

Approved

Minutes of the Meeting

MANASOTA BASIN BOARD

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Sarasota, Florida

October 15, 2008

The Manasota Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting on October 15, 2008, at 9:02 a.m., in the Sarasota Service Office, Sarasota, Florida.

Board Members Present

Patricia M. Glass, Co-Chair Ex Officio
Frank E. Strelec, Vice Chair
J. Mac Carraway, Secretary
Elizabeth "Betsy" O. Benac, Member
Paul J. "Jack" Bispham

Staff Present

Bruce Wirth
Roy Mazur
Dianne Davies
Rand Frahm
Mike Heyl
Lou Kavouras
Brian Armstrong
Eric DeHaven
Don Ellison
Randy Emberg

Members Absent

Albert G. Joerger, Co-Chair Ex Officio
Richard H. Meyers, Member
Dora Maria C. Thomas, Member

Via Video Conference

Linda Pilcher
Beth Putnam
Virginia Sternberger

Recording Secretary: Phyllis Young

A roster of other attendees is filed in the permanent files of the Basin. Compact disks of the audio and copies of the materials and handouts, as set forth in full herein, are also filed in the permanent files of the Basin.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Ms. Glass called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Ms. Young called the roll and noted a quorum was present. (CD 1/Track 1)

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Co-Chair Glass led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. (CD 1/Track 1)

3. **Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

Since no gubernatorial appointments or Senate confirmations concerning this Board had been received, Deputy Executive Director Lou Kavouras stated Agenda Item 4 was deleted from the agenda. (CD 1/Track 1)

4. **Oath of Office for Appointed/Re-Appointed Board Members**

This item was deleted from the agenda, as stated above. (CD 1/Track 1)

5. **Consent Items:**

After consideration, **Mr. Bispham moved, seconded by Mr. Strelec, to approve the Consent Items, as follow:**

- a. **Minutes of the August 13, 2008, Meeting** – Approve the August minutes, as presented.
- b. **Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS)**

- i. **Old Florida Investments, Inc. (H566), Manatee County**
 1. **Approve the Old Florida Investments, Inc., Kibler Farm project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$43,500 with \$10,875 provided by the Manasota Basin Board; \$10,875 provided by the Governing Board; and \$21,750 provided from 2005 State Appropriations;**
 2. **Authorize the transfer of \$10,875 from Fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS funds; \$10,875 from Fund 021 H017 Manasota Basin Board FARMS funds; \$21,750 from the 2005 State Appropriations allocated to Fund 021 H017 Manasota Basin Board FARMS funds, to the H566 Old Florida Investments, Inc., Kibler Farm project fund;**
 3. **Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.**
- ii. **Sandy Branch Ranch, L.L.C. (H565), Manatee County**
 1. **Approve the Sandy Branch Ranch, L.L.C., project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$63,750 provided from the 2003 State Appropriations to the Manasota Basin Board;**
 2. **Authorize the transfer of \$63,750 from the 2003 State Appropriations allocated to Fund 021 H017 FARMS funds to H565, Sandy Branch Ranch, L.L.C., project fund;**
 3. **Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.**

Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 1:14:02:10)

6. **Discussion Items:**

- a. **FY2009 Sarasota County Watershed Awareness Week Proclamation**

Virginia Sternberger, Senior Communications Coordinator in the Communications Department, appeared via videoconference from the Brooksville office to ask the Basin Board to declare the week of October 13-19, 2008, as Watershed Awareness Week in Sarasota County. Ms. Sternberger briefly highlighted the history of watershed education programs in the District and education efforts within the District that focus on developing an environmentally conscious and responsible public, which supports the District's mission and results in a more educated population.

After consideration, **Mr. Bispham moved, seconded by Ms. Benac, that the Board declare the week of October 13-19, 2008, as Watershed Awareness Week. Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 1:14:03:36)**

- b. **Fiscal Year 2009 Final Budget Adjustment for Ratification**

Assistant Finance Director Linda Pilcher provided information to substantiate a directive from the Governor's Office, which required all water management districts' funds proposed for salary increases be redirected to expedite projects, particularly capital projects, as a proactive strategy to promote economic stimulus for Florida. Ms. Pilcher informed the Board that the District's Governing Board had approved the redirection of budgeted dollars at its September 30, 2008, meeting; a total of \$1.355 million for the District. Provided as an exhibit in the information notebook for this meeting were a list of projects within this Basin to which the redirected, budgeted funds were allocated by the Governing Board for the Basin Board's ratification and a copy of Governor Crist's letter.

Ms. Pilcher's brief report included a breakdown of projects and funding changes with regard to this Basin. She emphasized that the reallocation of funds would not affect the Basin's bottom line budget figure, which the Board approved in August.

For the record, Ms. Pilcher read the staff recommendation, as follows:

To ratify the Governing Board's action to redirect \$21,886 of budgeted dollars that had been allocated for proposed merit increases to the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority's Peace River Facility Expansion Project for \$15,344 and to the Save Our Rivers Edward W. Chance Reserve project for \$6,542.

After consideration, **Mr. Carraway moved, seconded by Mr. Strelec, to approve the staff recommendation, as read. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 1:06:05)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Sarasota Bay Estuary Program (SBEP) Policy Board**

The Board's representative to the SBEP Policy Board Jack Bispham provided the Board copies of notes regarding the September 12 meeting. He reported on improved seagrass conditions in Sarasota Bay, comparing current conditions with 1940.

This item was provided for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 1:14:10)

b. **Governing Board Activities**

Co-Chair Glass shared highlights of the September 30 Governing Board meeting, which included the swearing-in of the Board's thirteenth member, Doug Tharp of Sumter County. (CD 1/Track 1:14:12)

Additionally, Ms. Benac reported that the recent Water Congress held in Orlando was most interesting, as was the varied interests of those attending. Ms. Kavouras added that results of the Water Congress could be found on the web at www.centurycommission.org. (CD 1/Track 1:14:19:38)

8. **Announcements**

Ms. Kavouras brought the Board's attention to announcements listed on the agenda.

9. **Adjournment**

The day's business being complete, Co-Chair Glass adjourned the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

******INFORMATION ITEMS******

The items listed below were for the Board's information, intended to keep the Board apprised of completed projects, cancelled projects, and projects that have executed contracts and are ready to begin. These items did not require Board action.

1. Implementation of Best Management Practices for Hatchett Creek - Eastgate (L623) – Contract Termination
2. Wares Creek Bridge Replacements - Third Amendment (L200) – Execution Notice
3. Wares Creek Project (K253) – Execution Notice
4. Water's Journey Interactive Exhibit (L693) at the Glazer Children's Museum of Tampa SWFWMD Agreement No. 08CC0000092 – Execution Notice

Approved

Minutes of the Planning Workshop

MANASOTA BASIN BOARD Southwest Florida Water Management District

Sarasota, Florida

October 15, 2008

The Manasota Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for its annual planning workshop at 9:36 a.m. immediately following the regular meeting on October 15, 2008, in the Sarasota Service Office, Sarasota, Florida.

Board Members Present

Patricia M. Glass, Co-Chair Ex Officio
Frank E. Strelec, Vice Chair
J. Mac Carraway, Secretary
Elizabeth "Betsy" O. Benac, Member
Paul J. "Jack" Bispham

Staff Present

Bruce Wirth
Roy Mazur
Dianne Davies
Rand Frahm
Mike Heyl
Lou Kavouras
Brian Armstrong
Eric DeHaven
Don Ellison
Randy Emberg

Member Absent

Albert G. Joerger, Co-Chair Ex Officio
Richard H. Meyers, Member
Dora Maria C. Thomas, Member

Via Videoconference:

Mark Hammond
Beth Putnam
Linda Pilcher

Recording Secretary: Phyllis Young

A roster of other attendees is filed in the permanent files of the Basin. Compact disks of the audio and copies of the materials and handouts, as set forth in full herein, are also filed in the permanent files of the Basin.

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Co-Chair Ex Officio Pat Glass called the workshop to order at 9:36 a.m. and stressed the importance of this workshop and the Board's participation in deciding how the Basin's dollars should be spent. The workshop was informal; no voting was necessary.

2. **Introduction/Workshop Purpose**

Deputy Executive Director Lou Kavouras welcomed members to their annual planning workshop and explained the emphasis of the workshop would be on future trends and priorities. Ms. Kavouras stated the intended outcome of the workshop is an understanding of how all parts of the District align with the District's strategic priorities and how the Basin Board contributes to achieving these objectives through cooperative and other funding mechanisms. (CD 1/Track 2)

3. **White Card Exercise**

Basin Planner Dianne Davies welcomed members to the workshop and explained the workshop would include a different element, an interactive "white card" exercise, which would be integral to compiling a list of the Basin's priorities for FY2010. Ms. Davies asked Board members to write, on the white card provided, the three priorities—challenges or issues—they felt should be considered in determining how cooperative projects would be ranked and the Basin's budget dollars spent. The responses would be combined and used later in the workshop to come to a consensus on the Basin's priorities. (CD 1/Track 8)

4. **Governing Board Strategic Priorities**

Planning Director Roy Mazur presented a brief update of the District's Strategic Plan, which includes a refinement of the District's strategic priorities and focuses on performance measures that demonstrate progress in achieving the priorities. The update also addressed how the Strategic Plan and the Basin's priorities are linked. (CD 1/Track 4)

5. **Basin Board Outlook and Priorities**

a. **Basin Trends Analysis**

Ms. Davies reiterated that this is the Board members' workshop and their comments are welcome at any time. She also stressed the importance of the Basin Board's link to local communities, input to staff, help in implementing the District's mission, and duty as a taxing authority.

Graphs and pie charts were used to show the Basin's funding trends by area of responsibility and strategic budget priorities. Also included in Ms. Davies presentation was discussion of challenges the Basin faces: future water demands, economic challenges, and development pressures.

Ms. Davies brought the Board's attention to a brochure of the Basin's accomplishments for fiscal year (FY) 2008. The other Basin Boards were provided similar brochures, specific to each Board. (CD 1/Track 5)

b. **Discussion of Basin Priorities and Funding Strategies**

Brian Armstrong, Water Supply and Resource Development Manager, provided an update on the continuing financial commitments of the Basin Board and challenges to meet the resource management needs of the District and the Basin. He used graphs to show projected water needs and funding sources for the District's planning areas, including Northern Tampa Bay, the Southern Water Use Caution Area (SWUCA), the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority, Polk County Water Supply Development, and the Upper Peace River Restoration. The graphs depicted estimated project costs, the Basin's estimated project costs, cost share allocation, and potential Water Supply and Resource Development funding versus estimated project costs. Mr. Armstrong commented on the basis for the projections used in his presentation and shared several conclusions regarding the Basin's budgetary challenges.

- Financial capabilities of Manasota Basin will be looked at in greater detail.
 - The most appropriate approach to meet financial demands to support identified major water supply and resource development projects must be determined.
 - The Basin appears to have financial capacity to meet demands over the next five years.
- Success in obtaining State and Federal grants for projects could significantly lower District cost contributions.
- An annual review and update of projected funding plan elements is necessary. (CD 1/Track 5:14:28 – Track 6)

Ms. Davies highlighted current Basin projects categorized by area of responsibility and used graphs to show cooperative project percentages by Basin priority and potential budget allocations by category through 2014. (CD 1/ Track 7)

As a continuation of the "white card" exercise, staff had combined Board members' suggested priorities on posters that were placed on the meeting room wall. Each Board member was given five red dots to place beside the topic(s) they feel are most important to the Basin. The five dots could be placed by five separate items or any combination of five.

For clarity, Ms. Davies reviewed the Board's suggestions before members began putting their dots in place. After that task was done, Board members, Ms. Davies, and other staff participated in thorough discussion of the items listed on the posters until the Board came to agreement on a list of strategic budget priorities, which would be a guide for the FY2010 cooperative funding cycle and other budget considerations. Staff would review, check spelling, grammar, etc., and provide the revised priorities to the Board and cooperators prior to the December 2008 deadline for submittal of cooperative funding applications. The updated priorities will be included in each Basin Board meeting notebook. (CD 1/Track 8)

6. **Open Discussion**

During the meeting, the Board participated in discussion of topics including the status of flood map updates, the basis for development trends, population trends, and development pressure.

In closing, the Board briefly commented on funding strategies for the future including the potential need for modifying the project ranking process and the importance of not ignoring small projects. (CD 1/Track 9)

7. **Adjournment**

Ms. Davies thanked the Board and staff for their attendance and participation.

When no further comments were forthcoming, Co-Chair Glass adjourned the workshop at noon.