

Approved

Minutes of the Meeting

PINELLAS-ANCLOTE RIVER BASIN BOARD
Southwest Florida Water Management District

New Port Richey, Florida

April 4, 2007

The Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Board of Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:07 a.m. on April 4, 2007, in the West Pasco Government Center, New Port Richey, Florida.

Board Members Present

Sallie Parks, Co-Chair Ex Officio
Todd Pressman, Co-Chair Ex Officio
Terry England, Vice Chair
Rodney Fischer, Secretary
Kathryn Starkey, Member
Mitch Hammer, Member
Janet Hoppe, Member

Staff Present

Lou Kavouras
Mark Hammond
Cathy Linsbeck
Mark Barcelo
George Fries
Eric Sutton
Scott Harbison

Bruce Wirth
Kathy Scott
Beth Putnam
Melissa Musicaro
Rand Baldwin
Lori Belangia

Board Member Absent

Tina Harris

Recording Secretary

Phyllis Young

A list of others who were present 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 out in full herein, are also filed in the permanent files of the Basin.

1. **Call to Order**

Co-Chair Ex Officio Sallie Parks called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. (CD 1/Track 1)

2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call**

Co-Chair Parks led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. (CD 1/Track 1)

Ms. Young called the roll and noted a quorum was present. (CD 1/Track 1)

3. **Oath of Office for Appointed/Re-Appointed Board Members**

This item was deleted from the agenda.

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

Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning, and Board Services, stated no gubernatorial appointments or confirmations concerning this Board had been forthcoming; therefore, Agenda Item 3 was deleted from the agenda. (CD 1/Track 1)

5. **Consent Item:**

After consideration, **Ms. Starkey moved, seconded by Mr. Hammer, to approve the Consent Item, as follows:**

- a. **February 7, 2007, Meeting Minutes** - Approve the February 2007 minutes, as presented. (CD 1/Track 1)

6. **Discussion Items:**

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

Election results were the following:

Vice Chair: Rod Fischer

Secretary: Terry England

Basin Board Land Resources Committee:

Primary Representative: Kathryn Starkey

Alternate: Mitch Hammer

Basin Board Education Committee:

Primary Representative: Tina Harris

Alternate: Janet Hoppe

(CD 1/ Track 1)

b. **St. Petersburg Toilet Replacement Program**

Staff Water Conservation Analyst Melissa Musicaro provided a status report of the St. Petersburg Toilet Replacement Program, which was in its tenth phase. Her report included background of this successful program, which has brought about replacement of approximately 24,866 high flow toilets in 21,039 locations and has been an educational tool for thousands in the St. Petersburg area. Ms. Musicaro introduced Ms. Chris Claus of St. Petersburg's Water Resources Department who thanked the Basin Board for its continuing support. She gave a brief report of St. Petersburg's recent customer satisfaction survey and its toilet flapper campaign. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 1)

c. **Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Preparation**

Deputy Executive Director Bruce Wirth reviewed a preliminary budget for fiscal year (FY) 2008 and asked Board members for direction concerning funding levels of the various budget categories, including prioritization of Cooperative Funding proposals and other Basin projects. In June, the Basin Board would be asked to vote on a proposed millage rate for FY2008, which would be used for the Truth in Millage noticing to taxpayers. First-time proposals, after staff review, were tentatively ranked as 1A, High, Medium, or Low priority. Mr. Wirth explained that the ranking was preliminary and based on an assumed eight percent increase in assessments. Mr. Wirth briefly reviewed the new Cooperative Funding projects, reminded members that the budget process is in the beginning stages, and related that Board members could direct questions to the Project Manager, Ms. Kavouras, Basin Planner Lori Belangia, or him.

Discussion ensued on Senate Bill 444 monies, the Sawgrass Lake project, the Bexley Ranch project, and a potential reservoir project in Pasco County. (CD 1/ Track 2)

Ms. Starkey suggested a map of the Basin be included in every meeting notebook.

During this presentation, Ms. Hoppe arrived.

Tarpon Springs Public Services Administrator Paul Smith, hydrogeologist David Wiley, and attorney Jake Varn addressed the Board asking support for the Tarpon Springs brackish water project, especially asking the Governing Board and Basin Board to revisit funding brackish water projects.

Mr. Fischer voiced his concern that the District is "missing the boat" with regard to brackish water projects and reiterated a suggestion he had brought before the Basin Board in the past: Is there no opportunity for funds that are going to income-producing entities to be recycled into funding for additional projects? He also suggested staff look into why that could not be done. (CD 1/Tracks 3 & 4)

During this discussion, Mr. England excused himself and left the meeting.

Mr. Fischer moved, seconded by Ms. Starkey, that the Governing Board debate the brackish water funding issue and discuss the policy and entire concept of brackish water. After a period of discussion, the motion carried unanimously.
(CD 1/Track 4)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee**

Communications Manager Beth Putnam shared highlights of the March 6, 2007, Committee meeting, including introduction of the District's new Regional Building/Developer Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) specialist and two FYN coordinators who work to educate homeowners associations on Florida-friendly landscaping. She also reported on the success of the Water Conservation Hotel and Motel Program (Water C.H.A.M.P.) program and announced a joint meeting of the Basin Board Education and Basin Board Land Resources committees on July 12. (CD 1/Track 5)

b. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee**

A short report on the March 22, 2007, Basin Board Land Resources Committee meeting was given by Board Member Kathryn Starkey. Topics included the District's land acquisition and prescribed burn procedures, gopher tortoise relocation, and the Public Land Acquisition and Management Partnership Conference to be held in September. (CD 1/Track 6)

c. **Report on Governing Board Activities**

Staff played pre-recorded highlights of the March 27, 2007, Governing Board meeting. Ms. Kavouras narrated the brief recap of the meeting, which included the Peace River Cumulative Impact Study, the Peace River Basin Resource Management Plan, lower Hillsborough River minimum flows and levels, declaration of April as "Water Conservation Month," and the Governor's "Plain Language" initiative. (CD 1/Track 7)

8. **Announcements:**

Co-Chair Parks announced the Grand Opening celebration of the Nature Center at Honeymoon Island State Park on May 10.

Other announcements were listed in the agenda. CD/Track 8)

9. **Adjournment:** The day's business being complete, Co-Chair Parks adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m. (CD 1/Track 8)

******Information Items******

The items listed below were 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. These items did not require Board action.

1. Budget Transfer Report
2. Implementation of Best Management Practices in the Jungle Lake to Boca Ciega Bay Watershed (L750) - Execution Notice
3. Implementation of Best Management Practices in the 22nd Street South & Vicinity Watershed (L751) - Execution Notice

4. Implementation of Best Management Practices in the 30th Avenue North & Vicinity Watershed (L748) - Execution Notice
5. City of Dunedin Reclaimed Water Transmission and Distribution Project (L697) - Execution Notice
6. Pasco County Horizontal Control Network (L726) - Execution Notice
7. Tampa Bay National Estuary Program Non-Federal Funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2006 Annual Work Plan
8. U.S. Geological Survey Minimum Flows and Levels Data Collection (B182) – Execution Notice

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