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Wednesday, January 18, 2006

Re: Lee County Commission Board Management & Planning Meeting Monday, November 7, 2005

Commissioner St Cerny was not present

Streamline Lee County Occupational License – The presentation done by Cathy Curtis is attached but in a nutshell the County is looking perform a Equity Study with a Commission that is made up of the participating Municipalities, County Staff and the private sector to review Occupational Licenses. They will discuss such items as prorated the license, joint municipal licenses etc. This could be a very good thing for the business community.

**Tourist Tax Recommended Increase** – The VCB is recommending the increase of 5% as approved by their Board with 2 dissenting votes. The 5% would produce an additional \$8,000,000 a year and it would be spent as follows:

\$2,600,000 for the Beach & Shoreline Fund

\$3,600,000 for Advertising & PR

\$1,100,000 for Sports Marketing

\$400,000 for the meeting planner marketing program

\$100,000 for the Arts & Attractions program

\$100,000 for a training program

**2006 Legislative Priorities** – See the attached priorities. Staff will bring this back as an agenda item at the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Monthly Water Issues Update – Chip Merium (not sure about the spelling, sorry) from the South Florida Water Management District spoke to the Commissioners regarding Water issues. Commissioner Judah, among other topics, mainly "discussed" the flooding of the sugar cane fields and whether the District has the authority to do so. Commissioner Albion wants the district to give the County a plan for the next six months. He appreciated their long term plans but wanted to know what their short term plan was to fix the release problems, etc. Commissioner Janes would like the district to review their policies and procedures because he feels the standard they abide by



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## Monthly Water Issues Update continued...

now are archaic and need to be updated to reflect current industries not just agriculture.

**Transit Authority Consensus Building Study** – The County is entering into a consensus building study regarding the development of a Transit Authority. This study will also include all the municipalities and public input. See the attached blue sheet.

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**Short-Term/Long Term Transportation Needs** – Dave Loveland reported there is a 140 million shortfall (<u>by 1998 numbers</u>) for transportation needs for Lee County. Staff is looking to update the numbers that will include accounting for increases in impact fees and toll revenues.

Commissioner Judah suggested that they look at the impact fees every year in lieu of every three years – staff feels that every three year is a good window.

See attached back up material.

## Del Prado Alternatives Public Input from 8/30/05 Public Meeting -

Commissioner Albion is very upset that the County is spending money on roads running through Cities and the Cities collect 100% of the Road Impact Fees. He specifically mentioned Bonita beach Road in the discussion The Commission directed staff to "keep up the good work"

- One alignment for Del Prado would impact one owner and they would have to go through/over a lake.
- The alternate alignment affects about 8 land owners (three owners expressed interest in selling the other owners did not speak to staff, both alignments cost approximately the same)

**Basin Water Quality, Monitoring and Algae**— Wayne Daltry spoke about Lee County Water Quality, what the County and the SFWMD are doing to study this issue and how they work together better. Staff reviewed all the points where there is water quality testing by both the County and the SFWMD.

Staff will be meeting with our Congressional delegation this week; one topic will be naming our Estuary a "Federal Estuary". Currently, four natural areas (estuaries) are being affected by discharge, not to mention the federally protected manatees.

Staff will brief the Commission at the next County Commission meeting regarding the outcome of this meeting.

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**FGUA (Lehigh Acres) Issues** – Staff strongly recommends negotiating with FGUA and their Board (10/21 meeting of the FGUA board at Lee County) to purchase the Lehigh Acres Utilities. There will be more discussion regarding this issue pending the outcome of the October 18 County Commission meeting

**State Purchase of Babcock Ranch** – See attached memo and letter from the State regarding this purchase and their request of County Commission