

**APPROVED**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**ALAFIA RIVER BASIN BOARD  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

Tampa Service Office

August 5, 2010

The Alafia River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:10 a.m. on August 5, 2010, at the Tampa Service Office.

Board Members Present

Stephen J. Bissonnette, Secretary  
Cheryl E. Johnson, Member

Board Member Absent

Jennifer E. Closshey, Chair  
James D. Selvey, Vice Chair

Recording Secretary

Dianna Brass

Staff Members Present

Lou Kavouras  
Bruce Wirth  
Mark Hammond  
Mike Holtkamp  
Cori Cuttler  
Randy Emberg  
Trisha Neasman  
Bill Orendorff  
Jennette Seachrist

Via Videoconference

Beth Putnam  
Cathy Linsbeck

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 the absence of the chair and vice chair, Mr. Bissonnette called the meeting to order at 9:10 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**

Mr. Bissonnette 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. (Track 1)

4. **Oath of Office for Reappointed Board Member Steve Bissonnette**

Ms. Kavouras administered the oath of office to Mr. Bissonnette who was reappointed by Governor Crist on June 14, 2010 for a term ending on March 1, 2013. Congratulations were extended to Mr. Bissonnette. (Track 2)

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

Ms. Trisha Neasman, Senior Planner, Planning Department, reported that District staff presented water resources information at the July 29 Department of Community Affairs' Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) workshop for Hillsborough County and Tampa Bay local governments. The EAR is the principal document for updating local comprehensive plans to reflect changes in local conditions and changes in state policy. She noted the workshop for Polk County is not scheduled until 2013. Ms. Neasman said the Utility Outreach Program is a new initiative to improve the relationship between the District and its utilities. Key goals are to reduce per capita water use, develop consensus on demand projections and population projections, increase reclaimed water use, provide greater

consistency between the District and local governments' planning efforts, and better align District resources for meeting water conservation and water supply planning goals. Ms. Neasman briefly reviewed the information items listed in the Board's notebook noting the Medard Reservoir project was completed in June.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (Track 3)

6. **Consent Items:**

a. **Minutes of the June 10, 2010, Basin Board Meeting**

Approve the June minutes as presented.

b. **Annual Calendar of Meeting Dates for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011**

Approve the FY2011 meeting schedule as presented.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Thursday, October 7, 2010	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, December 2, 2010	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, February 10, 2011	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, April 7, 2011	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, June 2, 2011	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, August 11, 2011	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office

c. **Board Encumbrances:**

i. **Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) Program (H017)**

Approve the encumbrance of \$21,875, or the remaining funds available, from the FY2010 budget to be used for future years FARMS projects.

ii. **Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification Project (H008)**

Approve the encumbrance of \$2,977,370 (of which \$1,488,685 is from the General Fund, \$372,171.25 is from the Alafia River Basin, \$744,342.50 is from the Peace River Basin, and \$372,171.25 is from the Manasota Basin Boards), without a contract, to be used in FY2011 for implementation of the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification project.

d. **Budget Transfers and Board Encumbrances – Lake Hancock Projects (H008, H009 & H014)**

(1) Authorize the transfer of \$2,250,000 of state Water Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) funds from the Lake Hancock Outfall Structure P-11 Replacement (H009) to the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification (H008) and Lake Hancock Outfall Treatment System (H014) as shown as presented; and encumber the funds.

(2) Authorize the transfer of \$1.5 million of General Fund and Basin funds from the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification (H008) to the Lake Hancock Outfall Structure P-11 Replacement (H009) as presented; and encumber the funds.

Ms. Johnson reported that she had heard positive comments from a farmer on the FARMS program, and she congratulated staff on the success of the program.

Following consideration, **Ms. Johnson moved to approve Consent Items 6.a., b., c., and d. as presented. Following relinquishment of the gavel to Ms. Johnson, Mr. Bissonnette seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.** (Track 4)

7. **Discussion Items:**

a. **Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Discussion and Approval of Final Millage and Budget**

Mr. Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, Resource Management, outlined the Board's obligation to approve its final millage rate, budget and resolution affirming the millage and budget for fiscal year (FY) 2011. He presented the Basin's updated proposed FY2011 budget which reflects ad valorem revenue based on the proposed millage rate (0.2163) adopted at the Board's June 10, 2010 meeting, and the 2010 Certifications of Taxable Value received from the county property appraisers. He noted that final taxable values declined 10.57 percent. Mr. Wirth reviewed projects by category and explained changes since the June meeting. He advised that all Cooperative Funding Projects ranked through medium and considered for funding in June are included in the budget. Ms. Johnson questioned the funding for the Medard reservoir project. Mr. Wirth said the project is under budget; however, the final invoices may not have been received. Following consideration, **Ms. Johnson moved to approve the staff recommendation as presented:**

- (1) **Approve and adopt the required final millage rate of 0.2163 mill for FY2011.**
- (2) **Approve and adopt the final FY2011 budget.**
- (3) **Approve Resolution No. 87 -- Resolution Affirming the Required Final Millage Rate and Budget for Fiscal Year 2011.**

**Following relinquishment of the gavel to Ms. Johnson, Mr. Bissonnette seconded the motion for purposes of discussion.** Mr. Bissonnette emphasized his support for Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (B730) in the Basin Initiatives category; Mr. Wirth confirmed that the program is ongoing. Regarding those Cooperative Funding Projects for which no funding is proposed in the FY2011 budget, Mr. Wirth said some of the projects have been completed and some were withdrawn because of lack of funding matches. Mr. Bissonnette specifically mentioned the rain sensor and toilet rebate programs, and an apparent insufficient demand which may be another reflection of the economy on the Basin's budget. Finally, Mr. Wirth clarified that actual revenue to the Basin is approximately \$460,000 less this year compared to last, and although the millage remained the same, property owners paid less in taxes.

At the conclusion of Board discussion, Ms. Kavouras read the staff recommendation into the record. **The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.** (Track 5)

b. **Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Review and Priority Analysis**

Ms. Kavouras said staff is scheduling cooperative funding workshops beginning the week of September 13. To provide the best information to local governments on what the Basin Board considers its priorities, staff is requesting the Board establish its fiscal year (FY) 2012 Budget Priorities this month rather than wait until October. In October, the focus will be on the Board's accomplishments, and field trips are planned through November to highlight recent accomplishments and future challenges. Ms. Neasman presented the FY2011 Board Priorities by budget categories. She then reviewed the FY2011 Basin Board Budget Priorities established in October 2008 and reaffirmed in August 2009. She provided suggested modifications and solicited Board members' input on other potential revisions to these priorities to make them more specific and reflect changes in budget allocations, District initiatives and water resource needs. The following Budget Priorities for FY2012 were recommended for approval:

- Alternative Water Supply and Reuse with Multi-Jurisdictional Cooperation
- Education, Projects and Programs Targeted to Decrease Per Capita Water Use
- Agriculture Best Management Practices Implementation

- Maintenance of Medard Reservoir
- Tampa Bay Restoration
- Watershed Management
- Public and Youth Education

After questions and discussion by the Board, staff will prepare an analysis of what the FY2011 budget would look like under the FY2012 priorities. Staff will provide further detail regarding the status of the Watershed Management Program at the Board's October meeting.

Following consideration, **Ms. Johnson moved to approve the above Budget Priorities for FY2012. Following relinquishment of the gavel to Ms. Johnson, Mr. Bissonnette seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.** (Track 6)

8. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee (BBEC)**

Ms. Beth Putnam, Manager, Communications Department, joined the meeting via teleconference from the Brooksville office. She noted a summary of the July 14 Committee meeting was provided in the Board's meeting notebook. She announced that a workshop is scheduled on Thursday, September 16, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Tampa Service Office to provide an in-depth overview on all District education and outreach efforts. All Basin Board members are invited to attend. Ms. Putnam referenced the WaterPro Restaurant Outreach cards placed at Board members' seats. WaterPro is a program for restaurants to reduce water use and expenses. Currently, 273 restaurants in the District participate, and there is ample potential for greater involvement and conservation. She requested Board members leave the cards with the manager or wait staff of restaurants they patronize to assist in promoting the program.

Ms. Putnam said the LE/AD Polk County Watershed Education (L900) program referenced earlier by Mr. Bissonnette during the budget discussion is still active in Polk County and supported by the District. This item was pulled into Public Education (P268) under the Basin initiatives category and includes watershed education. In response to Ms. Johnson's questions, Ms. Putnam said the bus wraps are still being donated and the airport promotion is ongoing in Sarasota, St. Petersburg and Tampa. Ms. Putnam said the District is switching its messages from general water conservation to promoting specific water conservation behavior for tourists. Ms. Johnson congratulated staff on their efforts. Ms. Putnam acknowledged Ms. Maritza Rovira-Forino, Chair of the BBEC, as being instrumental in advancing this initiative. (Track 7)

b. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee (BBLRC)**

Ms. Kavouras referenced the summary of the BBLRC meeting included in the Board's meeting notebook. The BBLRC met jointly with the Land Use Stakeholders on July 14 at the Lecanto Government Center. Draft land use and management plans are being developed for the Potts, Flying Eagle and Hálpata Tastanaki Preserves; it is anticipated they will be presented to the Withlacoochee River Basin and the Governing Boards in October. The principal topics of the meeting revolved around hunting, recreation monitoring and multiple use/revenue generation analysis. Although 48 percent of District lands are open to hunting, some of the land use stakeholders requested further expansion. The Committee approved its fiscal year meeting dates; however, Ms. Kavouras noted that the March 2011 meeting location will change as the Bartow Service Office meeting space will not be available. Responding to Mr. Bissonnette's inquiry on the hunting issue, Mr. Wirth said staff will meet with these individuals independently to review what specific properties they are interested in and if there are

opportunities for additional hunting. He said some properties are incompatible with hunting, e.g., the Lower Hillsborough Flood Detention Area, and those where agreements are in place that prohibit such activity. Mr. Wirth assured Board members that staff will move forward prudently to balance competing viewpoints. (Track 8)

c. **Governing Board Activities**

Ms. Kavouras advised that, at the July 27 meeting, the Governing Board adopted proposed District and Basin Board millage rates for FY2011. The proposed budget is approximately \$283 million, which is a reduction of about \$16 million from last year. In response to the January 2010 frost-freeze event, the Board approved initiation of rulemaking to establish a water use caution area in the Dover/Plant City area and associated water use permitting requirements, a minimum aquifer level and associated recovery strategy. The Board heard a status report on the District's Outreach Utility Program which Ms. Neasman reported on earlier. District staff was recognized by the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association for its support of the Landscape Challenge and ongoing partnership to promote Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles and best management practices. A team from the District's Facilities and Construction Services Section placed third, competing against long-established landscaping businesses.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (Track 9)

9. **Announcements:**

Ms. Kavouras said the next Basin Board meeting will be held Thursday, October 7, 2010.

10. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Bissonnette adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m. (Track 9)