

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
**PEACE RIVER MANASOTA REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**  
Charlotte County Administration Center  
Commission Chambers, Room 119  
18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, Florida

August 5, 2020

***Board Members Present:***

Commissioner Ken Doherty, Charlotte County, Chairman  
Commissioner Priscilla Trace, Manatee County, Vice-Chairman  
Commissioner Alan Maio, Sarasota County Commissioner

***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 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Doherty acknowledged Commissioner Langford was unable to attend today's meeting.

**INVOCATION**

Doug Manson, General Counsel offered the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**WELCOME GUESTS**

Welcoming remarks were made by Charlotte County Commissioner Ken Doherty.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were made.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**1. Open Public Hearing**

Commissioner Doherty opened the public hearing at 9:34 a.m.

**2. Presentation of Budget for FY 2021**

Mr. Lehman presented the proposed final Budget for FY 2021

**3. Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**4. Close Public Hearing**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Maio, seconded by Commissioner Trace, to close public hearing. Motion was approved unanimously.**

Commissioner Doherty closed the public hearing at 9:44 a.m.

**BUDGET FOR FY 2021**

**1. Adoption of Budget for FY 2021**

Mr. Lehman recommended approval of the proposed final Budget for FY 2021 in the amount of \$51,267,201.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Trace, seconded by Commissioner Maio, to approve the Budget for FY 2021 in the amount of \$51,267,201. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**2. Resolution 2020-04 ‘Resolution Setting Forth Rates, Fees and Charges for FY 2021’**

Resolution 2020-04 formalizes the Board adoption of the Budget for FY 2021 and establishes the rates, fees and charges by the Authority for FY 2021 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 Maio, seconded by Commissioner Trace, to approve Resolution 2020-04 ‘Resolution Setting Forth Rates, Fees and Charges for FY 2021’. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Approve Minutes of May 27, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting**
- 2. Approve Resolution 2020-05 ‘Florida Water Professionals Month’**
- 3. Approve Execution of U.S. Geological Survey Joint Funding Agreement #21MCJFA0103**
- 4. Approve Annual Regulatory Plan 2020-2021**
- 5. Approve Authority Budget Policies Revision**

6. **Approve Transfer Funds from General Fund to Disaster Recovery Reserve in the Amount of \$500,000**
7. **Approve Consultant Ranking for the Peace River Hydrobiological Monitoring Program (HBMP)**
8. **Approve Construction Contract for 25kV Main Power Switchgear Replacement Project**
9. **Approve Purchase Order to Charlotte County for Relocating Phase 1A Pipeline Along Sandhill Blvd.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Trace, seconded by Commissioner Maio, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Water Supply Conditions – Staff Presentation**

Richard Anderson presented the Water Supply Conditions at the Peace River Facility as of July 15, 2020.

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

May Water Demand	31.40 MGD
May River Withdrawals	63.77 MGD
<u>Storage Volume:</u>	
Reservoirs	4.99 BG
ASR	<u>8.14 BG</u>
Total	13.13 BG

Mr. Anderson also reviewed the current demand and supply for each of the Authority customers for the month of May 2020.

**2. Peace River Regional Reservoir No. 3 Project (PR<sup>3</sup>) Consultant Contract**

Terri Holcomb presented the Agreement for Professional Services Related to the Peace River Regional Reservoir (PR<sup>3</sup>) Project with HDR Engineer, Inc. and the associated Work Order No. 1 ‘Siting and Feasibility Phase Services on the Peace River Regional Reservoir (PR<sup>3</sup>) Project’ for Board approval.

The Agreement for Professional Services Related to the Peace River Regional Reservoir (PR<sup>3</sup>) Project with HDR Engineering, Inc. is a standard contract utilized by the Authority and it provides the legal framework under which Work Orders for engineering services will be issued on this project.

Work Order No. 1 ‘Siting and Feasibility Phase Services on the Peace River Regional Reservoir (PR<sup>3</sup>) Project’ with HDR Engineering, Inc. includes wetland and floodplain mitigation evaluations; geotechnical and geological explorations and evaluations; identification and development of permitting plans; development of a decision support framework to evaluate alternatives and production of a Feasibility and Siting Report.

Commissioner Maio commented that he felt it was important to add for those people who may be viewing this later but do not live with it day to day, that we consistently represented throughout this process that we

were not going to sight this reservoir or touch the water on the Orange Hammock Ranch property, and that this Authority has lived up to that representation.

Commissioner Doherty stated that in his pre-agenda conversations with Mr. Lehman he recognized that this would be our last shot on our property to create a reservoir due to the wetlands and the impacts of those wetlands and so forth. Considering this it seems only logical to him that during this phase of the activities we discuss the options of expanding and maximizing our storage capabilities.

Commissioner Maio added that he could not agree more, this is absolutely something we need to analyze and now is the time to do it.

Commissioner Trace stated that she agreed and that it never hurts to look at the options available to us.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Trace, seconded by Commissioner Maio, to approve and authorize Executive Director to execute Agreement for Professional Services Related to the Peace River Regional Reservoir (PR<sup>3</sup>) Project with HDR Engineering, Inc. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Trace, seconded by Commissioner Maio, to approve and authorize Executive Director to execute Work Order No. 1 'Peace River Regional Reservoir (PR<sup>3</sup>) Project Siting and Feasibility Phase' for an amount not to exceed \$1,499,983.20. Motion was approved unanimously.**

### **3. Integrated Regional Water Supply Plan 2020**

Terri Holcomb and Katie Duty, Senior Project Manager with HDR Engineering, Inc. presented an overview of the Final Report from the Integrated Regional Water Supply Master Plan 2020 Update. The report is an update and expansion of the 2015 Integrated Regional Water Supply Master Plan and is intended to help guide the region to a successful water supply future.

Commissioner Maio asked for confirmation that as part of these planning discussions we are taking a hard look at easements and right of ways that we are going to need. As more subdivisions and houses are built the availability of those easements and right of ways will vanish on us and then we are left to buy expensive, developed land.

Ms. Duty said that yes, this is part of the reason they are recommending the planning and routing feasibility studies for these future projects be done now so this can be heavily considered when looking at the options for routes.

Staff recommended that the Board receive and file the 'Integrated Regional Water Supply Plan 2020 Update' Final Report (HDR; July 2020).

**Motion was made by Commissioner Trace, seconded by Commissioner Maio, to receive and file 'Integrated Regional Water Supply Plan 2020 Update' (HDR; July 2020). Motion was approved unanimously.**

### **4. Water Quality Master Plan**

Richard Anderson along with Stephanie Ishii of Hazen & Sawyer provided the Board with a presentation reviewing the 2020 Water Quality Master Plan (WQMP) final report conclusions, recommendations and next steps as identified by Hazen & Sawyer.

Commissioner Doherty commented that obtaining consensus to establish and implement regional water quality standards would obviously be quite an effort with each of the individual utilities wanting to look at what costs would be involved, what the standards will look like, and how long it would take to implement it all. Status quo works currently and we meet all the state and federal regulatory requirements at each of our connection points. So, to create a uniform regional standard is an interesting goal, but what is that going to cost each individual utility to implement something like that. It would take some time to figure all of it out.

Ms. Ishii explained that prior to those discussions, one of the first steps would be to increase that monitoring at the sources and points of connection to establish whether there is even a reason to consider those additional standards or if the Authority is already meeting those limits.

Staff recommended that the Board receive and file the 2020 Water Quality Master Plan Final Report (Hazen & Sawyer; May 2020).

**Motion was made by Commissioner Maio, seconded by Commissioner Trace, to receive and file 'Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Water Quality Master Plan' (Hazen & Sawyer; May 2020). Motion was approved unanimously.**

#### **5. Bond Series 2010A and 2010B Refunding Opportunities**

Ann Lee and the Authority's Financial Advisor, Alex Bugallo Managing Director of Hilltop Securities, Inc. presented the Board with updated information on the Authority's refunding opportunities for their discussion and consideration.

Low current market rates provide the Authority an opportunity to consider refunding certain outstanding debt for economic reasons. The series 2010A, 2010B(BABs) and Series 2014A are currently callable and can be refunded on a tax-exempt basis. Upon Board consensus and direction, staff will proceed with preparation of the bond refunding documents to be brought back at the next Board meeting on September 30, 2020 for Board action.

Commissioner Maio thanked Mr. Bugallo for his cooperation with this us on these items. He continued by saying that he cannot stress enough on behalf of this Board, speaking just as one commissioner, how critically important it is that we do not lose ground on this interest rate. Understanding that there is a lot of work still to be done and not wanting to trade speed for accuracy, Commissioner Maio asked Mr. Bugallo if there was something we could do today or by calling a special meeting prior to the next Board of Director's meeting scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup> to magically get all of the paperwork done and secure these low interest rates as well.

Mr. Bugallo confirmed that yes, there are a lot of moving parts and quite a process with the documentation preparation. He understands that we need to get to the market as quickly as we can and the goal is to proceed as quickly as possible but there is obviously a process in terms of meeting with the rating agencies, preparing the disclosure documents, and it is going to take a little bit of time. Mr. Bugallo added that the schedule they have is very, very, tight but they do understand the urgency and are trying to move it as quickly as possible.

#### **GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT**

Mr. Manson presented a status report for the Board's information.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Lehman presented a status report for the Board’s information and made the recommendation to the Chairman that the Board take an opportunity to walk through the Authority’s Strategic Plan and provide updates to the goals and objectives at a workshop during the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting on September 30 2020.

**ROUTINE STATUS REPORTS**

There were no additional Board comments on routine status reports.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

There were no additional Board comments.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comment was made by Tim Ritchie.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next Authority Board Meeting  
Wednesday, September 30, 2020 @ 9:30 a.m.  
Manatee County Administration Center  
Honorable Patricia M. Glass Chambers, First Floor  
1112 Manatee Ave West, Bradenton, Florida

Future Authority Board Meetings  
December 2 @ 9:30 a.m. - DeSoto County Turner Agri-Civic Center, Arcadia, Florida

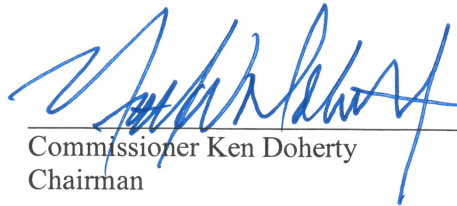
**ADJOURNEMENT**

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

**BOARD APPROVED**

**SEP 30 2020**

**Peace River Manasota  
Regional Water Supply Authority**

  
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Commissioner Ken Doherty  
Chairman