

**APPROVED
MEETING SUMMARY
Public Supply Advisory Committee
Southwest Florida Water Management District
October 20, 2009**

The Public Supply Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for its regular meeting at 1:02 p.m., October 20, 2009, at the District's Tampa Service Office, 7601 Highway 301 North, Tampa, Florida.

Committee Members Present

Marvin Kaden, Chair, Pasco County Utilities
Warren Hogg, V-C, Tampa Bay Water
Keith McGurn, City of Bradenton
Gary Ross, City of Lakeland Water Utilities
Cindi Mick, City of North Port Utilities
Frank Coughenour, City of Plant City
Steve Adams, City of Punta Gorda
Richard Voakes, City of St. Petersburg
Phoenix McKinney, City of Tampa Water Dept.
Bob Robertson, City of Tarpon Springs
Ronald Hay, DeSoto County Utilities
Chuck Lewis, Hernando County Utilities
Norm Davis, Hillsborough Co. Water Resources
Vicky Zimarino, Manatee County Utilities
Todd Petrie, Marion County Utilities
Mike Coates, PR/MRWSA
Rich McLean, Pinellas County Utilities
Brian Fagan, Sarasota County Utilities

Committee Members Absent

William Beasley, Polk Co. Utilities
Robert Knight, Citrus County
Randy Schommer, On Top of the World Utilities
Trey Arnett, The Villages

Governing Board Member Not Present

Paul Senft

Guest Speakers

Mike Coates, PR/MRWSA Water Resources Division
Jeff Harris, Pasco County Utilities

Staff Members Present

Lou Kavouras
Sylvia Durell
Ken Herd
Will Miller
Lois Sorensen

Recording Secretary

Joanne McClellan

Approved summaries from previous meetings can be found on the District's Web site (www.WaterMatters.org)

The numbers preceding the items below correspond with the published agenda.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Marvin Kaden called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. He welcomed members, staff, and interested persons and requested member introductions.

2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, stated there were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

3. Approval of the July 14, 2009 Meeting Summary

Following consideration, a motion was made and carried unanimously to approve the July 14, 2009 meeting summary as presented.

4. Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Facilities Overview

Mike Coates, PR/MRWSA Water Resources Division Director, provided an overview of the Water Supply Authority, their service area, and the production facility on the Peace River—river intake, Reservoirs 1 and 2, the ASR Wellfields 1 and 2, and the water treatment facility. Storage being a critical element in their operation to meet future demand, the Authority went through a series of expansion projects to create storage capacity. Mr. Coates described the process used for water treatment and the facility operations during the wet season when water is harvested and stored versus the dry season when stored supplies are the main source of water.

5. Get Outside! Campaign

Will Miller, Land Use & Protection Manager, informed the committee about the ongoing campaign that started in September. The purpose is to build support for District land programs by getting the public onto the lands. The campaign is multi-media that includes press kits, presentations, interviews and special public events to improve the knowledge of the District. The goal of the campaign is to promote the value of eco-system preservation/conservation through the recreational experience. The campaign also seeks to increase diversity in the use of the lands. Mr. Miller discussed the new Recreation Guide and each committee member received a guide. He then demonstrated the updated, interactive website for the Recreation Guide. Lou Kavouras stated that this is more than a campaign, but rather this is an initiative important to the water management district. She further explained that there is a perception in the public that the District buys acres of land and does not allow public access. Part of this initiative is to dispel that perception and increase access where appropriate. There is a special event scheduled at the Starkey wilderness Preserve—Serenova Tract on November 7. Will Miller stated that an absence of signage on co-owned properties has been an issue, but this is being corrected to show cooperative signage indicating land ownership by the District.

6. Rulemaking Update

Lou Kavouras provided the following rulemaking update: 1) The Upper Peace River Lake Hancock Reservation is a component of the Lake Hancock project, where the level of the lake will be raised then flows released during the dry times to help meet minimum flows in the Peace River. In order for the District to claim those flows, rulemaking was initiated and is moving forward to set those quantities aside for minimum flows. 2) A number of public meetings have been scheduled to discuss amendments to Phase II of Northern Tampa Bay Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) Recovery Strategy. The Partnership Plan is a recovery strategy to help bring ground water levels back up and that rule is set to expire in 2010. In that rule a quantity of 90 mgd was set as a maximum withdrawal from the Tampa Bay Water Consolidated Wellfield. With the expiration of that rule in 2010, the District has an opportunity to amend these rules and set the 90 mgd for another period of time to provide staff with adequate time to test whether 90 mgd is the appropriate number to use. This rulemaking is going forward with a series of public meetings and should be brought back to the Governing Board for their consideration at their December meeting. 3) The Enhanced Water Conservation Requirements were approved by the Governing Board in September and will be effective in December 2009. 4) Minimum Flows and Levels for the Lower Peace River will be presented to the Governing Board at the October 2009 meeting. Final action to be requested later this calendar year. 5) The Year-round Water Conservation Measures were presented to the Governing Board in September and rulemaking is moving forward. This is a consistency effort to address those times when we're not in a water shortage condition. We are looking for consistency between St. Johns River and South Florida Water Management Districts, at least in areas where there are shared boundaries. 6) The Xeriscape Incentive Program is being repealed due to the passage of Senate Bill 2080 that renames Xeriscape to Florida-friendly and negates the need for the Xeriscape rule.

7. Hydrologic Conditions/Drought Update and Water Shortage Restrictions

Lois Sorensen, Demand Management Coordinator, explained that in September the Governing Board approved the initiation of rulemaking to update the District's Water Shortage Plan. A focus group is being formed and Fred Crabill was asked to be the Industrial Advisory Committee representative. This particular rulemaking effort is on an aggressive timeframe. The focus group is to meet twice--the first meeting scheduled is November 5 and the second meeting will be sometime in early to mid December. There is a public workshop to be planned, then staff is to have rule language available for Governing Board consideration by March 2010.

Regarding hydrologic conditions, rainfall remains at a deficit; ground water has not yet recovered; and surface water levels are declining. Rivers are an indicator that is closely watched, especially those that are sources for public supply. Although most rivers did get back into the normal range, they are now declining. The water storage in reservoirs has improved over the summer months.

Lois described the decision making process for water shortage orders—staff monitors and analyzes drought indicators and other factors, a recommendation is made to the Governing Board for their consideration and the Board then makes the final decision as to the declaration of a water shortage. Lois then described the Modified Phase II and Modified Phase III orders. The Modified Phase III orders affective

in the southern counties are due to expire at the end of October, unless the Governing Board takes action at its October meeting.

8. Overview of Pasco County Multi-agency Task Force on Water Restrictions

Jeff Harris, Environmental Biologist, Pasco County Utilities, discussed the way Pasco County Utilities addressed the latest water shortage emergency. The county implemented the Incident Command System (ICS) to respond to the issue. Mr. Harris explained the ICS which is a management system tool designed to enable effective and efficient management of an emergency by integrating and coordinating all responsible agencies and departments with an established common set objectives and strategies along with a single command structure. Utilities took the lead to perform the water shortage enforcement duties looking for violations to the water shortage restrictions. He described the key officers in charge and the responsibilities of each of the positions. Mr. Harris also discussed the ongoing planning that took place to modify activities as needed.

9. Overview of Landscaping Provisions of Senate Bills 2080 and 494

Lois Sorensen discussed four aspects of SB494: 1) Removes the grandfather clause from the State rain sensor law that stated only systems after May 1, 1991 had to have some type of sensor switch; 2) Broadens the law beyond just rain sensors to any type of technology that inhibits or interrupts operation of an automatic irrigation system when there is no need to run; 3) requires licensed contractors working on systems to be sure there is such a device and that it is working and report it if not working; and 4) provides for a uniform variance process to receive partial relief from irrigation restrictions if a smart irrigation system is used. Lois provided general information concerning the many aspects of a variance—the creation of a monitoring entity and the requirements and protections of the monitoring entity.

Two aspects of SB2080 were discussed: 1) A deed restriction or covenant may not create a requirement or limitation in conflict with a water shortage order; and 2) Florida-Friendly Landscaping was redefined as landscaping that is adaptable to local conditions, are drought tolerant and also minimize the use of irrigation. Also, HOAs can not prohibit homeowners from installing Florida-Friendly Landscape.

Sylvia Durell, Senior Communications Coordinator, discussed the Florida-Friendly Landscaping (FFL) Workshops that were held in October. The workshops were designed for community association board members and property managers to understand how SB2080 affects HOAs. The District is involved because there is concern regarding the amount of outdoor water use; the need to reduce pollution; and the need to change from a Xeriscape concept to FFL. SB2080 states that HOAs may not prohibit FFL practices and may not require water-wasting practices, inappropriate plant placement, excessive/improper use of fertilizers/pesticides, and are prohibited from violating the water management district water use restrictions. Other items are that HOAs may not prohibit reasonable use of mulch, plants attractive to wildlife, right plant/right place, and rain gardens, composting bins, rain barrels, and waterfront buffers. The law does not invalidate HOA architectural control or landscaping committees or does not prohibit reasonable limits to maintenance and limiting some landscaping features to side or backyards. The ultimate goal was to let workshop participants know that they have control over their communities. Information regarding Florida-Friendly Landscaping is available on the following Web sites: <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>, Floridayards.org, and Watermatters.org.

10. SWFWMD's Utility Outreach Program

Ken Herd, Water Supply Program Director, discussed the Utility Outreach Program. A District objective is to be sure the utilities have an adequate water supply in the future. The District has used tools to manage the water resource—regulations as well as cooperative funding to provide utilities with incentives to do water conservation, reclaimed water, and alternative water supply development projects. The District is now going a step further to discuss outreach or a collaboration/communication approach. The intent of this outreach is to coordinate sooner so that programs can be communicated early and streamline the permitting process. The opportunities to this outreach program will proactively communicate District programs/resources to utilities; provide two-way communication; and improve the utilities' perception of the District. Benefits for the utilities are to use District resources and tools, to understand the 20-year water use permit requirements, to communicate programs that have been successful in out parts of the District, and provide a guide for utilities to find more information about programs. Water Use efficiency is a key component and if the District can better communicate what the Water Use Permit (WUP) requirements are to the utilities and get that information out early, it will make the process less painful. The most important

tool the district wants to develop and use with this outreach effort is the Utility Outreach Manual. A cross-section of District staff met to identify the key programs that utilities may utilize or benefit from. A *Utility Outreach Manual* would be a tool to identify in a one-page, concise summary each District program, its benefits, and where to get more information. This manual will provide consistent information to the utilities. Staff is planning to complete the initial draft by January 2010. Mr. Herd stated that a draft copy of the manual will be sent in February 2010 to the committee for comment. The goal is to finalize and begin distribution of the manual by May 2010.

11. Next PSAC Meeting

A Joint Meeting of the Industrial Advisory Committee (IAC) and the Public Supply Advisory Committee (PSAC) is scheduled for January 12, 2009 at 9 a.m. in the District's Tampa Service Office.

12. Remaining FY2010 Meeting Dates

The remaining FY2010 IAC meetings are scheduled for April 20, 2010 and July 20, 2010. Meetings will begin at 9 a.m. in the District's Tampa Service Office.

13. Development of Agenda Topics for the January 12, 2010 IAC/PSAC Joint Meeting

- Water Shortage Rule Update – Lois Sorensen
- FEMA Map Modernization – Gordon McClung
- Update of TECO Facility in Polk County – Alison Ramoy
- Legislative Overview – David Rathke

14. Announcements and Other Business

Marvin Kaden stated that this is his last meeting as Chair and member of the PSAC. He has retired from Pasco County Utilities. He thanked the committee. Lou Kavouras thanked Mr. Kaden for his leadership and guidance over the years. Warren Hogg will chair the January meeting with elections to follow in April. Mr. Kaden stated Jeff Harris will be the primary member and Pam Wright will be the alternate from Pasco County Utilities.

15. Adjournment

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m

