

Approved

Minutes of the Meeting

PEACE RIVER BASIN BOARD

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Bartow, Florida

August 8, 2008

The Peace River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting on Friday, August 8, 2008, at 9:37 a.m., in the Bartow Service Office.

Board Members Present

H. Paul Senft, Jr., Co-Chair Ex Officio
Bryan K. Beswick, 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

David Moore	Bruce Wirth
Lou Kavouras	Eric DeHaven
Chan Springstead	Terri Behling
Danny Kushmer	Randy Emberg

Via Video Conference

Linda Pilcher
Beth Putnam

Board Member Absent

C. A. "Neil" Combee, Jr. , 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 9:37 a.m. Ms. Young called the roll and noted a quorum was present. (CD 1/Track 1)

2. **Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence**

Co-Chair Senft led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, followed by a moment of silence. (CD 1/Track 1)

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

Deputy Executive Director Lou Kavouras, Planning, Outreach and Board Services, stated Agenda Item 4, the Oath of Office, was deleted from the agenda since no gubernatorial appointments or re-appointments concerning this Board had been forthcoming. Agenda Item 5c, Charlotte County Golf Course Reuse Storage Project (L487), has been cancelled; therefore, that item was also deleted from the agenda. (CD 1/ Track 1)

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

This item was deleted from the agenda.

5. **Consent Items:**

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

- a. **Minutes of the June 6, 2008, Meeting** – Approve the June 2008 meeting minutes, as presented.

- b. **Facilitating Agriculture Resource Management Systems (FARMS) – Island Grove Agricultural Products Integrated Automated Irrigation (H560) - DeSoto County**
1. **Approve the Island Grove Agricultural Products Integrated Automated Irrigation FARMS Project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$48,000, with \$12,000 provided by the Peace River Basin Board, \$12,000 provided by the Governing Board, and \$24,000 provided from State Appropriations;**
 2. **Authorize the transfer of \$12,000 from fund 020 H017 Peace River Basin Board FARMS funds, \$12,000 from fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS funds, and \$24,000 from fund 020 H017 2007 State Appropriation FARMS funds to H560 Island Grove Agricultural Products Integrated Automated Irrigation FARMS project fund;**
 3. **Authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement.**
- c. **Charlotte County Golf Course Reuse Storage - Design and Construction – Second Amendment (L485)** – This item was deleted from the agenda. (CD 1/Track 2)
- d. **Board Encumbrances:**
- i. **Lake Fannie (P-7) Berm Repairs ((B630)** - Approve the encumbrance of \$135,000 from FY2008 funds, without a contract, to be used for Lake Fannie (P-7) Berm Repair Project during FY2009.
 - ii. **FARMS Program (H017)** - Approve the encumbrance of up to \$62,363, or the remaining funds available, from the FY2008 budget for future year FARMS projects.
 - iii. **Lake Hancock Outfall Treatment Project (H014)** - Approve the encumbrance of \$625,000, without a contract, for the Lake Hancock Outfall Treatment project to be rolled into FY2009.
 - iv. **Peace Creek Canal Watershed Management Project (H034)** - Approve the encumbrance of \$368,116.99, without a contract, for the Peace Creek Watershed Management Plan Project to be used in FY2009 for canal restoration and maintenance, engineering design, and permitting.
 - v. **Surface Water Improvement and Management Projects (W511 and W553)** –
 1. Approve the encumbrance of \$243,706, without a contract, for the Alligator Creek Wetlands Restoration Project to be used in FY2009 design and permitting activities.
 2. Approve the encumbrance of \$200,000, without a contract, for the Coral Creek Habitat Restoration Project to be used in FY2009 construction activities.
 - vi. **DeSoto County Watershed Management Program (L633)** - Approve the encumbrance of \$160,000, without a contract, for the DeSoto County WMP to be used in FY2009.
 - vii. **Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification Project (H008)** - Approve the encumbrance of \$2,329,624, without a contract, of which \$651,406 is from the Peace River Basin Board, to be used in FY2009 for implementation of the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification Project.
 - viii. **Jack Creek Restoration (SA01)** - Approve the encumbrance of \$330,000, without a contract, for the Jack Creek Restoration project to be used in FY2009.
 - ix. **Ridge Lakes Stormwater Improvement – Implementation of Best Management Practices** - Approve the encumbrance of \$50,000, without a contract, for the Ridge Lakes Stormwater Improvement – Implementation of Best Management Practices project to be used in FY2009.
- e. **Proclamation of the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program's National Estuaries Day** - Recommend the Peace River Basin Board approve the Proclamation for the designation of September 27, 2008, as National Estuaries Day. (CD 1/Track 2)

6. **Discussion Items:**

a. **Regional Reclaimed Water Partnership Project (H076)**

Mr. David L. Moore, Executive Director, said the purpose of this presentation was to provide the Basin Board an update on activities associated with the Regional Reclaimed Water Partnership Project that have occurred since the Basin Board's June 6, 2008, meeting.

This project investigation began one year ago. Mr. Moore said after careful consideration he believes a clear project pathway has been developed. There are three main components to this project. The first is a traditional reclaimed water supply project consisting of transmission pipelines and storage to provide reclaimed water to industrial users from one or more domestic wastewater treatment facilities. The second element of the project is more innovative in concept and seeks to create opportunities for additional potable groundwater withdrawals in the project area through recharge of the Upper Floridan aquifer with reclaimed water in southern Hillsborough County and/or western Polk County. The third component is a commitment by all parties to continue to explore opportunities to maximize the beneficial use of reclaimed water in the region.

The benefits of the project include: maximum beneficial use of reclaimed water, furthers the District's legislative mandate to endeavor to ensure that there is available water supply to all reasonable and beneficial users, consistent with the Southern Water Use Caution Area Recovery Strategy, and eliminates nitrogen loading to Tampa Bay.

The project team now consists of representatives from the District, Hillsborough County, the City of Tampa, Tampa Electric Company (TECO), Mosaic, Lakeland, Plant City, Polk County, Tampa Bay Water (TBW), and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Other parties considering joining in are the cities of Mulberry and Temple Terrace. Mr. Moore said he was very pleased that this project is bringing together all regional parties for discussions.

The primary customer is TECO, and two options have been identified as the potential reclaimed water supply routes. The first option is to use reclaimed water from the City of Tampa's Howard F. Curren Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the second option is to use a combination of reclaimed water from Hillsborough County's Valrico Wastewater Treatment Plant and the City of Lakeland, Polk County, and possibly Plant City. These options require further cost analyses, which staff recommends the District cooperatively fund with TECO by contributing up to \$50,000. Upon completion, within an estimated timeframe of 90 days, the project team will have a clear path to move forward with the design and engineering for the identified route(s). The second element of the project is more innovative in concept and seeks to create opportunities for additional potable groundwater withdrawals in the project area through recharge of the Upper Floridan aquifer with reclaimed water in southern Hillsborough County and/or western Polk County. The first step in this element is to conduct a feasibility study to assess the potential to use reclaimed water for aquifer recharge in the project area. Staff recommended the District take a leadership role and fully fund the feasibility study, which is estimated to cost approximately \$500,000 and could be completed by March 31, 2009. A steering committee, made up of local government utilities and other stakeholders, will be utilized to provide input on the feasibility study. The Governing Board approved the expenditure of \$550,000 to cooperatively fund both these feasibility studies at its July 29, 2008, regular meeting.

District staff continues to facilitate project team meetings including the most recent one on July 15, with attendees representing Hillsborough County, Tampa Electric Company,

Mosaic, City of Tampa, City of Lakeland, Polk County, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tampa Bay Water, Plant City, and the District. The Governance and Regulation/Recharge subcommittees also met regularly.

Board members asked questions and participated in discussion of topics including possible credits to municipalities due to excess water going to Progress Energy, drinking water standards, coastal recharge, indirect potable reuse, and arsenic levels.

Mr. Moore updated the Board about recent events regarding the C. W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir. He said Tampa Bay Water (TBW) wants to fill the reservoir only half way this year to allow for further investigation of cracks in the soil cement. Then next spring, the plan would be to lower the reservoir to allow for additional investigation. Concerns have been raised about TBW's ability to hold its pumping to the 90 million gallons daily (mgd) target.

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

b. **FY2009 Budget Discussion and Approval of Final Millage Rate and Budget**

Deputy Executive Director Bruce Wirth, Division of Resource Management, reported that the Basin's proposed budget for FY2009 had been updated to reflect ad valorem revenue based on the proposed millage rate adopted by the Basin Board during the June meeting (0.1827) and the 2008 Certifications of Taxable Value received from county Property Appraisers, resulting in an additional decrease to ad valorem dollars of \$463,000. An increase in the balance from prior years, primarily from cancelled projects, added \$499,000 to the budget, not including funds from the recently cancelled Charlotte County Golf Course Reuse Storage project, which was mentioned earlier.

Mr. Wirth briefly highlighted significant changes to the budget since the June meeting. During this presentation, Basin Board members participated in discussion of topics including changes in Polk County projects, disposition of funds from cancelled projects, and toilet rebates/retrofits. Co-Chair Beswick complimented staff for their hard work to present a balanced budget to the Board. In turn, Vice Chair Harrison stressed the importance of the Board reviewing how it spends taxpayer dollars to ensure those funds are spent where they will do the most good. Co-Chair Senft expressed his appreciation for staff's continued dialogue with cooperators during the Cooperative Funding process.

Mr. Charles Sadler, Town of Dundee (Town), addressed the Board to thank staff for working with the Town since the June Basin Board meeting to arrive at a "win-win" phased approach, which would allow the Town to proceed with construction of its treatment plant. He closed by thanking the Board for its support in supplying reclaimed water to Dundee and the "Ridge."

Ms. Kavouras read the three-part staff recommendation.

After consideration, **Mr. Lazzell moved, seconded by Ms. Crisman, to approve the three part recommendation, as follows:**

1. **Approve and adopt the required final millage rate of 0.1827 mill for FY2009.**
2. **Approve and adopt the final FY2009 budget.**
3. **Approve Resolution No. 101 -- Resolution Affirming the Required Final Millage Rate and Budget for Fiscal Year 2009.**

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wirth reported that the financial engine would be revisited during the Basin Board's October planning workshop and asked Board members to give thought to the idea of the Governing Board funding a higher percentage of cooperative funding projects. (CD 1/Track 4)

7. **Reports:**

a. **Basin Board Land Resources Committee**

Vice Chair Harrison provided highlights of the July 10, 2008, Basin Board Land Resources Committee meeting held at Nature's Classroom, Thonotosassa. Topics included land acquisition, extension of the Florida Forever program, conservation easements, and the District's master recreation strategy. (CD 1/Track 5)

b. **Basin Board Education Committee**

A report on the July 10, 2008, Basin Board Education Committee meeting was included as an exhibit in the meeting notebook, as was a copy of "Criteria for Staff Evaluation of Landscape Demonstration Projects." These topics were included in the brief report provided by Communications Manager Beth Putnam, who appeared via video-conference from the Brooksville office. She shared other highlights of the meeting including an update on the Water Conservation Hotel and Motel Program (Water CHAMP), the new restaurant outreach program (Water PRO), the Florida Water Starsm Gold Certification program, and Splash Mini-Grant Sharing Days. (CD 1/Track 5)

c. **Governing Board Activities**

At Co-Chair Senft's request, staff played pre-recorded highlights of the July 29 Governing Board meeting, which was narrated by Communications Manager Robyn Felix. (CD 1/Track 6)

8. **Announcements:**

- Ms. Kavouras brought attention to announcements listed on the agenda.
- One additional announcement, not listed, is a workshop, State of the Water Resources in West Central Florida: Friday, November 21, 2008, InterContinental Tampa Hotel.
- Co-Chair Senft encouraged members to make a concerted effort to attend the Water Congress.
- Mr. Lazzell will present the signed Proclamation of National Estuaries Day to the Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program Policy Committee on August 18. (CD 1/Track 6)

9. **Adjournment**

Co-Chair Senft thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m. (CD 1/Track 6)

****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. Elizabeth Place Water Quality and Natural Systems Enhancement (W436) - Execution Notice
2. Lake Parker Southwest Basin Alternative Stormwater Best Management Practices - Construction - First Amendment (L324) - Execution Notice

3. Lower Floridan Aquifer Reuse Supplement Well Feasibility Study (L912) - Execution Notice
4. Polk County Comprehensive Water Supply Plan Joint Study (H072) - Execution Notice
5. Polk County Lake Bathymetric Mapping (L917) - Execution Notice
6. Watershed Management Program – Maintenance of Watershed Parameters and Models - Second Amendment (B206) – Execution Notice