



**PALM BEACH COUNTY
WATER RESOURCES
TASK FORCE MEETING**



**Clayton Hutcheson Agricultural Center
559 N. Military Trail
West Palm Beach, FL 33415**

**April 16, 2015
1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum was announced and Chair Jay Foy called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Members Present:

Jay Foy (Chair), MaryLou Berger, John Flanigan, Dave Stewart, Jim Shallman, Matt Willhite, Scott Kelly, Ted Winsberg, Mike Mullaugh, Jeff Hmara, Adrian Salee, Jason Haselkorn

Alternates Present:

Dick Tomasello, Chip Block, Paulette Burdick

Members not Present:

Jim Alderman

Alternates not Present:

Scott Maxwell, Dawn Pardo, John Whitworth, Jonathan Pearce, David Levy, Brandon Selle,

WRTF Working Group Present:

Ken Todd (Chair), Pete Kwiatkowski, Darrel Graziani, Paul Schofield, Pat Painter

County Staff Present:

Dana Ackerman-White, Jocelyn Colon, Bonnie Finneran, Natalie Schneider, Julie Mitchell

Guests Present:

Richard Radcliffe, Don Mathis, Jeff Koons, Barbara Powell, Jeff Hiscock, Alan Wertepny, Jayantha Obeysekera, Karen Brandon, Andrea Rinne, Scott Harder, Michael Cox, Neil Johnson, Albert Carbon, Tim Smith, Sean O'Keefe, Michael Wood, John Morgan, Myra Koutzen, Nancy Schneider, Penni Redford, Dodi Glas, Poonam Kalkat, John Morgan

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 1-15-15 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Election of Officers

MaryLou Berger moved to keep Jay Foy as Chair for another year. It was seconded by Matt Willhite and passed unanimously. Jay Foy moved to keep Matt Willhite as Vice Chair and it was seconded by Adrian Salee, It also passed unanimously. Dave Stewart moved to keep MaryLou Berger as President ProTem for another year and it was seconded by Jeff Hmara.

Ken Todd reminded the Task Force members and that the six League of Cities' representatives and alternates will need to be reappointed by the League of Cities and then to reapply and be reappointed by the BCC to stay on the Task Force per the Resolution as their appointments expire on September 30th of this year. The County Commission representatives will just need to be reappointed by the BCC. The other seven members' appointments don't expire until September 30th of 2016 and therefore will not need to go through this process until next year.

V. Selection of 2016 Meeting Dates

Ken Todd presented possible meeting dates to the Task Force members for 2016 for their consideration. Those dates are January 21st, April 21st, July 21st, and October 20th. All meetings will be on Thursday and will start at 1:30 p.m. The preference of the Task Force is to continue to meet at the Clayton Hutcheson Ag center. Ken will start the process of securing those dates.

IV. FEMA Mapping Update

Ken Todd, Palm Beach County

Ken Todd made a brief presentation on the status of the FEMA maps. He said the 90 day appeal period ended earlier this month and FEMA's Consultant is reviewing the data sent in by many of the stakeholders. They will address each and every appeal and once all the appeals have been addressed they will then deem the maps complete. Municipalities and the County will then have six months to adopt the maps. When the maps are adopted, the new flood insurance rates will kick in.

Ken also mentioned that many of the stakeholders are exploring the idea of doing their own maps in the future. This has been discussed with FEMA and they will be supportive of the effort if the group decides to move forward. Ken mentioned that he will be convening the stakeholder group in about a month to start developing the program. There are three components that will need to be placed in the program: (1) New LiDAR flown in some areas of the County, (2) Accomplishing some H&H (Hydrological and Hydraulic) studies in some areas of the County, and (3) Revising the FEMA maps to reflect the new data. The purpose of the meeting will be to find out who wants to participate in such a venture and to start to develop the framework for the new program. He encouraged all entities that are interested in such an effort to come to the meeting.

V. Palm Beach County Responds to Climate Change

**Dr. Jayantha Obeysekera, SFWMD
Julie Mitchell, PBC ERM**

Dr. Obeysekera gave a technical presentation on climate change. He discussed natural climate cycles, the effects of La Nina, the regional water management levels and how all of these would all affect our climate. He discussed briefly sea level rise and how we need to carefully follow the trends of sea level rise for each area within the jurisdiction of SFWMD. Dr. Obeysekera went on to explain that sea level rise will cause the salt water interface to move inland and wellfields could be impacted by this inland migration of the interface.

Julie Mitchell then gave a short presentation on the efforts of the Four County Compact on Climate Change. She discussed the County's Comprehensive Plan and a vulnerability analysis that the County completed for its critical facilities. She then introduced Natalie Schneider who was recently hired by the county as the Climate Change Coordinator. It will be her job to coordinate climate change efforts with all County Departments. Julie asked the WRTF to consider establishing a Climate sub-committee. After much discussion as to whether or not that fit into the mission of the Task Force, it was decided that a sub-committee was not part of the mission of the WRTF nor did the WRTF have the resources to accomplish that request. Commissioner Berger suggested that County staff get together to decide how best to support the Climate Change Mission.

VI. City of WPB Water Supply Planning

Scott Kelly, City of WPB

Scott Kelly gave a presentation updating the City of West Palm Beach water supply plan. Scott indicated that the City gets 50% of their water from Lake Okeechobee. He went on to say that in an effort to drought proof the city as much as possible the City was installing alternative water supplies, such as, capturing water discharged to tide, creating an aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) system and developing a western wellfield. He stated that the issues the City experienced with the 2011 drought would not have occurred had some of these measures been in place at that time. Finally, he said the city is also evaluating some other long term alternatives that may be beneficial in the future. One last item that he discussed was that the City is working with the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration PDT in regard to Flow-Way 1's role in the overall Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Plan.

VII. Water Supply Article Discussion

Jay Foy, Task Force Chair

An article on the cost of water and setting a price on water for users was passed out to the WRTF members and discussed. After some discussion, it was decided that the idea was not one the WRTF wanted to pursue.

VIII. Public Comments

Barbara Powell, Water Resource Manager for Broward County, stated that Broward County is starting a Stormwater Working Group to discuss projects that improve drainage within the County. She also mentioned that the County is initiating a Climate Change Indicators Working Group. Finally, she said that Broward County has passed a Resolution supporting the C-51 Reservoir Project and encouraged Palm Beach County and the Municipalities to do likewise.

IX. Task Force Member Comments

Jay Foy, PBC WRTF Chair

There were no Task Force member comments.

X. Next Meeting Agenda

Jay Foy, PBC WRTF Chair

July 16, 2015 is the next scheduled meeting date at the Clayton Hutcheson Exhibit Hall.

XI. Adjournment

Jay Foy, PBC WRTF Chair

There being no further business, Chair Foy adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.