

Public Supply Advisory Committee

MEETING DATE – FEBRUARY 9, 2021

LIAISON REPORT – ED ARMSTRONG

Results of the Northern Tampa Bay Recovery Assessment

- Mr. Warren Hogg, Tampa Bay Water, presented the final Northern Tampa Bay Recovery Assessment plan. He provided an overview of wetlands and lakes that were impacted from wellfield pumping. Mr. Hogg stated that this recovery plan focused on lakes and wetlands as the indicator features of recovery. Mr. Hogg stated that metrics and assessment methods for different wetland types were developed to measure wetland recovery. He outlined the timeline that occurred for the final assessment process and a summary of results.
- Chair Desrosiers asked about the timeline regarding population growth. Mr. Hogg responded that this presentation only covered population growth from 1930 to present. Mr. Hogg stated that currently the areas of high growth in the three-county Tampa Bay area are southern Hillsborough and Pasco counties.

Hydrologic Evaluation of the Northern Tampa Bay Recovery

- Mr. Ron Basso, Chief Hydrogeologist, presented the hydrologic evaluation for the NTB Recovery. This presentation provided an overview of the recovery that has occurred. He summarized components that staff evaluated to determine recovery. This included lake stage history, wetland stage history, rainfall data, groundwater withdrawals, changes in aquifer water level, ecological health, and flooding issues.
- Mr. Basso stated that Tampa Bay aquifer water levels are at, or near, their long-term maximums. Mr. Basso explained that improved hydrologic conditions in the wellfields have contributed to increased flooding risks.
- Mr. Basso stated the District will continue to monitor the recovery and existing minimum flows and levels network. The District will also continue to work with TBW to minimize impacts under its consolidated permit.
- Chair Desrosiers asked what mitigation is being done regarding increased flooding risks. Mr. JP Marchand, Water Resource Bureau Chief, responded there are several projects in this area that address flooding concerns and offer flood protection.

2020 Regional Water Supply Plan Utility Outreach

- Mr. Joseph Quinn, Senior Project Manager, presented an overview of the 2020 Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP) Utility Outreach activities. Mr. Quinn stated the District is statutorily required to notify local governments of the RWSP completion. Local governments are then required to prepare and submit 10-year water supply facilities work plan or update an existing plan. Mr. Quinn explained the District provides proactive assistance in the development of these work plans through its Utility Outreach and Community Pages efforts.

Public Supply Annual Report Update

- Mr. Ryan Pearson, Staff Economist, presented an update to the Public Supply Annual Report (PSAR). He explained the PSAR is an annual survey of public supply users permitted at 100,000 gallons per day or greater. Mr. Pearson stated the PSAR is an important source of data that is used to support District water use permitting and water supply planning.

- Committee Member Olga Wolanin asked what permittees should do if they have exceeded ten percent water loss, specifically from increased dead end flushing in highly seasonal areas that were more vacant due to COVID-19. Mr. Pearson stated that a letter documenting an explanation of the increased water loss should be submitted with the completed forms.
- Committee Member Debra Burden asked if there was data available regarding average percent water loss throughout the District. Mr. Pearson responded in the affirmative.
- Chair Desrosiers asked if there was available data for water that is utilized for fire and other accounted uses. Mr. Pearson responded in the affirmative.

2021 Legislative Update

- Mr. Joel Brown, Senior Government Affairs Regional Manager, presented an update of the 2021 legislative session. He provided a calendar of the 2021 legislative session, outlined funding requests, current senate and house chairs, and environmental bills that have been filed.
- Mr. Brown addressed bills SB952, SB64 and SB62. He specified District priorities that include Senate confirmation of Governing Board members and the monitoring of legislation with potential policy or fiscal impact to the District.
- Committee member David Glicksberg asked if SB62 could have an impact on the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative but stated there was no companion bill in the House.

Development of agenda topics for the next Public Supply Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

- No topics were presented.