

Approved

Minutes of the Meeting

COASTAL RIVERS BASIN BOARD MEETING Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, FL

June 12, 2008

The Coastal Rivers Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:02 p.m. on June 12, 2008, at District Headquarters, Brooksville, Florida.

Board Members Present

Judith C. Whitehead, Chair Ex Officio
Randall S. Maggard, Vice Chair
Elaine H. Perry, Secretary
William Y. Bunch, Member
Samuel H. Lyons, Member
John M. Nicolette, Member

Staff Present

David Moore	Bruce Wirth
Lou Kavouras	Linda Pilcher
Elaine Kuligofski	Roy Mazur
Mark Hammond	Will Miller
Beth Putnam	Ken Herd
Jimmy Brooks	Doug Sanders

Recording Secretary : Phyllis Young

A list of others who 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.

The numbers preceding the items listed below correspond with the published agenda.

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

Chair Ex Officio Judy Whitehead called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Phyllis Young, the Board's administrative support, 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, Outreach, Planning, and Board Services, announced two changes to the agenda.

- Since no gubernatorial appointments or Senate confirmations concerning this Board had been received, Agenda Item 4 was deleted from the agenda.
- With the Board's approval, Agenda Item 6b, the Water Partners, Inc., Reclaimed Water Project status report, was taken as the first discussion item. (CD 1/Track 1)

4. **Oath of Office for Newly Appointed/Re-Appointed Board Members**

This item was deleted from the agenda, as stated above.

5. **Consent Items:**

After consideration, Mr. Lyons moved, seconded by Mr. Maggard, to approve the Consent Items, as amended:

- a. **Minutes of the April 10, 2008, Meeting** - Approve the April meeting minutes, as presented.
- b. **Land Use and Management Plan for the Conner Preserve** - Recommend the Governing Board approve the Land Use and Management Plan for the Conner Preserve.

- c. **Annual Calendar of Meeting Dates - Fiscal Year 2009 - Approve the FY2009 meeting schedule, as corrected to reflect Thursday is the regularly scheduled day of the week for Basin Board meetings.**

Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Tracks 2 & 4)

6. **Discussion Items:**

- b. **Cooperative Funding Initiative Project Status Report - Water Partners, Inc., Reclaimed Water Project (H076)**

Executive Director David Moore addressed the Board to provide an in-depth report of this project, which involves a public-private partnership that will maximize the beneficial use of reclaimed water flows that are not currently being beneficially used by Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa. The project was submitted by Water Partners, Inc. (WPI), a not-for-profit, public-private partnership, whose members include Hillsborough County, Tampa Electric Company (TECO), and Mosaic Fertilizer (Mosaic). Other parties involved include the City of Tampa, the City of Lakeland, Polk County, Tampa Bay Water, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), and perhaps Plant City and Temple Terrace. Meetings are being held bi-weekly; four subcommittees (governance, regulatory, recharge, and engineering) have been formed to focus on the major project components. Mr. Moore emphasized that this is a high profile project of which all Board members need to be aware.

Mr. Moore provided background of the project, which is comprised of two major components: (1) a project to provide reclaimed water to industrial users and (2) a project to create opportunities for additional groundwater withdrawals in the Southern Water Use Caution Area (SWUCA) through recharge of reclaimed water in southeastern Hillsborough County and/or western Polk County. He briefly commented on four reasons the project has potential, estimated project costs, and the timeline. He used graphics to explain the various elements of the project and their relationship to each other.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 3)

- a. **District Environmental Stewardship Initiative**

Human Resources and Risk Management Director Elaine Kuligofski addressed the Board to provide an overview of the District's Environmental Stewardship Initiative, which grew from Governor Charlie Crist's July 2007 action plan to reduce greenhouse gases and increase energy efficiency.

With direction from the Executive Sponsor of the Initiative Gene Schiller, Deputy Executive Director, Management Services Division, five District staff and a Governing Board sponsor (Initiative Team) have examined the District's entire operation to find ways the District may be able to achieve more efficiencies and reduce its carbon footprint. Ms. Kuligofski reported that the District supports the Governor's efforts with regard to environmental stewardship, adding that the plan fits well with the District's focus on sustainable growth and environmental responsibility. She provided information on evaluation, development, and implementation of project activities; Governing Board Policy 110-10, District Commitment to Superior Environmental Stewardship; departmental priorities and project examples; cooperation and exchange of ideas with other water management districts; and reporting requirements.

Ms. Kuligofski asked Board members, as leaders in the community, to inform staff of new products, services, ideas, etc., that might be appropriate for the District's use in becoming more energy efficient and in its efforts to reduce greenhouse gases.

This item was provided for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 5)

c. **Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Discussion and Approval of Proposed Millage Rate**

Deputy Executive Director Bruce Wirth began by briefing the Board on the timeframe for submitting the Basins' millage rates to the Governing Board and, ultimately, to the county Property Appraisers and the State, making it necessary for members to approve a proposed millage rate during the meeting. (CD 1/Track 6)

Assistant Finance Director Linda Pilcher addressed the Board to explain aspects of millage rate options that would help the Board make a decision on the proposed FY2009 millage rate. Board members had been provided a revised draft of Resolution No. 76, the Resolution approving the required proposed millage rate for FY2009. To assist the Board in determining the FY2009 proposed millage rate, Ms. Pilcher used a chart to clarify the various millage rate options and ad valorem revenue that might be generated for each option, using the June 1 estimates of taxable property values. Staff will not be able to determine the amount the Basin's millage rate would generate in property tax revenue for FY2009 until actual property values are certified beginning July 1. The staff recommendation is to hold the millage rate at the current FY2008 rate of 0.1885 mill. Based on current estimates, the Basin budget would be \$362,000 less than the budget shown in the meeting notebook. After taxable property values are certified and in order to avoid any possible tax or millage rate increase, if either the Maximum Millage Rate or the rolled-back rate is lower than the millage rate adopted during this meeting, staff recommended the Basin Board meet in July to reconsider the proposed millage rate.

After consideration, **Mr. Lyons moved, seconded by Mr. Maggard, to**

1. **Approve and adopt a required proposed millage rate of 0.1885 mill for FY2009, and**
2. **Approve Resolution No. 76 -- Resolution Approving the Required Proposed Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2009, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**
(CD 1/Track 7)

Mr. Wirth continued the presentation by providing highlights of the budget, noting changes made since the April meeting and considering the June 1 estimates of taxable property values for FY2009. He also mentioned several possible options for meeting the possible shortfall mentioned during Ms. Pilcher's presentation. Board members were directed to the Projects section of the meeting notebook for detailed information on all Cooperative Funding proposals submitted for consideration.

Brief discussion ensued on the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's (WRWSA) request for transition funding (B279) and Project B276, New Development Reclaimed Water Distribution Initiative. Mr. Lyons commended the District for offering in-kind services to the WRWSA instead of the monetary help requested, stating it is a tax savings to the Basin and an example of good government. Chair Whitehead also expressed thanks for staff's innovative, practical ideas.

Several Board members expressed concern that funding reclaimed water lines for new development (Project B276) would be a subsidy for developers and would not be good stewardship of the Basin's tax dollars.

After consideration, **Mr. Maggard moved, seconded by Mr. Lyons, to remove Project B276, New Development Reclaimed Water Distribution Initiative, from the budget. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Maggard subsequently moved, seconded by Mr. Lyons, to move the \$500,000 tentatively designated for Project B276 into the Basin's H100 reserves account. Motion carried unanimously.

In closing, Mr. Wirth stated the Board's input would be incorporated into a revised budget, which would be presented at the next meeting. During that meeting, the Board will be required to adopt a final FY2009 millage rate and budget for recommendation to the Governing Board, and approve final selection of FY2009 Cooperative Funding projects.

After consideration, **Ms. Perry moved, seconded by Mr. Lyons, to approve tentative selection of FY2009 Cooperative Funding projects. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 8)

d. **Fiscal Year 2010 Strategic Plan Update**

Planning Director Roy Mazur addressed the Board to give a progress report on the update to the Strategic Plan. He reviewed background of the Plan, goals for the update, and progress being made, emphasizing that the goal is not to re-write the Plan, but to refine it. Mr. Mazur's presentation included an explanation of the three-tiered approach of staff involvement, tasks to be accomplished, integration of the Plan throughout the District, and examples of success indicators.

As drafts of the updated Strategic Initiatives become available, they will be provided to Board members who may provide input to Mr. Mazur, Basin Planner Dianne Davies, or Ms. Kavouras. Staff will send e-mail reminders to Board members as deadlines for comments approach. A production draft of the Plan will be generated in August and presented for approval to the October 2008 Governing Board.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 9)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Governing Board Activities**

At Chair Whitehead's request, staff played pre-recorded highlights of the March 25, 2008, Governing Board meeting, which was narrated by Communications Manager Robyn Felix. (CD 1/Track 10)

8. **Announcements:**

- Mr. Lyons complimented Will Miller for modifications to the *Conner Preserve Land Use and Management Plan* that satisfy a request from equestrians and proves, once again, the District is responsive to citizens' requests.
- Board members will be notified as soon as possible whether the July 24 meeting will be held. Ms. Kavouras requested they keep that date on their calendars until then.
- The location of the July 10 Basin Board Land Resources Committee meeting has been changed to Nature's Classroom. (CD 1/Track 10)

9. **Adjournment**

The day's business being complete, Chair Whitehead adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

******Information Items******

The item 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. An Investigation of Freshwater Inflow Effects on Fish and Invertebrate Use of the Crystal River Estuary (B807) - Execution Notice
2. Kings Bay Plaza Southwest Stormwater Management (W468) - Execution Notice
3. Pasco County Design & Construction of Shady Hills Waste Water Treatment Facility/State Road 52 Regional Reclaimed Water Interconnect (H067) - Execution Notice