

**MINUTES – WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JULY 18, 2007**

DATE: July 18, 2007
TIME: 4:30 p.m.
PLACE: City Commission Chambers, City Hall
151 SE Osceola Ave., 2nd Floor
Ocala, Florida 34471

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joyce Valentino, Citrus County Commissioner
Richard Hoffman, Sumter County Commissioner
Rose Rocco, Hernando County Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman
Phillip Price, Crystal River City Councilman

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gary Bartell, Citrus County Commissioner
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner
Christopher Kingsley, Hernando County Commissioner
Daniel Owen, Ocala City Councilman
Kent Guinn, Ocala City Councilman
Mike Francis, Sumter County Commissioner
Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman
David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner
Diane Rowden, Hernando County Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT

Jack Sullivan, Executive Director
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney
Barbara Sullivan, Recording Secretary
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities
Mark Weaver, Hernando County Utilities
Diane Salz, Legislative Liaison
Peter Rocco, Hernando County
Robert Knight, Citrus County Utilities
Bernadine Flood, Citrus County Utilities
Jim Bitter, Citrus County Council
Al Grubman, TOO FAR, Citrus County
Brian Armstrong, SWFWMD
Terry Clark, SJRWMD, Governmental Liaison

Agenda Item #1 Call to Order

Chair Joyce Valentino called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m. The meeting was delayed because an accident on I-75 trapped people in traffic for a significant period of time.

Agenda Item #2 Roll Call

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

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Agenda Item #3 Introductions and Announcements

Mr. Sullivan introduced members of the public and welcomed them to the meeting. Mr. Sullivan then made the following announcement:

He announced that he had attended a meeting at the Orlando Utilities Commission on July 18, 2007 of local governments in the St. Johns Water Management District area on alternative water supply projects. He stated that the meeting was to discuss projects and partners for the projects. In our region, both The Villages and Marion County are possible actors in developing or participating in an alternative water supply project. Mr. Sullivan said that proposed water supply sources included the upper Ocklawaha River and the Withlacoochee River. He mentioned that the local governments interested in those water sources included The Villages, cities in Lake County as well as counties further south such as Orange and Polk and counties to the east such as Volusia. Mr. Sullivan said he had not had time to develop a report for the Board and stated that he would compile a report for the next Board meeting.

Agenda Item #4 Approval of Minutes of June 20, 2007 Meeting

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD HOFFMAN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 20, 2007 MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ROSE ROCCO AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #5 Election of Vice-Chair to Replace Mike Francis ... Chair and Board, WRWSA

Mr. Sullivan said that Mike Francis was elected as the Authority Vice-Chairman. He resigned because of the press of his duties as Chair of the Sumter County Commission and subsequently reappointed Randy Mask. At the last meeting, the Board indicated that they would hold an election to replace Mike Francis. Mr. Sullivan said that the current officers are Joyce Valentino, Citrus Commissioner as Chair and Dennis Damato, Citrus Commissioner as the Treasurer.

Chair Valentino asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. Richard Hoffman nominated Dale Swain. Mr. Swain said he appreciated the nomination, but was going to nominate Rose Rocco. In light of Mr. Swain's comments, Mr. Hoffman rescinded his motion to nominate Dale Swain.

DALE SWAIN MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS AND TO ELECT ROSE ROCCO VICE-CHAIR BY ACCLAMATION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY PHILLIP PRICE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item #6 2007-08 Fiscal Year Local Government Grant Applications ... Jack Sullivan, WRWSA and Grant Applicants

Mr. Sullivan said he had included all of the grant applications in the Board package. Two of the applications are water conservation programs – Hernando County and Citrus County. The other three applications are for bricks and mortar projects for water supply expansion or upgrades. These include Brooksville, Bushnell and Wildwood. Mr. Sullivan acknowledged that both Hernando County and Citrus County representatives were here to present their applications. However, he said that representatives for the other applicants were probably still on I-75 tied up in

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the accident traffic. Therefore, given their absence and the late hour, Mr. Sullivan said he would just summarize the proposed projects for the Board.

Mr. Sullivan summarized the grant requests alphabetically as follows:

- a. **City of Brooksville** ... Install submersible pump and related piping in a previously drilled well. Emory Pierce, Director, Public Works is the applicant.
- b. **Citrus County** ... Water Conservation Education and Outreach Program. Robert Knight, Director, Department of Water Resources is the applicant.
- c. **Hernando County** ... Water Conservation Program. Alys Brockway, Water Conservation Coordinator is the applicant.
- d. **City of Inverness** ... Water Treatment Facility Expansion Upgrades. Russell E. Kreager, Director of Public Works is the applicant.
- e. **City of Wildwood** ... Repump station on CR 214 to provide pressure for future water demands. Ronald Allen, Jr., Water Director is the applicant

Mr. Sullivan said that Board policy was to limit funding for local grants to a total of \$125,000. When added together, these projects request a total of \$215,200. In keeping with the Board’s policy of giving the highest priority to water conservation projects, Mr. Sullivan recommended that both of the water conservation projects be funded fully and that the remaining budget appropriation be equally split among the three “bricks and mortar” projects. This resulted in the following grant allocations:

Hernando County Water Conservation	\$ 47,701
Citrus County Water Conservation	\$ 17,500
Brooksville Submersible Pump and Piping	\$ 19,933
Inverness Expansion Upgrades	\$ 19,933
Wildwood Repump Station	<u>\$ 19,933</u>
TOTAL	\$125,000

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DALE SWAIN TO ACCEPT MR. SULLIVAN’S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE GRANT ALLOCATIONS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY PHILLIP PRICE AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Valentino asked if Citrus and Hernando County representatives would like to say a few words about their programs. Mr. Knight thanked the Board for its continuation of Citrus County’s grant program and stated that the County had now hired a full-time water conservation and outreach coordinator, Bernadine Flood.

Alys Brockway also addressed the Board and thanked them for their continuing support for her program. She provided handouts to the Board of materials that the Authority’s grant funds had helped purchase. She also stated that based on the County’s water conservation program and higher conservation water rates that the County’s per capita consumption of water had declined over the past year for the first time. The Board thanked both Ms. Brockway and Mr. Knight for the work they were doing in this important area.

Agenda Item #7 Executive Director's Report ... Jack Sullivan, WRWSA

- a. **Bills to be Paid**

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Mr. Sullivan stated that the bills for June had been handed out separately. They total \$13,492.28.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD HOFFMAN AND SECONDED BY DALE SWAIN TO PAY THE JULY 18, 2007 BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,492.28. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Report on Water Resources Development Fund Account

Mr. Sullivan reported that the WRDF account earned \$5,044.59 in interest during June. The fund balance on June 30, 2007 was \$1,161,197.46.

c. Hydrologic Report

Mr. Sullivan stated that he had downloaded the June 29 Hydrologic Report from the SWFWMD web page. He said the below normal conditions for the aquifer, lakes and the Withlacoochee River have not changed over the past month.

f. Correspondence

Mr. Sullivan said he had two pieces of correspondence to bring to the Board's attention: First is a letter from Crystal River City Manager stating that Inverness and Crystal River have caucused and selected Phillip Price from the Crystal River City Council to serve on the WRWSA Board. Second is a letter he sent out to Citrus, Hernando and Sumter Counties and the City of Ocala regarding our adopted Authority budget for 2007-08.

g. News Articles

Mr. Sullivan said he had provided some news articles for the Board to read at its leisure.

Agenda Item #8 Attorney's Report ... Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney

Mr. Haag said he had no business to report. He indicated that he would be working on the local government contracts for presentation at the next Board meeting pending cooperation from the affected local governments.

Agenda Item #9 Legislative Consultant's Report ... Diane Salz, Legislative Consultant

Diane Salz reported on legislative projects that will come up in the 2008 Legislative session. These included issues relating to wetlands, Forever Florida program, agency sunsets, especially the Water Management Districts and a rewrite of Florida water law. Ms. Salz also mentioned that she had begun coordination with newly elected Senator Charlie Dean, Senator Mike Fasano and Senator Paula Dockery. Finally, she mentioned that she has detected an undercurrent that there will be a run to make changes to the Local Sources First legislation in the next legislative session.

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Agenda Item #10 Other Business

There was no other business to be brought up by Board members.

Agenda Item #11 Public Comments

There was no comment from the public.

Agenda Item #12 Next Meeting Time and Location

Mr. Sullivan stated that it has been the custom of the Board to not hold a meeting in August if there was no pressing business to be taken up. He said that he did not have anything scheduled for the August meeting other than administrative matters and if the Board desired, it could cancel the regular August Board meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD HOFFMAN TO CANCEL THE AUGUST 15 MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DALE SWAIN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Sullivan then stated that for advertising and scheduling purposes, he noticed that the November Board meeting was scheduled for November 21 which was the day before Thanksgiving. He suggested that perhaps the Board would prefer to have the Board meeting on November 28 instead. This would tie in with another practice of the Board to on occasion cancel the December meeting if no pressing business were on the agenda. Mr. Sullivan said that by holding the November meeting on November 28 and this being so near December, perhaps the business for both meetings could be taken care of at the one meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DALE SWAIN TO ACCEPT MR. SULLIVAN'S SUGGESTION TO HOLD THE NOVEMBER MEETING ON NOVEMBER 28 AND TO CANCEL THE DECEMBER 19 MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ROSE ROCCO AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Valentino then stated that the next meeting would take place on September 19, 2007, 4:30 p.m., at the Hernando County Government Center, County Commission Chambers, 20 N. Main Street, Brooksville, FL 34601.

Agenda Item #13 Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Joyce Valentino, Chair

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Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director