

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 #993 745 836

Friday, July 15, 2016 9:00 AM

1. Call to Order by Terrie Bates, Chair

- a) Meeting began at 9:00 AM

2. Attendees

a) Committee Members

1. Terrie Bates, Chairperson, SFWMD
2. Krista Sabin, USACE (Teleconference)
3. Jane Herndon, DEP (Teleconference)
4. Craig Grossenbacher, DERM (Teleconference)
5. Eric Hughes, USEPA (Teleconference)
6. Robert Progulske, USFWS (Teleconference)
7. Jeff Rosenfeld, MDLPA (ex-officio)

b) Other meeting attendees

1. Robert Hopper, SFWMD
2. Lourdes Elias, SFWMD
3. Olga Serrano, SFWMD
4. Steve Coughlin, SFWMD
5. Tom MacVicar, MDLPA
6. Joan Lawrence, USDOJ
7. Steve Krupa, SFWMD

c) Other teleconference attendees

1. Howard Hayes, DEP
2. Alan Whitehouse, DEP
3. Katie Collins, DEP
4. John Fellows, USACE

3. Approval of Minutes

LBMC Meeting Minutes from April 19, 2015 were reviewed by the Committee members. The minutes were moved for approval by Robert Progulske, second by Eric Hughes. The minutes were approved by the Committee.

4. Submittal of Invoices for Acceptance by LBMC – Robert Hopper / Jeff Rosenfeld

Jeff Rosenfeld discussed the invoices submitted since the last Committee meeting and Robert Hopper presented a spreadsheet (copy attached) summarizing the invoices to be accepted by the Committee. These invoices included: 1) two Dade-Broward Levee Phase 1 invoices totaling \$14,666.31, 2) three L-31N Phase II invoices totaling \$2,558,197.17, 3) two Dade-Broward Levee Construction Monitoring Phase I invoices totaling \$371,554.90, and 4) one Lake Belt Water Quality Monitoring invoice for \$60,445.08. Total invoices approved were \$3,004,863.46. Robert Progulske moved to accept the invoices, Jane Herndon seconded the motion. The motion to accept the invoices was approved by the Committee. It was noted that the 3-mile L-31N seepage barrier construction costs were more than \$3,000,000 below the estimate approved by the Committee, due to savings on the trenching, barrier construction, and construction oversight contracts.

5. Project Status – L-31N Phase 2 and Dade-Broward Levee repair projects – Jeff Rosenfeld

Construction of the 3 additional miles of the L-31N seepage barrier was completed in April 2016. Jeff showed pictures of the construction and some 2016 monitoring results. The results show increased head differences after construction of the additional seepage barrier, but interpretation of the data is complicated due to a very wet dry season, S-356 back pumping, and

emergency operations which raised the stage in the Tamiami Canal and increased deliveries to Everglades National Park. Steve Krupa asked that the As-Built Report for the project be made available to the Committee agencies, so the project could be incorporated into District models.

The Dade-Broward Levee repair was started in May 2016 and is expected to be finished by the beginning of August. The Committee requested a site visit to the project in the fall.

6. Project Status – Pennsuco and C-139 Annex restoration projects – Robert Hopper

Robert summarized the process for the Pennsuco wetlands restoration and the 2015/2016 District land acquisitions.

Robert detailed the site information for the C-139 Annex restoration project, the maidencane harvesting and planting study, the status of Phase 1 construction activities and challenges, and the proposed schedule for Phase 2 construction. Terrie noted that the CERP Western Everglades Planning Project had recently been initiated and the C-139 Annex area would be evaluated in conjunction with that planning effort.

7. FY 16 Funding Requests – Jeff Rosenfeld

Three FY16 funding requests were considered by the Committee:

A. C-139 Annex restoration project: A motion was presented to “Approve the expenditure of \$5 million of additional funding for the C-139 Annex Restoration Project. At an estimated cost of \$15,248 per WRAP credit, this expenditure authorizes the award of 327.9 WRAP credits for 2016, subject to the final credit determination for the project.” It was discussed that this was the fifth annual payment (as proposed in the cash flow analysis discussed during the initial approval by the Committee in 2012) and that the LBMC funding was front-loaded to provide the estimated \$35 million needed for the restoration of the entire 14,100-acre project by 2017. Payments beyond 2017 would go toward reimbursing the District for the land acquisition costs. The credit award is based on the WRAP scoring approved by the Committee, which has not yet been finalized through Corps permitting. Bob Progulske moved to approve the motion and seconded by Eric Hughes. The motion to fund the C-139 Annex Restoration Project was approved by the Committee. Miami-Dade County voted against approval, all others were in favor.

B. Dade-Broward Levee Improvements: A motion was presented to "Approve funding for the proposed water control structures, construction management, hydrologic monitoring, and L-30 structure design/permitting with a total estimated project cost of \$3,100,000. The project funding would come from the transfer of \$59,043 from the DBL Phase 1 design account and \$3,040,957 from the Lake Belt Trust Fund."

The motion was moved by Craig Grossenbacher and seconded by Jane Herndon. The motion was approved unanimously by the Committee.

C. Water Quality Monitoring: A motion was presented to "Approve funding for the Lake Belt water quality monitoring program for October 2016 through September 2017 with a total estimated project cost of \$266,921." This estimate was based on the actual July 2015-June 2016 monitoring expenditures.

The motion was moved by Jane Herndon and seconded by Eric Hughes. The motion was approved unanimously by the Committee.

8. Public Comment

Joan Lawrence thanked District staff for their efforts in the Pennsuco restoration project.

9. Next Meeting Date

The Committee scheduled the next meeting for Friday, November 4, 2016, for a site visit to the Pennsuco wetlands and Dade-Broward Levee berm repair.

10. Meeting Adjourned