

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
PEACE RIVER MANASOTA REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
Manatee County Administration Building
Honorable Patricia M. Glass Chambers, First Floor
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida
August 4, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Commissioner Alan Maio, Sarasota County, Chairman
Commissioner Elton Langford, DeSoto County, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Bill Truex, Charlotte County
Commissioner George Kruse, Manatee County

Staff Present:

Mike Coates, Executive Director
Patrick Lehman, Senior Advisor
Doug Manson, General Counsel
Richard Anderson, Director of Operations
Terri Holcomb, Resource Management & Planning Manager
Ann Lee, Finance & Administration Manager
Rachel Kersten, Agency Clerk

Others Present:

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

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Maio called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Elton Langford offered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

HOST COUNTY REMARKS

Dr. Scott Hopes, Manatee County Administrator, made welcoming remarks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TRANSITION**1. Amendment to Employment Agreement for Executive Director with Patrick Lehman**

Mr. Manson reviewed the amendment to the employment agreement with Mr. Lehman from Executive Director to Senior Advisor which will extend through the end of his employment until his retirement on September 30, 2021. This amendment was negotiated at the direction of the Board during the succession plan discussion at the June 2, 2021 Board meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Truex, to approve and authorize the Chairman to execute an amendment to the employment agreement for Executive Director with Patrick Lehman naming him as Senior Advisor. Motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Lehman thanked the Board for the privilege of serving the Authority over the last three decades and for each of their continued dedication and stewardship of water for the region. He continued that his legacy is his award-winning staff, and that the Board absolutely made a good decision, this is the right time and Mr. Coates is the right person to continue the leadership in implementing their Strategic Plan.

Commissioner Maio thanked Pat on behalf of the Board for giving them something great to be a part of. He shared that Pat started with the Authority on October 29, 1992, became the interim Director on February 20, 1997, and Executive Director November 5, 1997. 29 years with the Authority - 25 of them as Executive Director. Within that time, he and his staff added over 70 miles of regional transmission pipelines, increased treatment capacity by 40MGD, increased reservoir storage capacity by 6BG by adding a 640-acre reservoir, increased ASR storage capacity by 4.5BG by adding 15 ASR wells and grew the authority from 23 employees in 1992 to 51 employees in 2021.

Commissioner Truex shared that he and Pat have had many conversations both locally and in Tallahassee while advocating together for this Authority. Pat has always been a staunch leader and a great mentor in learning more about our region and our water supply. Commissioner Truex said that he is grateful for the friendship he has with Pat and for having had the opportunity to work with him professionally in this industry, and he thanked him for all that he has done for our region as a whole.

Commissioner Langford said that it is because of Pat's leadership that he can go back to his home of Gilchrist County on the Suwanee River and brag to them about the kind of water system we have here and what they are missing out on. He said that he's learned over the years that a Board is only as good as the man holding the steering wheel of the ship and this Board would not be what it is today without Pat's leadership. Commissioner Langford expressed his thanks and congratulations and stated that not many people can retire and say they left behind the kind of legacy that Pat Lehman is leaving.

Commissioner Kruse thanked Pat for everything he has been able to relay to him and assist him with in his short time since being appointment to the Board and knows that the Authority is being left in great hands.

2. Employment Agreement for Executive Director with Mike Coates

Mr. Manson reviewed the Agreement for Executive Director with Mr. Coates negotiated as directed by the Board during discussion of the Executive Director succession plan at the June 2, 2021 Board meeting. He stated that this agreement is very similar to the one with Mr. Lehman with the same types of provisions.

Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Truex, to approve and authorize the Chairman to execute the negotiated employment agreement for Executive Director with Mike Coates. Motion was approved unanimously.

Following approval of the motion, Mr. Coates & Mr. Lehman exchanged seats on the dais.

Mr. Coates thanked the Board and said that he is extremely grateful for having worked for Pat and this Agency for the last 15 years. It has been an incredible, exciting time and he is honored to have the Board's vote of confidence in selecting him to lead the Authority as Executive Director as Pat retires. He will work to make this a seamless transition and to continue moving the plans of the Board ahead to meet the needs of the region.

PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET FOR FY 2022

1. Open Public Hearing

Commissioner Maio opened the public hearing at 9:52 a.m.

2. Presentation of Budget for FY 2022

Mr. Coates presented the proposed final Budget for FY 2022

3. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

4. Close Public Hearing

Commissioner Maio closed the public hearing at 10:09 a.m.

BUDGET FOR FY 2022

1. Adoption of Budget for FY 2021

Mr. Coates recommended approval of the proposed final Budget for FY 2022 in the amount of \$54,689,278.

Motion was made by Commissioner Truex, seconded by Commissioner Langford, to approve the Budget for FY 2022 in the amount of \$54,689,278. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. Resolution 2021-09 'Resolution Setting Forth Rates, Fees and Charges for FY 2022'

Resolution 2021-09 formalizes the Board adoption of the Budget for FY 2022 and establishes the rates, fees and charges by the Authority for FY 2022 in accordance with the 'Second Amended Interlocal Agreement Creating the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority' and the 'Master Water Supply Contract'.

Motion was made by Commissioner Truex, seconded by Commissioner Langford, to approve Resolution 2021-09 'Resolution Setting Forth Rates, Fees and Charges for FY 2022'. Motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approve Minutes of June 2, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.**
2. **Approve Resolution 2021-10 ‘Florida Water Professionals Month’.**
3. **Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute U.S. Geological Survey Joint Funding Agreement #22MCJFA0103.**
4. **Approve Annual Regulatory Plan 2021-2022 and as may be amended by General Counsel.**
5. **Approve Piggy-back on Sarasota County Contract with Benchmark EnviroAnalytical Inc. for Laboratory Services and authorize Executive Director to execute an agreement for these services.**
6. **Approve recommended list of firms and authorize Executive Director to execute Agreement for General Mowing and Grounds Maintenance Services with each respective firm.**
7. **Approve recommended list of firms and authorize Executive Director to execute Agreement for General Land Management Services with each respective firm.**
8. **Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute the Phase 3B Regional Interconnect Final Change Order and Project Close-Out.**
9. **Approve Rescheduling of the October 6, 2021 Board of Directors meeting for October 1, 2021.**
10. **Approve Declaration of Surplus and authorize the Executive Director to arrange for public sale.**
11. **Approve Novation of Continuing Services Contract with Progressive Water Resources, LLC to RESPEC Company, LLC.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Truex, seconded by Commissioner Langford, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was approved unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Water Supply Conditions – Staff Presentation

Richard Anderson presented Water Supply Conditions at the Peace River Facility as of July 15, 2021.

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

July Water Demand	22.33 MGD
July River Withdrawals	43.56 MGD
<u>Storage Volume:</u>	
Reservoirs	4.60 BG
ASR	<u>8.87 BG</u>
Total	13.47 BG

2. Southwest Florida Water Management District FY 2023 Cooperative Funding Initiative Applications

Ms. Holcomb discussed FY 2023 Cooperative Funding Initiative applications for the Southwest Florida Water Management Districts (SWFWMD) that are due October 1, 2021. Two (2) Authority projects are proposed for submittal requesting a minimum of 50% funding of eligible costs for each project. SWFWMD policy requires that an applicant provide a funding order ranking if more than one project is submitted in a funding year. Recommended ranking is shown in the table below:

Rank	Project	Estimated Project Cost
1	Regional Integrated Loop System Phase 3C Interconnect (Clark Road to Fruitville Road segment) Design and Construction	\$57.6 M
2	Southern Regional Loop (Segments 2B & 2C) Interconnect Preliminary Engineering and Basis of Design	\$3.0 M

Motion was made by Commissioner Truex, seconded by Commissioner Langford, to authorize submittal of FY 2023 Cooperative Funding Initiative Applications to SWFWMD for two regional projects and approve recommended project co-funding ranking. Motion was approved unanimously.

3. Master Water Supply Contract Revision Process

Mr. Manson discussed driving factors and the process for revision of the 2005 Master Water Supply Contract in advance of the October Board workshop.

Commissioner Truex asked about the timeline procedurally, will the Board get the draft document to review prior to the October workshop or will it be presented there and then the Board will come back at a later date.

Mr. Manson explained that there will be no motion at the October meeting at all, it will be presented strictly for consideration. This is on a slow time track from the standpoint of the contract not only being presented to Board for review but each Customers counsel and staff as well. But the draft contract will go out in the Board Packet prior to the October meeting with everything else.

GENERAL COUNSEL’S REPORT

Mr. Manson had no additional updates for the Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Coates had no additional updates for the Board.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Commissioner Maio spoke to the audience that as many of you know, Pat Lehman is retiring from the Authority after 29 years of service - 25 of them as the Authority’s Executive Director. His last day with the Authority will be September 30th, but today is Pat’s last Authority Board meeting as an employee. Pat started work for the Authority in 1992 as the Authority’s Engineer and he immediately took on the job making the Peace River water treatment facilities - newly acquired (1991) from General Development – the pride of the region.

Commissioner Maio continued that today, as Pat enjoys his last Board meeting, he would like to entertain a motion to honor Pat and the incredible contribution he’s made to our region by dedicating the Authority’s Lakewood Ranch office building acquired in 2019 as the Patrick J. Lehman Administration Building.

Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Truex, to dedicate the Authority’s Lakewood Ranch office building acquired in 2019 as the Patrick J. Lehman Administration Building . Motion was approved unanimously.

ROUTINE STATUS REPORTS

There were no Board comments on routine status reports.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no additional Board Member comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no additional public comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Authority Board Meeting

Friday, October 1, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m.

DeSoto County Administration Building, Commission Chambers, First Floor
201 East Oak Street, Arcadia, Florida

Future Authority Board Meetings

December 1, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m. - Charlotte County Administration Center, Port Charlotte, Florida

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

BOARD APPROVED

OCT - 1 2021

**Peace River Manasota
Regional Water Supply Authority**



Commissioner Alan Maio
Chairman