

# Approved

## Minutes of the Meeting

### COASTAL RIVERS BASIN BOARD MEETING

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, Florida

April 12, 2007

The Coastal Rivers Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:03 p.m., April 12, 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
Ken Weber	Will Miller
Eric Sutton	Eric DeHaven
Beth Putnam	Jimmy Brooks
Miki Renner	

#### **Recording Secretaries**

Tahla Paige/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 1:03 p.m. Ms. Paige 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. **Oath of Office for Appointed/Re-Appointed Board Members**

This item was deleted from the agenda.

#### 4. **Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

Deputy Executive Director Lou Kavouras, 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 June meeting. (CD 1/Track 1)

#### 5. **Consent Item:**

After consideration, **Mr. Maggard moved, seconded by Mr. Lyons, to approve the Consent Item, as follows:**

- a. **February 15, 2006, Meeting Minutes** - Approve the February minutes, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 1)

#### 6. **Discussion Items:**

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

Election results were the following:

**Vice Chair:** Dr. George Miskimen

**Secretary:** Elaine Perry

**Basin Board Land Resources Committee:**

Primary Representative: Randy Maggard

Alternate: Sam Lyons

**Basin Board Education Committee:**

Primary Representative: Elaine Perry

Alternate: William Bunch

**Citrus/Hernando County Waterways Restoration Council**

Sam Lyons - Citrus County Tsala-Apopka Task Force

**Weeki Wachee Task Force Technical Advisory Group**

Dr. George Miskimen - primary

Elaine Perry – alternate (CD 1/Track 2)

b. **Annutteliga Hammock Land Acquisition**

Eric Sutton, Assistant Land Resources Director, provided background of factors surrounding land acquisition in the Annutteliga Hammock—elements including the Resource Evaluation Report in 1996 and more recently the Project Boundary Review. Mr. Sutton explained how the pace of development and real estate prices in this area have increased drastically and led to the realization that the Annutteliga Hammock is no longer feasible in its current configuration. Mr. Sutton went on to explain the issues associated with this project from an acquisition standpoint: surplus/exchange of certain parcels no longer needed for conservation and pursuing acquisition for parcels in the northern area. Completing the northern part of the project appears to be most feasible, primarily due to connectivity to adjacent public lands. Therefore, staff is pursuing parcels in the northern area, referred to as Block 1, prior to amending the original boundaries of the project.

After consideration, **Ms. Perry moved, seconded by Mr. Lyons, to recommend the Governing Board authorize the Land Resources Director to proceed directly to the Governing Board with appraisals and purchase sale/agreements (which do not exceed the appraised value) for parcels within the northern area of Annutteliga Hammock (Block 1). Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 3)

c. **Proposed Northern District Water Management Strategies**

Due to significant growth, which has resulted in substantial water demands, the Governing Board has set a series of recommendations to prevent harm to the resources in the six counties that make up the northern portion of the District. Ken Weber, Water Use Program Director in the Regulation Performance Management Department, presented an update on water resource protection strategies proposed for those six northern counties: Levy, Marion, Sumter, Citrus, Hernando, and Lake. Mr. Weber showed a table of demand projections by category for the six counties, reported on water resource conditions in that area, and explained the five elements of Governing Board approved strategies intended to prevent harm to the resources in those counties. His presentation included explanation of what a Water Use Caution Area (WUCA) is, per capita requirements and rates, whether to declare all or portions of Citrus and Hernando counties a WUCA, and processes to receive input on these issues.

Discussion ensued on topics including rulemaking, involvement of St. John's River Water Management District, public meetings, a suggestion to hold a Governing/Basin Board workshop on this issue, and the need to become better educated on this subject.

After consideration, **Dr. Miskimen moved, seconded by Mr. Lyons, to recommend the Governing Board take no action at its April meeting to declare any portion of the northern district a Water Use Caution Area, at this time, and recommend the Governing Board consider non-regulatory strategies to address the concerns of**

the area and allow adequate time to solicit input from local governments and the public. Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Miskimen moved, seconded by Mr. Lyons, to recommend the Governing Board take no action at its April meeting to expand the Northern Tampa Bay Water Use Caution Area, at this time, and recommend the Governing Board consider non-regulatory strategies to address the concerns of the area and allow adequate time to solicit input from local governments and the public. Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 4)

d. **Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Preparation**

Deputy Executive Director Bruce Wirth reviewed a preliminary budget for fiscal year (FY) 2008 and asked Board members for direction concerning funding levels of the various budget categories, including prioritization of Cooperative Funding proposals and other Basin projects. In June, the Basin Board will be asked to vote on a proposed millage rate for FY2008, which will be used for the Truth in Millage noticing to taxpayers. First-time proposals, after staff review, were tentatively ranked as 1A, High, Medium, or Low priority. Mr. Wirth explained that the ranking was preliminary and based on a millage rate of 0.205 and an assumed eight percent increase in assessments. He briefly reviewed the new Cooperative Funding projects, reminded members that the budget process is in the beginning stages, and related that Board members could direct questions to the Project Manager, Ms. Kavouras, Basin Planner Doug Sanders, or him.

Topics of discussion during this presentation included Federal Emergency Management Agency map updates, percentage shares of Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) projects, and many cooperative funding projects. (CD 1/ Track 5)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee**

Primary Representative to the Basin Board Education Committee (BBEC) Elaine Perry shared highlights of the March 6, 2007, BBEC meeting, which was held in the District's Tampa Service Office. Topics included introduction of the District's new Regional Building/Developer Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) specialist and two FYN coordinators who work to educate homeowner associations on Florida-friendly landscaping. Ms. Perry reported that the Communication Department's future objectives would focus on "improvement through evaluation." She briefly commented on (1) the significant potential impact of educational exhibits planned at the new Children's Museum of Tampa (L693), (2) awards recently received for a watershed digital video display (DVD) and the Crystal River/Kings Bay Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) program Watershed Education Project (W466), which educated Citrus County residents on minimizing impacts from lawn fertilization and septic tanks, and (3) a joint meeting of the Basin Board Education and Basin Board Land Resources committees on July 12. (CD 1/Track 6)

b. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee**

Eric Sutton provided a concise report of the March 22, 2007, Basin Board Land Resources Committee meeting, which was held at the Starkey Environmental Education Center in New Port Richey. Topics included the District's land acquisition and prescribed burn procedures, gopher tortoise relocation, and the Public Land Acquisition and Management Partnership Conference to be held in September. (CD 1/Track 6)

c. **Report on Governing Board Activities**

Co-Chair Whitehead gave an update of recent Governing Board appointments before asking staff to play the 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 6)

8. **Announcements:**

Ms. Kavouras brought members' attention to the announcements listed on the agenda, particularly Volunteer Appreciation Day on Saturday, April 14.

Mr. Lyons expressed thanks to Land Resources Director Fritz Musselmann and Land Use and Protection Manager Will Miller for their efforts to re-configure the Shoal Line Boulevard entrance into the Weekiwachee Preserve. (CD 1/Track 7)

9. **Adjournment**

The day's business being complete, Chair Whitehead adjourned the meeting at 3:17 p.m. (CD 1/Track)

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

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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.

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1. U.S. Geological Survey Minimum Flows and Levels Data Collection (B182) - Execution Notice
2. Hernando County - Topographic Mapping (L776) - Execution Notice
3. Pasco County - Horizontal Control Network (L726) - Execution Notice