

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

HILLSBOROUGH RIVER BASIN BOARD SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Tampa, Florida

June 9, 2008

The Hillsborough River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:00 a.m. on June 9, 2008, at the Tampa Service Office.

Board Members Present

Hugh Gramling, Chair Ex Officio
George R. Burt, Vice Chair
Renee Benton, Secretary
Devon Higginbotham, Member

Member Absent

Gary P. Reckart, Member

Recording Secretary

Annette D. Zielinski

Staff Members Present

David L. Moore
Bruce C. Wirth
Lou Kavouras
Elaine Kuligofski
Mark Hammond
Eric DeHaven
Roy Mazur
Linda Pilcher
Allison Ramoy
Beth Putnam
Will Miller
Ralph Lair
Maya Burke

A list of others who attended and signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the Basin. Compact discs 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 Gramling called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Zielinski called the roll and noted a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

3. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Ms. Kavouras said Item 4, Oath of Office for Newly Appointed Board Member, was deleted from the agenda.

4. Oath of Office for Newly Appointed Board Member

This item was deleted from the agenda.

5. Consent Items:

Chair Gramling said Item 5.b. Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems – Balaban Farms, LLC, Hillsborough County, will be moved from the Consent Agenda to Discussion Items.

a. April 7, 2008, Meeting Minutes

Staff recommended approval of the April 7, 2008, meeting minutes, as presented.

b. Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems – Balaban Farms, LLC, Hillsborough County

This item was moved from the Consent Agenda to Discussion Items.

c. **Urban Lake Rescue - Lake Roberta**

Staff recommended to:

- (1) Authorize the transfer of \$41,955 from the Hillsborough River Basin Board's Stormwater Contingency Fund to Urban Lake Rescue Project (W268); and
- (2) Authorize the Executive Director to approve and execute an amendment to the agreement.

d. **Jean Park Ponds/Cedar Lake Water Quality Improvement Study**

Staff recommended to:

- (1) Approve expanding the Scope of Work to include the implementation of BMPs for three interconnected stormwater ponds located in Jean Park with the District's share not to exceed the current amount budgeted, which is \$75,000; and
- (2) Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.

e. **Land Use and Management Plan for the Conner Preserve**

Staff recommended approval of the Land Use and Management Plan for the Conner Preserve.

f. **Annual Calendar of Meeting Dates – Fiscal Year 2009**

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, October 14, 2008*		
Meeting and Workshop	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Tuesday, December 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Tuesday, February 10, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Tuesday, April 14, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Tuesday, June 9, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Tuesday, August 11, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office

* Special Meeting

Staff recommended approval of the FY2009 Basin Board meeting schedule.

Following consideration, **Ms. Benton moved, seconded by Mr. Burt, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 1 – 00:00/01:45)

6. **Discussion Items:**

5. b. **Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems – Balaban Farms, LLC, Hillsborough County**

Mr. Eric C. DeHaven, P.G., Director, Resource Data and Restoration Department, said the opportunity to adjust funding sources for this project came from the cancellation of the Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) – Spring Valley Tree Farm, Inc. project located in Hillsborough County. Funds originally dedicated to this project from the Hillsborough River Basin FARMS budget could now be used for the Balaban Farms, LLC project, thereby reducing the amount requested from the Basins Water Supply and Resource Development Reserves.

Staff recommended to:

- (1) Approve the Balaban Farms, LLC FARMS Project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$312,500, with \$44,688 provided from the Hillsborough River Basin Water Supply and Resource Development Reserves, \$33,437 provided by the Hillsborough River Basin, \$78,125 provided by the Governing Board, and \$156,250 provided from 2008 State Appropriations;
- (2) Authorize the transfer of \$44,688 from fund 013 H100 Hillsborough River Basin Water Supply and Resource Development Reserves, \$33,437 from fund 013 H017

Hillsborough River Basin FARMS funds, \$78,125 from fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS funds, and \$156,250 from the 2008 State Appropriations allocated to fund 010 H017 FARMS funds, to the H559 Balaban Farms project fund; and
(3) Authorize the Executive Director to execute the agreement.

Following consideration, **Mr. Burt moved, seconded by Ms. Benton, to approve the staff recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 1 – 00:00/01:45)

6. a. **Election of Secretary and Committee Representatives**

Election results were the following:

Secretary: Renee Benton

Basin Board Education Committee:

Primary Representative: Devon Higginbotham

(CD 1/Track 1 – 01:45/06:04)

b. **District Environmental Stewardship Initiative Overview**

Ms. Elaine M. Kuligofski, Director, Human Resources and Risk Management, 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.

Chair Gramling asked Ms. Kuligofski if the District has considered a green roof. She said staff will be looking into the possibilities.

This item was provided for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 2 – 00:00/12:12)

c. **Out-of-Cycle Funding Request for Polk's Nature Discovery Center Exhibits**

Ms. Beth Putnam, Communications Manager, presented this action item requesting the Board to authorize the transfer of \$17,617 in contingency reserves for construction of two exhibits at Polk's Nature Discovery Center prior to the center's grand opening for the public November 1, 2008. These funds will be expended prior to the start of the new fiscal year and are reimbursable through the Water Management Lands Trust Funds (WMLTF).

In FY2006, the District and Polk County entered into an agreement to build an environmental education center on Circle B Bar Reserve. The education center was budgeted only within the Peace River basin, since the building was constructed there. District costs for the center and all exhibits are 100 percent reimbursable through the WMLTF. To help provide education at the center, in FY2007, the Peace River Basin Board allocated funding for one water systems exhibit.

Polk County submitted a second request for funding as part of the FY2009 cooperative funding initiative (SB54). This second phase requested funds for development of a field trip program and two additional exhibits, one on the Green Swamp and one on central Florida lakes. Polk County plans to fund a fourth exhibit for the center without District funding. During the exhibit design and planning phase, Polk County's exhibit designer offered to add \$100,000 worth of interactive features to enhance all four exhibits if they could be constructed at the same time. This expedited time frame would also allow all four exhibits to be completed in time for the center's grand opening. As a result, Polk County is requesting \$119,167 of the \$163,833 originally included in the FY2009 proposed budget to be funded in FY2008. The funding request for development of the field trip program portion of the project would remain in the proposed FY2009 budget, but it will be reduced to \$44,666.

The total cost of the two exhibits for which the District has been requested to provide funding will be \$119,167, to be shared among the Basin Boards based on attendance projections as follows: Alafia River—\$13,658; Hillsborough River—\$17,617; Peace River—\$87,892. It is requested that FY2008 contingency reserves be allocated for this purpose, which will be fully reimbursed through the WMLTF. By providing the funding now rather than in the FY2009 budget, the Basin Boards' exhibits will share in the more than \$100,000 worth of interactive feature enhancements. In addition, all three of the District exhibits will be completed in time for the center's grand opening.

Staff recommended that the Basin Board authorize the transfer of \$17,617 from Reserves for Contingencies for the construction of two exhibits at the Polk's Nature Discovery Center to educate visitors about water resources and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for an amount not to exceed \$119,167, with the project to be funded through the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

Following consideration, **Mr. Burt moved, seconded by Ms. Higginbotham, to approve the staff recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 2 – 12:12/20:28)

At this time the order of consideration was altered slightly.

e. **South Tampa Area Reclaimed Project (STAR) - Phase 2**

Ms. Alison P. Ramoy, Senior Water Conservation Analyst, Resource Projects Department, said this presentation will provide a status of the City of Tampa's reclaimed water system and plans for expansion. The Basin Board requested a presentation on the project at its April meeting. Ms. Ramoy introduced Ms. Sandra E. Anderson, Reclaimed Water and Continuous Improvement Manager, City of Tampa Water Department, who provided the project history and explained the scope of work to be covered in Phase 2.

Ms. Anderson said Tampa's reclaimed water system is focused on providing service to industrial, commercial, and institutional customers grouped in large clusters. The expansion effort would support two main goals of the City of Tampa's Water Department, one to offset potable water use, and the other to maximize reclaimed water use. District

and city staff has been meeting over the last several months as the city's expansion plans have been further refined. Based on the location of potential customers in the proposed expansion area and depending on the project schedule and progress, cooperative funding may be requested from the Hillsborough River Basin Board in fiscal year 2010. The next steps include continue outreach message campaign, continue negotiations, developing the Technical Manual, proceed with design plans, and seek additional funding.

This item was for the Board's information only; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 3 – 00:00/17:38)

d. **Cooperative Funding Initiative Project Status Report - Water Partners, Inc. Reclaimed Water Project**

Mr. David Moore, Executive Director, 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 4 – 00:00/43:38)

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

Mr. Bruce C. Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, Division of Resource Management, said today the Basin Board will be requested to vote on a proposed millage rate for fiscal year (FY) 2009. The proposed budget has been prepared for the June meeting with the initial assumption that ad valorem revenue will be five percent below FY2008, based on information provided in March 2008 by the State Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research for counties within the Basin. The actual property values will not be certified until July 1.

Basin Board members had been provided a revised draft of Resolution No. 76, 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 0.2547 mill. Based on current estimates, the Basin budget would be \$918,113 higher 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 authorize the Executive Director to administratively adjust the millage rate to achieve the Basin's recommendation without a special July meeting.

Staff recommended to:

- (1) Provide tentative selection of FY2009 Cooperative Funding projects;
- (2) Approve and adopt a required proposed millage rate of 0.2547 mill for FY2009; and
- (3) Approve Resolution No. 144, Resolution Approving the Required Proposed Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2009.

Following consideration, **Ms. Benton moved, seconded by Ms. Higginbotham, to approve the staff recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 5 – 00:00/11:58)

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. Board members were directed to the Projects section of the meeting notebook for detailed information on all Cooperative Funding proposals submitted for consideration.

Ms. Benton asked where the study the city of Temple Terrace requested fit into the budget. Mr. Wirth said that is associated with the Lower Hillsborough River Restoration initiative. The gauge has been installed and is gathering data. The effect of moving water is being studied and the Basin Board will receive an update at an upcoming meeting.

In closing, Mr. Wirth stated the Board's input would be incorporated into a revised budget, which will 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 selection of FY2009 Cooperative Funding projects. (CD 1/Track 6 – 00:00/13:33)

g. **Fiscal Year 2010 Strategic Plan**

Mr. Roy Mazur P.E., Director, Planning Department, 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 Maya Burke, 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 7 – 00:00/12:58)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Report on Governing Board Activities**

At Chair Gramling's request, staff played pre-recorded highlights of the May 27, 2008, Governing Board meeting, which was narrated by Communications Manager Robyn Felix.

b. **Hillsborough River Interlocal Planning Board – Technical Advisory Committee**

Mr. Ralph Lair, Senior Community Affairs Coordinator, Community and Legislative Affairs Department, said Ms. Lois Sorensen, Demand Management Coordinator, Regulation Performance Management, attended this meeting on his behalf. Mr. Jerry Seeber, General Manager, Tampa Bay Water, provided an overview of the organization's ongoing projects and priorities. Ms. Lois Sorensen made a presentation regarding Demand Management and watering restrictions.

8. **Announcements**

Ms. Kavouras said the Basin Board Education Committee (BBEC) and the Basin Board Land Resources Committee (BBLRC) will both meet Thursday, July 10, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. The BBEC will meet at the Tampa Service Office, and the BBLRC will be held at Natures Classroom which is a change since members were originally notified.

The July 22, 2008 Basin Board Budget meeting has been cancelled.

9. **Adjournment**

Since there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Gramling adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m. (CD 1/Track 7 – 12:58/24:14)

★ ★ ★ 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. **Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems – Spring Valley Tree Farm, Inc. – (H544) Hillsborough County**
2. **Pasco County Pasco County Design & Construction of Shady Hills Waste Water Treatment Facility/State Road 52 Regional Reclaimed Water Interconnect (H067) - Execution Notice**
3. **Polk County Watershed Management Plan - First Amendment (L672) - Execution Notice**
4. **River Tower Restoration Project (W387) - Execution Notice**

Attest:

Chairman

The District does not discriminate based on disability. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation under the ADA should contact the Executive Department at (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (Florida only), extension 4610; TDD only, 1-800-231-6103 (Florida); fax (352) 754-6874.