

## MEETING SUMMARY

### Public Supply Advisory Committee Southwest Florida Water Management District February 11, 2020

The Public Supply (PSAC) Advisory Committee of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:00 p.m., February 11, 2020, at the Tampa Service Office, 7601 US Highway 301 North, Tampa, Florida.

#### **PSAC Committee Members Present**

Chair Jennifer Desrosiers, City of North Port  
Richard Owen, WRWSA  
Bryan Schmalz, Bay Laurel Center  
Ruffin Gray, City of Lakeland Water Utilities  
Olga Wolanin, Manatee County Utilities  
Charles Cullen, Pasco County Utilities  
Chris Cole, Sarasota County Utilities  
Warren Hogg, Tampa Bay Water  
Steve Adams, City of Punta Gorda Utilities  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities  
Phoenix McKinney, City of Tampa  
David Glicksberg, Hillsborough County Utilities  
Riley Smith, The Villages  
Richard Anderson, Peace River  
Debra Burden, Citrus County  
Jody Kirkman, Marion County

#### **Staff Members Present**

Michael Molligan, Facilitator  
Mandi Rice  
Katherine Munson  
Melissa Gulvin  
Robyn Felix  
Robin Grantham

#### **Recording Secretary**

Kelly Page

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.

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

None

3. **Approval of November 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

***A motion was made for approval of November 5, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.***

4. **Public Comments**

No public comment was given.

5. **Planning-Level Groundwater Availability in the Central Florida Water Initiative**

Mr. Brian Starford, Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring division director, provided background on the Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) and an update on groundwater planning. Mr. Starford explained that since 2015, the planning team made significant changes to the groundwater model and identified the environmental criteria to evaluate whether the Minimum Flow Levels (MFLs) have changed over time.

Mr. Starford compared the MFLs status in 2014 to the projected MFL status through 2040. He also discussed groundwater withdrawal effects on the Upper Floridan Aquifer as well as wetlands within the CFWI area. In 2017 there was about 660 million gallons of groundwater used per day. The planning-level groundwater maximum availability is 760 million gallons per day. Currently, there is about 990 million gallons per day of permitted groundwater.

Mr. Ruffin Gray asked whether the water management districts are still issuing permits for areas that are already over-allocated. Mr. Starford explained DEP develops rules for the CFWI area and the water management districts use existing rules for permits. WMDs are looking at each permit request on an individual basis.

Mr. Warren Hogg asked what were the statistical analyses that converted the groundwater drawdown from the model to wetland health impact. Mr. Doug Leeper stepped in and explained it is analogous to the initial work that was previously done in the Northern Tampa Bay region with stressed and non-stressed wetlands, which was similar to this CFWI assessment. Mr. Hogg asked if this work is being put into a draft and Mr. Starford replied an internal draft is being developed and it will be available for review.

#### **6. Public Supply Annual Report Update**

Mr. Ryan Pearson, economist, discussed results from the 2018 Public Supply Annual Report (PSAR) cycle as well as updates for 2019. Data is currently being worked into the 2018 report and will be published in December. The report will show eight utilities, or six percent, did not meet the 150 gallons per capita per day in 2018. Mr. Pearson identified tools available on the District's website, as well as PSAR workshops, to assist utilities in submitting their data.

Ms. Alys Brockway referred to the gold standard for withdraw and asked whether this information would be available to look. Mr. Pearson explained staff can come up with withdrawal numbers for 2019 so utilities can look for any discrepancies before April.

Members asked how many total utilities are within the District's reporting boundaries and what are their demographics of the eight utilities not in compliance. Mr. Pearson explained there are 140 utilities that report in the PSAR and there are a variety of demographics represented.

Mr. Steve Adams asked about flushing and how it affects the PSAR. Mr. Pearson explained up to one percent of the water sent out into a utility's distribution system can be deducted under treatment loss. He also introduced a potential exemption for utilities with flushing being the main reason of water loss over 10 percent over time.

Ms. Burden asked if staff could look at demographics of the utilities over 150 gallons per capita and see if there are any commonalities to consider that could help reduce water per capita in those areas. Mr. Pearson and Mr. Molligan agreed. Mr. Molligan explained the Water Conservation Initiative team that went out last year to the utilities not in compliance and, as a result, the Conservation Education Program (CEP) was developed. Members asked for contact information for the CEP.

#### **7. Lake Hancock/Upper Peace River Reservation**

Dr. Lei Yang, chief professional engineer, provided a presentation on the Lake Hancock reservation proposal, which will exempt water from consumption use. She explained this proposal will improve the Upper Peace River Minimum Flows Level (MFL) status and will have no impact on the Middle and Lower Peace River, Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (PRMRWSA), or the Charlotte Harbor. There will be a peer review, followed by a public workshop, before going to the Governing Board in February 2020.

**8. Governing Board Liaison Comments**

None

**9. Development of agenda topics for the next Public Supply Advisory Committee meeting tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the District's Tampa Office.**

Members requested to hear about successful water conservation programs the District has participated in as well as a recap of the District's water supply workshop.

**10. Announcements and Other Business**

Ms. Desrosiers announced Mr. Richard Owen is retiring and would like to wish him well. She also reminded committee members to refrain from communicating outside the committee meetings as it violates the Sunshine Law.

**11. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.