



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



**Lake Worth Drainage District
Delray Beach, FL**

**September 16, 2010
1:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was delayed by about twenty minutes because of a traffic accident that occurred on Military Trail causing several participants to arrive late. A quorum was announced and Vice-Chair David Levy called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Lake Worth Drainage District.

Members Present:

David Levy (Vice-Chair), Jay Foy (Chair Pro-Temp), John Flanigan, Jim Alderman, Betty Bingham, Dr. Albrey Arrington, Priscilla Taylor, Dave Stewart (Alt. for Steve Wilson), Ted Winsberg (Alt. for Steve Bedner), Terrie Bates (Alt. for SFWMD)

Alternates Present:

John Whitworth, David Brown, Dick Tomasello

Members not Present:

Carmine Priore, Steve Bedner, Steve Wilson, Mike Erickson

Alternates not Present:

Shelley Vana, Susan Haynie, Scott Maxwell, Michael Dahlgren, Dennis Lipp

WRTF Working Group Present:

Ken Todd (Chair), Mike Baker, Pete Kwiatkowski, John Bonde, Linda Brien

County Staff Present:

Tom Miller, Bevin Beaudet, Brian shields, Larry Johnson, Bonnie Finneran

Guests Present:

Laura Corry, Patrick Martin, Alan Wertepny, Paul Millar, Adrian Salee, Craig Kruempel, Dr. Jennifer Jurado, Patrick Hayes, Carol Connolly, Thomas Mullin, Ron Crone, Rosemary Rayman, John Wodraska, Ernie Cox, John Shearer, Megan Hanney, Dan Beatty, Melissa Wheelihan, Tony Las Casas, Don Mathis

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Jay Foy and seconded by Jim Alderman to approve the 7-22-10 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

III. NPDES Presentation – Alan Wertepny, NPDES Coordinator for Palm Beach County

Alan gave a presentation on what the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program is and identified the 41 co-permittees to the NPDES draft permit that was received in July. It's a progressive permit in that PBC is the pilot permit for the rest of the state. Alan then provided an overview of new permit requirements for all NPDES permits and indicated that the state is being pressured by EPA to add additional requirements. It will be mid-February next year (2011) before the final draft is complete. Program areas are expanding and there has been a plan implementation added in order to achieve TMDL reduction goals. The bottom line is that the new permit requirements will increase reporting, increase personnel, and will increase a commitment of limited resources at considerable cost for each co-permittee.

VII. Future of the Task Force– David Levy, PBC WRTF Vice-Chair

Vice-Chair David Levy led a discussion on the future of the Task Force. David read the Mission statement that was agreed upon by the WRTF at the initial meeting back in February 2009. David asked if there were any changes needed to the Mission statement. After some discussion, there was consensus that the Mission statement will remain as written.

The Vice-Chair then asked the WRTF members to consider the purview of the Task Force and suggested that the group may want to consider having the focus of the Task Force being that of mainly water supply issues. Albrey then asked if he believed water supply for the environment was included in that definition. David said no. There was disagreement voiced by Jim Alderman. He believed that by having the mission include the environment, it would give the Task Force an opportunity to solve problems they might not otherwise have known existed (i.e., L-8 Pilot Project, C-51 Reservoir, etc.). Jay Foy also disagreed and suggested that water supply needs cannot stand alone. He described the mission as a 3-legged stool that includes environment and flood control, even if one were trying to promote water supply. Betty Bingham also disagreed with the water supply only position. The WRTF agreed to keep all freshwater supply issues as their purview, including environmental, flood protection and water supply. They did not want to take up ocean issues as other committees and initiatives address those issues.

The Vice-Chair then asked the members about future expectations of the WRTF. Jay mentioned that the WRTF needed to have issues brought before the BCC with good communication and passion since the purpose of the WRTF was to advise the BCC on water resource issues. Otherwise, Jay said the WRTF might as well ask, "What's the use". Jim Alderman suggested that Commissioner Taylor could be the voice of the WRTF to the BCC. Commissioner Taylor said that although she could provide communication to the BCC, she would need further education on water issues before she felt comfortable with the subject matter. Terry Bates then asked if there is a procedure whereby the BCC has a monthly report presented to them by the WRTF. The answer was no. Commissioner Taylor also indicated that this committee was one of 90 such committees established by the BCC. Working Group Chair Ken Todd mentioned that he had been asked by Commissioner Koons to provide an annual report to BCC which was just done a few months ago for the first year of this Task Force's existence. Commissioner Taylor indicated that the WRTF should just stick with an annual report to the BCC unless some pressing issue is recognized by WRTF that is needed to be brought before the BCC. Ken also suggested that he could provide the latest copy of minutes to BCC once approved by the WRTF. That would help keep the BCC informed of the activities and concerns of the WRTF. There was consensus that WRTF move forward with this concept of reporting to the BCC.

David Stewart said that with the new ethics policies, perhaps the Task Force should look at how this group is made up. Perhaps the Task Force should operate under the County's Water Resource Manager, Ken Todd with no formal committee structure. John Flanigan said he wants to keep it in the sunshine as a committee. David Levy agreed, saying the WRTF needs to be sanctioned by BCC so what the Task Force says has credibility and meaning. Ken Todd indicated that he could call meetings informally to provide information to the BCC, but that it would be more credible if the information came from the WRTF as a sanctioned diverse group of stakeholders. It was mentioned by Commissioner Taylor that the BCC would be having a meeting on September 28th to discuss this issue. Jim Alderman wants to discuss with the County attorneys the idea of taking the Working Group out of sunshine. Bevin Beaudet agreed to come to the 28th meeting to ask that specific question. By consensus, all agreed to have the WRTF remain a Task Force under the original Resolution.

Public Comments:

Bevin Beaudet said that he was speaking as person who conceived this Task Force. He said it was originally intended to make people aware of the water resource issues and develop positions for decision making. He said he wanted to congratulate all the WRTF members for what they had accomplished in their first year. He believed it is a wonderful thing to be as informed about issues as they are and to have helped staff and PBC move forward. He just wanted to say thank you and was glad they are continuing to move forward as a Task Force.

Pat Martin said LWDD believes they can move the quantity of water from north to south with the C-51 Reservoir project. He said that water quality is an important aspect to the project and that it will be a challenge to get from the C-51 Reservoir to Broward and meet the water quality standard set by Broward County. He believes this issue needs to be looked at in detail.

Jennifer Jurado of Broward County said she agreed that the water quality issues can't be dismissed. She said the Hillsboro Canal is impaired for nutrients and there is no firm understanding of what the nutrients are that will be coming from the C-51 Basin. However, Broward is looking to support the project and wish to work through those issues. She thought that by expressing the desire to resolving these issues while defining the project at the same time would demonstrate their support. Ken Todd indicated that based on these discussions he would have SFWMD, the Utilities Coalition, Broward County and LWDD get together to prepare the agenda for the joint meeting on January 14th.

John Whitworth also wanted the PBC Task Force to help develop the agenda of the upcoming joint meeting with Broward so that the Broward WRTF and the PBC WRTF both have parts of the agenda and that it not be a political meeting. John then said LWDD would like to offer Commissioner Taylor the opportunity to take her on a site visit of the L-8 & C-51 Reservoir Projects so she would be better informed of the issues.

David Levy then brought up the issue of elections. It was mentioned that the WRTF is scheduled to have an election at their next meeting for the offices of Chair, Vice-Chair and Chair Pro-Temp. David asked for a show of hands expressing interest in being the Chair of the Task Force. There were two hands raised. It was agreed that at the next meeting when the elections are held, there will first be a discussion on how to hold the elections (i.e., show of hands, secret ballot, etc.) for all three offices. After that discussion is completed, then there will be nominations from the floor and the voting will be done immediately thereafter.

Next Meeting Agenda:

The WRTF asked for an update of the C-51 Reservoir at the next WRTF meeting in preparation for the joint meeting with Broward in January. Jennifer Jurado indicated the joint Broward/PB meeting is scheduled for January 14th. She said that the PBC WRTF had indicated willingness to travel to north Broward County (like last year's meeting) so she has secured the Coconut Creek Community Center again for the upcoming joint meeting this January. She said the main subject will be the C-51 Reservoir and efforts to obtain regional feasibility.

Another item to be added to the agenda is an update on the NPDES Permit.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, Vice-Chair Levy adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Next Scheduled PBC WRTF Meeting

**November 18, 2010
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District
357 Hiatt Drive
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418
Phone 561-624-7830**