

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

**TIME:** 4:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Southwest Florida Water Management District  
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 4:30 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  
Rose Rocco, Treasurer, Hernando County Commissioner  
Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman  
Christine Dobkowski, Belleview City Commissioner  
John Druzbeck, Hernando County Commissioner  
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner  
John Priester, Ocala City Councilman  
David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner  
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman  
Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Barbara Fitos, Vice-Chairman, Marion County Commissioner  
Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner  
Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner  
Gary Bartell, Citrus County Commissioner  
Ken Hinkle, Inverness City Councilman  
Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner  
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner  
Mary S. Rich, Ocala City Councilwoman

**3. Introductions and Announcements**

Mr. Sullivan introduced others in the audience.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jack Sullivan, WRWSA Executive Director  
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney  
Janey Baldwin, Withlacoochee River Basin Board  
Tom Baldwin, Hernando County Citizen  
Al Grubman, TOO FAR  
Ken Herd, SWFWMD  
Cara Martin, SWFWMD  
Miki Renner, SWFWMD  
David Hamilton, Hernando County  
Joe Stapf, Hernando County Utilities  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities  
Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates  
Josh Schmitz, Water Resources Associates  
Robert Knight, Citrus County Utilities  
Darryl Muse, City of Ocala  
Richard Radacky, City of Brooksville  
Peter Rocco, Hernando County Citizen  
Brian Huston, R.W. Beck  
Tahla Paige, Recording Secretary

Chairman Richard Hoffman congratulated Ms. Christine Dobkowski on the birth of new daughter.

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

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve the minutes for the February 17, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rocco and carried unanimously.**

**5. Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) – Regional Water Supply Plan Update, Phase II – WRWSA Detailed Water Supply Planning Feasibility Analyses Overview**

Mr. Sullivan informed the board there was a long list of recommendations that Mr. Peter Hubbell, Water Resources Associates, will be reviewing in his presentation. Mr. Sullivan stated that Mr. Hubbell and he felt at least a two-hour workshop before the next WRWSA meeting was necessary to receive input from the board members on the recommendations. Mr. Sullivan also felt that Mr. Hubbell and he were too closely associated with the recommendations. Therefore, he suggested it would be beneficial to hire a facilitator for the workshop and suggested the WRWSA authorize up to \$5,000 to hire a facilitator. Mr. Sullivan asked the board to discuss the matter after Mr. Hubbell's presentation.

Mr. Hubbell proceeded to give an update on the Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analyses with recommendations that included:

- a. **Population and Water Demand** - Update population and water demand figures every five years concurrently with SWFWMD and SJRWMD; follow water uses other than public supply for potential impact to public water supply uses; track proposed large water users within the region to determine if such use will affect WRWSA planning efforts; participate with Water Management Districts (WMDs) to monitor and study the impact of Domestic Self Supply (DSS).
- b. **Minimum Flow and Levels (MFLs)** – Continue to monitor MFL development in both the SWFWMD and SJRWMD; determination of potential impacts to water supply development of WRWSA projects; act as the technical reviewer for WRWSA members; ensure water resources and environmental features are protected; and compare with proxy MFLs developed for the Phase II analyses of potential water resources.
- c. **Data Collection, Monitoring and Resources Assessment** – Monitor Lower Floridan Aquifer (LFA) and Surficial Aquifer (SA) data collection in south Marion and north Sumter Counties to determine if the LFA is a viable source of future water supply; facilitate a coordinated monitoring program for hydrogeologic information in the southeast portions of Marion County and northeast portions of Sumter County; coordinate a common set of resource evaluation methods; educate members on appropriate supply strategies and advocate on their behalf with the WMDs; work with WMDs to determine, prioritize and fund needed hydrogeologic studies in the region; work with SWFWMD and SJRWMD to address different groundwater models so that models are applied in a consistent manner; work with WMDs to provide consistency on boundary conditions; continue to monitor MFL establishment by WMDs; and work with the WMDs to develop a better understanding of the Surficial Aquifer System and Surficial Resources.
- d. **Water Conservation** - WRWSA should develop a comprehensive plan that targets and prioritizes water conservation programs using the SWFWMD Non-Agricultural Water Conservation Modeling; and work with local governments and the SWFWMD to develop strategies for implementing aggressive water conservation programs in order to meet the 150 gpcd requirement established by WMDs.
- e. **Reclaimed Water** - Take a proactive role in the analyses and promotion of reclaimed water projects for its members; prepare sub-regional reclaimed water plans. Develop priority projects and multi-year budgets for a 10-year period. Plans would be submitted with applications by member governments for WMD cooperative funding; establish a Reclaimed Water Workgroup to liaison with statewide workgroup; work with WMDs to ensure cooperative funding for beneficial water projects within the region.
- f. **Groundwater & Alternative Water Supply Projects** - Fresh Groundwater -North Sumter wellfield and NW Marion wellfield recommended for short-term implementation and Citrus wellfield and northeast Marion wellfield recommended for Mid or Long-term implementation; and Alternative Water Supply Development - Lake Rousseau and North Sumter Conjunctive Use AWS recommended for mid or long-term

implementation and Crystal River Power Plan Desalination project recommended for Mid or Long-term implementation.

- g. **Water Supply Partnership** - Incentives for a regional approach to groundwater development as well as AWS should be pursued by the WRWSA with WMDs; work with WMDs to establish a common understanding of resource conditions for utilities to meet AWS conditions in local WUPs in an environmentally and economically sound manner; work with member governments to provide supporting information for local government 10-year facility work plans.
- h. **WRWSA Water Supply Regional Framework** - A visioning session or series of workshops should be scheduled to determine the implications of establishing a Regional Framework for development of an AWS delivery system; prepare a comprehensive review of the WRWSA governance documents to reflect recommendations and initiatives approved from the Regional Framework visioning session(s); and review the funding mechanisms to support the administrative, technical and operations functions of the Authority.

Mr. Webb asked if the SJRWMD, which was currently setting MFLs, would be publishing the information at the same time as WRWSA, and he wanted to know how it would affect the WRWSA. Mr. Hubbell stated there was some overlap and it would only affect the Oklawaha River, Silver River, and Silver Glen Springs. Mr. Webb asked if MFL's for Lake Panasoffkee would be set. Mr. Josh Schmitz, Water Resource Associates stated the MFLs for Lake Panasoffkee had already been adopted. Mr. Webb asked if studies had been done on the effects of salt from the desalination plant on marsh areas. Mr. Hubbell stated studies had not been done in great detail, but water discharge was in a deep and dark area that did not affect grass growth. Mr. Webb asked how the 150 gallons per day use level had been determined. Mr. Hubbell said he would research the answer and get back with him on it.

Mr. Russell asked why ASR not mentioned. Mr. Hubbell said because the area is a highly karst region, ASRs did not work effectively. Mr. Russell asked what the procedure was for computing MFL's for Lake Hancock when it was dry and there was no water flow. Mr. Hubbell replied the bad news was the lake was dry, but the good news was MFL's were higher than the lake being dry, and it would create severe constraints on developing water in the area. Mr. Damato asked if the low MFL's of the Withlacoochee River would be handled the same. Mr. Hubbell replied there would be constraints on removing water from the river until the water levels had recovered.

Public input was taken at this time. Mrs. Janey Baldwin, Withlacoochee River Basin Board Member, stated the information presented at this meeting was relative to the Withlacoochee River Basin Board (WRBB) and requested the WRBB be informed of future WRWSA meetings. Mr. Sullivan stated he will have agendas mailed to the appropriate basin boards.

Al Grubman, TOO FAR, expressed two concerns. First, the use of the overflow of the Withlacoochee River supplies water to local lakes and using it for water supply could affect

lake levels. Second, the inter-county pipelines meant water could be brought in and out of the area.

Discussion centered on hiring a facilitator for the April workshop. Ms. Rocco voiced concerns about spending \$5,000 for a facilitator in today's economic climate. She asked how the amount was determined. Mr. Hubbell stated it was a high estimate with the expectation to use only a portion of the amount. Mr. Russell added he could not approve spending money on a facilitator and suggested asking Mr. Sonny Vergara to volunteer for the job. Mr. Druzbeck also suggested Mr. Fritz Musselmann. A consensus was reached that if neither Mr. Vergara or Mr. Musselmann could facilitate the workshop, the board would prefer Mr. Hubbell facilitate the workshop instead of spending the money.

This was an information item only.

## **6. Citrus County Utilities Response to CAB Evaluation Report**

Mr. Robert Knight, Director of Utilities, Citrus County stated there were no disagreement with the findings and recommendations issued by Black & Veatch in the audit of the Charles A. Black facility. However, he urged the WRWSA to move forward on the potential routes or easements along State Road 44 and County Road 486 and begin the lengthy process of obtaining the use of right-away.

## **7. Executive Director's Report**

### **a. Bills to be Paid**

Mr. Sullivan provided a handout to the Board detailing March 2010 bills which totaled \$15,038.63. Mr. Sullivan requested the Board approve the payment of those bills.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve payment of the March 2010 bills totaling \$15,038.63. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rocco and carried unanimously.**

### **b. Annual Financial Report to the Department of Financial Services**

Mr. Sullivan explained that each year the Authority was required to submit its financial report to the Auditor General and to the Department of Financial Services. Both reports are based on the figures presented in the annual audit. Mr. Sullivan said both reports needed to be submitted on-line. He requested the approval of the Board to submit the prepared report to the Department of Financial Services.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Ms. Rocco to approve submittal of the Annual Financial Report to the Department of Financial Services as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Webb and carried unanimously.**

### **c. April as Water Conservation Month Resolution**

Mr. Sullivan stated the resolution that the Board agreed to adopt at the February Board meeting is included in the Board Package. He recommended approval of the resolution.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Swain to approve the Water Conservation Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rocco and carried unanimously.**

d. **News Articles**

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

e. **Update to Web Page**

Mr. Sullivan informed the Board that he was having some difficulty over the past few months getting a timely response from the current web master to post the agenda and the Board Package on the web page. He felt a change was necessary and found another person to take care of the web page. Mr. Sullivan stated Ms. Karen Allan is located in Citrus County and currently manages several web pages within the region.

Ms. Allan submitted a proposal of \$1,200 to re-design and setup a new web page with a \$75 a month maintenance fee. If the Board preferred to wait until next budget year, Ms. Allan would post the agenda and minutes, plus the Board Package each month for a \$45 monthly fee.

Mr. Sullivan stated the web page had not been updated in six years and felt the fees were reasonable and the added expense could be paid for out of the current operational funds. He recommended the Board approve the redesign of the web page and maintenance costs.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve the New Web Page Proposal as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Russell and carried unanimously.**

**8. Legislative Update**

Mr. Sullivan stated that Ms. Diane Salz could not be present, as she was attending Committee meetings. He handed out her latest Legislative report.

**9. Attorney's Report**

Mr. Haag, Esq., stated he did not have anything new to report to the WRWSA.

**10. Other Business**

None.

**11. Public Comment**

Mrs. Baldwin suggested reimbursement of travel for the facilitator at the April workshop.

**12. Next Meeting Time and Location**

Next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2010 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.

**13. Adjournment**

Chairman Hoffman announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the Board and adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

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Richard Hoffman, Chairman

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Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director