

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

ALAFIA RIVER BASIN BOARD
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Tampa Service Office

April 8, 2010

The Alafia River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:05 a.m., April 8, 2010, at the Tampa Service Office.

Board Members Present

James D. Selvey, Vice Chair
Cheryl E. Johnson, Member
Stephen J. Bissonnette, Member

Staff Members Present

Lou Kavouras	Anthony Andrade
Bruce Wirth	Cori Cuttler
Eric DeHaven	Randy Emberg
Mark Hammond	Ken Herd
Roy Mazur	Danny Kushmer
Linda Pilcher	Trisha Neasman
Eric Sutton	Beth Putnam
	Jennette Seachrist

Board Member Absent

Jennifer E. Closshey, Chair

Recording Secretary

Dianna Brass

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.

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

In Chair Closshey's absence, Vice Chair Selvey called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Ms. Dianna Brass, Administrative Supervisor, Boards and Executive Services, called the roll and noted a quorum was present.

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

Vice Chair Selvey led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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

Ms. Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning and Board Services, noted there were no additions or deletions to the agenda. (00:00/00:58)

4. **Basin Activities Report and Agenda Review**

Ms. Trisha Neasman, Senior Planner, Planning Department, provided the Board a brief overview of relevant items on the agenda, how these items related to the Basin Board's Budget Priorities, the District's Strategic Plan, and other topics occurring within the Basin that may be of interest to the Board. The topics mentioned included the Get Outside! event being held on April 10 at Deep Creek Preserve, Arcadia, to increase awareness of District properties and stewardship; designation of April as Water Conservation Month; and District receipt of two awards from the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. Ms. Neasman said a tour of two Tampa Bay SWIM Ecosystem Restoration Projects (Terra Ceia and Cockroach Bay) will be held on April 23, and Board members who are interested in attending should advise staff by April 14. A tour of the Hillsborough River and Tampa Bypass Canal System is set for May 21; details will be forthcoming. Ms. Neasman called attention to two notices of execution, the Polk County Sensor Rebate Project and the Lost River Preserve Restoration Project, and an update on the Chito Branch Reserve declaration of surplus lands included in the Board's notebook.

Mr. Bissonnette inquired about the level of participation for the Get Outside! events. Ms. Beth Putnam, Manager, Communications Department, said the campaign is in its seventh month. She said over 18,000 recreation guides and 20,000 recreation brochures have been distributed to interested public. Additionally, a good number of news articles have been generated, as well as several "Florida on a Tankful" television spots, to promote awareness of recreational opportunities on District lands. The first event at Serenova Tract, Pasco County, in November was held on a beautiful day and more than 400 people attended. The second event in February at the Hampton Tract, Polk County, was a cold, rainy day and about 130 people participated. Youth from the Boys and Girls Club and the Hispanic Farmworkers Self-Help Group were bused in for the second event enhancing diversity participation. Ms. Putnam said fair weather is expected for the third Get Outside! event on April 10 event at Deep Creek Preserve, Arcadia. Further detail on the campaign is included in the Basin Board Education Committee Report.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (00:59/07:20)

5. **Consent Items:**

a. **Minutes of the February 4, 2010, Basin Board Meeting**

Approve the February minutes as presented.

b. **Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems – Francis White Strawberries, Hillsborough County (H598)**

1. Approve the Francis White Project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$187,500 with \$46,875 provided by the Alafia River Basin Board, \$46,875 provided by the Governing Board, \$93,750 provided from State Appropriations to the Governing Board;
2. Authorize the transfer of \$46,875 from fund 011 H017 Alafia River Basin Board FARMS funds, \$46,875 from fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS funds, \$93,750 from the State Appropriations allocated to fund 010 H017 FARMS funds, to H598 Francis White Strawberries project fund; and
3. Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.

c. **Non-Exclusive License Agreements with Florida Gas Transmission Company for a 36-inch Natural Gas Pipeline – Edward Medard Park and Alafia River Corridor – SWF Parcel Nos. 11-100-150X & 11-709-144X**

Recommend the Governing Board:

1. Accept the appraisals of the proposed non-exclusive license agreements between the District and FGT;
2. Approve license agreements between the District and FGT for SWF Parcel Nos. 11-100-150X and 11-709-144X; and
3. Authorize the Land Resources Director to execute the license agreements.

Following consideration, **Mr. Bissonnette moved, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to approve Consent Items 5a, 5b and 5c as presented. Motion carried unanimously.** (07:21/07:40)

6. **Discussion Items:**

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

The following selections were made: Vice Chair Selvey to continue as Vice Chair; Mr. Bissonnette to serve as Secretary; Ms. Johnson to serve as primary representative and Mr. Bissonnette as alternate to the Basin Board Education Committee; and

Mr. Bissonnette to serve as primary representative and Ms. Johnson as the alternate to the Basin Board Land Resources Committee. All positions are for one-year terms.
(07:41/10:49)

b. **2010 Regional Water Supply Plan Update**

Mr. Roy Mazur, Planning Director, said Florida Statutes requires each water management district to initiate a District-wide water supply assessment that describes water demands and identifies potential sources of water to meet demand over a 20-year planning horizon. The Plan is required to be updated every five years. The draft 2010 Plan has been through the internal review process and is now being finalized for public input. Mr. Mazur said the updated draft Plan covers the entire District and now includes the northern six counties (to prevent a water use caution area situation). He said the document has been streamlined and includes an executive summary and four volumes covering the north, south, Tampa Bay and Heartland areas of the District. Presentations to the Basin Board and Advisory Committees will occur in April. Comment will be solicited in May public meetings at each of the District's service offices, and at meetings with the water supply authorities, the regional planning councils and perhaps with Tampa Bay Water. Comments may also be posted on the District's website. All comments will be due by July 16 with the expectation that the Plan will be completed and presented to the Governing Board for approval in the November/December 2010 timeframe. Responding to Vice Chair Selvey regarding the status of per capita demand, Mr. Mazur said it is currently at 114 gpd. Ms. Johnson questioned whether the Plan contained any reference to emergency management. Mr. Mazur advised there is not a section on emergency management; however, there is a section on climate change.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.
(10:50/22:29)

c. **Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Preparation**

As a foreword to the budget presentation, Vice Chair Selvey reported that he and other real estate industry representatives met with legislators in Tallahassee yesterday. The state is facing a \$6 billion deficit with \$3 billion in stimulus funds available from the federal government. He said education, Medicare and the criminal justice system, all major programs previously immune to deep budget cuts, are now vulnerable, and the situation will worsen next year when no stimulus money is available. Vice Chair Selvey said statewide there is an expectation of significant reduction in services, projects and personnel.

Mr. Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, Resource Management, said the preliminary budget for fiscal year (FY) 2011 is being presented today for the Board's initial perusal. Staff is available to answer questions on the projects identified, the rankings and how they fit with the Board's designated priorities. Mr. Wirth said the projects are still in the evaluation process, and the Basin is well positioned to fund projects. No action by the Board is required today, but staff is seeking direction on developing the Basin's tentative FY2011 budget for the June meeting. The preliminary budget is based on the current millage rate of 0.2163 mill remaining the same and a decline in property valuations of nine percent. In June the estimate of ad valorem revenue for FY2011 will be updated and a proposed millage rate will be adopted for recommendation to the Governing Board. In August, the Basin Board will be requested to adopt the final FY2011 millage rate and budget for recommendation to the Governing Board.

In response to questions from Vice Chair Selvey, Mr. Wirth said no state funding is expected. Save Our Rivers projects are being funded from prior year dollars. He confirmed that the Basin Board can manage through FY2011 using prior-year dollars for

Save Our Rivers projects for one additional year, but SWIM projects will be funded out of ad valorem revenue. Mr. Bissonnette noted this is an interim solution, not a long-term solution. Mr. Wirth said that there is \$300,000 in contingency reserves which if not used will be balanced forward to next year. In response to questions from Mr. Bissonnette and Ms. Johnson regarding funding the land management program, Mr. Wirth said the Basin Board Land Resources Committee continues to have discussion on methods to produce revenue through timbering, cattle grazing leases, etc. He advised that the District cannot charge a fee to enter its lands, that pristine property would not be made available for cattle operations, and, to date, there has not been a need to privatize a wetlands mitigation banking project. He said the District is concerned about competing with private interests.

Vice Chair Selvey reported visiting the Florida Aquarium and seeing a District exhibit in extremely poor condition, reflecting negatively on the District since it displayed our logo. Ms. Putnam noted that maintenance is a common problem seen in exhibit and signage projects like this, and staff is addressing the issue by contract language in future joint initiatives.

Ms. Neasman reviewed a matrix of new Cooperative Funding applications to the Basin Board comparing them with the budget priorities reaffirmed in August. She said seven of the 26 applications were for alternative water supply projects, four address water conservation, 13 concern education and seven are in the "other" category that do not address a specific priority. Mr. Bissonnette said he appreciated the correlation of the Cooperative Funding applications to the budget priorities, and he requested a similar graph tabulating the application dollar amounts by priority.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.
(22:30/1:03:55)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee**

Ms. Johnson, the Board's primary representative to the Basin Board Education Committee (BBEC), provided an overview of the meeting held on March 3, 2010, at the Tampa Service Office. She said that water conservation signage created by the District is being finalized for display at the Sarasota Bradenton Airport. Currently, 22 homes have been certified under the Florida Water StarSM Gold program and agreements are in place for another 278. The "Get Outside!" campaign (which Ms. Putnam reviewed earlier), the "Skip a Week" campaign and the education projects criteria were other presentations the Committee heard. A written summary of the topics and discussion was included in the Board's information notebook. The next BBEC meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at the Tampa Service Office.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.
(1:03:56/1:04:45)

b. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee and Land Use Stakeholders Joint Meeting**

Mr. Eric Sutton, Land Resources Director, provided an overview of the Basin Board Land Resources Committee (BBLRC) and Land Use Stakeholders joint meeting, held on March 16, 2010, in the Sarasota Service Office. Mr. Sutton said the joint meeting was held to increase feedback and share information on competing environmental and private interests. Mr. Bissonnette said this is a sensitive topic and the District has an obligation to explore all options. A written summary of the topics and discussion was

included in the Board's information notebook. The next BBLRC meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at the Lecanto Government Center.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.
(1:04:46/1:07:02)

c. **Governing Board Activities**

Ms. Kavouras advised that on April 1 Governor Crist reappointed Governing Board Chair Todd Pressman; however, Treasurer Sallie Parks was not reappointed. Attorney Jeffery Adams, partner in Abbey-Adams, was named to succeed Ms. Parks. Ms. Maritza Rovira-Forino's term has expired, and she has reapplied for her position; however, no decision on reappointment has been announced. Ms. Kavouras said Basin Board members serving in expired terms are eligible to continue in their position for 180 days, and she thanked those affected for their ongoing service. At its March 30 meeting, the Governing Board heard an update on the January 2010 freeze event and the work group assembled to determine process improvements for handling similar events in the future. The work group met on March 24, and additional sessions are scheduled for April 21 and May 18. The Board also directed staff to discontinue negotiations to purchase the CS-11 property in Polk County. Initially, the clay settling area was proposed as a reservoir that could be used to store and release water into the upper Peace River to meet minimum flows. Other projects are expected to meet this need. The CS-11 project could be considered as a cooperative funding project for an alternative water supply if another entity chooses to take the lead.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.
(1:07:03/1:11:06)

8. **Announcements:**

Ms. Kavouras called attention to the announcements on the agenda. The next Basin Board meeting will be held Thursday, June 10, 2010, 9:00 a.m., Tampa Service Office.

9. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chair Selvey adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m. (1:11:07/1:11:31)