

# Central Florida Water Initiative

TOHO Water Authority

Thursday, September 24, 2015

## Meeting Summary

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

### 1. Introductions

- a. Steering Committee members present: Drew Bartlett (FDEP), Paul Senft-alternate (SWFWMD), Brian Wheeler (TOHO Water), John Miklos (SJRWMD), Ray Scott- alternate (DACS)
- b. Steering Committee members absent: Dan O'Keefe (SFWMD)
- c. The sign in sheet for those in attendance has been posted to the website.

### 2. Consent Items

- a. August 28, 2015, Meeting Summary was approved as presented. Mr. David Gore who has been making comments on the CFWI Plan under Public Comments requested that his comments be summarized more completely and accurately. The SC requested more care be given to Mr. Gore comments and requested Mr. Gore to provide written comments to supplement his oral presentations.

### 3. CFWI Draft Plan review progress

- a. Mark Hammond (SWFWMD) summarized the Public Comments received on the RWSP (Volume 1) and Solution Strategies (Volume 2) as follows:
  - Conservation
    - More emphasis
    - Restrict landscape
    - Front load funding
  - St Johns River Projects
    - Water Supply Impact Study
    - Conservation first
  - Demand Projections
    - Update data
  - Other Water Supply Project Options
    - Grove Land Reservoir & STA
    - Updated costs estimates
    - Options to meet agricultural needs
  - Environmental
    - Need for Prevention / Recovery
    - Sustainable limits

- Non-traditional / Traditional Groundwater
  - Clarify terms
- b. Mark also summarized the Public Water Supply Utility comments as follows:
  - Better define role of Solutions Strategies in RWSP
    - Integral role in the RWSP
    - Added clarification
  - Definitions - Non-traditional/Traditional Groundwater
  - Water Supply Project Options
  - More emphasis on DMIT recommendations
  - Water Conservation
    - Historical conservation should be more strongly reflected
    - Statewide water conservation clearinghouse
  - Project cost estimates
- c. Implementing results of CFWI is critical to long-term sustainability. Toward that end, Mark Hammond explained the “next steps” to be undertaken will be added to the Executive Summary of the CFWI Plan and includes:
  - Implement Water Conservation Programs
    - Develop scope of work
    - Proposal for Florida Building Code Update
  - Develop Specific Prevention and Recovery Projects
  - Improve Water Resource Assessment Tools and Supporting Data
    - Update model
    - Implement DMIT Work plan
  - Support Development and Implementation of Regional Project Solutions
  - Support Additional AWS Projects
  - Develop Options for Consistent Rules and Regulations
  - Expanded Communication and Outreach
  - Identify Options for Future CFWI Framework to Support Implementation Strategies
    - Annual status updates
    - 5-year update
- d. Mark reviewed the schedule to complete the current effort:
  - October
    - Steering Committee Meeting to approve CFWI RWSP including the Solutions Strategies for Board consideration
  - November
    - Present CFWI RWSP including the Solutions Strategies to District’s Governing Board for approval
- e. Ray Scott discussed the need to update the CFWI model with current data and the need to begin the RWSP update effort without delay. Mark

Hammond explained that agriculture water supply options are site specific and are time consuming. He said the update effort will begin January 2016 with the model being updated in the 2017-2018 timeframe.

#### 4. Regional Consensus Building

- a. Barbara Ross (SFWMD) summarized the 2015 Outreach efforts and explained they covered:
  - Government and business focus groups
  - Pre-meetings with environmental, agriculture and business stakeholders
  - CFWI stakeholder workshops
  - Water Supply Plan public meetings
  - Governing Board presentations
  - Jacksonville-area stakeholder meetings
  - Media interviews & news releases
  - Speaking engagements
  - Updated website & online resources
- b. Glenda Hood (triSect) reviewed the work effort that was completed in developing the Phase 2 recommendations. She explained the work supported CFWI in broadening and strengthening stakeholder involvement. This resulted in the development of an engagement process for various stakeholders impacted by the work of the CFWI including government, business, the agriculture industry, and the environmental community to have meaningful input into the plan.
- c. Shelley Lauten (triSect) provided a detailed report on the special outreach efforts to the Northeast Florida interests outside the CFWI geographic area.
  - In both the Solutions Plan and the MOU, water conservation is key and should be considered first
    - Section 5 of the MOU should more specific detail
    - An overarching “importance of conservation” message should have more upfront emphasis
    - Change language to exceed water conservation estimates, rather than achieve them
  - Avoid externalizing the issues of Central Florida’s growth
    - Environmental & Costs
  - Regional water supply plans need to connect with one another
  - Stakeholders need input to the recommended changes in the building codes
  - Once the MOU is signed and the Regional Water Supply Plan is approved, what are the next steps?

- d. Shelley reviewed recommended an approach for the next phase of the engagement process (Phase 3):
  - Continue Internal Communication
  - Continue Expansion of Stakeholder and Community Education and Communication
    - Identify and schedule presentations to government, business, agricultural, environmental and civic groups
    - Develop a water ethics campaign
  - Develop/Expand Regional and State Advocates
    - Develop Leadership Councils in four key areas: Jacksonville, East Coastal Counties, Central Florida, Tampa Bay
    - Develop and host a Regional Water Summit in partnership with Stetson University
  - Document Conservation Practices/Impact in CFWI
- e. Paul Senft ask about the efficacies of the outreach program with respect to educating the community leaders and the level of trust between the CFWI effort and leaders. Shelley said she felt we have made great progress although much still needs to be done especially with respect to the trust level. Brian Wheeler said funding the Conservation Clearinghouse would enhance community education and trust by having a 3<sup>rd</sup> party (University of Florida) provide unbiased science based information to all interested parties.
- f. John Miklos asked about the perception of the Jacksonville area leaders about the level of trust of the CFWI planning process. Shelley Lauten said she thought that the region's leaders feeling were now being heard and the trust level was building but still has a way to go.
- g. The Steering Committee unanimously accepted the Phase 2 Report for Community Outreach & Consensus Building and directly that it be placed on the CFWIwater.com website.
- h. Barbara Ross reviewed the remaining work this year:
  - 2 News Releases
    - Availability of the Plans on CFWI website
    - Steering Committee action to finalize/accept the Plans, with dates for WMD Governing Boards' consideration
  - Local Government follow-ups with a CFWI "progress report"
  - Meetings with Jacksonville Leaders
    - Monthly through December 2015
  - Drafting a 2016 Communications Plan
    - Expanded & ongoing stakeholder outreach
    - Implementing near-term CFWI projects
    - Expanding the Water Conservation message

## 5. Memorandum of Understanding

a. Len Lindahl (SFWMD) reviewed progress on developing the MOU since the last SC meeting:

- Draft MOU produced by WMDs, FDEP, and FDACS distributed to the Regulatory Team for comment on 8/19

➤ Topics include:

- Water Resource Investigations
- Water Supply Planning
- Water Use Regulation
- Water Conservation
- Water Shortage Management
- General Provisions
- Comments received through Regulatory Team
- Discussion at Team meetings on 8/21, 9/4, 9/11, and 9/18

b. Len proposed the following schedule to complete the MOU:

- Comments from stakeholders: October 6<sup>th</sup>
- Stakeholder meetings:
  - Week of October 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Week of October 19<sup>th</sup> – if necessary
- Finalize MOU Draft: October 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Steering Committee: October 30<sup>th</sup>
- November Approval Process
  - FDACS
  - FDEP
  - November 10<sup>th</sup> – SJRWMD
  - November 12<sup>th</sup> – SFWMD
  - November 17<sup>th</sup> – SWFWMD

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## 6. Minimum Flows & Levels/ Reservation

a. Because of time constraints, no presentations were made. Interested parties can refer to material posted on the website.

## 7. Regulatory Team

a. Because of time constraints, no presentations were made. Interested parties can refer to material posted on the website.

## 8. Open Discussion

a. Brian Wheeler called attention to an organization called the Value of Water Coalition and referred the SC to the website:

<http://thevalueofwater.org/> He also said a special “Day Without Water” event was being planned October 6-8, 2015, are more information can be found at <http://www.imagineadaywithoutwater.org/>

9. Public Comments

- a. David Gore, NE Polk County resident, wanted the Steering Committee to focus more on protecting the environment. He felt that conservation alone would not solve the problem, we need to manage the water table better and protect the land's ability to contain water.

10. Next SC meetings

- a. October 30, 2015 Approve Final draft CFWI Plan and Final draft RWSP

11. Adjourn