

**APPROVED**

Minutes of the Meeting

**ALAFIA RIVER BASIN BOARD**  
Southwest Florida Water Management District

Tampa Service Office

April 5, 2007

The Alafia River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:00 a.m., April 5, 2007, at the Tampa Service Office.

**Board Members Present**

Jennifer E. Closshey, Chair Ex Officio  
James D. Selvey, Vice Chair  
Stephen J. Bissonnette, Secretary  
J. C. Tort, Member  
Carol "Cammy" Hinton, Member

**Staff Members**

Lou Kavouras  
Bruce C. Wirth  
Mark A. Hammond  
Gregg Jones  
Mike Holtkamp  
Rand R. Baldwin  
Eric DeHaven

Scott Harbison  
Trisha D. Neasman

**Recording Secretary**

M. Frances Sesler

**Board Member Absent**

Cheryl E. Johnson

A list of others who attended and signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the Basin. Compact disks of the audio and copies of materials and handouts, as set forth in full herein, are also filed in the permanent files of the District.

*The numbers preceding the items listed below correspond with the published agenda.*

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

Chair Closshey called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Sesler called the roll and noted a quorum was present. (CD 1/Track 1)

2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag**

Chair Closshey led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and asked for a moment of silence.

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

This item was deleted from the agenda.

4. **Additions/Deletions to Agenda**

Lou Kavouras Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning, and Board Services, stated no gubernatorial appointments or Senate confirmations concerning this Board had been received; therefore, Agenda Item #3 will be carried over to the August meeting.

5. **Consent Items:**

a. **February 8, 2007, Meeting Minutes**

Staff recommended to approve the February 8, 2007, meeting minutes as presented.

b. **Donation of the Remaining Fee Interest – Alafia River Corridor Project, SWF Parcel 11-709-106**

Following consideration, **Mr. Selvey moved, seconded by Mr. Bissonnette, to approve Consent Items 5. a & b as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

6. **Discussion Items:**

a. **Election of Officers and Committee Representatives**

After consideration, **Mr. Tort moved, seconded by Ms. Hinton, that all officers succeed themselves for another year, which would also include members serving on the Basin Board Education Committee and the Basin Board Land Resources Committee. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 2)

b. **FARMS (Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems) Lloyd's Harvesting, Inc., and MD Council and Sons, Inc.**

Eric DeHaven, Director, Resource Conservation and Data Department, provided an overview on two FARMS programs, MD Council and Sons and Lloyd's Harvesting. The proposed projects involve, water quantity BMPs, and therefore, the projects qualify for a 50 percent cost-share reimbursement rate under the FARMS Program. For the MD Council and Sons project, using an estimated thirty percent savings of permitted quantities, or approximately 82,890 gpd, yields a daily cost of \$1.55 per thousand gallons of groundwater reduced over the proposed seven-year contract term, and \$0.77 per thousand gallons of groundwater reduced over a thirty-year term. For the Lloyd's Harvesting project, using an estimated thirty percent reduction of permitted quantities, or approximately 42,600 gpd, yields a daily cost of \$2.56 per thousand gallons of groundwater reduced over the proposed seven-year contract term, and \$1.02 per thousand gallons of groundwater reduced over a thirty-year term. Chair Closshey questioned the 7-year contract period, the reimbursement timeframe and penalties for incomplete projects. Mr. DeHaven explained the contract period starts at the operational phase, the applicant initiates reimbursement at project completion and buy-out provision exists for problem projects. Mr. Bissonnette questioned the proposed water supply offsets, and Chair Closshey inquired about incentives to exceed project goals. Mr. DeHaven noted most projects exceed expectations and efficient water use would be looked at favorably during water use permitting. Mr. Tort commented on how his water use has declined considerably as a result of Mini-FARMS.

Mr. DeHaven said the funding allocation applies to Lloyd's Harvesting and MD Council; 50 percent will come from the 2005 State Appropriations, 25 percent from the Governing Board and 25 percent from the Alafia Rivers Basin's Water Supply and Resource Development Reserves, which upon approval of these two projects, total \$1,069,859. Staff recommendation is as follows:

1. Approve the Lloyd's Harvesting, Inc. FARMS Project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$115,000, with \$28,750 provided by the Alafia River Basin's Water Supply and Resource Development Reserves, \$28,750 provided by the Governing Board, and \$57,500 provided from State Appropriations;
2. Authorize the transfer of \$28,750 from fund 011 H100 Alafia River Basin's Water Supply and Resource Development Reserves, \$28,750 from fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS funds, and \$57,500 from the 2005 State Appropriations allocated to fund 010 H017 the FARMS program, to H519 Lloyd's Harvesting, Inc. project fund;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.
4. Approve the MD Council and Sons, Inc. FARMS Project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$120,000, with \$30,000 provided by the Alafia River Basin's Water Supply and Resource Development Reserves, \$30,000 provided by the Governing Board, and \$60,000 provided from 2005 State Appropriations;
5. Authorize the transfer of \$30,000 from fund 011 H100 Alafia River Basin's Water Supply and Resource Development Reserves, \$30,000 from fund 010 H017

Governing Board FARMS funds, and \$60,000 from the 2005 State Appropriations allocated to fund 010 H017 the FARMS program, to H520 MD Council and Sons, Inc. project fund;

6. Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement. (CD 1/Track 3)

After consideration, **Mr. Selvey moved, seconded by Mr. Tort, to approve the staff recommendations as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

d. **Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Preparation**

Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, provided an overview of FY2008 Budget preparations. He explained, this discussion is for initial direction from the Basin Board concerning funding levels of the various budget categories, including prioritization of Cooperative Funding proposals and other Basin projects.

Mr. Selvey noted the importance of the Alafia River and questioned opportunities for enhancing the river. Mr. Wirth discussed the importance of partnerships and efforts (e.g., SWIM, TMDL, etc.) benefiting the river. Chair Closshey cited programs benefiting the river as well. Ms. Hinton commented on how watershed signage would help the public understand how things are connected, and Mr. Bissonnette commented on the need to strategically site education centers. Ms. Kavouras advised that education center siting will be discussed at the joint meeting of the Basin Board Education Committee and the Land Resources Committee. The joint meeting date is July 12, 2007, 9:30 a.m. at TECO Environmental Center.

Mr. Wirth noted the need to more closely examine the proposed agriculture projects to determine value for the Basin. Mr. Selvey stated the Basin's citrus decline has reduced the need for citrus studies. The Board heard commentary on L907-Mulberry Reclaimed Water Project from City of Mulberry officials, and followed with a request for staff to review the new information and to provide a funding recommendation in June. The discussion culminated with Mr. Bissonnette inquiring about the availability of funds for the City of Lakeland's plumbing retrofit (L914) and pre-rinse spray (L915) projects and stating that changes to the ad valorem legislation may affect the funding situation for local governments. Mr. Wirth noted the projects are good ones and funds should be available for them.

For the June meeting, proposed changes resulting from the legislative session will be incorporated into the budget for the Basin Board's consideration and further direction. At that meeting, the Basin Board is required to vote on a proposed millage rate for FY2008. (CD 1/Track 4)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee Report**

Beth Putnam, Communications Manager, submitted a meeting summary of the Basin Board Education meeting held on March 6, 2007, at the District's Tampa Service Office. The summary included reports on FY2007 and beyond planning, the Children's Museum of Tampa, the District's Regional Builder/Developer FYN Specialist and Homeowner Association Outreach, the District's Water C.H.A.M.P. program, and Peace River Spanning the Watershed Events in April. Ms. Kavouras explained the Regional Builder/Developer FYN Specialist will work with builders and developers throughout the District. The next meeting will be held jointly with the Basin Board Land Resources Committee on July 12 at Nature's Classroom in Hillsborough County.

b. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee**

Mr. Bissonnette provided highlights of the March 22, 2007, Basin Board Land Resources Committee meeting held at the Starkey Environmental Education Center, New Port Richey. He noted there were three major topics being discussed which included Land Acquisition, Fire Management Procedures and Gopher Tortoise Relocation. General announcements included a joint meeting with the Basin Board Education Committee and the Basin Board Land Resources Committee to be held July 12, and the Public Land Acquisition and Management Conference is scheduled in Sarasota, December 5-7.

c. **Report on Governing Board Activities**

Staff played pre-recorded highlights of the March 27, 2007, Governing Board Meeting. Ms. Kavouras narrated the brief recap of the meeting, which included the Peace River Cumulative Impact Study, the Peace River Basin Resource Management Plan, lower Hillsborough River minimum flows and levels, declaration of April as "Water Conservation Month," and the Governor's "Plain Language" initiative. (CD 1/Track 5)

8. **Announcements:**

Ms. Kavouras noted the Annual Conference on Water Management will be held on Tuesday, July 17, 2007, at Marco Island.

9. **Adjournment**

There were no further business to come before the Board; Chair Closshey adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

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\*\*\*\*Information Items\*\*\*\*

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The item(s) 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 do not require Board action at this time.

1. Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) Data Dissemination and Education (B136)  
– Execution Notice
2. Hillsborough County - Digital Topographic Information for Hydrographic Analysis L762)  
– Execution Notice
3. Tampa Bay Estuary Program Non-Federal Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Work Plan (W027) - Execution Notice