

Approved

Minutes of the Meeting

MANASOTA BASIN BOARD

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Sarasota, Florida

April 14, 2010

The Manasota Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:05 a.m. on April 14, 2010, in the Sarasota Service Office.

Board Members Present

Frank E. Strelec, Vice Chair
J. Mac Carraway, Secretary
Elizabeth "Betsy" O. Benac, Member
Paul J. "Jack" Bispham, Member

Staff Present

Lou Kavouras
Mark Hammond
Brian Armstrong
Dianne Davies
Rand Frahm
Jennette Seachrist

Bruce Wirth
Ross Morton
Terri Behling
Randy Emberg
Bill Orendorff

Board Member Absent

Albert G. Joerger, Co-Chair
Carlos M. Beruff, Co-Chair
Michael P. McCoy, Member

Via Video Conference

Beth Putnam

Recording Secretary

Phyllis Young

A roster of other attendees 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

In the absence of the co-chairs, Vice Chair Frank Strelec called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Ms. Phyllis Young, Senior Administrative Assistant, Boards and Executive Services, called the roll and noted a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Strelec led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. (CD 1 – 0:00:58)

3. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

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

At this time, Mr. Ross Morton, Director, Sarasota Regulation Department, introduced Ms. Claire Muirhead, who recently joined District staff as the Water Use Manager for Sarasota Regulation. (CD 1 – 0:01:40)

5. Consent Items:

After consideration, **Mr. Carraway moved approval of the following Consent Items; seconded by Mr. Bispham:**

a. Minutes of the February 10, 2010, Meeting

Approve the February minutes as presented.

b. Approval of Resolution No. 76 for Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Amendment for Reallocation of Revenue from State Appropriations for the Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) Program

Approve Resolution No. 76 to amend the Manasota Basin Board budget for FY2010 by a decrease of \$384,720 to reflect the reallocation of revenue from State Appropriations.

c. **Amendment to Conservation Easement – Myakka State Forest, SWF Parcel No. 21-708-108**

Recommend the Governing Board approve the Amendment to the Conservation Easement on SWF Parcel No. 21-708-108.

After discussion of the reallocation of FARMS funds, Agenda Item 5b, the motion passed unanimously. (CD 1 – 0:02:24)

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

Ms. Dianne Davies, Basin Planner, reminded the Board that this agenda item is part of each Basin Board agenda, providing an opportunity for the Basin Planner to give an overview of relevant items on the agenda, information items, and other topics of interest. She briefly commented on the designation of April as Water Conservation Month, the Florida Water StarSM Gold certifier training program, an award received by the District for the Terra Ceia Isles Habitat Restoration project, cancellation of four FARMS projects, and amendment of the Manatee County Comprehensive Plan to lift the prohibition of reuse in the Braden River Watershed. (CD 1 – 0:10:04)

6. **Discussion Items:**

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

Ms. Kavouras facilitated election of officers and selection of committee representatives, which resulted in the following:

Vice Chair: Frank Strelec

Secretary: Mac Carraway

Basin Board Land Resources Committee:

Frank Strelec, primary

Mike McCoy, alternate

Basin Board Education Committee:

Mac Carraway, primary

Betsy Benac, alternate

Sarasota Bay Estuary Program Policy Board:

Jack Bispham (CD 1 – 0:14:06)

b. **Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority–Water Resources/Supply Report**

Mr. Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, Resource Management, introduced Mr. Pat Lehman, Executive Director of the Authority, and spoke of the outstanding working relationship between the Authority and the District. He thanked Mr. Lehman for attending the meeting to present timely information on how the Authority's projects and plans for the future fit into the Basin Board budget.

Mr. Lehman reported the successful completion of the Authority's treatment facility expansion project and new six billion gallon reservoir. Additionally, he reported excellent water quality, the availability of 12 million gallons per day of Authority "pool water" supply, diminishing water demand projections, and the changing economic climate.

He commented on an interconnected regional system, water supply production and production capacity, customer demand projections, and regional supply development

options/partnerships. Mr. Lehman emphasized the importance of working together to solve issues, to have open minds in exploring options that will provide a sustainable water supply that will work with the environment, will be safe, and will be the best economic option for consumers.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1 – 0:15:07)

c. **2010 Regional Water Supply Plan Update**

Ms. Davies presented this update instead of Mr. Roy Mazur, Director, Planning Department. The statutorily required Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP) will cover the entire District, with the addition of the six northern counties not included in previous Plans. The RWSP is a document that contains projections of water demand and identifies potential sources of water to meet demand over a 20-year planning period; these updates are required every five years. The draft 2010 Plan has been updated and will be available for public comment this month through various means including public workshops, Basin Board meetings, Advisory Committee meetings, and the District's website (www.watermatters.org). Comments are due to the Planning Department by July 16, 2010, with the expectation that the Plan will be complete and ready for submittal to the Governing Board for approval in the November/December 2010 timeframe. Ms. Davies briefly commented on the area covered by the Plan, the four separate volumes of the Plan that cover each of the four planning regions, and streamlining of the update process.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. However, Ms. Davies emphasized that Board members' input is appreciated. (CD 1 – 0:44:06)

d. **Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Preparation**

Mr. Wirth began the budget discussion with comments to orient Board members on their first look at a preliminary budget for fiscal year (FY) 2011. He emphasized the importance of the Board's direction on funding levels of the various budget categories, including prioritization of Cooperative Funding proposals and other Basin projects. He also reminded Board members that first-time cooperative funding proposals, after staff review, were tentatively ranked High, Medium, or Low priority. The budget was prepared assuming the millage rate will remain at 0.1484 mill and property valuations will decline by 10 percent, which was estimated for planning purposes. Additionally, Mr. Wirth reported that no new State dollars are anticipated, i.e., Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Florida Forever (land acquisition funds), or Senate Bill 444 (Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund), etc. Any West Central Florida Water Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) monies, if allocated, will be shared among all responsible Basins. Prior year State funds are already allocated to projects. It is anticipated the Save Our Rivers land management and maintenance expenditures will be funded for FY2011 with prior year funds in the Water Management Lands Trust Fund. This will necessitate using a portion of the funds that had been previously set aside for the Lake Hancock Outfall Treatment project, with the final amount to be determined as the FY2011 budget requests are finalized.

In June, staff will provide an updated ad valorem revenue estimate to the Basin Board, based on formal June 1 estimates of property value from county property appraisers, and present a revised, proposed budget, based on the Board's input and further investigation by staff. At that meeting, the Board will be required to approve the Basin's proposed FY2011 millage rate. During the August meeting, the Basin Board will vote on a final FY2011 millage rate and budget for recommendation to the Governing Board.

Mr. Wirth spoke briefly of the Basin's contingency reserves and H100 Water Supply and Resource Development reserves, reviewed the preliminary FY2011 budget, and commented on the likelihood that funding allocations for several projects will necessarily be lowered. He reminded Board members that their input/direction on projects is important to the budget process; comments or questions may be directed to the Project Manager, Ms. Davies, Ms. Kavouras, or him. (CD 1 – 0:52:22)

Ms. Davies continued the budget discussion by directing members to a table (checklist) in the meeting notebook that showed current Cooperative Funding applications by FY2011 Basin budget priority. She highlighted projects in the current budget that show what types of projects address each priority and the trends that were observed during the current Cooperative Funding cycle and suggested Board members use the checklist as a tool in evaluating the proposed budget and in identifying funding trends.

In closing, Ms. Davies added that the Basin planners will review each Basin's budget priorities during the August Basin Board meetings, and adjustments will be made, as necessary. (CD 1 – 1:22:42)

At this time, the following cooperators, or their representative, addressed the Board to provide information and answer questions from the Board:

- Vice Chair Jim Blucher and Ms. Jennifer Desrosiers, Utilities Business Manager, City of North Port: Myakkahatchee Creek Water Treatment Plant Reliability (Project N082) (CD 1 – 1:28:19)
- Mr. Alan Burr, State College of Florida: Venice Campus Rain Harvesting (Project N310) (CD 1 – 1:49:50)
- Molly Morgan, Museum Director, G.Wiz - The Science Museum: Water Wonders Workshop (Project N206) (CD 1 – 1:52:15)

After consideration, **Ms. Benac moved that the Venice Campus Rain Harvesting project (N310) and the G.Wiz Water Wonders Workshop project (N206) be funded, if at all possible. After a second by Mr. Bispham, the Board unanimously approved the motion.**

This item was presented to aid Board members in providing direction to staff on developing the Basin's proposed FY2011 budget; no action was required. (CD 1 – 1:55:03)

7. Reports:

a. Basin Board Education Committee (BBEC)

Via video conference from District Headquarters in Brooksville, Ms. Beth Putnam, Communications Projects Administrator Manager, directed Board members to a summary of the March 3 BBEC meeting. She mentioned two topics specifically: the Landscape Challenge and Florida Water StarSM Gold programs. The next BBEC meeting is scheduled for July 14, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Tampa Service Office. (CD 1 – 2:01:30)

b. Basin Board Land Resources Committee (BBLRC)

Vice Chair Strelec reported that the March 16 BBLRC meeting was the first in a series of joint meetings of the BBLRC and Land Use Stakeholders that will be held for one year in an effort to expand the feedback process, allow sharing of information on competing environmental and private interests, keep citizens involved, encourage utilization of District facilities, and obtain more public input.

A written summary of the March 16 meeting was included as an exhibit in the meeting notebook. The next BBLRC meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, in the Lecanto Government Center. (CD 1 – 2:03:55)

c. **Governing Board Activities**

Ms. Kavouras advised Board members of Mr. Todd Pressman's recent reappointment to the Governing Board and Mr. Jeffrey Adams' appointment to the Governing Board, replacing Ms. Sallie Parks.

She further reported that the primary topic of the March Governing Board meeting was the January 2010 frost/freeze event and how to handle similar events in the future. Public meetings will be held periodically to address issues related to such events.

A written report of the Governing Board meeting was provided to Board members. (CD 1 – 2:04:14)

These reports were presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

8. **Announcements**

Ms. Kavouras brought members' attention to announcements listed on the agenda and invited Board members to attend a field trip and canoe excursion scheduled for April 23 to Terra Ceia and Cockroach Bay Surface Water Improvement and Management Program restoration sites. (CD 1 – 2:07:00)

9. **Adjournment**

When there was no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chair Strelec adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m. (CD 1 – 2:08:06)