

ADOPTED

**Myakka River Management Coordinating Council
Sarasota County Office
Conference Room 1
1301 Cattleman Road
Sarasota, FL 34232**

**July 10, 2009
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The meeting began at 10:00 am with all members of the DOT Road Crossing Subcommittee present. Those in attendance included Ernie Estevez, Diana Donaghy, Mary Jelks, Mike Chouinard, Susan King, Belinda Perry, Chuck Downs, Jono Miller, Bill Byle, and Marlene Guffey via teleconference. This meeting was advertised in the Sarasota Herald Tribune on 6/26/09 and in the Florida Administrative Weekly on 6/12/09.

Jono opened the meeting and explained that he would like to write a short paper about the problems that were encountered along the road crossings of the Myakka River. After introductions took place, all the river crossings were discussed along with changes that occurred during bridge widening or replacement and road resurfacing. There was a consensus that there wasn't much concern for pedestrians or wildlife when crossings are constructed over the river, and that it was difficult to know when to get involved and express concerns during the planning process. Some beneficial bridge features were also discussed. Susan King, a DOT representative, stated that there is a 5-year plan that includes all the DOT projects that are to be constructed during the next five years and some of the roadways adjacent to the river are listed in the plan.

Before the meeting ended, it was agreed that Natalie Balcer would draft a worksheet that would help the subcommittee score the bridges and gather additional information. Mike Chouinard agreed to get the DOT bridge numbers from the county road crossings in Sarasota County so that Susan King could retrieve additional construction information from each bridge using the DOT number. Ernie Estevez agreed to gather the bridge numbers from the Manatee County river crossings. Once the bridge informational worksheet is finalized the next step will be to complete the inventory of the river crossings and rate them accordingly. There will be another subcommittee meeting in late August to discuss the results and prepare the subcommittee findings for the next MRMCC meeting scheduled for 9/18/09.

The meeting was adjourned around 11:40 am.