

Central Florida Water Initiative

TOHO Water Authority
951 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Kissimmee, Florida 34741

Friday, January 27, 2012
10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Meeting Minutes:

(All presentations made to the Steering Committee have been posted on cfwiwater.com.)

1. Introductions

- a. Self introductions of Steering Committee (SC) and audience
- b. Call in number provided for interested parties to listen to discussion

2. Previous Meeting Summary

- a. Minutes accepted as presented

3. Schedule (CFWI Key Component Status attached)

- a. USGS Technology Protocol
 - Akin Owosina reported the USGS model Technology Transfer Protocol in place and finalized in January 2012. The protocol provides for an early review of preliminary model output prior to model completion.
 - Two 2-day workshops will be held to review model: March 22-23 and April 18-19
 - Additional workshops may be scheduled depending on the need
 - Andy O'Reilly, USGS, confirmed the HAT's objective and the USGS's willingness to meet schedules and did not foresee any major issues.
 - Akin said that between now and March 22, USGS model test runs were being reviewed which might identify opportunities to recover lost time.
- b. HAT schedule

- Current slippage (two weeks) is expected to have no impact on overall schedule
- Future scenarios were discussed based on a range of potential outcomes including the initial usability of the model which might delay the effort up to three months.
- Akin reported by mid-May the HAT should know where the effort will end. He will provide an update at the next SC meeting.

4. Myregion.org: “Creating a Regional Water Strategy for Central Florida”

- Paul Senft, SC member, explained the myregion.org effort that has taken place over the past three years and the opportunity for this effort to support the goals of the CFWI. This is a “unique opportunity to address the biggest challenge to growth in Central Florida- our long term water needs”. Specifically, with outreach and coordination with the business community and the local elected officials.
- Shelley Lauten, President, myregion.org, explained that it was the feeling of the Congress of Regional Leaders (CRL) that water supply was the single greatest challenge to sustainable and orderly growth in Central Florida. They directed that a regional water strategy rather than a community by community approach was needed to avoid costly and unproductive litigation over water, especially by local governments.
- The Steering Committee discussed the next steps requested by the CRL specifically, that myregion.org serve as the regional champion and more formally integrate their efforts with those of the CFWI.
- SC agreed to crosslink CFWI website with myregion.org and requested same by myregion.org.
- Shelley Lauten will work with the Management Oversight Committee through John Shearer to more formally outline how these efforts can be coordinated. She or others from the myregion team was requested to attend future SC meetings.

5. Issues

- a. Regional Water Supply Plan for CFWI

- Tom Bartol reviewed progress on establishing the consolidated RWSP for the CFWI.
- The schedule is compressed and needs to match the statutory timelines for the RWSP process. Major milestone is to complete the resource assessment by September 2012.
- Question was asked about the status of the St. John River water supply assessment study. Tom explained the results would be presented to the SJRWMD Governing Board soon and he would brief the SC after his Board accepts report.
- Some concern expressed that population projections and demand estimates be consistent since they comprise the critical input to the modeling efforts. Follow up with the Management Oversight Committee and report back at the next SC meeting on developing the methodology for uniform demand projections.

b. Groundwater Availability Team

- Dave Fisk led the discussion and explained that the efforts of this team are based on integration of other CFWI team deliverables.
- The GAT scope is still a preliminary draft but will be finalized at the next Steering Committee meeting
- “Environmental evaluation measures” will be established based on FAC Chapter 62-40, Water Resource Implementation Rule.
- GAT will work through MOC/TOC to develop policy options for SC review of:
 - uniform definition for hydrologic harm caused by hydrologic change to wetlands, surface waters and groundwater, to include:
 - i. recognition of the inherent uncertainty in predicting environmental impacts
 - ii. need for a protocol to index of the “risk” of environmental impacts
 - iii. overall regional effects and trends rather than localized “pass/fail” type methodologies
 - iv. consider the balance between financial cost and environmental benefit of different scenarios.

- Unified process for environmental review of water supply alternatives and CUPs/WUPs (unless superseded by the current FDEP process).
- SC requested a progress report at their next meeting.
- The initial groundwater availability estimate is expected to be presented through the Steering Committee after 8/31/2012 The

6. Open Discussion

- SC directed the MOC be responsible to keep the CFWI Guidance document current and handle minor updates in a routine manner. Not necessary to bring to the SC.
- Major updates are to be vetted through the MOC with final review and approval by the SC.

7. Public Comments

- No comments

8. Next meeting

March 23, 2012
10:00 AM- 12:30 PM
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9. Adjourn by 12:30 PM