

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
November 17, 2010**

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

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

1. Call to Order

Chairman Richard Hoffman called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) meeting to order at 4:33 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
Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman

MEMBERS ABSENT

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

3. Introductions and Announcements

Mr. Sullivan introduced others in the audience.

OTHERS PRESENT

Jack Sullivan, WRWSA Executive Director
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney
Gary Bartell, Citrus County Citizen
Joanne Bartell, Citrus County Citizen
Rose Rocco, Hernando County Citizen
Peter Rocco, Hernando County Citizen

Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities
Kim Dinkins, Marion County
Dr. Burt Eno, Rainbow River Conservation Group
Al Grubman, TOO FAR
Jeff Halcom, City of Ocala
Jason Hood, SWFWMD
Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates
Dr. Martin Kelly, SWFWMD
Robert Knight, Citrus County Utilities
Cara Martin, SWFWMD
James Morgan, Citrus County
Darryl Muse, City of Ocala
Joseph Quinn, SWFWMD
Richard Radacky, City of Brooksville
Miki Renner, SWFWMD
Lois Sorensen, SWFWMD
Tahla Paige, Recording Secretary

4. Presentation of Plaques of Appreciation to Commissioners Gary Bartell, Rose Rocco and Barbara Fitos

Chairman Hoffman announced that plaques of appreciation were to be presented to Mr. Gary Bartell, Ms. Rose Rocco and Ms. Barbara Fitos, who were leaving the Authority Board. He noted Mr. Gary Bartell served from 1994 to 2010, Ms. Rose Rocco from 2007 to 2010, and Ms. Barbara Fitos from 2008 to 2010. After receiving their plaques, both Mr. Bartell and Ms. Rocco expressed their appreciation for the time they served on the Authority. Ms. Barbara Fitos was not present and Mr. Stan McClain agreed to deliver her plaque.

5. Approval of Minutes of October 20, 2010 Meeting

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

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve the minutes for the October 20, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swain and carried unanimously.**

6. Report on Inglis Hydropower Application

Mr. Pete Hubbell, Water Resource Associates, reminded the Board of the Hydro Electric Power Plant proposed at the bypass structure out of Lake Rousseau. He stated there were concerns about the plant, which included:

- Would the Minimum Flow and Levels of (MFLs) of the Lower and Upper Withlacoochee River be affected?
- Would the potential alteration of the regulation schedule on the pool itself be affected?
- Would a SWFWMD Water Use Permit be needed or being issued would it give the plant prior water rights?

Mr. Hubbell stated meetings were held with SWFWMD and Inglis Hydropower. He stated issues were discussed and most were answered in the Inglis Hydroelectric Project Management Plan Mr. Hubbell said this document would be referenced in a Federal Energy

Regulatory Commission (FERC) permit and in a SWFWMD Water Use permit when issued. Mr. Hubbell and Mr. Sullivan had written an amendment to cover issues of concern in the management plan and it is currently being reviewed by SWFWMD.

Mr. Damato asked when the FERC permit was scheduled to be approved. Mr. Hubbell replied it was scheduled to be approved within the next year. Mr. Damato asked if the WRWSA was on the notification list. Mr. Sullivan replied the WRWSA was currently on the notification list. Mr. Damato stated an Environmental Impact Statement should be produced for the project and he would like to be informed of the effects it would have on other water projects and water issues in the area.

- 7. Report on the status of the Minimum Flows and Levels for the Withlacoochee System**
Dr. Martin Kelly, SWFWMD, stated State Statutes, Section 373.042, requires that SWFWMD set the minimum flows and levels (MFLs) within its boundaries. He reviewed the current schedule for setting MFLs in 2010 for the Chassahowitzka River System and Springs, the Homosassa River System and Springs, and the Upper and Middle Withlacoochee River System. Dr. Kelly stated in 2011 the Lower Withlacoochee River System, Crystal River System and Kings Bay Springs, Gum Springs Group, and the Rainbow River and Springs would have the MFLs set. He briefly reviewed a list of other areas scheduled from 2010 through 2015 that fell outside the jurisdiction of the WRWSA. Dr. Kelly gave an overview of how MFLs are determined and asked for questions. Mr. Damato asked where information could be found on the Chassahowitzka River. Dr. Kelly gave him the location on the SWFWMD website at watermatters.org. Mr. Damato asked if MFLs would be set separately for Three Sisters Springs. Dr. Kelly stated it would be set for the whole Crystal River System and Kings Bay Springs. Mr. Swain asked for an explanation for the raising and lowering of the Wysong-Coogler Water Conservation Structure. Dr. Kelly stated the structure can be raised from 34 to 39 feet to hold up to five feet of water which keeps water levels up for Lake Panasoffkee. Swain asked why when the water levels were high the structure level was kept high and when the water levels were low the structure was kept low. Dr. Kelly explained that due to the restoration project for Lake Panasoffkee the water was lowered to increase light to promote plant growth, which now is up to approximately 60 percent coverage.
- 8. Report on Proposed Changes to the District's Water Shortage Plan**
Ms. Lois Sorensen, SWFWMD, gave a presentation on the SWFWMD Water Shortage Plan. She reviewed the framework for regional action: drought indicators to monitor, decision-making and implementation processes, phases of restrictions (Water Shortage Orders), and local partners involved with implementation. Ms. Sorensen stated that due to current conditions the SWFWMD Governing Board approved Water Shortage Order No. SWF 2010-022 which is a Modified Phase I that includes no change in watering days/hours, test and repair irrigation systems, voluntarily reduce indoor water use, prepare for additional action, with an effective date of December 1, 2010 and an expiration date of July 31, 2011. She stated that Phase I is a preparatory phase for local governments to prepare for the next level of water restrictions. Ms. Sorensen reviewed all four phases of water restrictions.

Mr. Swain asked why he did not see any notification for the Phase I in the newspaper. Ms. Sorensen stated the SWFWMD Governing Board had passed the Phase I yesterday and

it will be noticed in the paper today or tomorrow. Mr. Adkins asked when a Phase I changed into a Phase II. Ms. Sorensen replied only the SWFWMD Governing Board could initiate a Phase II Water Shortage Order, and every month until the end of July when the SWFWMD Governing Board met, it would review the current data and determine if the next phase was required. Mr. Adkins asked if the lake levels were reviewed. Ms. Sorensen stated the data included the rainfall of 12 month and 24 month amounts, river flows considering an eight-week average as well as the seven-day average, and ground water levels.

9. Executive Director's Report

a. Bills to be Paid

Mr. Sullivan provided a handout to the WRWSA detailing October 2010 bills, which totaled \$50,956.27. 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 October 2010 bills totaling \$50,956.27. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.

b. 2009-10 Audit Schedule

Mr. Sullivan stated the financial information for the fourth quarter was turned into Purvis Gray and he expected the audit to be completed by the January 19, 2011, WRWSA meeting.

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

c. Correspondence

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the correspondence enclosed in the meeting handouts, which included a report from SWFWMD on the In-Kind Services for the WRWSA, a memorandum of expenditures from Citrus County for the Charles Black Water Supply Facility, and a cover memorandum for the 2010 Regional Water Supply Master Plan to be distributed to local agencies. Mr. Sullivan asked the members to take a copy of the report back to their agencies to save on postage.

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.

10. Legislative Update

Mr. Sullivan stated Ms. Diane Salz is in Tallahassee for the special session and will be making a report at the next meeting. He said she requested that the WRWSA pay the expenses for her to attend the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association

Annual Water Summit on November 28 – 30, 2010 in Orlando at the Sea World Marriott. Mr. Sullivan stated the expenses should be approximately \$500.00.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve payment of travel for Ms. Salz to attend the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association Annual Water Summit in Orlando. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.**

11. Attorney's Report

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

12. Other Business

None.

13. Public Comment

Mr. Grubman asked for a copy of the 2010 Regional Water Supply Master Plan. Mr. Sullivan stated a copy would be given to him at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Rocco again stated her appreciation for the time she spent on the WRWSA and said she would like to receive notice of future meetings. Mr. Sullivan stated he would send her a list of meeting dates, and he informed Ms. Rocco that the WRWSA website had been updated, was more interactive, and meeting information was available on the website.

14. Next Meeting Time and Location

Mr. Sullivan asked for a motion to cancel December's meeting.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to cancel the WRWSA December 15, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.**

Next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2011 at 4:30 p.m., at the Southwest Florida Water Management District Headquarters, Governing Board Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, FL 34604.

15. Adjournment

Chairman Hoffman announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the Board and adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Richard Hoffman, Chairman

Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director