

Central Florida Water Initiative

Toho Water Authority
Friday, April 1, 2016

Meeting Summary

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

1. Introductions

- a. Steering Committee members present: Ryan Matthews (FDEP), Paul Senft-alternate (SWFWMD), Brian Wheeler (TOHO Water), John Miklos (SJRWMD), Steve Dwinell (DACs), Dan O'Keefe (SFWMd)
- b. The sign in sheet for those in attendance has been posted to the website.

2. Consent Items

- a. January 29, 2016, Meeting Summary was approved as presented.

3. Minimum Flows & Levels/ Reservation

- a. Len Lindahl provided the following update the SWFWMD MFLs\Reservations
 - Lakes Clinch, Eagle, Hancock, McLeod, Starr & Wailes (Wales) MFLs (Polk Co.)
 - Final MFLs reports and rule amendments approved by the Governing Board in October/December 2015 for initiation and approval of rulemaking
 - Rulemaking is ongoing
 - Lake Hancock Reservation (Polk Co.)
 - Development of reservation for water stored in the lake to aid recovery of upper Peace River MFLs is ongoing
 - Rulemaking to be completed in Fall 2016
 - Other Priority Water Body MFLs (Polk Co.)
 - Lakes Crooked (reevaluation), Eva and Lowery MFLs scheduled for 2016
 - Lakes Amoret, Aurora, Bonnet, Easy, Effie, Josephine, Little Aurora and Trout MFLs scheduled for 2017
 - Withlacoochee River System (3 middle/upper segments) MFLs scheduled for 2020
 - North and South Prong Alafia River MFLs scheduled for 2021
 - Peace River (3 upper segments) "intermediate" and "high" MFLs scheduled for 2022
 - Charlie Creek MFLs scheduled for 2023
 - Priority List and Schedule

- Governing Board approved list/schedule approved by DEP on 02/12/2016
 - Informational Web Pages
 - Priority list and MFLs report information: http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/projects/mfl/mfl_reports.php
 - Workshop/meeting information: <http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/calendar/calendar/>
- b. Len Lindahl provided the following update the SJRWMD MFLs
- Lake Apopka
 - Model Sensitivity Analysis – Stakeholder Teleconference – Late April/Early May (schedule TBD)
 - MFL scheduled for 2017
 - Lake Johns, Lake Apshawa South (re-evaluation), and Lake Prevatt (re-evaluation)
 - Stakeholder meeting to discuss CFWI review process planned for May (exact date TBD)
 - MFLs scheduled for 2018
 - Wekiva River at SR 46 Bridge and associated springs (re-evaluation)
 - HSPF model ongoing; Peer review process to begin in July
 - MFL scheduled for 2018
- c. Len Lindahl provided the following update to the Kissimmee River reservation
- Kissimmee Basin Reservation
 - Draft Rules released 12/12/14
 - Technical Publication Draft released 4/1/15
 - Staff are evaluating public comments
 - Meetings with stakeholder groups is continuing
 - Additional workshops and stakeholder meetings to be scheduled
 - Staff are developing a screening level tool to address multiple stakeholder concerns
 - Adoption of the Kissimmee Basin Reservations Rule is scheduled for December 2016
 - Information can be found at: www.sfwmd.gov/reservations
4. Polk County Regional Water Cooperative
- a. Commissioner George Lindsay, Polk County, briefed the Steering Committee on the progress to date in establishing the Polk County Regional Water Cooperative. He reviewed the governance structure of the cooperative and

offered his support of the CFWI efforts to support regional cooperation amongst all existing and future water users.

- b. Ryan Matthews (FDEP) commented that this approach represents a model to others to follow.
- c. Brian Wheeler (TOHO) and Paul Senft (SWFWMD) thanked Mr. Lindsay for his leadership and willingness to share his experience in forming this cooperative.

5. SJRWMD Board Resolutions

- a. Mike Register (SJRWMD) presented a summary of the action the SJRWMD Governing Board took at its March 8, 2016, Board meeting.
- b. John Miklos said the Board wanted to be sure the communities north of the CFWI area that decisions made by the Steering Committee were sensitive to their concerns.

6. CFWI 2020 Funding Principle

- a. As requested by the SC at its January 29, 2016, meeting Robert Beltran (Management Oversight Committee Chair) reviewed options the MOC developed for the SC to consider in developing its approach to address Guiding Principle #4 which states:

“Encourage funding for regional strategies necessary to achieve the objectives of the CFWI”

- b. Mr. Beltran said the MOC felt it needed to be clear that final funding decisions will be by the Managing Entity, the Governing Board(s) of the individual Water Management District(s) involved in the effort, the Governor’s Office and/or the Florida Legislature. The role of the CFWI Steering Committee was to identify those regional programs (conservation, DMIT recommendations, etc.) and regional projects that best serve the CFWI area
- c. The CFWI 2015 Plan approved by the SC on October 29, 2015, identified 20 programs/projects, and the MOC felt these should constitute the initial encouragement going forward for the FY 2016/ 2017 funding cycle. They are as follows:

- Programs
 - Conservation (All)
 - Recovery Projects
 - Data Monitoring & Investigation
 - Other Investigations
- Groundwater projects
 - South Lake County Wellfield
 - Cypress Lake Wellfield
 - Southeast Polk County Wellfield (centralized)

- Reclaimed water projects
 - Project RENEW
 - West Ditch Stormwater for Reuse Augmentation
 - 160-ac Site Indirect Potable Reuse
 - TECO Polk Power Reuse
 - AFIRST/Altamonte Springs
 - Surfacewater projects
 - St. Johns River/Taylor Creek Reservoir
 - St. Johns River near State Road 46
 - St. Johns River near Yankee Lake
 - Polk Regional Alafia River Basin
 - Grove Land Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment
 - Stormwater projects
 - Judge Farms Reservoir and Impoundment
 - Lake Wailes Stormwater Mitigation
 - Reedy Creek Watershed
- d. Mr. Beltran also said the MOC felt the process for encouraging funding should be flexible to identify new projects that come forward. He proposed the following schedule for the upcoming budget cycle:
- Steering Committee Meeting April 1, 2016
 - Process Review and Guidance
 - Steering Committee Meeting July 22, 2016
 - NEW Propose Projects by Managing Entities Reviewed
 - District Governing Boards NEW projects approval of CFWI funding priorities September 2016
 - Steering Committee Meeting October 2016
 - Approval for new projects to be considered for “encouragement” of the regional strategies necessary to achieve the objectives of CFWI for FY 16/17
- e. Ryan Matthews said most of these projects have multiple partners and would be implemented over several years. He understood the challenge of lining up all the program/project participants and aligning their budgets.
- f. Brian Wheeler said he felt this process as described is not in sync with the new Water Bill (SB 552) that was just passed by the Florida Legislature. He felt a 5 year work plan was necessary to better identify multi-year efforts. Also, he thought the SC needed to act before the Governing Boards so the GBs have the benefit of the SC’s decisions before acting.
- g. Robert Beltran said the process the MOC is proposing covers the initial year and there would be opportunities for the SC to better refine and direct the effort after this year. He also indicated an annual update on the CFWI

progress would be forthcoming to the SC along with specific progress on the DMIT recommendations.

- h. Ryan Matthews requested that the MOC identify the universe of potential funding options available from all sources so the SC could have the benefit of seeing the complete picture of potential of funding sources for these important programs and projects.
- i. Brian Wheeler emphasized the need for a process to fund regional, multiple partner AWS efforts.

7. CFWI 2020 Guidance Document

- a. Robert Beltran (MOC Chair) reviewed proposed changes to the Guidance Document, Technical Team Leaders and the detailed scopes of work for each of the Technical Teams. He explained the Guidance Document indicating the revisions were provided to the SC last week and posted on the website.
- b. Prior to taken action Ryan Matthews asked if there was any public comment on the proposed changes:
 - Mr. Robert Gore, Polk County, expressed concern he was not allowed to participate in the meeting of the RWSP Team. Also, he felt the Technical Teams need better representation form the environmental community.
 - Paul Senft asked if we have been reaching out to the environmental community. Robert Beltran said we have an environmental representatives on the MOC (Beth Lewis, the Nature Conservancy) and some environmental reps on technical committees. We have some openings that have not yet been filled and the various environmental groups are aware of this and are seeking individuals to fill those positions.
- c. The Steering Committee approved all proposed changes to the Guidance Document as presented.

8. Regulatory Team Update

- a. Len Lindahl reported on the ongoing process to follow the December 13, 2013, FDEP Guidance memo.
 - WMD coordination on pending applications
 - Review of permit duration
 - Water conservation criteria
 - Updated list of pending consumptive use permit applications
 - Available on www.cfwiwater.com
 - Additionally, working on tracking issued permits

- b. Len updated the current areas of focus:
 - CFWI Consistency
 - Task H2: Regulatory and statutory options- uniform regulations and statutory changes as needed.
 - Determine conceptual approach for rule options for each topic - June 1, 2016
 - 14 Subgroups created covering the 9 topics identified in the CFWI 2020 Guiding Document
 - i. Conditions for Issuance
 - ii. Uniform definition of harm
 - iii. Uniform demand by use class
 - iv. Uniform conservation requirements by use class
 - v. Use of MFLs and reservations in the permitting process
 - vi. Single permitting model tool
 - vii. Permitting thresholds
 - viii. Permit conditions
 - ix. Potential impacts outside of the CFWI boundary

- c. Consistency Sub Groups/ Group Leader
 - Conditions for issuance
 - SJRWMD - Mary Ellen Winkler
 - Uniform definition of harm
 - FDEP - Janet Llewellyn
 - Uniform demand calculation by use class
 - Utility - Krystal Azzarella & Terry McCue
 - Agriculture – Rebecca Elliott (FDACS)
 - Industrial/Commercial – Eric Olsen
 - Uniform conservation requirements by use class
 - Utility - Christine Russell & Mike Sweeney
 - Agriculture – Rebecca Elliott (FDACS)
 - Industrial/Commercial – Eric Olsen
 - Use of MFLs and reservations in the permitting process
 - FDEP - Janet Llewellyn
 - Single permitting model tool
 - SFWMD - Steven Memberg
 - Permitting thresholds

- SFWMD - Steven Memberg
- Permit compliance
 - SWFWMD - Amy Brennan
- Addressing potential impacts outside of the CFWI boundary
 - SJRWMD - Mary Ellen Winkler

9. Open Discussion

- a. Ryan Matthews introduced Craig Varn as the new CFWI Facilitator who will begin his duties next week.

10. Public Comments

- a. David Gore, NE Polk County resident, expressed a concern that determining harm appears to be whatever you want it to be and significant harm would occur based on the current plan. Mr. Gore said all water use will have impacts and the water table needs to be maintained at the highest level.

11. Next SC meeting

- a. July 22, 2016 (at Florida Chamber Summer School)

12. Adjourn