note: Both proposed modifications to the July 17, 2025 Minutes were completed before finalizing and publishing the Minutes from that meeting]

(6) OLD BUSINESS

Committee Member Rick Woodworth requested clarification on whether a discussion of algae-eating bacteria was conducted at the Committee's last meeting or in another City forum. Member Ralph Rohena confirmed that he raised this topic during Public Comment at a recent Marco Island City Council Meeting.

(7) NEW BUSINESS

7A ID 25-4606 Introduction of New Topics for the Waterways Advisory Committee Consideration

Committee Chair Elliott Mascoop reviewed his request that each Committee member identify and submit three potential new topics prior to the meeting, and Member Woodworth explained the rationale for his not doing so.

Noting that this Committee had already submitted recommendations to the Marco Island City Council on five (5) timely issues of interest (i.e. Advanced Water Treatment (AWT), dredging, culverts, bubblers, and undertaking a canal depth survey), Chair Mascoop envisioned this effort as a way to raise new topics of importance for investigation by the Committee.

The following Committee members, in turn, shared their three potential topics:

- 1) Member Lewandowski;
- 2) Member Rohena;
- 3) Member Winter;
- 4) Vice-Chair High;
- 5) Chair Mascoop

At the conclusion of the individual Committee member presentations, Chair Mascoop asked the Committee to expand upon the topics that they presented.

An extensive amount of Committee discussion centered on Committee Member Rohena's effort to raise awareness of, and obtain direction on, how to properly advance the City's understanding and consideration of one vendor's proposal to introduce "muck-eating bacteria" into the City's canal system. Members of the Committee requested that the vendor confirm its ability with the appropriate Federal, State, and local regulatory bodies to introduce and encourage the propagation of "muck-eating bacteria" into the salt water canal system on Marco Island prior to coming before the Waterways Advisory Committee.

MOTION by Member Woodworth, seconded by Member Rohena, that an invitation to the company proposing the introduction of "muck-eating bacteria" into the Marco Island canal system be extended to meet with the Waterways Advisory Committee, with the proviso that, prior to scheduling that meeting, the company receives confirmation from the appropriate Federal, State, and local regulatory bodies that it can safely dispense its material/solution into the salt water canal system on Marco Island, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE VOTE:

Yes: 4 - Vice-Chair High, Member Rohena, Member Winter and Member Woodworth

No: 2 - Member Lewandowski and Chair Mascoop

Committee Member Woodworth volunteered to provide an algae and "muck" sample from his canal for the

proposed company's testing purposes.

Committee Member Rohena was asked to extend the Committee's invitation, and its conditions, to the company in question.

7B ID 25-4607 Whiteboard Topics and Strategic Planning

The Committee discussed potentially placing each member's highest priority recommendation (from those presented during Agenda topic 7A) onto a chart pad for all Committee members to view. Member Winter initiated the process by noting his six broad topics for the Committee's consideration. Those topics were:

- a) Water Quality
- b) Navigation
- c) Marine Construction
- d) Education
- e) Conservation
- f) Communication

Each Committee Member, in turn, went to the chart pad and ranked (1st through 3rd) their highest priority topic from among the six topics listed.

Navigation (#1), Water Quality (#2), and Marine Construction (#3) were identified as the top three topics for the Committee's future action.

Member Woodworth proposed that individual Committee members who ranked Navigation as his top Committee priority for future action complete a White Paper to identify the governing and regulatory bodies who have jurisdiction over that issue.

MOTION by Member Winter, seconded by Member Lewandowski, that Vice-Chair High's appointment to complete a White Paper recommending an Inlet Management Plan for Big Marco Pass for presentation to the Waterways Advisory Committee, be Approved. MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE VOTE:

Yes: 6 - Vice-Chair High, Member Lewandowski, Member Rohena, Member Winter, Member Woodworth and Chair Mascoop

Member Lewandowski volunteered to augment Vice-Chair High's effort with an investigation into ATON (Aids to Navigation) management procedures.

Member Winter volunteered to undertake the development of a White Paper on Derelict Vessels for the Committee's review.

At Vice-Chair High's recommendation, the Committee agreed to more further define the actionable items and desired outputs under the Water Quality (Ranked #2) topic at the Committee's next meeting.

(8) STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

8A ID 25-4647 Status Update and Next Steps: RFP for Canal Water Quality Improvements (Justin Martin, P.E., Director of Public Works)

Storm Water Engineer Zurima Luff, on behalf of Committee Staff Liaison Justin Martin, updated the Committee on the status of an RFP (Request for Proposal) directed by the City Council to solicit solutions to improve the quality of the waters in the City's canal system.

Ms. Luff communicated that the Waterways Advisory Committee would be asked to review any RFP's

submitted prior to requesting action by the Marco Island City Council.

Ms. Luff also advised the Committee that:

1) the City's Public Works Department maintains a map and confirms the appropriate locations of ATONS that are in waterways under the City's jurisdiction, and;

2) the water quality reports for the last seven months have indicated Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorous levels that are below the threshold levels

8B [ID 25-4648](#) Draft Scope of Work Summary - RWPF AWT Evaluation (Jeff Poteet, General Manager, Water & Sewer)

No representatives of the Marco Island Water & Sewer Department were present to discuss this item with members of the Committee at this meeting. Members of the Committee briefly shared their response to Water & Sewer General Manager Jeff Poteet's solicitation of their comments prior to the meeting.

(9) CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

Marco Island City Councilor Deb Henry came forward to encourage the Committee to continue to focus on things that they can affect, and she briefly outlined the status of discussions with Collier County officials and individuals representing the Isles of Capri and Goodland regarding those communities potentially migrating away from septic waste systems to central sewer collection systems.

Marco Island City Councilor Tamara Goehler requested that any White Papers that members of the Committee draft relative to the waterways in and around Marco Island clearly outline what the City and the City Council can do to improve the navigational conditions around the Island.

(10) PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public came forward to address the Committee at this meeting.

(11) NEXT MEETING: CONFIRMATION & ATTENDANCE - 9/18/25 @ 8:30 A.M.

Chair Mascoop confirmed that a quorum of members is likely for the Committee's September 18th meeting.

(12) PROPOSED AGENDA TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

The Committee identified the following potential Agenda items for its September 18th meeting:

- 1) Big Marco Pass Inlet Management Plan White Paper (Vice-Chair High)
- 2) Vendor Presentation on "Muck-Eating Bacteria" (Member Rohena)
- 3) Derelict Vessels White Paper (Member Winter)
- 4) Strategic Planning Continuation - the Water Quality Category (All)
- 5) Update to the Committee on C-HAWQ Public-Private Partnership (City Staff)

(13) OTHER COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

No other Committee Communications were conveyed during this portion of the meeting.

(14) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Committee, Chair Mascoop adjourned the meeting at 10:13 A.M.

Jim Kornas, Recording Specialist