



Wekiva River Basin
Commission

**Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2011
3:00 p.m.**

East Central Florida Regional Planning Council
309 Cranes Roost Blvd. Suite 2000 Altamonte Springs, FL 32701

1. Call to Order and General Business

Chairman Constantine called the Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Ms. Clark called the roll and announced that a quorum was present. The following members were in attendance:

Chairman Lee Constantine – Chairman

Councilman James Yatsuk – Councilmember, City of Mount Dora

Commissioner Brenda Carey – Commissioner, Seminole County

Mayor John H. Land – Mayor, City of Apopka

Commission Steve Wolfram – Commissioner, City of Altamonte Springs

Commissioner Lui Damiani – Commissioner, Orange County

Mr. William Battaglia – President, Battaglia Fruit Company

Mr. Charles Lee – Senior Vice President, Florida Audubon Society

Mr. James Stansbury – Regional Planning Administrator, Department of Community Affairs

Mr. Mike Snyder – Executive Director, Orlando/Orange County Expressway Authority

Mr. Jerry McCollum – Acting Executive Director, Seminole County Expressway Authority

Mr. Jody Lee for Mr. Charles C. Aller – Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

Mr. Bart Harris for Mr. Gerald Briggs – Chief Bureau, Onsite Sewage Programs, Florida Department of Health

Ms. Noranne Downs – District Secretary, Florida Department of Transportation

Mr. Dennis David – Regional Director, FFWCC

Ms. Vivian Garfein – District Director, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Mr. Casey Fitzgerald for Mr. Kirby Green – Executive Director, St. John's River Water Management District

Chairman Constantine offered congratulations to those who were re-appointed to the Commission and to Mayor John Land for the recent celebration of his 90th birthday. Chairman Constantine also welcomed Commissioner Lui Damiani, Orange County Commissioner from District 3 to the Commission.

The Minutes of the August 11, 2010 Wekiva Commission Meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Charles Lee made a motion to approve the minutes and Mayor Land seconded this motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

2. Current Agency Activities and Legislative Report

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) – Mr. Jody Lee

Mr. Lee informed the Commission that Adam Putnam had been elected as the new Florida Commissioner of Agriculture. Mr. Charles Lee and Chairman Constantine expressed positive views of working with Commissioner Putnam in the past and both look forward to working with him in the future.

Mr. Lee then updated the Commission on the enrollment of growers in the Best Management Practices (BMP) program. FDACS currently has about half of the acreage enrolled and are continuing to pursue enrollment of the remaining acreage. It is anticipated that 90% enrollment or higher will be reached within the next year. The new statewide nursery manual the Department drafted was adopted, and it is anticipated that the new Specialty Fruit and Nuts manual will be adopted by the summer.

St. Johns River Water Management District –Mr. Casey Fitzgerald

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the District is continuing to work on consolidating the Environment Resource Permit (ERP) and Consumptive Use Permits (CUP) process for projects that require both permits. They hope to publish a notice of the proposed rule by mid-summer and have it adopted.

Florida Department of Transportation –Ms. Noranne Downs

Ms. Downs gave an update on the public hearings held with the OOCEA. She said the hearings went well. They are updating documents based on input from the hearings and plan to submit those updates to FHWA.

National Park Services is holding a design charette in March to work on design issues for the Parkway. This will help to move forward and get approval by National Park Service. The hope is to have a location design concept by this summer.

Orlando/Orange County Expressway Authority – Mr. Mike Snyder

Mr. Snyder discussed funding issues for the Wekiva Parkway stating that a new analysis is being conducted in order to allow for the economic change that has occurred over the past few years. The results of this analysis should be available by June. In the meantime, OOCEA is continuing to look for funding partners, and are moving forward on funding analysis and with the PD&E process.

The Board has approved OOCEA's five-year plan, the design monies for design phase, and the hiring of design consultants to help with plan reviews.

At Chairman Constantine's request, Mr. Snyder informed the Commission of the success OOCEA has had of late in obtaining the support and cooperation of counties, commissions, and municipalities that will be affected by the Wekiva Parkway.

3. Discussion of Key Reporting Timelines and Legislative Report

Florida Department of Community Affairs Adoption of Comprehensive Plan Amendments and Land Development Regulations Pursuant to Recommendation 14 of the Final Report – Mr. James Stansbury

Mr. Stansbury reported that since the last meeting DCA has been working with the City of Apopka on their Interchange Land Use Plan. Things are going well and they look forward to continuing that relationship.

Mr. Stansbury also stated that the Eatonville amendment is still in house but that DCA has not been able to get anyone to respond. They will continue their efforts concerning this matter.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Establishment of Total Maximum Daily Loads Pursuant to Recommendation 5 of the Final Report – Ms. Vivian Garfein

Ms. Garfein informed the Commission that the DEP is working with the stakeholders toward the process of developing BMAPS. Since the last meeting with the stakeholders on November 10, 2010, the DEP staff has been working one on one with stakeholders helping them to identify and create projects to meet their load reduction.

The next stakeholder's meeting has not been scheduled but will take place once the individual work is completed.

Florida Department of Health, Rulemaking Activities Related to On-Site Disposal Systems Treatment Standards Pursuant to Recommendation 9 of the Final Report – Mr. Bart Harris

Mr. Harris informed the Commission that the Florida Department of Health is still completing its Nitrogen Reduction Study which is composed of three phases. Phase 1 was completed last year and an interim report for Phase 2 will be available on February 1, 2011. The third phase still needs to be completed in 2012 but is in need of funding to be completed.

4. Other Business

Mayor Land remarked that he had the opportunity to speak with Senator Daniel Webster concerning the Wekiva Parkway. He raised the question of what are the key points we want to be sure we are communicating to legislators.

Further discussion concerning this resulted in Mr. Charles Lee suggesting that the Commission develop a briefing on the origin and history of the Wekiva Parkway and Protection Act and provide it to Legislature. Commissioner Brenda Carey agreed and noted the importance of sending such a document to the Federal Legislature as well as those at the state level.

Chairman Constantine directed the ECFRPC staff to produce a working paper that would include the purpose of the Commission as well as highlight how the Commission has gotten where it is today. He asked that it be sent to Mr. Lee, Commissioner Carey and himself for review. He also encouraged each agency represented by the Commission to go to the head of their state department with information concerning the work being done by the Wekiva River Basin Commission.

Chairman Constantine then went by agency to determine "Next Steps" for each member. He started with Mr. Dennis David who said his staff would continue to be available for technical assistance with commenting on wildlife and that he would have a report prepared for the next meeting informing the Commission of their progress.

The "Next Step" for the FL Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services is to continue to pursue enrollment of acreage in the BMP.

Mr. Fitzgerald commented that the St. Johns River Water Management District would continue with CUP and ERP consolidation.

Ms. Downs reported that the FL Department of Transportation would finish the PD&E and hopefully begin the design phase. They will continue to look for construction and funding alternatives and keep the new secretary informed of what is going on.

Chairman Constantine asked Ms. Garfein about the BMAP process, and she responded that DEP will continue working on them and that by the next meeting she may be able to report on what projects they will be working on and how they are going to be meeting the goals of those projects.

5. Public Comments

Chairman Constantine asked Mark Callahan to talk about the Wekiva River Bridge charette being held in March. Mr. Callahan announced that the charette, which is open to the public, will be held March 2 and 3. The purpose of the charette is to orient the participants to the ideas and requirements of the bridge. The design session of the charette will focus on minimizing the impact to the river and the enhancement of the river environment.

6. Future Meeting Dates

Chairman Constantine mentioned that, more than likely, the next meeting would not take place until after the legislative session coming up in March. He said the next meeting would probably be scheduled for some time this summer.

7. Adjournment

Chairman Constantine adjourned the Wekiva River Basin Commission Meeting at 4:01 p.m.