

Approved

Minutes of the Meeting

PEACE RIVER BASIN BOARD

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Bartow, Florida

February 5, 2010

The Peace River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting on Friday, February 5, 2010, at 9:33 a.m., in the Bartow Service Office, Bartow, Florida.

Board Members Present

Bryan K. Beswick, Co-Chair
H. Paul Senft, Jr., Co-Chair
Ken Harrison, Vice Chair
Rufus C. Lazzell, Secretary
Pat Crisman, Member
Paul G. Samuels, Member
Fred W. Trippensee, III, Member

Staff Present

Lou Kavouras
Terri Behling
Danny Kushmer
Beth Putnam
Eric DeHaven
Rand Frahm
Jeremy McKay
Chan Springstead

Via Videoconference:

Linda Pilcher
Bruce Wirth

Board Member Absent

C. A. "Neil" Combee, Jr., Co-Chair

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 Beswick called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. and thanked everyone for attending. 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, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. (CD 1/Track 1)

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Ms. Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning, and Board Services, reported no additions or deletions to the agenda. (CD 1/Track 1)

4. Basin Activities Report and Agenda Review

Mr. Chancey Springstead, Basin Planner, reminded the Board that this agenda item is part of each Basin Board agenda, providing an opportunity for the Basin Planner to give an overview of relevant items on the agenda, information items, and other topics of interest. He briefly commented on 1) availability of the updated Strategic Plan, 2) the Get Outside! campaign, 3) progress of the Clam Bayou project, 4) Community Education Grants, and 5) "homework" for Board members, which would be discussed later in the meeting. (CD1/Track 2)

5. Consent Items:

After consideration, **Mr. Lazzell moved, seconded by Mr. Samuels, approval of the following Consent Items:**

- a. **Minutes of the October 21, 2009, Joint Meeting and Workshop**
Approve the October minutes, as presented.
- b. **Polk County Board of County Commissioners Fiscal Year 2010 Scope of Work (SB54) – Reduction in Scope**
Approve the reduction of the number of students reached by this project from 7,000 to 5,000 with no change in program costs.

Motion carried unanimously. (CD 1/Track 2)

6. **Discussion Items:**

a. **Legislative Update**

Mr. Danny Kushmer, Community Affairs Program Manager, provided a preview of proposed legislative initiatives, other State issues, and State budget priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

- Proposed legislative initiatives include clarification of Basin Board language contained in Senate Bill 2080, abolishment of the Peace Creek Drainage District, and well pump depth.
- Other State Issues: delegation of permit approval; stormwater regulations; Florida Section of the American Water Works Association recommendations on a statewide water board, conservation incentives, and local sources first; and springs protection.
- State budget priorities: Although no State funds are expected for this District, Florida Forever, the Water Management Lands Trust Fund, Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund, and the West-Central Florida Water Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) are priorities.

Other topics of brief discussion included possible changes to Basin Board chair/co-chairs' voting privileges, funding for management of District lands, and specifics of the dissolution of the Peace Creek Drainage District.

Mr. Jeff Spence, Polk County Parks and Natural Resource Manager, also spoke of Polk County's approval to dissolve the Drainage District, with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) accepting the assets. Further, he added, the County made a strong recommendation that the District and the State consider restoring portions of the historic wetlands along Peace Creek Canal under the Florida Forever program. Goals would be improved rehydration of the wetlands, improved wildlife, and enhanced water quality. (CD 1/Track 3)

b. **Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Status and Cooperative Funding Requests**

Mr. Springstead provided a review of the economic issues affecting Basin budgets, a preview of the Cooperative Funding applications received for the fiscal year (FY) 2011 budget cycle, and an overview of the annual Cooperative Funding Initiative (CFI) and budget process. He directed the Board's attention to the original CFI applications received in December 2009 and provided behind the *FY2011 CFI Applications* tab in the meeting notebook. He then provided a brief overview of this Basin's project submittals by area of responsibility and considering the Basin's budget priorities for FY2011 that were set at the August 2009 meeting. In reviewing the categories of the budget, Mr. Springstead reported that the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods program will be moved from the Cooperative Funding category to the Basin Initiative category in FY2011. This move reflects staff's recognition that these projects are core to Basin priorities and essential to District work.

Mr. Springstead reminded Board members that 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 August.

While the CFI projects make up a significant percentage of the Basin's budget, Mr. Springstead emphasized that other factors are also integral to the budget: on-going activities (staff time), property appraiser and tax collector commissions, Save Our Rivers, Basin Initiatives, Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) projects, and Water Supply and Resource Development projects.

As mentioned earlier in the meeting, Board members were given homework. Within the next two weeks, review the FY2011 CFI project applications and notify staff if there are questions. Cooperators will be invited to attend the April Basin Board meeting to answer questions and provide additional information. Board members should be prepared to provide input at the April meeting, also.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required. (CD 1/ Track 4)

7. **Reports:**

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

Mr. Lazzell, the Basin's representative on the CHNEP Policy Committee, began by stating that he continues to be pleased with the support District staff provides with regard to the Policy Committee and emphasized the importance of staff accompanying him to the February 19 meeting in Lakeland. He spoke of the interaction of the CHNEP with other agencies and voiced his unease of some participants' opinions, e.g., on various environmental concerns. He also expressed his distress that some in area organizations are critical of the District. In closing, he reiterated his appreciation of District staff. (CD 1/Track 5)

b. **Basin Board Education Committee (BBEC)**

Ms. Beth Putnam, Communications Manager, directed members to written reports of the November 4, 2009, BBEC meeting and FY2010 Community Education Grants that were included in the meeting notebook. Other highlights included workshops with area Homeowner Associations regarding Senate Bill 2080/Florida Friendly Landscaping™, the Get Outside! campaign, and "Skip a Week" water conservation advertising. (CD 1/ Track 6)

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

Ms. Kavouras shared a brief synopsis of the December 1, 2009, BBLRC meeting, which was held in the Green Swamp West meeting facility. Topics included the following:

- Results of the Project Boundary Review that were used to update boundaries for lands proposed for protection under the District's Florida Forever program.
- Evaluation of potential new revenue generating uses on District lands.
- Combined BBLRC and Land Use Stakeholders meetings will be held this year due to overlap in purpose of the two groups. Afterwards, the future of both groups will be evaluated. (CD 1/Track 7)

d. **Governing Board Activities**

Co-Chair Senft reported that the recent frost/freeze event and dry well issues were major

topics at the January 26 Governing Board meeting, which was held at District Headquarters, Brooksville. Other topics from the meeting included the 20-year permit rule, recreation strategy for District lands, the Get Outside! campaign, and delegation of authority to the Executive Director to seek service marks for the Water Conservation Hotel and Motel Program (Water C.H.A.M.P.) and the Water PRO brand. (CD 1/Track 8)

These reports were presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

9. **Announcements**

Ms. Kavouras brought attention to announcements listed on the agenda and emphasized upcoming Get Outside! events. (CD 1/Track 9)

10. **Adjournment**

When there was no further business to come before the Board, Co-Chair Beswick adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m. (CD 1/Track 9)

******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 at this time.

1. 2010 Community Education Grants in the Peace River Basin

Completion Notices

2. City of Auburndale Reuse and Alternate Sources Feasibility Study (N001)
3. Lake Eva Stormwater Improvement (N072)

Execution Notices

4. Watershed Management Program - Maintenance of Watershed Parameters and Models - Third Amendment (B206)
5. Watershed Management Program Consulting Services for Maintenance of Watershed Parameters and Models - Second Amendment (B206)
6. Consulting Services for the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification - First Amendment (H008)
7. Charlotte County Regional Reclaimed Water Expansion Phase 2 (H085)
8. Greater Port Charlotte Flood Protection and Stormwater Management Plan - Eighth Amendment (K280)
9. Polk County Watershed Management Plan - Second Amendment (L672)
10. Polk County Northwest Regional Reclaimed Utility Service Area Reclaimed Water Storage and Pumping Station (N024)
11. Charlotte County Toilet Rebate Project - Phase 2 (N113)
12. Englewood Reclaimed Water Supply Project (N218)
13. Hydrologic and Wetland Restoration of District-owned Lands-Jack Creek (SA01) and Colt Creek (D050)

Attest:

Co-Chair