

DRAFT

Minutes of the Meeting

MANASOTA BASIN BOARD

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Sarasota, Florida

August 11, 2010

The Manasota Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:07 a.m. on August 11, 2010, in the Sarasota Service Office.

Board Members Present

Carlos M. Beruff, Co-Chair
J. Mac Carraway, Secretary
Elizabeth "Betsy" O. Benac, Member
Paul J. "Jack" Bispham, Member

Staff Present

Lou Kavouras	Bruce Wirth
Eric DeHaven	Mark Hammond
Brian Armstrong	Dianne Davies
Steve Dicks	Randy Emberg
John Ferguson	

Board Members Absent

Albert G. Joerger, Co-Chair
Michael P. McCoy, Member
Frank E. Strelec, Vice Chair

Via Video

Conference
Beth Putnam

Recording

Secretary
Phyllis Young

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 the materials and handouts, as set forth in full herein, are also filed in the permanent files of the Basin.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Co-Chair Carlos Beruff called the meeting to order at 9:07 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

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

3. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Ms. Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning, Board Services and Ombudsman, reported that Agenda Item 4 was deleted since no re-appointments had been forthcoming from the Governor's Appointment Office. (Track 1)

4. Oath of Office – This item was deleted from the agenda, as stated above.

5. 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 1) the current update of the Regional Water Supply Plan, 2) an update of the "Wild and Scenic Management Plan" by the Myakka River Management Coordinating Council, which is a State legislative body that oversees the wild and scenic portion of the Myakka River, 3) anticipated issuance of Notice of Intent regarding the Manatee County Comprehensive Plan amendment, and 4) the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Cooperative Funding Initiative begins with a workshop on September 13 in the Sarasota Service Office, beginning at 10 a.m. (Track 2)

6. **Consent Items:**

After consideration, **Mr. Carraway** moved approval of the following **Consent Items**:

- a. **Minutes of the June 16, 2010, Meeting**
Approve the June meeting minutes as presented.
- b. **Annual Calendar of Meeting Dates - Fiscal Year 2011**
Approve the FY2011 Basin Board meeting schedule, as presented.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Wednesday, October 13, 2010	9 a.m.	Sarasota Service Office
Wednesday, December 8, 2010	9 a.m.	Sarasota Service Office
Wednesday, February 9, 2011	9 a.m.	Sarasota Service Office
Wednesday, April 13, 2011	9 a.m.	Sarasota Service Office
Wednesday, June 8, 2011	9 a.m.	Sarasota Service Office
Wednesday, August 10, 2011	9 a.m.	Sarasota Service Office

- c. **Budget Transfers and Board Encumbrances for Lake Hancock Projects (H008, H009, and H014)**
 - 1. **Authorize the transfer of \$2,250,000 of State West Central Florida Water Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) funds from the Lake Hancock Outfall Structure P-11 Replacement (H009) to the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification (H008) and Lake Hancock Outfall Treatment System (H014) as presented; and encumber the funds.**
 - 2. **Authorize the transfer of \$1.5 million of General Fund and Basin funds from the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification (H008) to the Lake Hancock Outfall Structure P-11 Replacement (H009) as presented; and encumber the funds.**
- d. **Board Encumbrances**
 - i. **Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification Project (H008)**
Approve the encumbrance of \$2,977,370 (\$1,488,685 from the General Fund; \$372,171.25 from the Alafia River Basin; \$744,342.50 from the Peace River Basin; and \$372,171.25 from the Manasota Basin), without a contract, to be used in FY2011 for implementation of the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification project.
 - ii. **Flatford Swamp Hydrologic Restoration/Implementation Project (H089)**
Approve the encumbrance of \$950,000 (\$475,000 from the General Fund and \$475,000 from the Manasota Basin Board), without a contract, to be used in FY2011 for implementation of the Flatford Swamp Hydrologic Restoration/Implementation Project.
 - iii. **Celery Fields Regional Stormwater Facility Expansion (L210)**
Approve liquidation of \$1,073,395 from the existing agreement with Sarasota County to reduce the overall District share to \$1,829,665.

Mr. Bispham seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (Track 3)

7. **Discussion Items:**

- a. **Geographic Information Systems Update**
In response to interest shown at a recent Basin Board meeting, **Mr. Steve Dicks**, Mapping and Geographic Information System (GIS) Program Director, explained what a GIS is and shared information on the software and data components of a GIS, benefits

of using GIS, and the broad range of District programs supported by GIS, including water use, environmental, and well construction permitting, land acquisition and management, surface and ground water modeling, Flood Insurance Rate Map modernization, and Surface Water Improvement and Management. A significant data collection effort is a key component of the District's GIS, including survey control networks, aerial photography, topographic mapping, and land use and cover mapping.

A live demonstration of the District's GIS focused on how the system is used by the District and the public, integration with other data collection, and the interface with other public/private users to share information. Other topics of discussion during this presentation were the importance of comparative data; coordination of GIS data collection activities with federal, state, and local governments to share costs and minimize duplicative efforts; cost of GIS; and role of GIS in emergency management.

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

b. **City of North Port Myakkahatchee Creek Water Treatment Plant River Bank Filtration/Reverse Osmosis Reliability Project (N082)**

In response to the Board's request, staff provided additional information to aid its decision on whether to provide further funding in the FY2011 budget for this project. Mr. Brian Armstrong, Manager, Water Supply and Resource Development, gave a brief history of the project, which was ranked "Medium" in 2009, since it is not regional in nature.

Mr. Armstrong reviewed funding for the project, the District's criteria for funding cooperative projects, comparative cost of water, and comparison of projected demand for water between 2008 and 2010. He stated that staff is upholding its recommendation to provide no further funding for this project due to the following: 1) Demand has significantly decreased, 2) water is available from regional sources, 3) the District has large investments in regional projects that are complete, and 4) the current driving force of the project is not to meet demand, as set forth in 2009, but to comply with a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) consent order requiring the City of North Port to meet water quality standards by 2012. He also cited criteria from District Board Policy 130-4 regarding equitability of a project's cost of water compared to the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority's "pool" water. In this instance, if the Board approved funding this project, the amount could not exceed \$3.41 million. In conclusion, he reminded the Board that no funding for this project is reflected in the FY2011 budget. (Track 5)

The Honorable Jim Blucher, Co-Chair of the North Port City Commission, thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak in support of funding for the City's River Bank Filtration/Reverse Osmosis Project. He spoke of instances when the City had provided water to surrounding areas, adding that this project will allow the City to continue that practice. Mr. Blucher reviewed the City's funding request, the DEP variance deadline to meet secondary standards, and regional benefits of river bank filtration/reverse osmosis. He answered questions and interacted with the Board on topics including the possibility of a lesser project, funding from local governments, using the canals for storage, other connections/sources, and the Board's responsibility to stay within set policies and guidelines.

Others from the City of North Port who accompanied Mr. Blucher in support of this project included The Honorable David Garofalo, Jr., Chair of the City Commission; Mr. Steven Crowell, City Manager; Ms. Cindi Mick, Utilities Director; and

Ms. Jennifer Desrosiers, Utilities Business Manager; and from McKim & Creed Engineering, Mr. Street Lee.

The Board took no action on the City of North Port's request to fund the Myakkahatchee Creek Water Treatment Plant River Bank Filtration/Reverse Osmosis Reliability Project (N082) in its FY2011 budget.

Mr. Blucher thanked the Board for its consideration, for its work, and for making "tough decisions" when necessary. (Tracks 6-14)

c. **Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Discussion and Approval of Final Millage Rate and Budget**

Mr. Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, Resource Management, reminded Board members of their obligation to take final action on the Basin's FY2011 millage rate, FY2011 budget, and resolution affirming the millage rate and budget for FY2011. He reported that the Basin's proposed budget for FY2011 had been updated to reflect ad valorem revenue based on the proposed millage rate (0.1484) adopted at the June 16 meeting and the 2010 Certifications of Taxable Value received from county property appraisers.

Mr. Wirth reviewed the revised proposed budget focusing on changes made since June. He reported a \$1.86 million change to Balance Forward due to lower final bids on Phase 3 of the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority pipeline project and cancellation of the Hudson Bayou stormwater project. He further reported that grant funds from the cancelled City of Tampa reuse project, a Hillsborough River Basin project, were redistributed to several Basins, including the Manasota Basin.

During the June meeting, the Board took action to eliminate consideration of projects below those ranked "High." Therefore, the proposed FY2011 budget, submitted for the Board's approval, included only "High" ranked projects. (Tracks 15 & 16)

For the record, Ms. Kavouras read the three-part staff recommendation, as follows:

1. **Approve and adopt the required final millage rate of 0.1484 mill for FY2011.**
2. **Approve and adopt the final FY2011 budget.**
3. **Approve Resolution No. 78 -- Resolution Affirming the Required Final Millage Rate and Budget for Fiscal Year 2011.**

After consideration, **Ms. Benac moved approval of the three recommendations as read. Mr. Carraway seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.** (Track 17)

d. **FY2011 Budget Review and Priority Analysis**

Ms. Davies reported that planning for fiscal year FY2012 budgets will begin with Cooperative Funding Initiative workshops the week of September 13. To provide the best information to local governments on what the Basin Board considers its priorities, staff is requesting the Board establish its FY2012 budget priorities now rather than wait until October, as in years past. She reminded Board members that two years have passed since they approved the current Basin budget priorities and Basin issues and concerns may have changed during that time. After reviewing the current Basin budget priorities, she used pie charts to show the breakdown of each budget category by budget priority. This analysis revealed areas where changes to the current budget priorities might be considered in order to make them more specific and reflect changes in budget allocations, District initiatives, and water resource needs. Ms. Davies presented suggested modifications to the budget priorities based on the information provided and solicited Board members' input or other potential revisions to the priorities.

Recommended budget priorities for FY2012 were the following:

Watershed Management

- Water Quality Improvement
- Ecologic and Hydrologic Restoration

Alternative water supply development

- Strengthen/maintain regional focus
- Expand reuse to include Lake Manatee and Evers Reservoir watersheds

Conservation

- Education
- Technology
- Incentives

Education

- Partnerships
- Outreach

Board members participated in discussion of potential for reuse in the Lake Manatee and Evers Reservoir watersheds.

After consideration, **Mr. Carraway moved to adopt the Basin budget priorities, as presented, with the second bullet under “Alternative water supply development” modified to read “Expand reuse throughout the Basin.” Mr. Bispham seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.** (Track 18)

8. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee (BBEC)**

Mr. Carraway, the Board’s primary representative on the BBEC, shared highlights of the July 14 meeting, which was held in the new Glazer Children’s Museum in Tampa.

- Committee members were encouraged to share new ideas for the “Get Outside” campaign, which promotes availability of District properties for use by the public.
- A workshop for BBEC members and other interested parties to be held on September 16 in the Tampa Service Office will provide a comprehensive overview of District education activities and programs. Any interested Basin Board member is invited to participate.
- The Environmental Education Center at Jay B. Starkey Wilderness Park is a partnership between Pasco County and the District. Programs at the Center focus on seventh-graders
- Results of pre- and post-campaign opinion polls showed the District’s “Skip a Week” campaign was more effective than last year’s campaign. Unaided recall of information increased from 4 percent to 22 percent; desirable behaviors promoted in the campaign increased, while undesirable behaviors decreased.
- Ms. Nanette O’Hara, Outreach Coordinator for the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, provided an overview of education efforts within the Program.
- Water PRO (Program for Restaurant Outreach) is an educational program that helps restaurants save water and money. Board members were provided Water PRO cards and requested to leave the cards with the manager or wait staff of restaurants they patronize to assist in promoting the program.
- Day-of-the-week for BBEC meetings has been changed to Thursday.

A report of the July 14 BBEC meeting was included as an exhibit in the meeting notebook. (Track 19)

b. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee (BBLRC)**

A report of the July 14 BBLRC and Land Use Stakeholders joint meeting was included as an exhibit in the meeting notebook.

c. **Governing Board Activities**

Co-Chair Beruff commented on several topics from the July 27 Governing Board meeting, including approval of proposed millage rates for FY2011, rulemaking efforts with regard to the January 2010 frost/freeze event, the District's Utility Outreach Program, and recognition from the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association for the District's support of the Landscape Challenge and Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ principles and best management practices.

These reports were presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (Track 20)

9. **Announcements**

The next Basin Board meeting is October 13, 2010, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Sarasota Service Office.

10. **Adjournment**

When there was no further business to come before the Board, Co-Chair Beruff adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.

Due to lack of appointments to fill vacant Board seats, the Manasota Basin Board was not constituted and, therefore, could not meet after the August 11, 2010, meeting. The Board was still not constituted when the Governing Board approved Resolution 11-10 in May 2011 merging the Basin Boards into the District effective June 1, 2011. Therefore, the August 2010 meeting minutes were not formally approved and are presented in draft format, for the record.