

**MINUTES – WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, OCTOBER 15, 2008**

DATE: October 15, 2008
TIME: 4:30 p.m.
PLACE: SWFWMD Governing Board Room
2379 Broad St.
Brooksville, Florida 34604

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rose Rocco, Hernando County Commissioner
Joyce Valentino, Citrus County Commissioner
Richard Hoffman, Sumter County Commissioner arrived at 4:47 p.m.
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner
Phillip Price, Crystal River City Councilman
Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman
David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner
Diane Rowden, Hernando County Commissioner
Christopher Kingsley, Hernando County Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman
Kent Guinn, Ocala City Councilman
Daniel Owen, Ocala City Councilman
Jim Peyton, Marion County Commissioner
Barbara Fitos, Marion County Commissioner
Gary Bartell, Citrus County Commissioner
Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT

Jack Sullivan, WRWSA Executive Director
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney
Diane Salz, Legislative Liaison, WRWSA
Carl Asprinio, HAS Engineers
Jimmy Brooks, SWFWMD
Ken Herd, SWFWMD
John Ferguson, SWFWMD
Lou Kavouras, SWFWMD
Tahla Paige, SWFWMD
Peter Rocco, Citizen/Hernando County
Pete Hubbell, Water Resource Associates
Robert Knight, Citrus County Utilities
Josh Schmitt, Water Resource Associates
Brian Huston, R. W. Beck
Connie Mullis, Aid to Senator Evelyn Lynn
Barbara Sullivan, Recording Secretary
Darlene Johnson, Recording Secretary

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Agenda Item #1 Call to Order

Chairwoman Rose Rocco called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

Agenda Item #2 Roll Call

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

Agenda Item #3 Introductions and Announcements

a. Introduction of Marion County Board members

Mr. Sullivan introduced Darlene Johnson as his new administrative assistant, and said she will be doing minutes now. Mr. Sullivan then introduced others in the audience. Chairwoman Rocco welcomed everyone and said it was a pleasure to be at the SWFWMD Headquarters and the Authority really appreciates the District working with us to give us the opportunity to do our duty.

Mr. Sullivan introduced Stan McClain, who has been coming to the meetings for several months now and everybody knows him. He stated that Commissioners Jim Peyton and Barbara Fitos had also been appointed from Marion County. Since this was their first meeting and they were not in the flow of things they did not have it on their calendars and had other commitments. Mr. Sullivan said he believes those two Board members will be in attendance at the next meeting and he will introduce them then.

b. SWFWMD Workshop - State of Water Resources in West-Central Florida - Intercontinental Hotel Tampa, November 21, 2008

Mr. Sullivan said that SWFWMD is holding a workshop on November 21, which will include a wide variety of folks from the SWFWMD Governing Board and Basin Boards and also Tampa Bay Water, Peace River/Manasota and the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authorities. He said that one of the main items on the Agenda would be presentations from the various Water Supply Authorities. Mr. Sullivan will appear on a panel with the other Water Supply Authority Directors. Mr. Sullivan provided in the Board Package a copy of the program. Mr. Sullivan asked SWFWMD staff if all of the Authority Board members were invited guests so they would not have to pay the \$65.00 registration fee. Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director, said that was a good question that had not come up before. She stated that the County Liaisons to the water management district are definitely invited. She said that since the first panel was made up of the water supply authority directors, she would make sure that all

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the Authority Board members were invited guests. She said for everyone to just send her an e-mail and she will R.S.V.P. for you. Mr. Sullivan recommended that as many of the board members that can attend to please do so by filling out the registration card and sending it in to the District.

Agenda Item #4 Approval of Minutes of August 20, 2008 Meeting

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOYCE VALENTINO TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2008 MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY STAN McCLAIN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #5 Legislative Report . . . Diane Salz, Legislative Consultant

a. Report on Water Congress

Diane Salz gave a brief update on the Water Congress, which occurred on September 25th and 26th in Orlando. She said the Authority was very fortunate to have several of our Board members appointed as delegates. She gave special thanks to Commissioners Stan McClain, Gary Bartell and Richard Hoffman. She felt they did a super job. The event was quite intense and very time consuming but the Authority fared very well.

The Congress made 18 overall recommendations. These recommendations were in the Board Packet, but are also available on the Century Commission web page.

In addition, the Congress made four priority recommendations:

- 1.) Reinstatement of the annual state funding for alternative water supply development and water quality improvement (i.e., SB 444 funding to be matched by Water Management District and local governments/utilities). Make SB 444 funding a recurring source of annual state funding for alternative water supply development and reinstate original funding levels at a minimum.
- 2.) Support regional partnerships, incentives and cooperative approaches to addressing long-term water sustainability for Florida. The Water Management Districts, the FDEP and local governments should aggressively identify opportunities and develop incentives for establishing multi-jurisdictional utility arrangements or water supply authorities and engage in other areas where such partnerships should be beneficial and cost effective to the public.
- 3.) Amend, as necessary, any statute, rule or policy so that quantifiable water conservation best management practices are considered an "alternative water supply" and are equally as eligible for funding as capital facility expansion proposals.

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4.) Set a per capita target or goal for water use and quantifiable best management water practices and provide a stable funding base for the Conserve Florida program directed by Sect. 373.227, F.S., including the statewide water conservation clearinghouse for public water supply.

b. Legislative Issues

Ms. Salz then commented on legislative issues. She said there would be legislative organizational meetings after the elections the third week in November. The second week in November is actual training for new elected members, because once the elections occur, the Legislature will be hitting the ground running so to speak. There is more work to be done on the budget than anything else now. Ms. Salz said she will be monitoring and keeping everyone apprised of events and issues. Also in November, the recommendations that came out of the Water Congress will then go before the Century Commission to be ratified or revised and passed on to the Florida Legislature or the Governor. The Century Commission is meeting on November 9th and 10th at the Lakewood Ranch Holiday Inn in Sarasota. Ms. Salz plans to attend and will keep close watch on what occurs and report back to the Board on what the actions are of the Century Commission. She then asked if there were any questions. There were no questions. Both Chair Rocco and Ms. Valentino thanked Ms. Salz for her work.

Agenda Item #6 Executive Director's Report . . . Jack Sullivan, WRWSA

a. Bills to be Paid

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOYCE VALENTINO TO RATIFY THE BILLS PAID IN SEPTEMBER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,565.94. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY STAN McCLAIN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOYCE VALENTINO TO APPROVE THE BILLS PRESENTED FOR OCTOBER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,153.21. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY STAN McCLAIN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Report on Water Resources Development Account and Status of Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP)

Mr. Sullivan provided in the Board Packet several articles released by the Local Government Investment Pool, Mr. Sullivan said that it appears that the Authority is in pretty good shape under the circumstances. He mentioned that out of the \$202,997.10 that the LGIP had placed into a restricted fund, only \$64,431.48

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remains unpaid. Almost 70% of the restricted funds had been returned. Mr. Sullivan handed out the latest statement as of September and it showed that the Water Resources Development Fund contains \$1,166,647.13 as of September 30th.

c. WRWSA Information Handbook

Mr. Sullivan prepared handbooks for the new Board members and provided up-to date information on two items – the list of Board of Directors and the Representational Voting Formula. These items changed because Marion County had rejoined the Authority. He said there is still one more Board member to be designated from Marion County - the small cities representative. He expects that by the January meeting the small cities representative will be appointed. Mr. Sullivan asked Stan McClain if he will take the Information Handbooks back to the other two members of Marion County and Mr. McClain indicated that he would.

d. 2009 Meeting Dates and Locations

At the last Board meeting, the Board voted to alternate our meetings between the SWFWMD Headquarters in Brooksville and the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council location in Ocala. Mr. Sullivan said that the rest of this year has already been advertised and the meeting next month will be in Citrus County at the Citrus County Commission. He asked the Board if it wants to meet at the Regional Planning Council Headquarters instead. The Board felt that the November meeting should continue to be held in Citrus County.

Mr. Sullivan then asked the Board whether to hold a separate briefing session for the new Board members or to take 20-30 minutes at a regular Board meeting to brief the new members. He asked whether the Board had a preference. Chair Rocco thought it would be a good idea to have the briefing at a Board meeting, as this would eliminate an additional meeting. Mr. McClain thought the February meeting would be a good time since the meeting would be in Ocala and most of the new members are from Marion County.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOYCE VALENTINO TO APPROVE THE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2009 AND HOLD THE BRIEFING FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY STAN McCLAIN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

e. Hydrologic Report

Mr. Sullivan summarized the hydrologic report from SWFWMD's Water Resources Monthly Update found on the District's web page for the northern part of the District.

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- i. Aquifer levels in the Florida Aquifer have just recently moved into the normal range.
 - ii. Rainfall for September has been below the historic level for the month. However, through August, rainfall was about 3.5" above the historic January-August average.
 - iii. Lake levels have continued to decline from last month and are still below normal.
 - iv. Streamflow in the Withlacoochee River is within the normal range.
- f. Correspondence**

Mr. Sullivan requested and received a letter from SWFWMD that extends the Authority's contract with them for the Phase II study that we were in the process of finishing when Marion County decided to rejoin the Authority. That contract was supposed to end September 15, 2008 and he sent a letter asking SWFWMD to extend that contract to the end of 2009. The letter that was received extended the contract to December 31, 2009.

The second letter is from Dr. Marty Kelly from SWFWMD requesting public input to the updated schedule for minimum flows and levels, many of which apply to the water bodies within our region. Some of the surface water bodies, mostly lakes, already had MFL's set in Hernando, Citrus and Sumter counties, in 2006-2008. Most of the remaining work to be done would be on the springs and the river systems in 2009 and 2010. The lower Withlacoochee River, in the Lake Rousseau area, would be done in 2011.

The Board sent a letter last year asking for some of the MFL's to be moved up to earlier dates for completion. However, the SWFWMD staff indicated that it was not possible because of budget constraints and technical reasons to complete these studies any faster than they had indicated. Mr. Sullivan did not recommend another letter to move the MFL designations up in the schedule.

Mr. Sullivan stated that he and the auditors had set up a time when the audit of the Authority books would be done. The audit will begin on October 20.

g. News Articles

Mr. Sullivan said that he had provided a number of news articles from around the region that the Board could read at its leisure.

Agenda Item #7 Attorney's Report . . . Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney

Mr. Haag said there was nothing to report. Mr. Sullivan added that we did get through the rule making process with Marion County and had not received a challenge to rule-

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making thus far. He reported that Marion County officially became an active member of the Water Supply Authority on September 8, 2008.

Agenda Item #8 Other Business

There was no other business by the Board.

Agenda Item #9 Public Comments

Joyce Valentino said it had been a pleasure and an honor to serve on this Board, that she really enjoyed her time here with everybody, and that she has learned a lot and she wishes the Board all the best in the future. Chairwoman Rocco thanked Joyce and told her it has been a pleasure working with her and that she had a lot of respect for how she deals with the issues that come before her.

Agenda Item #10 Next Meeting and Location

Chairwoman Rocco stated that the next meeting would take place on November 19, 2008, 4:30 p.m., Citrus County Courthouse, Commission Chamber, First Floor, 110 N. Apopka Ave., Inverness, FL 34450

Agenda Item #11 Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Rose Rocco, Chairman

Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director