



## ECCL REPORT

Meeting of Friday, May 13, 2016  
10 AM at the Estero Recreation Center

### **Fire District reports**

#### **San Carlos – Public Information Officer Alexis Rothring**

- The department has just qualified for an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of 2, which could mean lower homeowners' insurance rates for some residents who live in the district. Homeowners should check with their insurance companies.
- The department has partnered with the app Nextdoor, which is an online community that enables users to post and read classified ads and safety information and also receive alerts, all specific to their neighborhoods. For more information go to <http://www.sancarlosfire.org/?p=1245>
- Calls in April: 337

#### **Estero – Fire Chief Scott Vanderbrook**

- Hurricane season is coming (June 1). Make a plan. Susan Lindenmuth is available to speak to any community about hurricane preparation, if requested (ph. 239-390-8000).
- The annual budget workshop will be held July 12. At that time, there will be a consensus found on the annual millage rate for the next fiscal year, Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.

#### **ECCL financial report – Director Bob Lienesch**

- In April, \$250 in dues was collected; \$2,400 was spent on defense of DR/GR suit; \$29,000 is in the bank at the end of the month. ([See financials](#))

## Village of Estero Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) – Lisa Pace, Village of Estero Finance Director

- The village is starting to develop its first capital improvement plan (CIP). Law requires planning out 5 years but the village's CIP will be for 7 years. It will include a list of needs and estimated costs at this point no matter where the money will come from. The CIP will be updated every year.
- Citizen input is wanted at a workshop May 24 at 5:30 pm at Legacy Church (for location: <http://www.legacychurchestero.com/>).



Village Manager Sarkozy and Finance Director Pace

## Village report – Steven Sarkozy, Village Manager

- Answering a question about the role of the ECCL since village incorporation, Sarkozy said the ECCL remains important for 3 reasons: 1) To support the village by joining with the new government to effectively communicate with Tallahassee; 2) To solicit residents as volunteers to work with and supplement the village staff (citing the valuable professional experience among ECCL membership); 3) To work outside village boundaries for the benefit of Estero residents.
- Projects chosen for capital improvement this year will be placed in the coming year's budget; the rest will be placed on a list for future consideration.
- The capital improvement plan will be finalized in mid-July. Reports about this will appear on the village website, <http://www.estero-fl.gov>
- The village is paying attention to the reserve funds first. This year the village has set aside about 4½ months of operating expenses in reserve funding. The goal is to achieve 12 months as a safety net over the next several years.
- The village is looking at the tax rate and making every effort not to raise it from the county level before incorporation but in fact to decrease it.
- The village has no carryover personnel expenses such as retirements or accrued vacation time going into the new fiscal year.

- The village is working with the county on final roadway takeover plans and hopes to finish these negotiations by the end of May. It believes the county owes some money to pay for already needed road upgrades and is working on incorporating these funds into the agreement with the county so that Estero roads would satisfy higher quality standards than they did under county ownership.
- Traffic studies, engineering contracts, park maintenance and acquisition, pedestrian sidewalks and bikeways, a stormwater master plan that connects all of the gated communities are all issues being worked on.
- Regarding hurricane evacuation: Right now Estero residents will have to rely on signs on the roads to evacuate the area in case of a severe storm. The village is also concerned with backing up its data and other emergency and emergency recovery systems.

#### **Koreshan State Park – Director Bob Lienesch and Interim Chairman Don Eslick**

- A long-term management plan is supposed to be completed every five years, but the last one for this park was finished in 2004. Another is underway.
- A public hearing will be held at the Arts Hall at the Koreshan State Historic Site for citizen input about the long-term management plan June 29 from 5 to 7 pm. Citizen attendance and input are strongly encouraged.
- A flute recital is upcoming as part of the music series at the park.
- The farmers market includes native plant sales and is open throughout the summer with no admission charged at the gate.
- The park’s web site for activity information is <https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Koreshan>

#### **Transportation Committee – Director Bob King**

- Bob gave a Power Point presentation ([see here](#)) about the transportation committee and its 6 subcommittees. Five subcommittees are composed of members representing communities along the major thoroughfares in each of five corresponding zones. The 6<sup>th</sup> subcommittee will examine all research reports and studies that are underway. See the presentation on [esterotoday.com](http://esterotoday.com)



Jack Lienesch

### **Environmental issues – Director Pete Cangialosi**

- Pete gave a three-part presentation. The first was about estimated traffic increases resulting from the many housing developments along Corkscrew Road. The conclusion, shown graphically using information from the Lee County Traffic Count Database System and a draft report prepared by The Conservancy of Southwest Florida, showed a significant relationship between the increase in residential development on Corkscrew Road east of I-75 and the projected increase in the amount of traffic on Corkscrew Road at the county’s traffic count station just east of I-75.

- Another presentation ([see here](#)) explained what the Conservation 20/20 Referendum Committee was doing to promote passage of a resolution that would continue this program. The referendum is proposed for the November general election. Read the [ballot language here](#). If members would like to assist educating voters about the Conservation 20/20 program, please contact Pete.

- Pete’s last presentation ([see here](#)) summarized the CREW Headwaters project, a proposed conservation acquisition of 2,841 acres adjacent to existing CREW property on east Corkscrew Road. Several environmental and civic organizations are applying for funding from the state of Florida’s “Florida Forever” program. ECCL members at the meeting approved unanimously a resolution authorizing the ECCL to write to Florida Forever expressing ECCL’s support for this important acquisition and also to urge the Estero Village Council to support the project. Pete will write the letter.

### **Village Center - Interim Chairman Don Eslick**

- Don urged everyone to attend the Planning and Zoning Board meeting on Tuesday, May 17 at 5:30 PM in the Council Chambers to express support for the Village Center concept.

### **Development – Director Jim Tatooles**

- Jim explained that while gated communities and large retail developments constituted the first, and by far the largest, development phase in Estero since the turn of the century, the market then turned to large commercial

projects like Hertz, and more recently to rental and senior housing.

- It's important to point out that most of the developments presently under construction were approved by Lee County before the village incorporated. The village so far has approved only one project, the Volunteers of America proposal for a senior living facility on Corkscrew Road at Sandy Lane.

#### **DR/GR Protection Lawsuit - Interim Chairman Don Eslick**

- The ECCL is awaiting the Judge Alane Laboda's decision about whether or not ECCL has legal standing to make the case.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 PM.

The next meeting is Friday, June 10, 2016 at 10 AM at the Estero Recreation Center.