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## South Florida Water Management District

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### MINUTES GOVERNING BOARD WORKSHOP

March 14, 2007

1:00 PM

District Headquarters - B-1 Auditorium

3301 Gun Club Road

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Members Present:

**Irela Bagué, Vice-Chair**

**Miya Burt-Stewart**

**Alice Carlson**

**Michael Collins**

**Nicolás Gutiérrez**

**Lennart Lindahl**

**Kevin McCarty, Chair**

**Harkley Thornton**

**Malcolm Wade**

1. **Call to Order** - Kevin McCarty, Chair, Governing Board

Chair McCarty called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Kevin McCarty, Chair, Governing Board

Nicolás Gutiérrez lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Approval of Minutes from the last month's Governing Board Meeting**

Approval of minutes of the February 15, 2007, meeting held in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Motion made by Nicolás Gutiérrez, seconded by Alice Carlson to Approve the following item(s): 3

Vote called. Voting yes: Nicolás Gutiérrez, Alice Carlson, Irela Bagué, Michael Collins, Lennart Lindahl, Kevin McCarty, Harkley Thornton. Not present: Miya Burt-Stewart, Malcolm Wade. Motion passed.

4. **Agenda Addendum**

Jacki McGorty, District Clerk, announced the agenda addendum. Item 13 was deleted from the Workshop Agenda and Item 20 was added to the Workshop agenda. Copies were made available to the public.

5. **Pull Items for Discussion from Governing Board Meeting Agenda**

Mr. Collins pulled Item No. 42 from the Consent Agenda to the Discussion Agenda.

**6. Human Resources and Outreach Committee Recommendations - Irela Bague, Chair**

Irela Bagué reported on the Human Resources and Outreach Committee meeting which was held on March 13th, 2007.

**7. Water Resources Advisory Commission Update - Michael Collins, Chair**

Michael Collins reported on the activities of the Water Resources Advisory Commission.

Mr. Collins reported on the WRAC Lake Okeechobee Committee meeting which was held on February 28, 2007 in Stuart, Florida.

Mr. Collins provided dates for the upcoming WRAC meetings.

**8. Caloosahatchee / St. Lucie Rivers Corridor Advisory Committee Update - Commissioner Tammy Hall, Lee County, and Commissioner Michael DiTerlizzi, Martin County**

Michael DiTerlizzi, Martin County Commissioner, reported on the five Caloosahatchee/St. Lucie Rivers Corridor Advisory Committee meetings which were held from September 2006 through January 2007.

Commissioner DiTerlizzi provided an update on the final report that was submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House on February 1, 2007.

Commissioner DiTerlizzi reported on the amended Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan which now includes the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries.

Commissioner DiTerlizzi provided an update on this legislation which is now in Committees in Tallahassee.

Commissioner DiTerlizzi provided background on the St. Lucie River, the discharges into the estuaries and water storage north of Lake Okeechobee.

Mr. Lindahl thanked Commissioner DiTerlizzi and said he is doing a wonderful job in Martin County.

Mr. Wade said Commissioner DiTerlizzi represents his constituents very well.

**Water Resources**

**9. Alternative Water Supply Funding Program Reserves - Mark Elsner, Director, Water Supply Implementation Division**

Mark Elsner, Division Director, Water Supply Implementation Division, presented additional information on Alternative Water Supply Funding Program reserves as a follow-up from the February Governing Board meeting and asked for Board direction.

Mr. Elsner discussed ways of providing possible reserves for large regional projects, defined a regional project, and provided examples of regional projects already being funded under the current program, and potential regional projects.

Mr. Elsner provided a general project example and asked the Board when is the appropriate time to start funding a project: during the feasibility study, design and permitting, or construction.

Mr. Collins commented that he would not want to dedicate funding to reserves until a project is identified, the feasibility study is complete, and construction is certain.

Mr. Lindahl provided comment on reserves in the future and we should give priority to projects that are ready to construct.

Ms. Bagué commented on the programs success to date.

Ms. Wehle commented on the high cost for some of the potential regional projects being discussed and ways to provide funding for these projects.

Mr. McCarty commented that there are other ways to create reserves for these large projects.

Ms. Burt-Stewart commented that we should leave the issue of reserves on the table.

Mr. Gutiérrez provided comment on a possible regional budget.

Mr. Collins added that we should not commit funding while projects are in the planning phase and that funding should be for construction.

The final direction provided by the board was to continue the program the way it is, move forward with FY2008, and discuss reserves in the future when there is a specific project.

**10. Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West Rehabilitation - Deborah Drum, Director, STA Management Division**

Deborah Drum, STA Management Division, presented information on Stormwater Treatment Area 1 West Rehabilitation (cells 2B and 4).

Ms. Drum reported on the reasons for the rehabilitation:

- Vegetation growth in these cells are not proceeding as expected.
- Scheduled work in adjacent cells required dry conditions and contractor is already on site.
- Take advantage of low water levels to do cells 2B and 4
- Be aggressive to ensure that these cells actively contribute to water quality treatment.

Ms. Drum also provided the STA1 West Rehabilitation risks.

Chair McCarty asked if there were added expenses in delaying this rehabilitation. Chair McCarty also had concerns about the migratory birds nesting season.

Ms. Drum provided additional information pertaining to this issue.

Mr. Collins reported on single species management.

Mr. Lindahl provided information on the risks of the rehabilitation of STA1 West and the advantage of the contractor being on site.

**20. Lake Region Water Treatment Plant - Davies Mtundu, Lead Engineer, Water Supply Department**

Davies Mtundu, Lead Engineer, Water Supply Department, provided information on the Lake Region Water Treatment Plant.

He reported on the plant capacity and said the Upper Floridan Aquifer will be used as an alternative to Lake Okeechobee. Mr. Mtundu reported on the treatment technology and the benefits for continuing funding for the Lake Region Water Treatment Plant.

Mr. Wade supports the continued funding for this plant.

**CERP**

**11. Acceler8 Update - Tommy Strowd, Assistant Deputy Executive Director, CERP, Paul E. Dumars, Sr., Chief Financial Officer**

Tommy Strowd, Assistant Deputy Executive Director, Acceler8, presented information on the construction projects, the funding, and the progress of the Acceler8 projects. Mr. Strowd provided information on the benefits to the local economy due to the EAA A1 Reservoir construction. He reported on the Village of Wellington, Acme Basin B, Memorandum of Understanding.

Becky Hachenberg, Technical Services Manager, Acceler8, presented information on value engineering.

Ms. Hachenberg provided a definition, process plan, job plan, and the benefits for value engineering.

Ms. Hachenberg reported there has been \$74.8M saved through the value engineering studies.

Mr. Lindahl supports the value engineering process.

Mr. Gutiérrez requested that staff keep the Board involved on any decisions being made pertaining to the C-43 and C-44 reservoirs.

**12. Integrated Real Estate Information System (IRIS) Update** - John Dunnuck, CERP Program Implementation Manager, Acceler8 Office

John Dunnuck, CERP Program Implementation Manager, Acceler8, presented information on the integrated Real Estate Information System (IRIS) software. Mr. Dunnuck reported on the IRIS Goals which were to provide reporting capabilities and to enable the business process workflow.

Mr. Dunnuck reported on the simplification goals for the IRIS system and the land acquisition summary screen in IRIS and said the system is integrated within the GIS system.

**Executive Office**

**14. Situation Teams Update** - Tom Olliff, Assistant Executive Director

Tom Olliff, Assistant Executive Director, presented information on the Situation Teams. Mr. Olliff reported the Situation Teams were created to respond to repeated issues (i.e., water shortage, permitting, Lake Okeechobee etc.).

Focusing on water shortage, Mr. Olliff discussed the components of situation analysis, on situation management, a strategic communications plan, and the communication tools.

**Operations and Maintenance**

**15. Residential Canal Bank Restoration Policy** Fred Remen, Department Director, South Field Operations

Fred Remen, Department Director, South Field Operations, presented information on the residential canal bank restoration policy. Mr. Remen reported on the prioritization guidelines and the criteria for restoring the canal banks.

Ms. Bagué had concerns on managing citizen's expectations of the restorations.

**Executive Office**

**16. Closed-door Session**

Attorney-client session pursuant to Fla. Stat. Section 286.011(8)(2005) to discuss strategy related to litigation expenditures in J & H Groves Holding, L. C. v. South Florida Water Management District, et al., Circuit Court, Twentieth Judicial Circuit, Hendry County, Case No. 06-631CA.

Sheryl G. Wood, General Counsel, Office of Counsel, Ext. 6976

**Action Items (if any) Stemming from Closed Session**

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Sheryl G. Wood, General Counsel, Office of Counsel, Ext. 6976

Chair McCarty announced that the Governing Board would adjourn to Closed-Door Session at 3:05 pm and would reconvene in approximately 30 minutes.

Chair McCarty reconvened the Governing Board Workshop at 3:55 pm.

Chair McCarty reported there was one closed-door session, Agenda Item 16.

Sheryl Wood, General Counsel, reported no action be taken.

**17. Closed-door Session**

Attorney-client session pursuant to Fla. Stat. Section 286.011(8)(2005) to discuss strategy related to litigation expenditures in Friends of the Everglades, Inc. and Fishermen Against Destruction of the Environment, Inc. v. South Florida Water Management District, et al., United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, Case No. 02-80309-CV-Altonaga/Turnoff; Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida v. South Florida Water Management District, et al., United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, Case No. 98-6056-CIV-Lenard/Klein; and Friends of the Everglades v. South Florida Water Management District, United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, Case No. 98-6057-CIV-Lenard/Klein.

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**18. Closed-door Session**

Attorney-client session pursuant to Fla. Stat. Section 286.011(8)(2005) to discuss strategy related to litigation expenditures in United States of America v. South Florida Water Management District, et al., United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, Case No. 88-1886-CIV-Moreno.

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**19. Adjourn**

Chair McCarty adjourned the meeting at 3:55 pm.

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Kevin McCarty  
Chairman  
South Florida Water Management District Governing Board

Recorded By:

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Cathy Widness  
Administrative Assistant Senior  
Governing Board and Executive Services  
SFWMD