



**WITHLACOOCHEE
REGIONAL
WATER
SUPPLY
AUTHORITY**

Board Meeting Package

October 20, 2010
4:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council
Headquarters Conference Room
1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200)
Ocala, Florida 34474-0323



WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Water Supply Authority Board of Directors and Interested Parties
From: Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director *JES*
Date: September 30, 2010
Subject: Monthly Meeting of the Withlacoochee Regional
Water Supply Authority

The next meeting of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority will be on **Wednesday, October 20, 2010, 4:30 p.m.**, at the **Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323**

Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting
- Board Package*

* Copies of the Board Package are available through the Internet. Log on to www.wrwsa.org. On the Authority's Home Page go to the top of the page and click on "Minutes & Notices." On the right side of the "Minutes & Notices" page is a button for the current Board Package. Click on the Board Package to download and print the Board Package.

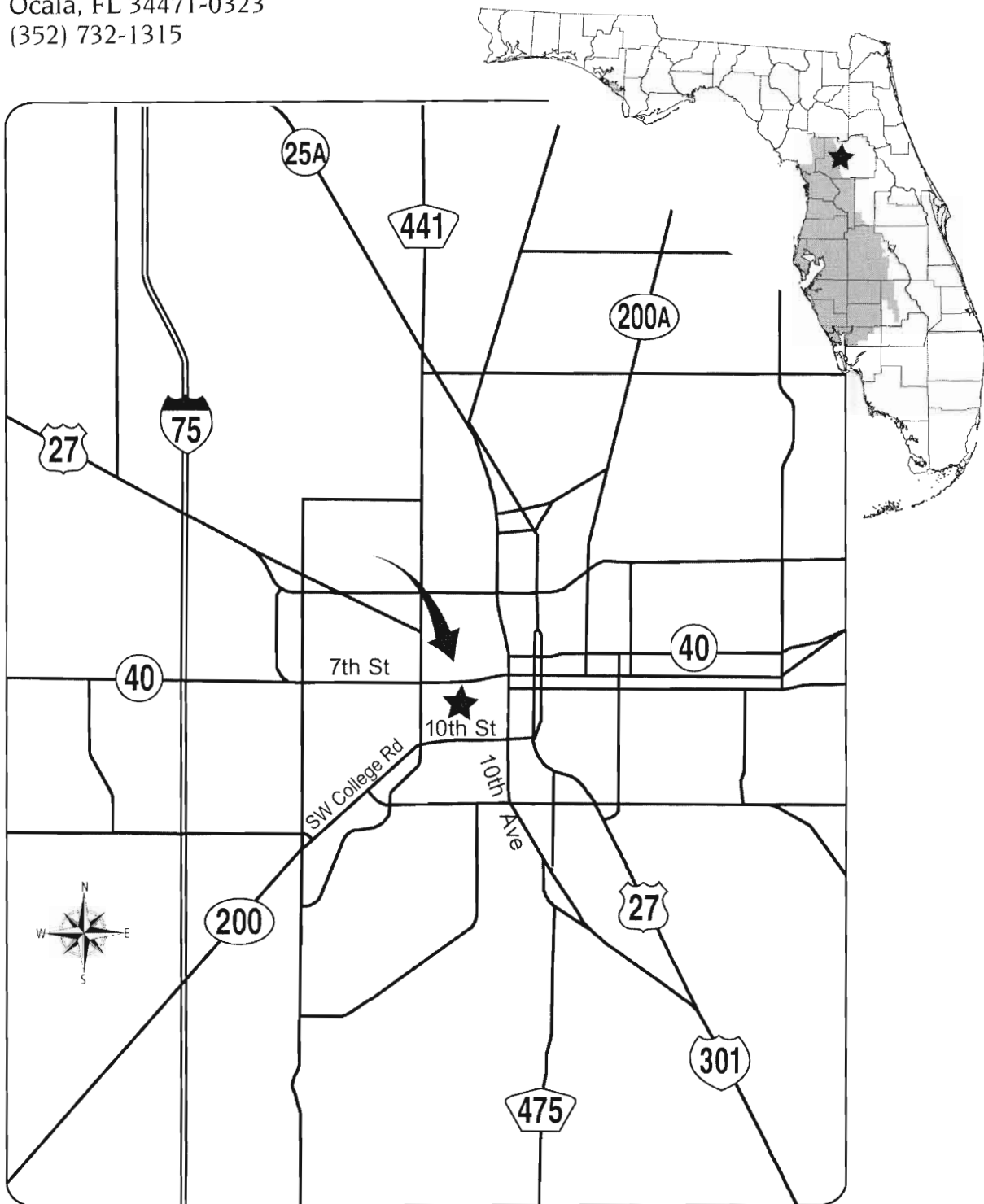
Please note that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the above cited meeting, he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes that testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Enclosures

1107 Shalimar Drive – Tallahassee, FL 32312
(850) 385-0220 – FAX (850) 385-0223
jesull@comcast.net

P.O. Box 15369 – Brooksville, FL 34604
(352) 796-4970 – FAX (352) 754-6874
jesull@comcast.net

Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council
1241 S.W. 10th Street (SR 200)
Ocala, FL 34471-0323
(352) 732-1315



Note:

The Council's office is located approximately 2.6 miles east of Interstate 75 on State Road 200 and approximately .5 miles west of Pine Street, which is also US Highway 27, 301 & 401.

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AGENDA**

**Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room
1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200)
Ocala, Florida 34474-0323**

**October 20, 2010
4:30 p.m.**

- Item #1 Call to Order**
- Item #2 Roll Call**
- Item #3 Introductions and Announcements**
- Item #4 Presentation of Plaque of Appreciation to Commissioner Gary Bartell**
- Item #5 Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2010 Meeting**
- Item #6 Report on Use of CFBC as a Water Supply ... Pete Hubbell, Water Resource Associates**
- Item #7 Executive Director's Report ... Jack Sullivan, WRWSA**
 - a. Bills to be Paid**
 - b. 2010-11 Board Meeting Schedule**
 - c. Report on Progress re: FERC Inglis Hydropower Application**
 - d. Follow-up on Recommendations of FEMA re Oil Damage from Hurricanes**
 - e. Correspondence**
 - f. News Articles**
- Item #8 Legislative Update ... Diane Salz, Legislative Consultant**
- Item #9 Attorney's Report ... Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney**
- Item #10 Other Business**
- Item #11 Public Comment**
- Item #12 Next Meeting Time and Location ... November 17, 2010, 4:30 p.m., SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899**
- Item #13 Adjournment**

4. Plaque of Appreciation

Withlacoochee River Picture

Presented To

Gary Bartell

--- >>>>•<<<< ---

**In Appreciation for His Service to the
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority**

1994 - 2010

5. 9/15/10 Minutes

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2010**

TIME: 4:30 p.m.
PLACE: Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)
2379 Broad Street (SR 41)
Brooksville, Florida 34604

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

1. Call to Order

Chairman Richard Hoffman called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Jack Sullivan, Executive Director, called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Hoffman, Chairman, Sumter County Commissioner
Barbara Fitos, Vice-Chairman, Marion County Commissioner
Rose Rocco, Treasurer, Hernando County Commissioner
Gary Bartell, Citrus County Commissioner
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner
Christine Dobkowski, Belleview City Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman
Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner
Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner
Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman
John Druzbeck, Hernando County Commissioner
Ken Hinkle, Inverness City Councilman
Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner
John Priester, Ocala City Councilman
Mary S. Rich, Ocala City Councilwoman
David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner

3. Introductions and Announcements

Mr. Sullivan introduced others in the audience.

OTHERS PRESENT

Jack Sullivan, WRWSA Executive Director
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney
Diane Salz, WRWSA Legislative Liaison
Alys Brockway, Hernando County
Veronica Craw, SWFWMD
Al Grubman, TOO FAR
Dan Hilliard, Withlacoochee Area Residents
Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates
Bob Knight, Citrus County Utilities
Cara Martin, SWFWMD
Connie Mullis, Legislative Assistant Senator Evelyn Lynn
Todd Petrie, Marion County Utilities
Joseph Quinn, SWFWMD
David Rathke, SWFWMD
Miki Renner, SWFWMD
Peter Rocco, Hernando County Citizen
Tyler Scotland, SWFWMD
Tahla Paige, Recording Secretary

4. Presentation of Plaque of Appreciation to Senator Charlie Dean

Chair Hoffman announced that Senator Charlie Dean was caught in traffic and the presentation would be done when he arrived.

5. Approval of Minutes of July 21, 2010 Meeting

A copy of the minutes was provided in the board packet.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Ms. Rocco to approve the minutes for the July 21, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

6. Report on Progress Re: FERC Inglis Hydropower Application

Mr. Sullivan reported that the WRWSA had been added to the FERC e-mail list to receive information on this project. However, the WRWSA could not be added to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection A-95 Federal Project review mailing list, as it did not include special districts as a commenting agency. He did obtain e-mail addresses from DEP to research information on projects throughout the state. Mr. Sullivan stated he had contacted Cara Martin, SWFWMD to obtain information on the Inglis project, since SWFWMD was listed as a commenting agency.

Mr. Hubbell explained the concerns for the proposed project in the Inglis Spillway are: will this project have adverse impact to the establishment of Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) for the Lower Withlacoochee River; what is the potential impact and alteration of the regulation schedule for the Lake Rousseau Pool; and, does a potential power plant in the bypass structure of Lake Rousseau conflict with any future WRWSA projects? Mr. Hubbell stated the best option was to have a meeting with Hydropower Inc. to discuss these issues.

Mr. Quinn, Planner, SWFWMD stated that SWFWMD did not have enough information to determine if a Water Use Permit was required for the project and needed to schedule a meeting with Hydropower Inc. to make such a determination. Mr. Sullivan asked if WRWSA representatives could be present at the meeting. Mr. Quinn stated the meetings were usually between the applicant and the SWFWMD. However, he would check into the possibility of a joint meeting.

This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

4. Presentation of Plaque of Appreciation to Senator Charlie Dean

Ms. Diane Salz introduced Senator Charlie Dean thanking him for his support for protecting the water resources within the region. Chair Hoffman presented him with a plaque of appreciation. Senator Charlie Dean gave a short speech thanking the Board.

7. Report on Discussions Re: Use of Cross Florida Barge Canal as a Water Supply

Mr. Hubbell gave a brief presentation on the possible uses of the Cross Florida Barge Canal (CFBC) as a water supply source. He stated Mr. Dan Hilliard, Withlacoochee Area Residents, Inc. (WAR), had presented the concept of creating a fresh water reservoir in the CFBC approximately six miles south of the Inglis Lock. Mr. Hubbell said he and Mr. Sullivan would meet with WAR and report back at the next Board meeting.

8. Executive Director's Report

a. Bills to be Paid

Mr. Sullivan stated since there was no August meeting the bills for August were paid in the amount of \$23,951.49. He requested the Board ratify payment of these bills.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Ms. Fitos to ratify payment of the August 2010 bills totaling \$23,951.49. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Sullivan provided a handout to the Board detailing September 2010 bills which totaled \$20,173.24. Mr. Sullivan requested the Board approve the payment of those bills.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Bartell to approve payment of the September 2010 bills totaling \$20,173.24. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fitos and carried unanimously**

b. 3rd Quarter Financial Report

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the financial report.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Ms. Rocco to approve the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bartell and carried unanimously.**

c. Report on Skyland Utilities Public Service Commission Certification

Mr. Sullivan stated he contacted the Hernando County Attorney's Office, as instructed at the July 15, 2010 WRWSA meeting, and was told it was too late to testify on the Skyland Utilities Certification. Subsequently, he prepared a letter to Ms. Nancy Argenziano, Chairperson, Public Service Commission, stating the concerns of the WRWSA on the Skyland Utilities Certification. Mr. Sullivan stated the letter was enclosed in the WRWSA packet for the Board's review.

d. Purvis Gray Contract for Quarterly Financial Reports

Mr. Sullivan stated the current contract would expire on September 30, 2010 and requested approval to renew the contract.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Bartell to approve renewal of the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

e. Correspondence

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the correspondence in the packet. He stated that FEMA had responded to his letter to the President with the suggestion to contact the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Sullivan asked if the Board wanted him to contact the EPA for additional information. Ms. Rocco said she felt it was a good idea. A consensus of the Board was for him to contact the EPA.

f. News Articles

Mr. Sullivan provided news articles on water supply issues relating to areas both regional and statewide. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

Mr. Sullivan stated he had an add-on item for the agenda. The Hernando County Water Conservation Division was requesting an extension for its 2009-10 water conservation grant to December 31, 2010. The grant currently has \$15,000 with a balance of approximately \$7,500 of WRWSA funds. The current contract ends September 30, 2010.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Bartell to approve the extension of the Hernando County grant to December 31, 2010. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

9. Legislative Update

Ms. Salz asked the WRWSA to approve Resolution No. 2010-1 objecting to the costly approach of the EPA's Proposed Numeric Nutrient Criteria for Florida in the "Water Quality Standard for the State of Florida's Lakes and Flowing Waters" ruling. Mr. Bartell asked if the cost was at the state level or would counties and municipalities cover the expense. Ms. Salz replied that counties and municipalities would have to cover the cost.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Bartell to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

10. Attorney's Report

a. Local Government Grant Contracts

Mr. Haag presented the Project Grant Agreements for Citrus County for the sum of \$45,000, for Hernando County for the sum of \$47,400, and for Marion County for the sum of \$37,500.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Bartell to approve the grant contracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

b. Water Resources Associates General Service Contract

Mr. Haag presented the Water Resources Associates General Service Contract renewal for approval.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Bartell to approve the contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

c. WRA Marion County Conservation/Reclaimed Water Contract

Mr. Haag presented the Water Resources Associates contract to prepare a Water Conservation/Reclaimed water program for the portions of Marion County in the St. Johns Water Management District for renewal.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Bartell to approve the contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

d. Update to Phase VII Contract

Mr. Haag presented the Water Resource Associates contract to continue work on developing the Regional Framework concept for approval.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Ms. Rocco to approve the contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Webb and carried unanimously.**

e. Resolution Re: Policy on Location of Public Records and Copying Costs.

Mr. Haag presented Resolution 2010-2 defining Board policy regarding Location of Public Records and Copying costs for approval.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Bartell to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

11. Other Business

Mr. Sullivan announced he would like to recognize Mr. Bartell for approximately 20 years of service on the WRWSA Board at the next meeting. By consensus the Board agreed.

12. Public Comment

None.

13. Next Meeting Time and Location

The next meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2010 at 4:30 p.m., at the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 Southwest 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323.

14. Adjournment

Chairman Hoffman announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the Board and adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Richard Hoffman, Chairman

Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director

6. CFBC as a Water Supply

**MEMORANDUM**

October 6, 2010

To: Board of Directors, WRWSA

From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director *JS*

RE: Use of Cross Florida Barge Canal (CFBC) for Water Supply – Recommendation

During the public comment portion of the Board's July meeting, Dan Hilliard from the Withlacoochee Area Residents, Inc. (WAR) addressed the potential of utilizing the CFBC as a potential future water source. WAR's concern is the potential impacts to both groundwater and surface water resources due to their development as potential water supplies in the future to meet water demands within the WRWSA. The WAR concept is to substitute the Authority's proposed ground and surface water projects with perceived "wasted" fresh water as it flows to tide from Lake Rousseau and springs that discharge into the CFBC.

As you remember the WAR concept is to place a saltwater barrier in the CFBC 6-miles downstream of the Inglis Lock to create a freshwater reservoir. This reservoir would maintain a 2-foot head over average water levels of the existing canal. Their anticipated benefit of this project would be a created reservoir that would store a significant freshwater resource for public water supply development. A secondary benefit would be an improvement of water quality in the Upper Floridan Aquifer in the immediate vicinity of the CFBC.

It should be kept in mind that WAR's proposal arises from a study initiated by the Withlacoochee Basin Board in 2003 to evaluate restoration alternatives for the portion of the Withlacoochee River downstream of the Inglis dam. The focus of that study was to look at restoring flow to the lower Withlacoochee River and not necessarily as a water supply project. There were three alternatives considered, plus a "do nothing" alternative. The two alternatives that would support WAR's proposal ranged from \$26.3 to \$41.8 million in 2004 dollars. No action has been taken by the Withlacoochee Basin Board on any of these alternatives to date.

The WRWSA and its consultants have reviewed the concept to determine if it has merit for consideration in its future water supply planning process. This review process included a meeting with the SWFWMD to discuss the potential benefits and issues regarding such a project, attendance on a Federal workshop on the proposed Levy County Nuclear Power Plant and a follow-up meeting to discuss the concept with WAR representatives. Based on this review we have concluded the following:

1. The WAR proposal presents an interesting alternative for water supply development and the potential restoration of the Lower Withlacoochee River;

2. The WRWSA could possibly classify this project as an alternative water supply (AWS) option but not a project that would compete against the short-term groundwater projects outlined in the Authority's water supply planning efforts;
3. A great deal of competition for CFBC water is currently under consideration. This includes:
 - a. Development of Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) for the Lower Withlacoochee River by the SWFWMD;
 - b. Significant planned withdrawals (122 mgd) from the CFBC by Progress Energy for the Levy County Nuclear Power Plant; and
 - c. Potential restoration alternatives for the Lower Withlacoochee River developed by the SWFWMD.
4. Low water quality in the CFBC and the potential need for advanced treatment can be considered to be high;
5. A great deal of study would need to be completed to determine if and when this project would be viable; and
6. AWS projects are considered to be long-term alternatives in the Authority's water supply planning efforts and probably won't need to be considered for the next 20 to 30-years.

Based on these considerations, particularly the issue of need, we are concerned that the level of analysis to determine the viability of this project will be considerable and the variables on water use for the CFBC will change dramatically between now and when the water is eventually needed. In summary, we believe this project may have merit but it is premature to spend the effort and energy to analyze the specifics of the project at this point in time.

Recommendation:

My recommendation is to request the Board accept the WAR proposal as a potential AWS project for consideration as a long-term water supply project along with the other AWS projects approved in the Authority's Water Supply Master Plan. However, it is also recommended that further analysis of the project not take place until the time in which these long-term AWS projects are further analyzed for consideration and development in the future.

7.a. Bills to be Paid

**Bills to be Paid for October Will be Handed Out
at the October 20, 2010 Board Meeting**

**7.b. 2010-11
Meeting Calendar**

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority is required to publish a listing of its regularly scheduled meetings. The following list identifies the Board meetings scheduled for Calendar Year 2011.

2011 WRWSA Meeting Schedule

January 19, 2011, 4:30 p.m., SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

February 16, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323

March 16, 2011, 4:30 p.m., SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

April 20, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323

May 18, 2011, 4:30 p.m., SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

June 15, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323

July 20, 2011, 4:30 p.m., SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

August 17, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323

September 21, 2011, 4:30 p.m., SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

October 19, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323

November 16, 2011, 4:30 p.m., SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

December 21, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323

7.c. Inglis Hydropower Application



WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

October 6, 2010

To: Board of Directors, WRWSA

From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

RE: Report on Progress re: FERC Inglis Hydropower Application

As presented at the July and September Board meetings, Inglis Hydropower, LLC has submitted a license application for the construction and operation of a hydroelectric power plant to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The permit was originally applied for in December 2008. This facility is proposed to be located at the existing Inglis Bypass Spillway located on Lake Rousseau. The plant will be a "run of the river" facility meaning that it will only generate electricity when water is routed down the bypass canal during both normal and high water conditions and when the lower Withlacoochee River is in need of additional fresh water flows.

The WRWSA and its consultants are in the process of reviewing the application and determining any potential impacts to future water supply projects that have been identified for the Withlacoochee River, Lake Rousseau or the Crystal River Desalination Project. This will include a review of the project's anticipated regulation schedule and the implications it may have on water withdrawals and water quality. These concerns include:

- Minimum Flows for the lower Withlacoochee River and Lake Rousseau
- Alteration of regulation schedule for the Lake Rousseau pool
- Establishment of prior rights through a SWFWMD WUP allocation
- Does it conflict with water supply plans of SWFWMD and the WRWSA?
- Potential impact to the Authority's ability to develop Rousseau or other Withlacoochee River projects as alternative water supplies

The Executive Director and the Authority's consultant will update the Board on progress with regard to the project and the course of action.

1107 Shalimar Drive – Tallahassee, FL 32312
(850) 385-0220 – FAX (850) 385-0223
jesull@comcast.net

From: "Peter Hubbell" <phubbell@wraconsultants.com>
Subject: **Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Meeting (WRWSA)**
Date: September 30, 2010 10:48:02 AM EDT
To: <inglishydro@hotmail.com>
Cc: "Jackson Sullivan" <jesull@comcast.net>

Mr. Edwards:

I am a consultant working with the WRWSA on their long-range water supply planning. Joe Quinn from the District said he has mentioned us to you and the possibility of a meeting to discuss your project at Lake Rousseau and its interrelationship with proposed Authority projects.

We were checking calendars and was wondering if you might be open to meet with Jack Sullivan (Authority Executive Director) and me either on Wednesday October 13 at 2 PM or the 14th at 9 AM at the District offices?

Let me know if that would work for you or if you have an alternative date or time.

Thanks!

Pete

Peter G. Hubbell
Principal/Senior Hydrologist
Water Resource Associates, Inc.
4260 W. Linebaugh Avenue
Tampa, FL 33624

Office: 813-265-3130
Fax: 813-265-6610
Cell: 813-610-2828



October 5, 2010

David Moore, Executive Director
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604

RE: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Inglis Hydropower Application

Dear Mr. ^{Dave} Moore:

As you are aware, Inglis Hydropower, LLC has submitted a license application for the construction and operation of a hydroelectric power plant to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). This facility is proposed to be located at the existing Inglis Bypass Spillway located on Lake Rousseau. The plant will be depend on water discharged down the spillway from Lake Rousseau to the Lower Withlacoochee River meaning that it will only generate electricity when water is routed down this bypass canal.

The project has been in the review process for approximately a year and one-half, but unfortunately the WRWSA has not been included as one of the commenting agencies. The application and its potential implications to the Authority's water supply planning process have only come to light over the past several months. Based on information we are able to gather from the FERC website we are concerned about the potential implications of the project with respect to the WRWSA and Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) water supply planning efforts.

The WRWSA and its consultants are in the process of reviewing the application and determining any potential impacts to future water supply projects that have been identified including the Withlacoochee River, Lake Rousseau and the Crystal River Desalination Project. These concerns include the project's anticipated regulation schedule and the implications it may have on water withdrawals and water quality.

These concerns include:

- Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) for the lower Withlacoochee River and Lake Rousseau: As MFLs are developed for these systems, how will a "run of the river" type system be impacted or impact the determination of the flows and levels?
- Alteration of regulation schedule for the Lake Rousseau pool: If alteration of the Lake Rousseau pool is required for MFLs or potential drawdown for water quality considerations, how will the Hydropower project affect the potential implementation of these initiatives?

- Establishment of prior rights through a SWFWMD Water Use Permit (WUP) allocation:
Will SWFWMD require a WUP for the Hydropower project? If a WUP is issued will Hydropower establish rights that will make the development of water supplies from Lake Rousseau or the Withlacoochee River more difficult?
- Does it conflict with water supply plans of SWFWMD and the WRWSA?

At the July Board meeting of the WRWSA we proposed a course of action for the Authority to take with respect to this project. It included:

- Developing a letter to FERC requesting the WRWSA be added to list of commenting agencies
- Meet with SWFWMD to discuss implications of power project to alternative water supply development options
- Request a meeting with Hydropower to discuss project and WRWSA project concerns
- Develop an Authority position regarding power project
- Report back to the WRWSA Board at their October meeting with staff recommendation

Our October 20, 2010 Board meeting is fast approaching and we still do not have any resolution of our concerns regarding the Hydropower project. We are in the process of setting a meeting with Hydropower to discuss these issues but also realize that most are directly related to input from SWFWMD. The District's feedback on these concerns is requested so we can accurately relay any genuine issues with the project on our water supply planning efforts to the WRWSA Board.

Sincerely,



Jack Sullivan


cc: WRWSA Board
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney
Pete Hubbell, Water Resource Associates

**7.d. Oil Damage
from Hurricanes**

**MEMORANDUM**

October 5, 2010

To: Board of Directors, WRWSA

From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director 

Re: Follow-up on Recommendations of FEMA re Oil Damage from Hurricanes

As requested, I followed up on the sources provided by FEMA regarding programs oriented toward oil pollution of springs and spread of oil during hurricanes. The letter I received back from FEMA indicated that assistance could only be obtained once the President declares a disaster for our area. FEMA then referred me to several sources for other programs. I have followed up on two that seemed to have some significance for local governments: Debris Management (Collection and Removal) and Spread of Oil Inland.

FEMA provided a web page for the debris management guidelines. The document for this is 260 pages long. Instead of trying to include the document in the Board Package, I provided the front page of the document with the web page address and a copy of the table of contents. Your disaster management staff can pull this document up and review it for any applicability to issues within your county.

FEMA did not provide a web page for a contact at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding specific studies on how a major storm may affect the spread of oil inland. Instead, FEMA provided a mailing address. I have attached a letter that I sent to EPA regarding these studies. I will report at a later date on any follow-up from EPA on this issue.

Tallahassee:

1107 Shalimar Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32312
(850) 385-0220 Fax (380) 385-0223
jesull@comcast.net

Brooksville:

P.O. Box 15369
Brooksville, FL 34604
(352) 796-4970 Fax (352) 754-6874
jesull@comcast.net



Public Assistance

Debris Management Guide

FEMA-325 / July 2007

Find on-line at: (260 pp.)

<http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/pa/demagdc.pdf>



FEMA

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	ii
------------------------	----

Part I – Public Assistance Eligibility

Introduction	1
--------------------	---

Chapter 1 – Public Assistance Debris Removal Eligibility.....	3
--	----------

Public Assistance Grant Program

General Eligibility Criteria

- Definition of Eligibility
- Grantee/Subgrantee
- Facility
- Work
- Public Interest
- Reasonable Cost

Environmental and Historic Preservation Special Considerations

- National Environmental Policy Act
- Executive Orders

Duplication of Benefits

- Other Federal Agencies
- Insurance Settlements
- Salvage Value

Chapter 2 – Costs	13
--------------------------------	-----------

Applicant Resources

- Labor
- Equipment
- Documentation

Mutual Aid Agreements

Contract Services

- Competition
- Methods of Procurement
- Types of Contracts

Other Considerations

- Contract Scope of Work Recommendations
- Piggyback Contracts
- Prohibited Contracts

Additional Contract Requirements

Chapter 3 – Debris Removal from Public Property 21

Eligible Debris Removal

Ineligible Debris Removal

Debris Clearance and Removal Operations

Field Eligibility Determinations

- Vegetative Debris Eligibility
- Construction and Demolition Debris
- Hazardous Waste
- White Goods
- Soil, Mud, and Sand
- Vehicles and Vessels
- Putrescent Debris
- Infectious Waste
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear-Contaminated Debris
- Garbage

Monitoring Debris Removal Operations

Disposal

**Chapter 4 – Private Property Debris Removal and Demolition of
Private Structures 33**

Private Property Debris Removal

- Approval for FEMA Assistance
- Documentation for PPDR
- Types of Eligible PPDR Work

Demolition of Private Structures

- Eligible Demolition Costs
- Documentation for Demolition

Commercial Property

Duplication of Benefits for PPDR and Demolition

Part II – Debris Management Planning Concepts

Introduction	43
Chapter 5 – Applicant Roles and Responsibilities	45
Debris Management Staff Organization and Structure	
Debris Management Staff Responsibilities	
– Debris Project Manager	
– Debris Management Planning Sections	
Questions to Consider	
To Do Checklist	
Chapter 6 – Debris Forecasting for a Design Event	53
Design Disaster Event	
Disaster Characteristics	
Land Use and Geography	
Forecasting Methods	
– Buildings	
– Vegetation	
– Volume – Weight Conversion Factors	
– Other Forecasting Methods	
Questions to Consider	
To Do Checklist	
Chapter 7 – Debris Collection Strategy.....	63
Developing a Collection Strategy	
– Response Operations	
– Recovery Operations	
Types of Collection Methods	
– Curbside Collection	
– Collection Centers	
Collecting Hazardous Waste and White Goods	
– Household Hazardous Waste	
– White Goods	
Questions to Consider	
To Do Checklist	

Chapter 8 – Debris Management Sites 71

Advantages and Disadvantages

Identifying Debris Management Sites

- Ownership
- Size
- Location
- Environmental and Historic Preservation Concerns

Baseline Data Collection

Environmental Monitoring Program

Permits

Establishment and Operations Planning

- Site Design
- Site Management
- Site Closure

Questions to Consider

To Do Checklist

Chapter 9 – Debris Reduction/Recycling Methods and Disposal 83

Methods of Reduction

- Incineration
- Chipping and Grinding
- Recycling

Final Disposition Operations

Questions to Consider

To Do Checklist

Chapter 10 – Contracted Services 93

Common Misconceptions

Procurement Considerations

General Contract Provisions

Types of Contracts

- Unit Price Contract
- Lump Sum Contract
- Time-and-Materials Contract
- Prohibited Contracts
- Contract Matrix

Questions to Consider

Chapter 11 – Monitoring Debris Removal.....	105
Debris Monitoring Staff	
– Force Account Resources	
– Outsourcing Monitoring Duties	
Debris Monitor Roles	
Monitoring Methods for Debris Removal	
– Debris Monitor Reports	
– Truck Certification List	
– Load Ticket System	
Special Monitoring Issues	
– Equipment	
– Monitoring Tips	
Questions to Consider	
To Do Checklist	
 Chapter 12 – Planning for Private Property Debris Removal and Demolition....	 117
Labor Resources	
Condemnation Criteria and Procedures	
– Legal Documentation for Demolition	
– Demolition Permitting	
– Inspections	
Special Use Areas	
– Mobile Home Park Procedures	
– Navigation Hazard Removal	
Questions to Consider	
To Do Checklist	
 Chapter 13 – Health and Safety Strategy.....	 123
 Chapter 14 – Public Information Strategy.....	 125
Assignment of Tasks	
Information to be Included	
– Collection	
– Debris Management Sites	
Distribution Strategy	
– Update and Redistribution	
– Debris Information Center	
To Do Checklist	

Part III – Federal Government Operations

Introduction	131
Chapter 15 – FEMA Public Assistance Operations.....	133
Public Assistance Organizational Structure	
Public Assistance Staff Roles and Responsibilities	
– Infrastructure Branch Director	
– Public Assistance Group Supervisor	
– Public Assistance Debris Task Force Leader	
– Public Assistance Coordinator Crew Leader	
– Public Assistance Debris Technical Specialist	
– Public Assistance Debris Monitoring Specialist	
– Additional Support for the Public Assistance Organization	
Debris Operations Strategy	
Chapter 16 – Other Federal Assistance	139
Authorities of Federal Agencies	
– United States Army Corps of Engineers	
– United States Coast Guard	
– United States Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service	
– Environmental Protection Agency	
– Federal Highway Administration	
FEMA Mission Assignments	
– Federal Agencies that Perform Mission Assignments	
– Requirements	
– Process	
– Types of Mission Assignments	
– Scope of Work	
– Costs	
Acronyms	145
Terms Used in This Document	147
Appendices.....	153



September 29, 2010

Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington D.C. 20460

Re: Studies on How a Major Storm or Hurricane May Affect the Spread of Oil Inland

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to you on behalf of the local governments of the Withlacoochee Region in west-central Florida, specifically, the counties and cities of Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter. I recently wrote to President Obama and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding any information on the impacts of a major storm or hurricane in spreading oil inland. Tod Wells, Acting Director of the Public Assistance Division at FEMA suggested that I contact EPA regarding our concerns.

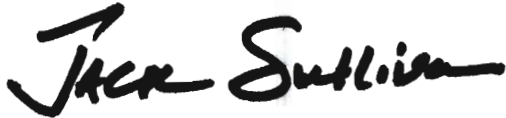
This area of Florida, especially Hernando and Citrus counties, have numerous springs and spring runs (rivers) that flow to the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, there are significant numbers of homes and businesses that are only a short distance from the Gulf. Our concern is whether oil in the Gulf could be spread into these springs and even onto homes near the Gulf should a major storm or hurricane make landfall in this area of Florida. Have any studies been made of these effects from the mixture of an oil spill and major storms spreading oil through a storm surge, rainfall or misting of the oil-filled seawater? If an action plan for these types of impacts has been made, we would like to be made aware of it. If not, we believe some action needs to take place prior to any storm that could have such an effect in our area.

We are also concerned about how the oil in seawater will effect the operation of desalination plants and the intake of seawater for cooling of coal and nuclear power generating plants. Although we do not have a desalination plant in these counties at this time, long-range plans have been adopted to eventually use desalinated water from a proposed plant in Citrus County. However, we do have coal-powered plants and a nuclear power plant in Citrus County and two more nuclear plants in the permitting stage in Levy County immediately north of Citrus County. Are there contingency plans for facilities to operate if oil intrudes on the seawater intake points?

If plans have not been formulated for the above questions, we respectfully ask that funds be directed toward addressing the issues we have raised before we encounter the problem, not after. Although our Authority Board of Directors deals specifically with water supply, it is composed of local elected officials from throughout our region who address a wide range of water related issues to their constituents. The Board asked that I contact you and others to determine how to deal with these issues in order to answer questions being raised by local residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jackson Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jackson Sullivan
Executive Director
Withlacoochee RWSA
1107 Shalimar Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32312
(850) 385-0220
(850) 385-0223 (FAX)
jesull@comcast.net

7.e. Correspondence



An Equal
Opportunity
Employer

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Bartow Service Office
170 Century Boulevard
Bartow, Florida 33830-7700
(863) 534-1448 or
1-800-492-7862 (FL only)

Sarasota Service Office
6750 Fruitville Road
Sarasota, Florida 34240-9711
(941) 377-3722 or
1-800-320-3503 (FL only)

Tampa Service Office
7601 Highway 301 North
Tampa, Florida 33637-6759
(813) 985-7481 or
1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

(352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)

TDD only: 1-800-231-6103 (FL only)

On the Internet at WaterMatters.org

Ronald E. Oakley
Chair, Pasco

Hugh M. Gramling
Vice Chair, Hillsborough

H. Paul Senft, Jr.
Secretary, Polk

Douglas B. Tharp
Treasurer, Sumter

Nell Combee
Former Chair, Polk

Todd Pressman
Former Chair, Pinellas

Judith C. Whitehead
Former Chair, Hernando

Jeffrey M. Adams
Pinellas

Carlos Beruff
Manatee

Bryan K. Beswick
DeSoto

Jennifer E. Closshey
Hillsborough

Albert G. Joergel
Sarasota

Maritza Rovira-Forino
Hillsborough

David L. Moore
Executive Director

William S. Bilenky
General Counsel

WRWSA
Mr Jack Sullivan
PO Box 15369
Brooksville FL 34604

August 25, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Parties

FROM:  Martin H. Kelly, Ph.D., Minimum Flows and Levels Program Director
Resource Projects Department

SUBJECT: Public Input Meetings for Update to Schedule for Establishment of
Minimum Flows and Levels

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) invites your participation in the process to update its Priority List and Schedule for the establishment of Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs). MFLs are the limits set by the District Governing Board for surface waters and groundwater intended to prevent significant harm to the water resources or ecology of an area caused by withdrawals.

Public meetings have been scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- Monday, October 4, 2010 at the District's Bartow Office (170 Century Blvd.)
- Monday, October 4, 2010 at the Brooksville Headquarters (2379 Broad Street)
- Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at the District's Sarasota Office (6750 Fruitville Rd)
- Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at the District's Tampa Office (7601 Hwy. 301 N.)

The purpose of these meetings is to receive input on the revised Priority Schedule for the establishment of MFLs. The draft 2011 List will be made available on the District's web site as soon as possible following the Governing Board's September 28th Board Meeting. We have attached the current year priority list for your review. Written comments are also welcome and can be submitted to Dr. Martin Kelly, Program Director, Minimum Flows and Levels, via mail or e-mail (marty.kelly@swfwmd.state.fl.us) no later than October 15, 2010.

This process represents an important opportunity for local governments, citizens and others to be part of the scheduling of minimum flows and levels for rivers, streams and other flowing waters, lakes and aquifers. Please contact Dr. Martin Kelly, or Barbara Matrone, of the Ecologic Evaluation Section (extension 4233) if you have questions or need additional information.

BOARD APPROVED 2010
MINIMUM FLOWS AND LEVELS PRIORITY LIST AND SCHEDULE

Minimum Flows and Levels Already Adopted

- Alafia River (upper freshwater segment)
- Alafia River Estuary (includes Lithia and Buckhorn Springs)
- Braden River (freshwater segment)
- ▪ Citrus County Lakes – Ft. Cooper, Tsala Apopka – Floral City, Inverness and Hernando Pools
- ▪ Hernando County Lakes – Hunters, Lindsey, Mountain, Neff, Spring and Weekiwachee Prairie
- Highland County Lakes – Angelo, Anoka, Denton, Jackson, Little Lake Jackson, June-in-Winter, Letta, Lotela, Placid, Tulane, and Verona
- Hillsborough County Lakes – Alice, Allen, Barbara, Bird, Brant, Calm, Charles, Church, Crenshaw, Crescent, Crystal, Cypress, Dan, Deer, Dosson, Echo, Ellen, Fairy [Maurine], Garden, Halfmoon, Harvey, Helen, Hobbs, Horse, Jackson, Juanita, Little Moon, Merrywater, Mound, Platt, Pretty, Rainbow, Reinheimer, Round, Saddleback, Sapphire, Stemper, Strawberry, Sunset, Sunshine, Taylor and Virginia.
- Hillsborough River (lower segment)
- Hillsborough River – upper segment (including Crystal Spring)
- Levy County Lake – Marion
- Peace River (middle segment)
- Peace River (upper segment – "low" minimum flows)
- Northern Tampa Bay – 41 Wetland sites
- Northern Tampa Bay – 7 Wells – Floridan Aquifer/Saltwater Intrusion
- Pasco County Lakes – Bell, Big Fish, Bird, Buddy, Camp, Clear, Green, Hancock, Iola, Jessamine, King, King [East], Linda, Middle, Moon, Padgett, Parker aka Ann, Pasadena, Pasco, Pierce, unnamed #22 aka Loyce
- Polk County Lakes – Annie, Bonnie, Clinch, Crooked, Dinner, Eagle, Lee, Mabel, McLeod, Parker, Starr, Venus, and Wales
- Myakka River (upper freshwater segment)
- Sulphur Springs (Hillsborough County)
- ▪ Sumter County Lakes – Big Gant, Black, Deaton, Miona, Okahumpka and Panasoffkee
- SWUCA – Floridan Aquifer
- Tampa Bypass Canal
- ▪ Weekiwachee River System and Springs
(includes Weeki Wachee, Jenkins Creek, Salt, Little Weeki Wachee and Mud River springs)

2009

- Anclote River System
- Dona Bay (Cow Pen Slough/Canal)
- Polk County Lake – Hancock (S08-T29S-R25E)
- Lower Peace River

2010

- ~ ▪ Chassahowitzka River System and Springs (includes Chassahowitzka Main, Chassahowitzka #1, Crab Creek, Potter and Ruth and Blind Spring)
- ~ ▪ Gum Springs Group
- ~ ▪ Hillsborough County Lakes – Raleigh (S27-T27S-R17E), Rogers (S27-T27S-R17E), Starvation (S21-T27S-R18E), and Wimauma (S09-T32S-R20E)
- ~ ▪ Homosassa River System and Spring (includes Hidden River Springs 1 and 2)
- Little Manatee River
- Lower Myakka River System (Myakkahatchee Creek, Deer Prairie Creek and Blackburn Canal)
- Manatee River System (Braden River Estuary)
- Northern Tampa Bay – Phase II
- Polk County Lakes – Crystal (S02-T30S-R27E) and North Lake Wales (S01-T30S-R27E)
- ~ ▪ Upper and Middle Withlacoochee River System (Green Swamp)
- ~ ▪ Rainbow Springs (includes Bubbling and Waterfall Springs)
- Shell Creek Estuary

2011

- ~ ▪ Brooker Creek
- ~ ▪ Crystal River System and Kings Bay Spring
- ~ ▪ Hillsborough County Lakes – Carroll (S15-T28S-R18E) and Hooker (S12-T29S-R20E)
- ~ ▪ Lower Withlacoochee River System
- ~ ▪ Marion County Lakes – Bonable (S31-T15S-R18E), Little Bonable (S30-T15S-R18E), and Tiger (S32-T15S-R18E)
- Pithlachascotee River System
- Polk County Lake – Lowery (S14-T27S-R26E)
- Upper Peace River "Middle" and "High" Minimum Flows

2012

- Charlie Creek
- Horse Creek
- North Prong Alafia River
- South Prong Alafia River
- Polk County Lakes – Amoret (S24-T30S-R27E), Aurora (S13-T30S-R28E), Bonnet (S14-T28S-R23E), Easy (S19-T30S-R28E), Effie (S03-T30S-R27E), Little Aurora (S13-T30-R28E), and Josephine (S13-T30S-R27E)
- Hillsborough County Lakes – Kell (S01-T27S-R18E), Keene (S07-T27S-R19E), and Hanna (S18-T27S-R19E)

2013

- Prairie Creek
- Shell Creek (freshwater segment)
- ▪ Hernando County Lakes – Tooke (S13-T22S-R17E) and Whitehurst (S17-T22-R18E)

2014

- Cypress Creek

All spring, freshwater river segment and estuarine MFLs will be submitted for voluntary scientific peer review.

Section-Township-Range (S-T-R) information is listed for lakes scheduled for minimum levels development to assist in locating individual water bodies and to avoid potential confusion with lakes that have the same or similar name. Similar information is provided for lakes with adopted minimum levels in Table 8-2, Rule 40D-8.624(12) of the Florida Administrative Code.

Notes: Changes being proposed to the MFLs List are attributable to the following:

- (1) Lake Wimauma – An agreed upon study to examine the possible effects of drainage and sink hole development on lake levels for this lake is not yet complete, and as a result we have moved this lake from 2009 to 2010 on the proposed priority list.
- (2) Lakes Raleigh, Rogers and Starvation – delayed pending development of an acceptably calibrated hydrologic model needed to evaluate the effects of structural alterations and changes to the water budgets of the subject lakes.
- (3) Chassahowitzka River and Springs (including Blind Spring), Homosassa River and Springs, Little Manatee, Lower Myakka River System, Manatee River – it is anticipated that the lower Myakka and Chassahowitzka MFLs documents will be submitted for peer review in 2009; however, these MFLs will not be adopted before the calendar year is out, and have, therefore, moved these water bodies into the 2010 timeframe. Draft MFL reports on the Manatee, Little Manatee, and Homosassa Rivers are behind schedule, and these water bodies have been moved into 2010 as well.
- (4) Shell Creek – delayed pending development of a recovery strategy for this waterbody.
- (5) Upper and Middle Withlacoochee River System – delayed due to extreme low water conditions over the last several years; due to prolonged drought data collection under mid- and high-flows has not been possible.
- (6) Rainbow River – delayed due to several factors: low flow conditions and difficulty in adequately calibrating HEC-RAS model.
- (7) Crystal River System and Kings Bay Spring and Pithlachascotee River System – the need to complete other minimum flows in 2010 will affect the overall MFL timeline, thus these waterbodies will be moved into 2011 to allow sufficient time to complete these MFLs reports
- (8) Addition of Year 2014 – Beginning in 2004, the District added specific waterbodies for a fourth and fifth year. This enables staff to begin data collection earlier in the MFLs process for those waterbodies that require a greater planning and budgeting horizon, and would make unforeseeable hydrologic events less of an obstacle in developing MFLs.

7.f. News Articles

Water mischief

By Al Grubman

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) is the way to avoid the Local Sources First state legislation.

Yes, most of you remember or have heard of the water wars and the fight against a water pipe from the Tsala Apopka lakes to Tampa. We won and our then-Sen. Nancy Argenziano led the fight to stop the long-distance water piracy.

The roadblock was the Local Sources First legislation, which, unfortunately, gets a lot of lip service. However, the stealth water pirates have come up with a new approach to circumvent Local Sources First.

It's patterned after Tampa Bay Water, the public co-operative that built and put together a massive combination of water facilities that included a desalination plant and reservoir. Despite years of delay and design flaws, it is finally functioning. The project was so big that it made sense to combine the multiplicity of governments into a regional authority.

Now zoom into the Citrus, Hernando, Sumter and Marion four-county area — the WRWSA. The authority's board members are representatives of the various cities and counties that make up the authority. None of the board members are publicly elected. After years and hundreds of thousands of dollars spent, the authority generated a plan. The first part of the plan was submitted to the board for implementation on June 16 of this year.

Citrus County was in the barrel for this first phase. Citrus County has four representatives on the authority's board. Ken Hinkle, city councilman from Inverness, missed the meeting on June 16. The other three board members are Citrus County Commissioners Gary Bartell, Dennis Damato and Winn Webb, who were all present.

An eight-page memo supported the budget to "implement" the plan. The plan shows a new well field in south-central Citrus County with a "proposed interconnect" to Hernando County. Citrus County was well represented in the audience, filling most of the chairs in a full house. TOO FAR, which has members in all four counties, had four members there, including myself. The Citrus County Council had six members present, including Council President Teddi Rusnak, plus Norman Hopkins, director of the Amy Remley Foundation, and Jim Bitter, president of the Homosassa River Alliance.

The citizens in attendance begged, pleaded and instructed the commissioners to no avail. The executive director assured the commissioners that the "interconnect" from Citrus County to Hernando County would carry no ground water but only alternative water source (AWS) water in the distant future. This was in spite of the fact that the plan drawings clearly show that the "interconnect" (read "pipe") will exist before any AWS is available.

Hopefully, the Citrus County commissioners, as well as the other board members, will wake up and see this is a real danger and protect the resources of their areas.

This is just the beginning. In my opinion, water officials have the Withlacoochee and Lake Rousseau in their sights. I contend that their plan includes a 4-foot-in-diameter pipe taking water out of Lake Rousseau potentially to the detriment of the Gulf estuary and the lower Withlacoochee River.

I pray that the vision of the board members clears up.

Al Grubman is president of TOO FAR, a water-rights activist group.

U.S. SENATORS AGREE: WATER REGS SHOULD WAIT

By KEITH LAING
THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, Sept. 28, 2010..... As the Florida Department of Environmental Protection prepares to discuss proposed water pollution standards that are opposed by businesses and farmers, Florida's two United States Senators - who don't often agree - both think federal officials should back off.

The DEP has asked for - and received - a delay until 2011 for portions of the federal Environmental Protection Agency's numeric limits on the amount of pollution in state bodies of water containing the chemicals phosphorous and nitrogen, related to streams.

But other parts of the plan are scheduled to take effect this fall, which U.S. Sens. Bill Nelson, a Democrat, and George LeMieux, a Republican, both do not want to see happen.

"Last year, the Obama administration and EPA entered into a legally binding agreement with environmental advocates seeking to impose stricter limits for phosphorus and nitrogen in Florida's waterways," LeMieux wrote in an opinion piece in the Orlando Sentinel Tuesday. "Unfortunately, the standards and timelines have little scientific foundation. Worse yet, these mandates will increase the cost of doing business in our state and the cost of living for Floridians."

"I share the concerns many Florida residents, municipalities, businesses and farmers have about the potential cost of compliance with these standards and the validity of the science," Nelson agreed in a Sept. 16 letter to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson. "I believe you made the right decision to submit the portions of the rule related to downstream values, canals, coastal and estuarine waters to the EPA Science Advisory Board for peer review and delay finalizing those rules until August 2012."

"However, I'm concerned that the rule for lakes, streams, and springs is still set to be finalized on October 15, 2010," Nelson continued.

At issue is an EPA plan to allow different nutrient levels in different water bodies, the result of a lengthy legal fight between the state and environmentalists. The state has argued that the standards would be unfair because they would only be applied to Florida and too expensive to comply with. However, environmentalists sued state regulators for failing to enforce the federal Clean Water Act.

DEP has also questioned the science behind the EPA rules, so much so that the agency has pledged to bring in a third party arbiter to navigate the differences between their scientific analysis and Florida's, which will be discussed Wednesday at a scheduled hearing of the DEP Marine Numeric Nutrient Criteria Technical Advisory Committee. The department will issue a report to the EPA Science Advisory Board to be used in that panel's review.

Linda Young of the Clean Water Network, who has argued that threats about increased costs associated with the EPA proposal have been exaggerated, said earlier this month that efforts to delay the EPA standards were the results of "polluters" who do not like the standards and are trying to stall them. Young, who plans to address the advisory committee on Wednesday, told the News Service last week that the enactment of the standards have already been slowed down significantly.

"A lot of concessions have been made as a result of all this whining and crying going on by

polluters and their friends and the state," Young said.

The committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday at 9 a.m. at DEP's Tallahassee headquarters

CRIST WON'T DELAY SEPTIC BILL THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE , Sept. 23, 2010..... Gov. Charlie Crist will not delay the implementation of a bill passed earlier this year that will require septic tank inspections every five years to protect Florida springs, despite calls from two more lawmakers to plug the plan for the time being. Two Panhandle lawmakers, Sen. Durrell Peaden, R-Crestview, and Rep. Greg Evers, R-Baker, wrote Crist Thursday to say septic tank inspection requirement is too expensive in a tight economy and should be pushed back from January to July 2011 to allow lawmakers to revisit the matter next year. Earlier this summer, outgoing Senate Democratic Leader Al Lawson, D-Tallahassee, said the bill should be repealed altogether and has promised to keep hammering the state on the issue. But Crist, who signed the measure in June, will not heed either suggestion, a spokesman told the News Service of Florida. "The governor is not delaying implementation," Crist spokesman Sterling Ivey said. "It was a Senate bill that passed both houses and he signed into law. He didn't have any reservation about the bill when it reached his desk or he would have vetoed it." Backers of the springs protection bill say the requirements will cost much less than possible federal water regulations from the U.S. Environmental Protection agency. The EPA is currently considering limits on the amount of chemical pollution that would be allowed in state bodies of water, but backers argued they may consider letting Florida have more of a say in that – and not eventually try to police Florida septic tanks - if the state showed it was serious about protecting its water resources. But Peaden and Evers said Thursday that said that less expensive was not good enough in a rocky economic time. "In recent months...many individuals have contacted our offices regarding the adverse impacts to them both financially and physically as a result of the new septic system evaluation requirements," they wrote to Crist. "Concerns have continued to grow as estimates from various counties on the cost of implementing the septic tank evaluation provisions have varied widely from a low of \$180 to a high of \$800. "Since the law itself makes no mention of the actual cost of an evaluation, Floridians can be left to deal with unscrupulous individuals that can charge any fee they choose under the authority of the state," the lawmakers wrote. The springs bill, SB 550, was backed by environmentalists, but heralded by sponsor Sen. Lee Constantine as a product of negotiations with various competing interests groups. "When you get the home builders and the Sierra Club to agree" Constantine told the News Service last month, that's consensus. "This was landmark legislation." But Peaden and Evers said that a review of the cost of complying with the bill by the Florida Department of Health as it considers rules for implementing the septic inspections shows that lawmakers should take another look at the requirement. "This raises serious concerns that in a rush to pass legislation to protect Florida's water resources, insufficient time was spent on how this law was going to financially affect Floridians," they said. "Therefore, we request that you use executive authority granted to you under the Florida Constitution to direct the Department of Health to postpone the implementation of this legislation ... allowing the Florida Legislature to more thoroughly investigate the financial impact to Floridians." The two lawmakers also asked Crist to direct the Department of Health conduct a fiscal analysis on the "full and actual costs of the implementation of such an evaluation program" before the new requirements go into effect Jan. 1. -END- 9/23/10

Santa Rosa not ready to dump local septic tank law

Louis Cooper • lcooper@pnj.com • September 23, 2010

While the Santa Rosa County Commission is mad about a new state law requiring regular septic tank inspections, commissioners are not ready -- yet -- to dispose of the county's own inspection law.

A new state law is set to take effect on Jan. 1 requiring all septic systems to be inspected once every five years, possibly costing owners hundreds of dollars. The county's rule requires an inspection at the point of sale.

At a discussion on Monday, the commission scheduled a discussion today on setting a public hearing to end the county requirement. However, commissioners had reconsidered that by this morning's regular meeting.

Commission Chairman Gordon Goodin said the new state law was pushed through the Legislature in the matter of a few minutes as an attachment to other legislation, with many lawmakers not realizing what they were voting on. He expects incoming legislative leadership to revisit and possible repeal the law.

"Until we know what the rules for inspection might be, we need to hold back on modifying our ordinance," Goodin said. "We don't need to get rid of one law assuming the other will take effect."

Commissioner Lane Lynchard, who brought up the idea of repealing the local law, agreed with Goodin.

"It would be premature to rescind our ordinance at this point," Lynchard said. "I want to let everyone know it is on our radar."

Sondra Thompson, president of AAA Thompson Septic in Pace, said while she is opposed to the new state law, she supports keeping the time-of-sale inspection requirement.

"Even if this other thing goes through, I would hate to see any changes to what we have," Thompson told the commission. "The Health Department has already said ... it works well for our county."

Also today, the commission approved a resolution

opposing the state law. The commission had already directed County Administrator Hunter Walker to send a letter to the governor expressing concern about the law.



Mom Dilemma #36:

Your daughter insists on wearing her princess costume to the grocery store. Allow it or not?

YES, at least she's dressed!

NO, I have some rules!

momslike.me.com
where local moms meet

Grants available for septic tank inspections

By AIYANA BAIDA

Highlands Today

The Department of Health's enforcement of the state mandated five-year septic tank evaluations has many homeowners uneasy.

The statewide septic tank evaluations program is part of an Environmental Protection bill (SB 550), sponsored by Sen. Lee Constantine, R-Altamonte Springs.

On Jan. 1, the health department will send out notices requiring homeowners to pass an evaluation or make the recommended changes.

The evaluation includes a drainage field test, pump-out of their system and a septic tank system inspection. The estimated cost for the evaluation is from \$350 to \$500.

Evaluations must be done by registered septic tank contractors.

The bill enforces five-year inspections to improve ground water quality and bring older septic tanks up to code.

The bill was approved by Gov. Charlie Crist in June.

Some residents are concerned that the new law gives septic tank contractors an incentive to not pass evaluations because they can make more money that way.

Tom Higginbotham, the health department's director of environmental health, said there are measures in place to prevent that.

"If we see a pattern that they are providing us with erroneous information, their license will be reviewed and/or revoked. They are regulated strongly by the department of health," Higginbotham said.

Homeowners who can't afford the cost for the evaluations and meet income requirements may be eligible for assistance through the bill's grant program.

The specifics are being worked on but applicants considered eligible include the following: A family of four with an annual income of \$22,050; \$10,830 annual income for a single person.

Low-income families who meet other income requirements still being worked on can also request a one-time, one-year extension.

Homeowners who had their septic tanks pumped out within the last five years don't have to pay for another pump-out if they can provide documentation on their system's evaluation by a registered contractor.

To date there are 2.67 million septic tank systems in the state, with the 36,263 septic tanks installed in Highlands County, according to the DOH.

They estimate that over half of these systems are 30 years old and were installed under less stringent standards.

For more information, contact the Department of Health Division of Environmental Health at (863) 382-7219.

MORE INFO:

Contact the Department of Health Division of Environmental Health at (863) 382-7219.

From: Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>
Subject: FYI: septic tank law
Date: October 4, 2010 9:01:28 AM EDT
To: Jack Sullivan <jesull@comcast.net>

--- On Mon, 10/4/10, Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com> wrote:

From: Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>
Subject: septic tank law
To: "Diane Salz" <disalz@yahoo.com>
Date: Monday, October 4, 2010, 8:50 AM

Peaden and Evers ask for delay in septic law - additional information

2010-09-24 16:34:41

State Sen. Durell Peaden and State Rep. Greg Evers, the Republican candidate for Peaden's seat that Peaden is vacating due to term limits, recently sent a letter to Gov. Charlie Crist asking that he postpone the implementation of the new state law affecting septic tanks by use of his executive powers. In an interview Friday afternoon Evers said the governor announced that he will not exercise those powers because the measure passed both houses of the legislature.

Evers said he and Peaden filed the request as they did because the legislature is not in session. "If we go in to special session I will file a bill," Evers said. "If I am elected to the state senate I will file a bill repealing the regulations."

State Rep. Marti Coley plans to file a bill from the state House of Representatives and State Sen. Evelyn Lynn also plans to file from the state Senate. State Rep. Brad Drake has also been at the forefront of the effort to repeal the septic regulations.

Evers strongly recommends that citizens call the governor's office at 850-488-7146 to express their opinion of the septic tank regulations. "This is not just a Panhandle issue, it is a state issue," Evers said. "It is important that the governor receive calls. You may not get to talk directly to the governor but you would talk to an aide.

"If the governor will not listen to a state senator and a state representative perhaps he will listen to his constituents."

Evers also urged county commissions to send resolutions opposing the septic laws to the governor, the state legislature and the Small County Coalition. "All counties should do that," Evers said.

Evers also noted that in 2006 the Legislature passed a \$12 million study of the springs in Central Florida that were affected by septic tank legislation before it was applied statewide. "We have no report as of yet," Evers said. "Why jump the gun?"

Here is a copy of the letter from Peaden and Evers:

Dear Governor Crist,

During final week of the 2010 Legislative Session, the Florida Senate and House of Representatives passed an omnibus water resources bill, Senate Bill 550, intended to protect Florida's vital water resources.

The bill, approved on June 6, 2010, as Chapter 2010-205 Laws of Florida, was heralded as a way to stop the Environmental Protection Agency from imposing sweeping environmental regulations, including regulations that could prohibit future development utilizing septic systems.

As you know, many counties in Florida rely on the legal use of septic systems as a means of growth management in rural areas in lieu of costly centralized sewer systems. For many rural Floridians, septic systems are and have been the only option for their homes and businesses and have been in place for more than 30 years.

In recent months, however, many individuals have contacted our offices regarding the adverse impacts to them both

financially and physically as a result of the new septic system evaluation requirements.

Concerns have continued to grow as estimates from various counties on the cost of implementing the septic tank evaluation provisions have varied widely from a low of \$180 to a high of \$800. Since the law itself makes no mention of the actual cost of an evaluation, Floridians can be left to deal with unscrupulous individuals that can charge any fee they choose under the authority of the state.

In Okaloosa County, unscrupulous septic tank inspection vendors are already calling individuals "on behalf of the state" offering to pre-inspect the septic tanks as part of this program for large fees even though the implementation is not yet implemented nor the rules even developed.

Currently, the Florida Department of Health is in the process of developing rules to administer this program. In a July meeting of the Department's Technical Review and Advisory Panel, similar questions arose regarding the cost of implementation to individuals.

The Department commented that "the goal is to keep this at the lowest cost level possible but that there are key issues in the statute that need to be addressed." This raises serious concerns that in a rush to pass legislation to protect Florida's water resources, insufficient time was spent on how this law was going to financially affect Floridians.

Therefore, we request that you use Executive Authority granted to you under The Florida Constitution to direct the Department of Health to postpone the implementation of this legislation from January 1, 2011, to July 1, 2011, allowing the Florida Legislature to more thoroughly investigate the financial impact to Floridians.

Furthermore, we request that you direct the Department of Health to conduct a fiscal analysis on the full and actual costs of the implementation of such an evaluation program and provide the analysis to the Legislature by January 1, 2011.

More from the Panama City News Herald

New EPA rule draws protests

FLORIDA FREEDOM NEWSWIRE

PANAMA CITY — Imagine every creek, stream and river in the state flowing as free of farm runoff as if man had never existed.

Imagine extending that same pristine level to roadside drainage ditches and discharge from wastewater treatment plants.

And then imagine being the company or local government tasked with erasing man's footprint from those waterways.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will implement its new criteria for acceptable nutrient levels in freshwater bodies, which likely will include many stormwater runoff systems, on Oct. 15. Lawmakers across the Panhandle, where standards will be most stringent, and officials from the state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are worried those rules not only will be impossible to meet, but also that they are based on flawed interpretations of data.

The DEP has been collecting information on safe levels of nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, for at least a decade, said Jerry Brooks, director of the department's environmental assessment and restoration division.

The EPA borrowed that data to create a new rule that assigns acceptable numeric nutrient levels to waterways. Existing regulations operate with a narrative standard that simply states there cannot be an increase in nutrients that will cause an imbalance of flora and fauna within the water body, Brooks said.

The DEP has long thought there should be a numerical interpretation of that standard but couldn't figure out a way to do it.

"It's sort of like saying we think a cure for cancer is necessary," Brooks said. "What makes this so challenging is that the actual biological response to nutrient enrichment is governed by a number of other environmental factors that vary from one stream to the next."

In other words, all streams are different and will respond differently to the same amounts of phosphorus and nitrogen.

The best workaround the EPA could come up with — and Brooks concedes the DEP didn't have a better suggestion — was to play it safe by finding as-close-to-natural-as-possible waterways and setting the bar at that level.

"There's just no question in my mind, using this reference approach, you will be managing some waters at levels below

what their capacity is, meaning you could increase nutrient levels without observing a negative response," Brooks said. "There is a good deal of uncertainty as to whether or not the number they (EPA) are adopting is really necessary to ensure protection of that water body."

That uncertainty, along with nightmares about the cost and feasibility of purifying wastewater and stormwater systems to the EPA's standards, have local governments crying foul.

"It's almost impossible to even consider doing it," Bay County Assistant Manager Dan Shaw said. "The thought all along, given that it's impossible, is that the rule would fall under its own weight — but it hasn't."

It would cost more than \$60 million to upgrade just the county's wastewater facilities, he said, which would result in more than tripling residents' utility rates. Since the county doesn't know how many of its stormwater systems might be subject to the new rule, Shaw couldn't estimate how much stormwater upgrades might cost but, he said, it would be "way, way more than \$60 million."

And, because the Panhandle holds the most naturally low-nutrient waters in the state, the area will be held to the most stringent criteria, Brooks said.

Opposed

County commissioners went on record last week opposing the rule. State legislators, too, have tried to postpone a federal mandate; local senators and state representatives have said a recently signed bill that governs, among other things, septic tank inspections was designed, at least in part, to keep the EPA at bay.

"During the final week of the 2010 Legislative Session, the Florida Senate and House of Representatives passed an omnibus water resources bill, Senate Bill 550, intended to protect Florida's vital water resources," Sen. Durell Peaden and Rep. Greg Evers wrote in a letter to the governor. "The bill ... was heralded as a way to stop the Environmental Protection Agency from imposing sweeping environmental regulations, including regulations that could prohibit future development utilizing septic systems."

Rep. Jimmy Patronis, R-Panama City, also said he had hoped a bill he sponsored in the spring, which called for 10-year inspections of septic tanks, would demonstrate Florida's proactive attitude about maintaining healthy waterways. Patronis pulled the proposal after it received negative feedback from his constituents.

Although municipalities will face "a very significant financial and technological investment," the DEP director said he thinks they will have time to get their waterways up to par.

"It's not going to be a process where, by Oct. 16, every wastewater facility in the state is going to be cited," Brooks said. "What will happen is, all those facilities are operating under a permit, and those permits expire every five years. When they come in for permit renewal, there will now be a new standard they now have to comply with."

Brooks expects facilities to be given five years, or the life of the permit, to come into compliance with the new regulations, but county officials are skeptical.

"There's nothing anywhere in the world that says they're going to wait until permit renewal times," Shaw said. "It's inferred, but there's nothing in writing."

One of the county's wastewater permits is up in about a year, he added, and the other is good for about four more years.

Officials with the EPA have been "unresponsive" to the county's attempts to contact them, Shaw said. Representatives did not return numerous calls from the News Herald.

From: Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>
Subject: **Hernando ponders unexpected tax windfall**
Date: October 5, 2010 10:16:06 AM EDT
To: Jack Sullivan <jesull@comcast.net>

Hernando ponders what to do with unexpected tax windfall

By [Barbara Behrendt](#), Times Staff Writer
In Print: Tuesday, October 5, 2010

BROOKSVILLE — The close of the fiscal year last week brought an unexpected surprise to Hernando County officials on Friday.

When the final tally of the county's taxable value arrived, it showed values that would generate approximately \$1.39 million more for the general fund or \$1.77 million for all funds than was originally expected.

While the additional revenue could be seen as giving the county a leg up on dealing with what is expected to be a revenue shortfall between \$5 million and \$7 million or more next year, there is another possibility.

When commissioners gather in an emergency meeting today, they will discuss whether to allow the property tax rate set last month to stay or to adopt a slightly lower rate.

The unusual question arises because when the taxable property value increases or decreases by more than 1 percent from the initial estimate, counties, cities, school districts and water management districts are allowed to adjust taxing rates accordingly.

Almost all of the county taxing authorities have seen property values increase by more than 3 percent from the first estimate in July.

If the county keeps the money that would be generated from the higher property values, it could help with next year's expected financial hardships, said commission Chairman John Druzick.

If the commissioners instead want to lower the tax rate, it would be about a 0.2 mill reduction. For the owner of a home assessed at \$150,000 with the \$50,000 homestead exemption, that would mean a property tax savings of about \$20.

The adjustment rule allows a county or other taxing authority only three days to decide what to do, and the county's decision is due at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Property Appraiser Alvin Mazourek noted the tax roll isn't final until adjustments, if any, are made to property values by the Value Adjustment Board early next year. He warned there are a number of lawsuits and legal challenges by mining interests, which have challenged the value placed on their equipment affected by the stagnant construction industry.

Mazourek has warned the commission before that if those challenges go badly, the county could lose \$1 million or more in tax revenues.

Barbara Behrendt can be reached at behrendt@sptimes.com or (352) 848-1434.

8. Legislative Update

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 6, 2010

To: Jack Sullivan, WRWSA

From: Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Consultant

RE: Report on SWFWMD Proposed Changes to Water Shortage Plan

SWFWMD's Water Shortage Plan (Chapter 40D-21, F.A.C.) --The following summary describes certain proposed amendments related to "water utility use" and water shortage requirements and is provided to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for informational purposes. Board action is not required.

Background:

Each water management district is required to implement a Water Shortage Plan. SWFWMD's Plan was originally adopted in 1984 and updated in 2006 to reflect experience with the 1999-2001 drought. During its September 2009 meeting, the SWFWMD Governing Board initiated rulemaking to reflect experience gained during the 2007-2010 droughts in its plan. Currently, SWFWMD staff has proposed amendments to the Water Shortage Plan based on workshop and focus groups, and are accepting comments from the public. Last week, SWFWMD Governing Board delayed, by 1 month, publishing its proposed rulemaking notice in the Florida Administrative Weekly (FAW) and its proposed amendment submittal to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC). Once notice is published in the Florida Administrative Weekly a hearing could be held, if requested.

Proposed revisions would require, among other things:

- Repeal of "public supply water shortage mitigation plans."
- New assigned responsibilities to **local government and nongovernmental water utilities** for "water utility use" during Phases I through critical shortage.
- Each water utility shall enforce procedures, including "an ability to issue a citation without first needing to issue a warning, should the district declare a Phase III or Phase IV water shortage," and shall undertake site investigations, legal mechanisms, and submit detailed monthly reports.
- Monitoring where "violation complaints" or identified "high use single family" (above 15,000 gallons per month) accounts appear to be concentrated and, at a minimum, night-time enforcement patrols or automatic meter reading technology to detect extra lawn watering for Phase III, and
- A "drought surcharge" may be imposed on high use single-family customers within 90 days of the water shortage declaration.
- Placing temporary "limits on potable water service" when a Critical Shortage is declared. Limits would involve limiting the user "to the amount of water necessary for reasonable indoor use or assessing the user a punitive surcharge for any amount of water beyond that necessary for reasonable indoor use."

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 6, 2010

To: Jack Sullivan, WRWSA

From: Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Consultant

RE: Update on Numeric Nutrient Criteria: EPA Delays Water Quality Regulations Until November

The federal Environmental Protection Agency agreed to move the deadline for finalizing new numeric limits on the amount of pollution in state bodies of water from October 15 to November 15, 2010, at the urging of the state's congressional delegation. The congressional delegation's request came after a coalition of Florida interests called for a partial review of the new standards.

U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, a Democrat who supported the delay, said the extra time would be used to collect more feedback on the standards, which follow a long legal fight between the state and environmentalists. "I support new water standards but many Florida residents, municipalities, businesses and farmers have expressed concern about the potential cost of these standards and the validity of the science," Nelson said in a statement.

But Nelson's counterpart in the Senate, George LeMieux, a Republican, moved independently to altogether block the new regulations, which would allow different nutrient levels in different water bodies. "This rule will hurt Florida's families. It will cost our state billions of dollars, thousands of jobs, and drive up water bills," LeMieux said Wednesday. "This is lawsuit-driven regulation without a sound scientific basis and the result will be unnecessarily catastrophic for Florida. The EPA's actions threaten Florida's economy and (are) unlikely to provide little, if any biological benefit."

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection held a hearing on the standards on September 29 and questioned the science behind the EPA proposals. DEP has argued that in some cases, particularly those involving streams, "narrative" standards, which are enforced on a case-by-case basis, would be more appropriate. DEP's plan seeks to maintain flexibility, and includes four possible approaches for setting the standard. These approaches are based on healthy existing conditions, historical conditions, comparisons to similar areas or limits based on interactions between elements of the bodies of water and chemicals known as Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

EPA Announces Short Extension for Florida Nutrients Inland Water Rule

Proposed, cost-effective, rule to curb health and economic impacts of nutrient pollution

Contact Information: Dawn Harris-Young, (404) 562-8327, harris-young.dawn@epa.gov

(ATLANTA – Sept. 29, 2010) – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has requested, and the plaintiffs have agreed, to a 30-day extension for a final decision on the Florida Inland Water numeric nutrients rule from October 15, 2010 to November 14, 2010. To date, EPA has received over 22,000 comments as a result of two public comment periods and 13 public hearing sessions in the State of Florida. These comments represent essential input from many Floridians and a valuable range of information from numerous technical and scientific experts in the State. EPA will use this additional time to review and confirm that all comments have been fully considered. The cost-effective rule is meant to protect people's health, aquatic life and the long-term recreational uses of Florida's waters. Clean and safe water are central to people's health and Florida's economic growth. The new date for final signature date would be November 14, 2010. The final action will set numeric nutrient water quality standards for nitrogen and phosphorus, also known as "nutrients," that would be allowed in Florida's lakes, rivers, streams, springs and canals. Nitrogen and phosphorus pollution come from stormwater runoff, municipal wastewater treatment, fertilization of crops and livestock manure. Nutrient pollution can damage drinking water sources; increase exposure to harmful algal blooms, which are made of toxic microbes that can cause damage to the nervous system or even death; and from byproducts in drinking water from disinfection chemicals, some of which have been linked with serious human illnesses like bladder cancer.