

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

ALAFIA RIVER BASIN BOARD
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Tampa Service Office

June 10, 2010

The Alafia River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 10:38 a.m. on June 10, 2010, at the Tampa Service Office.

Board Members Present

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

Staff Members Present

Lou Kavouras	Cori Cuttler
Bruce Wirth	Randy Emberg
Mark Hammond	Danny Kushmer
Linda Pilcher	Trisha Neasman
	Jennette Seachrist

Board Member Absent

Jennifer E. Closshey, Chair

Via Videoconference

Beth Putnam

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 10:38 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, Board Services and Ombudsman, noted there were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

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

Ms. Trisha Neasman, Senior Planner, Planning Department, reported that another *Get Outside!* event is scheduled for October 23 at Potts Preserve in Citrus County. She referenced postcards placed at Board members' seats regarding the 2011 Community Education Grant program with applications due by August 20 and the Splash! School Grant program with application deadline of September 10.

Ms. Neasman advised that the Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) is meeting this morning to take comments on the proposed Fertilizer Use and Landscape Management rule. The rule is in response to 2009 state legislation mandating local governments with impaired waterways regulate use of fertilizers. More information is provided on the EPC website: epchc.org. She confirmed Vice Chair Selvey's comment that agriculture is exempt from the rule. Vice Chair Selvey also questioned whether monitoring stations on the Alafia River sampled for nitrogen and phosphorous to determine where fertilizer runoff initiated; staff will follow up.

Regarding the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, Ms. Neasman said the District is cooperating with the state and Federal governments to address potential impacts. District efforts include identification of environmentally sensitive areas for the Area Contingency Plan, recommendations for booms in a number of restoration project areas, specifying availability of equipment, coordination of Geographic Information System data/information, and pre-event water quality sampling. Staff participates in State Emergency Response Team conference calls and review of Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Situation Reports and online data. In response to Mr. Bissonnette's question whether the District has been asked to front expenses related to the oil spill cleanup, Mr. Wirth said no requests for funding from the District or Basin Board is anticipated; this issue will be handled by state officials who will recoup costs from BP.

Ms. Neasman said that a panel discussion on the gulf oil spill will be hosted by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council at its offices in Pinellas Park on June 14. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Coast Guard, Environmental Protection Agency Gulf of Mexico Program Southeastern Regional Office and the Sierra Club will participate. Ms. Neasman concluded her briefing by noting the five execution notices for Basin projects included in the Board's notebook.

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

5. **Consent Items:**

- a. **Minutes of the April 8, 2010, Basin Board Meeting**
Approve the April minutes as presented.
- b. **Budget Transfer from the Polk County Southwest Regional Utilities Service Area (SWRUSA) Reclaimed Water Connection to Tampa Electric Company (H091) to the Regional Reclaimed Water Partnership Initiative – Phase I (H076)**
Approve the transfer of \$346,589 previously budgeted for the Polk County SWRUSA Reclaimed Water Connection to TECO project to the ongoing Regional Reclaimed Water Partnership Initiative – Phase I project, and authorize staff to amend the existing cooperative funding agreement with TECO.

Following consideration, **Mr. Bissonnette moved, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to approve Consent Items 5.a. and 5.b. as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**
(CD 1/Track 2)

6. **Discussion Item:**

- a. **Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Budget Discussion and Approval of Proposed Millage Rate**
Mr. Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, Resource Management, presented an update to the preliminary budget provided at the April meeting. The Board's input from that meeting has been incorporated into a proposed budget, which assumes the millage rate will remain at 0.2163 mill, consistent with FY2010, and ad valorem revenue will be 11.5 percent below FY2010, based on preliminary estimates of the decline in taxable property values. Staff is recommending the Basin Board maintain its millage rate at 0.2163 mill for FY2011. It was noted that after the proposed millage rate is adopted, it can be lowered by the Basin Board in August, but not raised, without significant costs.

A revised budget, based on final property values, will be presented at the Basin Board's August 5 meeting. At that time, the Board will be requested to adopt a final FY2011 millage rate and budget for recommendation to the Governing Board, including the final selection of FY2011 Cooperative Funding projects.

Board members discussed foreclosures and falling property values that are affecting ad valorem revenue, the Basin's reserves and contingency fund, funding for potential hurricane events, and feasibility of deep well injection projects. Vice Chair Selvey requested staff to speak with the Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) on tailwater recovery; Mr. Wirth indicated that the District and EPC staff are now coordinating on this issue.

In review of the Basin Board's cooperative funding projects, Mr. Wirth said staff's recommendation is to fund all projects ranked through medium priority. Mr. Bissonnette thanked Ms. Neasman for the information she provided on Basin priorities and application dollar amounts. To be consistent with the stated Basin Board priorities, he suggested the Mira Bay Weather-Based Controller (N231) project should be moved higher up in the medium ranking order. Staff will include that in the August budget development. Vice Chair Selvey reiterated his concern for the poorly maintained Florida Aquarium educational exhibit; Ms. Kavouras noted that staff is reviewing all similar project exhibits to ensure they are up to standard.

Mr. Wirth reported that the Medard Reservoir Project will be complete next week. Ms. Kavouras advised that Operations Department Director Michael Holtkamp has offered a tour of the site before the reservoir is filled for those Board members who are interested. Mr. Bissonnette commended staff for completing the project prior to the rainy season.

At the conclusion of Mr. Wirth's presentation on the budget development, Ms. Kavouras read the staff recommendation into the record:

- (1) Provide tentative selection of FY2011 Cooperative Funding projects.
- (2) Approve and adopt a required proposed millage rate of 0.2163 mill for FY2011.
- (3) Approve Resolution No. 86 – Resolution Affirming the Required Proposed Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2011.

Following consideration, **Ms. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Bissonnette, to approve the staff recommendation as presented. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 3)

7. Report:

a. Governing Board Activities

Ms. Kavouras advised that at the May Governing Board new officers were elected for one-year terms: Ron Oakley, chair; Hugh Gramling, vice chair; Doug Tharp, treasurer; and Paul Senft, secretary. Significant presentations included hurricane preparedness, the Myakka Watershed Initiative project, and the progress on managing the next freeze event which includes a new allocation process to distribute mitigation by farmers and the rulemaking needed. Ms. Kavouras noted a meeting of the January 2010 Freeze Event technical experts was held yesterday, and it is anticipated a public meeting will be held in Plant City in the September timeframe.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.
(CD 1/Track 4)

8. Announcements:

Ms. Kavouras called attention to the announcements on the agenda. On July 14, both the Basin Board Education and the Basin Board Land Resources Committees will meet in

Tampa and Lecanto, respectively. The next Basin Board meeting will be held Thursday, August 5, 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 11:22 a.m. (CD 1/Track 5)