

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

COOPERATIVE FUNDING PUBLIC MEETING

NORTHERN REGION COOPERATIVE FUNDING INITIATIVE PUBLIC MEETING GOVERNING BOARD SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 6, 2019

The Northern Region Cooperative Funding Initiative (CFI) Public Meeting hosted by the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board convened at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at the Southwest Florida Water Management District Brooksville Headquarters, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604.

Governing Board Members Present

Kelly Rice, Committee Chair
Randy Maggard
Mark Taylor

Recording Secretary

Lori Manuel

Staff Members Present

Mandi Rice
Jennette Seachrist
Michael Molligan
John Campbell
Eric DeHaven
Vivianna Bendixson
J.P. Marchand
Scott Letasi
Jay Hoecker
Frank Gargano
Caroline McKnight

A list of others who signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent records of the District. Approved minutes 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 Pledge of Allegiance**

Committee Chair Rice called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

2. **Introductions**

Committee Chair Rice introduced the other members of the committee.

3. **Review CFI Preliminary Staff Evaluations and Rankings**

Ms. Vivianna Bendixson, project manager, provided a presentation of project evaluations and rankings. This presentation included a map depicting the location of the projects throughout the Northern region; explanation of rankings and how they are associated with the Strategic Plan Areas of Responsibilities (AOR); regional priorities association with projects; multi-year comparison of funding requests; funding requests for FY2020 and recommendations; and preliminary rankings of project. Ms. Bendixson stated the two priorities in the Northern region are to ensure long term sustainable water supply and to improve northern coastal spring systems.

Ms. Bendixson outlined the 1A and high ranked projects. She explained that projects ranked 1A are multi-year projects with prior District commitment.

Ms. Bendixson outlined the medium ranked project and the low ranked projects.

4. **Receive Public/Stakeholder/Applicant Input**

Committee Chair Rice stated there were no Request to Speak cards.

Board Member Maggard asked if Hernando County will be able to meet its financial commitments based upon the county's budgetary constraints

Mr. Gordon Onderdonk, representing Hernando County Utilities, stated that the budgetary constraints involve the general fund. He stated the utilities are an enterprise fund and assured the Board of its liquidity.

Board Member Maggard asked about the medium ranking of project Q075. Ms. Jennette Seachrist, Resource Management director, replied this is a restoration project which meets a District strategic initiative but does not address a priority waterbody. She stated this project does not meet regional priority qualifications.

Board Member Taylor asked about projects that have been granted funds but are pending completion. He provided 1A ranked project N999 as an example.

Mr. Jay Hoecker, Water Supply Section manager, stated that project N999 has a multi-year agreement. He stated the current agreement is pending execution with Marion County. Mr. Hoecker stated that phase five of this project is nearing completion and approximately 105 rebates have been completed. He provided an overview of high ranked projects Q062 and Q070.

Board Member Taylor asked about high ranked project Q058. Mr. Scott Letasi, Project Management Office chief, provided an overview of the project. He explained that enhanced data is now available for this project area to improve permitting. Mr. Letasi outlined the top 20 watershed updates that have occurred and the reasons why updates are needed since the previous studies.

Board Member Maggard asked about low ranked projects Q051 and Q092 associated with Yankeetown flooding issues. Mr. Letasi responded that the District assists with flooding from intermediary and regional systems. He stated that the flooding associated with Yankeetown is from a combination of coastal surge flooding issues and local system storage issues. Mr. Letasi explained the areas the District would be able to assist.

Board Member Taylor asked about prioritization of funding for expansion of wastewater treatment plants as related to septic to sewer. Ms. Seachrist explained that the District does not fund the expansion of wastewater treatment plants as related to septic conversation projects. She stated the District would fund the collection and transmission lines associated with conversions. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gordon Onderdonk, representing Hernando County Utilities, spoke regarding project Q065. He explained that although the project is indicated as an expansion, the funds are being requested to meet the Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs) requirements of nitrogen removal. Mr. Onderdonk requested the opportunity to present at the April meeting.

Mr. Jack Schofield, Yankeetown Mayor, provided additional information regarding low ranked projects Q051 and Q092.

5. **Board Discussion and Selection of Project Presentations in April**

Ms. Bendixson stated the following projects would be presented at the April meeting: Q051, Q065, Q075 and Q092. Board Member Maggard also asked for a presentation clarifying the difference of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) springs request APP14 and the cooperative funding request Q065.

6. **Timeline and Next Steps**

The next Northern CFI meeting is scheduled for April 10 at 10:00 a.m. in the Brooksville office. Action will be taken at that meeting.

7. **FDEP Springs Funding**

Ms. Bendixson provided an overview of projects and funding requests submitted for FY2020. She stated that the Springs Coast Management Committee (SCMC) will submit a recommended list of springs projects for funding to the Springs Coast Steering Committee (SCSC) before the April CFI meeting.

8. **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Committee Chair Rice thanked everyone who attended.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.