

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
PEACE RIVER MANASOTA REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
Charlotte County Administration Center
Commission Chambers, Room 119
18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, Florida

June 7, 2017

BOARD APPROVED

AUG 2 2017

Board Members Present:

Commissioner Elton A. Langford, DeSoto County, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Betsy Benac, Manatee County
Commissioner Christopher G. Constance, Charlotte County
Assistant County Administrator Jonathan Lewis, Sarasota County [Alternate]

**Peace River Manasota
Regional Water Supply Authority**

Staff Present:

Patrick Lehman, Executive Director
Doug Manson, General Counsel
Mike Coates, Deputy Director
Ann Lee, Finance Manager
Kevin Morris, Science and Technology Officer
Richard Anderson, System Operations Manager
Ford Ritz, Project Engineer
Jessica Benson, Agency Clerk

Others Present:

A list of others present who signed the attendance roster for this meeting is filed with the permanent records of the Authority. Commissioner Langford recognized Charlotte County Commissioner Ken Doherty and North Port Commissioner Debbie McDowell in the audience.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Langford called meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Langford offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance of the Flag of the United States.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Langford asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board on any agenda item or non-agenda issue. There were no public comments.

Commissioner Langford acknowledged Jonathon Lewis sitting in for Commissioner Maio due to a conflict with Sarasota County BOCC meeting.

RESOLUTIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. **Outstanding Water Treatment Plant Class A presented by the Florida American Water Works Association.**

The Florida Section American Water Works Association recently recognized the Peace River Facility with their 'Outstanding Water Treatment Plant Class A Award' for 2016. Grace Johns, chair of the FSAWWA, presented the award to Authority staff Doug Leath, Maintenance Supervisor, and Chris Roger, Project Manager, on behalf of the Authority.

Commissioner Constance expressed his appreciation to all that worked earned this award.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Minutes of April 12, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting**
2. **Set a Public Hearing for FY 2018 Budget for August 2, 2017**
3. **Receive and File Authority Financial Reports:**
 - a. **Mid-Year Financial Report for FY 2017**
 - b. **Semi-Annual Investment Report for March 31, 2017**
4. **Approve One Year Extension to Agreement for Financial Advisory Services with First Southwest Company, a Division of Hilltop Securities Inc.**
5. **Approve One Year Extension to Agreement for Investment Banking Services with Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.**
6. **Professional Auditing Service – Approve Firm Selection [REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION]**
7. **Approve Work Order to TKW Engineering for Final Design Services on covers for all filter units at the Peace River Facility [REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION]**
8. **Finished Water Transfer Pump 35-P-9 Installation:**
 - a. **Approve Owner Direct Purchase of Major Equipment from Carter VerPlanck**
 - b. **Approve Work Order to Garney Construction for Installation of Major Equipment for Transfer Pump 35-P-9 Project**
9. **Letter of Appreciation to George Mann for service on the SWFWMD Governing Board**

Commissioner Constance requested Items 6 and 7 be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Motion was made by Commissioner Constance, seconded by Commissioner Benac, to approve the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Items 6 and 7. Motion was approved unanimously.

Regarding Item 6 for Professional Auditing Services, Commissioner Constance said he thought each Authority member was going to send a representative to sit on the selection committee.

Mr. Lehman said the Authority's Procurement Policy specifies the selection process for professional auditing services and handed out the paragraph regarding the process which is compliant with state statute. Mr. Lehman stated that the revised procurement procedures adopted by the Board last year was with regards to professional engineering services.

Commissioner Constance read the policy and stated that he was unaware of specific policy regarding auditing services. Commissioner Constance said the counties needed to be involved in the selection process for all contracts and given the ability to opt out at their discretion.

Commissioner Benac asked if this was a deviation from standard procedure. She also added if the assumption was to send a representative, she needed to know so she could appoint someone.

Commissioner Constance stated the work has been done and he is ok with this item and ready to make a motion, but he wanted the policy brought back to the Board to adopt a selection process same as the engineering selection process.

Motion was made by Commissioner Constance, seconded by Commissioner Benac, to approve Consent Agenda Item 6 for Professional Auditing Service Firm Selection. Motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Constance said Item 7 is to build covers for the filters, but only the design. Commissioner Constance asked in what period of time construction funds would be needed for the project which is estimated at \$1 M dollars.

Mr. Morris provided background information of the project and its benefits. He said the construction cost was estimated at about \$1M dollars and the design was \$180,000. The project is funded by R&R funds and that the project would be brought back to the Board following the bid process for approval prior to construction.

Commissioner Constance asked if the Authority was still pumping finished water into ASR system and about the use of lesser treated water.

Mr. Morris said the Authority began a pilot program on two wells to recharge them with raw water from the reservoir. The pilot program includes up to three recharge, storage and recovery cycles which are not yet finished because of the drought. Mr. Morris said the feasibility of using raw or partially treated water rather than fully treated drinking water for ASR storage will be better understood once the three cycles in the pilot testing program are completed and if successful will request regulatory approval to recharge with partially treated raw water.

Commissioner Constance expressed his appreciation of Mr. Morris' presentation. He asked if new regulations are adopted by the EPA in the future would the Authority be grandfathered in.

Mr. Morris explained that federal regulations apply to all utilities in every state for compliance.

Commissioner Constance said his only issue this this item was it shouldn't be in the consent agenda. It is a big ticket item and would like to see presentation for transparency purposes and have a discussion ahead of time.

Motion was made by Commissioner Constance seconded by Assistant County Administrator Jonathan Lewis, to approve Consent Agenda Item 7. Motion was approved unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Water Supply Conditions – Staff Presentation

Mr. Anderson presented Water Supply Conditions at the Peace River Facility as of May 23, 2017.

- Water Supply Quantity: Good
- Treated Water Quality: Excellent

Water Demand	29.43 MGD
River Withdrawals	0.00 MGD
<u>Storage Volume:</u>	
Reservoirs	2.91 BG
ASR	<u>5.68 BG</u>
Total	8.59 BG

The region continues to be very dry with below average rainfall since September. There were no withdrawals from the Peace River in the month of May. Reservoir storage is at 2.91 BG and there is 5.68 BG in the ASR system.

Commissioner Constance asked about the quality of the ASR system.

Mr. Anderson said the water quality from the ASR system is still good, however it degrades as more water is removed from storage and it blends with native groundwater.

Commissioner Benac asked if the reason the Authority was taking water from the ASR system was water quality - or is it the reduced quantity of water in the reservoir.

Mr. Anderson said it was mainly for the reduced quantity, and it was a way of managing the resources.

Commissioner Langford asked if the ASR water was blended.

Mr. Anderson said yes, the ASR water was discharged into the reservoir to blend in the reservoir water.

Mr. Anderson said the Authority and its customers maintain 105 MGD of finished water supply capacity. For the month of April the Authority produced about 29.0 MGD and the member utilities produced 53.5 MGD for a total regional use of 82.5 MGD which is about 78.7% of the region's capacity.

Commissioner Constance asked for clarification that this was for member counties and did not include nonmember system.

Mr. Anderson confirmed.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the current demand and supply conditions for each of the members/customers for

the month of April including their twelve-month rolling average and historical annual average usage. Authority members continue to account for about 79% of the region's demand.

Mr. Anderson explained the regional demand and water usage.

2. Regional Integrated Loop System Phase 3B Interconnect Project [SR 681 to Clark Road]

- a. Project Update**
- b. Final Basis of Design Report**

Mr. Morris presented a location map showing the pipeline routing and potential pump station, stating that staff is asking for the Board to receive and file the final Basis of Design Reports (BODR). The draft BODR for the pipeline was presented at a previous Board meeting.

Commissioner Benac asked if Sarasota County approved the location of the pump station.

Jonathan Lewis said this project has been in discussion for a while, and said yes.

Mr. Morris said he in talking with Mr. Cash from Sarasota County Utilities, they agreed on a general location for the pump station and the value on having the pump station in that area

Commissioner Constance asked about not knowing the specific time and location for the pump station.

Mr. Morris responded that the BODR executive summary discusses the dynamic nature of this aspect of the project.

Motion was made by Commissioner Constance, seconded by, Assistant County Administrator Jonathan Lewis to receive and file final 'Regional Integrated Loop System Phase 3B Pipeline Basis of the Design Report' and the ' Regional Integrated Loop System Phase 3 B Pump Station Basis of the Design Report'. Motion was approved unanimously.

3. Legislative Session Wrap-Up

Ms. Diane Salz said while not securing funding for its projects, the Authority achieved some goals. The Authority was able to build relationships with new delegation members, become familiar with new rules, learn the new leadership dynamics, and raise the profile of the Authority. Ms. Salts said the most important goal the Authority achieved was to engage in advocacy.

Ms. Salz said the plan for the next legislature year was to develop a regional advocacy plan. This plan consists of forming a coalition, get project sponsor(s), and work with SWFWMD for education and advocacy programs.

Ms. Salz said 2018 legislative session was staring in January and she was getting ready for that.

Commissioner Constance stated it was a difficult year and the importance of 'staying in the game' as this is not a one year issue but long term. He acknowledged all the hard work Mrs. Salz is doing for the Authority.

4. Wildfire on RV Griffin Reserve – Staff Presentation

On May 13, 2017 a wildfire started near Raintree Boulevard in North Port. The fire was driven east by high winds, jumping I-75 and continued east, all the way to the Reservoir 2 embankment, eventually burning approximately 30% of the 6,000 acre RV Griffin Reserve. There was no damage to critical water supply infrastructure from the blaze as it was contained well north of Kings Highway thanks to the efforts of the Florida Forest Service, DeSoto and Charlotte County Fire Departments and many other fire departments from west central Florida - including fire fighters from as far away as South Carolina.

Mr. Morris provided a presentation that can be found on the Authority's web page with pictures and videos of the wild fire.

Commissioner Constance asked if the Authority has a routine prescribed burn program.

Mr. Coates said the Authority has a controlled burning program on the RV Griffin property which helps avoid wild fires.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Tentative Budget for FY 2018 – Update

Mr. Lehman said the approved Tentative Budget for FY 2018 at the April meeting and all documents have been posted on the Authority's web site. To-date the only comment has been concerning the potential CIP schedule. Mr. Lehman stated that staff can provide any information or presentation for each county as may be requested.

2. Rules Review and Certification

Mr. Lehman stated that the Authority does not make rules but needs to file the acknowledgment for rules review and certification anyway because it is a state Special District statutory requirement.

Commissioner Constance stated the Authority does not promulgate rules but instead has the Master Water Supply Contract.

Commissioner Constance said if he could get an update on the WUP in increase withdrawal from the river and extend the term of the permit.

Mr. Coates responded that the Authority's project team met with SWFWMD staff in early May and had good discussion about the permit modifications. The Authority staff and consultants are preparing the draft permit application and expect to be ready for submittal in September. Mr. Coates also estimated that it would take four to six months for SWFWMD action on the permit changes.

Commissioner Constance said modifying the WUP was critical and top priority and requested continuing feedback on status.

ROUTINE STATUS REPORTS

1. Hydrologic Conditions Report
2. Check Registers for March and April 2017
3. Regional Integrated Loop System Phase 1 Interconnect Project [U.S. 17 to Punta Gorda]
4. Partially Treated Water Aquifer Storage & Recovery Pilot Testing
5. Peace River Facility Water Use Permit Modification/Renewal
6. Peace River Basin Report

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner expressed his gratitude for having served on the Board and wished all well in the future.

Commissioner Langford expressed the Board's appreciation to Commissioner Constance and presented a plaque to him for his service on the Board of Directors.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Langford asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board. There were no public comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Authority Board Meeting and Public Hearing for FY 2018 Budget

August 2, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m.

Sarasota County Administration Center
Commission Chambers, First Floor
1661 Ringling Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida

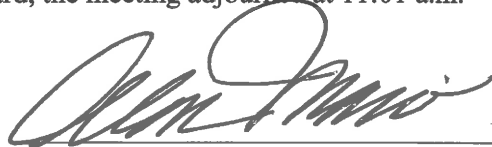
Future Authority Board Meetings

October 4, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m. – Manatee County Administrative Center, Bradenton, Florida

December 6, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m. – DeSoto County Administration Building, Arcadia, Florida

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.



Commissioner Alan Maio
Chairman