



DATE: August 4, 2009
TO: Members of the Southeast Florida Utility Council
FROM: Joel Wasserman, Secretary
Submitted by Maria Loucraft, City of Pompano Beach
SUBJECT: **Meeting - Monday, May 11, 2009**
1:30 – 3:00 PM
Broward County Water & Wastewater Services
Building 2 – Operations Training Room
2555 West Copans Avenue
Pompano Beach, Florida 33069

MINUTES

1. **Administration:**

- a. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions (Randy Brown, Pompano Beach Utilities)

Meeting Called to Order at 1:40 pm

- b. Review/Approval of Minutes, June 8, 2009
Motion approved by Lisa Wilson Davis (City of Boca) Second by Charlotte St. John (Broward County)

- c. Treasurer's Report (William Brandt, Hallendale Beach Utilities)

Balance - \$1,963.25 as of 6/30/09

Bill will be calling members to provide a reminder to pay dues. Randy stated a dues structure committee is being formed to look at a possible one time assessment to replenish funds. So far Bill Brandt and Don Bayler are on the committee. Lisa requested proposals on ways to generate dues.

2. **South Florida Water Management District Reorganization:**

Lisa read a letter from Carol Wehle, Executive Director of SFWMD on the purpose and philosophy behind the reorganization.

Randy presented District PowerPoint on the main points of the reorganization.

Recruitment for select positions is only open to internal District candidates at this time.

Some District Staff previously involved with Utility issues (Water Supply) may no longer be available.

Chair
Randy Brown
City of Pompano Beach

Vice Chair
Lisa Wilson-Davis
City of Boca Raton

Treasurer
Bill Brant
City of Hallandale

Secretary
Joel Wasserman
City of Hollywood



It was suggested that the District may be able to make a presentation on the restructuring.

3. Regulatory and Legislative Activities:

a. Cross Connection Control Rulemaking (Randy Brown)

A meeting was held last week (July 9th) in West Palm Beach attended by several utilities. A major concern was that utilities are being asked to go into public property, not outside utility easements. Some utilities spoke against the dual check, citing high failure rates, while other utilities spoke for them, citing low failure rates.

b. Year Round Irrigation Rule (Randy Brown)

The Governing Board approved the concept of allowing 3 days a week irrigation for five years, based on the preparation of activities and benchmarks jointly established by the District, Utilities and Nursery Industry, as part of a work plan. Utilities continued to voice the need for 3 days a week due to fireflows and water quality issues. Cities could choose to remain on 2 days a week if they wish. Board Member Jerry Montgomery stated that the goal was to efficiently use the resource and not the number of days. The article from North Carolina relating conservation to water quality in this month's issue of *Opflow* was also handed out to the SFMWD Board.

Lisa stated we will need to develop a work plan and if anyone is interested in participating in this group. The group will work on developing the benchmarks.

SEFLUC will be the spokesperson for the Utilities.

Comments on the benchmarks are due to the District on July 28th. A meeting will be held on the 30th at 3:00 pm. Other meetings including the Consumptive Use Permitting meeting and the Kissimmee Reservations meeting will also be held on this day. Come on out and make a day of it!

c. FWEA/FSAWWA Joint Meeting on Nutrient Criteria (Lisa Wilson-Davis)

This rule will affect many utilities, including those involved in reuse and ocean outfall. Another meeting will be held on July 22nd in Marco Island. Canals are Now included as "streams." A TAC meeting will be held in Temple Terrace (near Tampa), on August 5th (round trip air fair about \$100). The TAC will discuss strategies for canals at this meeting. Utilities should note that AWT does not comply with the standard. January 2010 is the deadline for freshwater systems, while 2011 is the deadline for marine waters.

What course of action can SEFLUC take since only Florida has been required to set these standards? Once DEP publishes the rule, SEFLUC can challenge it.

Chair
Randy Brown
City of Pompano Beach

Vice Chair
Lisa Wilson-Davis
City of Boca Raton

Treasurer
Bill Brant
City of Hallandale

Secretary
Joel Wasserman
City of Hollywood



John Fumero (Lewis, Longman & Walker) said that if we challenge in Federal court, then the only permissible records that may be used in the proceedings are those brought in during the workshops. There is not a large body of science to support these numerical criteria. Therefore, as much data as possible should be brought in during the workshops.

Fran Henderson (Broward County) asked if the economic impact of the rule had been published. The rule appeared to be arbitrary and capricious.

Tom Miller (Palm Beach County) stated that 60-70% of all water bodies in south Florida will be considered impaired. In the next few days the Florida Engineering Society will meet with DEP's Mike Sole.

Randy requested that SEFLUC members look for any data in their possession that could be submitted.

Glen Humphries (MWH Engineering) stated that this rule will affect reuse systems.

d. DEP Reuse Committee (Randy Brown)

Several utilities attended the Reuse Committee Meeting on June 26 in Orlando. The group is working on mandatory reuse zones and what credits utilities will be able to obtain for reuse.

e. Cross Connection Control (Hassan _____, Palm Beach County)

Since the early 90's Utilities have been required to have cross connection control programs and implement the AWWA M-14 manual. This manual recommends RPZs on auxiliary systems under certain conditions, but DEP had not required this. Palm Beach County was given a couple of months to comply. PBC did a survey and found that they were not alone in not meeting this new interpretation. They spoke with Mike Sole and a working group was created. As a result, DEP came up with alternatives and affected parties provided comments. The cost of compliance was high. PBC proposed the dual checks as a solution. The problem with this rule is that utilities have only a couple of years to comply.

Lisa reported that the next workshop in Tallahassee. Comments are due to DEP on August 4th.

4. **Upcoming Events:** A legislation update will be presented in September by Trudy Williams (2080, 494, etc).

5. **Adjourn** – regular meeting

Chair

*Randy Brown
City of Pompano Beach*

Vice Chair

*Lisa Wilson-Davis
City of Boca Raton*

Treasurer

*Bill Brant
City of Hallandale*

Secretary

*Joel Wasserman
City of Hollywood*



6. **Utility only Meeting** – Discussion of Year-Round Irrigation Rulemaking Strategies

Next Meeting

August 10, 2009

1:30 – 3:00 PM

Broward County Water & Wastewater Services

Building 2 – Operations Training Room

2555 West Copans Avenue

Pompano Beach, Florida 33069

Chair

Randy Brown

City of Pompano Beach

Vice Chair

Lisa Wilson-Davis

City of Boca Raton

Treasurer

Bill Brant

City of Hallandale

Secretary

Joel Wasserman

City of Hollywood