

MEETING SUMMARY

Industrial Advisory Committee Southwest Florida Water Management District

The Industrial Advisory Committee of the Southwest Florida Water Management Water District met at 9:00 a.m. on January 17, 2006, at the Tampa Service Office, 7601 Highway 301 North. The following individuals were present:

Committee Members Present

Patricia West, Chair
Ron Brunk
Denise Corrales
Laura Crouch
Marc Hurst
Stefan Kataras
Jeff Stewart
Robert Yarborough

Staff Members Present

Richard Owen, Facilitator
Marty Kelly
Joanne McClellan

Others Present

John Dumeyer

Recording Secretary

Tonya Parker-Rimes

A list of all present who signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the District. Tape recordings have been used to record these proceedings and are on file in the permanent files of the District, as well as copies of the materials and handouts provided at the meeting.

The numbers preceding the items below correspond with the published agenda.

1. Call to Order, Introduction and Announcements

Patricia West, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Introductions were made and there were no other announcements at this time.

2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. Approval of the October 18, Meeting Summary

Following consideration, a motion was moved and seconded to approve the October 18, 2005, Meeting Summary as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Rule Making Update

a. Southern Water Use Caution Area Recovery Strategy and Associated Rules

Richard Owen advised the Committee that the District is in the process of rewriting the SWUCA Recovery Strategy as well as the rules based on the latest direction from the Governing Board. The revised Recovery Strategy and rules will be included in the February Governing Board packet and copies will be available. Staff will ask for concurrence and authorization of the Governing Board to publish the rules.

b. Water Shortage Plan

Mr. Owen discussed the current status of the water shortage plan. The Governing Board approved the last amendments at its October meeting and they were published for adoption in the Florida Administrative Weekly. There were no challenges to the rule

only a few recommendations from the Joint Administrative Procedures Commission that will be incorporated in the final rule. The finalized rule is expected to go into effect in March.

c. Other

There were no other rules discussed by the Committee.

5. Minimum Flows and Levels Status Report

- a.** Middle Peace River – Marty Kelly discussed staff's work in setting the minimum flows and levels in the Middle Peace River. He explained several aspects of the District's approach to identify a flow regime rather than a single MFL. This approach allows for levels to be set to address seasonality within the waterbody. The District also uses a percent of flow reduction technique when permitting withdrawals from those waterbodies. This technique specifies the amount that can be withdrawn in relation to the flow, if flow is low the withdrawal amount is lowered and when the flow is high the withdraw amount is increased. The District also considers that "significant harm" occurs when there is a reduction of 15% or more of the available habitat.

Mr. Kelly also explained all of the different methodologies and all of the data that was collected and analyzed to arrive at the MFLs. He advised the Committee that all of the documentation on the MFLs as well as peer reviews were available on the website. There was discussion on how it is perceived that mining activities affect river flows. Mr. Kelly stated that in his research he could not find any correlation between mining and river flow increases and decreases.

Robert Yarborough asked how MFLs affect existing permittees. Mr. Kelly replied that there are no current permittees affected by the establishment of MFLs for the Middle Peace River. Mr. Owen asked what does this mean to current groundwater permittees. Mr. Kelly stated that when a groundwater permit is issued a model is done to see if it affects the MFLs. Ron Brunk asked how far upstream the District would look for groundwater withdrawals that impact the flows. Mr. Kelly stated that when a groundwater permit is submitted a model will be run to see the affects and impacts. Mr. Owen suggested that staff from Technical Services be on the next meeting agenda to discuss these issues.

- b.** Alafia River Freshwater System – Mr. Kelly stated that the same methodologies were used in determining the MFLs for the Alafia River. He showed the comparisons of flow on the north prong and the south prong in relation to increased mining activity in those areas. District staff did not find any relationship indicating lower flows in the north prong due to the increase of mining activities.

6. Regional Water Supply Plan Update

Mr. Owen stated that staff is currently working on the first 5-year update to the Regional Water Supply Plan. Staff hopes to be able to take a draft document to the March Governing Board for their concurrence and approval. Once the Governing Board has approved the draft document it will be released for public input.

**7. Next Scheduled Meeting – April 18, 2006
Discussion of Tentative Agenda**

- Regional Water Supply Plan
- Southern Water Use Caution Area Recovery Strategy and Associated Rules
- Legislative update requested by Robert Yarborough

- Permitting in relation to MFLs requested by the Committee

8. Announcements and Other Business

There were no announcements or other business.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business or announcements to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.