

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
January 19, 2011**

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

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

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Roll Call**

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Richard Hoffman, Chairman, Sumter County Commissioner  
Stan McClain, New Chairman, Marion County Commissioner  
Dennis Damato, Vice-Chair, Citrus County Commissioner  
John Druzbeck, Treasurer, Hernando County Commissioner  
Rebecca Bays, Citrus County Commissioner  
Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner  
Gary Ernst, Belleview City Councilman  
Maureen McNiff, Crystal River City Councilwoman  
Mary S. Rich, Ocala City Councilwoman  
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman  
Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner  
Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman  
Wayne Dukes, Hernando County Commissioner  
Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner  
John Priester, Ocala City Councilman  
David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner  
Carl Zalak, Marion 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  
Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities

Kim Dinkins, Marion County  
Dr. Burt Eno, Rainbow River Conservation Group  
David Hornsby, SJRWMD  
John Ferguson, SWFWMD  
Cara Martin, SWFWMD  
Joseph Quinn, SWFWMD  
Miki Renner, SWFWMD  
Brent White, SWFWMD  
Jeff Halcomb, City of Ocala  
Darryl Muse, City of Ocala  
Robert Knight, Citrus County Utilities  
Flip Mellinger, Marion County Utilities  
Connie Mullis, Legislative Assistant Senator Evelyn Lynn  
Ryan Tucker, Purvis Gray & Company  
Mark White, Purvis Gray & Company  
Tahla Paige, Recording Secretary

**4. Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2010 Meeting**

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

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Swain to approve the minutes for the November 17, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.**

**5. Election of Officers**

Mr. Swain nominated Mr. McClain for Chairman, Mr. Damato for Vice Chairman, and Mr. Druzbeck for Treasurer. Mr. Amsden seconded the motion. Chairman Hoffman asked that each office be voted on individually and after the position of Chairman was elected he would turn the meeting over to the new Chairman.

Chairman Hoffman called for the vote for the Office of Chairman. **The motion was carried unanimously,** and Mr. Hoffman passed the gavel to the new Chairman McClain.

Chairman McClain presented a plaque to Mr. Hoffman in appreciation of his service as Chairman for the year 2010.

Chairman McClain called for a vote to approve Mr. Damato to the Office of Vice Chairman. **The motion was carried unanimously.**

Chairman McClain called for a vote to approve Mr. Druzbeck to the Office of Treasurer. **The motion was carried unanimously.**

**6. 2009-10 Fiscal Year Audit**

Mr. Mark White, Purvis Gray & Company, reviewed the Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2009-10. He stated the WRWSA's assets had decreased and a significant portion was caused by the depreciation of the plant equipment for the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility. However, operating expenses were down. Mr. White reviewed the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve the Annual Financial Report and Fiscal Year 2009-10 Financial Audit Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Webb and carried unanimously.

## 7. Briefing on Work Programs for 2011

### a. Inglis Hydropower Operation Plan

Mr. Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates, gave an overview of the Inglis Hydropower Plant Proposal and Operation Plan. It is estimated the Withlacoochee River flow would be over 500 cubic feet per second (cfs) over 90 percent of the time, which would equal 600 kilowatts (kW); there would be over 1,000 cfs over 50 percent of the time, equaling 1,200 kW; and the average output would be approximately 1,400 kW. Project concerns include:

- The setting of minimum flows for the lower Withlacoochee River and Lake Rousseau;
- Alteration of regulation schedule for the Lake Rousseau pool;
- Establishment of prior rights through a SWFWMD Water Use Permit allocation;
- Does it conflict with water supply plans of SWFWMD and the WRWSA?
- And, potential impact to the Authority's ability to develop Rousseau or other Withlacoochee River projects as alternative water supplies.

Mr. Hubbell presented language to clarify that future water supply projects on the Withlacoochee River and Lake Rousseau would take precedence over generation of hydroelectric power. The language was reviewed and approved by both Mr. Edwards, President of Inglis Hydropower and the SWFWMD staff. The language is as follows:

#### 2.3.6 Operations in Consideration of Future Water Supply Development

*The Withlacoochee River and Lake Rousseau have been identified by SWFWMD and the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) as potential alternative water supplies for future development. The ultimate quantities required for potable water supply and their potential impact to lake stage and flows through the Lake Rousseau Bypass Structure are not known at this time. However, IH is aware of the of this possibility for water supply development and the resultant potential for lowered flows and the impact that reduced flows may have on electrical power production from the IH plant.*

*IH will not contest, challenge or petition the planning, design, permitting or development of water supply projects on either the Withlacoochee River or Lake Rousseau with respect to the potential impact to power generation from the IH plant.*

Mr. Hubbell asked for approval of the following recommendations:

1. Concur with the WRWSA proposed language and request Inglis Hydropower add the language to their Operations Plan that will become part of the Federal Energy Regulation Commission (FERC) permit for hydropower certification.

2. Submit language to the FERC Secretary so it may be considered as part of the Environmental and Economic Assessment of the project.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve the recommendations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Druzbeck and carried unanimously.**

**b. Chassahowitzka Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs) Designation**

Mr. Hubbell stated the WRWSA periodically reviews the MFLs to determine if they have been developed properly and if they affect the water supply projects of the WRWSA. He stated MFLs are required by Chapter 373.042 Florida Statutes. Mr. Hubbell reviewed criteria SWFWMD uses to establish level of significant harm and also necessitates the establishment of a regulatory approach to implement the MFLs. He added that the SWFWMD proposal determined a 15 percent of loss of habitat would be significant harm which equates to an 11 to 12 percent reduction of flow. Mr. Hubbell stated there are concerns the present environmental conditions were currently causing degradation, so why allow any reductions?

Mr. Webb asked if a drought condition would affect the setting of the MFL. Mr. Hubbell stated a drought would be considered a single event by the SWFWMD and the SWFWMD looked at averages. Mr. Webb also expressed concerns about salt water intrusion. Mr. Hubbell stated that SWFWMD explained the intrusion was caused by six inches increase of the sea level. Ms. Bays asked what impact private wells had on MFLs. Mr. Hubbell stated due to the current low growth there was minimal impact, but it was a concern for future development. Discussion continued.

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

**c. Marion County Water Conservation/Reclaimed Water Work Program**

**d. Regional Framework Work Program**

Mr. Hubbell stated he would combine items c. and d. He stated when the study began in 2005 there was a building boom with water demand projections skyrocketing and concerns about the availability of groundwater being unable to keep up with demand. Mr. Hubbell stated the perspective changed with the recession in 2010 which caused supply and demand to level off. He said the emphasis was now on prevention of impact through conservation and reuse. Mr. Hubbell stated the Master Plan focuses on data collection, water conservation/reclaimed water, and water supply project development.

Mr. Hubbell stated the conceptual Regional Framework Initiative was to identify the groundwater supply facilities that can provide a framework for an interconnected system; identify pipeline alignments, rights-of-way and land acquisition needed for the interconnected system; provide for agreements that the facilities will be dedicated to be part of the interconnected regional framework when required; monitor development, make adjustments and interconnect system over time; and introduce alternative water supplies into the system when needed.

Mr. Druzbeck asked how the funding would be obtained. Mr. Hubbell said the WRWSA was looking to the SWFWMD to help with funding.

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

**e. Regional Irrigation Audit Work Program**

Ms. Diane Salz, WRWSA Legislative Liaison, gave a presentation on Regional Irrigation Audit Work Program application for SWFWMD Cooperative Funding. She said the program will consist of three main elements:

- (1) Training and certification of irrigation auditors to ensure the qualified auditors are available to undertake the 250 audits envisioned in the program.
- (2) Field audits of residential irrigation systems and water conservation education through recommendations of the auditors and prepared conservation materials distributed to the homeowners.
- (3) Follow-up surveys to determine whether the recommendations by the auditors and water conservation measures have been implemented.

Ms. Salz stated the program service area would include Hernando and Citrus Counties, portions of Marion (west of I-75) and the portion of The Villages in Sumter County.

Mr. Sullivan stated that the Board had included funding for the project in its 2011 Fiscal Year budget. He stated that he had just received the contract for the program from the SWFWMD staff and included it in the handout board packet supplement. He indicated that both he and Mr. Haag had reviewed the contract and it meets all of the requirements set out for the program. Mr. Sullivan recommended approval of the contract.

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

Mr. Sullivan also recommended the WRWSA Board approve a budget amendment of \$5,000 to fund a training session for irrigation auditors in order to develop a wider group of auditors to compete for the auditing contracts.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Ms. McNiff to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.**

**8. Executive Director's Report**

**a. Bills to be Paid**

Mr. Sullivan provided a handout to the WRWSA detailing January 2011 bills, which totaled \$12,899.13. Mr. Sullivan requested the WRWSA approve the payment of those bills.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve payment of the January 2011 bills totaling \$12,899.13. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ernst and carried unanimously.**

**b. Proposed Briefing for New Board Members**

Mr. Sullivan informed the new board members that today's presentation on the Regional Work Program was for their benefit and a presentation on the history of the WRWSA would be given at the next meeting. He stated the WRWSA Webpage at [www.wrwsa.org](http://www.wrwsa.org) has been updated and was a great informational resource/tool for the new board members.

**c. Correspondence**

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the correspondence enclosed in the meeting handouts.

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

**d. News Articles**

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

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

**9. Legislative Update**

Ms. Salz stated a list of current issues before the Legislature was included in the packet and a list of various Committees and the Legislative members participating on them.

**10. Attorney's Report**

Mr. Haag stated he did not have any additional items to report to the WRWSA.

**11. Other Business**

None.

**12. Public Comment**

None

**13. Next Meeting Time and Location**

Next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2011 at 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 Southwest 10<sup>th</sup> Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323.

**14. Adjournment**

Chairman McClain announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the Board and adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

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Stan McClain, Chairman

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Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director