



South Florida Water Management District

BIG CYPRESS BASIN BOARD MINUTES

November 20, 2014

9:00 AM

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

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Vaughn		Present	
Rick Barber	Chair	Present	
David Farmer		Present	
Alice J. Carlson		Present	
Ralph H. Haskins		Present	
Marielle Kitchener		Present	

- 1. Call to Order - Frederick Barber, Chairman, Big Cypress Basin Board**
Mr. Barber called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.
- 2. Invocation**
Rabbi Adam Miller led the invocation.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance - Frederick Barber, Chairman, Big Cypress Basin Board**
Ms. Carlson led the pledge of allegiance.
- 4. Employee Recognitions**
Ms. Lisa Koehler recognized the Flood Watch Server Relocation Team for successfully relocating the server to West Palm Beach headquarters.

5. Approval of Minutes

Minutes approved.

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

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

There was a change to the agenda. Item #17 was added to the final revised agenda. Ms. Koehler proposed to hear Item #17 after Item #10.

7. Abstentions by Board Members from items on the Agenda

There were no abstentions.

8. Lake Trafford Water Quality Update - Rod Braun, Principal, Everglades Policy & Coordination

Mr. Braun, Principal, Everglades Policy and Coordination provided a presentation on Lake Trafford water quality. After a brief summary of the water quality report he had presented earlier in the year, he explained how data from FDEP and Collier County had been analyzed to provide examples of comparison of high phosphorous concentration. Data analyzed from eight stations between 1996-2012 had been summarized and incorporated in a database, to identify the following:

- Total Nitrogen
- Total Phosphorous
- Chlorophyll-A
- Soluble Reactive Phosphorous
- Specific Conductance

Summary slides showed how Lake Trafford had been affected by weather conditions and provided pre and post dredging conditions. Mr. Braun's recommendations were to continue monitoring the lake for a few more years, to compare data with the biological data collected by FGCU, and to prepare annual status reports of the lake water quality.

Board Questions

In response to Mr. Farmer's question, Mr. Braun confirmed there had been an increase in chlorides levels, and that conductivity measures chlorides and other dissolved pollutants. He stated that FGCU had embarked on a study to examine ground water seepage from several stations within the lake to identify the sources of concentrations flowing into the lake.

In response to Ms. Kitchener's question, Mr. Braun stated that pH was measured but results were not included in his report.

In response to Mr. Barber's question regarding lack of ground material after lake had been dredged, Mr. Braun stated that there was still muck in the system but that the level was very low.

There was no public comment.

9. Lake Trafford Watershed - Dr. Calvin Arnold, University of Florida/IFAS Center Director

Dr. Calvin Arnold, Director of the University of Florida/IFAS Center provided a brief overview of the UF/IFAS role in the Lake Trafford research and introduced Dr. Sanjay Shukla who presented a watershed protection plan that focused on long term monitoring of lake water quality and decreasing nitrogen and phosphorous levels, caused by agricultural and commercial land uses. Main objectives of the plan were modeling and investigation to delineate watershed boundaries and pollutant locations. His plan also included development of a water and nutrient budget, and plan implementation and management.

Board Questions

In response to Mr. Vaughn's question, Ms. Koehler replied that there would be no conflict between tasks assigned to FGCU and the watershed study proposed by UF. Dr. Shukla also reassured Mr. Vaughn that farming activities would not be adversely affected and that UF had been working with farmers to make sure the BMP's would be economically feasible and had provided alternatives to meet District standards.

Mr. Farmer proposed to check the Rural Land Stewardship Programs, which might include sending areas already mapped and possibly located in the area reserved for future storage. Dr. Shukla indicated that they had been already looking at storage options, such as the Pepper Ranch property.

Mr. Barber was in favor of the watershed protection plan and suggested the Board give direction to staff on how to move forward.

Ms. Kitchener was in favor of the study since it would ensure standards on nutrients would be met.

Mr. Farmer suggested that staff should review their objectives and options and present their recommendations back to the Board. Ms. Koehler stated that some budget had been identified to start the plan in FY15 and that additional funding had been reserved in the FY16 budget.

There was no public comment.

10. Capital Projects Update - Jeff Kivett, Division Director, Operations, Engineering and Construction

Mr. Kivett, Division Director, Operations, Engineering and Construction Division, provided an update for the BCB Capital Program for FY15, which included the Miller Weir No. 3 replacement, scouring repairs to some structures to protect them from long term damage, electrification of structures to improve their efficiency, fall protection and Golden Gate Weir No. 4 replacement, 28th Avenue Southeast bridge replacement, north communication coverage needs, and BCB Field Station Relocation design and budget concerns.

Mr. Kivett informed the Board that review of the field station budget would be conducted in February at the 90% design submittal, and that he could either share the results with the Board at the April Board meeting, or arrange a meeting with each Board member after the February budget review and submit the results for approval to the Governing Board in March.

Board Questions

In response to Mr. Farmer's questions, Mr. Kivett stated that the new civil engineering consultant had been able to modify the building design and provide enough space for equipment to be operated properly. He also assured Mr. Farmer that he would verify that the generator would be sized appropriately. Mr. Farmer added that he would be available to meet and discuss the Field Station budget as soon as the information was available.

In response to Mr. Vaughn's question, Mr. Kivett replied that the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles was included in the fleet replacement plan.

Ms. Kitchener added that Ford had issued an aluminum truck that had been tested on construction sites and could be included for consideration.

There was no public comment.

Mr. Barber suggested Board members meet with Mr. Kivett in February as recommended, and discuss Field Station construction costs at that time. Board Members had no objection.

17. BCB Aquatic Vegetation Management Program - Chris Doherty, Field Station Superintendent and Francois LaRoche, Section Administrator, Vegetation Management - *ADDITIONAL ITEM ADDED*

Mr. Doherty, Big Cypress Basin Field Station Superintendent, and Francois LaRoche Section Administrator, Vegetation Management, provided a presentation on the BCB aquatic management program. Mr. Doherty summarized the field station challenges in managing canal vegetation growth.

Mr. LaRoche provided an overview of his group activity in assisting the field station with treatment and removal of different types of vegetation and suggested monitoring areas after treatment to address growth problems immediately.

Mr. Doherty recommended to increase the FY16 budget to implement a vegetation management plan to include additional funding for canal maintenance, staff training on new technologies, replacement of outdated equipment with smaller and more manageable equipment, and more funding to purchase chemicals, fuel, and tuff booms.

Board Questions

In response to Mr. Farmer's question, Mr. Doherty stated that mowing would be discussed in his next presentation.

In response to Ms. Kitchener's statement, Mr. Doherty confirmed that aquamogs take 6-8 months to be constructed and delivered and therefore, should be ordered in advance of the fiscal year.

Mr. Barber recognized Ms. Karen Estock. Ms. Estock thanked Chris for his presentation and supported his proactive approach to vegetation management.

In response to Mr. Barber's question, Mr. Doherty stated that tuff booms would be removed prior to a storm event.

There was no public comment.

11. Preliminary Budget - Doug Bergstrom, Division Director, Administrative Services

Mr. Bergstrom, Division Director, Administrative Services, gave a summary of the FY16 preliminary budget approval process. He then called on Mr. Doherty who discussed the field station unmet needs and priorities, and requested a cost increase for FY16 for mowing of canal banks and ROW's, and equipment needs to replace old and outdated aquamogs.

Mr. Bergstrom continued his presentation with the proposed revenue update changes, which included Mr. Doherty's adjustments for vehicles and equipment for the field station, and a reduction in the FY16 operating costs for the Faka Union pump station. He asked the Board to approve the proposed changes to be incorporated in the preliminary budget that would be submitted to Tallahassee in January, and explained that other items such as rising costs of health insurance were still being discussed and would be presented soon.

Board Questions

In response to Mr. Barber's questions, Mr. Bergstrom stated that the undesignated fund balance would be impacted by the proposed increases and by significant rises in new construction costs expected for FY16. Mr. DeLisi added that the District had been coordinating with Tallahassee to deal with some of the budget shortfalls.

In response to Mr. Vaughn's questions, Mr. Bergstrom stated that the sale of the existing field station property was being addressed and most likely would be included in the budget after the start of the field station construction. He added that Mr. Doherty had planned to stagger the purchase of new equipment through multiple years as depicted in his fleet replacement program.

Mr. Farmer suggested that a permanent line item with a yearly estimated amount for equipment replacement should be added to the overall budget.

In response to Mr. Farmer's question, Mr. Doherty confirmed that one aquamog and the crane would still be used as needed, and that cost of tuff booms at pump stations had been associated with pump stations budget.

In response to Mr. Barber's question, Mr. Bergstrom recommended to add the cost of equipment replacement to the budget. Ms. Estock confirmed that old equipment that is no longer efficient and cost effective should be replaced, and that the mowing contract should be assigned to an outside contractor as a cost benefit and to also help the community by providing work for small businesses.

There was no public comment.

12. General Public Comment

There was no general public comment.

13. Technical Reports

A) Water Conditions Report - Mr. Jocelyn Nageon De Lestang provided a summary of the rainfall data and hydrology conditions for Big Cypress Basin.

Board comment

Mr. Farmer requested to include a location map of the structures in future presentations.

There was no public comment.

B) Field Station Activity Report - Mr. Chris Doherty, Big Cypress Basin Field Station Superintendent, provided the BCB Field Station operation and management activities which included workload update and status of the ACOE annual inspections.

14. Staff Reports

A) Mr. DeLisi, Chief of Staff, gave a brief report on the upcoming legislative session.

Board comment

Mr. Farmer announced the Farm City Barbecue on Wednesday, November 26th.

There was no public comment.

B) Ms. Koehler, Big Cypress Basin Administrator, announced that the 2015 Calendar of the BCB Board Meetings calendar was published on the District's website.

15. Board Comment

There was no Board comment.

16. Adjourn

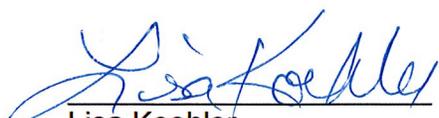
Mr. Barber announced the next meeting will be January 20th.

Mr. Barber adjourned the meeting at 11:44.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mr. Barber
SECONDER:	David Farmer
AYES:	Vaughn, Barber, Farmer, Carlson, Haskins, Kitchener



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



Lisa Koehler
Big Cypress Basin Administrator
South Florida Water Management District