

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
PEACE RIVER MANASOTA REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
Peace River Facility
Water Quality/Training Center
8998 SW County Road 769 (Kings Highway), Arcadia, Florida

February 3, 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:

Patrick Lehman, Executive Director
Mike Coates, Deputy Director
Doug Manson, General Counsel
Richard Anderson, System Operations Manager
Terri Holcomb, Resource Management & Planning Manager
Ann Lee, Finance & Administration 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 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

Welcoming remarks were made by Patrick Lehman, Executive Director.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

1. Recognition of Government Finance Officers Association’s Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for FY 2019 Award

Mr. Lehman announced that the Authority has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019.

2. Public Outreach Awards

Mr. Lehman announced that the Authority’s consultant, Environmental PR Group, has received awards and recognition from multiple national organizations for their water conservation and water education campaigns designed on behalf of the Authority.

Otter Savewater ‘A Day Without Water’	Academy of Interactive & Visual Arts The Communicator Awards: 2020 Award of Distinction
Otter Savewater Promotes Conservation	Academy of Interactive & Visual Arts The Communicator Awards: 2020 Award of Distinction
Otter Savewater Conservation Month Outreach & Education	International Awards Associate MUSE Creative Awards: Gold Winer 2020
Otter Savewater Conservation Month Outreach/Education	Marketing & Communication Professionals MARCOM Awards: Gold Winner 2020
Otter Savewater Promotes Conservation Month	ARCTURUS Winner 2020
Community Awareness Campaign	Florida Section American Water Works Association Water Conservation Meritorious Award for Excellence

3. Resolution 2021-01 ‘Recognition of Mark Simpson for Distinguished Service to the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority’

The Authority expressed its gratitude to Mark Simpson for his service to the Authority over the past eleven (11) years as Manatee County Utilities Deputy Director with Resolution 2021-01.

Motion was made by Commissioner Truex, seconded by Commissioner Langford, to approve Resolution 2021-01 ‘Recognition of Mark Simpson for Distinguished Service to the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors’. Motion was approved unanimously.

4. Resolution 2021-02 ‘Recognition of Kevin Morris for Distinguished Service to the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority’

The Authority expressed its gratitude to Kevin Morris for his service to the Authority over the past twenty-one (21) years with Resolution 2021-02.

Motion was made by Commissioner Truex, seconded by Commissioner Kruse, to approve Resolution 2021-02 ‘Recognition of Kevin Morris for Distinguished Service to the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority’. Motion was approved unanimously.

5. Resolution 2021-03 ‘Recognition of Commissioner Ken Doherty for Distinguished Service to the Region as a Member of the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors’

The Authority expressed its gratitude to Commissioner Doherty for his service to the Authority over the past four (4) years as a member of the Authority Board of Directors with Resolution 2021-03.

Motion was made by Commissioner Truex, seconded by Commissioner Langford, to approve Resolution 21-03 ‘Recognition of Commissioner Ken Doherty for Service to the Region as a Member of the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors. Motion was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

1. ‘Water 101’ Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Primer

Mr. Lehman, Mr. Manson, and Mr. Coates provided a ‘Water 101’ presentation as a primer and review for the Board’s information.

Commissioner Maio asked Mr. Coates if the Authority is programming the future seventy plus miles of pipeline into the models and considering the growth explosion in this region? And if there is a need for the members of this Board to go back to their home jurisdictions about consideration for preserving the corridors, or if they have been well informed of what we need in that regard.

Mr. Coates stated that he believes the Member Government staff has been talking with developers as they come in for various approvals about where we may be putting pipelines and trying to reserve corridors and territory for pump stations, and storage, and that is very helpful. We do not know exactly where these lines are going to be placed at this point, that is part of what the feasibility and routing studies are going to help identify. The pipeline routes shown in the presentation are just a conceptual alignment of these pipelines and actual locations might be a couple of miles one side or the other. Once the feasibility studies and routing studies are complete, we’ll have a much better idea of where these lines are likely to go and we can get a jump on land acquisition at that point.

Commissioner Maio commented on how they have all heard when attending these industry conferences how the Peace River Authority is the envy of many parts of the state because of the nature of our regional interconnections. At the same time, he has people shake their head and ask him if we really need all this pipe and the interconnect loops. Commissioner Maio continued by asking if Mr. Coates could briefly touch on the instances in the past several years that this looping has had to be used.

Mr. Coates stated that back in 2004 when Hurricane Charley came up the Peace River, we lost power to the Peace River Facility, but were able to maintain water supply to Charlotte and DeSoto Counties. At that time our staff called up the Sarasota County staff at Carlton water treatment plant and requested that they pump water back south through the regional pipeline to the Peace River Facility and to support water supply to Charlotte and DeSoto. The reason this was possible was because of the regional interconnection with the Carlton water treatment facility and regional cooperation to help our neighbors. So that kept Charlotte and DeSoto Counties in water while power was being restored after the hurricane.

Mr. Coates continued that more recently another instance would be the Carlton Water Treatment Plant rehabilitation. This plant has been offline for the past year while Sarasota County is rehabbing their electro dialysis reversal units. We knew a long time in advance that Carlton was being taken offline through coordination with Sarasota staff and as a result production at the Peace River Facility has been increased to

provide extra water to Sarasota County during this whole year and will continue to do so until that facility is back online, which should be sometime this spring.

And of course, the City of Northport is going offline for somewhere around three or four weeks in the near future for maintenance. The City can take their whole facility down for maintenance and use supply from the Authority. These are the benefits of having that interconnected regional system and excess production capacity as water gets delivered where and when needed.

2. Projects Update Presentation

Mr. Coates provided a project updates presentation as a status report for the Board’s information.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approve minutes of December 2, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.**
2. **Receive and file ‘Year-End Financial Status Report for FY 2020’ and ‘Semi-Annual Investment Report’ [September 30, 2020].**
3. **Approve FY 2022 Budget schedule.**
4. **Approve Resolution 2021-04 ‘Recognition of the 30th Anniversary of the Peace River Facility Acquisition and Commemorating Commissioner Ed Chance as the Chairman of the Board of Directors Facilitating the Acquisition’.**
6. **Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute the Final Change Order No. 2 to contract with L. Cobb Construction, Inc, for ‘Maintenance Facility and Warehouse Construction Project’ reducing the Construction cost from \$2,544,280.24 to \$2,364,608.17 and extending contractual Substantial and Final Completion dates by 142 days.**
7. **Approve and authorize Executive Director to execute Change Order No. 1 to contract with Garney Construction for ‘Filter Cover Project’, decreasing the contract price by \$91,398.30 to \$3,761,601.70 and Closing Out the Project.**
8. **Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute the Final Change Order No. 2 to the contract with Reynold Construction LLC, for ‘Regional Integrated Loop System Phase 1 Interconnect (U.S. 17 to Punta Gorda) Project’ reducing the contract cost by \$855,307.68 from \$8,228,000.00 to \$7,372,692.32 and extending contractual Substantial and Final Completion dates by 110 and 103 days, respectively.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Truex, 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 January 18, 2021.

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

November Water Demand	31.08 MGD
November River Withdrawals	20.22 MGD

<u>Storage Volume:</u>	
Reservoirs	6.51 BG
ASR	<u>9.08 BG</u>
Total	15.59 BG

2. FP&L ‘Solar Together’ Program Update – Staff Presentation

Mr. Anderson provided an update on the results to-date from the ‘FP&L Solar Together Program’ which the Authority entered in March 2020 for the Board’s information. The program is designed to allow existing Commercial/Industrial customers participation in large scale solar projects currently being planned and constructed by FPL. The program offers customers the opportunity to purchase a solar subscription at a long-term monthly fixed cost. In exchange for the monthly fixed cost investment participants receive a monthly bill credit that increases over time. The estimated simple payback period for the average subscriber is projected to be 5-7 years. Participation in this program will reduce the Authority’s use of electricity produced through burning carbon-based fuels, is projected to provide long-term electrical savings estimated at \$4.3M over 30 years and support solar power generation in Florida.

3. FY 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Independent Auditors’ Report

Ms. Lee along with Tiffany Mangold of Purvis Gray & Company presented the Authority’s FY 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Independent Auditors’ Report.

The firm of Purvis Gray & Company completed the annual audit of the Authority’s financial records for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. There were no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting or significant deficiencies in operation noted in the audit that would be considered a material weakness.

Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Truex, to receive and file ‘Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority FY 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Independent Auditors’ Report’ as submitted and approve its submittal to the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program, pending the changes related to GASB 68. Motion was approved unanimously.

4. Strategic Plan 2021

Terri Holcomb presented the draft 2021 Strategic Plan including the changes resulting from the Board discussion of the Plan at the September 30, 2020 workshop, and the December 2, 2020 Board meeting.

Commissioner Truex commended Ms. Holcomb and the rest of Authority Staff on a fantastic job done with the overall update of the Strategic Plan document. Specifically, the one-page Strategic Plan summary placement that has been created and included. This so clearly outlines and encapsulates everything the that the Authority is about, the goals, all of it. It is really something that the Board Members and staff can have with them in the forefront of their mind at all time.

Motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Truex, to approve “Strategic Plan 2021”. Motion was approved unanimously.

GENERAL COUNSEL’S REPORT

Mr. Manson did not have any information to report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Lehman did not have any information to report.

ROUTINE STATUS REPORTS

There were no Board comments on routine status reports.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Truex commented that it was great to be a part of the Authority Board and he is looking forward to serving.

Commissioner Kruse echoed Commissioner Truex's sentiments and added that this is a dynamic Board that has quite a bit of regional implications and that he is looking forward to contributing where he can.

Commissioner Langford again thanked Commissioner Doherty for his service to the Board and expressed his hope that he would still be present and continue to attend meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no additional public comments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Authority Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 31, 2021 @ 9:30 a.m.

Charlotte County Administration Center, Commission Chambers, Room 119

18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, Florida

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

BOARD APPROVED

MAR 31 2021

Peace River Manasota
Regional Water Supply Authority



Commissioner Alan Maio
Chairman