

## MEETING SUMMARY

### Public Supply Advisory Committee Southwest Florida Water Management District November 6, 2018

The Public Supply (PSAC) Advisory Committee of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 1:00 p.m., November 6, 2018, at the Tampa Service Office, 7601 US Highway 301 North, Tampa, Florida.

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

Chair Debra Burden, Citrus County (Water Resources)  
Vice Chair Richard Owen, Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority  
Warren Hogg, Tampa Bay Water  
Richard Anderson, Peace River Manasota Water Supply Authority  
Norm Davis, Hillsborough County Utilities  
Ruffin Gray, City of Lakeland Water Utilities  
Phoenix McKinney, City of Tampa Water Department  
Olga Wolanin, Manatee County Utilities  
David Buyens, City of Plant City Utilities  
Jen Desrosiers, City of North Port  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities  
James Kramer, City of St. Petersburg Utilities  
Jeff Harris, Pasco County Utilities

#### **Staff Members Present**

Michael Molligan, Facilitator  
Joseph Quinn  
Mike Hancock  
Lois Sorenson

#### **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 Debra Burden called the meeting to order.

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

None

#### **3. Approval of the August 14, 2018 Committee Meeting Summary**

*A motion was made for approval of August 14, 2018 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously without any significant changes.*

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

No public comment was given.

#### **5. Advisory Committee Policy Updates**

Mr. Michael Molligan, Employee and External Relations division director, presented the proposed changes to advisory committee policies, which include:

- Removing member listing within the policy
- Removing requirements with attendance
- Change in election of officers, including removing two-year term limit and changing voting requirements from quorum to majority present

Mr. Molligan encouraged feedback from the committee before going to the Governing Board with proposed changes in December. Mr. Molligan will provide a copy of the proposal for advisory committees prior to presenting to the Governing Board.

Members asked how the makeup of the committee is determined and Mr. Molligan explained the members are listed on the website and are written in the current policy. Members are chosen by the executive director to represent key stakeholders in the various industries or sectors of that committee.

Members asked how the committees were originally established and Mr. Richard Owen, who was present during this time, explained the members were specifically listed in the policies so the Governing Board would be aware of the representation when approving the policy.

Members asked about the timeframe for taking these changes to the Governing Board and Mr. Molligan said the changes will be discussed in December and voted on at the January Board meeting.

#### **6. Potable Reuse Commission Update**

Mr. Thomas Kiger, Water Supply engineer, provided an update on the Potable Reuse Commission, which was formed earlier this year and has held two of three public workshops to discuss and develop a framework for potable reuse.

Members asked where they could find the draft report for potable reuse and Mr. Kiger explained it can be found on the WaterReuse Florida website and offered to send it to the committee.

#### **7. Reclaimed Water Progress within the Southwest Florida Water Management District**

Mr. Joseph Quinn, Water Supply project manager, shared the progress of reclaimed water use within the District. He explained there have been 369 projects since 1987, 131 mgd of offsets, and 1,000 miles of pipeline laid for reclaimed water use projects. The District has supplied \$422 million in District funding towards these projects, with a cost effectiveness of \$8 per gallon.

The District has an average reuse of 54 percent of reclaimed water, compared to 30 percent statewide and 7 percent nationwide. The goal is to reach 75 percent utilization by 2040. Mr. Quinn explained the future direction of potable reuse is to tap into the 182 mgd of potential reclaimed water available within the District to help offset the increase in water use demand. He explained potable reuse is sustainable, reliable and science-safe.

Current projects utilizing indirect potable reuse include the Clearwater Groundwater Replenishment Project, the South Hillsborough Aquifer Recharge Project (SHARE) and the Tampa Augmentation Project (TAP). Recent trends for Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) reflect a declining number of new conventional projects and an increase in IPR projects. As of 2017, there were 11 power plants using reclaimed water within the District, with additional power projects currently requesting District funding.

Members asked for the link to reclaimed water mapping.

Members asked if other districts consider rapid infiltration basins (RIBS) as a beneficial reuse. Mr. Quinn explained the other districts and the state do consider some RIBS as a beneficial reuse. The District does not consider them a beneficial reuse unless they are offsetting potable water use, creating a new water supply or providing specific environmental benefits.

#### **8. Pasco County's Reclaimed Water Natural Systems Treatment and Restoration Project Overview**

Mr. Mike Hancock, chief professional engineer, discussed the concept of the Reclaimed Water Reuse Project in Central Pasco County, which uses excess reclaimed water to provide recharge in the

Northern Tampa Bay Water Use Caution Area. Within this region, there are several large RWS wellfields essentially taking water from central Florida and sending it towards the coast. Over time, this drawdown has affected the surface water systems, such as lakes and wetlands.

Mr. Hancock explained that an agreement was made in 1998 with four objectives:

1. Bring alternative water supplies of up to 85 mgd
2. Reduce groundwater withdrawals of 121 mgd by 2002 and 90 mgd by 2007
3. End litigation
4. Provide District financial assistance

The general concept behind this agreement was to "use excess reclaimed water to provide recharge in central Pasco County to offset remaining drawdown."

Mr. Hancock explained a GPD mounted bulldozer was used to construct a water system, or essentially a wetland, which provides a natural treatment system for reclaimed water. Within one and a half years of operation, the system is receiving more than three mgd, and more than two billion gallons to date of reclaimed water. Nitrate levels in all monitoring wells are well below the detection limit.

Members asked who is charged with long term maintenance and what is the benefit to Pasco County. Mr. Hancock responded the County is responsible as part of the agreement, and Mr. Jeff Harris, Pasco County Utilities, explained the goal is to put water to better use. Mr. Harris also identified the many awards the County has received from this project.

Members requested to tour Pasco County's project site in lieu of their regular February meeting.

**9. Hydrologic Conditions Update**

Ms. Lois Sorensen, Demand Management program manager, provided an update on hydrological conditions as of September 2018. She explained the hydrologic conditions remain elevated but are within a healthy range. She also mentioned El Niño is likely to develop and remain through April, May and June.

The 12-month rainfall is within normal range throughout the District, with some areas having slightly more or less rainfall. Peace River Regional Manasota Water Supply Authority currently has 577 days worth of water in storage, or 14.2 billion gallons. Hurricane season ends this month.

**10. Open Discussion**

None

**11. Development of agenda topics for the next Industrial Advisory Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 in the District's Tampa Office.**

None

**12. Announcements and Other Business**

Ms. McKnight announced the fiscal year 2019 calendar is waiting for approval at the August Governing Board meeting.

**13. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.