



**WITHLACOOCHEE
REGIONAL
WATER
SUPPLY
AUTHORITY**

Board Meeting Package

February 17, 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

Date: February 5, 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, February 17, 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 January 20, 2010 meeting
- 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.

* For persons other than Board Members and government agencies, pursuant to Board policy adopted at the March 9, 1995 Meeting, a self-addressed 8.5 x 11 inch envelope, pre-stamped and with \$3.00 postage should be sent to the WRWSA at the address below. Board packages may also be obtained free of charge at the Board meeting.

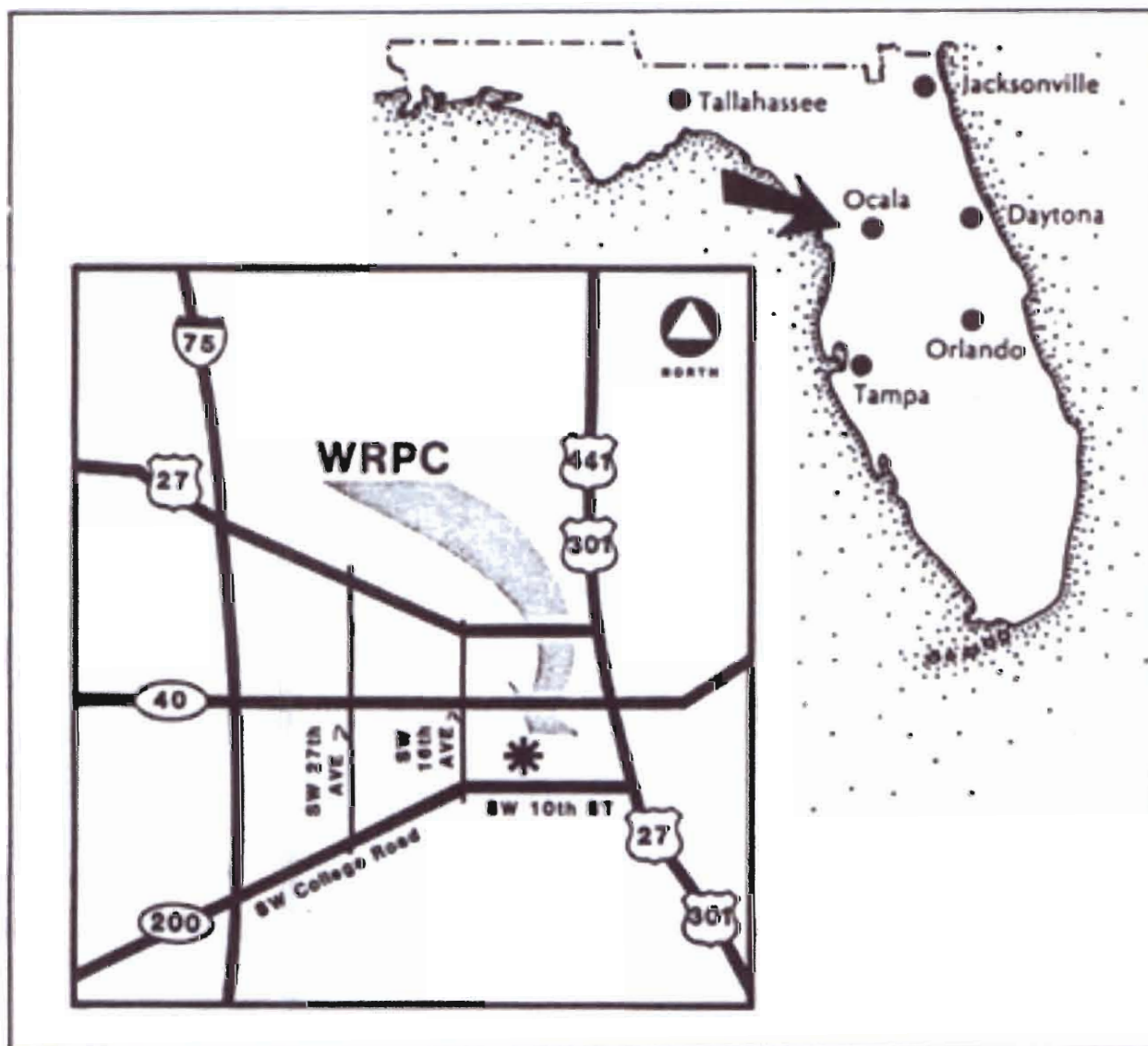
Enclosures

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

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

- Office Location -
1241 S.W. 10th Street (S.R. 200)
Ocala, Florida 34471-0323

Telephone (352) 732-1315
FAX 732-1319



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 U.S. Highways 27, 301 and 441.

**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**

**February 17, 2010
4:30 p.m.**

- Item #1 Call to Order**
- Item #2 Roll Call**
- Item #3 Introductions and Announcements**
- Item #4 Approval of Minutes of January 20, 2010 Meeting**
- Item # 5 WRWSA – Regional Water Supply Plan Update – Phase II – WRWSA
Detailed Water Supply Planning Feasibility Analyses - Overview
... Pete Hubbell, Principal, Water Resource Associates**
- Item #6 Executive Director's Report ... Jack Sullivan, WRWSA**
 - a. Bills to be Paid**
 - b. 1st Quarter Financial Report**
 - c. Correspondence**
 - d. News Articles**
- Item #7 Legislative Update ... Diane Salz, Legislative Consultant**
- Item #8 Attorney's Report ... Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney**
- Item #9 Other Business**
- Item #10 Public Comment**
- Item #11 Next Meeting Time and Location ... March 17, 2010, 4:30 p.m.,
SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379
Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899**
- Item #12 Adjournment**

4. January 20, 2010 Minutes

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
January 20, 2010**

TIME: 4:30 p.m.
PLACE: Southwest Florida Water Management District
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 Dennis Damato called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

2. Roll Call

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Hoffman, Chairman, Sumter County Commissioner
Rose Rocco, Treasurer, Hernando County Commissioner
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner
Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner
Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman
Christine Dobkowski, Belleview City Commissioner
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman
Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner
Gary Bartell, Citrus County Commissioner
John Druzick, Hernando County Commissioner
Barbara Fitos, Vice-Chairman, Marion County Commissioner
Ken Hinkle, Inverness City Councilman
Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner
Mary S. Rich, Ocala City Councilwoman
John Priestler, Ocala City Councilman
Jeff Stabins, 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
Janey Baldwin, Withlacoochee River Basin Board
Tom Baldwin, Hernando County Citizen
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities
Jeff Halcomb, City of Ocala Utilities
Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates
Robert Knight, Citrus County Utilities
Connie Mullis, Legislative Assistant Senator Evelyn Lynn
Darryl Muse, City of Ocala
Todd Petrie, Marion County Utilities
Alison Ramoy, SWFWMD
Peter Rocco, Hernando County Citizen
Tom Traina, King Engineering
Ryan Tucker, Purvis Gray
Mark White, Purvis Gray
Tahla Paige, Recording Secretary

4. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2009 Meeting

Following consideration, a motion was made by Ms. Rocco to approve the minutes for the November 18, 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.

5. Election of 2010 Officers

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Swain to nominate and to elect Mr. Hoffman as Chairman, Ms. Fitos as Vice-Chairman, and Ms. Rocco as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bernardini and carried unanimously.

The gavel was passed to Chairman Hoffman.

6. Presentation of 2008-09 FYE Audit

Mr. Mark White, Purvis Gray & Company, reviewed the 2008-2009 FYE Audit with the board members. Mr. Damato asked where the reports were filed. He replied it was filed with the Auditor General of the State of Florida and the member governments within the Withlacoochee Regional Waters Supply Authority's (WRWSA) jurisdiction. Mr. Sullivan added it was also filed with the Department of Community Affairs.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Ms. Rocco to approve the 2008-2009 FYE Audit as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swain and carried unanimously.

7. Presentation of Water Use Permit Application for Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility

Mr. Robert Knight, Director of Utilities, Citrus County reviewed the application for the Water Use Permit for Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility. Summary of permit:

- Requesting new permit through 2016
- Extensive Conservation Programs are in place and growing
- Current permit allows 6.27 MGD
- Requested permit proposes 5.97 MGD in 2016
- GPCPD will be down to 172 in 2016 and must continue downward to achieve 150 GPCPD by the end of 2018.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve the Water Use Permit Application for Charles A. Black Water supply Facility. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.**

8. Presentation of Marion County Compendium Study

Mr. Peter Hubbell, Water Resources Associates, gave an in-depth report on the Marion County Compendium Study and outlined futures steps:

- WRWSA Approval of the Marion County Compendium
- Incorporate Marion County into Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analysis
- Ensure Continuity with WMDs Water Supply Plans
- Prioritize Conservation, Reclaimed, Groundwater & Alternate Water Supply Projects
- Identify Water Supply Project Partners
- WRWSA – Technical Review Committee and Board Review of Phase II Work Program
- Coordinate with WRWSA Members (conservation/projects)
- Continued Coordination with WMDs on Boundary Issues

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to accept the Marion County Compendium Study as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rocco and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Sullivan announced he had additional copies of the complete study available for anyone who wanted a copy.

9. Executive Director's Report

a. Bills to be Paid

Mr. Sullivan stated since there was no December meeting the bills for December were paid in the amount of \$14,596.19. He requested the Board ratify payment of these bills.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to ratify payment of the December 2009 bills totaling \$14,596.19. The motion was seconded by Mr. Webb and carried unanimously.**

Mr. Sullivan provided a handout to the Board detailing January 2010 bills which totaled \$14,512.30. Mr. Sullivan requested the Board approve the payment of those bills.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve payment of the January 2010 bills totaling \$14,512.30. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rocco and carried unanimously.**

b. Revisions to WRWSA 2009-10 FY Budget

Mr. Sullivan reviewed revisions/changes to the budget on lines 13, 14, 51, 52, 53, 54 through 60, and 61. He recommended approval of the changes. A copy of the revised budget is attached to these minutes.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. McClain to approve the revisions to the Adopted FY 2009-10 Budget. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rocco and carried unanimously.**

c. Correspondence

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the correspondence including letters from Southwest Florida Water Management District, the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners, and a letter written from WRWSA to Senator Jeff Atwater.

d. News Articles

Mr. Sullivan provided news articles on water supply issues relating to areas both regional and statewide.

10. Governmental Consultant Report

Ms. Diane Salz informed the WRWSA members there is again a push to rewrite Chapter 373 and she urged everyone to express their concern to their legislators, opposing a rewrite of Chapter 373. Ms. Salz explained that currently 52 out of 160 legislators are freshman, 49 percent have served less than four years in their respective chambers which indicates a lack of experience. She added the political landscape will continue to change. Ms. Rocco stated that concerns about pollution, sink holes, conservation, etc. were expressed at the Senate Select Committee Meeting, but she felt the public should be made aware of these meetings to express their concerns.

11. Attorney's Report

Mr. Haag, Esq., stated Mr. Damato requested an opinion on funding Alternative Water Supply Projects and having them paid out of existing utility rates. Mr. Haag replied that yes funds could be used from existing utility rates, and that grants can also fund part of a project with the balance of funding being collected from customers. Mr. Damato asked if funds can be pre-collected for an expensive water conservation project. Mr. Haag replied

construction would be paid by bonded indebtedness, which would be repaid through the rate base over a period of years.

12. Other Business

None.

13. Public Comment

Mr. Al Grubman, TOO FAR, stated that posted on the website there was a memorandum advising there was a vacancy and Christine Dobkowski's name was missing as a board member. He asked if her position was the vacancy. Mr. Sullivan replied it was an error and the vacancy was on the Ocala City Council and filled by Mr. John Priester, who will hopefully attend the next meeting.

Mr. Robert Knight, Director of Water Resources, Citrus County, announced the Department of Environmental Protection would be setting numeric levels for organic contaminants such as phosphates and nitrogen, and would discuss impaired water bodies in Florida. There will be three meetings with the nearest meeting in Orlando on February 17, 2010 at the Crown Plaza Orlando Universal, 7800 Universal Boulevard, Orlando, from 1 pm to 5 pm, and then from 7 pm to 10pm. He stated the Notice was issued on January 14, 2010 with 60 days for written comments. Mr. Knight felt county staff should be urged to review the standards and to make comments.

14. Next Meeting Time and Location

Next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2010 at 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 Southwest 10th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323.

15. Adjournment

Chairman Hoffman announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the Board and adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Richard Hoffman, Chairman

Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director

**MEMORANDUM**

January 6, 2010

To: WRWSA Board of Directors
From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

Re: Revisions to Adopted FY 2009-10 Budget

Usually, after the first quarter of the year, I review the budget document to determine if any changes have been made to the budget that need to be documented for the end of year audit report. In reviewing the 2009-10 FY budget, I noted several changes and additions that need to be made to bring the budget document into agreement with our financial records and subsequent actions of the Board. I have included in the Board Package a copy of the adopted 2009-10 FY budget and I have included the recommended 2nd revision budget. The following changes are recommended to document the changes needed to the budget:

1. On line 13 of the 2nd revision, my original estimate of the amount of funds received from SWFWMD for their ½ of the Phase II and VII work program during the year was revised upward from \$50,000 to \$66,000. My original estimate was made in June 2009 and less money was spent than anticipated.
2. On line 14 of the 2nd revision, I failed to include Marion County's payments to the Authority for preparation of the Compendium. In June 2009, I anticipated we would complete the study during the 2008-09 FY.
3. On line 51 of the 2nd revision, I revised my estimate upward of how much the Authority would pay out for the Phase II and VII work program from \$100,000 to \$132,000.
4. On line 52 of the 2nd revision, I included the payment to consultants for work on the Marion County Compendium mentioned under item 2. above.
5. On line 53 of the 2nd revision, I had to include a payout of \$6,000 to Black and Veatch for their work on the Citrus CAB water supply facility evaluation. In June 2009, I anticipated that this contract would be complete in the 2008-09 FY.

6. On lines 54 through 60 of the 2nd revision, I revised the local government contracts from \$100,000 to \$130,000 to coincide with the Board's action at the July 2009 Board meeting.
7. On line 61 of the 2nd revision, I revised my estimate of the payout for the North Sumter Data Collection effort from \$25,000 to \$33,333. In June 2009, I anticipated that \$8,333 of that contract would be spent and it was not.

Recommendation: Approve all changes to the budget to document financial records for the end of year financial audit.

| WITHLACOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY Adopted 2009-10 FY Budget | | | | | | Date of Preparation: 6/9/09 | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | 4/1/08 Population BEBR Est. | Comments on Budget Change | Annual Amounts (\$) | Rev/Exp Inc./Decr.) 09 vs 10 FYE | % Inc/Dec Rev/Exp 09 vs 10 FYE | | |
| Revenues: Administrative | | | FYE 09-10 (\$.19/cap) | | | | |
| 1 Assessments: | | | | | | | |
| 2 Citrus | 142,043 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$26,988 | (\$1,040) | -3.71% | 1 | |
| 3 Hernando | 164,907 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$31,332 | (\$1,107) | -3.41% | 2 | |
| 4 Sumter | 93,034 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$17,676 | (\$278) | -1.55% | 3 | |
| 5 Marion (Less City of Ocala) | 274,956 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$52,242 | (\$1,915) | -3.54% | 4 | |
| 6 City of Ocala | 54,462 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$10,348 | (\$500) | -4.61% | 5 | |
| 7 Total Population/Assessments @ | | | | | | 6 | |
| 8 19¢/Capita | 729,402 | See Attachment 2 for detail | \$138,586 | (\$4,840) | -6% | 7 | |
| 9 Carry-over Reserve Funds (Est.) | | See Attachment 1 for detail | \$238,102 | (\$34,179) | -12% | 8 | |
| 10 Overhead from Citrus Contract | | Based on Citrus County contract | \$56,755 | \$2,227 | 5% | 9 | |
| 11 Total Administrative Revenue Available | | | \$433,443 | (\$36,892) | -9% | 10 | |
| Revenues: Water Supply Facility Development | | | | | | | |
| 12 SWFWMD Matching Funds for Continuation of Water Supply Plan | | Finalization of PH II and VII | \$50,000 | (\$49,000) | -22% | 12 | |
| 13 (SBA2) Carryover Reserve Funds (Est.) | | See Attachment 1 for detail | \$1,133,288 | \$117,989 | 11% | 13 | |
| 14 (SBA2) Annual Citrus Amortization Pmts | | See Attachment 2 for detail | \$163,587 | \$0 | 0% | 14 | |
| 15 Total Water Supply Development Revenue Available | | | \$1,346,875 | (\$76,011) | -5% | 15 | |
| 16 | | | | | | 16 | |
| 17 | | | | | | 17 | |
| 18 Total Revenues Available | | | \$1,780,318 | (\$112,803) | -6% | 18 | |
| Expenditures: | | | | | | | |
| 19 General Administration | | | | | | 19 | |
| 20 Executive Director | | Based on Annual contract | \$100,000 | \$0 | 0% | 20 | |
| 21 Legal Services | | Based on continuing contract | \$20,000 | \$3,000 | 18% | 21 | |
| 22 Monthly Meetings @ \$500/meeting | \$6,000 | No change | | | | 22 | |
| 23 Other Services @ \$150/hr. | \$14,000 | To monitor consultant input | | | | 23 | |
| 24 Legislative Consultant | | Based on Annual contract | \$40,000 | \$0 | 0% | 24 | |
| 25 Advertising | | Based on current usage | \$1,000 | \$0 | 0% | 25 | |
| 26 Audit | | Raises based on CPI | \$8,600 | \$100 | 1% | 26 | |
| 27 Bank Charges | | Based on current usage | \$400 | (\$250) | -38% | 27 | |
| 28 Bookkeeping Services | | Based on current usage | \$1,800 | (\$200) | -8% | 28 | |
| 29 Office Supplies | | Based on current usage | \$1,500 | (\$500) | -33% | 29 | |
| 30 Postage | | Based on current usage | \$1,500 | (\$300) | -17% | 30 | |
| 31 Printing and Reproduction | | Based on current usage | \$1,000 | (\$2,250) | -69% | 31 | |
| 32 Publications/Software | | Based on current usage | \$750 | \$0 | 0% | 32 | |
| 33 Registrations/Dues | | Based on current usage | \$1,250 | \$0 | 0% | 33 | |
| 34 State Fees/Assessments | | Based on current usage | \$200 | \$0 | 0% | 34 | |
| 35 Telephone | | Tel. usage at two office locations | \$4,500 | \$2,500 | 125% | 35 | |
| 36 Travel | | Inc. travel by E.D. to Region | \$15,000 | \$6,600 | 83% | 36 | |
| 37 Web Page Maintenance | | Based on current usage | \$750 | \$0 | 0% | 37 | |
| 38 Internet Services | | Based on current usage | \$750 | \$0 | 0% | 38 | |
| 39 | | | | | | 39 | |
| 40 | | | | | | 40 | |
| 41 | | | | | | 41 | |
| 42 Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures | | | \$199,000 | \$7,700 | 4% | 42 | |
| 43 | | | | | | 43 | |
| 44 Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves | | | \$234,443 | (\$44,492) | -20% | 44 | |
| 45 | | | | | | 45 | |
| 46 TOTAL ADMIN. EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE | | | \$433,443 | (\$36,792) | -9% | 46 | |
| Water Supply Studies and Facilities | | | | | | | |
| 47 Engineering/Master Plan Regional Framework Support | | Propose WRA Sole Source Contract | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | 100% | 47 | |
| 48 Regional Master Plan - Phase 2 and 7 Planning Studies | | Project completion of Ph 2 & 7 | \$100,000 | (\$98,000) | -39% | 48 | |
| 49 Local Government Water Supply Projects (09-10 FYE) | | Based on action of BoD | \$100,000 | \$0 | 0% | 49 | |
| 50 North Sumter Data Collection program | | Based on Contract w/ SWFWMD | \$25,000 | (\$8,333) | 100% | 50 | |
| 51 Development of LG Agreements/Governance Documents | | Proposed new program | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | 100% | 51 | |
| 52 Subtotal - Water Supply Studies and Facilities Expenditures | | | \$300,000 | (\$188,333) | -40% | 52 | |
| 53 | | | | | | 53 | |
| 54 Fund Balance for Water Supply Development Reserves | | | \$1,046,875 | \$112,322 | 10% | 54 | |
| 55 | | | | | | 55 | |
| 56 TOTAL WRDF EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE | | | \$1,346,875 | (\$76,011) | -5% | 56 | |
| 57 | | | | | | 57 | |
| 58 Total Administration and WRDP Fund Balances | | See Attachment 1 for detail | \$1,281,318 | \$67,830 | 3% | 58 | |
| 59 | | | | | | 59 | |
| 60 | | | | | | 60 | |

| WITHLACOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY 2nd Revision 2009-10 FY Budget | | | | | Date of Preparation: 1/6/10 | |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----|
| | 4/1/08 Population BEBR Est. | Comments on Budget Change | Annual Amounts (\$) | Rev/Exp Inc./(Decr.) 09 vs 10 FYE | % Inc/Dec Rev/Exp 09 vs 10 FYE | |
| Revenues: Administrative | | | FYE 09-10 (\$.19/cap) | | | |
| 1 Assessments: | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Citrus | 142,043 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$26,988 | (\$1,040) | -3.71% | 2 |
| 3 Hemando | 164,907 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$31,332 | (\$1,107) | -3.41% | 3 |
| 4 Sumter | 93,034 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$17,676 | (\$278) | -1.55% | 4 |
| 5 Marion (Less City of Ocala) | 274,956 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$52,242 | (\$1,915) | -3.54% | 5 |
| 6 City of Ocala | 54,462 | per capita rate reduced 5% | \$10,348 | (\$500) | -4.61% | 6 |
| 7 Total Population/Assessments @ 19¢/Capita | 729,402 | See Attachment 2 for detail | \$138,586 | (\$4,840) | -6% | 7 |
| 8 Carry-over Reserve Funds (Est.) | | See Attachment 1 for detail | \$238,102 | (\$34,179) | -12% | 8 |
| 9 Overhead from Citrus Contract | | Based on Citrus County contract | \$56,755 | \$2,227 | 5% | 9 |
| 10 Total Administrative Revenue Available | | | \$433,443 | (\$38,892) | -9% | 10 |
| Revenues: Water Supply Facility Development | | | | | | 11 |
| 12 SWFWMD Matching Funds for Continuation of Water Supply Plan | | Finalization of PH II and VII | \$66,000 | (\$33,000) | -15% | 12 |
| 13 Marion County Funds for Compendium | | Per contract with Marion County | \$76,185 | (\$68,815) | | 13 |
| 14 (SBA2) Carryover Reserve Funds (Est.) | | See Attachment 1 for detail | \$1,133,288 | \$117,989 | 11% | 14 |
| 15 (SBA2) Annual Citrus Amortization Pmts | | See Attachment 2 for detail | \$163,587 | \$0 | 0% | 15 |
| 16 Total Water Supply Development Revenue Available | | | \$1,439,060 | \$16,174 | 1% | 16 |
| 17 | | | | | | 17 |
| 18 | | | | | | 18 |
| 19 Total Revenues Available | | | \$1,872,503 | (\$20,618) | -1% | 19 |
| Expenditures: | | | | | | 20 |
| 21 General Administration | | | | | | 21 |
| 22 Executive Director | | Based on Annual contract | \$100,000 | \$0 | 0% | 22 |
| 23 Legal Services | | Based on continuing contract | \$20,000 | \$3,000 | 18% | 23 |
| 24 Monthly Meetings @ \$500/meeting | \$6,000 | No change | | | | 24 |
| 25 Other Services @ \$150/hr. | \$14,000 | To monitor consultant input | | | | 25 |
| 26 Legislative Consultant | | Based on Annual contract | \$40,000 | \$0 | 0% | 26 |
| 27 Advertising | | Based on current usage | \$1,000 | \$0 | 0% | 27 |
| 28 Audit | | Raises based on CPI | \$8,600 | \$100 | 1% | 28 |
| 29 Bank Charges | | Based on current usage | \$400 | (\$250) | -38% | 29 |
| 30 Bookkeeping Services | | Based on current usage | \$1,800 | (\$200) | -8% | 30 |
| 31 Office Supplies | | Based on current usage | \$1,500 | (\$500) | -33% | 31 |
| 32 Postage | | Based on current usage | \$1,500 | (\$300) | -17% | 32 |
| 33 Printing and Reproduction | | Based on current usage | \$1,000 | (\$2,250) | -69% | 33 |
| 34 Publications/Software | | Based on current usage | \$750 | \$0 | 0% | 34 |
| 35 Registrations/Dues | | Based on current usage | \$1,250 | \$0 | 0% | 35 |
| 36 State Fees/Assessments | | Based on current usage | \$200 | \$0 | 0% | 36 |
| 37 Telephone | | Tel. usage at two office locations | \$4,500 | \$2,500 | 125% | 37 |
| 38 Travel | | Inc. travel by E.D. to Region | \$15,000 | \$6,600 | 83% | 38 |
| 39 Web Page Maintenance | | Based on current usage | \$750 | \$0 | 0% | 39 |
| 40 Internet Services | | Based on current usage | \$750 | \$0 | 0% | 40 |
| 41 | | | | | | 41 |
| 42 | | | | | | 42 |
| 43 Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures | | | \$199,000 | \$7,700 | 4% | 43 |
| 44 | | | | | | 44 |
| 45 Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves | | | \$234,443 | (\$44,492) | -20% | 45 |
| 46 | | | | | | 46 |
| 47 TOTAL ADMIN. EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE | | | \$433,443 | (\$36,792) | -9% | 47 |
| Water Supply Studies and Facilities | | | | | | 48 |
| 49 Engineering/Master Plan Regional Framework Support | | Propose WRA Sole Source Contract | \$25,000 | \$25,000 | 100% | 49 |
| 50 Regional Master Plan - Phase 2 and 7 Planning Studies | | Project completion of Ph 2 & 7 | \$132,000 | (\$66,000) | -26% | 50 |
| 51 Marion County Compendium | | Completion of Compendium | \$76,185 | (\$68,815) | | 51 |
| 52 CAB WSF Evaluation Study | | Completion of Evaluation | \$6,000 | (\$6,000) | | 52 |
| 53 Local Government Water Supply Projects (09-10 FYE) | | Based on action of BoD | \$130,000 | \$30,000 | 24% | 53 |
| 54 Marion County Water Conservation | \$23,000 | | | | | 54 |
| 55 Hemando County Water Conservation | \$45,500 | | | | | 55 |
| 56 Citrus County Water Conservation | \$37,500 | | | | | 56 |
| 57 City of Belleview Stormwater Reuse | \$8,000 | | | | | 57 |
| 58 City of Crystal River Reuse Feasibility Study | \$8,000 | | | | | 58 |
| 59 City of Ocala Xeriscape Demonstration | \$8,000 | | | | | 59 |
| 60 North Sumter Data Collection program | | Based on Contract w/ SWFWMD | \$33,333 | \$0 | 100% | 60 |
| 61 Development of LG Agreements/Governance Documents | | Proposed new program | \$50,000 | \$50,000 | 100% | 61 |
| 62 Subtotal - Water Supply Studies and Facilities Expenditures | | | \$452,518 | (\$35,816) | -8% | 62 |
| 63 | | | | | | 63 |
| 64 Fund Balance for Water Supply Development Reserves | | | \$986,542 | \$51,989 | 5% | 64 |
| 65 | | | | | | 65 |
| 66 TOTAL WRDF EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE | | | \$1,439,060 | \$16,174 | 1% | 66 |
| 67 | | | | | | 67 |
| 68 Total Administration and WRDP Fund Balances | | See Attachment 1 for detail | \$1,220,985 | \$7,497 | 0% | 68 |
| 69 | | | | | | 69 |

5. Master Water Supply Plan

**MEMORANDUM**

February 3, 2010

To: WRWSA Board of Directors
From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

Re: Regional Water Supply Plan Update – Phase II

Attached to this memorandum is a report from Water Resources Associates (WRA) that will provide the initial description of Phase II of the Master Plan effort that has been on-going for the past 2-3 years. Although WRA has appended a draft copy of Chapter 13 – Recommendations for the Board's information, I believe it will take several months of discussions to fully flesh out the actual recommendations that the Board chooses to incorporate in the final version of the Master Plan.

Therefore, I would advise the Board and others that may review these initial documents to understand that they are preliminary and are just the first steps toward a review process that may take a number of months to complete including review by the Authority's Technical Review Committee, the Authority Board, member governments and the public.

I look forward to working with WRA to present the Phase II report and recommendations to the Board and the public at large in order to provide this region with a realistic framework for water supply development into the future.

WRWSA – Regional Water Supply Plan Update – Phase II – WRWSA Detailed Water Supply Planning Feasibility Analyses Overview

Planning Context

As you are aware, the WRWSA and its consultants have been developing Phase II of the Master Water Supply Planning and Implementation Program known as the “WRWSA Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analyses”. Phase II was the follow-on to the WRWSA Regional Water Supply Plan Update, that was completed in 2007.

Since the WRWSA is mandated to develop and supply water, the Authority has historically completed water supply planning studies, constructed a regional water supply facility in Citrus County, and developed a cooperative funding program to assist member local governments in developing adequate water supply facilities and water conservation (WRWSA Website).

A water supply planning effort by the WRWSA was completed in 1996 and was entitled “Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Master Plan for Water Supply”. This report followed two previous efforts that included the “Water Sources and Demand Study” (1982) and the “WRWSA Master Plan for Water Supply” (1987).

Almost ten years elapsed from the completion of the 1996 WRWSA Master Plan, when the WRWSA determined it was necessary to update the regional water supply planning process. In 2007 the WRWSA, in cooperation with the SWFWMD, completed an update of the 1996 study. This report was entitled “Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Regional Water Supply Plan Update - 2005” (WRWSA RWSPU).

In 2005, the WRWSA established the WRWSA – Master Water Supply Planning and Implementation Program (WRWSA – MWSP&IP) which is a comprehensive process to plan for the region’s water supply future. The WRWSA – MWSP&IP is a multi-year, multi-phase program that was follow-on to the WRWSA RWSPU. It contains phases for water supply planning. Identification and prioritization of water supply projects, the design of selected projects and implementation the projects and initiatives.

This report, the WRWSA – Detailed Water Supply Feasibility, was initiated in 2007 to follow-on to the WRWSA RWSPU and is considered Phase II of the WRWSA – MWSP&IP process. Its purpose is to update regional population and water demands and determine potential water supply projects to supply these needs. As the study progressed, Marion County decided to rejoin the WRWSA. The inclusion of Marion County into the WRWSA added challenges and opportunities with respect to regionally sustainable water supply development. Geographically, the WRWSA increased by approximately 86% from 1,892 square miles to 3,516 square miles. The existing population of the WRWSA increased by approximately 68% from 494,931 to 732,681 (2005 estimate). It was decided to suspend work on the WRWSA – Detailed Water Supply Feasibility until the Marion County Compendium (Compendium) was completed.

The inclusion of Marion County into the WRWSA required that the RWSPU be amended to consider existing and projected water demands in Marion County, and that the amended

RWSPU outline the basis for future water supply development in the WRWSA region including Marion County. The Compendium was completed in December of 2009.

Phase II – WRWSA Detailed Water Supply Planning Feasibility Analyses

As stated the WRWSA Detailed Water Supply Feasibility purpose is to update regional population, water demands and determine potential water supply projects to supply these needs. The planning horizon has also been expanded from 2025 to 2030. Projects are conceptualized, evaluated, ranked and prioritized according to short-term, medium-term, and long-term planning horizons within this report.

The WRWSA – Detailed Water Supply Feasibility is organized as follows:

- Introduction
- Executive Summary
- Chapter 1 – Population and Water Demand
- Chapter 2 – Water Resource Minimum Flows and Levels
- Chapter 3 – Groundwater Resource Assessment
- Chapter 4 – The Role of Water Conservation within the WRWSA
- Chapter 5 – Reclaimed Water Projects
- Chapter 6 – Groundwater Project Options
- Chapter 7 – Aquifer Recharge Project Option
- Chapter 8 – Surface Water Project Options
- Chapter 9 – Seawater Desalination Project Option
- Chapter 10 – Evaluation and Ranking of Water Supply Projects
- Chapter 11 – Water Resources, Supplies and Demand
- Chapter 12 – WRWSA Regional Water Supply Framework
- Chapter 13 – Recommendations

WRWSA Board and Technical Review Committee (TRC) Review and Evaluation Process

As demonstrated by the number, expansiveness and detail of the Phase II chapters it is anticipated that the review and evaluation process of the report with the Board and the TRC will take several months. Consideration of the recommendations that are included in Chapter 13 alone will take a great deal of debate and deliberation and potentially numerous sessions with the Board.

The objective of the February Board and TRC meetings is to begin the overview and familiarization process with the Phase II report. Staff and the WRWSA consultant Water Resource Associates (WRA) will review the report with the TRC and Board members at their upcoming meetings. A recommended schedule for review and input will be presented at the meeting.

The Phase II report will be posted on February 10, 2009, on the WRA project management system and can be accessed using Board and TRC members log-in and password. If you have difficulty accessing the site contact either Pete Hubbell (phubbell@wraconsultants.com) or Rita Garrison (rgarrison@wraconsultants.com).

Chapter 13 – Recommendations, is included in the Board packet for your review.

Staff Recommendation:

For information only. No Board action is required.

Chapter 13 – Recommendations

13.0 Introduction

This recommendations chapter of this WRWSA – Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analyses is an attempt to develop and raise a series of recommendations, observations and options for consideration by the WRWSA and member governments. The following are not prioritized or set in any sequential order but are important to consider by the WRWSA in these relatively uncertain times with respect to sustainable water supply for its members. The recommendations can set the stage for considerable discussion and deliberation with the WRWSA Board as they consider the existing and future role of the Authority and the potential impact for its members and the region.

13.1 Population and Water Demand

13.1.1 Population and Projected Water Demand Updates

Updates of the population and water demand within the WRWSA are important to keep water supply planning as viable and current as possible. These updates should take place on a regular basis, every five-years, concurrently with the SWFWMD update of their RWSP. However, if the population projection updates from BEBR demonstrate a dramatic departure from the previous projections and update should be considered at that point. Where conservation compliance per capita rules will dramatically affect demand, the SWFWMD should incorporate the effect of the per capita rules to the projections.

13.1.2 Tracking of Water Use Types and Quantities

The WRWSA should track closely water uses other than public supply. Although public supply is and will continue to be the largest of the water use increases (70%), all other water uses are also projected to increase. Trends in agricultural, industrial/commercial and recreational water use can change, either increasing or decreasing at an unanticipated rate and potentially impacting the WRWSA public supply water use planning.

13.1.3 Large Water Use Tracking

Potential large water users of all water use types should be tracked by the WRWSA. WUP and CUP applications to the SWFWMD and the SJRWMD for demands over a certain water quantity threshold should be requested from the water management districts to determine if the proposed water use will affect the WRWSA planning efforts.

13.1.4 Domestic Self-Supply Water Consumption

Domestic self supply (DSS) water use within the WRWSA is projected to increase from an estimated 17.63 mgd in 2005 to 30.22 mgd in 2030, a 71% increase. This increase could be further exacerbated by stringent compliance per capita rate requirements instituted by the SWFWMD and contemplated by the SJRWMD. The use of domestic wells within the service areas of public supply utilities could have a positive impact on per capita rates but a net negative impact to the water resources of the area.

The impact of DSS to the water resource is not fully understood but is being analyzed by both water management districts. The WRWSA should participate in these discussions and support efforts to quantify and determine the potential impact of DSS on the availability of water resources and the potential impacts to the water resource.

13.2 Hydrogeologic Data Collection and Resource Monitoring

13.2.1 Monitor Lower Floridan Aquifer (LFA) and Surficial Aquifer Data Collection Activities

Hydrogeologic data collection and resource monitoring remains an important initiative within the WRWSA to better understand the groundwater resources of the region. Groundwater modeling and other interpretative analyses are hampered by the lack of comprehensive data on the aquifer systems. This is particularly evident in the northeast Sumter and southeast Marion Counties where the hydrogeology is complex and aquifer characteristics and water quality are highly variable.

This is also an area where traditional groundwater supplies are limited due to potential impacts to MFLs that have been established on several lakes in the area and other surficial features. The LFA in this area is a potential water supply source for both potable and non-potable uses. However, the LFA is not well studied in the area and its aquifer characteristics and water quality appear to be highly variable. The WRWSA role in assisting the SWRWMD and SJRWMD in data collection is important to verify whether the LFA is a viable water source for future development.

13.2.2 Develop and Coordinate Resource Monitoring Program between SWFWMD and SJRWMD in Northern Sumter and Southern Marion County

As mentioned, the area in northern Sumter and southern Marion Counties has a high degree of uncertainty and an understanding of the aquifer system. This in part is due to the limited availability of hydrogeologic information that has been generated. This is also an area where SWFWMD and SJRWMD have differing opinions on the amount of groundwater that is available for development; which is in part due to the use of different planning criteria for potential impacts to wetlands.

The WRWSA should continue to be engaged in this issue and facilitate a coordinated monitoring program between the districts. An emphasis of WRWSA engagement should be at the regulatory level to ensure that resource evaluation during permitting is consistent for members in the region. As groundwater supplies diminish, the WRWSA should facilitate the development of a common set of resource evaluation methods, educate members on appropriate supply strategies and advocate on their behalf with the WMDs. This will ensure that adequate attention and resources are directed at this rapidly growing area with significant water demands.

13.2.3 Funding for Hydrogeologic Studies

The WRWSA should continue to work closely with the SWFWMD and the SJRWMD to determine, prioritize and fund needed hydrogeologic work within the region. This hydrogeologic

WRWSA – Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analyses

information provides the basis for water supply availability and is critical to meaningful and cost-effective water supply planning and regulation within the WRWSA.

13.3 Regional Groundwater Assessment

13.3.1 Groundwater Models

The ND Model (utilized by the SWFWMD) requires a complete peer-reviewed calibration and the NCF Model (utilized by the SJRWMD) requires updating. The conceptual representation of the surficial aquifer in Marion and Sumter Counties must be similar in both models. Recharge, which has been addressed differently in the ND and NCF Models, must be applied in a consistent manner so that comparable results are generated. The WMDs and member communities are increasing their investments in hydrogeologic data collection in the region. This new field data will provide insight to the function of the aquifer system, so the knowledge should be coordinated with member communities through the WRWSA and the WMDs. As additional information is gained, the ND Model has the potential to offer precise predictions of aquifer system behavior due to its transient capabilities and fully three-dimensional representation of the aquifer formations.

13.3.2 Groundwater Model Boundary Conditions

As groundwater supplies reach their sustainable limits in many areas of Florida, regional aquifer level declines could affect water supply management strategies in the WRWSA region. To assess this affect, boundary conditions of the WMD models have been adjusted to reflect projected aquifer level declines from outside the region. However, these boundary adjustments currently reflect regional aquifer declines that the SJRWMD has determined to be unacceptable and thus further groundwater development will not be allowed by their regulatory program. We believe that this approach may be overly conservative. As regional withdrawals increase over time, this practice has the potential to distort estimates of groundwater availability in the models used in the WRWSA. Currently, groundwater model boundary conditions utilized by the SJRWMD consider projected water demand and associated groundwater withdrawals which create drawdown results that overestimate impacts to environmental features in the area.

Further coordination on groundwater modeling and associated boundary conditions must continue between the SWFWMD, SJRWMD and the WRWSA to ensure consistent management and water supply development strategies within the WRWSA.

13.3.3 Resource Assessment

13.3.3.1 MFLs

MFLs need to be adopted in a timely manner for the WRWSA region. A number of springs, rivers and lakes are scheduled for completion by SWFWMD and SJRWMD within the next five (5) years. These MFLs will protect area water resources and the environment from significant harm due to water withdrawals and determine limits on additional groundwater and potential surface water withdrawals.

As detailed in this report, for waterbodies and watercourses where MFLs have yet to be adopted, proxy thresholds were established as a resource constraint on water development for

this interim period. As MFLs are established and adopted the WRWSA must review, comment and track their progress. If the adopted MFLs differ significantly from the proxy thresholds established for the report, analysis should occur to determine if this difference will have significant impact on recommendations or prioritization from the report. As with past initiatives, proposed MFLs within and surrounding the WRWSA should continue to be analyzed.

13.3.3.2 Surficial Aquifer System and Surficial Resources

A better understanding of the relationship between surficial water resources and the aquifer system within the region is needed. The impact of cumulative aquifer level decline on wetlands and lakes located in the region's sandhill areas is poorly understood. In the SJRWMD area of jurisdiction within Marion County, a restrictive 0.35-foot WMD threshold for aquifer decline have been applied to wetlands perched 20-feet above the water table which are unlikely to be affected by groundwater withdrawals. Additional monitoring, analysis, and field data collection will improve the understanding of surficial water resources.

13.4 Water Conservation

13.4.1 WRWSA Role in Regional Water Conservation

The WRWSA has had a comprehensive program for supporting water conservation within the region for over 10-years. This program has provided grant monies to fund conservation initiatives based on proposals submitted by WRWSA members. This has developed into the WRWSA Regional Water Conservation Program which disseminates water conservation information, funds water conservation programs and initiatives and co-funds water conservation coordinators for county governments. The importance of this program and the WRWSA role in water conservation cannot be overemphasized with diminishing water supplies and compliance per capita requirements from the SWFWMD.

Water conservation information from the "SWFWMD Non-Agricultural Water Conservation Modeling" should be utilized by the WRWSA and its members to develop cost effective conservation programs that directly target high per capita usage. This District model analyzes local government demographics and determines the best combination of conservation programs that have the highest potential of success for a given community. The WRWSA should develop a comprehensive plan that targets and prioritizes water conservation programs that will be effective in reducing water demands for member governments. This "WRWSA - Water Conservation Initiative (Conservation Initiative)" should target members with high compliance per capita rates and assist in tailoring water conservation strategies and initiatives that will reduce water usage utilizing the SWFWMD model.

The Conservation Initiative should develop a five (5) year water conservation program that prioritizes and develops budgets for member government conservation initiatives. The Conservation Initiative will better direct WRWSA funding through its cooperative conservation funding program. It will also demonstrate to the SWFWMD a regional and comprehensive approach to water conservation that will prioritize cost-effective initiatives for funding through their Cooperative Funding Initiative.

13.4.2 SWFWMD Compliance Per Capita

Water demand projections for the 2030 planning horizon will vary dramatically utilizing planning numbers based on historical per capita rates versus projections based on the compliance per capita rate instituted by SWFWMD and contemplated by the SJRWMD. Within SWFWMD alone, approximately 21 mgd of water will be saved by 2030 when analyzing unadjusted per capita rates. Compliance per capita rates are not only important to WRWSA member governments because of the regulatory consequences but also the ability to delay costly water supply development projects.

The WRWSA should work with its members and the District on emphasizing the importance of implementing aggressive water conservation programs. Compliance per capita rates must be met by each individual utility by 2018. Fifty percent of the required per capita rate must be reached by 2014. Demand reduction initiatives can take considerable time to be funded, implemented and results realized. Member governments must act aggressively in order to ensure that they remain within SWFWMD regulatory compliance.

13.4.3 "SWFWMD Non-Agricultural Water Conservation Modeling" (SWFWMD Model)

As mentioned, based on the implementation of the compliance per capita requirements by the SWFWMD, the WRWSA should take an active role in assisting member governments in meeting the new standard. The WRWSA should facilitate workshops and individual meetings with the SWFWMD and WRWSA members to assist in the utilization of the SWFWMD Model. The SWFWMD Model based on individual member government demographics will target the most effective conservation programs and initiatives for implementation.

The results of these workshops and meetings will be a series of prioritized, cost-effective water conservation programs and initiatives. This information will be incorporated into the "WRWSA - Water Conservation Initiative" that will be used for project ranking and funding.

13.4.4 Water Conservation Credit System

A compliance per capita rate is required by the SWFWMD for all county, municipal and private utilities throughout the District. In some areas of the District this rate has been met because of water conservation programs that have been in place or the specific demographics of an area that has led to lower water usage (e.g. smaller lot sizes resulting in less outdoor irrigation). Other utilities will have better results in lowering per capita rates, either because their existing per capita rate is closer to the SWFWMD compliance per capita rate or the specific demographics of the community lend better opportunities for water demand reduction. However, based on unadjusted per capita rates, it appears that many local governments in the WRWSA may have difficulty meeting these compliance per capita requirements.

The WRWSA should investigate with the SWFWMD the concept of "Water Conservation Credits" (Conservation Credits). Conservation Credits would be a market-based, incentive driven program that would provide another avenue for meeting water reduction goals throughout the District. Conservation Credits would be modeled after pollution credit trading, where utilities that are able to exceed water conservation and per capita requirements would be able to amass or accumulate Conservation Credits. These utilities would have the ability to "bank" conservation credits for the potential future lowering of the required compliance per capita rate.

It would also afford a utility the opportunity to “market” or “trade” the conservation credits to utilities that are having lesser success in reaching compliance per capita requirements. This could be a useful tool in those instances where the gap between their existing versus the compliance per capita is so great or the type of conservation necessary to meet the compliance per capita is too cost prohibitive.

13.5 Reclaimed Water

13.5.1 WRWSA Role in Regional Reclaimed Water Supply Planning

Working with member governments, the WRWSA should take a proactive role in the analyses and promotion of reclaimed water projects for its members. The goal is to offset the need for existing and anticipated water supplies and to help reduce water use to below required compliance per capita rates. Based on this coordination the WRWSA Reclaimed Water Implementation Plan should be developed as described below.

13.5.2 Prioritization – WRWSA Reclaimed Water Implementation Plan (Reclaimed Plan)

A long-term Reclaimed Plan should be developed. The Reclaimed Plan would analyze and prioritize projects that are cost-effective and will have the greatest impact on supplanting the development of new water sources, preventing resource impacts and offsetting high compliance per capita rates within the WRWSA. The WRWSA Reclaimed Plan would be developed in cooperation with member governments and utilize information included in this WRWSA – Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analyses report. The Plan would develop both priority projects and multi-year budgets based on published planning numbers for a 10-year period. The Reclaimed Plan would be updated on an annual basis and would be submitted together with member governments SWFWMD Cooperative Funding Initiative applications to lend support that those reclaimed projects fit into a regional reclaimed water strategy.

13.5.3 Establishment of Beneficial Reuse Criteria

Currently, beneficial reuse as defined by the FDEP includes uses such as spray irrigation and aquifer recharge, along with agricultural, residential, recreational and industrial uses. Some of these uses will have a greater impact on resource availability and reduction of water usage within the WRWSA. As part of the Reclaimed Plan, criteria for beneficial reuse should be established for the WRWSA. These criteria should consider reclaimed use types that will offset the need for additional water supply development; aid in water resource recovery; reduce water use to adhere to regulatory compliance per capita rates; and assist in environmental protection and recovery. In order to rate and prioritize potential reclaimed water projects, a required reclaimed water beneficial use percentage should be established.

13.5.4 Cost-Share Funding for Beneficial Reuse Projects

Utilizing the Reclaimed Plan and the beneficial reclaimed reuse criteria rates, the WRWSA should work with SWFWMD and SJRWMD to ensure cooperative funding for beneficial reclaimed water projects in the region. A long-term plan that is tied and prioritized to offsetting water demands and lowering per capita rates should gain support because it will ensure that District monies will be geared towards the most cost-effective and meaningful projects.

13.6 Water Supply Project Options

13.6.1 Potable Traditional Water Supply Development

Within the WRWSA – Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analyses the following projects have been the focus of the analyses of the WRWSA region: **Fresh Groundwater:** Sumter Wellfield; Citrus Wellfield; Northwestern Marion Wellfield; and the Northeastern Marion Wellfield. Each of these projects reflects the cost-competitiveness of utilizing dispersed groundwater versus potable alternative water supplies.

The Sumter and Northwestern Marion Wellfields are recommended for possible implementation in the Short-Term (0-20 years). The Citrus and Northeastern Marion Wellfields are recommended for possible implementation in the Mid-Term or Long-Term (15-35 or 30-50 years).

13.6.2 Potable Alternative Water Supply Planning

Within the WRWSA – Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analyses the following projects have been the focus of the long range AWS analyses of the WRWSA region: **Surface Water:** Lake Rousseau; Withlacoochee River near Holder – Reservoir; and the North Sumter “Conjunctive Use” Supply. **Aquifer Recharge:** the Withlacoochee River Aquifer Recharge near Trilby, and **Seawater:** Crystal River Power Plant Seawater Desalination. Each of these projects reflects the higher costs of utilizing potable alternative water supplies versus traditional groundwater supplies. Flexible strategies are needed to ensure that suitable supplies are available when groundwater is depleted and AWS is required to meet future water demands in the WRWSA region.

None of the potable AWS projects are recommended for possible implementation in the Short-Term (0-20 years), and further updates will be needed to refine these complex and challenging projects as growth occurs over time. The **Surface Water:** Lake Rousseau and North Sumter “Conjunctive Use” Supply projects are recommended for possible implementation in the Mid-Term or Long-Term (15-35 or 30-50 years). The **Seawater:** Crystal River Power Plant Seawater Desalination is recommended for possible implementation in the Mid-Term or Long-Term (15-35 or 30-50 years). The **Surface Water:** Withlacoochee River near Holder – Reservoir project is not recommended for possible implementation due to the high cost of the reservoir. The **Aquifer Recharge:** the Withlacoochee River Aquifer Recharge near Trilby project is not recommended for WRWSA implementation, but may be pursued by other entities.

Additional study is underway by the SJRWMD on the Lower Ocklawaha River and desalination from the east coast of Florida (Coquina Coast Desalination Plant). These two projects are being considered for utilities on the east- coast of Florida and certain inland locations. These projects could potentially provide alternative water supply to WRWSA members, but are not evaluated by the WRWSA.

These additional AWS opportunities being investigated outside of the WRWSA could factor into the decision process for one (1) or more AWS projects for future development. The WRWSA must be a part of the ongoing dialogue and planning processes that are continuing forward. The WRWSA should keep abreast of work that is being done by the SJRWMD on the Ocklawaha River and Coquina Coast Desalination as well as alternative water supply efforts in

Lake County. The studies focusing on the viability of these sources as water supplies could factor into the AWS planning for the WRWSA, along with actual patterns of growth and further technical studies in the WRWSA.

13.6.3 Pipeline Corridors

One of the long term challenges facing the WRWSA region is the long distance between the potable alternative water supply sources and the population centers. Transmission may account for over 50% of the cost for these supplies. Corridors for alternative water supply delivery should be acquired well in advance of this need, so that transmission can be constructed while avoiding interferences and cost overruns. Planning efforts should seek to reduce these transmission distances before the potable alternative water supply projects are needed.

The most significant long range corridor need is from the alternative water supply sources in Citrus County south to Hernando County. A feasibility study should be performed to identify and subsequently acquire lands for the pipeline corridor. The study should review public ROWs and easements, subsurface utilities, and roadway expansion plans. The same corridor could be used to interconnect Citrus County's northern and southern service areas, which will be a significant need in the mid-term. The study should be coordinated closely among Citrus County, Hernando County, and the WRWSA.

13.6.4 Land Acquisition

The highest land acquisition priority is for the Northern Sumter Wellfield. In this area, The Villages is proceeding with additional conservation efforts and importing more reclaimed water for beneficial supply. The City of Wildwood is testing the LFA for suitability as an additional local source. Wide-ranging resource monitoring efforts are also underway in this area. SWFWMD regulatory is not yet able to determine the quantity of dispersed groundwater that is needed, so a participation agreement with the utilities can not be developed. However, some amount of dispersed groundwater will likely be required in this area and the locations where it can be safely developed are limited. Working cooperatively with the WRWSA, SWFWMD should consider acquisition of suitable lands for the wellfield. This will ensure that the Northern Sumter Wellfield is available to meet the service requirements when it is needed.

Land acquisition opportunities for other groundwater and AWS projects identified in this report should also be considered by the District's land acquisition programs as tracts of land are evaluated, scored and prioritized for potential purchase.

13.6.5 Lake Rousseau

Current water treatment technology, available resource assessment tools and projected demands suggest that Lake Rousseau will be the most cost-effective WRWSA potable alternative water supply project. This understanding may evolve in the future as additional study occurs; currently, the most significant presumption is that sufficient yield will be available in the absence of an adopted MFL. The Lower Withlacoochee River MFL is scheduled for adoption by the SWFWMD in 2011. The adoption of this MFL will enable the WRWSA to initiate a substantive dialogue on whether seawater desalination or surface water development should be prioritized.

13.6.6 Seawater Desalination at Crystal River

The cooling flows at the Crystal River Power Plant offer significant advantages to a seawater desalination facility. The synergy of the combined operation is that the cooling flows can dilute the discharge of saline concentrate from the RO process which would otherwise be very costly to dispose of. Likewise, the Cross Florida Barge Canal offers water quality that is considerably less saline than seawater for inflow to the RO plant. However, large freshwater discharges from Lake Rousseau (both from operational and non-operational inflows) into the canal will provide unprecedented operational challenges to developing this source. These inflows of freshwater provide significant swings in water quality that will have to be considered in the design of the facility.

Land to locate the desalination facility is also in short supply in the area of the Crystal River Power Plant. An ongoing dialogue and coordination with Progress Energy, the SWFWMD and the WRWSA should occur to ensure that the potential for desalination will not be overlooked as future plans for energy production in the area mature.

13.7 Water Supply Partnership Opportunities

13.7.1 Incentives for Regional Water Supply Development

The WRWSA should work with the SWFWMD and the SJRWMD to create incentives for the regional development of both traditional groundwater supplies and AWS. Although incentives are in place for the regional development of AWS on a statewide basis, incentives for a regional approach to remaining groundwater development should be pursued. Regional systems are a new concept within the WRWSA and will be required to ensure that groundwater development is maximized and is completed in an environmentally and economically sound manner.

Incentives can be monetary including the expansion of the cooperative funding initiatives or land acquisition. Regulatory incentives could include longer duration withdrawal permits (20 year), consolidated permitting or other incentives that would enhance a regional approach for the development of water supplies in the region.

13.7.2 AWS Permit Conditions and Resource Evaluation

The SJRWMD has expressed concern over regional aquifer declines and groundwater availability in the WRWSA region. While the SWFWMD and SJRWMD have been issuing groundwater permits in Marion County, many utilities have alternative water supply development conditions in those permits. The WRWSA should work with the utilities, the SWFWMD, and the SJRWMD to establish a common understanding of resource conditions for utilities to meet these conditions in an environmentally and economically sound manner.

13.8 WRWSA Water Supply Regional Framework

13.8.1 Visioning

The Framework has been presented to the WRWSA Board and several member governments as it has evolved. However, there has never been an interactive, comprehensive presentation

in a workshop or visioning session. The Framework has implications for not only the WRWSA but for each member government. It is recommended that another session or series of workshops is scheduled for WRWSA members and member governments. It is also recommended that this be held outside of the monthly Board meeting, to give the review and discussion of the Framework the focus and attention that it deserves.

This session should be run by an outside facilitator. This would give both WRWSA administrative staff, Board members and technical support the opportunity to more readily participate in the workshop/visioning session.

13.8.2 Governance

Based on the outcome of the visioning/workshop session on the Framework, a comprehensive review of the WRWSA governance documents should be completed. The current governance documents should be amended to reflect the recommendations and initiatives approved by the WRWSA Board from the visioning session if warranted.

13.8.3 Funding

As part of the review of the WRWSA governance documents a review of the funding mechanisms to support the administrative, technical and operations functions of the agency should also be considered. The current funding criteria were set under an old model and readdressing the funding formula would complement the other reviews that the WRWSA may be contemplating. This would include but not be limited to the per capita rate per member and readdressing the agreements and funding mechanism with Citrus County on the CAB 1 & 2 Wellfields.

6.a. Bills to be Paid

**February 17, 2010 Bills to be Paid will
be presented at the Board Meeting**

6.b. 1st Quarter Financial Report

ACCOUNTANTS' COMPILATION REPORT

To The Governing Board
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
Ocala, Florida

We have compiled the accompanying balance sheet of Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, as of December 31, 2009, and the related statements of revenue and expenses for the three months and the accompanying supplementary information, which are presented only for supplementary analysis purposes, in accordance with *Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services*, issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

A compilation is limited to presenting, in the form of financial statements and supplementary schedules, information that is the representation of management. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statements and supplementary information and accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on them.

The accompanying annual budget of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for the period ending December 31, 2009, included as supplementary information has not been compiled or examined by us and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on it.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures and the statements of retained earnings and cash flows required by generally accepted accounting principles. If the omitted disclosures and statements were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Organization's financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

Purvis, Gray and Company

January 27, 2010
Tallahassee, Florida

Certified Public Accountants

443 East College Avenue • Tallahassee, Florida 32301 • (850) 224-7144 • FAX (850) 224-1762

MEMBERS OF AMERICAN AND FLORIDA INSTITUTES OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
MEMBER OF AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS PRIVATE COMPANIES AND S.E.C. PRACTICE SECTIONS

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2009

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Cash in Bank - SunTrust | \$ 834.98 |
| Cash in Bank - LGIP | 526,346.28 |
| Cash in Bank - Fund B | 7,501.75 |
| Cash in Bank - LGIP/ Citrus Revenue | 1,010,142.23 |
| Cash in Bank - Fund B/ Citrus Revenue | 19,191.55 |
| Accounts Receivable - SWFWMD | 1,125.00 |
| Accounts Receivable - County Assessments | 2,586.95 |

Total Current Assets **1,567,728.74**

FIXED ASSETS

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Equipment | 1,559.85 |
| Accum Deprec - Equipment | (1,559.85) |
| Citrus Co. Wellfield | 4,895,231.21 |
| Accum Deprec - Wellfield | (2,773,967.44) |

Total Fixed Assets **2,121,263.77**

TOTAL ASSETS **\$ 3,688,992.51**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Accounts Payable - Special Projects | 1,071.15 |
| Accounts Payable - Retainage | 41,185.00 |
| Accounts Payable - General | 13,441.15 |

Total Current Liabilities **55,697.30**

NET ASSETS

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Unrestricted | 1,512,031.44 |
| Investment in Capital Assets | 2,121,263.77 |

Total Net Assets **3,633,295.21**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS **\$ 3,688,992.51**

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

For the Period Ended December 31, 2009

| | <u>3 months ended</u> <u>December 31, 2009</u> | <u>%</u> |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| REVENUE | | |
| Citrus Co. Assessments | \$ 6,747.04 | 5.34 % |
| Hernando Co. Assessments | 7,833.08 | 6.19 % |
| Sumter Co. Assessments | 4,419.12 | 3.49 % |
| City of Ocala Assessments | 2,586.95 | 2.05 % |
| Marion County Assessment | 13,060.41 | 10.33 % |
| Citrus Co Facilities Recovery | 68,161.25 | 53.90 % |
| Citrus County Wifld Admin Recov | 23,647.90 | 18.70 % |
| Total Revenue | <u>126,455.75</u> | <u>100.00 %</u> |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | | |
| Consulting Executive Director | 24,999.99 | 19.77 % |
| Advertising | 269.55 | 0.21 % |
| Bank Charges | 102.75 | 0.08 % |
| Registration/Dues | 175.00 | 0.14 % |
| Legal - Monthly Meeting | 1,000.00 | 0.79 % |
| Legal - Other Services | 415.11 | 0.33 % |
| Office Supplies | 339.83 | 0.27 % |
| Printing & Reproduction | 2.88 | 0.00 % |
| Postage | 46.53 | 0.04 % |
| Web Page/Internet Services | 464.65 | 0.37 % |
| Telephone | 1,054.45 | 0.83 % |
| Travel | 3,167.77 | 2.51 % |
| Engineer Maint Rpt CABWSF | 4,200.00 | 3.32 % |
| Legislative Consultant | 9,999.00 | 7.91 % |
| 08-09 Hernando Wtr Conservation | 15,607.16 | 12.34 % |
| WRA General Services Contract | 3,711.25 | 2.93 % |
| Total Operating Expenses | <u>65,555.92</u> | <u>51.84 %</u> |
| Operating Income (Loss) | <u>60,899.83</u> | <u>48.16 %</u> |
| OTHER INCOME | | |
| Interest Income - SBA1 | 164.53 | 0.13 % |
| Interest Income - SBA2 | 850.25 | 0.67 % |
| Total Other Income | <u>1,014.78</u> | <u>0.80 %</u> |
| Net Income (Loss) | <u>\$ 61,914.61</u> | <u>48.96 %</u> |

ACCOMPANYING SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
INCOME STATEMENT
BUDGET TO ACTUAL
For the Period Ended December 31, 2009

| | <u>December 31, 2009</u> | <u>December 31, 2009</u> | <u>Variance</u> | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Over/(Under)</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
| | | | <u>Budget</u> | | <u>Remaining</u> |
| REVENUE | | | | | |
| Citrus Co. Assessments | \$ 6,747.04 | \$ 6,747.04 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 26,988.00 | \$ 20,240.96 |
| Hernando Co. Assessments | 7,833.08 | 7,833.08 | 0.00 | 31,332.00 | 23,498.92 |
| Sumter Co. Assessments | 4,419.12 | 4,419.12 | 0.00 | 17,676.00 | 13,256.88 |
| City of Ocala Assessments | 2,586.95 | 2,586.95 | 0.00 | 10,348.00 | 7,761.05 |
| Marion County Assessment | 13,060.41 | 13,060.41 | 0.00 | 52,242.00 | 39,181.59 |
| Citrus Co Facilities Recovery | 68,161.25 | 40,896.75 | 27,264.50 | 163,587.00 | 95,425.75 |
| Citrus County Wfld Admin Recov | 23,647.90 | 14,188.74 | 9,459.16 | 56,755.00 | 33,107.10 |
| SWFWMD 07-08 Ph II & VII Fund | 0.00 | 16,500.00 | (16,500.00) | 66,000.00 | 66,000.00 |
| 08-09 Marion County Reentry | 0.00 | 19,046.25 | (19,046.25) | 76,185.00 | 76,185.00 |
| Total Revenue | 126,455.75 | 125,278.34 | 1,177.41 | 501,113.00 | 374,657.25 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | | | | | |
| Consulting Executive Director | 24,999.99 | 24,999.99 | 0.00 | 100,000.00 | 75,000.01 |
| Advertising | 269.55 | 250.03 | 19.52 | 1,000.00 | 730.45 |
| Bank Charges | 102.75 | 100.03 | 2.72 | 400.00 | 297.25 |
| Registration/Dues | 175.00 | 312.56 | (137.56) | 1,250.00 | 1,075.00 |
| Legal - Monthly Meeting | 1,000.00 | 1,500.00 | (500.00) | 6,000.00 | 5,000.00 |
| Legal - Other Services | 415.11 | 3,500.06 | (3,084.95) | 14,000.00 | 13,584.89 |
| Office Supplies | 339.83 | 375.00 | (35.17) | 1,500.00 | 1,160.17 |
| Printing & Reproduction | 2.88 | 250.03 | (247.15) | 1,000.00 | 997.12 |
| Postage | 46.53 | 375.00 | (328.47) | 1,500.00 | 1,453.47 |
| Audit | 0.00 | 2,150.06 | (2,150.06) | 8,600.00 | 8,600.00 |
| Bookkeeping/Financial Asst. | 0.00 | 450.00 | (450.00) | 1,800.00 | 1,800.00 |
| Publications/Software | 0.00 | 187.50 | (187.50) | 750.00 | 750.00 |
| State Fees/Assessments | 0.00 | 50.06 | (50.06) | 200.00 | 200.00 |
| Web Page/Internet Services | 464.65 | 375.00 | 89.65 | 1,500.00 | 1,035.35 |
| Telephone | 1,054.45 | 1,125.00 | (70.55) | 4,500.00 | 3,445.55 |
| Travel | 3,167.77 | 3,750.00 | (582.23) | 15,000.00 | 11,832.23 |
| Engineer Maint Rpt CABWSF | 4,200.00 | 6,000.00 | (1,800.00) | 6,000.00 | 1,800.00 |
| Legislative Consultant | 9,999.00 | 9,999.00 | 0.00 | 40,000.00 | 30,001.00 |
| 06-07 RWSP Phase II Proj Feas | 0.00 | 27,333.34 | (27,333.34) | 82,000.00 | 82,000.00 |
| 06-07 RWSP Ph VII MFL Anal | 0.00 | 12,500.06 | (12,500.06) | 50,000.00 | 50,000.00 |
| Marion County Integration Proj | 0.00 | 19,046.25 | (19,046.25) | 76,185.00 | 76,185.00 |
| 08-09 Hernando Wtr Conservation | 15,607.16 | 0.00 | 15,607.16 | 0.00 | (15,607.16) |
| North Sumter Data Collection | 0.00 | 8,333.25 | (8,333.25) | 33,333.00 | 33,333.00 |
| FY10 WRA Contr - Eng/Plng Suprt | 3,711.25 | 6,250.03 | (2,538.78) | 25,000.00 | 21,288.75 |
| FY10 Marion Water Conservation | 0.00 | 5,749.97 | (5,749.97) | 23,000.00 | 23,000.00 |
| FY10 Hernando Water Conserve | 0.00 | 11,374.97 | (11,374.97) | 45,500.00 | 45,500.00 |
| FY10 Citrus Water Conservation | 0.00 | 9,375.00 | (9,375.00) | 37,500.00 | 37,500.00 |
| FY10 Belleview Strmwtr Reuse | 0.00 | 1,999.97 | (1,999.97) | 8,000.00 | 8,000.00 |
| FY10 Crystal Rvr Reuse Study | 0.00 | 1,999.97 | (1,999.97) | 8,000.00 | 8,000.00 |
| FY10 Ocala Xeriscape Demo | 0.00 | 1,999.97 | (1,999.97) | 8,000.00 | 8,000.00 |
| FY10 Dev of Governance Docs | 0.00 | 12,499.97 | (12,499.97) | 50,000.00 | 50,000.00 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 65,555.92 | 174,212.07 | (108,656.15) | 651,518.00 | 585,962.08 |
| Operating Income (Loss) | 60,899.83 | (48,933.73) | 109,833.56 | (158,767.29) | (211,304.83) |
| OTHER INCOME | | | | | |
| Interest Income SBA 1 | 164.53 | 0.00 | 164.53 | 0.00 | (164.53) |
| Interest Income SBA 2 | 850.25 | 0.00 | 850.25 | 0.00 | (850.25) |
| Total Other Income | 1,014.78 | 0.00 | 1,014.78 | 0.00 | (1,014.78) |
| Net Income (Loss) | \$ 61,914.61 | \$ (48,933.73) | \$ 110,848.34 | \$ (158,767.29) | \$ (212,319.61) |

6.c. Correspondence

THERE WERE NO CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR THE BOARD PACKAGE AT THE TIME OF PRINTING. IF ITEMS BECOME AVAILABLE, THEY WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE BOARD MEETING.

6.d. News Articles

Report: Pumping during cold snap caused 85 sinkholes

Almost 1 billion gallons daily pumped to protect crops

11:37 AM EST, January 26, 2010

Almost 1 billion gallons of water daily was pumped out of the aquifer during the recent cold snap, creating 85 sinkholes in parts of Florida, according to the St. Petersburg Times.

Farmers in Hillsborough and Polk counties pumped more than 16 times the normal average permitted quantity of 60 million gallons a day during the 11-day cold snap this month, the newspaper reported.

The water is used to protect crops.

The pumping also prompted 700 complaints of dried-up or damaged residential wells, according to the newspaper.

The Southwest Florida Water Management District released information about the pumping and sinkholes today.

What's behind sinkholes? Water managers want answers

Grayson Kamm ■ Date last updated: 1/26/2010 12:55:17 PM

In a meeting Tuesday morning, water managers plan to study the causes of a slew of sinkholes this month and craft a strategy to prevent a future repeat of the outbreak.

Plant City, Florida -- In a meeting Tuesday morning, water managers plan to study the causes of a slew of sinkholes this month and craft a strategy to prevent a future repeat of the outbreak.

Geologists say the millions of gallons of well water pumped onto plants to protect them from the cold earlier this month were what touched off a recent string of sinkholes in Hillsborough and Polk counties.

The sinkholes -- called "ground cover collapses" by scientists -- have forced families out of their homes, shut down more than a dozen roads, and continue to close Plant City's Trapnell Elementary School.

The rock that sits under parts of Florida is cut through with a network of caves and cracks. Scientists say those openings are normally filled with water, but when water is quickly pumped out, the cracks and caves open up, making room for the land above to collapse down and create a sinkhole.

Water level experts with the U.S. Geological Survey say in some wells in Polk County, for example, the water level dropped more than 60 feet in just a few days. If they were to draw that water level plunge onto graphs they had used in the past, the line would have literally dropped off the chart.

In a meeting starting at 9 a.m. Tuesday morning, the Southwest Florida Water Management District will review a lengthy report that studies the causes of the sinkhole outbreak and just how much water was pumped from wells during January's record cold spell.

Armed with that knowledge, the water management district's board will start a process of figuring out how to prevent another rash of sinkholes in the future.

The water management district is in charge of monitoring the water level -- both above ground and below ground -- in the Tampa Bay area, and controls how much water freeze-fearing farmers are permitted to pump from wells in an emergency.

Related: Science of sink holes - why do they happen?

Connect with 10 Connects multi-media journalist Grayson Kamm on Twitter as @graysonkamm, on his Facebook page, or by e-mail at this link.

Grayson Kamm, 10 Connects

Swiftmud: 54 wells remain dry from January freeze

By KEITH MORELLI | The Tampa Tribune

Of the hundreds of residential wells that went dry during the recent cold spell, fewer than 60 remain waterless this morning, and water managers have been in touch with each resident in a push to make the water flow again.

"We have gone out to every single one of those wells," said Robyn Felix, spokeswoman for the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

Of the 54 dry wells, 13 are in areas outside the zone typically affected by agricultural pumping, she said. All have hooked into some sort of water supply, many are using hoses that stretch to neighbors' homes, she said. The district will foot the bill for those repairs, she said.

"Our priority," she said, "is to get all these wells working again."

The cost of fixing wells can range from minor repairs of under \$1,000 to major repairs that could cost as much as \$7,000.

Swiftmud had logged 719 dry-well complaints last month from residents of eastern Hillsborough County. The reason: Massive pumping of water by the area's strawberry farmers in a concerted attempt to usher their crops through a stinging freeze that lasted 11 consecutive days in January.

Growers soaked their fields during the cold weather to protect the fragile fruit from succumbing to the frost. Still, they lost about 30 percent of their crops, agricultural officials said.

The other casualties were private residential wells near the farms. Many went without water for days until their wells came back after the weather warmed, the agricultural pumping ceased, the aquifer recharged and its level rose.

Fifty-four wells remained dry as of last night, water management district officials said. The reasons vary from having a well that dips into a part of the aquifer that has not yet recharged to having a burned-out pump.

Farmers are required under their water use permits to pay for repairs to neighboring residential wells and any out-of-pocket expenses residents may have incurred because of their water challenged situation.

The problem is that well drillers and repairmen retained by the farmers were too busy to get to everyone. So, Swiftmud voted last week to authorize the expenditure of \$250,000 to get people's wells fixed as quickly as possible. Water managers said they would seek reimbursement from the growers later for wells that ran dry specifically because of the growers' pumping.

Medard Reservoir repair yields safety and fillets

By YVETTE C. HAMMETT

yhammett@tampatrib.com

Massive cranes scoop rocks from the berm surrounding Medard Reservoir, plunking them into piles that soon will become artificial reefs in the 750-acre man-made lake.

Trucks rumble over the white sandy bottom of the nearly drained lake, hauling out fish that will help feed the hungry through local food pantries.

Stacks of concrete mats sitting along a portion of the embankment soon will be strung across a berm that helps form the shoreline at the popular county park, where fishermen haul out prize bass, tons of tilapia and cooler-loads of catfish.

The berm repairs are the key to the safety of those living downstream.

More than 30 years have passed since water of any magnitude has been drained from the enormous reservoir, east of Valrico and south of Plant City.

But with sandbags continuing to deteriorate along the banks, it was time.

A contractor for the Southwest Florida Water Management District, which owns the reservoir, expects to be finished by May.

The repairs have brought additional benefits.

The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, at the behest of state Sen. Ronda Storms, has removed tons of tilapia and catfish from the reservoir.

The fish are being distributed to America's Second Harvest, which in turn is providing it to local food banks to feed the hungry.

Meanwhile, a group of fisheries biologists from the University of Florida is removing and tagging huge bass that are being relocated to other lakes in Florida.

"We'll be able to go back later and look at the length and weight of these fish, and there will be a toll-free number people can call to say where and when they caught them," said biologist Dan Willis, of UF's school of forestry.

The heavy lifting is left for the water management district.

"We started dewatering the last week of October and have brought the lake down from 58.5 feet to 48 feet," project manager Jeff Hagberg said.

"It could drain another few feet" at most, Hagberg said.

Depending on rainfall, it could be two years before the reservoir refills, he said.

The work at Medard Reservoir is expected to cost \$1.94 million, said Amy Harroun, senior communications coordinator for the district.

When the project is complete, the construction crew will have placed 3,000 feet of armament along the shoreline.

The old rocks that once lined it will become fish habitat, in the form of artificial reefs.

Those reefs will help transform the man-made lake into a more natural habitat.

ISSUE 2/2/2010: Florida Forever funding.

By Chronicle

Recognizing that the responsible stewardship of Florida's natural heritage is fundamental to the state's future, the Legislature created the Preservation 2000 conservation program in 1990. The acknowledged success of the program led the Legislature to establish the successor **Florida Forever** program in 2001.

Thanks to the Legislature's responsible stewardship, the two programs have preserved more than 2.4 million acres of environmentally valuable land. Among the 627,000 acres of land preserved by Florida Forever are 53,600 acres of springs and springsheds, 5,190 acres of fragile coastline, 300,000 acres of sustainable forestlands and 158,700 acres of working agricultural lands.

Nonetheless, with the Legislature facing a \$6.1 billion budget shortfall last year, it took the short view rather than the long view by opting for budgetary expediency that eliminated all funding for Florida Forever. The Legislature's complete zeroing of the program has prompted concern that it could spell the end of the state's laudable legacy of land preservation.

Last week, Gov. Charlie Crist moved to put this concern to rest with the announcement that his budget request to the Legislature would include \$50 million for the resurrection of Florida Forever. Despite state economists projecting a budget shortfall of \$3.2 billion, \$50 million within the framework of last year's \$66.5 billion budget is a nominal cost for wisely investing in Florida's future, especially with a recession-ravaged real estate market promising environmentally valuable land at very affordable prices.

Even in these difficult economic times, Gov. Crist's desired resurrection of Florida Forever has the support of a vast majority of Floridians. Following the Legislature's elimination of Florida Forever funding last year, a poll released by environmental groups found that 81 percent of Florida voters supported land preservation and that 67 percent supported the continuation of Florida Forever.

With state lawmakers having to grapple with a projected \$3.2 billion gap between estimated revenue and spending levels needed to maintain such high-priority programs as public education and Medicaid, Gov. Crist will certainly have to follow up his expressed desire to rescue Florida Forever with some political arm twisting.

As residents of Florida's Nature Coast, we daily see and enjoy the wisdom of preserving our natural heritage. Accordingly, we look to our legislative delegation of state Sens. Mike Fasano and Charlie Dean and state Rep. Ron Schultz to carry the banner of responsible stewardship by supporting Gov. Crist's budget request to resurrect Florida Forever.

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Experts say we're running out of water. Is "toilet to tap" the answer?

January 26, 2010 at 12:42 pm by Mitch Perry

Tampa consumers use an enormous amount of water — between 70 to 75 million gallons *a day*, 25 percent of which is currently used for lawn irrigation.

And with population growth in Florida predicted to rebound in coming decades, there's no question that we will need more. We'll either have to find a way to increase our supply, change the way we currently use it, or both.

One of the most promising strategies for meeting this challenge is called indirect potable reuse (IPR), a technique that has been successful in California, Virginia, Texas, Israel and parts of Africa. Tampa City Councilman Charlie Miranda is hopeful that it can be adopted, or at least considered, here.

The trouble is, IPR has an image problem, one that's inextricably related to its descriptive, if derisive (and only partially accurate) nickname: "Toilet to Tap."

Councilman Miranda (below right) was a vocal supporter of the Tampa lawn-sprinkling ban during last spring's stifling drought, accusing fellow Council members of waffling on the issue when they called to reverse the ban. "I don't know why we flip-flop. We should be at McDonalds, flipping and flopping hamburgers. What we have here today is a serious situation that's not getting any better." He's passionate about adjusting water consumption in the area, and wants voters to be given the chance to vote on a proposal in March of 2011 that would call for construction of a treatment plant that would transfer sewage water into potable water.

But he knows that getting people to feel positive about such a system will be a challenge. Especially with headlines like one that ran last year in a local paper: "Taking the Plunge With Toilet Water." But, he says, "I feel very confident with the technology improving every day, there is no doubt in my mind that this is only way [to go]."

He's facing some serious doubters — like Phil Compton, one of the area's most respected environmentalists (Sierra Club, Friends of the River). Emphasizing that he speaks for himself and not the groups he represents, Compton asks, "What are the effects on human beings after they consume such water? How much do we know about that? I can't tell you it's safe, and I'd like to see Charlie Miranda show me that data otherwise."

University of South Florida Integrative Biology Professor Thomas Crisman says that there are essentially three ways to get water throughout the world: 1) capturing storm water runoff; 2) using seawater (as with the desalination plant in Hillsborough County, which has been severely hampered since its inception); or 3) reuse, or IPR.

Crisman's department, in addition to the USF College of Public Health and other sponsors, will be hosting two public information workshops on IPR at USF's College of Public Health auditorium, with the first event taking place on Thursday, January 28, entitled, "The Impending Water Crises of Tampa Bay: Waste, Reuse & Environmental Protection."

"We are running out of water. Period," Crisman says flatly. "In the world in general, and Tampa in particular."

So how does IPR work?

Currently, the city of Tampa is dumping 55 million gallons of treated sewage water into Hillsborough Bay. The goal would be to take that water (which now goes to the Howard Curren treatment plant) and put it through two more processes. The plant would send the sewage water through reverse osmosis and ultraviolet processing. Then the water would go into the Hillsborough River, where it would ultimately flow to the David Tippen treatment plant. There the water would be treated again before being sent directly to citizens' homes.

Currently, about 2 million gallons of that treated wastewater is being used by residents for irrigation purposes, as part of the city's STAR Project. But distribution of that resource is limited to residents in the South Tampa region, where currently about 4,000 residents use the service. Though there has been talk about expanding the program, the costs seem prohibitive.

But the city must find a way to do something with the 55 million gallons of highly treated water currently being dumped into the bay. It's not clear how much nitrogen the water contains, and there are concerns that the state's Department of Environmental Protection and/or the EPA could someday rule that the city can no longer continue to dump that much water.

That's why Charlie Miranda wants to use the IPR system to take the 55 million gallons and treat it for ultimate potable consumption. But he wants Tampa citizens to have the opportunity over the course of the next year to vet the situation fully.

Some city officials think it's a reasonable position to take. Ralph Metcalfe is the director of the city's wastewater department. He's observed the Upper Occoquan service authority in Northern Virginia. There the plant's wastewater is treated and mixed with the city's drinking water supply and then discharged into the historic creek called Bull Run.

"They've been doing it for a number of years. It looked like a Coors beer commercial," Metcalfe says, reflecting on the purity of the water running down the creek. "It worked there. The thing is, I know it can work [here]."

But at what cost? According to Councilman Miranda, it would take \$200 million to renovate the Howard Curren treatment plant. That sounds expensive, except in comparison to how much it might cost to try to expand the STAR program citywide.

But then there's the image problem. People have concerns about drinking such water, concerns generally referred to as "the yuk factor." The fears may be unfounded, but the prejudice is powerful.

Some Council members think the issue could get so politicized that it might be best for them to decide among themselves whether to go ahead with the project.

John Dingfelder says he recognizes that IPR is being used in other parts of the U.S. and around the world, but says "most of those places are generally very desperate for water." He also voices "suspicions" about the health effects of dumping reclaimed water into the drinking water system, citing a recent report in the Tampa Tribune that found low levels of antibiotics and chemicals in the city's drinking water supply right now.

Linda Saul-Sena is concerned about whether the city can pull enough information together by the time the election rolls around next year, but says, "I'm open-minded. We need to collect further information at this point."

That's why Saul-Sena is encouraged by the two public meetings that USF Professor Crisman and his colleagues will hold over the next month on the subject. Crisman says the ground rules will be that there are "no political questions or comments."

The politics will come afterwards. The Tampa City Council is scheduled on February 25 to discuss the matter. Last September, Mayor Pam Iorio issued a memo in which she said it was possible to treat reclaimed water for potable purposes, but she stressed that the public should hear a full discussion about the issue before going to the ballot box.

Councilman Charlie Miranda said that's what he's willing to do over the next year, but a referendum campaign will need cash if it's going to convince the public that IPR is a safe proposition. In an interview with CL late last year, Miranda admitted that it'll take money to get the message out, but he hopes to be able to recruit public speakers to sell the idea (presumably at little to no cost). He says he hopes to "create 250 Charlies out in the street," spreading the message of IPR.

It won't be easy. Though Orange County, CA, uses such a system, it's sandwiched between two major cities, Los Angeles and San Diego, that have both rejected IPR so far, even though California continues to suffer from serious droughts. A spokesperson for the Orange County Water District tells CL that an extensive public

education campaign, as well as buy-in from local environmentalists, has made their system relatively non-controversial. However, politicians never took the issue to the public.

Miranda says he could try to get four Council members to pass a proposed bill this year, but believes it's such an important issue that the public should have their say. He warns, "Sooner or later, if we don't do something about this, that water faucet is going to stop to a drip."

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Home Page → News Releases → February 1, 2010

Media invited to attend ceremony to certify water-conserving model home geared toward first-time buyers

February 1, 2010

On Friday, February 5, the [Southwest Florida Water Management District](#) will certify the first home in Pasco County as part of the [Florida Water StarSM Gold](#) program at the Sunset Hills community in Dade City.

The District has partnered with non-profit builder [Florida Home Partnership Inc.](#) to certify these homes as part of the Florida Water Star Gold program. This voluntary certification program for builders encourages water efficiency in household appliances, plumbing fixtures, irrigation systems, and landscapes.

At Friday's event, the District will certify the model home, and Florida Home Partnership will break ground on five of the 40 water-saving homes that are planned so far for the Sunset Hills community. The [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#) will also take part in the event, and present the partnership with a **\$1.7 million** check for future building projects.

Florida Home Partnership Inc., formerly known as Homes for Hillsborough, is a not-for-profit housing developer that provides affordable housing opportunities for first-time homebuyers through "sweat equity" and the Department of Agriculture's Mutual Self-Help Housing Program.

"We are pleased to have a developer on board that caters to first-time home buyers," said Susan Douglas, Florida Water Star Gold certification coordinator. "This partnership emphasizes that environmentally-friendly homes can also be affordable."

The community will feature low-flow plumbing fixtures, high-efficiency toilets, [ENERGY STAR®](#) appliances, and low-maintenance [Florida-Friendly Landscaping™](#).

"We want to help our clients build homes that save water, both for their own cost savings and for the benefit of the environment. Signing on to Florida Water Star Gold is evidence of our commitment to efficient, green building standards," said Eileen Burke, Florida Home Partnership administrative coordinator.

Event Details:

Event: VIP Opening and Florida Water Star Gold Home Certification

Date: February 5, 2010

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: 36982 Sol Vista Drive, Dade City, FL 33525

Guests: Invitation only, with the exception of news media

Lunch: Will be provided

For more information about the event, please contact Robyn Felix at 800-423-1476, ext. 4770.

For more information about Florida Home Partnership Inc., please contact Eileen Burke at 813-672-7860, ext. 245.

For more information on how to become a certified Florida Water Star Gold community, please contact Susan Douglas at 800-423-1476, ext. 4752.



SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Home Page → News Releases → January 25, 2010

Help your yard recover from the freeze

January 25, 2010

Recent cold weather has taken a toll on Florida plant life, and may have damaged area sprinkler systems too.

The [Southwest Florida Water Management District](#) is providing a few simple steps that residents can use help to their plants, lawns, and irrigation systems recover from freezing temperatures.

Wait to water and prune

[University of Florida county Extension agents](#) say that the need for [watering](#) has decreased dramatically with cooler temperatures and recent rain.

“Overwatering in the winter can encourage pests and disease in your lawn,” said Sylvia Durell, the District’s [Florida-Friendly Landscaping](#) project manager. She said that most residents can [skip a week](#) of watering during winter months.

According to research by the University of Florida, grass doesn’t need to be watered as often during the cooler months. In fact, one-half to three-quarters of an inch of water every 10-14 days is sufficient.

Residents should wait a month or more before **pruning** or **replacing damaged plants**, including lawns, until the threat of freezing temperatures passes. And [fertilizing](#) should wait until the growing season. Contact the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods coordinator at your local Extension office for more information.

Check your irrigation system

Irrigation systems may have freeze damage that will appear as leaking pipes or fittings. Pipes could have split during the recent cold weather. Check for broken or split pipes and fittings and repair or replace as necessary. The water pressure will appear lower in a zone with leaking pipes and fittings. Here’s how to check your system:

- On your irrigation day, manually start your irrigation system for each zone to check for leaks, broken pipes, damaged or tilted sprinkler heads, blocked sprinkler patterns and overspray onto impermeable surfaces such as roads and sidewalks.
- Check for soft, wet spots that are around the inground sprinkler head. If consistent, these spots could indicate a leak that is being absorbed into the ground. Contact your irrigation maintenance specialist if repairs are needed.
- Look for dry spots. They are a sign of one of the following: the sprinklers may be placed too far apart; the water pressure is low; sprinkler patterns may be blocked by overgrown grass; shrubs or low-hanging limbs may be blocking the sprinklers; or the screens inside the sprinklers are clogged. The

sprinklers may need to be adjusted, moved or additional heads added. Check with a qualified irrigation contractor if needed.

Inspect Your Rain Shutoff Device

If you have an automatic sprinkler system, be sure it is equipped with a working rain shutoff device to override the system when enough rain has fallen. As water evaporates from the device, the irrigation system will resume normal operation. Rain shutoff devices, also known as rain sensors, are required by Florida law on all automatic irrigation systems.

- Make sure the rain shutoff device is located away from overhead obstructions, with a clear view of the sky and at least five feet away from air-conditioning units or pool heaters.
- Check the rain shutoff device regularly to ensure the device is working properly and that the corresponding switch in the control box is set at "on." Test the device by wetting the sensor to verify the system won't operate when the controller has received the set amount of water.
- Adjust the sensor to interrupt irrigation after one-half to three-quarters of an inch of rain. If there is a vent ring located just below the cap, the vent can be closed or partially closed to restrict air flow through the discs. Make sure the vent is closed so it will allow the disks to dry more slowly, thus keeping the system off for a longer period of time. This adjustment is used to compensate for an "overly sunny" location.
- If you need to add or replace a rain shutoff device you can purchase one at home improvement stores for between \$17 and \$60.

To learn more about Florida-Friendly Landscaping, please visit the District's web site at www.WaterMatters.org/yards.

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

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SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Home Page → News Releases → January 7, 2010

District to treat water lettuce on Rainbow River

January 7, 2010

The Southwest Florida Water Management District will be treating water lettuce on the Rainbow River during the week of January 11.

District workers will treat the Rainbow River from the headspring to the Withlacoochee River.

Workers will apply the aquatic herbicide Reward to scattered infestations, and post warning signs in the treatment areas noting treatment dates and water use restrictions. Treated river water should not be used for drinking, watering livestock or irrigating lawns and ornamental plants for one day following treatment. The treated water should not be used for irrigation of food crops for five days. Water use restrictions apply to river water only, not to tap or well water. There are no restrictions on the use of the river for swimming or fishing.

Water lettuce is a troublesome floating aquatic plant from South America that was first discovered in Florida in 1765. It is considered one of the worst weeds in the subtropical and tropical regions of the world and can double its population in less than three weeks. The management of water lettuce on the Rainbow River is a cooperative effort between the District, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

For more information, please call the District at 352-796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476, ext. 4537.

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

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Robyn Felix
800-423-1476, ext. 4770 or
Cell Phone: 813-781-9817

The Southwest Florida Water Management District urges year-round water conservation. Water levels may rise and fall, but our water resources remain limited. The District encourages efficient, non-wasteful uses of water to sustain our high quality of life. For more information about ways to conserve water, contact the District at 800-423-1476 or visit the District's web site at www.watermatters.org

Water Resource Monthly Update

January 29, 2010

Aquifer Levels (in feet) *

| Regions ** | Jan. 27 | Last week | Same date last year | Normal range *** |
|------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|------------------|
| North | 0.34 **** | 0.11 | -1.32 | 0 to +3 |
| Central | 2.67 | 1.70 | -1.36 | 0 to +5.5 |
| South | 1.43 | 0.31 | -3.14 | 0 to +8 |

* Aquifers are underground layers of rock and sand that hold water. In southwest Florida, more than 80 percent of the water supply comes from aquifers.

** **North** (Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Levy, Marion and Sumter counties)

Central (Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties)

South (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Manatee and Sarasota counties)

*** Aquifer levels normally fluctuate to varying degrees in different ranges. The normal range shows how much each region normally fluctuates, with 0 as the bottom of the normal range.

**** Readings show how current levels compare to normal ranges for this time of year. Anything below a zero is below the normal range.

2010 Rainfall (in inches) *

| | Jan. 1-27 | Jan. |
|---------|-----------|--------------|
| | Actual ** | Historic *** |
| North | 3.49 | 2.78 |
| Central | 3.46 | 2.43 |
| South | 2.19 | 2.19 |

Historic Rainfall (Jan. - Dec. in inches)

| | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | Jan. - Dec. |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|
| | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Actual | Historic |
| North | 50.63 | 49.30 | 45.43 | 38.73 | 58.85 | 62.50 | 53.95 | 59.50 | 53.55 |
| Central | 51.56 | 46.64 | 41.44 | 43.13 | 51.62 | 68.52 | 53.86 | 64.75 | 52.56 |
| South | 48.84 | 47.37 | 38.53 | 42.28 | 61.65 | 62.65 | 55.61 | 60.47 | 52.50 |

* The rainfall values for the current month and year are considered provisional and subject to revision. The other annual figures are final.

** Actual rainfall for the time frame referenced at the top of the column.

*** Historical average rainfall for the time frame referenced at the top of the column. The District's historical rainfall records dates back to 1914.

Lake Levels (in feet, relative to MLM) *

| Regions ** | Jan. levels | Previous month | Same date last year |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Northern | -4.15 | -4.05 | -4.72 |
| Tampa Bay | 0.55 | -0.29 | -1.86 |
| Polk Uplands | -2.86 | -2.14 | -1.72 |
| Lake Wales Ridge | -4.96 | -4.51 | -3.82 |

* Each month the District measures water levels in 76 lakes. The lake levels are compared to the lakes' adopted minimum low management (MLM) levels. The MLM level is how low each lake has historically dropped at the end of the dry season each year.

** **Northern** (Citrus, Hernando and Sumter counties)

Tampa Bay (Hillsborough and Pasco counties)

Polk Uplands (Northern Polk County)

Lake Wales Ridge (Portions of Polk and Highlands counties)

Streamflows *

| | Jan. percentile ** | Previous month percentile | Same date last year percentile | Normal range percentile *** |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Withlacoochee River near Holder | 11 | 13 | 7 | 25-75 |
| Withlacoochee River near Trilby | 11 | 14 | 4 | 25-75 |
| Hillsborough River near Zephyrhills | 48 | 42 | 2 | 25-75 |
| Peace River at Arcadia | 57 | 80 | 5 | 25-75 |
| Peace River at Bartow | 27 | 35 | 5 | 25-75 |

* **Streamflow**, also known as discharge, is the volume of water passing a location in a certain amount of time, usually measured as cubic feet per second.

** The **percentile** compares current flows to historical flows during the same time of year on a scale of 0-100. For example, if the river is shown at the 50th percentile, it means that half of the historical flows for this time of year were higher and half were lower than the current flow.

*** Any flow that falls between the 25th and the 75th percentile is considered **normal**. Less than the 25th would be considered below normal and above the 75th above normal.

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Tampa Bay Regional Water Supply and Drought Index January 2010

CLEARWATER (January 12, 2010) — Surface water availability increased during December as above normal rainfall amounts were received. Rainfall totals across the Tampa Bay region for December were above normal.

River flows increased in the Hillsborough and Alafia River basins allowing some additional regional reservoir storage. **Regional water supply conditions remain in a Phase II Severe Water Shortage condition under Tampa Bay Water's water shortage mitigation plan.**

The region water restrictions were lessened by the Southwest Florida Water Management District from Phase III to Phase II watering restrictions in mid-December.

Water stored in the regional reservoir is at 13.7 billion gallons, about 87% of capacity.

Regional water facts for December:

- Rainfall totals in December averaged about 3.4 inches. Rainfall totals averaged between 2.3 and 4.7 inches, with highest rainfall occurring in north-central Pasco County.
- Long-term rainfall deficits decreased for the Hillsborough River basin to 33.4 inches and to 20.4 inches in the Alafia River basin.
- Alafia River flow was 106% of the mean monthly flow for December while the Hillsborough River flow was 55% of normal.
- Regional water demand in December averaged about 208 million gallons per day, an 8% decrease from the relatively low November demand.

Rainfall conditions are expected to be wetter than normal during January due to the strong El Nino condition. Regional demands are expected to remain below historic levels and river flows are expected to increase.

Tampa Bay Water continues to request the cities of Tampa, St. Petersburg, New Port Richey and counties of Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco reduce demand and optimize enforcement of water restrictions.

For more information contact Dave Bracciano or Alison Adams at 727-796-2355

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surface water treatment plant

Since September 2002, Tampa Bay Water's state-of-the-art surface water treatment plant has provided high-quality drinking water to the Tampa Bay region. The plant is the hub of the utility's Enhanced Surface Water System—the first alternative water supply built to serve local governments that traditionally relied on groundwater.

When available, water is skimmed from the Tampa Bypass Canal, Hillsborough and Alafia rivers. Some is treated for immediate use at the Tampa Bay Regional Surface Water Treatment Plant, and surplus water is stored in the [C.W. Bill Young Regional Reservoir](#) to supply the water treatment plant during dry times.

The amount of water supply by the surface water treatment plant varies daily depending on a number of factors, including how much river water is available. The plant has a maximum rated capacity of 72 million gallons per day (mgd), enabling it to regularly produce 66 mgd when water is available.

The plant was built under a successful public-private partnership with Veolia Water, formerly USFilter. Under this Design-Build-Operate process, Tampa Bay Water is the owner of the plant, but Veolia designed, built and is under contract to operate the plant until 2023.

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Senate bills 360 and 444

Implementation of Senate bills 360 and 444

Overview

Traditional water supply sources in some areas of Florida are not sufficient to meet the future needs of the state's growing population and the needs of the environment, agriculture, industry and mining. Some of those areas are in the **St. Johns River Water Management District**. In fact, about 40 percent of the District has been identified as a priority water resource caution area where existing and planned sources of supply will not be able to meet all future needs without resulting in unacceptable impacts to water resources and related natural systems.

Addressing these water issues was a priority during the 2005 legislative session. Two bills — Senate Bill 360 and Senate Bill 444 — were passed and signed into law by former-Gov. Jeb Bush. This legislation focuses on encouraging cooperation in the development of alternative water supplies and improving the linkage between local governments' land use plans and water management districts' regional water supply plans.

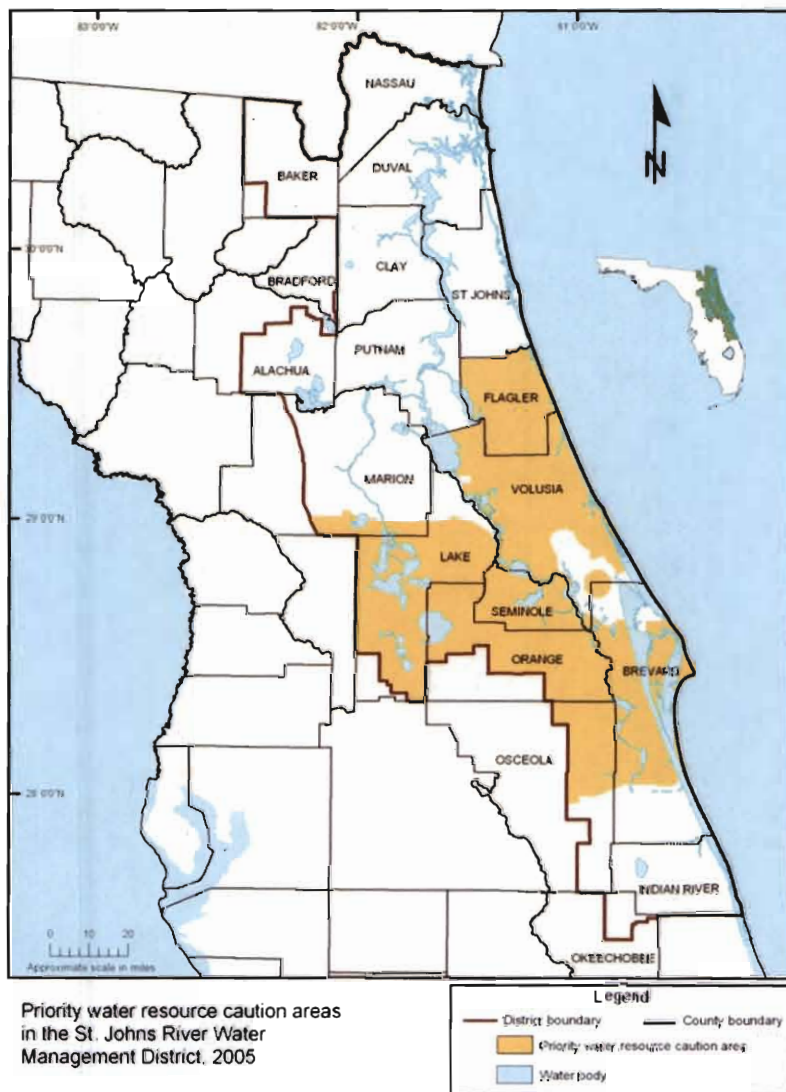
Information about the legislative requirements and the District's implementation plans for the requirements are provided below.

- » **Florida Water Protection and Sustainability Program**
(Cost-share funding program for alternative water supply construction projects.)
- » **District Water Supply Plan 2005**
- » **Priority water resource caution area map**
- » **Comprehensive plan requirements**

Helpful links

- » Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- » Florida Department of Community Affairs
- » Northwest Florida Water Management District
- » Suwannee River Water Management District
- » Southwest Florida Water Management District
- » South Florida Water Management District
- » Senate bills (SB)
 - » SB360 | SB444 

Priority water resource caution area map



St. Johns River Water Management District



Water Protection and Sustainability Program

DISTRICT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Water Protection and Sustainability Program (WPSP) was initiated in 2006 to provide cost-share funding for construction of alternative water supply projects in the St. Johns River Water Management District (District). To learn more about the grants/cooperative funding programs of the District, visit our new **Cooperative Funding Report** search tool below, which includes a search function for listings by county, city, project name and a variety of other parameters. For more information about the WPSP, click [HERE](#).

Program highlights

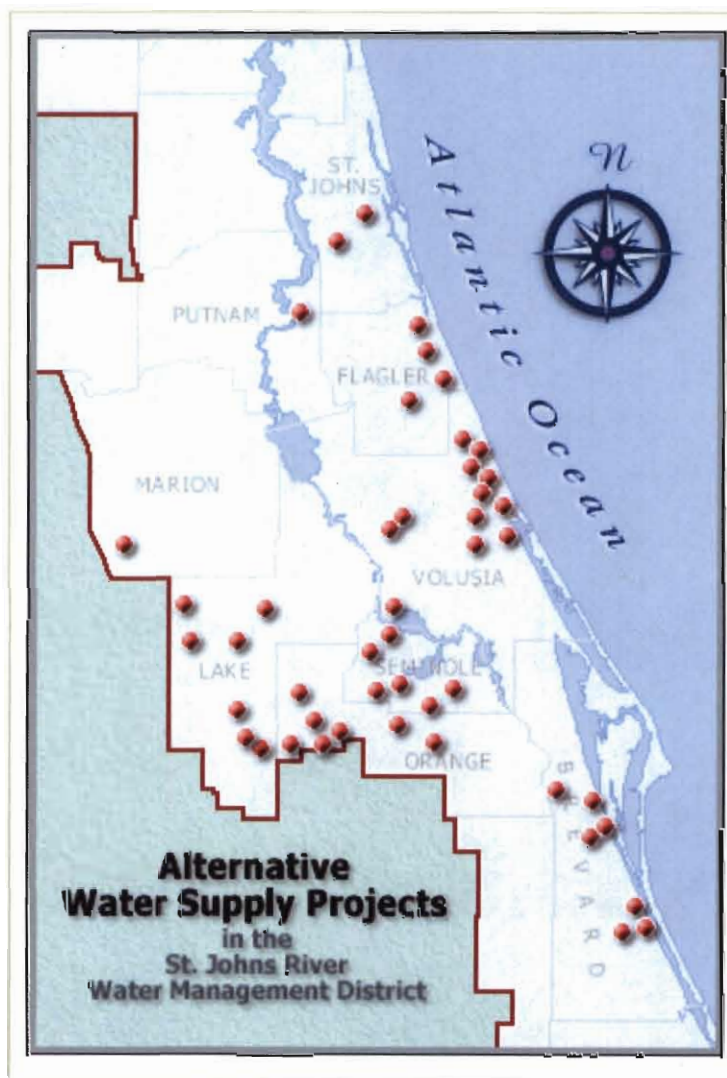
- » Cost-share funding is available for alternative water supply projects identified in the *District Water Supply Plan 2005*
- » Emphasis is on multijurisdictional, regional projects
- » District will match state funds for construction costs only
 - 20 percent for reclaimed water
 - 30 percent for surface water augmentation
 - 40 percent for new source public supply
- » 55 projects have been approved for fiscal years 2006, 2007 and 2008
 - \$111 million total WPSP cost-share funds
 - \$1.2 billion total alternative water supply construction costs
 - 197 million gallons per day in projected production

District goal

- » Cost-share funding for projects that have the greatest certainty to supply projected water needs through 2025 such that:
 - Water supply problems in water use caution areas are solved
 - Identification of new priority water use caution areas are avoided

District priorities for funding

- » Large projects that provide significant quantities of new sources of water to address projected regional water demands



- » Smaller projects ready to go that help sustain current supplies and extend the time until larger projects are completed

**Go to
Cooperative Funding Report
SEARCH TOOL**

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Item #7 Legislative Update

From: Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>
 Subject: 1/29 WRWSA Bill Tracking Report
 Date: January 29, 2010 8:49:50 AM EST
 To: Jack Sullivan <jesull@comcast.net>

--- On Thu, 1/28/10, Diane Salz <info@lobbytools.com> wrote:

From: Diane Salz <info@lobbytools.com>
 Subject: 1/29 WRWSA Bill Tracking Report
 To: disalz@yahoo.com
 Date: Thursday, January 28, 2010, 8:07 PM

| 2010 Bills (23) | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------|----------|
| Num | Title | Sponsor | |
| SB 0138 (S: 0405) | Relating to Public Meetings Public Meetings [EPSC]; Adds the risk manager and certain division heads of a governmental entity to the persons who may attend a private meeting discussing pending litigation. Authorizes the required public announcement of an attorney-client session to be made immediately before the session. Prohibits an adverse party from attending the attorney-client session, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. 10/05/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Governmental Oversight and Accountability | Rich | 12/09/09 |
| SB 0142 (I: 0659) | Relating to Water Management Districts Water Management Districts [EPSC]; Deletes the requirement that the district governing board delegate its authority to take final actions. Deletes the restriction against reviewing delegations by the board under the Administrative Procedure Act. Requires the board to provide a process for referring certain delegated actions to the governing board for final action. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/05/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; General Government Appropriations | Baker | 12/09/09 |
| SB 0152 (C: 0216) (I: 0167) | Relating to Sales Tax Exemption/Drinking Water in Containers Sales Tax Exemption/Drinking Water in Containers [WPSC]; Deletes an exemption for sales of drinking water in containers. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/05/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Commerce; Finance and Tax; Policy & Steering Committee on Ways and Means | Lynn | 12/09/09 |
| HB 0273 (I: 0614) | Relating to Water and Wastewater Utilities Water and Wastewater Utilities: Provides for recovery through surcharge of costs for water & wastewater system improvement projects; requires PSC approval of surcharge; limits surcharge amount; provides requirements for surcharge billing, reconciliation, & adjustment; provides project eligibility criteria; provides requirements for notice, maintenance, & availability of certain records. Effective Date: July 1, 2010 10/27/09 HOUSE Filed 11/16/09 HOUSE Referred to Energy & Utilities Policy Committee; Government Operations Appropriations Committee; General Government Policy Council 11/16/09 HOUSE Now in Energy & Utilities Policy Committee 01/13/10 HOUSE On Committee agenda - Energy & Utilities Policy Committee, 01/20/10, 1:45 pm, 17 H 01/15/10 HOUSE Energy & Utilities Policy Committee Meeting Cancelled, 01/20/10, 1:45 pm, 17 H | Hudson | 01/15/10 |
| SB 0274 | Relating to Growth Management Growth Management [EPSC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to growth management. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/05/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Environmental Preservation and Conservation; Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations; Rules | Bennett | 12/09/09 |
| HB 0307 (C: 0604) | Relating to Water Protection and Sustainability Program Water Protection and Sustainability Program: Revises requirements for expenditure of funds provided pursuant to program; specifies authority for Northwest Florida & Suwannee River Water Management Districts to use such funds for additional purposes. Effective Date: July 1, 2010 11/04/09 HOUSE Filed | Boyd | 11/20/09 |

11/20/09 HOUSE Referred to Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Committee; Natural Resources Appropriations Committee; General Government Policy Council
 11/20/09 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Committee

| | | | |
|------------|--|-------------|----------|
| SB 0372 | Relating to Municipal Water & Sewer Utilities | Wilson | 12/09/09 |
| (I: 0455) | Municipal Water & Sewer Utilities [EPSC]; Exempts municipalities in certain counties from the applicability of provisions limiting the rates that a municipality may charge consumers located outside their boundaries for water or sewer utility services. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. 10/08/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Finance and Tax; General Government Appropriations | | |
| SB 0376 | Relating to Required Advertisements and Public Notices | Dean | 12/09/09 |
| | Required Advertisements and Public Notices [EPSC]; Authorizes a governmental entity to use its publicly accessible website for legally required advertisements and public notices. Provides that a notice, advertisement, or publication on a publicly accessible website in accordance with specified provision constitutes legal notice. Provides for notice of special election or referendum on a publicly accessible website, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/2010. 10/09/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Judiciary; Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations | | |
| HB 0441 | Relating to Public Works Projects | Soto | 12/18/09 |
| (C: 1098) | Public Works Projects: Creates "Florida Reemployment Investment Act"; requires certain state agencies & private sector contractors utilizing state funds or federal funds administered by state for certain purposes to employ specified number of Florida residents as onsite employees; provides application; provides retroactive effect & period for compliance for projects begun before enactment of act; provides fine for noncompliance or bad faith circumvention; defines term "Florida resident." Effective Date: July 1, 2010 12/04/09 HOUSE Filed 12/18/09 HOUSE Referred to Governmental Affairs Policy Committee; Insurance, Business & Financial Affairs Policy Committee; Full Appropriations Council on Education & Economic Development; Economic Development & Community Affairs Policy Council 12/18/09 HOUSE Now in Governmental Affairs Policy Committee | | |
| HB 0455 | Relating to Municipal Water and Sewer Utilities | Braynon | 12/10/09 |
| (I: 0372) | Municipal Water and Sewer Utilities: Exempts municipalities in certain counties from applicability of provisions limiting rates they may charge consumers outside their boundaries for provision of water or sewer utility services. Effective Date: upon becoming a law 12/08/09 HOUSE Filed 12/10/09 HOUSE Withdrawn prior to introduction | | |
| SB 0540 | Relating to Water Resources | Constantine | 12/09/09 |
| | Water Resources [EPSC]; Deletes an obsolete date relating to a water supply assessment conducted by the water management districts. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/27/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; General Government Appropriations; Rules | | |
| SB 0546 | Relating to Land Acquisition | Constantine | 12/09/09 |
| | Land Acquisition [EPSC]; Deletes an obsolete date with respect to implementation of initiatives requiring that the Department of Environmental Protection and water management districts use alternatives to fee simple acquisition. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/27/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; Judiciary; General Government Appropriations; Rules | | |
| SB 0568 | Relating to Florida Springs Protection Act | Constantine | 12/09/09 |
| | Florida Springs Protection Act [EPSC]; Provides a short title. Provides legislative findings and intent with respect to the need to protect and restore springs and ground water. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/27/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; Community Affairs; Health Regulation; General Government Appropriations | | |
| SB 0576 | Relating to Environmental Control | Constantine | 12/09/09 |
| | Environmental Control [EPSC]; Deletes an obsolete deadline for the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt rules regarding water quality credit trading among the pollutant sources to a water body or water body segment. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/27/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; General Government Appropriations; Rules | | |
| SB 0604 | Relating to Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund | Dean | 12/17/09 |
| (C: 0307) | Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund [EPSC]; Authorizes water management districts to use certain moneys in the fund for water resource development projects. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 11/04/09 SENATE Filed 12/17/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; General Government Appropriations | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|----------|
| HB 0605 | Relating to Water Resources | Schultz | 01/20/10 |
| | Water Resources: Requires water management districts to assist independent special districts in determining certain adverse effects on Outstanding Florida Waters under specified conditions; authorizes independent special districts to use funds for mitigation of such adverse effects. Effective Date: July 1, 2010 01/07/10 HOUSE Filed 01/20/10 HOUSE Referred to Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Committee; Natural Resources Appropriations Committee; General Government Policy Council 01/20/10 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Committee | | |
| SB 0614 (I: 0273) | Relating to Water and Wastewater Utilities | Bennett | 12/17/09 |
| | Water and Wastewater Utilities [EPSC]; Provides for recovery through a surcharge of certain costs relating to water and wastewater system improvement projects. Requires utilities to submit tariffs reflecting the surcharge for recovery of such costs to the Florida Public Service Commission for approval and to provide specified notice of such tariff filings. Specifies a limitation for the surcharge amount, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 11/04/09 SENATE Filed 12/17/09 SENATE Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Community Affairs; Finance and Tax; General Government Appropriations | | |
| HB 0659 (I: 0142) | Relating to Water Management Districts | Van Zant | 01/28/10 |
| | Water Management Districts: Deletes requirement that district governing board delegate its authority to take final actions; deletes restriction against reviewing delegations by board under Administrative Procedure Act; requires board to provide process for referring certain delegated actions to governing board for final action. Effective Date: July 1, 2010 01/14/10 HOUSE Filed 01/28/10 HOUSE Referred to Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Committee; Policy Council; General Government Policy Council 01/28/10 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Committee | | |
| HB 0773 (S: 1126) | Relating to Expedited Permitting | Kreegel | 01/21/10 |
| | Expedited Permitting: Transfers authority over expedited permitting & comprehensive plan amendment process from OTTED to Secretary of Environmental Protection; revises job-creation criteria for businesses to qualify to submit such permit applications & local comprehensive plan amendments; provides for expedited review of specified renewable energy projects; provides for establishment of regional permit action teams through execution of memoranda of agreement developed by permit applicants & secretary; provides for appeal & challenge of expedited permit or comprehensive plan amendment; revises provisions for review of sites proposed for location of facilities eligible for Innovation Incentive Program; specifies expedited review for certain electrical power projects. Effective Date: upon becoming a law 01/21/10 HOUSE Filed | | |
| SB 1008 | Relating to Water and Wastewater | Diaz de la Portilla | 01/14/10 |
| | Water and Wastewater [EPSC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to water and wastewater. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 12/23/09 SENATE Filed 01/14/10 SENATE Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Environmental Preservation and Conservation; General Government Appropriations; Rules | | |
| SB 1030 | Relating to Water Facilities | Diaz de la Portilla | 01/14/10 |
| | Water Facilities [EPSC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws relating to water facilities. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. 12/23/09 SENATE Filed 01/14/10 SENATE Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Environmental Preservation and Conservation; General Government Appropriations; Rules | | |
| SB 1176 | Relating to Water-efficient Appliance Rebate Program | Bennett | 01/21/10 |
| | Water-efficient Appliance Rebate Program [EPSC]; Authorizes the DEP to develop and administer a consumer rebate program for water-efficient appliances. Authorizes the department to adopt rules. Authorizes the DEP to enter into contracts or memoranda of agreement with other state agencies or public-private partnerships or agree to other arrangements to administer the program. Provides requirements for the release of funds. APPROPRIATION: \$100,000. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 01/13/10 SENATE Filed 01/21/10 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; Commerce; General Government Appropriations | | |
| SB 1180 (I: 0493) | Relating to Governing Boards/Election of Members/Millage Rates | Negron | 01/21/10 |
| | Governing Boards/Election of Members/Millage Rates; Proposes the creation of Section 28 of Article X of the State Constitution to require the election of members of governing boards that have the authority to adopt millage rates and to provide for implementation thereof. 01/13/10 SENATE Filed 01/21/10 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; Ethics and Elections; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Policy & Steering Committee on Ways and Means; Rules | | |