The Hillsborough River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District convened for a regular meeting at 9:08 a.m., October 11, 2005, at the Tampa Service Office.

**Board Members Present**
Gary Reckart, Vice Chair
George Burt, Secretary
Janet Jackson, Member
Fred Johnson, Member
Hung Mai, Member

**Board Member Absent**
Heidi McCree, Chair Ex Officio

**Recording Secretary**
Joan Riccardelli

**Staff Members**
Bruce C. Wirth
Lou Kavouras
Mark A. Hammond
Gregg W. Jones
Gary W. Kuhl
Richard S. Owen
Rand R. Baldwin
M. Beth Bartos
T. Scott Harbison
B. Terry Johnson
Colleen E. Kruk
William C. Miller
Mikel E. Renner
Kathleen F. Scott
Eric Sutton

A list of others who attended and signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the Basin. Compact disks of the audio and copies of materials and handouts, as set forth in full herein, are also filed in the permanent files of the District.

_The numbers preceding the items listed below correspond with the published agenda._

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
   In the absence of Chair McCree, Vice Chair Reckart called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Ms. Riccardelli called the roll and noted a quorum was present. (CD Track 1/0:01-0:34)

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   Vice Chair Reckart led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. (CD Track 1/0:35-0:52)

3. **Additions and Deletions to Agenda**
   Ms. Kavouras stated there were no additions or deletions to the agenda. (CD Track 1/0:53-1:06)

4. **Consent Items:**
   a. **August 16, 2005, Meeting Minutes**
      Approve the August 16, 2005 meeting minutes as presented.
   b. **Non-Exclusive License Agreement between the District and Stauffer Management Company LLC – Tampa Bypass Canal, SWF Parcel No. 13-002-745X**
      Recommend the Governing Board approve the non-exclusive license agreement with Stauffer Management Company LLC for SWF Parcel No. 13-002-745X.
   c. **Lower Hillsborough Flood Detention Area, Utility Easement to Tampa Electric Company – SWF Parcel No. 13-300-771X**
      Recommend the Governing Board approve an easement to the Tampa Electric Company for the Flatwoods Park – Bruce B. Downs Entrance Facilities.
   d. **Update of the Plan for the Use and Management of the Cypress Creek Preserve**
      Recommend the Governing Board approve the update to the Plan for Use and Management of the Cypress Creek Preserve.
Following consideration, Mr. Burt moved, seconded by Mr. Mai, to approve the aforementioned recommendations for agenda items 4a, b, c, and d as presented. Motion carried unanimously. (CD Track 1/1:07-2:08)

5. Reports:
   a. Hillsborough River Interlocal Planning Board – Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
      Mr. Reckart noted the TAC received an update on the Tampa Cruise-A-Cade tax exempt status. He said there has been much debate whether the use of this property is private or public. This debate is still ongoing. (CD Track 1/2:09-3:04)

   b. Chair Ex Officio Report on Governing Board Activities
      In the absence of Chair McCree, this item was deleted from consideration. (CD Track 1/3:05-3:55)

      Mr. Mai distributed copies of articles from the local newspaper relative to problems the City of Tampa is facing with its reclaimed water project, STAR. He said the Board might want to discuss the issues to see how they might help. He noted the first phase of the project had problems with the primary contractor that may have contributed to the cool reception the project has received. Mr. Wirth said Mr. Mai’s concern is a concern of all the Basin Boards and the Governing Board. Staff continues to work with the City and will do everything they can to provide support. Before the City begins phase two of the project, Mayor Iorio has asked her staff to look at the structure of the project to determine what changes can be made in order to attract more customers and produce more revenue. A consulting firm has been hired to make recommendations on how to fix STAR I. A report is expected to be available in the next several months. Mr. Wirth will keep the Board updated. (CD Track 1/3:56-21:04)

6. Announcements:
   a. Nature’s Classroom Visitation and Tour: October 22, 2005, 9 to 11 a.m., Thonotosassa
   b. Celebration of the Acquisition of Conservation Easements on Little Everglades Ranch: October 26, 2005, 8 a.m., Dade City
   c. Basin Board Education Committee Meeting: November 8, 2005, 9:30 a.m., Brooker Creek Preserve Environmental Education Center, Tarpon Springs
   d. Public Land Acquisition & Land Management Conference: November 16-18, 2005, Hutchinson Island
   e. Basin Board Land Resources Committee Meeting: November 17, 2005, 5:15 p.m., Hutchinson Island
   f. Mayor’s Annual Hillsborough River and Waterways Cleanup: November 19, 2005, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Lowry Park Boat Ramp
   g. Next Basin Board Meeting: December 13, 2005, 9 a.m., Tampa Service Office

7. Adjournment:
   There being no further business, Vice Chair Reckart adjourned the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

***Information Item***

The item listed below was for the Board’s information. The item was included in the Basin Board’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 budget, or previous budgets, or was $50,000 or less; therefore, did not require Board action. A formal presentation is not planned, but staff will make a presentation and/or answer questions at the next Board meeting, if the Board so desires.

1. Transfer Report

The District does not discriminate based on disability. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation under the ADA should contact the Executive Department at (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (Florida only), extension 4609; TDD only, 1-800-231-6103 (Florida); fax (352) 754-6874/SunCom 633-6874.
Call to Order
Chair McCree called the workshop to order at 9:33 a.m.

Introduction / Workshop Purpose
Ms. Renner noted the workshop is an opportunity for the Board to review its past priorities and to set its goals and budget priorities for FY2007. The priorities provide guidance to staff and local cooperators in developing project proposals, and assist the Board in its budgeting decisions. At this time, Ms. Renner provided an opportunity for those in attendance to introduce themselves. She also asked Board members to provide their definition of the word “strategy”. Ms. Renner stated the objectives of the workshop, which is to identify new trends and assess how they will affect the Board, with a focus on establishing priorities in conjunction with the budget and the Governing Board’s strategic plan. Staff is suggesting a change in how the Board views its priorities by becoming more specific or strategic. (CD Track 1 –0:01-7:34)

Overview of Basin Issues and Ongoing Initiatives
Ms. Renner said this Board has many accomplishments, many of which are ongoing. These projects reflect what the Board’s priorities have been in the past. The Basin has been undergoing tremendous growth, which engenders increasing water supply demands. Consequently, the Board has allocated the largest percentage of funds to alternative water supply projects. She noted that some Basin commitments would be completed in FY2007, which will free up more funds for emerging priorities. Ms. Renner said the Regional Water Supply Plan is being updated and will be much more project specific. Legislation requires local governments to use this plan to develop alternative supply projects. (CD Track 1/7:35-9:38)
Accomplishments/Ongoing Priorities/Emerging Issues

At this time, Ms. Renner introduced Mr. Jones, who provided a progress report on the Northern Tampa Bay Water Supply Development project, accomplishments associated with the Consolidated Wellfield Permit, the Regional Reservoir, the Regional Reclaimed Water and Downstream Augmentation project, and an update to the District’s Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP). Relative to the RWSP, Mr. Jones said the project represents potential implications for the Basin Board’s budget. The plan is updated every five years and assists water users in meeting their water supply needs. The purpose of the plan is to demonstrate that enough water will be available to meet water supply and environmental recovery needs in the Planning Region through 2025 from sources other than groundwater. The plan covers the ten-county central and southern regions since that is the area where groundwater has been exceeded.

Mr. F. Johnson asked if new growth management legislation requires local governments to be more responsible for developing new water sources. Mr. Jones said that over the past decade legislation, and particularly with the passing of Senate Bill 444 (SB444), requires that water management districts take on a more significant role in developing alternative water supplies. He said that if a local government wants to cooperatively fund a water supply project with the District, it must select from a list of options the District has developed. Local governments, as part of SB444, are also required to have a water facilities plan that shows where their water will come from for the next ten years, and are required to take the District’s Regional Water Supply Plan into account. In response to Mr. Mai’s question, Mr. Jones said that every use sector has a specific methodology for calculating water demand projections. The District is statutorily required to use Bureau of Business Economic Research projections in determining these demands in order to standardize the process across the state. Mr. Owen added that new legislative requirements require local governments, in their ten-year facilities plan, to address demand projections the District has identified. Mr. Mai commented the District should also take into consideration requirements identified by the local governments. Mr. Owen said the District is already participating in an outreach effort and will incorporate public and all user input into the draft plan. (CD Track 1/9:39-54:00)

Ms. Renner said the next major program area largely covers the three other areas of responsibility: flood control, water quality and natural systems. The Watershed Management Program proactively addresses increasing growth in flood prone areas. The program consists of five steps: collect topographic information, evaluate existing data, generate models based on the information, implement best management practices, and continue maintenance of watershed parameters. Some initiatives the Board has undertaken include the Hillsborough County and City of Tampa Duck Pond Drainage project, the Cypress Creek Wellfield Surface Water Management project, the Lake Zephyr Watershed Improvement Stormwater Infrastructure Construction project, and the East Zephyrhills Watershed Management project. Some maintenance projects include the upcoming Plant City Watershed Management Plan, and maintenance of watershed parameters and models. Mr. Mai asked how the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mapping process could be expedited. Mr. Wirth said staff would address this issue at a future meeting. (CD Track 2/0:01 through Track 3/0:01-9:40)
Another area in which the Board has been very proactive is in Water Conservation. Ms. Renner said some of the projects the Board has supported include the Water Conservation Education Theater, the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) project, the FYN Hillsborough/Polk Homeowner’s Association and Condo Outreach project, and the FYN Pasco County Program, as well as many agricultural-related projects. (CD Track 3/ 9:41-11:08)

In the Public and Youth Education area, Ms. Renner cited the Lakes/Stream Monitoring Program, Adopt-A-Pond, the Hotel/Motel Water Conservation Program (C.H.A.M.P.), the Hillsborough River Watershed Education project, and Community Education Grants program. At this time, Ms. Renner introduced Ms. Bartos, who provided the Board with a presentation on Community-Based Social Marketing (CBSM), a new trend the District is engaging in to improve its education efforts. CBSM incorporates scientific knowledge of behavior change into the design and delivery of community programs. Ms. Bartos said that changes on the horizon include using CBSM criteria for community education grants and cooperative funding, giving preference to projects that use marketing research to target specific barriers to behavior change, and educating cooperators and partners on this holistic approach. In response to Mr. Mai’s question about how to overcome homeowner restrictions relative to lawn watering and the use of Florida-friendly landscaping, Ms. Bartos stated the District supports education to builders and developers through the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program, which includes providing Florida-friendly landscaping best management practices to governments creating or revising landscape ordinances. Mr. Burt stated that videos are an inexpensive way to get out the District’s messages. Ms. Jackson noted that the recent Jessica Lundsford Act would have an effect on youth education programs. Ms. Bartos said that because the District has a funding agreement with the local school districts, employees are now required to have a background check, at the District’s expense, prior to entering a school in any of the District’s 16 counties. (CD Track 3/11:09-59.48)

Ms. Renner took this opportunity to focus on Emerging Issues. In light of recent hurricane activity, Emergency Response Activities have become a developing issue. Six structures within the watershed can now be remotely operated. The Watershed Management Program is central to such issues as improved land use planning decisions, maintaining Hillsborough County’s plans, and partnering with the City of Tampa on Stormwater Management plans to help reduce and/or prevent future flooding. The Board will also continue to fund post-partnership Alternative Water Supply Development projects, as well as projects related to water quality issues in Tampa Bay. In response to Mr. Mai’s concerns relative to emergency response, Mr. Kuhl stated the District has the capability to remotely operate all gated structures on the Tampa Bypass Canal (TBC), has refurbished the major gates on the TBC over the last three years at a cost of $1.7 million, and has trained appropriate District staff in the area of emergency management. The District is coordinating with the City of Tampa and Tampa Bay Water to develop an Emergency Action Plan for S-155, the critical structure on the TBC operated to divert Hillsborough River floodwaters around the cities of Tampa and Temple Terrace. The District’s Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system has been upgraded to provide improved interaction in the operation of District water conservation and flood management structures. Many of the TBC’s aging secondary drainage systems are in need of repair and, in some cases, replacement. The Hillsborough River Basin Board has authorized expenditures
in the FY2006 budget to address the drainage systems on a phased basis over several years. New generators are being purchased in the FY2006 basin budget for use at priority structures in the event of power failure. Alternative uninterruptible power facilities to operate critical structures during power outages are being analyzed for future consideration by the Board. Mr. Mai said that relative to flood protection, the focus should be on Basin-specific criteria. Chair McCree asked that staff provide a presentation at the December meeting on flooding issues and Federal funding. (CD Track 4/0:01-19:09)

- **Strategic Board Direction**

  Ms. Renner provided an overview of the Governing Board and Basin Board budget priorities and noted the consistencies between both budgets. The greatest percentage of funds in both budgets has been allocated for water resource and supply needs. She stated that funding allocated toward the Partnership would be completed in FY2007; the Board will still need to make contributions through the New Water Sources Initiative in FY2008 and FY2009 to fund the development of alternative water supplies. The Board is basically in good condition as far as available funds to pursue future interests. Staff-recommended strategic budget priorities for future focus include ongoing Alternative Water Supply Development for Northern Tampa Bay, development and implementation of the Watershed Management Program, and Public and Youth Education. (CD Track 4/19:10-26:42)

4. **Confirm/Update Basin Priorities and Strategic Budget Direction**

   Ms. Renner asked if the foregoing was an accurate representation of the Board’s position relatives to its priorities. Mr. Burt said he would like to further review the Basin priorities before coming to any conclusions. Mr. Mai requested flood protection be emphasized as a Board priority. He also asked that staff provide the Basin Board with some advance information prior to the Governing Board’s selection of projects with Senate Bill 444 funds. The Board consensus indicated support for the priorities as presented. (CD Track 4/26:43-40:06)

5. **Open Discussion**

   Mr. Burt asked about the status of the Riga Tract. Mr. Miller stated the District has a closing scheduled for November 8, 2005. He will keep the Board apprised of the outcome. (CD Track 5/0:01-1:01)

6. **Public Input**

   There was no public input.

7. **Adjournment**

   Ms. Renner wrapped up the workshop and thanked the members and staff for their participation. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.