

APPROVED

Minutes of the Meeting

NORTHWEST HILLSBOROUGH BASIN BOARD Southwest Florida Water Management District

Tampa Service Office June 5, 2008

The Northwest Hillsborough Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:10 p.m., June 5, 2008, at the Tampa Service Office.

Board Members Present

Maritza Rovira-Forino, Chair Ex Officio
Joseph W. J. Robinson, Vice Chair
Susan Welsh, Secretary
Frank "Lester" Adams, Member

Absent Member

Mercy DiMaio, Member

Recording Secretary

M. Frances Sesler

Staff Members

David L. Moore
Bruce C. Wirth
Elaine Kuligofski
Mark Hammond
Eric DeHaven
Linda Pilcher
Ralph Lair
Beth Putnam
Maya Burke
Scott Harbison

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.

The numbers preceding the items listed below correspond with the published agenda.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Rovira-Forino called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. She stated, although a quorum was not present, the meeting would proceed since Mr. Robinson was expected momentarily. Any items needing a vote would be heard later in the meeting. Ms. Sesler, the Board's administrative support, called the roll and noted a quorum was not present.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Chair Rovira-Forino.

3. **Additions and Deletions to Agenda**

Ms. Sesler stated that Item 4, Oath of Office for Appointed/Re-Appointed Board Member(s), was deleted from the agenda; the Governor has not named any new appointees to the Board. She said a revised recap and resolution for Discussion Item 6.c. was given to each Board member.

4. **Oath of Office for Appointed/Re-Appointed Board Member(s)**

This item was deleted from the agenda. (CD 1/Track 1)

At this time, the order of consideration was altered pending Mr. Robinson's arrival.

6. **Discussion Items:**

a. **District Environmental Stewardship Initiative**

Ms. Elaine Kuligofski, Human Resources & Risk Management Director, provided an overview to the Basin Board of the District's Environmental Stewardship Initiative. On July 13, 2007, Governor Crist signed three Executive Orders (07-126, 127 and 128) initiating Florida's energy policy. Governor Crist called for all State Agencies to implement plans to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases through a wide variety of means, including use of alternative fuel sources such as solar and biodiesel fuels, as well as by implementing smart building and operational practices to reduce the carbon footprint of government in Florida. The Southwest Florida Water Management District supports and applauds Governor Crist's efforts to move toward more environmentally sustainable governance practices. Florida's water management districts already lead the way in water conservation. Incorporating an emphasis on energy efficiency in our day-to-day operations makes sense and fits well with our focus on sustainable growth and environmental responsibility. Chair Rovira-Forino noted that the District was responsible for making the Water Star program more stringent. She also commented on the Tampa Service Office daily two-hour blackout and inquired about its fiscal impact. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

Mr. Robinson entered the meeting at this time. (CD 1/Track 2)

5. **Consent Items:**

a. **April 3, 2008, Meeting Minutes**

Approve the April minutes as presented.

b. **Urban Lake Rescue - Lake Kipling (W268)**

1. Authorize the transfer of \$94,961 from the Northwest Hillsborough Basin Board's Stormwater Contingency Fund, to W268, Urban Lake Rescue Project;
2. Authorize the Executive Director to approve and execute an amendment to the agreement.

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

Approve the FY2009 Basin Board meeting schedule as listed:

Date	Time	Location
*Thursday, October 9, 2008 (Meeting and Workshop)	9:00 a.m.	Tampa Service Office
Tuesday, December 9, 2008	1:00 p.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, February 5, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, April 9, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, June 4, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Tampa Service Office
Thursday, August 6, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Tampa Service Office

*Special Meeting

Following consideration, **Ms. Welsh moved, seconded by Mr. Robinson, to approve Consent Items 5.a, b and c as presented. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 3)

6. **Discussion Items:**

b. **Cooperative Funding Initiative Project Status Report – Water Partners, Inc. Reclaimed Water Project (H076)**

Executive Director David Moore 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.

Mr. Adams wanted to know how this project would be affected by state budget shortfalls. Mr. Moore said the Senate Bill 444 was reduced from \$13 million to \$2 million per year; however, to offset that, Senator J. D. Alexander and Representative Bill Gavano spearheaded initiatives with Senator Ronda Storms and others to secure funding for the District's Water Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) Project. Mr. Robinson was pleased to hear about something being done with regard to large, industrial water users. He emphasized the importance of a regional approach and encouraged the City of Tampa to participate. He was disappointed that the Northwest Hillsborough Basin Board might not have an opportunity to contribute money to this project. Mr. Robinson also raised the issue of microconstituents in reclaimed water and the importance of sound science and public education.

Chair Rovira-Forino likened this project to the formation of Tampa Bay Water and the Partnership Agreement. She argued that a project of this magnitude should be fully analyzed and not fast-tracked. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 4)

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

Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director Division of Resource Management, provided the Board with an overview of the Fiscal Year 2009 (FY2009) budget. In April, the Northwest Hillsborough Basin Board received a preliminary budget for the upcoming year. Staff reviewed the budget for discussion and initial direction from the Basin Board concerning funding levels of the various budget categories, including prioritization of Cooperative Funding proposals and other Basin projects. Direction received from the Basin Board at the April meeting had been incorporated into the budget presented to the Board in June for consideration. Linda Pilcher, Assistant Finance Director, presented three possible millage rate options for FY2009 and using the June 1 estimates of taxable values from the county Property Appraisers provided an estimate as to how much ad valorem revenue may be generated under each option. Ms. Pilcher said that the staff recommendation was to maintain the FY2009 proposed millage rate at the same rate as FY2008. She noted the June 1 taxable values are estimates only and will change when the values are certified beginning July 1, 2008.

Mr. Wirth highlighted several changes to the proposed FY2009 Budget. The Board had questions about the dredge hole project (W333). Ms. Welsh verified that no basin dollars would be allocated toward the actual dredging. She also wanted to know how filling holes in Tampa Bay could cost \$1 million. Eric DeHaven, Resource Conservation and Data Director, said the City had estimated the total cost of the project to be as high as \$10 million. Of the \$1 million included in the proposed budget, \$700,000 would fund the transfer of material, \$200,000 for replanting and restoration and \$100,000 for feasibility, design, and permitting costs. Chuck Walters, Director of Stowmwater with the City of Tampa, said when the material is placed it covers holes in the bay that are about six acres in diameter. Mr. Robinson was surprised to hear that there are six-acre holes in Tampa Bay.

Mr. Robinson asked if there is anything the Board could do to help residents for hook-up with the City. Mr. Wirth reminded Board members that Sandra Anderson was present at a previous meeting and stated that the City is specifically looking at the issue. The expectation is that the City will report back to staff with a position on this issue, and whether money will be requested to do a special project for the hook-ups. Mr. Wirth said that a report is anticipated from the City of Tampa by the August or October meeting. Chair Rovira-Forino requested clarification regarding the budget for this project.

Chair Rovira-Forino also requested the staff rankings for two projects: Northwest Hillsborough Connection #7 and the Riverwalk Kiosks project. Concerning the Northwest Hillsborough Connection #7, she questioned how the projects can have such great benefits with such low priorities. Mark Hammond, Director of Resource Projects, said that Tampa Bay Water currently has a well that is not at the treatment facility; the water has to be chlorinated at the well so that it can be put into the main distribution line. He said the proposal is to run a separate line for the raw water to be brought into the treatment plant without a separate treatment at the well. Chair Rovira-Forino questioned the funding. Mr. Hammond said this was a groundwater issue; the Board does not fund groundwater wells. Chair Rovira-Forino asked what was being done concerning the solar panels for the kiosks. Mr. Walters said that it is the concept of the City to include solar panels on the kiosks.

Following discussion, **Mr. Robinson moved, seconded by Ms. Welsh, to fund Project N023 Tampa Riverwalk Kiosks in the FY2009 budget. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Wirth called the Board's attention to the revised recap which states, in the event either the rolled-back rate or the Maximum Millage Rate is less than the proposed millage rate, the Board delegate authority to the Executive Director to adjust the millage rate to equal the lower of the rolled-back rate or the Maximum Millage Rate.

Following consideration, **Mr. Robinson moved, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the staff's amended recommendation as follows:**

1. Provide tentative selection of FY2009 Cooperative Funding projects.
2. Approve and adopt a required proposed millage rate of 0.2421 mills for FY2009.
3. Approve amended Resolution No. 80 -- Resolution Approving the Required Proposed Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2009.

Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 6)

d. **Fiscal Year 2010 Strategic Plan**

Roy Mazur, Planning Director, provided the Board with an update regarding the Strategic Planning process. The purpose was to inform the Basin Board on the progress of the FY2010 Strategic Plan Update and to communicate the significant discussion items deliberated in the process. In addition, the presentation detailed, how the Strategic Plan can assist in the receipt, prioritization, and acceptance of cooperatively funded and Basin initiative projects. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 6)

7. **Report:**

a. **Governing Board Activities**

A video was aired highlighting major issues discussed at the Governing Board's May 27, 2008 meeting. (CD 1/Track 7)

8. **Announcements:**

Ms. Sesler noted that the announcements were listed on the agenda. The next Basin Board meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2008, 1:00 p.m., at the Tampa Service Office.

9. **Adjournment:**

There was no further business to come before the Board; Chair Rovira-Forino adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.