

Approved

Minutes of the Meeting

COASTAL RIVERS BASIN BOARD MEETING

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, Florida

February 15, 2007

The Coastal Rivers Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:00 p.m., February 15, 2007, at the District's headquarters in Brooksville, Florida.

Board Members Present

Judy Whitehead, Chair Ex Officio
Dr. George W. Miskimen, Vice-Chair
Elaine H. Perry, Secretary
William Y. Bunch, Member
Samuel H. Lyons, Member
Randall S. Maggard, Member

Staff Members

Bruce Wirth	Lou Kavouras
Mark Hammond	Gregg Jones
Gordon McClung	Lois Sorensen
Miki Renner	Beth Putnam
Jimmy Brooks	Gene Altman
Richard Mayer	Veronica Craw
Nam Nguyen	Larry Walker
Gary Williams	Doug Sanders

Recording Secretary

Phyllis Young

A list of others who were present and signed the attendance roster 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**

Chair Ex Officio Judy Whitehead called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Ms. Young called the roll and noted a quorum was present. (CD 1/Track 1)

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

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

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

Deputy Executive Director Lou Kavouras stated there were no additions or deletions to the agenda. (CD 1/Track 1)

4. **Consent Items:**

After consideration, **Ms. Perry moved, seconded by Mr. Maggard, to approve the Consent Items, as follow:**

- a. **December 14, 2006, Meeting Minutes** - Approve the December minutes, as presented.
- b. **Amendment to Management Agreement - Springs Coast Environmental Education Center, Weekiwachee Preserve** - Recommend the Governing Board approve the Third Amendment to the Management Agreement with Hernando County School Board for the Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of the Springs Coast Environmental Education Center, Weekiwachee Preserve (SD16) – SWF Parcel No. 15-773-182X.
- c. **Hidden Lake Project – Conveyance of Surplus Lands to Pasco County** - Recommend the Governing Board declare SWF Parcel No. 15-235-106S surplus and convey the property to Pasco County Board of County Commissioners for its market value.

Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 1)

5. **Discussion Items:**

a. **Contingency Funds for Fully Funding Recommended Community Education Grants**

Communications Manager Beth Putnam provided a follow-up to a presentation given at the December 14, 2006, meeting, at which time staff reported that five projects in the Coastal Rivers Basin, totaling \$10,768, were awarded FY2007 Community Education Grants. Due to budget constraints, the five projects received only partial funding. At the December meeting, Basin Board Member Sam Lyons asked staff to contact applicants to determine if partial funding would impact the applicants' ability to complete their projects. Since December, staff contacted the applicants and, based on potential impacts, recommended the Basin Board fully fund the five projects.

After consideration, **Ms. Perry moved, seconded by Mr. Lyons, to approve the transfer of \$11,989 from Basin contingency funds to P268 Basin Initiative for Public Education to fully fund the five recommended FY2007 Community Education Grants. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 1)

b. **Status of Watershed Management Plans**

At the Board's request, Engineering Section Manager Gordon McClung, Resource Management Department, provided a status report on the Basin's Watershed Management Plans (Plans). In the future, staff would update the Board on these Plans every February and August. Mr. McClung began by explaining that the District's Water Management Program is a strategic priority and is critical for the District to achieve its flood protection goals. He also explained the five elements of the Watershed Management Program and how the hydrologic characteristics of the Coastal Rivers Basin watersheds would provide valuable information for growth management decisions at the local government level and provide the science for water resource management decisions at the District. The presentation also included a timeframe for completing Plans for all 38 watershed planning units in the Basin, percolation issues, update of flood insurance rate maps, implementation of best management practices, and challenges of the program. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 1)

During this presentation, Mr. Bunch arrived.

c. **Regional Water Supply Plan**

Resource Conservation and Development Director Gregg Jones provided an overview of the legislatively mandated 2006 Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP), which is an assessment of projected water demands for all use sectors and potential sources of water to meet those demands over a 20-year planning period within the area required by the RWSP. Mr. Jones provided history of the RWSP, which shows sufficient alternative water sources exist in the planning region to meet water supply demand through 2025 and replace some current groundwater withdrawals causing hydrologic stress. Chapter 9 of the Plan is the financial component, which addresses the cost of developing the projects necessary to meet the 2025 water supply demand.

In December 2006, the Governing Board approved the final draft of the RWSP, which was submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, as required. The District is also required to present information in the RWSP to local governments and provide technical assistance to ensure consistency between local water supply planning efforts and those of the District.

Board Members participated in discussion including why the District has not been required to complete a RWSP for the northern District and the need for reservoirs for off-stream storage. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 2)

d. **Tampa Bay Regional Reclaimed Water Project Update**

Mr. Jones also presented this agenda item to provide an update on the Tampa Bay Regional Reclaimed Water and Downstream Augmentation Project, including funding allocations. He provided background of the Tampa Bay Regional Reclaimed Water and Downstream Augmentation Project, which would utilize a significant portion of the reclaimed water discharging into Tampa Bay from the City of Tampa's Howard F. Curran Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant. The permit application for that project was submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in June 2005. Due to permit uncertainties and recent work on minimum flows and levels on the lower Hillsborough River and the Tampa Bypass Canal, the Tampa Bay Water Board voted to move forward with expansion of its enhanced surface water systems without the augmentation component. Therefore, the project is being replaced by the Tampa Bay Water System Configuration II Project, which will develop additional capacity in Tampa Bay Water's Enhanced Surface Water system to withdraw and treat water during periods of higher flow from the Hillsborough River and the Tampa Bay Bypass Canal. Mr. Jones explained changes and ongoing activities of the new project, funding aspects, and work completed or in progress.

Tampa Bay Water's Paula Dye, project manager for the Tampa Bay Water Regional Reclaimed Water and Downstream Augmentation Project, briefly addressed the Board on the project permit and stated that the downstream augmentation project would be considered again in the future.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 2)

e. **Approval of Agreement and Transfer of Funds for the Tampa Bay Water System Configuration II Project**

Mr. Jones continued discussion of the System Configuration II Project, explaining that many of the elements that would have been necessary for downstream augmentation would also be necessary for the System Configuration II Project. He reviewed the project configuration and benefits and provided an in-depth report of funding elements including funds already budgeted for the original Reclaimed Water and Downstream Augmentation Project, potential State and Federal grants, and funding to be requested.

Ms. Kavouras brought members' attention to new diversity language included in the cooperative funding agreement for the project. A copy of the agreement was provided as an exhibit to this agenda item. Copies of the new language were provided to Board Members and were available at the sign-in table.

Board members interacted with staff regarding Basin funding and the timeframe for completion of the project.

After consideration, **Mr. Maggard moved, seconded by Dr. Miskimen, to approve the following staff recommendation, as well as the diversity language, which was added to the Cooperative Funding Agreement for this project:**

- (1) **Recommend the Governing Board approve the agreement with Tampa Bay Water to construct the System Configuration II Project for a total amount of \$232,000,000, with the District's share not to exceed \$116,000,000, and the Coastal Rivers Basin's share not to exceed \$4,209,863;**
- (2) **Approve the transfer of \$501,456 of Basin funds previously budgeted for the Tampa Bay Regional Reclaimed Water and Downstream Augmentation Project to the System Configuration II Project;**
- (3) **Approve the transfer of \$600,000 of Water Protection and Sustainability Program trust funds previously budgeted for the Tampa Bay Regional Reclaimed Water and Downstream Augmentation Project to the System Configuration II Project subject to adoption of a future resolution by the Governing Board; and**
- (4) **Recommend the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.**

Motion carried with Mr. Lyons voting nay. (CD 1/Track 2)

f. **FY2008 Cooperative Funding Requests**

Basin Planner Doug Sanders presented this item to remind the Board of the Cooperative Funding process. Mr. Sanders reviewed the FY2008 Cooperative Funding procedure and directed the Board to copies of the original applications received in December 2006, which were included behind the FY2008 Projects tab in the meeting notebook. He provided a brief overview of project submittals received and reviewed the District's project ranking process. Staff will return in April with initial project rankings and funding recommendations for the Board's consideration. The preliminary budget would be presented and the millage cap set at the June Basin Board meeting for final approval in August.

Board members were encouraged to review the FY2008 project submittals and provide input at the April meeting. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 3)

6. **Reports:**

a. **Water Shortage Update**

Due to hydrologic conditions that had generally been below normal in the 16 counties served by the District and those conditions had improved only slightly as a result of December rain, Demand Management Coordinator Lois Sorensen reported that Executive Director Dave Moore signed Order SWF 07-02 to put Severe Water Shortage restrictions into effect. Before the Order was signed, a public hearing was held on January 9, 2007, so the Executive Director could receive testimony from staff and the general public regarding conditions and resulting impacts. At that time, the Executive Director determined that District action was necessary and all water users should be required to conserve water consistent with the modified "Phase II" restrictions recommended by staff. A copy of the Order, which included a summary of the new restrictions, was provided in the notebook as an exhibit to this report. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 4)

b. **Report on Governing Board Activities**

In conjunction with heightened water conservation efforts, Ms. Kavouras reported that the Communications Department's media messaging had increased. Staff showed three water conservation ads being aired on television and radio and appearing on area billboards. Staff then showed pre-recorded highlights of the January 30, 2007, Governing Board meeting, which Ms. Kavouras narrated. The brief recap of the meeting included the Water Shortage Order, conservation ads, water management strategies, a

Water Conservation Summit to be held in March, the Peace River Cumulative Impact Study, and minimum flows and levels. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 4)

7. **Announcements:**

Ms. Kavouras reminded Board members of the announcements listed on the agenda, emphasizing the March 23 Water Conservation Summit to be held in Ocala.

Mr. Lyons thanked Resource Management Director Mark Hammond, Environmental Manager Veronica Crow, and Senior Environmental Scientist Gary Williams for their efforts to work out an arrangement with the Academy of Environmental Science to do water sampling in Crystal River. In turn, Mr. Maggard thanked Mr. Lyons for his part in that effort.

8. **Adjournment**

The day's business being complete, Chair Whitehead adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m. (CD 1/Track)

******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 at this time.

1. Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) Data Dissemination and Education (B136) – Execution Notice
2. Pasco County Southeast Regional Reclaimed Water Loop (H041) – Execution Notice
3. Project Coast - Pasco County (B679) – Execution Notice
4. Watershed Management Program - Maintenance of Watershed Parameters and Models (B206) – Execution Notice
5. Watershed Management Program Consulting Services Crystal River Watershed Management Plan (L657) – Execution Notice