

**APPROVED**  
Minutes of the Meeting

**Withlacoochee River Basin Board**  
Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, Florida

October 16, 2008

The Withlacoochee River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting October 16, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., at District Headquarters.

Board Members Present

Ronald Oakley, Co-Chair Ex Officio  
Doug Tharp, Co-Chair Ex Officio  
Patsy Nathe, Vice Chair  
Janey Baldwin, Secretary  
Jack Dennis, Member  
Albert Rooks, Member

Board Member Absent

Seeth Trimpert, Member  
Paul Mazak, Member

Staff Present

Lou Kavouras  
Bruce Wirth  
Mark Hammond  
Mike Holtkamp  
Roy Mazur  
Eric Sutton  
Linda Pilcher  
Gene Altman  
Ron Basso

Jimmy Brooks  
Maya Burke  
Veronica Crow  
Corey Denninger  
Mark Fulkerson  
Adam Munson  
Beth Putnam  
Miki Renner  
Doug Sanders  
Brent White

Recording Secretary

Annette Zielinski

A list of others who were present and signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the Basin. Compact discs 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 Oakley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Zielinski noted a quorum was present. (CD1/Track 1 - 00:00/00:49)

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

Co-Chair Oakley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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

Ms. Kavouras noted there was one deletion to the agenda: Item 4, Oath of Office for Appointed/Re-Appointed Board Members.

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

This item was deleted from consideration.

5. **Consent Item:**

a. **August 14, 2008, Meeting Minutes**

Staff recommended approval of the August 14, 2008, meeting minutes, as presented.

Following consideration, **Ms. Nathe moved, seconded by Mr. Dennis, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD1/Track 2 - 00:00/01:31)

6. **Discussion Item:**

a. **Fiscal Year 2009 Final Budget Adjustment for Ratification**

Ms. Linda R. Pilcher, Assistant Finance Director, Finance Department, said she would be seeking ratification of the action taken by the Governing Board on September 30,

2008 to change the Basin's budget in response to direction received from Governor Crist in his budget approval letter.

The District received a budget approval letter from Governor Charlie Crist dated September 16, 2008. Governor Crist indicated that he had reviewed and approved the District's annual budget for fiscal year (FY) 2009, with the exception of redirecting all water management districts' dollars proposed for salary increases to expedite projects. He asked that emphasis be placed on expediting capital projects that are result oriented and implementable, while also meeting the planned long-term needs of the regions. Governor Crist directed that this measure be taken as a proactive strategy to promote economic stimulus for Florida. In response to Governor Crist's direction, the Governing Board at its meeting on September 30, 2008, approved the redirection of budgeted dollars.

For the Withlacoochee River Basin, the FY2009 budget adopted by this Basin included \$29,481 for proposed merit increases: \$17,414 funded from ad valorem based sources and \$12,067 funded from the Save Our Rivers Program (State Water Management Lands Trust Fund).

The Governing Board approved the allocation of the \$17,414 in ad valorem based funding to the Dade City Reclaimed Water Project and the \$12,067 in Save Our Rivers funding to the Green Swamp West project for additional costs related to the pavilion construction on District lands. These projects will be expedited during FY2009.

Ms. Pilcher read the staff recommendation into the record ratifying the Governing Board's action to redirect \$29,481 of budgeted dollars that had been allocated for proposed merit increases to the Dade City Reclaimed Water Project for \$17,414 and to the Save Our Rivers Green Swamp West project for \$12,067.

Following consideration, **Ms. Baldwin moved, seconded by Mr. Dennis, to approve the staff recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.** (CD1/Track 3 - 00:00/03:55)

7. **Report:**

a. **Report on Governing Board Activities**

Co-Chair Oakley gave the highlights of the September 30 Governing Board meeting, which included the swearing in ceremony for the Board's thirteenth member, Doug Tharp of Sumter County.

8. **Announcements**

Ms. Kavouras brought the Board's attention to announcements listed on the agenda. In addition, Ms. Kavouras said she had a request from Mr. David Starnes, who serves on the Lake Panasoffkee Restoration Council; he wanted to extend his appreciation to the Withlacoochee River Basin Board and District staff in support of the Council.

9. **Adjournment**

The day's business being complete, Co-Chair Oakley adjourned the meeting at 9:21 a.m. (CD 1/Track 4 – 00:00/09:20)

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★ ★ ★ Information Items ★ ★ ★

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The item 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 were ready to begin. This item did not require Board action at this time.

1. Agreement with Fletcher Marine, Inc. for the Sale of Shell Material from the Lake Panasoffkee Restoration Project *(This item was approved by the Governing Board at its September meeting)*
2. Budget Transfer Report
3. Lake Panasoffkee Restoration Council – Eleventh Annual Report to the Legislature (B480)
4. Water's Journey Interactive Exhibit (L693) at the Glazer Children's Museum of Tampa SWFWMD Agreement No. 08CC0000092 – Execution Notice
5. Withlacoochee River Watershed Initiative (H066)

Attest:

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Chairman

# APPROVED

## Minutes of the Planning Workshop

### WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER BASIN BOARD Southwest Florida Water Management District

Brooksville, Florida

October 16, 2008

The Withlacoochee River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for the annual planning workshop on October 16, 2008, at 9:22 a.m., at Brooksville Headquarters.

#### Board Members Present

Ronald Oakley, Co-Chair Ex Officio  
Doug Tharp, Co-Chair Ex Officio  
Patsy Nathe, Vice Chair  
Janey Baldwin, Secretary  
Jack Dennis, Member  
Albert Rooks, Member

#### Board Member Absent

Seeth Trimpert, Member  
Paul Mazak, Member

#### Recording Secretary

Annette Zielinski

#### Staff Present

Lou Kavouras  
Bruce Wirth  
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Roy Mazur  
Eric Sutton  
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Maya Burke  
Veronica Craw  
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Mark Fulkerson  
Adam Munson  
Beth Putnam  
Miki Renner  
Doug Sanders  
Brent White

A list of others who attended and signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the Basin. Compact disks of the audio and copies of materials and handouts, as set forth in full herein, are also filed in the permanent files of the District.

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

#### 1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Board Co-Chair Ex Officio, Ron Oakley, welcomed the members, staff and attendees to the workshop and provided introductory remarks. The workshop was informal; no voting was necessary. Board members were encouraged to take part in the discussion. Co-Chair Oakley brought members' attention to a brochure of the Basin's accomplishment for fiscal year (FY) 2008. The other seven Basin Boards were provided similar brochures, specific to each Board.

#### 2. Introduction/Workshop Purpose

Ms. Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, Outreach, Planning and Board Services, said the Workshop will begin with a discussion of the purpose of an Annual Planning Workshop. These workshops provide an opportunity for the Board to discuss emerging water management issues in the basin and discuss strategic options for addressing these issues and furthering the mission of the District. Workshop results provide guidance to the Board as it begins annual budget deliberations, as well as to staff and cooperators regarding the Basin Board's most important priorities. The intended outcome of the workshop is an understanding of how all parts of the District, including the Governing Board, Basin Boards and cooperative efforts with partners, align with the District's strategic priorities and how the Basin Board contributes to achieving these objectives through cooperative and other funding mechanisms. (CD-1/Track 5/00:00 – 04:19)

3. **White Card Exercise**

Mr. Doug Sanders, Withlacoochee River Basin Planner, explained an interactive "white card" exercise, which would be integral to compiling a list of the Basin's priorities for FY2010. Mr. Sanders asked Board members to write, on the white card provided, the three priorities—challenges or issues—they felt should be considered in determining how cooperative projects would be ranked and the Basin's budget dollars spent. The responses would be combined and used later in the workshop to come to a consensus on the Basin's priorities. (CD-1/Track 5/04:19 – 15:32)

4. **Governing Board Strategic Priorities**

Mr. Roy Mazur, P.E., Director, Planning Department, presented a brief update of the District's Strategic Plan, which includes a refinement of the District's strategic priorities and focuses on performance measures that demonstrate progress in achieving the priorities. The update also addressed how the Strategic Plan and the Basin's priorities are linked. (CD 1/Track 6/00:00 – 17:59)

5. **Basin Board Budget Outlook and Priorities**

a. **Basin Trends Analysis**

Mr. Sanders and staff led a discussion of trends within the basin. This included analyses of the Basin Board budget trends by area of responsibility and the current budget by Basin Board priorities. Local government priorities were also discussed in the context of their capital improvement plans or other indicators. And the District's Long Range Water Supply and Resource Development Funding Plan was presented, with a focus on major projects within the basin and the adequacy of projected revenues to fund these projects.

Mr. Sanders emphasized that this was the Board members' workshop and their comments were welcome at any time. He also stressed the importance of the Basin Board's link to local communities and its part in implementing the District's mission. (CD 1/Track 7/00:00 – 11:31)

b. **Discussion of Basin Priorities and Funding Strategies**

Mr. Bruce Wirth, Deputy Executive Director, Division of Resource Management, provided an update on the continuing financial commitments of the Basin Board and challenges to meet the resource management needs of the District and the Basin. He used graphs to show projected water needs and funding sources for the District's planning areas, including Northern Tampa Bay, the Southern Water Use Caution Area (SWUCA), the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority, Polk County Water Supply Development, and the Upper Peace River Restoration. The graphs depicted estimated project costs, the Basin's estimated project costs, cost share allocation, and potential Water Supply and Resource Development funding versus estimated project costs. (CD 1/Track 8/00:00 – 30:34)

Co-Chair Oakley provided a short break.

Following the break, Mr. Sanders focused in on the City of Wildwood for further discussion of trend analysis and potential growth within the Basin. He said there are five large Development of Regional Impact (DRI) studies for Sumter County currently in process. If all five of these DRIs were built to capacity, it would change the landscape and population substantially.

Mr. Sanders also led a discussion regarding the budget and strategic budget priorities. It was depicted graphically that four of the strategic priorities received only 11 percent of the budget. Moving forward, the Basin Board may want to broaden its budgeted dollars over the budget priorities differently. Other considerations discussed were that property

values dropped eight percent in FY2009 and potential shortfalls are anticipated in the coming fiscal years.

Mr. Sanders said the results of the "white card" exercise were combined and the Board members' suggested priorities were displayed on posters that were placed on the meeting room wall. Each Board member was given five red dots to place beside the topic(s) they felt were most important to the Basin. The five dots could be placed by five separate items or any combination of five.

Ms. Baldwin led a lengthy discussion regarding how the economic downturn affects the Basin Board planning process and its funding sources. It was agreed that projecting future funding presented certain challenges; however, moving forward with plans was essential to the region.

For clarity, Mr. Sanders reviewed the Board's suggestions before members began putting their dots in place. After that task was done, Board members, Mr. Sanders, and other staff participated in thorough discussion of the items listed on the posters until the Board came to agreement on a list of strategic budget priorities, which would be a guide for the FY2010 cooperative funding cycle and other budget considerations. Staff would review, check spelling, grammar, etc., and provide the revised priorities to the Board and cooperators prior to the December 2008 deadline for submittal of cooperative funding applications. The updated priorities will be included in each Basin Board meeting notebook.

6. **Open Discussion**

An opportunity was provided for Board members to expand on topics presented during the workshop and to discuss issues and topics previously identified that are important to them.

7. **Adjournment**

Co-Chair Oakley expressed his appreciation to everyone who attended today's workshop and adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m. (CD 1/Track 9/00:00 – 85:16)

Attest:

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Chairman

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