



---

## South Florida Water Management District

---

### **BIG CYPRESS BASIN BOARD AGENDA**

*This meeting is open to the public*

February 21, 2020

1:30 PM

Collier County Government Center  
Commission Chamber, 3rd Flr  
3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, FL 34112

#### **FINAL-REVISED**

1. Call to Order - Charlette Roman, Chair, Big Cypress Basin Board
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Agenda Revisions - Lisa Koehler
4. Agenda Item Abstentions by Board Members
5. Consider Approval of the Minutes for the October 24, 2019 Meeting
6. General Public Comment
7. Collier County Impaired Water Bodies (Kevin O'Donnell, Environmental Administrator, Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Staff contact, Lisa Koehler, ext. 7603)
8. Collier County Comprehensive Watershed Restoration Update (Gary McAlpin, Manager, Collier County Coastal Zone Management and Staff contact, Lisa Koehler, ext. 7603)
9. Lake Trafford Restoration Update and Water Quality Projects
  - A. Lake Trafford Conceptual Filter Marsh (Staff contacts, Shawn Meyer, ext. 7617 and Eric Flaig, ext. 6845)

- B. Voting Item - Lake Trafford Eelgrass Planting and Habitat Restoration Project with Florida Gulf Coast University (Staff contact, Shawn Meyer, ext. 7617)
- C. Voting Item - Lake Trafford Eelgrass Planting and Habitat Restoration Project with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (Staff contact, Shawn Meyer, ext. 7617)
- D. Voting Item - Lake Trafford Mechanical Harvesting Project with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (Staff contact, Shawn Meyer, ext. 7617)
- 10. Voting Item - Filter Marsh Expansion Project for Improved Water Quality with the Conservancy of Southwest Florida (Staff contact, Shawn Meyer, ext. 7617)
- 11. **ITEM POSTPONED** Golden Gate Main Canal Right of Way Relaxation from Golden Gate Main 1 to Airport-Pulling Road (40-Foot Setback Rule) (Staff contact, Richard Virgil, ext. 6759)
- 12. Big Cypress Basin Capital Plan Update (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, ext. 2685)
- 13. Big Cypress Basin Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Preliminary Budget Discussion (Staff contact, Candida Heater, ext. 6486)
- 14. General Public Comment
- 15. Board Comment

### **Technical Reports**

- 16. Field Station Activity Report - Juan Bethencourt
- 17. Water Conditions Report - Brad Jackson

### **Staff Reports**

- 18. Monthly Financial Report - Candida Heater
- 19. Basin Administrator Report - Lisa Koehler
  - Collier County FY2019/2020 Stormwater Maintenance Work Plan Approval and \$1M Payment (Agreement OT040622)
- 20. General Public Comment
- 21. Board Comment
- 22. Adjourn

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Basin Board Members

**FROM:** Lisa Koehler, Basin Administrator

**DATE:** February 21, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Item 7 – Collier County Impaired Water Bodies

### **Agenda Background:**

The 1972 Clean Water Act established federal rules for identifying waters that are polluted and not meeting water quality standards. These rules, passed down by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), required states to establish a prioritized list of impaired waterbodies, known as the 303(d) list of impaired and threatened waters, and to develop estimated loads, based on sound science, that the waterbodies could receive of each pollutant while meeting water quality standards. In Florida waters, the 303(d) list includes waterbodies and parameters identified on the Verified List of impaired waters. The Verified List is the starting point for developing total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs. These TMDLs are a water quality restoration goal that identifies the maximum amount of a specific pollutant that may be present while still allowing a waterbody to remain functional and healthy.

Each waterbody identified on Verified List addresses a waterbody segment and associated water quality problem, such as excessive levels of nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), depleted oxygen levels, high bacteria counts or metals. When identifying waterbodies to be added or removed from the Verified List, as well as, priority waters for TMDL development, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) holds workshops across the state to obtain feedback from stakeholders and the public on the agency's overall approach, the criteria used to set the priorities and the resulting TMDL development plan. Last year, local meetings were held to obtain stakeholder feedback for consideration as additions and removals from the Verified List were adjusted and finalized. FDEP staff will present an overview of the process and the updated impaired waterbodies within Collier County.

### **Presenter/Staff Contact:**

Kevin O-Donnell, Environmental Administrator, Florida Department of Environmental Protection/Lisa Koehler, lkoehler@sfwmd.gov, 239- 263-7615 (x 7603)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Basin Board Members

**FROM:** Lisa Koehler, Basin Administrator

**DATE:** February 21, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Item 8 – Collier County Comprehensive Watershed Restoration Update

**Agenda Background:**

Collier County developed a Comprehensive Watershed Improvement Plan in 2016. The plan utilized ten major studies and reports developed over the years by various local, state and regulatory agencies. These studies were focused on reducing freshwater flows into Naples Bay, restoring freshwater flows into Rookery Bay and improving water quality and re-hydrating approximately 10,000 acres of the South Belle Meade portion of the Picayune Strand State Forest by linking hydrologic and ecological restoration projects.

The presentation by county staff will provide an overview of the project, its goals and modeling results.

**Presenter/Staff Contact:**

Gary McAlpin, Collier County Coastal Zone Management/Lisa Koehler,  
lkoehler@sfwmd.gov, 239- 263-7615 (x 7603)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**TO:** Basin Board Members

**FROM:** Shawn Meyer, Lead Project Manager, Big Cypress Basin

**DATE:** February 21, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Item 9 - Lake Trafford Restoration Update and Water Quality Projects

### **Agenda Background:**

This item includes a brief history of Lake Trafford, a discussion of a conceptual filter marsh, and an overview of three partnership projects.

#### A. Lake Trafford Conceptual Filter Marsh

Staff was asked to revisit the theory of a conceptual filter marsh to reduce nutrient loads from Lake Trafford. Conversion of the Lake Trafford sediment disposal site to a circulating filter marsh is Habitat Restoration Item 2 (HR-2) in the Lake Trafford Management Plan. Estimated construction costs are \$49M and operations/maintenance costs are \$500,000 per year.

#### Lake Trafford Water Quality Projects Background:

Upon completion of the Lake Trafford Management Plan in October of 2018, the Board directed staff to allocate \$250,000 over the next four years to assist with restoration projects on the lake. There are three projects for consideration with overall requested funding of \$190,000. The proposed projects are consistent with the management plan and were approved by the Lake Trafford Management Team at their meeting on December 6, 2019.

#### B. Lake Trafford Eelgrass Planting and Habitat Restoration Project with Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU)

FGCU is requesting \$27,500 to assist with eelgrass planting and habitat restoration efforts at Lake Trafford. Healthy aquatic vegetation communities are important to the ecological viability and water quality of the lake and the Lake Trafford Management Team has set a goal of 30% targeted coverage of aquatic vegetation for the lake. The proposed eelgrass plantings will assist in reaching that goal and will be planted this spring at locations deemed to have suitable habitat required for survival and reproduction. They will also allow for added nutrient uptake and expanded habitat cover for fish. Establishment of plant communities will aid in bottom stabilization thus assisting in reduction of turbidity levels.

C. Lake Trafford Eelgrass Planting and Habitat Restoration Project with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

FWC is requesting \$17,500 to assist with eelgrass planting and habitat restoration efforts at Lake Trafford. FWC is proposing to supplement eelgrass planting efforts and move the targeted goal of 30% coverage of aquatic vegetation in the lake. Work will occur this spring in three different locations from FGCU's proposed sites in order to maximize eelgrass coverage throughout the lake.

D. Lake Trafford Mechanical Harvesting Project with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

FWC is requesting \$145,000 to assist with mechanical harvesting efforts at Lake Trafford. Mechanical harvesting, although costly, is a viable method for controlling invasive aquatic vegetation communities. This project will use mechanical harvesting as a means to control invasive and exotic vegetation along the northwest portion of the lake.

**Funding Source:**

The Lake Trafford water quality projects can be funded with current Basin ad valorem funds.

**Recommendation:**

Provide funding as outlined for the three Lake Trafford Water Quality projects.

**Presenter/Staff Contact:**

Shawn Meyer, smeyer@sfwmd.gov, (239) 263 7615 x 7617

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**TO:** Basin Board Members

**FROM:** Shawn Meyer, Lead Project Manager, Big Cypress Basin

**DATE:** February 21, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Item 10 – Filter Marsh Expansion for Improved Water Quality with the Conservancy of Southwest Florida

### **Agenda Background:**

Since 2006, the Big Cypress Basin (BCB) Board has partnered with regional groups for construction of water quality, stormwater management and alternative water supply projects that align with the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)/BCB mission, the BCB's Strategic Plan and the SFWMD's Lower West Coast Water Supply Plan.

### **Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Regional Partnership Project Summary:**

The Conservancy of Southwest Florida (Conservancy) is requesting \$150,000 to assist with expansion of their existing filter marsh to improve water quality of treated stormwater prior to entering Gordon River and, ultimately Naples Bay. Prior to 2009, a channel running through the Conservancy's property drained stormwater runoff from a large commercial and residential area as well as several major roadways. Urban runoff from these sources led to high pollutant levels entering the Gordon River and Naples Bay. The Conservancy constructed the existing filter marsh in 2009 to improve water quality and reduce outgoing nutrient levels before ultimately reaching Naples Bay. This project was important to the watershed as both the Gordon River and Naples Bay are impaired for nutrients. The Conservancy is expanding their current filter marsh to treat more stormwater and further improve water quality. Additionally, this project will provide continued educational value to the public as well as additional native aquatic habitat for wildlife.

### **Funding Source:**

Conservancy Filter Marsh Expansion project funding is available in current Basin ad valorem funds

### **Presenter/Staff Contact:**

Shawn Meyer, smeyer@sfwmd.gov, (239) 263 7615 x 7617

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Big Cypress Basin Board Members

**FROM:** Richard Virgil, Division Director-Field Operations and Land Management Division

**DATE:** December 12, 2019

**SUBJECT:** **Item Postponed** -South Bank of the Golden Gate Main Canal Right of Way from Structure GG-1 to Airport Road - Proposed Relaxation of the 40-Foot Setback Rule



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** BCB Board Members

**FROM:** Lucine Dadrian, P.E., Section Administrator, Engineering and Construction Bureau

**DATE:** February 21, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Item 12 – Big Cypress Basin Capital Projects Updates

**Summary:**

The BCB Capital Projects Update presentation provides an update for ongoing projects in design and construction and budget expenditures within the fiscal year 2019-2020.

**Recommendation:**

No Recommendation needed.

**Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Lucine Dadrian, Section Administrator, Engineering and Construction Bureau, 561-682-2685 / [ldadrian@sfwmd.gov](mailto:ldadrian@sfwmd.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Big Cypress Basin Board Members

**FROM:** Candida Heater, Division Director, Administrative Services

**DATE:** February 21, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Discussion of Fiscal Year 2020-21 Preliminary Basin Budget Compared to Draft Fiscal Year 2020-21 Preliminary Basin Budget presented in October

**Summary:**

Staff to present the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Preliminary Basin budget as included in the South Florida Water Management District budget submittal on January 15, 2020 pursuant to Section 373.535 F.S. for Legislative review. The Preliminary Basin budget was submitted in the amount of \$15,368,498 compared to the Draft Fiscal Year 2020-21 Preliminary Basin budget presented in October of \$15,322,198, an increase of \$46,300.

**Recommendation:**

Provide direction to staff for further development of the Basin budget moving into the next phase of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget Development process.

**Staff Contact and/or Presenter:**

Candida Heater, Division Director, Administrative Services, 561-682-6486 / [cheater@sfwmd.gov](mailto:cheater@sfwmd.gov) or  
Mark Wiederstein, Section Lead, Budget Bureau, 561-682-2529 / [mwieders@sfwmd.gov](mailto:mwieders@sfwmd.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Big Cypress Basin Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Candida Heater, Director, Administrative Services Division

**DATE:** February 21, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Monthly Financial Statement Big Cypress Basin – December 31, 2019

This report provides an overview of the District's unaudited financial activity for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, including revenue collections, expenditures and encumbrances made against the \$19.1 million current budget, including a \$5.1 million encumbrance carryforward from Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Encumbrances represent orders for goods and services which have not yet been received. Attached is a summary in the State Program format in compliance with Section 373.536(4)(e), Florida Statutes, which states that each District shall provide a monthly financial statement in the form and manner prescribed by the Department of Financial Services to the District's Governing Board and make such monthly financial statement available for public access on its website.

**Summary of Revenue Sources** - New operating revenues collected (excluding prior year reserves) total \$12.2 million. Including reserves, the total Fiscal Year 2019-2020 revenue sources collected were 106.8% of budget or \$20.4 million.

- Taxes collected in the amount of \$9.1 million or 85.4% were distributed to the District through the Collier County Tax Collector as of the end of December. Compared to the five-year average of 86.2%, receipts were behind for this time in the fiscal year. The total amount the District levied in Collier County was \$11.1 million and was discounted to \$10.6 million for budgeting purposes.
- Intergovernmental revenues of \$3 million were invoiced from FEMA.
- Interest on Invested Funds of \$57,591 was recognized as of the end of December. Last year, at this time, \$54,576 was recognized.
- License and Permit Fees of \$4,100 were received as of the end of December.
- Other revenues of \$30,744 were received for leases, scrap metal, and cash discounts.

**Summary of Expenditure and Encumbrance** - Big Cypress Basin has spent **\$1.3 million** and has encumbered **\$6.2 million** of the current budget. The Basin has obligated (encumbrances plus expenditures) **\$ 7.5 million** of the current budget.

- **Water Resources Planning and Monitoring Program** includes all water management planning, including water supply planning, development of minimum flows and levels, and other water resources planning; research, data collection, analysis, and monitoring; and technical assistance (including local and regional plan and program review). Of the \$7 million budgeted for this program, Big Cypress Basin has obligated \$3.4 million: \$217,771 expended and \$3.2 million encumbered.
- **Land Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works Program** includes the development and construction of all restoration capital projects, including water resource development

projects / water supply development assistance, water control projects, and support and administrative facilities construction; cooperative projects; land acquisition; and the restoration of lands and water bodies. No funds are currently budgeted or expended in this program.

- **Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works Program** includes all operation and maintenance of facilities, flood control and water supply structures, lands, and other works authorized by Chapter 373, Florida Statutes. Of the \$11.8 million budgeted for this program, the Basin has obligated \$3.9 million: \$919,875 expended and \$3 million encumbered.
- **Regulation Program** includes water use permitting, water well construction permitting, water well contractor licensing, environmental resource and surface water management permitting, permit administration and enforcement, and any delegated regulatory program. No funds are currently budgeted or expended in this program.
- **Outreach Program** includes all environmental education activities, such as water conservation campaigns and water resource education; public information activities; activities relating to local, regional, state, and federal governmental affairs; and all public relations activities, including public service announcements and advertising in any media. No funds are currently budgeted or expended in this program.
- **District Management and Administration** includes all Governing and Basin Board support, executive support; management information systems, unrestricted reserves; and general counsel, ombudsman, human resources, budget, finance, audit, risk management, and administrative services. Additionally, this program includes property appraiser, tax collector & self-insurance fees in support of district and basin activities. Of the \$340,671 budgeted for this program, the Basin has obligated \$205,495 which are expended, and nothing is encumbered.

We hope this report will aid in understanding the Basin's financial condition as well as expenditure performance against the approved budget. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (561) 682-6486.

CJH/MD  
Attachment

**South Florida Water Management District - Big Cypress Basin**  
**Statement of Sources and Uses of Funds (Unaudited)**  
For the month ended: December 31, 2019. Percent of fiscal year completed: 25.0%

	CURRENT BUDGET	Actuals Through December 2019	VARIANCE (UNDER) / OVER BUDGET	ACTUALS AS A % OF BUDGET
<b>Sources</b>				
Taxes <sup>1</sup>	\$ 10,661,990	\$ 9,110,435	\$ (1,551,555)	85.4%
Intergovernmental	-	3,045,903	3,045,903	0.0%
Interest on Invested Funds	200,000	57,591	(142,409)	28.8%
License and Permit Fees	8,000	4,100	(3,900)	51.3%
Other <sup>2</sup>	74,661	30,744	(43,917)	41.2%
<b><i>SUB-TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</i></b>	<b>10,944,651</b>	<b>12,248,773</b>	<b>1,304,122</b>	<b>111.9%</b>
Reserves	8,155,058	8,155,058	-	100.0%
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$ 19,099,709</b>	<b>\$ 20,403,831</b>	<b>\$ 1,304,122</b>	<b>106.8%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes Ad Valorem

<sup>2</sup> Includes Leases and Sale of District Property

	CURRENT BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	ENCUMBRANCES <sup>3</sup>	AVAILABLE BUDGET	% EXPENDED	% OBLIGATED <sup>4</sup>
<b>Uses</b>						
Water Resources Planning and Monitoring	6,982,608	217,771	3,224,055	3,540,782	3.1%	49.3%
Land Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works	-	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works	11,776,430	919,875	2,963,939	7,892,616	7.8%	33.0%
Regulation	-	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Outreach	-	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
District Management and Administration	340,671	205,495	-	135,176	60.3%	60.3%
<b>Total Uses</b>	<b>\$ 19,099,709</b>	<b>\$ 1,343,141</b>	<b>\$ 6,187,995</b>	<b>\$ 11,568,574</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>39.4%</b>

<sup>3</sup> Encumbrances represent unexpended balances of open purchase orders and contracts.

<sup>4</sup> Represents the sum of expenditures and encumbrances as a percentage of the current budget.

This unaudited financial statement is prepared as of December 31, 2019, and covers the interim period since the most recent audited financial statements.