

Approved

Minutes of the Meeting

PEACE RIVER BASIN BOARD

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Lakeland, Florida

February 6, 2009

The Peace River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting on Friday, February 6, 2009, at 9:55 a.m., at Polk's Nature Discovery Center in Lakeland, Florida.

Board Members Present

H. Paul Senft, Jr., Co-Chair Ex Officio
J. "Ken" Harrison, Vice Chair
Rufus C. Lazzell, Secretary
Patricia Crisman, Member
James L. Hageman, Member
Paul G. Samuels, Member
Fred W. Trippensee, III, Member

Staff Present

Lou Kavouras	Bruce Wirth
Eric DeHaven	Mark Hammond
Roy Mazur	Brian Starford
Eric Sutton	Terri Behling
Randy Emberg	Danny Kushmer
JoAnne McClellan	Will Miller
Beth Putnam	Alison Ramoy
Chan Springstead	

Board Members Absent

C. A. "Neil" Combee, Jr. , Co-Chair Ex Officio
Bryan K. Beswick, Co-Chair Ex Officio

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 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 Senft called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m. Ms. Phyllis Young, Senior Administrative Assistant, Boards and Executive Services, called the roll and noted a quorum was present. (CD 1/Track 1)

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Mr. Harrison provided an invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, led by Co-Chair Senft. (CD 1/Track 1)

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Ms. Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning and Board Services, stated that Agenda Item 4, the Oath of Office, was deleted from the agenda since no gubernatorial appointments or re-appointments had been forthcoming for this Board. (CD 1/Track 1)

4. Oath of Office for Newly Appointed/Re-Appointed Board Members

This item was deleted from the agenda, as stated above.

At this time, Co-Chair Senft recognized Polk County Commissioner Bob English and Governing Board Member Hugh Gramling, who were in attendance.

5. Consent Items:

After consideration, **Mr. Hageman moved, seconded by Mr. Harrison, to approve the Consent Items below.**

- a. **Minutes of the October 3, 2008, Meeting and Workshop – Approve the October minutes, as presented.**
- b. **Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems (FARMS)**
 - i. **Bethel Farms, LTD (H568), DeSoto County**
 1. Approve the Bethel Farms, LTD, FARMS Project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$20,314 with \$5,079 provided by the Peace River Basin, \$5,079 provided by the Governing Board, and \$10,156 provided from State Appropriations;
 2. Authorize the transfer of \$5,079 from Fund 020 H017 Peace River Basin FARMS funds; \$5,079 from Fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS funds; \$6,399 from 2005 State Appropriations and \$3,757 from 2006 State Appropriations allocated to Fund 020 H017 Peace River Basin, to H568 Bethel Farms, LTD, FARMS project fund;
 3. Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.
 - ii. **Down South Blues Corporation (H570), DeSoto County**
 1. Approve the Down South Blues FARMS Project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$210,000 with \$52,500 provided by the Peace River Basin Board, \$52,500 provided by the Governing Board, and \$105,000 provided from State Appropriations;
 2. Authorize the transfer of \$52,500 from Fund 020 H017 Peace River Basin Board FARMS funds; \$52,500 from Fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS funds; and \$105,000 from the 2009 State Appropriations allocated to Fund 010 H017 FARMS funds, to the H570 Down South Blues FARMS project fund;
 3. Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.

Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 1)

6. **Discussion Items:**

a. **Legislative Update**

Mr. Danny Kushmer, Community Affairs Program Manager, Community and Legislative Affairs Department, presented a summary of the Special Session of the Florida Legislature, which began January 5 to address the State's \$2.3 billion budget deficit. He commented on challenges the State faces, the need for new approaches to address the budget, and partnerships that are a vital link in the process. Mr. Kushmer also reported that the Governor had vetoed some reductions for the current year, including the Florida Forever program and the Water Management Lands Trust Fund.

The update also included comments on the following:

- Impacts to the water management districts, including cuts to the Florida Forever program, the Water Management Lands Trust Fund, and the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund;
- State issues to be considered: the Sunset Review, the permitting process, the Water Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) program, Springs Protection, Florida Friendly Landscaping; and
- Concerns on the Federal level: economic stimulus, private and tax credit bonds, and WRAP.

During this presentation, Board members asked questions and participated in discussion of topics including Peace Creek, the Water Management Lands Trust Fund, and this District not incurring debt.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 2)

b. **Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 Cooperative Funding Initiative (CFI) Requests**

Mr. Chancey Springstead, Basin Planner, Planning Department, provided an overview of the Cooperative Funding Initiative (CFI) and applications received for the FY2010 budget year. He directed the Board's attention to the original applications, which were received in December and provided behind the *FY2010 CFI Applications* tab in the meeting notebook. He then provided a brief overview of this Basin's project submittals by area of responsibility and reviewed the Basin's strategic budget priorities for FY2010 that were set at the October 2008 planning workshop. Review of the original Cooperative Funding applications is the first step in the process of deciding which projects the Board will fund. Staff will return to the April meeting with initial project rankings and funding recommendations for the Board's consideration. The preliminary budget will be presented and the millage cap set at the June Basin Board meeting, for final approval in July or August, depending on the Governor's timeframe for submitting the Governing and Basin Boards' budgets to Tallahassee.

Board members were encouraged to review the FY2010 project applications and be prepared to provide input at the April 3 Basin Board meeting.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 3)

c. **Regional Reclaimed Water Partnership Initiative**

Ms. Alison Ramoy, Senior Water Conservation Analyst, Resource Projects Department, provided an update on activities associated with this project, which is a traditional reclaimed water supply project that would provide Tampa Electric Company (TECO) reclaimed water for its power generation expansion. The presentation included background, elements, benefits, and costs of Phase I of the project, which will maximize the use of available reclaimed water and eliminate an estimated 5-6 million gallons per day of future potable groundwater withdrawal for the planned expansion.

Ms. Ramoy provided copies to the Board and explained revisions to the TECO agreement, which replaced Exhibit 4 in the meeting notebook. The Phase I agreement was approved at the November 18, 2008, Governing Board meeting. (CD 1/Track 4)

Mr. David Lukcic, TECO's project manager for this project, answered several questions about deep-well injection and spoke briefly about uncertainties of the process that can increase costs. (CD 1/Track 4:08:56)

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

7. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Education Committee**

Ms. Crisman reported that she attended her first Basin Board Education Committee (BBEC) meeting on November 4, 2008, and was very impressed. She brought the Board's attention to a report of that meeting, which was provided as an exhibit in the meeting notebook. Ms. Beth Putnam, Communications Manager, Communications Department, then provided highlights of the meeting, including the Florida Water StarSM Gold Certification program, a 52 percent increase in demand for school grants, approved 2009 Community Education Grants, and success of the Water Conservation Hotel and Motel Program (Water C.H.A.M.P.)

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 5)

b. **Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program (CHNEP) Policy Committee**

Mr. Lazzell reported on the November 4, 2008, CHNEP Policy Committee meeting, which was held in Venice. He commented on organization of the CHNEP and reported that the process of choosing Citizen Advisory Group members is being revised.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/Track 6)

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

Mr. Harrison, the Board's primary representative on the Committee, directed Board members' attention to a summary of the BBLRC meeting held December 3, 2008, in conjunction with the Public Land Acquisition and Management Partnership Conference, which was held in Jacksonville. Mr. Eric Sutton, Land Resources Department Director, then shared highlights of the meeting that focused on Department challenges and strategies for 2009.

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

d. **Governing Board Activities**

Staff played recorded highlights of the January 26 Governing Board meeting, which was held at the Brooker Creek Preserve and preceded a workshop with Tampa Bay Water's Board of Directors. Ms. Robyn Felix, Communications Manager, Communications Department, narrated the brief report.

Co-Chair Senft stated that people need to be continually reminded that the District is still in drought conditions and should continue to conserve water. (CD 1/Track 8)

Mr. Lazzell brought the City of Punta Gorda's request for a water restriction exemption to the Board's attention. Mr. Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, Resource Management, commented briefly on the District's Water Shortage Rule and stated that staff would be participating in an investigation of Punta Gorda's request. Those findings will be reported to the Board at the April 3 meeting. (CD 1/Track 8:08:45 – Track 9)

Mr. Pat Lehman, Executive Director, Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority, addressed a concern voiced by Mr. Lazzell about a newspaper article regarding Punta Gorda's request for an off-stream reservoir. Mr. Lehman assured him that City, Authority, and District staff are working together to ensure Board-level policy makers and others, at all levels, are kept informed. (CD 1/Track 10)

Mr. Lehman also gave a brief report of progress on the Authority's expansion projects. (CD 1/Track 10:08:43)

8. **Announcements**

- Ms. Kavouras reviewed announcements listed on the agenda.
- With regard to the Governor's "green" initiative, Ms. Kavouras offered the Board an option to receive the "Projects" portion of their meeting notebooks on compact disk. (CD 1/Track 10:08:47)

9. **Adjournment**

Co-Chair Senft thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m. (CD 1/Track 10:08:50)

******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. The items did not require Board action.

1. Consulting Services for the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification (H008) - Execution Notice
2. Budget Transfer Report
3. 2009 Community Education Grants in the Pinellas-Anclote River Basin
4. Facilitating Agricultural Resource Management Systems – FLM, Inc. – Prairie River Ranch – Phase II (H569), DeSoto County
5. Polk County Southwest Regional Utility Service Area Carter Road 1-Billion-Gallon Reclaimed Water Storage and Pumping Station (H073) - Withdrawal
6. Greater Port Charlotte Flood Protection and Stormwater Management Plan - Seventh Amendment (K280) - Execution Notice
7. Lake Gibson Southwest Sub-Basin Stormwater Management System Retrofit (L770) - Execution Notice
8. Lake Hollingsworth Westside Stormwater Treatment (L479) - Execution Notice
9. Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Regional Integrated Loop System Phase 1A Interconnect Project (H069) - Execution Notice
10. Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Regional Integrated Loop System Phase 3A Interconnect Project (H052) - Execution Notice
11. Watershed Management Program Consultant Services in the Deep Creek Gully Watershed – Second Amendment (M103) - Execution Notice
12. Watershed Management Program Consulting Services in the Sebring Watershed – First Amendment (L151) - Execution Notice