

# Central Florida Water Initiative

TOHO Water Authority  
Friday, January 30, 2015

## Meeting Summary

*(All presentations made to the Steering Committee have been posted on [cfwiwater.com](http://cfwiwater.com).)*

1. Introductions
  - a. Steering Committee members present: Drew Bartlett (FDEP), Michael Babb (SWFWMD, via telephone, Brian Wheeler (TOHO Water), John Miklos (SJRWMD), Rich Buddell (DACS)
  - b. Steering Committee members absent: Dan O'Keefe (SWFWMD)
  - c. Members of the audience introduced themselves and the sign in sheet for those in attendance has been posted to the website.
2. Consent Items
  - a. The December 19, 2014 Meeting Summary was approved.
  - b. Update to the Operational Procedures in the Guidance Document were approved.
3. Minimum Flows & Levels/ Reservation
  - a. Len Lindahl provided the following update to the Kissimmee River reservation
    - WRAC and Governing Board and updates
      - January 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, respectively
    - Public comment on rule draft
      - Period extended and linked to technical draft
      - SWFWMD's web site provides information
    - Technical Publication draft- to be delivered in February
    - Additional workshops in February / March
    - Prepare Statement of Estimated Costs
    - On schedule for 2015 adoption
  - b. Len Lindahl provided the following update the SJRWMD MFLs
    - The St. Johns River at SR520 (Lake Poinsett)
      - Technical report and peer review are complete
      - New MFL rulemaking planned to begin in summer 2015
    - Upper Ocklawaha River Basin (UORB)
      - Lake Apopka is scheduled for rule adoption in 2015.
    - Other waterbodies outside of CFWI, but within the ECFT model domain.
      - Initiate rulemaking in late 2015
      - Refining surface water models

- Intensive stakeholder/peer review panel process
- c. Len Lindahl provided the following update the SWFWMD MFLs
- Lake Hancock
    - New MFL and a reservation expected in 2015.
    - Reservation to be developed for water stored in the lake through the Lake Hancock Lake Level Modification project to aid in the recovery of MFLs for the upper Peace River.
  - Other Lake MFLs
    - Six MFLs proposed for reevaluation by the end of 2015 (Clinch, Crooked, Eagle, McLeod, Starr, Wales)
    - Applying methodological enhancements, including hydrologic modeling approaches that were not previously used for adoption of the MFLs to improve consistency and support solution efforts.

#### 4. Data Monitoring & Investigation Team

- a. Chris Sweazy, Team Leader, provided a cost and schedule to accomplish the work plan's completion in a five year period. Chris stated the work plan is based on the "minimum option" as directed by the Steering Committee. Also, he said the unique geologic and hydrologic features throughout the CFWI area complicate the SC's desire to standardize the work plan implementation. The costs to implement the plan are summarized below:

Fiscal Year	Well Costs (\$M)	Real Estate (\$M)	Consulting Services (\$M)	Total Costs (\$M)
2015	\$2.8	\$0.1	\$0.05	\$2.9
2016	\$6.6	\$0.9	\$0.06	\$7.5
2017 - 2020	\$19.3	\$3.0	\$1.35	\$23.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28.7</b>	<b>\$4.0</b>	<b>\$1.46</b>	<b>\$34.1</b>

- c. Public Comment
- David Gore (NE Polk County) stated many of the current impacts to the water table and the environment were not caused by water withdrawals. He stressed the importance of collecting accurate and timely water resource information. Better data will improve the model's usefulness.
- d. The Steering Committee voted to approve the Hydrogeologic Work Plan (2015 – 2020) and the 5-year implementation schedule contained therein. The SC understood the plan is completed except for the final formatting and grammatical editing and will be posted to the website by next SC meeting.

## 5. Solutions Planning Team

- a. Robert Beltran, Team Leader, gave an overview of the final work product of the CFWI effort. He explained that all the individual elements of the Central Florida Water Initiative are coming together on schedule. Robert indicated that he would be stepping down as Team Leader and proposed the following changes to the Solutions Planning Team membership.

- Mark Hammond as Team Leader
- Janet Llewellyn, new FDEP representative

The Steering Committee approved the membership changes.

- b. Mark Hammond explained that there were 142 projects in the draft RWSP and the Solutions Planning effort identified an additional 10 projects. The Steering Committee's regional project guidance criteria was applied to these 152 projects which resulted in 22 potential regional projects/programs. Since these 22 regional projects generate approximately 415 MGD of water supply which greatly exceeds the anticipated need at an estimated cost of \$3.7 billion dollars, the final list of projects/programs will need to be further refined and scaled by the Steering Committee.
- c. Mark Hammond explained that of the 24 regional projects and programs only 18 have been fully evaluated by the sub teams, the Solutions Planning Team and the Management Oversight Committee. The 24 projects that meet all the regional guidance criteria established by the Steering Committee are shown below with those not having enough information to full evaluate are indicated with an asterisk and italicized:

### **Conservation Projects**

- Public Water Supply and Other Self Supply
- Agricultural Programmatic Approach

### **Reclaimed Water Projects**

- Project RENEW
- West Ditch Stormwater for Reuse Augmentation
- 160-ac Site Indirect Potable Reuse
- TECO Polk Power Reuse
- AFIRST/Altamonte Springs

### **Stormwater Projects**

- Judge Farms Reservoir and Impoundment
- Lake Wailes Stormwater Mitigation
- Reedy Creek Watershed
- *\*Sapphire Necklace*
- *\*City of Winter Garden Stormwater Capture*
- *\*City of Ocoee at SR 50 Stormwater Augmentation*
- *\*C1 Phase 3 River Augmentation*

### **Surface Water Projects**

- St Johns River/Taylor Creek Reservoir
- St Johns River near State Road 46
- St Johns River near Yankee Lake
- C-25 Groveland Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment
- Polk Regional Alafia River Basin

- *\*Kissimmee River Basin AWS*
- *\*Joint Tampa Bay Water/Polk County*

#### **Groundwater Projects**

- South Lake County Wellfield (may include dispersed options)
- Cypress Lake Wellfield
- Southeast Polk County Wellfield (may include dispersed options)

d. Mark Hammond reviewed the next steps needed to complete the CFWI Plan and asked the Steering Committee for guidance on potential additional next steps:

- i. Finalize the Regional Water Supply Plan
- ii. Finalize the CFWI 2035 Water Resources Protection and Water Supply Strategies Plan (CFWI Plan) including:
  - CFWI Regional AWS Priority Projects List
  - CFWI Regional Financial Plan
- iii. Finalize Options for Consistent Regulations & Implement Solutions Strategies
- iv. Implement Conservation to the Greatest Extent Practicable
- v. Implement Critical Water Resource Data Collection
- vi. Implement Investigations to Support Water Resource Projects
- vii. Update the ECFT Groundwater Model
- viii. Initiate Annual Status reports
- ix. Initiate a process for a 5 year assessment and update (2020)

e. The Steering Committee had extensive discussion on the next steps:

- Brian Wheeler questioned why the project list need to be approved now. Mark explained the list is needed to complete the draft CFWI Plan so the public can comment on the plan. Brian requested a follow up to further discuss how the “project list” will be used.
- Rich Budell questioned the relative cost of developing new AWS versus other AWS projects statewide. Mark explained the costs presented were consistent with more recent projects and the estimated costs were in the reasonable ball park of their expected costs.
- Drew Bartlett questioned if some of the projects had included environmental recovery as part of their costs. If so, he wanted this element presented in more detail.

f. Public Comment:

- David Gore (NE Polk County) expressed his ongoing concern that the projects would not improve the water table.

- Hans Tanzler (SJRWMD) said all projects will need to be cost effective and those with highest cost-benefit ratio should receive priority in funding.

g. Action by the Steering Committee:

- Approved the following motion-
  - “Accept the Draft Solutions Planning Team projects into the draft CFWI 2035 Water Resources Protection and Water Supply Strategies Plan for public comment.”
- The draft projects list includes the following

<b>ACCEPTED DRAFT SOLUTIONS PLANNING TEAM PROJECTS</b>
<p><b>Conservation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Water Supply and Other Self Supply</li> <li>• Agricultural Programmatic Approach</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reclaimed water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project RENEW</li> <li>• West Ditch Stormwater for Reuse Augmentation</li> <li>• 160-ac Site Indirect Potable Reuse</li> <li>• TECO Polk Power Reuse</li> <li>• AFIRST/Altamonte Springs</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stormwater</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judge Farms Reservoir and Impoundment</li> <li>• Lake Wailes Stormwater Mitigation</li> <li>• Reedy Creek Watershed</li> </ul>
<p><b>Surface water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Johns River/Taylor Creek Reservoir</li> <li>• St Johns River near State Road 46</li> <li>• St Johns River near Yankee Lake</li> <li>• Grove Land Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment</li> <li>• Polk Regional Alafia River Basin</li> </ul>
<p><b>Groundwater</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S Lake Co Wellfield (may include dispersed options)</li> <li>• Cypress Lake Wellfield</li> <li>• SE Polk County Wellfield (may include dispersed options)</li> </ul>

- The Steering Committee's general direction was to better define conservation, identify programs to maximize conservation, maximize data collection to support cost effective project/programs and begin the effort to continually update the groundwater model.
  - The Steering Committee requested a separate accounting of the environmental benefits of the various projects and programs be presented at the February 27, 2015, Steering Committee meeting.
- h. Joanne Chamberlain reviewed the current schedule for the final work product of the CFWI to be called **2035 Water Resources Protection & Water Supply Strategies Plan** or the **CFWI Plan** for short. The CFWI Plan and the draft RWSP (including any revisions) will then go to the Governing Boards of the WMDs for final review and approval. Brian Wheeler requested more effort to be given to coordinate the review of the various revisions.

## 6. Regulatory Team

- a. Len Lindahl, Team Leader, reported that the Team's legal representative Laura MacDonald (SWFWMD) has resigned from the Team and the position is proposed to be replaced by Amy Brennan (SWFWMD). The SC approved the change.
- b. Len reported on the ongoing process to follow the December 13, 2014, FDEP Guidance memo.
- d. Ongoing Team topics:
- Success Principles
    - Survey of WMD programs and their criteria
    - Aid in the development of any CFWI regulation
    - Coordinated through the Solutions Planning Team
  - Conjunctive Use
    - Review of existing rules and options for future criteria
  - Self-Supplied Irrigation
    - Focus on irrigation over potable supply
    - Geographic look at use and environmental features
    - Review of conservation practices and compliance
  - RWSP Approval Process
    - Legal steps necessary for RWSP adoption
- e. The RT will continue progress on priority topics, coordinate with Solutions Planning Team, ongoing regulatory review of RWSP Projects and develop draft content for CFWI Strategies document

## 7. Regional Consensus Building

- a. Len Lindahl reported on behalf of the Regional Consensus Team:

- triSect Final Report was completed and posted on line
  - triSect is working with the communication team to develop a comprehensive plan to include not only their recommendation, but also the other necessary communication and outreach needed for the CFWI solutions plan.
- b. Drew Bartlett supported the idea of continuing the outreach to the community. The Steering Committee requested that a plan to extend the community outreach through 2015 was needed and requested that the plan be presented to the SC at their next meeting on February 27.
8. Open Discussion - NONE
9. Public Comments
- a. David Gore (NE Polk County) the Solutions programs and projects need to address the regional concerns, emphasized the importance of storage and to address improvements to the regulatory programs. He distributed a paper he authored to the Steering Committee called "Waterland" (attachment A)
10. Next SC meetings
- a. Feb 27, 2015
  - b. Mar 27, 2015
  - c. Additional meetings to be identified through 2015 (May 29, June 26, July 31)
11. Adjourn

1/30/15

Waterland

In the land of water the people think there are two kinds of water , good water and bad bad water. The good water is the water they pump from deep in the ground for their needs and the bad bad water is the water that falls unpredictably from the sky and accumulates in low places. The people have a massive army armed with fleets of draglines, backhoes, bulldozers, dump trucks and other heavy equipment all trying to win the war against that bad bad water. Each time an army thinks it has the war won old mother nature comes along and pushes the army back. But the leaders are determined and will spend and do what ever it takes to defeat bad bad water to where not one drop of bad bad water can ever be seen lying around anywhere.

But as the war against bad bad water was being won another serious water problem was developing. The amount of good water was becoming less and less to the point that it was becoming very hard to have enough to serve their needs. The leaders and the smart people met to decide how to solve this new problem which had become very serious. They come up with what they thought was a simple solution, tax the people more to raise large amounts of money to create another army to make good water by costly ideas that are costly to maintain. Now the people are paying for costly wars on two fronts and the end to either one seems dim but the leaders are determined and **want to keep** collecting more and more tax money to do what they think will eventually win the wars.

While the wars rage on some crackpots have created a crazy rumor that good water and bad bad water are the same water but they and this thinking is considered just flawed thoughts of shallow mislead people.

That is where the first chapter of the story of water land ends. Hopefully in the second chapter when it comes there will be a better understanding of the relationship of land and it's water so the people of waterland can live without the wars and live in peace with that bad bad water and have enough good water.

The end

DAVID GORE