

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### PUBLIC SUPPLY ADVISORY COMMITTEE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA

NOVEMBER 10, 2020

**Due to the COVID-19 virus, this meeting was held through electronic media to reduce public gatherings and practice social distancing.**

The Public Supply Advisory Committee (PSAC) of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:00 p.m., November 10, 2020 via remote session from the Brooksville Service Office, 2379 Broad Street, Florida 34604

#### **Committee Members Present via Teams**

Jennifer Desrosiers, City of North Port Utilities  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities  
Ruffin Gray, City of Lakeland Utilities  
Tamara Richardson, Polk County Utilities  
Charles Cullen, Pasco County Utilities  
Debra Burden, Citrus County Water Resources  
Richard Anderson, Peace River Water Supply Authority  
David Glicksberg, Hillsborough County Utilities  
Christopher Cole, Sarasota County Utilities  
Steve Adams, Punta Gorda Utilities  
Jim Kramer, City of St. Petersburg Utilities  
Thomas Kiger, City of Tarpon Springs Utilities  
Olga Wolanin, Manatee County  
David Adams, Pinellas County Utilities  
Ivana Kajtezovic, Tampa Bay Water

#### **Others Present**

Stoney Pope  
Brian Fagan  
Mark Simpson

#### **Staff Members Present**

Virginia Singer, Facilitator  
Michael Molligan  
Granville Kinsman  
Michele Sager  
Robin Grantham  
Anthony Andrade  
April Breton  
Barbara Garrett  
Randy Emberg  
Robyn Felix  
Jay Hoecker  
Ryan Pearson

#### **Recording Secretary**

Kelly Page

#### **Liaison**

Ed Armstrong

Approved summaries from previous meetings can be found on the District's website [WaterMatters.org](http://WaterMatters.org).

*The numbers preceding the items below correspond to the order of presentations.*

#### **1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chair Jennifer Desrosiers called the meeting to order and attendance was called.

#### **2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

None

#### **3. Approval of August 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

***A motion was made for approval of August 11, 2020 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.***

#### **4. Public Comments**

None

**5. Hydrologic Conditions Update**

Mr. Granville Kinsman, Hydrologic Data manager, provided an update on the state of the hydrologic conditions through the end of October 2020. Mr. Granville explained the rainy season, overall, received average rainfall. The winter and spring forecast is expected to be drier and warmer than normal, however, the District's water supply is very healthy.

**6. Recycled Water: Public Sentiment**

Ms. Michele Sager, lead communications coordinator, provided a presentation on public perception on recycled water. Ms. Sager identified the One Water Florida partnership as well as a statewide survey that was conducted on the public's perception of reclaimed water as well as direct and indirect potable reuse. Following education on indirect and direct potable reuse, 65 percent of respondents support reuse for household purposes including drinking and 6 percent oppose. Ms. Sager explained One Water Florida and its partners will kick off a recycled water campaign in effort to educate users about potable reuse as a future water supply in Florida.

Mr. Richard Anderson asked why percentages are higher for people supporting direct potable versus indirect. Ms. Sager explained this was discussed but there is no affirmative factor that influenced feedback results.

Ms. Debra Burden asked whether public water supply customers or those on a well were asked if they felt drinking water is safe to drink from the tap. Ms. Robin Grantham, lead communications coordinator, explained the water source was not the focus, however she would check with the survey company, Taproot, to see if they can provide this information.

Ms. Desrosiers asked how this information is going to translate into funding. whether has funding mechanisms for local utilities. Mr. Anthony Andrade, reuse coordinator, explained many of the District's reclaimed water projects include a public information segment. Ms. Desrosiers asked if there is a plan to continue that funding in the future. Mr. Andrade responded in the affirmative. Mr. Michael Milligan, Employee and External Relations division director, explained water reuse projects have been identified as a priority for the District. He identified three components for these projects: funding, regulation, and education. The District is taking lead on behalf of Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) on the education outreach campaigning.

Mr. Dave Adams appreciates the efforts, however, indirect potable seems to be a much more viable option for a lot of counties, as it provides a way to treat water with environmental and cost-saving benefits. Ms. Desrosiers said North Port has a unique situation where direct potable reuse could be more economical than indirect.

**7. Governing Board Liaison Comments**

Mr. Armstrong expressed his enthusiasm for serving as the Public Supply Advisory Committee liaison.

**8. Discussion on Remote Meetings**

Mr. Michael Molligan explained the decision to facilitate remote meetings was a result of COVID, and as offices reopen to the public, staff would like feedback from advisory committee members as to whether meetings should continue remote or in person.

Committee members suggested to hold some meetings in person and some remotely.

**9. Development of agenda topics for the next Public Supply Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**

Members requested: a follow-up on the ePermitting Replacement Project and the progress of incorporating homeowner well permits and GIS into the system; Results of the 2019 Public Supply Annual Report; Legislative forecast or overview.

**10. Announcements and Other Business**

None

**11. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.