

Central Florida Water Initiative

TOHO Water Authority
Friday, October 24, 2014

Meeting Summary

(All presentations made to the Steering Committee have been posted on cfwiwater.com.)

Introductions

- a. Steering Committee members present: Drew Bartlett (FDEP), Michael Babb (SWFWMD), Brian Wheeler (TOHO Water), John Miklos (SJRWMD)
- b. Steering Committee members absent: Dan O'Keefe (SWFWMD), Rich Budell (DACS)
- c. Members of the audience introduced themselves and the sign in sheet for those in attendance has been posted to the website.

2. Consent Items

- a. The September 26, 2014 Meeting Summary was approved.

3. Regional Consensus Building

- a. Steve Seibert (triSect) provided the following summary :
 - Tri-County League of Cities, October 16th: Town of Oakland
 - Approximately 60 people in attendance
 - Water conservation was a big theme and is believed felt to be the most important topic to be addressed, especially landscape irrigation and ordinances.
 - Several local governments expressed the need for more communication to increased local awareness including individualized local presentations
 - Next Workshop, October 29th: Haines City
 - Central Florida Regional Leadership Forum- Working Together to Advance a Regional Water Strategy
 - Date: Friday, November 21st
 - Time: 8:00 am - 11:30 am
 - Place: Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport
- b. Jacob Stuart, President, Central Florida Partnership, reviewed the draft agenda for the November 21 Central Florida Regional Leadership Forum. He explained to the Steering Committee the format of the meeting including the nature of each session on the agenda. He mentioned the event was already "sold out" for 250 people.

4. Kissimmee River Reservation

- a. Len Lindahl reviewed the process and schedule the SFWMD is following to adopt the reservation. Key milestone dates are:
 - Draft rule language by the end of June 2015
 - Final draft rule by September 2015
 - Rule adoption by December 2015
- b. Three additional public workshops will be held at key dates during the rule development and adoption process. Next workshop is Dec 12; location TBA.
- c. Schedule is shown in the presentation associated with this agenda item on the website.

5. Regional Water Supply Plan

- a. Joanne Chamberlain presented an updated bar graph showing historic water use verses population along with reuse and estimated residential conservation through 2012 as requested by the Steering Committee on September 26. She explained that population continues to increase, while water use remains relatively steady. The addition of 2011 and 2012 data continues this trend. Current water use in the CFWI reflects the effects of approximately two decades of conservation initiatives and programs implemented by water management districts, local governments, utilities, agriculture and other end users to prevent or reduce wasteful and unnecessary use. As a result, residential per capita water use for the public water supply sector has decreased over time. The RWSP Team estimates that in 2012 approximately 159 MGD of water has been saved by the regions' residential public water supply through conservation and source substitution.

Joanne went on to further explain the CFWI region has effectively implemented water reuse programs in Florida that have resulted in significant fresh groundwater savings.

CFWI Water Reuse 1995 through 2012 (MGD)				
	1995	2012	Change	Change (%)
Public Access	30	72	+ 40	+134%
Other Reuse	75	125	+ 50	+66%
Water Reuse Total	105	197	+ 90	+86%

- b. In response to the Steering Committee request made on September 26, Mike Sweeney conducted a survey of the STOPR + 2 utilities less the Reedy Creek Improvement District detailing the various water conservation programs that have been implemented since 1995. This group of public water supply utilities treat and deliver approximately 57% of total PWS water use in 2010 in the CFWI area. The following water conservation programs were surveyed and the results of the survey are shown in the presentation posted to the CFWIwater.com website. :
- Water Rates
 - Public Education/ Awareness
 - Landscape Irrigation
 - Water Loss Reduction
 - Automated Metering Infrastructure
 - Standards Adoption (i.e.- Florida Water Star)
 - Promotions
 - Rebates
- c. Drew Bartlett asked what some main takeaways from the survey were. Mike Sweeney responded that some utilities have been slow to adopt the Florida Water Star conservation program. He felt further involvement of the development community and additional incentives should be explored to incentivize the program. Also, the opportunity to exchange information between utilities remains valuable especially concerning the successful use of applied technologies.
- d. Drew Bartlett asked what else could be done to better document the conservation efforts all the CFWI utilities. Brian Wheeler said a comprehensive statewide water conservation database called Conserve Florida was undertaken by the University of Florida but the database is not currently being maintained. He felt the effort should be restarted. Brian also said that the Central Florida Utility Council would be a good forum to obtain and share conservation information.
- e. The Steering Committee directed the Conservation sub team the responsibility to develop a process to better document water conservation efforts within the CFWI and report back to the SC in the near future.
- f. Ray Scott presented a clarification and additional information that explained the efficiency of agricultural irrigation systems.

6. Solutions Planning Team (SPT)

- a. Robert Beltran introduced the sub team leaders for conservation, stormwater, reclaimed water and groundwater. They presented their preliminary list of projects for evaluation based of the screening criteria the SC identified (see presentations for detailed list).
- i. Conservation: Jim Fletcher reviewed progress and emphasized the importance of education to effect better results. He reviewed agriculture and public water supply Best Management Practices (BMPs). He indicated the sub team requests some of the conservation targets in the “draft RWSP” be

revised. Drew Bartlett said there was a lack of information to make a decision. The SC did not accept the request and directed the sub team to revisit the target and report back to the SC.

- ii. Stormwater: Jim Miller provided a detailed review of eight projects the sub team feels could be further developed. Drew Bartlett expressed his appreciation of the excellent work of the sub team. Robert Beltran said the efforts of this team has identified groundbreaking projects. The eight projects are:

PROJECT	TYPE	AMOUNT
Judge Farms- Osceola County	Water supply	6 MGD
Ocoee / SR 50- Orange County	Water supply	1 MGD
Reedy Creek / RCID- Orange & Osceola Counties	MFL	4 MGD
Winter Garden- Orange County	Recharge	2 MGD
Lake Wailes / Peace Creek- Polk County	MFL	1.4 MGD
Winter Haven Area/ Peace Creek- Polk County* *Subject to rerating and ET analysis of applicable elements for current "Sapphire Necklace" proposal	Water supply Recharge	10 MGD
C-1 Canal/ SJ River/ Palm Bay- Brevard County	Riverine augmentation	50 MGD
Future project concepts for Wekiva, Econ, Shingle Creek and Lake Jesup Basins	Recharge MFL	30 MGD

- iii. Reclaimed Water: JoAnn Jackson provided a detailed review of five projects the sub team feels could be further evaluated. JoAnn also noted that the CFWI region has some of the most effective and broadly implemented water reuse program in Florida if not the entire U.S.

PROJECT	AMOUNT
Project Renew- OUC	9.2 MGD
AFIRST- Altamonte Springs	4.5 MGD
West Ditch Stormwater for Reuse Augmentation- TOHO	1.5 MGD
160-Acre Site IPR- TOHO	5.0 MGD
TECO Polk Power Reuse- TECO, Lakeland, Mulberry, Polk Co	10.0 MGD

- iv. Groundwater: Jerry Mallams provided a detailed review of four projects the sub team feels could be further evaluated.

PROJECT	AMOUNT
South Lake Wellfield- Lake County, Clermont, Groveland, Mascotte, Minneola, Montverde, & LUSI	12.7 MGD
Cypress Lake Wellfield- St. Cloud, Toho, Orange County, Polk County, Reedy Creek Improvement District	20.5 MGD
SE Polk Co Wellfield-13 Project Partners	30.0 MGD
Polk Co. Distributed Wellfield- 13 Project Partners	9.8 MGD

- b. Joanne Chamberlin reviewed the outline of the final work product of the CFWI to be called **2035 Water Resources Protection & Water Supply Strategies Plan** or the **CFWI Plan** for short. Joanne said the final draft list of proposed projects to be included in the CFWI Plan will be brought back to the Steering Committee on December 19 with overall plan approval by in the summer of 2015 (after receiving public input). The CFWI Plan and the draft RWSP (including any revisions) will then go the Governing Boards of the WMDs for final review and approval. The chapter outline of the CFWI plan is:

- Introduction
 - Goals and Guiding Principles
 - Water Supply Planning & Solutions Process
 - Communications & Stakeholder Engagement
- Water Resource Assessment
- Water Conservation
- Solutions Project Options
 - Groundwater
 - Reclaimed Water
 - Surface Water
 - Stormwater
- Environmental Evaluation
- Regulation
- Financial Assessment
- Conclusions/Strategies
- Appendices

7. Regulatory Team (RT)

- a. Len Lindahl, Team Leader, reported on the ongoing process to follow the December 13 FDEP Guidance memo.
- b. Upcoming RT activities:

- Success principles
 - Water use per capita data collection
 - Caution area example review
 - Public interest
 - Conjunctive use
 - Permitting thresholds / domestic self-supply
- c. Len provided a detailed overview of Domestic Self Supply (DSS) statutory requirements, regulations and the regional extent of DSS wells. He said the RT is still reviewing data and will be coming back before the SC to discuss options for further study based on input from the Steering Committee, including:
- Research / review technical aspects of current programs
 - Information exchange with well construction delegates
 - Exemptions from permitting
 - Economic issues
 - Statutory and rule requirements
- d. Brian Wheeler said that even though overall amount of water from DSS wells is relatively small, he is concerned with the impact of the wells on PWS operations when users switch to these exempt wells. He said the region lacks a tracking mechanism to understand the impact of the DSS wells. Paul Senft questioned the symmetrical well pattern in SW Polk County and Len Lindahl indicated the RT is continuing to review the data associated with DSS and will be reporting back their findings. Ray Scott asked whether the PWS have a requirement for homeowners to hook up to public water and Brian responded that unlike wastewater collection systems there is no mandatory water supply hook up requirement.

8. 2015 Funding

- a. Robert Beltran presented a table to comprehensively show how the CFWI could be funded over the time horizon of the initiative. Robert emphasized the funding requirements would evolve over time as the CFWI is updated and refined based on improved quantification of the effects of aggressive water conservation efforts, the population growth scenarios play out, economic development efforts come to fruition and agricultural practices change based on environmental and market conditions. He showed aggregate funding needs based on 1 year (2015), 2 year (2016), 5 year (2017-2020), 10 year (2021- 2025) and 20 year (2026-2035) increments. The aggregate funding needs would be further refined to show all the potential funding sources: water users, Federal and State governments, water management districts, local governments and private entities.
- b. The Steering Committee approved the concept and asked the Solutions Planning Team to provide more detail as the process develops.

9. Open Discussion NONE

10. Public Comments

- a. Alan Oyler, representing the South Lake County Water Initiative (SLCWI), indicated the SLCWI has retained Water Resource Associates to conduct the water resource study mentioned to the Steering Committee on August 29. He

said their contract is expected to be approved in 2-3 weeks by the Lake County Commission. Alan also made the following points with respect to the presentations made earlier today:

- He felt it would be beneficial to the SLCWI utilities and others if the water conservation measures identified in Mike Sweeney's presentation could be quantified in a way to show the effectiveness of each conservation measure- i.e., per cent reduction in water used.
- He asked the Stormwater sub team if they could look at the recharge potential in South Lake in addition to the Ocoee/SR 50 project since they are in very close proximity to that project location.
- He also thought project RENEW should consider sending reclaimed water to South Lake County using existing pipelines This should be considered as part of the cost analysis.

11. Next SC meetings

- a. Nov 14
- b. Dec 19

12. Adjourn 11:50 AM