

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HILLSBOROUGH RIVER BASIN BOARD SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Tampa, Florida

April 13, 2007

The Hillsborough River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:20 a.m. on April 13, 2007, at the Tampa Service Office.

Board Members Present

Heidi B. McCree, Chair Ex Officio
Renee Benton, Member
Hugh M. Gramling, Member
Hung T. Mai, Member

Members Absent

Gary P. Reckart, Vice Chair
George R. Burt, Secretary

Staff Members Present

Bruce C. Wirth
Lou Kavouras
Ken Weber
Eric Sutton
Gregg Jones
Mark Hammond
Rand Baldwin
Maya Burke

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**

Chair McCree called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. In the absence of the recording secretary, Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning and Board Services, called the roll and noted a quorum was present.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair McCree led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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

This item was deleted from the agenda.

4. **Additions/Deletions to Agenda**

Ms. Kavouras 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 Items:**

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

- a. **February 12, 2007, Meeting Minutes** – Approve the February minutes, as presented.
- b. **Florida Department of Transportation Agreement for the Palm River Restoration Project (W367)** – Recommend the Governing Board approve the agreement, effective the first day of June 2007, with the Florida Department of Transportation for \$750,000, with the District's share not to exceed \$375,000 and the Basin's share

not to exceed \$187,500, contingent upon inclusion and approval of the FY2008 Budget; and authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreements.

- c. **Appraisals, Purchase/Sale Agreement and Interlocal Agreement with Hillsborough County – Lower Hillsborough Flood Detention Area Project, SWF Parcel No. 13-300-780** - Recommend the Governing Board enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Hillsborough County, accept the appraisals, and reimburse Hillsborough County 50 percent of the acquisition costs and 50 percent of the direct land acquisition costs.
- d. **Lease Agreement between the District and Hillsborough County for Use and Maintenance of a District-Owned Residence, Lower Hillsborough Flood Detention Area, SWF Parcel No. 13-300-738X** - Recommend Governing Board approval of the Lease Agreement with Hillsborough County for SWF Parcel No. 13-300-738X.
- e. **Release of Mineral Interests on Surplused Lands, Tampa Bypass Canal, SWF Parcel No. 13-003-364S** - Recommend Governing Board approval of the Lease Agreement with Hillsborough County for SWF Parcel No. 13-300-738X.

Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 1)

6. **Discussion Items:**

- a. **Election of Officers and Committee Representatives**
Since Basin Board appointments and/or confirmations had not been forthcoming, members decided to postpone elections to the June meeting. (CD 1/Track 2)
- b. **Potential Expansion of the Northern Tampa Bay Water Use Caution Area**
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 during this presentation included rules applying equitably across the District, per capita water use figures, water audits, conserving backwash of water, and regulation regarding well diameter. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 2)

- c. **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 would be asked to vote on a proposed millage rate for FY2008, which would 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 an

assumed eight percent increase in assessments. Mr. Wirth 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 Maya Burke, or him.

Members commented on several cooperative funding projects and made requests, as follow:

- Mr. Gramling suggested the Budget Progress Report designate Basin Initiatives involving cooperator funding with an asterisk.
- Ms. Benton requested a budget briefing with staff.
- The Board requested a complete report of Hillsborough River Minimum Flow and Levels and the Recovery Strategy at a future meeting. (CD 1/Track 3)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee**

Hugh Gramling, primary representative to the Basin Board Education Committee, reported on four topics from the March 6 meeting.

1. The new Spanish page on the District's web site
2. The Communication Department's long-term comprehensive plan
3. Regional builders and developers involvement in the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods program
4. Success of the Water Conservation Hotel and Motel Program (C.H.A.M.P.)
(CD 1/Track 3)

b. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee**

Assistant Land Resources Director 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 3)

c. **Report on Governing Board Activities**

Chair McCree commented on progress of the minimum flows and levels (MFL) process for the Hillsborough River and suggested a complete report, including the Recovery Strategy, be presented at a future meeting. Staff then played 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 MFLs, declaration of April as "Water Conservation Month," and the Governor's "Plain Language" initiative. (CD 1/Track 3)

8. **Announcements**

Ms. Kavouras directed Board members to the announcements listed on the agenda.

9. **Adjournment**

The day's business being complete, Chair McCree adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m. (CD 1/Track 3)

★ ★ ★ Information Items ★ ★ ★

The item(s) listed below are 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. The item(s) did not require Board action at this time. Formal presentations were not made, but staff will make presentations and/or answer questions at the next Board meeting, if requested.

1. Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) Data Dissemination and Education (B136) – Execution Notice
2. Hillsborough County – Digital Topographic Information for Hydrographic Analysis (L762) – Execution Notice
3. Hillsborough River Watershed Alliance Project (P606) – Execution Notice
4. Pasco County - Horizontal Control Network (L726) – Execution Notice
5. Tampa Bay Estuary Program Non-Federal Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Work Plan (W027) – Execution Notice
6. U.S. Geological Survey Minimum Flows and Levels Data Collection (B182) – Execution Notice

Attest:

Chairman