LAKE BELT MITIGATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary
South Florida Water Management District
3301 Gun Club Road, (Bldg. B-1, 3rd Floor, Storch Room)
West Palm Beach, Florida 33406
This meeting was conducted as a teleconference call at (561) 682-6800
Meet-me number (855) 682-6800 - Meeting ID #999 918 659

Wednesday, September 29, 2020 9:30 AM

1. Call to Order by Jennifer Reynolds, Chair
   a) Meeting began at 9:30 AM

2. Attendees
   a) Committee Members
      1. Jennifer Reynolds, SFWMD
      2. Robert Progulske, USFWS (Teleconference)
      3. Dianne Rosensweig, USACE (Teleconference)
      4. Cecelia Harper, USEPA (Teleconference)
      5. Orlando Rivera, DEP (Teleconference)
      6. Jason Hight, FWCC (Teleconference)
      7. Craig Grossenbacher, DERM (Teleconference)
      8. Jeff Rosenfeld, MDLPA (ex-officio) (Teleconference)
   b) Other meeting attendees
      1. Robert Hopper, SFWMD
      2. Lourdes Elias, SFWMD
      3. Matthew Morrison, SFWMD
      4. Derek Brown, SFWMD
   c) Other teleconference attendees
      1. Alexis Carryl, SFWMD
      2. Ray Palmer, SFWMD
      3. Mindy Parrot, SFWMD
      4. Jesse VanEyk, SFWMD
      5. Michelle Quigley, SFWMD
      6. Julie Maytock, SFWMD
      7. Emily Canney, SFWMD
      8. Amy Morgan, DEP
      9. Jessica Duke, DEP
     10. Tom MacVicar, MDLPA
3. Approval of Minutes

Draft LBMC Meeting Minutes from August 25, 2020 were reviewed by the Committee members. The minutes were approved by Committee consensus, with no changes.

4. Sunshine Law – Derek Brown

Derek Brown made a presentation on the Sunshine Law from information compiled by the Office of the Attorney General. There was a discussion that all Committee meetings are noticed (including field trips) and that it would be helpful in the future for this information to be provided to new Committee members.

5. Submittal/Review of Invoices for Acceptance by LBMC and Dade-Broward Levee Structures Operations & Maintenance funding request – Robert Hopper / Jeff Rosenfeld

Per the Committee’s request at the August 2020 meeting, Jeff Rosenfeld discussed the invoice submittal/review/acceptance process, which was started approximately ten years ago because of the need to pay construction vendors for the L-31N seepage barrier project. The two invoices submitted for District review/approval in September were distributed to the Committee members as part of the meeting handouts and discussed as “typical” examples of water quality and Dade-Broward Levee hydrology monitoring invoices. It was decided that the invoice submittals would continue to be provided to the Committee as part of the handouts for next few meetings and the Committee would decide at a future meeting if they wanted to continue to be copied on all invoices. No invoices were ready to be accepted by the Committee at this meeting.

A motion to “Approve the expenditure of $19,179 for the operations and maintenance of the two new Dade-Broward Levee water control structures” was approved at the August 2020 Committee meeting. Per the Committee’s request, additional information on the scope of work and cost estimate was distributed to the Committee members as part of the handouts for the September 2020 meeting and discussed.


Ray Palmer provided information on the four small willing seller Pennsuco acquisitions (a total of 23.2 acres) that have been / will be approved by the SFWMD Governing Board this year. In addition, the 1,100-acre Cemex Pennsuco property acquisition, which was approved by the Committee in 2017, closed during July 2020. There was a discussion about the possibility of
other land acquisition outside of Pennsuco and it was decided that topic would be discussed in more detail at the next Committee meeting.

7. Project update – Sam Jones - Abiaki Prairie Mitigation Project – Robert Hopper

Robert Hopper discussed the next few months’ schedule for the Abiaki Prairie project. A Phase 2 construction request for bid solicitation was made by SFWMD during September, with an anticipated bid opening in October. It is planned that District Staff will present their recommendation to the SFWMD Governing Board in November and a notice to proceed will be issued in January. It is also planned that a Two-Party Agreement with the Miami-Dade Limestone Association will be presented to the SFWMD Governing Board in November.

An updated project cost estimate was presented and there was some discussion about how the project and cost estimate have changed since the Committee 2012 approval. More detail on the cost estimate and payment schedule will be presented at the next meeting, after the construction bids have been received.

8. Public Comment

None.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be scheduled in late February / early March, once a draft 2020 Annual Report is available to be reviewed by the Committee. More detailed information on the cost estimate and payment schedule for the Abiaki Prairie project will be discussed at the next meeting, as well as other possible Committee projects. It was mentioned that the Corps had sent a letter stating that continued water level monitoring was no longer necessary for the L-31N seepage barrier project. A summary of the project data will be presented at the next meeting.

10. Meeting Adjourned