

# Approved

## Minutes of the Meeting

PINELLAS-ANCLOTE RIVER BASIN BOARD  
Southwest Florida Water Management District

Dunedin, Florida

December 3, 2007

The Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Board of Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:37 p.m. on December 3, 2007, in the Dunedin Community Center, Dunedin, Florida.

### **Board Members Present**

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

### **Staff Present**

Bruce Wirth  
Beth Putnam  
Melissa Musicaro  
Jason Mickel  
Scott Harbison

Lou Kavouras  
Kathy Scott  
Sylvia Durrell  
Ralph Lair

### **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 and Roll Call**

Co-Chair Ex Officio Sallie Parks called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m. Ms. Young called the roll and noted that all members were present. (CD 1/Track 1)

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

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

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

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

#### 4. **Consent Item:**

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

- a. **October 3, 2007, Meeting and Workshop Minutes** – Approve the October minutes, as presented.

**Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 1)

At this time, Co-Chair Parks welcomed Dunedin Vice Mayor Deborah Kynes and Dunedin City Commissioners Julie Bujalski and Dave Eggers. Vice Mayor Kynes welcomed the Board to Dunedin and thanked the Board for its support, particularly mentioning the Curlew Creek Channel "A" project. (CD 1/Track 1)

5. **Discussion Items:**

a. **Evaluation of Soil Moisture Based On-Demand Irrigation Controllers, Phase II Project - Budget Transfer and First Amendment (B187)**

Melissa Musicaro, Staff Water Conservation Analyst in the Resource Conservation and Development Department, shared background of this Basin Initiative project, which was funded by the Basin Board in its fiscal year (FY) 2005 budget. The purpose of the project is to test a soil moisture sensor device on up to 64 residential homes in the Pinellas County Utilities service area that use potable water for irrigation. Ms. Musicaro explained the various elements of the irrigation systems tested, the current schedule, and project results. Much of the work for the project involves landscape monitoring and water use measurement by University of Florida staff and Pinellas County. Due to drought conditions since data collection began, more data is needed to better represent device operations in all ranges of weather conditions. Therefore, staff recommended a revised timeline and request for additional funding.

After consideration, **Ms. Starkey moved, seconded by Mr. Fischer, to approve the staff recommendation, as follows:**

1. **Recommend the transfer of \$50,000 from the Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Water Supply and Resource Development reserve (H100) to complete the Evaluation of Soil Moisture Based On-Demand Irrigation Controllers, Phase II project.**
2. **Recommend the Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Board approve the first amendment with the University of Florida for an additional \$50,000, with the Basin's share not to exceed \$50,000; and authorize the Executive Director to sign the first amendment.**

**Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 2)**

b. **Pinellas County Ultra Low Flow Toilet Rebate Program (L876)**

Ms. Musicaro also presented this agenda item to request out-of-cycle funding for an additional phase of the Pinellas County Ultra Low Flow Toilet Rebate Program, which the Basin Board has been cooperatively funding since FY2002. Ms. Musicaro reviewed the elements of the program, reported program water savings, and shared results of a customer satisfaction survey. She reported that this out-of-cycle request is due to unforeseen interest in the program and then explained funding for the addition of Phase 6.

At this time, Co-Chair Parks recognized Pinellas County Utilities Director Pick Talley, who addressed the Board to share good news about this program. He used graphs to show a 40 percent reduction in per capita water usage and reduction in total water production from 75 million gallons per day (mgd) to 65 mgd since 1989, thanks largely to partnerships with the Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Board. He stated he would soon retire and ended by thanking the Board for its continuing support. Deputy Executive Director Bruce Wirth spoke of Mr. Talley's dedication and his concern for water conservation and thanked him for his service and leadership; Co-Chair Parks reiterated Mr. Wirth's sentiments.

After consideration, **Mr. Fischer moved, seconded by Ms. Starkey, to approve the staff recommendation, as follows:**

1. **Recommend the Pinellas-Anclote River Board allow staff to develop an Agreement with Pinellas County to implement Phase 6 of the Pinellas County**

- Ultra Low Flow Toilet Program for \$1,096,000, with the Basin's share not to exceed \$548,000; and authorize the Executive Director to sign the Agreement.**
2. **Recommend the liquidation and transfer of \$226,986 from Phase 4 to complete Phase 6.**
  3. **Recommend the transfer of \$321,014 from the Water Supply and Resource Development reserves to complete the Pinellas County Ultra Low Flow Toilet Program, Phase 6.**

**Motion carried unanimously.** (CD 1/Track 3)

c. **Changes to the Governing Board's Cooperative Funding Initiative Policy 130-4**

Mr. Wirth provided an overview and status of changes to the Cooperative Funding Initiative Policy 130-4. In April 2007, this Basin Board requested the Governing Board revisit its "long-standing" position on funding brackish groundwater desalination projects. During discussion of this issue at the May 2007 Governing Board session, it was noted that the District did not have a formal written policy regarding the Board's position. Mr. Wirth highlighted actions taken and input gathered during the past several months that resulted in the Governing Board directing staff to incorporate five recommendations into the proposed policy changes. An exhibit to this item, which showed the recommended final changes in a strikethrough/underline format, was provided in the information notebook for this meeting.

This topic will be part of the December 18, 2007, Governing Board agenda; staff recommendation is adoption of the changes to the Governing Board's Cooperative Funding Initiative Policy 130-4.

Other brief discussions during this presentation included the prioritization of projects, multi-jurisdictional aspect of projects, consideration of smaller entities, the prospect that some governments may consider going forward with projects "on their own," and the relationship between Tampa Bay Water and local governments.

Tarpon Springs City Manager Ellen Posivach and Assistant Public Services Director Paul Smith briefly addressed the Board to express thanks for the District's direction and help regarding cooperative projects.

This topic was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/ Tracks 4, 5, & 6)

d. **Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Community Association Program in Pasco and Pinellas Counties**

The Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) program is promoted by the District to help conserve and protect water. The Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Board also funds an FYN Community Association program in Pinellas and Pasco counties to educate community/homeowner association members, landscape groups, condominium managers, and other professionals about Florida-friendly techniques. To illustrate how effective the program is, Sylvia Durell, Senior Communications Coordinator in the Communications Department, shared news of the Venetian Bay Homeowners Association's success after implementation of the program. Ms. Durell gave a brief history of the condominium community's project, which resulted in a 56-70 percent reduction in water use and a 30 percent reduction in cost per month from July 2006 to July 2007. Approximately 2.4 million gallons of water were saved. Doris Heitzmann, Pinellas-Pasco FYN Community Association Outreach Program Coordinator, and Chris Claus, Water Conservation Coordinator for the St. Petersburg Water Resources Department, worked together on this effort.

Ms. Durell also commented on similar success at The Tides Beach Club in North Redington Beach where a 45 percent decrease in water use was achieved.

The FYN Community Association Outreach Program is also available in Hillsborough and Polk counties and is funded by the Alafia River, Hillsborough River, Northwest Hillsborough, and Peace River Basin Boards.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 7)

- e. **Board Member Discussion** – No other topics of discussion were forthcoming. (CD 1/Track 8)

6. **Reports:**

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

Beth Putnam, Communications Manager, directed Board members to a report on the November 13 Basin Board Education Committee meeting (Exhibit 3 in the meeting notebook). She briefly commented on (1) upcoming media advertisements that would focus on drought, (2) more traditional advertisements for the Spring advertising campaign, and (3) presentation of approved Community Education Grants to the Board at the February 6, 2007, Basin Board meeting.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 9)

- b. **Report on Governing Board Activities**

At Co-Chair Parks' request, staff played pre-recorded highlights of the November 26 Governing Board meeting. Robyn Hanke, Communications Manager, narrated the brief recap, which included the Sarasota/Manatee area water emergency, conservation lands in the Carlton Preserve, the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification project, Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Expansion projects, Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS) projects, the Land Acquisition Volunteer of the Year, and presentation of an Audubon Society award to Land Resources Director Fritz Musselmann. (CD 1/Track 10)

7. **Announcements**

Announcements were listed in the agenda.

8. **Adjournment**

Co-Chair Parks thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m. (CD 1/Track 11)

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**\*\*\*\*Information Items\*\*\*\***

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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.

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1. Pasco County Ultra-Low Volume Toilet Rebate Program (L843) – Change in Scope
2. Implementation of Best Management Practices within Basins MR-1, 2 & 3 (L926) - Execution Notice

3. Implementation of Best Management Practices in the Bishop Creek Watershed at Rainbow Farms – Second Amendment (L405) - Execution Notice
4. Implementation of Best Management Practices in the Redington Shores Watershed, Phases II, III and IV - Second Amendment (L400) - Execution Notice
5. Curlew Creek Channel "A" Off-Line Detention – First Amendment (L252) - Execution Notice
6. Curlew Creek Improvements – Republic to Belcher – First Amendment (L380) - Execution Notice
7. Hammock Park - Natural Systems Restoration, Phase 2 (L401) - Execution Notice
8. Oldsmar Reclaimed Water Aquifer Storage and Recovery Phase IIA Project (L739) - Execution Notice
9. South Pasco Wellfield Storage Modification (L733) - Execution Notice
10. State Road 54 Stormwater Diversion (L735) - Execution Notice