



South Florida Water Management District

BIG CYPRESS BASIN BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2013

8:00 AM

Big Cypress Basin Service Center
Naples, FL 34104

| Attendee Name | Title | Status | Arrived |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| John Vaughn | | Late | 8:44 AM |
| Daniel DeLisi | Chair | Present | |
| Rick Barber | | Present | |
| David Farmer | Secretary | Present | |
| Alice Carlson | Vice Chair | Present | |
| Ralph Haskins | | Present | |

Call to Order - Dan DeLisi, Chairman, Big Cypress Basin Board

Mr. DeLisi called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM.

Pledge of Allegiance - Dan DeLisi, Chairman, Big Cypress Basin Board

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DeLisi introduced Ms. Lisa Koehler, the new Big Cypress Basin Administrator.

Ms. Koehler thanked Mr. DeLisi and the Board and looks forward to continuing working with our partners in the community.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Minutes for the November 7, 2012, Big Cypress Basin Board Regular Meeting.

Approve Minutes

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| RESULT: | ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | David Farmer, Alice Carlson |
| SECONDER: | Rick Barber |
| AYES: | DeLisi, Barber, Farmer, Carlson, Haskins |
| ABSENT: | Vaughn |

Agenda Addendum - Lisa Koehler, Administrator, Big Cypress Basin Service Center

There were no changes to the Agenda.

Abstentions by Board Members from Items on the Agenda

There were no abstentions.

Resolution BCBB 2013-200

BCBB-2013-200 A Resolution of the Big Cypress Basin Board in recognition and appreciation of Mayor John F. Sorey, III, former Big Cypress Basin Board Member.

Mr. DeLisi thanked Mr. Sorey for his dedication to public service as a Board member of the BCB.

Mr. Sorey commented on the importance of the BCB Board; and wished the Board continued success.

Approve Resolution BCB 2013-200

This item was approved after Agenda Item 14.

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| RESULT: | ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Rick Barber |
| SECONDER: | John Vaughn |
| AYES: | Vaughn, DeLisi, Barber, Farmer, Carlson, Haskins |

Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Update - Jayantha Obeysekera, Chief Engineer, Hydrologic and Environmental Services Modeling Section

Mr. Jayantha Obeysekera (Obey) Chief Hydrologic Modeler presented a comprehensive overview of the science of global climate change and sea level rise, with particular emphasis on the probable impact on the District's flood control and environmental resources protection infrastructures. Obey reviewed the major climate change drivers from both the natural and human induced cycles.

The potential District impacts are:

- Flood control - impacts from increased storm surge,
- Water Supply - drought and salt water intrusion,
- Natural system - both coastal and interior flora and fauna.

Obey also reviewed the range of sea level rise projected by the National Climate

Assessment which ranges is between 0.6 feet to four feet. The District's pump stations would be adapted for rising seas where feasible. An example of this effort is the new pump station at S-26 which has the ability to forward pump. Obey presented a 2009 map of saltwater showing potential intrusion and inundation and collapse of freshwater wetlands in the southern coasts. Development of the baseline saltwater intrusion has been completed and will be updated every 5 years. He presented a 250 mg/l isochlor map of the saltwater interface in the Lower Tamiami Aquifer along the Collier coastline, based on the 2009 monitoring data.

The District participates in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and is working closely with BCB engineers and modelers to initiate modeling of saltwater intrusion inundation and collapse of freshwater wetlands in the southern coasts.

A Big Cypress Basin report on the Saltwater Encroachment Monitoring Network Improvement Plan (with assistance from USGS) is pending. The report assesses the need for new wells, improvement in the sampling techniques, improved data access and understanding of geochemistry.

BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Farmer commented on the need to monitor saltwater intrusion annually and discussed the need for pumps to protect from sea level rise. Obey responded that pumps could be the best option for protection and clarified that the District has been monitoring groundwater level continually, but a map of the saltwater interface is produced every five years.

Consideration for Adoption of Big Cypress Basin Strategic Plan 2013 - 2018 - Lisa Koehler, Administrator, Big Cypress Basin Service Center

Ms. Koehler presented the Big Cypress Basin Strategic Plan 2013 - 2018, outlining changes incorporated into the plan based upon input from the Board under each of the programs, Flood Control, Natural Systems and Water Quality, Water Supply and Mission Support.

Mr. DeLisi requested a change be made to the success indicator for Natural Systems as it relates to the implementation of the Northern Golden Gate Estates Flowway and North Belle Meade restoration project.

Adoption of Big Cypress Basin Strategic Plan 2013 - 2018

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| RESULT: | ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | Alice Carlson, Vice Chair |
| SECONDER: | David Farmer, Secretary |
| AYES: | Vaughn, DeLisi, Barber, Farmer, Carlson, Haskins |

Discussion of Big Cypress Basin Fund Balance

DISTRICT AND BASIN BUDGET OVERVIEW - DOUG BERGSTROM, DIVISION DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Mr. Bergstrom presented the BCB fund balance beginning with a revenue history

of millage rates from Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 and explained the revenue drop for the entire District from FY11, FY12 and FY13. The District delayed some projects and reduced staff and contracts to meet the budget reductions in FY11; in FY12 the District realigned and reduced outside contractors. The BCB also saw a reduction in millage in FY11, FY12 and remained level in FY13.

The District's FY13 adopted budget and recurring ad valorem and one time balances totaled \$436.4 million which includes \$7.8 million for local agreements. Mr. DeLisi clarified that some funding in the District's FY13 budget is dedicated to projects in Collier County to provide funding that the reduced BCB budget could not finance.

Mr. Bergstrom presented the emergency reserves and the purpose of the reserves. The level of the reserve is consistent with governmental practices in Florida as well as Collier County and City of Naples. In setting the reserve limit the District considers predictability of revenues, volatility of expenditures, potential exposure to disasters, capital needs or other one-time expenditures. Additionally, Mr. Bergstrom explained the \$50 million emergency reserve is dedicated for emergency response and the BCB portion of the reserve is \$760,400.

Future operations and maintenance cost estimates across the District are projected to rise from \$3 million to \$26 million from FY13 through FY22. Mr. Bergstrom presented the costs for the Picayune Strand project from FY13 through FY22 which is estimated to range between \$1.5 million to \$3.5 million per year.

BOARD COMMENT

Mr. Farmer discussed the electronic monitoring that is proposed for Picayune Strand.

REVIEW OF BASIN CAPITAL PROJECTS - JEFF KIVETT, BUREAU CHIEF, ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BUREAU

Mr. Kivett presented a review of the Basin Capital projects which includes:

- Structure inspection program
- Capital Projects
- Fall protection
- CIFER (Capital Improvement Field Equipment Replacement)
- 28th Ave. Culvert Replacement
- Corkscrew Canal Improvements
- Miller Weir number 3
- Golden Gate Canal Weir number 4
- Faka Union Weir number 6 and 7
- Other Capital Projects:
 - BCB Field Station
 - Henderson Creek Diversion

Mr. DeLisi, the Board and staff discussed the relocation of the field station, combining the service center and field station and expediting the project.

Mr. DeLisi would like the Request for Proposal (RFP) to include a heavy scale for

local contractors.

The Board discussed the current service center and the importance of the proximity to local government and the ease for the public and weighing the budget. Mr. Barber recently visited the St. Cloud Field Station and commented that a smaller version of the structure would be appropriate for the BCB. Mr. Farmer commented that the close proximity to Collier County's offices is a positive for the public.

Mr. Haskins commented on the new location and is in favor of combining the service center and field station.

After receiving the verbal support of the board members, Mr. Kivett stated he and his staff would begin the RFP process for the new field station and expedite the project.

The District is currently reviewing the Henderson Creek Diversion capital project including land acquisition to divert excess flow from Golden Gate Canal to Henderson Creek Canal. The project is scheduled from FY14-FY16.

Mr. Kivett reviewed the potential capital cash flow and the schedule.

Mr. DeLisi inquired regarding the US Army Corps of Engineers reimbursement schedule. Mr. Kivett explained the offset occurs a full year after operations begin to allow for repairs. The District requests the offset on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Bergstrom presented a re-cap of the original 10-year forecast and an option of a less aggressive capital improvement program shown in the PowerPoint presentation:

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|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Recurring Revenue | \$111.2 million |
| Fund Balance (one-time) | \$ 14.7 million |
| Total Revenue | \$125.9 million |
| Recurring Expenses | \$ 79.6 million |
| Capital projects | \$ 29.3 million |
| Intergovernmental | \$ 3.9 million |
| Total Expenses | \$112.8 million |
| Forecasted Surplus | \$ 13.1 million |

Mr. Bergstrom also indicated that \$40 million for the Picayune Strand Restoration Project, such as the manatee mitigation/protection and some flood mitigation features had been removed as per the Executive Directors commitment made at a previous meeting. Additionally the FY14 tentative budget submitted to the Governor included the District's contribution of \$12.3M toward infrastructure in Picayune and is subject to approval by the legislature, will be included in the District's FY14 budget.

BOARD COMMENT

Ms. Carlson pointed out that if they adopted option two for a capital improvement program schedule, it would give some flexibility for local project funding but it would have to be reduced.

The Board discussed the BCB reserve and building the reserve up after projects are completed and saving administrative costs.

Mr. Farmer discussed the sale of the current BCB service center and the potential of future revenues.

Mr. Vaughn commented on emergency funding predications based on climate change impact to storms. Obey responded that storms do have a natural change

in severity and frequency however, climate change may increase the frequency of additional funds.

Mr. Barber presented his recommendations on future spending:

- The FY14 tentative budget include O&M enhancements, which include a new tow boat and increased vegetation management
- Restoration operations should be reviewed closely as he felt Picayune vegetation and monitoring is part of the construction permit and wondered if it was a Basin obligation or one the District should take over. He suggested Ms. Koehler work with the Executive Director on this
- Recommendation to hire successor to Ananta Nath now to capture the valuable institutional knowledge
- Recommended accelerate field station construction
- Recommended staff bring more information back on Henderson Creek regarding its' effectiveness before we move forward with this project (2:17)
- Recommendation to surplus Lake Trafford spoil site
- In summary, Mr. Barber stated that he recommends the proposed tentative budget as submitted by Mr. Bergstrom with the exception that a new FTE be added temporarily to accommodate Ananta's replacement being on board. He continued by stating that essentially the spend down plan is taken care of without many local projects and will need to be determined on a year by year decision by the board.

Ms. Koehler was directed to contact HR to start the recruitment process for a new hire to work with and replace Ananta Nath when he retires.

General Public Comment

Brad Cornell, Collier County and Florida Audubon, thanked the Board for keeping informed on the topic of sea level rise and is in favor of the Henderson Creek Diversion project and would like to see some of the water allocated to re-hydrate wetlands. Mr. Cornell encouraged the District to be engaged in the RESTORE Act (Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force) process.

Mr. DeLisi commented on the District's involvement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Legislature and commented that the National Estuary Program (NEP) is not the only avenue to find funding.

Michael Ramsey, President, Golden Gates Estates Civic Association, commented on the need for District's staff knowledge to continue without a gap and the importance of the BCB Board to be involved with the hydrology of the Basin. Mr. Ramsey is concerned with funding of the Picayune Strand project and the Golden Gate Estates.

Big Cypress Basin Financial and Budget Status Reports - Lisa Koehler, Administrator, Big Cypress Basin Service Center

Ms. Koehler provided the BCB Financial and Budget Status Reports.

Field Station Activity Report - Chris Doherty, Superintendent Big Cypress Basin Field Station

Mr. Doherty provided the BCB field station report and gave a presentation on the recently purchased Conver boat. This is a smaller boat used to clean vegetation in the canals. When larger boats are needed BCB will utilize them from other areas of the District. Mr. Doherty presented pictures of the boat, staff training and utilization of the boat's bucket and rake. The boat is able to travel under low bridges and in shallow water and can be launched by one person.

Basin Administrator Report - Lisa Koehler, Administrator, Big Cypress Service Center

Ms. Koehler provided the Basin Administrator Report and commented on the current canal levels which are far above historical levels for this time of year.

Ms. Koehler also reported that a link to BCB canal system has been added to the Basin's website. This will aid in better information being provided to our board members and the public.

Ms. Koehler advised the board that she will be working with our partners in the coming month to ascertain their needs and will bring the information back to the board.

Board Comment

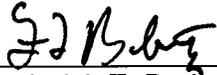
Mr. Bartolone brought forward the need to pass the resolution for Mr. Sorey, Item #6.

Adjourn

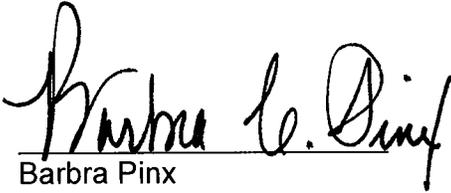
Mr. DeLisi adjourned the meeting at 11:03 AM.

Adjourn

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| RESULT: | ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS] |
| MOVER: | David Farmer, Secretary |
| SECONDER: | John Vaughn |
| AYES: | Vaughn, DeLisi, Barber, Farmer, Carlson, Haskins |



Frederick T. Barber, III
Big Cypress Basin Board Chairman
South Florida Water Management District



Barbra Pinx
Administrative Assistant Staff
South Florida Water Management District