

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
**PEACE RIVER MANASOTA REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**  
DeSoto County Administration Building  
Commission Chambers, First Floor  
201 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida

December 2, 2020

***Board Members Present:***

Commissioner Ken Doherty, Charlotte County, Chairman  
Commissioner Alan Maio, Sarasota County, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Elton Langford, DeSoto County  
Mark Simpson, Utilities Deputy Director, Manatee County (Alternate)

***Staff Present:***

Patrick Lehman, Executive Director  
Mike Coates, Deputy Director  
Doug Manson, General Counsel  
Kevin Morris, Engineering & Projects Manager  
Ann Lee, Finance & Administration Manager  
Richard Anderson, System Operations Manager  
Terri Holcomb, Resource Management & Planning Manager  
Rachel Kersten, Agency Clerk

***Others Present:***

A list of others presents who signed the attendance roster for this meeting is filed with the permanent records of the Authority.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Doherty called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

**INVOCATION**

Douglas Manson offered the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

**HOST COUNTY REMARKS**

Welcoming remarks were made by DeSoto County Administrator Mandy Hines.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**RESOLUTIONS/PRESENTATIONS****1. Employee Service Recognition**

The Board recognized and thanked staff members Richard Anderson, Nicholas Godwin, Douglas Morton, Donald Morton, Mark Ortel, and George Pennell for their dedicated service and congratulated each on reaching significant longevity milestones with the Authority.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Doherty requested Items 8 and 14 be pulled from Consent.

- 1. Approve minutes of September 30, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.**
- 2. Approve minutes of September 30, 2020 Board of Directors workshop.**
- 3. Approve Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2021**
- 4. Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute Agreement for Professional Services with Kimley-Horn Associates for the 'Feasibility and Routing Study' for the Phase 2B/2C Regional Integrated Loop Pipeline Project' and execute Work Order No. 1 'Feasibility and Routing Study for the Phase 2B/2C Regional Integrated Loop Pipeline Project' for an amount not to exceed \$399,960.**
- 5. Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute Agreement for Professional Services with Wade Trim for the 'Feasibility and Routing Study for the Phase 3C Regional Integrated Loop Pipeline Project' and execute Work Order No. 1 'Feasibility and Routing Study for the Phase 3C Regional Integrated Loop Pipeline Project' for an amount not to exceed \$599,970.**
- 6. Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 increasing the Authorized budget to Ardurra for Work Order No. 3 – Construction Phase Services for Phase 1 Interconnect from the current \$1,087,726 to \$1,187,726.**
- 7. Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute Change Order No. 1 to contract with CenState Contractors, Inc. for 'DeSoto Meter Reconfiguration Project' increasing contract time by 35 days, decreasing the contract price by \$50,000 to \$455,400.00 and Closing Out the Project.**
- 9. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute Cooperative Funding Agreement with SWFWMD for the Phase 3C Integrated Loop Routing and Feasibility Study subject to General Counsel review.**
- 10. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute Cooperative Funding Agreement with SWFWMD for the Phase 2B/2C (Southern Loop) Integrated Loop Routing and Feasibility Study subject to General Counsel Review.**
- 11. Approve and authorize the Executive Director to withdraw the FY 2022 SWFWMD Cooperative Funding Initiative application for the Peace River Reservoir No. 3 (PR<sup>3</sup>) Siting and Feasibility Study.**
- 12. Approve Compliance with Resolution 2019-05 for Exceedance of Water Allocation by Sarasota County in FY 2020.**
- 13. Approve 'Special District Public Facilities Report' (December 2020).**
- 15. Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute a purchase order to Ovivo USA, LLC for purchase and installation of Sludge Thickener Rake unit for an amount not to exceed \$282,223 which includes a \$25,000.00 Owner's Allowance to be used as may be needed with Executive Director Approval.**
- 16. Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute amended purchase order to Charlotte County increasing the purchase order amount from \$165,662 to \$177,773.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Maio, to approve the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Items 8 and 14. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**8. SWFWMD Cooperative Funding Agreement for Peace River Reservoir No. 3 Project (PR<sup>3</sup>) Siting and Feasibility Study**

Commissioner Doherty asked for clarification on the budgeting and amounts with the cooperative funding agreement with the District for the Reservoir No. 3 Project.

Mr. Coates explained the Board approved the submittal of SWFWMD Cooperative Funding Initiative application in October 2019 for the FY 2021 funding cycle for a project amount of \$1,500,000. The Board had previously included \$250,00 in the Authority FY 2020 budget for the project which preceded the funding application. The SWFWMD approved the funding agreement and is effective October 1, 2020 for FY 2021. The Authority funding in the amount of \$250,000 in FY 2020 prior to the funding agreement was deemed not eligible for matching funding by District.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Maio, to approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute Cooperative Funding Agreement with SWFWMD for the Peace River Reservoir No. 3 (PR<sup>3</sup>) Siting and Feasibility Study subject to General Counsel review. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**14. Electronic Media Policy**

Commissioner Doherty commented that it may be helpful for our staff and legal counsel to consult with each of our member counties' IT professionals to discuss and then report back to the Board at the appropriate time ways in which we are protecting the Authority from external threats.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Maio, to approve Electronic Media Policy. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Water Supply Conditions and FY 2020 Summary - Staff Presentation**

Richard Anderson presented a summary of FY 2020 water supply conditions and usage as well as current water supply conditions at the Peace River Facility through November 16, 2020.

- Water Supply Quantity: Excellent
- Treated Water Quality: Excellent

November Water Demand	28.14 MGD
November River Withdrawals	43.95 MGD
<u>Storage Volume:</u>	
Reservoirs	6.67 BG
ASR	<u>8.75 BG</u>
Total	15.42 BG

## **2. Bond Series 2020 – Summary Report**

Ann Lee along with Alex Bugallo of Hilltop Securities provided a summary of the Bond Series 2010A, 2010B and 2014A refinancing through Bond Series 2020.

Commissioner Maio acknowledged the tremendous effort put forth by both the Authority's financial management team and each of the county's financial staff members to secure this kind of gigantic savings and congratulated all parties involved.

Commissioner Maio asked Mr. Bugallo to confirm for the record again that this refunding did not extend the term of the bonds beyond the 20 years remaining for the current bonds.

Mr. Bugallo confirmed that yes, this is correct. There has been no change in the structure of the original bonds. In other words, the final maturity dates were all left the same. Nothing was extended.

## **3. Legislative Priorities for 2021**

Mr. Lehman along with Laura Donaldson of Manson, Bolves, Donaldson, Varn, P.A. presented the proposed legislative priorities for 2021 to the Board for approval. If approved these priorities will then be presented to each of the Authority members' respective County Delegation meetings and in Tallahassee during the 2021 legislative session.

## **4. Strategic Plan Update - Staff Presentation**

Terri Holcomb presented a review of the Board concepts discussed at the September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 workshop and recommended next step of distributing the new updated draft strategic plan to Board Member's administration and staff for additional review and input before it is brought back the Board for final approval in February 2021. The Board gave their consensus to proceed as recommended.

## **5. Peace River Regional Reservoir No. 3 Project (PR<sup>3</sup>) – Staff Presentation**

Terri Holcomb along with Katie Duty of HDR Engineering, provided the Board with its first update on the status of the Work Order No. 1 'Siting and Feasibility Phase Services' for the Peace River Regional Reservoir (PR<sup>3</sup>) Project. The status update also included an overview of the overall project status as well as additional information on the purpose and process for the Decision Support Framework Workshop No. 1 held October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> for the project.

Commissioner Maio thanked Ms. Duty and Ms. Holcomb for the excellent presentation and continuing to keep the Board readily up to speed on the project progress.

## **GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT**

Mr. Manson presented a status report for the Board's information that included an update on two pending contract issues with L. Cobb Construction and Reynolds Construction.

Mr. Manson expressed that the hope is that both of these items will be resolved through mediation, either formal or informal. However, currently both cases are now moving from pre-litigation administrative to more formal litigation services and that a litigation budget estimate of \$15,000 for the period of December 2, 2020 - February 28, 2021 is proposed for each case.

Per the terms of Agreement for General Counsel Services, the provision of litigation legal services is to be approved by the Board through recommendation of the Executive Director. Mr. Lehman stated that it is his recommendation that the Authority proceed with the services as presented by Mr. Manson.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Maio, seconded by Commissioner Langford to approve the litigation legal services as recommended by the Executive Director. Motion was approved unanimously.**

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### 1. Southwest Florida Water Management District 2020 Florida Forever Work Plan

SWFWMD has potential land purchase(s) that could be of benefit to the Authority's mitigation that will be part of the Peace River Regional Reservoir No. 3 Project (PR<sup>3</sup>) similar to previous discussions with SWFWMD regarding Orange Hammock Ranch prior to the State purchase of the property. In 2017 the Board approved a Resolution and in 2018 transmitted a letter to the SWFWMD regarding potential partnership to provide mitigation opportunities on Orange Hammock Ranch if purchased by the District.

SWFWMD have approached Authority staff with other potential opportunities to partner in a similar manner that was proposed for the Orange Hammock Ranch on properties in their 2020 Florida Forever Work Plan.

Mr. Lehman requested Board consensus to allow the Chairman and Executive Director to explore with SWFWMD potential partnership for mitigation opportunities.

Commissioner Doherty asked to confirm that the process and negotiations on Orange Hammock Ranch was to restore some impacted wetlands, and basically that would create the mitigation for impacts we are talking about relevant to Reservoir No. 3.

Mr. Lehman confirmed that yes, that is correct. And added that the cost savings in capital costs would be significant compared to purchasing mitigation bank credits.

Commissioner Maio added that he could not think of any better thing to pursue aggressively because of the \$20-\$50M costs in mitigation bank credits that could get greatly reduced if we use the same format as we did with RV Griffin.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Maio, seconded by Commissioner Langford, to authorize the Chairman and Executive Director to negotiate with SWFWMD for mitigation opportunities to bring back to the Board. Motion was approved unanimously.**

## ROUTINE STATUS REPORTS

There were no Board comments on routine status reports.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2021**

**1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Doug Manson, General Counsel, conducted the election of officers for chairman and vice-chairman and opened the floor for nominations.

**Commissioner Langford moved to nominated Commissioner Maio as Chairman.**

**Commissioner Maio moved to nominated Commissioner Langford as Vice-Chairman.**

**Mr. Manson received the nominations and consent to close nominations. Nomination of Commissioner Maio for Chairman and Commissioner Langford for Vice-Chairman was approved unanimously.**

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Maio recognized and thanked Commissioner Doherty on behalf of the Authority and staff, for his service as Chairman of the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors.

Commissioner Doherty commented that he appreciated all of the kind words. Being a member of the Authority Board was an assignment that he looked forward to for a long time and he really truly appreciated the opportunity to apply his background to assisting the region. The strides made over the last year have been significant, and while this meeting will be his last as a member of the Board, he will continue to be in the audience at each meeting just as he had before.

There were no additional Board comments.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no additional public comments.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next Authority Board Meeting  
Wednesday, February 3, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m.  
Peace River Facility, Water Quality/Training Facility  
8998 SW County Road 769 (Kings Highway), Arcadia, Florida

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

**BOARD APPROVED**

**FEB - 3 2021**

**Peace River Manasota**  
Regional Water Supply Authority



Commissioner Alan Maio  
Chairman