

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
February 19, 2014**

**TIME:** 3:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Lecanto Government Building  
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 166  
Lecanto, Florida 34461

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

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman James Adkins called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

**2. Roll Call**

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jim Adkins, *Chairman*, Hernando County Commissioner  
Rebecca Bays, Citrus County Commissioner  
Ken Brown, Crystal River City Councilor  
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner  
Gary Ernst, Belleview City Councilor  
Don Hahnfeldt, Sumter County Commissioner  
Joseph Johnston, Brooksville City Councilor  
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilor

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Scott Adams, Citrus County Commissioner  
Kathy Bryant, Marion County Commissioner  
Al Butler, *Vice-Chairman*, Sumter County Commissioner  
Wayne Dukes, Hernando County Commissioner  
Stan McClain, *Treasurer*, Marion County Commissioner  
Nick Nicholson, Hernando County Commissioner  
David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner  
Carl Zalak, Marion County Commissioner

**3. Introductions and Announcements**

Members of the audience introduced themselves.

**STAFF PRESENT**

Richard Owen, WRWSA Executive Director  
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney  
Nancy Smith, WRWSA Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Ron Basso, SWFWMD  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities  
Paul Duchesneau, Citrus County Utilities  
Jay Hoecker, SWFWMD

Gregg Jones, Cardno ENTRIX  
Flip Mellinger, Marion County Utilities  
Ross Morton, SWFWMD  
Richard Radacky, City of Brooksville  
Chris Zajac, SWFWMD

There were two announcements.

- Mr. Owen announced that Mark White, Purvis Gray & Company, could not be here today for the presentation of the FY 2012-2013 Audit Report. He recommended that Item 9 be deleted from the agenda and rescheduled for next month. A copy of the Audit report was provided to each member today, with the remainder to be mailed in advance of the next meeting.

**There was concurrence by the Board to delete Item 9 from the agenda and reschedule for March 19, 2014.**

- Mr. Brown announced that the City of Crystal River received the letter from the WRWSA regarding the Revised and Restated Interlocal Agreement, including the option of appointing an alternate to the WRWSA. The City Council appointed Andy Houston, City Manager, as the alternate.

**4. Ceremony to Honor Dennis Damato for Serving as Board Chairman**

Mr. Adkins presented a plaque to Mr. Damato in appreciation for his service to the WRWSA as Chairman from January 2012 to January 2014. Recognition was given for the activities and projects that took place during his chairmanship.

**5. Approval of Minutes of January 15, 2014 Meeting**

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

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Brown to approve the minutes for the January 15, 2014 meeting. Mr. Hahnfeldt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**6. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**7. Northern District Model Expansion . . . Ron Basso, SWFWMD**

Mr. Basso, Senior Professional Geologist, presented an overview of the Northern District Model Expansion, Phase I. The goal of this project was to prepare a single groundwater flow model for Marion County, which was completed in December 2013. Marion County, SJRWMD, SWFWMD and the WRWSA cooperatively funded the model. Exploratory and existing wells were used to provide the data for this model. The model will be used by both water management districts for projects in Marion County as well a major tool for setting MFLs within the area.

The model is used to learn how groundwater extractions and rainfall interact to affect the groundwater system as well as the future impact of other groundwater withdrawals. Mr. Basso showed slides of the geologic and hydrologic layers and described how withdrawals in the lower aquifer may impact the upper aquifer and surface conditions. Mr. Basso responded to a number of Board questions.

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

**8. Regional Water Supply Plan Update**

**a. Status Report . . . Gregg Jones, Cardno ENTRIX**

Mr. Jones reported on progress made in drafting the *Regional Water Supply Plan Update* (RWSP) from January 15, 2014 through February 15, 2014. The progress on the RWSP is closely related to the Northern District Model Expansion and the hydrogeology of the lower Floridan Aquifer that was presented by Mr. Basso. He showed the Board members core samples from wells to explain the transmissivity of water through the aquifers. The University of Florida EZ Guide staff has prepared a draft report that will be used to determine how much of the water demands through 2035 can be met through water conservation methods.

Mr. Owen stated that the first draft of the RWSP is currently scheduled for March 31, 2014. Because of difficulties with receiving the data from the EZ Guide model and the timeline for the Northern District Groundwater Model, the first draft of RWSP will need to be delayed until May 1, 2014. A letter to this effect will be sent to SWFWMD. There is no change to the final deadline for the project and no change in cost.

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

**b. Additional Work Order . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**

Mr. Owen stated that Cardno ENTRIX has attended various meetings with local governments and utilities, the water management districts, and others to ensure that the RWSP reflects the most accurate information available and that the member governments and others have sufficient opportunities to provide input to the update process. Mr. Owen requested that the WRWSA Board approve Work Order #14-02, in an amount not to exceed \$18,000, for additional meeting attendance that may be required of Cardno ENTRIX, and to authorize the transfer of \$18,000 from the Water Supply Development Reserves for this purpose.

**Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve Work Order #14-02, in an amount not to exceed \$18,000 for the purpose of attending additional meetings as requested by the WRWSA, and to authorize transfer of these funds from the Water Supply Development Reserves for this purpose. Mr. Brown seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.**

**9. 2012 – 2013 Fiscal Year Audit . . . Mark White, Purvis Gray & Company**

This item was deleted from the agenda and will be rescheduled for the next meeting.

**10. Pilot Irrigation System Evaluation Final Report . . . Nancy H. Smith, WRWSA**

Ms. Smith reported on the completion of the Pilot Irrigation System Evaluation program that was conducted between 2011 and 2014 for single-family residential customers. Each of the member counties participated in this program that was funded cooperatively with the SWFWMD, and administered by the WRWSA. The program achieved significant water savings in the one year following the initial irrigation system inspection.

Mr. Owen stated that the WRWSA is currently administering Phase 2 of the Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Program, which is also a cooperatively funded project with the District and the member utilities of Citrus, Hernando, Marion, and the Villages of Sumter County. He advised the Board that staff will request an additional four months for irrigation system inspections, for follow-up inspections, and for completion of the final report. There will be no change in cost and no change in the final program deadline for Phase 2.

**11. Executive Director's Report ... Richard S. Owen, Executive Director**

**a. Bills to be Paid**

Mr. Owen presented the February bills to the Board, available in a handout, and requested approval for payment of bills totaling \$66,757.09.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve payment of the February 2014 bills of \$66,757.09. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bays and carried unanimously.

**b. As-Needed Engineering and Technical Services Work Order**

In 2012, the Board approved contracts with eight firms for as-needed General Professional Engineering/Technical Services that may be needed within a period of three to five years. Mr. Owen requested a work order with Water Resource Associates to assist with professional engineering and technical services, including support for proposed revisions to the Charles A. Black wellfield agreement with Citrus County. The 2013-14 budget includes \$75,000 for as-needed services; of these funds, one work order has been issued to Jones Edmunds in the amount of \$10,000, leaving \$65,000. Staff recommends that the Board approve Work Order #14-03, to Water Resource Associates, for \$35,000, with a termination date of September 30, 2015.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve Work Order #14-03 with Water Resource Associates to assist with as-needed engineering/technical support services, in an amount of \$35,000, with a termination date of September 30, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brown and carried unanimously.

**c. Correspondence**

Recent correspondence was provided in the Board's packet. Mr. Owen directed attention to the letter sent to the member local governments summarizing the recent adoption of the Revised and Restated Interlocal Agreement. This letter notified the members that each commission or council may appoint alternates and that Citrus and Hernando counties each have two commission seats on the WRWSA Board.

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

**d. News Articles**

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

**e. Other**

- *Proposed Memorandum of Understanding.* The proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Wildwood and Marion County for use of Lower Floridan wells is scheduled to be heard by Wildwood on February 24 and by Marion County on March 4. Mr. Owen stated that he will attend these meetings and, with their approvals, will schedule time on the WRWSA agenda for March 19. No action is needed at this time.
- *Tour of Tampa Bay Water facilities.* Mr. Owen will contact Tampa Bay Water to determine how to arrange a tour of the desalination plant or the reservoir. After establishing some potential dates, Mr. Owen will contact the Board members to determine availability and attendance.

- *Public Advisory Committee of the SWFWMD.* Mr. Owen attended a recent meeting of the Public Advisory Committee where presentations were made by staff. There were some excellent presentations made on sinkholes and on aquifer storage and recovery (ASR). If there were interest from the Board, Mr. Owen would request that District staff make these presentations to the WRWSA. There was general agreement by the Board to hear these presentations on sinkholes first and ASR second.
- *Basin Board Funds.* At the previous WRWSA, there were questions regarding the amount of funds remaining in the Coastal Rivers and Withlacoochee River basin boards. These basin boards were established at the inception of the District. When these boards were eliminated a few years ago, there were funds remaining from the ad valorem taxes collected by these boards. These funds were used almost exclusively to fund cooperative projects. The Coastal Rivers Basin has about \$52,000 remaining and the Withlacoochee River Basin has approximately \$641,000 remaining. It is expected that these funds will be completely expended in the FY 2015 funding requests. Future cooperative funding will come exclusively from district-wide levies.
- *SWFWMD Board Vacancy.* There continues to be a vacancy on the SWFWMD Governing Board for the area of the District representing Citrus and Sumter counties and those portions of Lake and Levy counties that are within the SWFWMD. We hope that this appointment will occur so that there will be a representative on the governing board from our region.

**12. Legislative Report . . . Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Liaison**

Ms. Salz reported on recent activities leading up to the March legislative session. As this is the last interim committee week prior to the legislative session beginning March 4, Ms. Salz made her report via conference call from Tallahassee. She presented significant 2014 legislative session dates and included February 21, 2014 as the date that local governments must submit water funding applications. The legislative updates included several proposed legislative items, including proposed springs protection legislation sponsored by Senator Simmons that has not been filed yet.

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

**13. Attorney's Report . . . Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney**

Mr. Haag suggested that particular attention be given to the proposed bills (SB 0718) relating to public meetings and (HB 0435) relating to municipal bonds as these bills progress through the legislative session. Ms. Salz stated that there has been no companion bill filed for either of these bills and neither has been heard in committee. She will do some research and determine whether there is any serious intent to take action on these bills this legislative session.

Mr. Haag stated that he had presented to Mr. Owen an item for the March 19, 2014 Board meeting on the repeal of the rules.

**14. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**15. Next Meeting Time and Location . . .**

**The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2014, 3:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461.**

**16. Adjournment**

Chairman Adkins announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the WRWSA and adjourned the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

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James E. Adkins, Chairman

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Richard S. Owen, Executive Director