



South Florida Water Management District

Public Meeting to Discuss Regulatory Matters

January 19, 2011

10:00 a.m.

South Florida Water Management District - B-1 Storch Room
3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

MEETING MINUTES

Staff Present:

Tom Olliff, Assistant Executive Director
Terrie Bates, Assistant Deputy Executive Director, Regulatory and Public Affairs
Robert M. Brown, Director, Water Resource Regulation
Anthony Waterhouse, Deputy Director, Water Resource Regulation
Anita Bain, Director, Environmental Resource Permitting Division
Maria C. Clemente, Director, Water Use Regulation Division
Phil Flood, Director, Lower West Coast Service Center
Ricardo Valera, Regulatory Division Director, Lower West Coast Service Center
Jayne Bergstrom, Director, Martin/St. Lucie Service Center
Don Loving, Regulatory Division Director, Martin/St. Lucie Service Center
Ed Yaun, Regulatory Division Director, Orlando Service Center

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Assistant Executive Director, Tom Olliff at 10:03 a.m. Mr. Olliff greeted and reminded everyone that all comments are welcome and that all policy matters are discussed at the Governing Board meeting where there is a standing item on the agenda. Mr. Brown reviewed several procedural items and initiated contact with the Service Centers. There were no members of the public present at the Martin/St Lucie and Orlando Service Centers; there were four members of the public present at the Lower West Coast Service Center. There were four members of the public present at District Headquarters in West Palm Beach.

2. Applications of Heightened Public Concern Pending Final Action

There was no public comment regarding this item.

3. Applications of Heightened Public Concern Not Complete

Application 080103-6 Town of Big Cypress

Public Comment: Drew Martin representing the Sierra Club expressed concern regarding bear and panther habitat, and also recommended that the applicant move the proposed project to the north.

Mr. Brown responded that the status of the project continues to be on hold as the applicant is working with various agencies to address the panther issues.

Public Comment: Alex Larson expressed concern regarding the amount of water use.

Application 071101-3 Charlotte County Babcock Ranch Water Supply

Public Comment: Alex Larson expressed concerns regarding the amount of water use.

Application 090202-4 Lighthouse Pointe Docking Facilities

Public Comment: Drew Martin inquired regarding potential impact to seagrasses.

Ms. Bain responded that staff would review the application and follow up with him after the meeting.

Application 070313-15 Village of Wellington

Public Comment: Rosa Durando inquired about the purpose of this project.

Public Comment: Alex Larson expressed concern regarding water pumpage.

Public Comment: Drew Martin expressed concern regarding salt water intrusion and potential impacts to the Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge.

Ms. Clemente responded that this application is for renewal and the applicant is requesting an increase in allocation. This project is still under review; additional information has been requested by staff.

Application 070928-14 Canal Park Boat Launch

Public Comment: Drew Martin inquired regarding potential impact to seagrasses.

Ms. Bain responded that the project would not impact seagrasses, and anticipated that this application may be withdrawn in the future.

Application 090107-1 Crosstown Parkway Extension (Bridge over North Fork)

Public Comment: Drew Martin inquired regarding potential impact to seagrasses.

Ms. Bain responded that the project would not impact seagrasses.

Application 050330-10 Seacoast Utility Authority

Public Comment: Alex Larson expressed concern regarding the amount of water use and the quality of the water.

Application 100126-5 Hacienda Lakes

Public Comment: Brad Cornell representing Collier County Audubon Society and Audubon of Florida expressed concern regarding wetland impacts and the proposed mitigation plans. Mr. Cornell requested to view staff's UMAM scores and also objected to the Wilson Benfield Road extension.

Ms. Bain responded that the staff UMAM scores have not been finalized.

Public Comment: Amber Crooks representing the Conservancy of Southwest Florida expressed concern regarding wetland impacts, habitat and endangered species. She also expressed concern regarding the project location and its impact to the Florida Forever boundaries, changes to wetland hydro period, possible impacts to public well fields, increased human and wildlife interaction, adequate wetland preserve ratio and management of the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) upland areas. The Conservancy also opposes the extension of Wilson Benfield Road.

Public Comment: Nancy Payton representing Florida Wildlife Federation expressed concern regarding the Wilson Benfield Road extension as well as wetland and wildlife impacts.

Application 040830-22 Lemon Grove Mitigation Bank

Public Comment: Rosa Durando inquired regarding the location of the project.

Mr. Brown responded that it is located in northern Palm Beach County in Pal-Mar.

4. Public Comment on other Pending Permit Applications

Application 101213-9 Sabal Palm MSTU Lime-Rock Maintenance

Public Comment: Nancy Payton representing Florida Wildlife Federation expressed concern regarding potential impacts of fill procedures to improve the existing road. She requested this application be identified as heightened public concern.

Mr. Valera responded that staff met with Collier County and a request for additional information has been sent.

Mr. Brown requested that staff arrange a meeting with all relevant parties, including the Florida Wildlife Federation and Department of Environmental Protection.

Application 100308-3 Okeelanta Industrial Facility

Public Comment: Rosa Durando inquired if there are water quality monitoring requirements for the public water supply.

Ms. Clemente responded that the purpose of the application is for potable water use within the facility; it is not a public water utility.

Application 100824-35 Golden Gate Canal Supplemental Water Supply

Public Comment: Rosa Durando inquired if any Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) standards need to be met.

Mr. Harmon responded that this is surface water from the Golden Gate Canal being retrieved after injection and mixed with reclaimed water supply.

Application 990129-8 Mirasol Recharge Pump Facility

Alex Larson requested clarification of this application and its discharge into the C-18.

Mr. Waterhouse responded that this application is related to Seacoast Utility Authority and may be withdrawn.

5. Public Comment on General Regulatory Issues

Public Comment: Rosa Durando inquired if there had been a new permit issued for the extension of State Road 7.

Ms. Bain responded that an application has not yet been received.

Public Comment: Rosa Durando requested clarification on permits that list multiple land uses and inquired if there are a separate maximum allocations identified for each use.

Staff confirmed that there are maximum allocations identified for each use on one permit.

Public Comment: Alex Larson requested clarification regarding the agricultural land use listed on Permit 48-00135-W for Orange Lake Resort and Country Club.

Mr. Yaun responded that this permit includes an orange grove that is being irrigated and has a separate allocation.

Public Comment: Nora Mahoney, business owner in Riviera Beach expressed concern regarding businesses that are potentially impacting water quality by boat washing without the proper drainage, and improper discharge of gas, oils and various chemicals. Ms. Mahoney stated she has contacted various departments within the City of Riviera Beach but has not received a suitable response.

Mr. Waterhouse requested that Ms. Mahoney provide him the list of contacts she has reached out to, and committed that the District's compliance staff will follow up on the issue.

Public Comment: Drew Martin expressed general concern regarding Collier County development and potential impacts to habitat, endangered species and wetlands. Mr. Martin also expressed concern regarding the use of UMAM.

Public Comment: Alex Larson expressed concern regarding FPL's plan to build a power plant in Broward. Ms. Larson also inquired about a permit possibly issued to Pembroke Pines which would allow discharge of reclaimed water into the Biscayne Aquifer.

Ms. Bates responded that DEP is reviewing an application for reclaimed water use which would be separate from a potential consumptive water use application submitted to the District.

Adjourn

Mr. Olliff adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.