



**PALM BEACH COUNTY  
WATER RESOURCES  
TASK FORCE MEETING**



**Clayton Hutcheson Agricultural Center  
559 N. Military Trail  
West Palm Beach, FL 33415**

**January 15, 2015  
1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum was announced and Chair Jay Foy called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

**Members Present:**

Jay Foy (Chair), MaryLou Berger, Rod Braun, John Flanigan, Dave Stewart, Jim Shallman, Matt Willhite, Scott Kelly, Ted Winsberg, Chip Block (alternate for Mike Mullaugh)

**Alternates Present:**

Dick Tomasello

**Members not Present:**

Jim Alderman, Adrian Salee, Jeff Hmara, Michael Mullaugh, Michael Dahlgren

**Alternates not Present:**

Scott Maxwell, Dawn Pardo, John Whitworth, Jason Haselkorn, Jonathan Pearce, David Levy, Brandon Selle, Paulette Burdick

**WRTF Working Group Present:**

Ken Todd (Chair), Pete Kwiatkowski, Darrel Graziani, Paul Schofield

**County Staff Present:**

Dana Ackerman-White, Chris Pettit, Hassan Hadjimiry, Jocelyn Colon, John Blake, Peyton McArthur

**Guests Present:**

Steve Lamb, Richard Radcliffe, Harold Aiken, Ernie Cox, Don Mathis, Barbara Powell, Brent Whitfield, Jeff Hiscock, Alan Wertepny, Laura Corry, Martha Musgrove, Karen Brandon, Joel Van Arman, Dave Swift, Andrea Rinne, Alan Ballweg, Patricia Curry, Alex Larson, Scott Harder, Michael Cox, Neil Johnson, Brian Shields, Matt Morrison

**II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 10-16-14 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

### **III. FEMA Mapping Update**

**Ken Todd, Palm Beach County**

Ken Todd made a brief presentation on the status of the FEMA maps. He said the maps have been modified using the recent data from the SFWMD C-51 restudy and notifications of the maps being finalized were published meaning that the 90 day appeal period began on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The 90 day appeal period ends on April 1<sup>st</sup> which is the date when FEMA will no longer accept appeals. At the end of the appeal period, FEMA will review all the appeal information that was submitted. They will address each and every appeal and once all the appeals have been addressed they will then deem the maps complete. Municipalities and the County will then have six months to adopt the maps. When the maps are adopted, the new flood insurance rates will kick in. While the County will be appealing, it's expected most Municipalities will do their own appeal.

### **IV. C-51 Reservoir Working Group Update**

**Dave Swift, Working Group Member**

Dave Swift provided a brief history of the research and preparation for implementation of Phase I and Phase II of the C-51 Reservoir project. He also provided a brief update of the Working Group meeting that took place in December 2014. He said a draft resolution was presented to the Working Group members (prepared by Broward County staff) that encouraged support by the other entities for Phase I of the project. Dave said Broward County Water and Wastewater Services, City of Sunrise and the City of Dania Beach indicated they were ready to proceed with a commitment to Phase I. However, the commitment from these three entities falls short of the 35 mgd permitted capacity of the project. Therefore, there needs to be additional commitments made from other government entities both in Broward and Palm Beach County to meet the 35 mgd capacity that will be allowed by SFWMD. They want additional utility participants in order for the project to move forward.

Dave also indicated that at the December Working Group meeting, there was a strong desire by many of the Broward County members of the Working Group for other utilities within Palm Beach County to adopt the Resolution in order for the project to move forward. Dave indicated that Commissioner Berger made it clear at that meeting that Palm Beach County was not ready to sign the Resolution. She wanted the opportunity to share and discuss it with Palm Beach County WRTF and before advancing the Resolution to the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners. Dave went on to say it is his understanding that Palm Beach County is in the process in conducting their own detail financial analysis of the project and have not yet made a business decision of whether the C-51 project represents the most cost effective way for the County to address their future water supply needs.

Commissioner Berger said that no Palm Beach County government entity has signed on at this time. She said that it is her understanding that it is not even close yet to having a commitment for the 35 mgd. She said many of the entities in Broward County wanted the resolution adopted by the Working Group because they have nowhere else to go to increase their water supply. They put a very strong push on the Palm Beach County entities at the December meeting and they wanted the whole group to adopt the resolution. Jay Foy asked if the resolution was adopted by anybody. MaryLou said that when she made her case, every Palm Beach County entity represented at that December meeting backed not adopting the Resolution that day. Therefore, no resolution was adopted by the Working Group.

She also said the County was indeed doing its own financial analysis and felt it was premature to take any action on the proposed resolution. After some discussion it was agreed that each individual utility would have to make their own decision as to whether or not to adopt the resolution or some version of it. It was also agreed that the WRTF was not the proper entity to pass a resolution on a financial commitment to the project.

**V. C-51 Reservoir Independent Financial Analysis Harold Aiken, MWH Consulting**

Harold Aiken provided a PowerPoint presentation as an independent financial analysis for the C-51 Reservoir and included an outline of the plan for Phase I to deliver 35 mgd to the LWDD system to move south. Harold mentioned that the dollar figures (cost per thousand gallons) for financing of the plan has been revised from his earlier figures of last year. He said this was because the SFWMD requested some changes to the layout of the C-51 Reservoir system. The main changes were: (1) add a boat ramp for maintenance purposes, (2) add a larger pump station to move the water through the system, and (3) add guard rail around the perimeter of the reservoir for safety concerns. The original cost (without these changes) was \$3.96 per thousand gallons. Harold laid out three alternatives based on phasing schemes that the SFWMD could consider in Phase I. The less that needs to be constructed during Phase I means a lower cost for the utilities. If all the requested changes were needed for Phase I the costs would go to \$5.09 per thousand gallons. If only some of the improvements were needed the costs could be as low as \$4.34 per thousand gallons.

Matt Wilhite asked where the capacity of 35 mgd came from. Harold said that was the number that SFWMD felt comfortable in permitting based on their modeling results. MaryLou Berger asked if the costs were fixed for all utilities and whether or not a lesser capacity could be allocated for the Reservoir permit. Ernie Cox, representing Palm Beach Aggregates, explained that the costs were based on the 35 mgd and would be the same cost per unit mgd for all utilities, but if there were a lesser demand then the cost would go up for the participating utilities. He said there is a point at which the cost may not be feasible for the utilities if a much smaller capacity was permitted.

**VI. Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Plan Update Matt Morrison, SFWMD**

Matt Morrison of the SFWMD provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the status of the Loxahatchee Watershed Restoration Plan. Matt emphasized that the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has revised the way they are reviewing CERP projects. Matt said the Corps now uses the 3-3-3 process in an attempt to speed up their process and make the costs of study more reasonable. The first number represents three years that the study is planned to take to complete compared to the decade or so previous studies have taken. The second number represents three million dollars as the budget to accomplish the study in an effort to keep costs down. The last number represents the three levels of Corps review of the study before passing along to Congress for final approval: (1) Jacksonville District, (2) Atlanta Region, and (3) Headquarters in D.C. Matt said the public is invited to offer comment the duration of the study and he would be happy to come to the Task Force periodically to update the members on the progress of the study.

**VI. Public Comments**

Alex Larson made comments pertaining to her disapproval with all recommendations presented in today's meeting.

**VII. Task Force Member Comments**

There were no Task Force member comments.

**VIII. Next Meeting Agenda - Jay Foy, PBC WRTF Chair**

April 16, 2015 is the next scheduled meeting date at the Clayton Hutcheson Exhibit Hall. Possible presentations discussed were: FEMA Mapping Update, City of West Palm Beach Water Supply Plan, C-51 Reservoir Update, Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Plan Update.

**IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Chair Foy adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.