

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**HILLSBOROUGH RIVER BASIN BOARD
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

Tampa, Florida

February 4, 2010

The Hillsborough River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:30 p.m., on February 4, 2010, at the Tampa Service Office.

Board Members Present

Maritza Rovira-Forino, Co-Chair
George Burt, Member
Devon Higginbotham, Member
John Nicolette, Member

Board Members Absent

Hugh Gramling, Co-Chair
Renee Gilmore, Vice Chair
Susan Welsh, Secretary

Recording Secretary

M. Frances Sesler

Staff Members Present

Lou Kavouras
Bruce C. Wirth
Eric DeHaven
Maya Burke
Cori Cuttler
Jeremy McKay
Will Miller
Miki Renner

Video Conference

Beth Putnam

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**

Co-Chair Maritza Rovira-Forino called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Frances Sesler, Senior Administrative Assistant, called the roll and noted a quorum was present. (CD 1/ Track 1)

2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag**

Co-Chair Rovira-Forino led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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

Ms. Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning and Board Services, noted there were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

4. **Basin Activities Report and Agenda Review**

Ms. Maya Burke, Staff Planner, Planning Department, provided the Board a brief overview of relevant items on the agenda, those provided as information and other upcoming topics of interest. Ms. Burke said Hillsborough County has decided to retain the Cone Ranch property. Cone Ranch is a 44,000 acre property located in the heart of the Hillsborough River Watershed. The County had been evaluating a private conservation development proposal, but instead decided to retain the property. Hillsborough County must transfer ownership from the Water Resource Department to the Environmental Land Acquisition Program at a cost of \$12 million, which is the original price paid in 1988.

Ms. Burke spoke briefly of the Frost Freeze Protection efforts. Staff has been working with Hillsborough County Emergency Management to make sure their mass notification system is available for use in the future so that notification can be given to residents for future frost freeze events. Their operations budget will reflect an additional \$4,000 to support this partnership in FY2011.

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

5. **Consent Items:**

a. **Minutes of the October 15, 2009, Joint Basin Boards Meeting and Workshop**

Approve the October minutes as presented.

b. **Polk County BOCC FY2010 Scope of Work (SB54) – Reduction in Scope**

Approve the reduction of the number of students reached by this project from 7,000 to 5,000 with no change in program costs.

c. **Upper Tampa Bay Paved Trail Segment – Amendment to Management Agreement with Hillsborough County – Brooker Creek Headwaters Preserve, SWF Parcel No. 14-074-144X**

Approve the transfer of \$630,000 from the cancelled Phase V, Part II, Flatwoods Recreational Development Project (SD15) to the ongoing Phase IV, Upper Tampa Bay Paved Trail Segment at Brooker Creek Headwaters Preserve (SA03).

d. **Easement Exchange – Tampa Bypass Canal, SWF Parcel Nos. 13-002-752P and 13-002-753X**

Recommend the Governing Board approve the no-cost exchange of easement interests in land with JPV Investments, Inc.

e. **Appraisal Purchase/Sale Agreement and Memorandum of Agreement with Pasco County – Cypress Creek Project, SWF Parcel No. 13-500-389**

Recommend the Governing Board: 1) Accept the appraisal; 2) Approve Purchase/Sale Agreement; 3) Approve and authorize the Land Resources Director to sign the Memorandum of Agreement with Pasco County; and 4) Designate SWF Parcel No. 13-500-389 as having been acquired for conservation purposes.

Following consideration, **Mr. Nicolette moved, seconded by Mr. Burt, to approve Consent Items 5a, 5b, 5c, 5d, and 5e as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**
(CD 1/Track 2)

6. **Discussion Items:**

a. **Legislative Update**

Ms. Cori Cuttler, Community Affairs Program Manager, provided Board members with an update on proposed legislative initiatives which included Basin Board clarification, Peace Creek and well pump depth. Other State issues include delegation of permits, stormwater, American Water Works Association, Statewide Water Board, conservation, local sources and springs. She mentioned the State Budget Priorities which include Florida Forever, Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Funds and the West-Central Florida Water Restoration Action Plan (WRAP). Ms. Cuttler said the top District priority is the WRAP. Other priorities include funding of the Water Management Lands Trust Fund and Florida Forever.

Ms. Higginbotham asked if Hillsborough County is inspecting pump depth. Co-Chair Rovira-Forino said Hillsborough County is strengthening their enforcement of the inspection of those wells which they have not been doing as consistently as they should. They are taking precaution and trying to do a better job.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

b. **FY2011 Budget Status and Cooperative Funding Requests**

Ms. Burke provided the Board with a review of the economic issues affecting the Basin budget, a preview of the Cooperative Funding applications received for the FY2011 budget cycle, and an overview of the annual Cooperative Funding and budget process. At the October Basin Board workshops, staff presented a financial outlook for each of the basins that included a status report on known budget requests and forecasts for decreasing ad valorem and diminishing state funding assistance. Staff reviewed this information with the Basin Board.

In reviewing the categories of the budget, Ms. Burke informed members that Florida Yards & Neighborhoods programs and Hillsborough Adopt-A-Pond Program would be moved from the cooperative funding category to the basin initiative category in FY2011. This move reflects staff's recognition that these projects are core to Basin priorities and essential to District work.

A total of 297 applications were received in December for the FY2011 Cooperative Funding cycle, 40 for the Hillsborough River Basin at a cost of \$46 million. Ms. Burke said \$46 million is a large number for this Basin; usually the requests are \$20 to \$25 million. One project in particular from Pasco County, a cooperator is requesting \$40 million. Ms. Burke said this is a place holder and that it will change. This helps to emphasize the point of this being early information. Staff provided a brief overview of the project submittals, reviewed the Basin Board's Budget Priorities, and discussed the District's project ranking and budget process. Ms. Burke said State and Federal funding is critical; and the Hillsborough River Basin is positioned to meet funding requirements through 2030, but must continue to stay the course, and fund on a pay-as-you-go basis.

In April staff will return with initial recommendations and rankings; this is an opportunity for the Board members to discuss the projects in detail and provide feedback. Ms. Burke asked Board members to identify a project or two that might be of special interest and get it to her by Monday, February 22. At the April meeting the cooperator will be invited so Board members can ask any questions of the cooperator.

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

7. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee Meeting Report**

Ms. Kavouras provided an overview of the Basin Board Education Committee meeting held on November 4, 2009, at the Tampa Service Office. The overview consisted of the FY2010 Community Education Grants, homeowners associations regarding Senate Bill 2080, youth education land events, research and ad development for public service announcements, and the District's "Get Outside!" campaign. Ms. Kavouras said the next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 3, 2010, at the Tampa Service Office.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

b. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee Report**

Mr. Will Miller, Land Use and Protection Manager, provided an overview of the December 1, 2009, Basin Board Land Resources Committee (BBLRC) meeting, which was held in the Green Swamp West Field Office, Dade City. Highlights of the meeting were the Project Boundary Review, Multiple Use and Future of the Land Use Stakeholders. The Land Use Stakeholders meeting was held October 14, 2009. Mr. Miller advised the Committee that the Land Use Stakeholders group and the BBLRC would meet jointly for one year, and then evaluate the future of both groups. The first meeting would be conducted in a focus group setting to include the following topics: (a) multiple use report update; (b) signage for District lands; (c) legislative overview and update; and (d) what has been learned from the "Get Outside!" Campaign efforts to date.

Co-Chair Rovira-Forino was very pleased that signs and a logo will be placed so that the public will know that the District is the steward of the lands. There will also be versions of Spanish on some of the information. Co-Chair Rovira-Forino was pleased to hear that Mr. John Nicolette accepted the vacant alternate representative position on the BBLRC. Ms. Devon Higginbotham serves as the primary representative.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 4)

c. **Hillsborough River Interlocal Planning Board Technical Advisory Committee**

Ms. Cuttler provided an overview of the highlights from the January 19, 2010, meeting held at the Tampa Service Office. She said a representative from the University of South Florida attended and presented the Water Atlas. She said the Water Atlas is an online resource linked to all different governmental bodies that collect data on water in the State of Florida. Dock permits were also reviewed.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

d. **Governing Board Activities**

Co-Chair Rovira-Forino read the highlights of the January 26, 2010, Governing Board meeting into the record.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 4)

8. **Announcements:**

Ms. Kavouras called attention to the announcements on the agenda. Next Basin Board Meeting will be held Thursday, April 8, 2010, 1:30 p.m., Tampa Service Office. Ms. Kavouras advised members that Ms. Sesler, administrative support for the Basin Board, will be retiring the end of March. Co-Chair Rovira-Forino and members of the Board congratulated Ms. Sesler and thanked her for her service.

9. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Co-Chair Rovira-Forino adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m. (CD 1/Track 4)

****Information Items****

These item(s) listed below were for the Board's information, intended to keep them apprised of completed projects, cancelled projects, and projects that have executed contracts and are ready to begin. These item(s) did not require Board action at this time.

1. Watershed Management Program – Maintenance of Watershed Parameters and Models First Amendment (B206) – Execution Notice
2. Watershed Management Program Consulting Services for Maintenance of Watershed Parameters and Models – Second Amendment (B206) – Execution Notice
3. Watershed Management Program – Maintenance of Watershed Parameters and Models Third Amendment (B206) – Execution Notice
4. New River/Upper Hillsborough River Watershed Management Plan – First Amendment (L432) - Execution Notice
5. Watershed Management Program Consulting Services in the Polk County Watershed Third Amendment (L672) - Execution Notice
6. Polk County Northwest Regional Reclaimed Utility Service Area Reclaimed Water Storage and Pumping Station (N024) - Execution Notice
7. City of Lakeland Plumbing Retrofit Project – Phase 2 (N112) - Execution Notice
8. MacDill Air Force Base Restoration Project Phase III (W396) - Execution Notice
9. 2010 Community Education Grants in the Hillsborough River Basin