

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Citrus County Task Force of the Citrus/Hernando Waterways Restoration Council

May 12, 2008

The Citrus County Task Force met at 3:05 p.m. on May 12, 2008, at the Lecanto Government Building, Lecanto, Florida.

Task Force

Members Present

Michael Moberley, Chair
Sandra Clodwick, Secretary
Carl Bertoch, Member
Michael Czerwinski, Member
Ken Frink, Member
Wayne Sawyer, Member

Technical Advisory

Group Members Present

Judy Ashton, FDEP
Mark Edwards, Citrus Co.
Bruce Hasbrouck, FDOT
Jerry Krummrich, FFWCC
Philip Rhinesmith, SWFWMD

SWFWMD Staff

Members Present

Mark Hammond
Veronica Crow
Jimmy Brooks
Sid Flannery

Task Force

Members Absent

George Miskimen, Member

Technical Advisory

Group Members Absent

Colonel Paul L. Grosskruger,
USACE
Bo Rooks, WRBB
Sam Lyons, CRBB

Recording Secretary

Josie Guillen, SWFWMD

SWFWMD – Southwest Florida Water Management District
FDEP – Florida Department of Environmental Protection
CRBB – Coastal Rivers Basin Board Member
WRBB – Withlacoochee River Basin Board Member

FFWCC – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
FDOT – Florida Department of Transportation
USACE – United States Army Corp of Engineers

A list of others present who signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the Task Force. The numbers preceding the items listed below correspond with the published agenda.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
Chair Michael Moberley convened the meeting.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
Chair Moberley led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
Following consideration, Mr. Carl Bertoch moved, seconded by Mr. Wayne Sawyer to approve the March 10, 2008 meeting minutes.

4. **Pump-Out Station on Homosassa River Update**

Chair Moberley addressed the Task Force members (members) regarding the installation of a waste pump-out station on the Homosassa River. Chair Moberley has explored some options the last couple of months and tentatively arranged with McRaes Fishing Resort to have the pump-out station on the Homosassa River. Chair Moberley also spoke to Gary Bartell with Citrus County and Judy Ashton with FDEP. Judy stated FDEP would be able to fund 75 percent of the cost and perhaps Citrus County Board of County Commissioners would fund 25 percent. A quote will need to be done on the system. Chair Moberley spoke to Gary Bartell and Gary Madoff (also with Citrus County), regarding the 25 percent funding and perhaps there may be avenues to explore. Since the county is installing public restrooms at McRaes' and a lift station, the members thought it would be a good idea to also install a pump-out station while this work was being done. McRaes Fishing Resort, FDEP and Citrus County all agree that installing the pump-out station is a good idea. Chair Moberley will follow-up with the county to put this plan into action.

Ms. Judy Ashton with FDEP stated to the members the price for a pump-out station ranges from \$1,500 - \$30,000. FDEP also funds pump-out vessels up to \$50,000. FDEP will fund 75 percent of the cost. The 75 percent includes construction, installation, renovation, purchase of pump-out equipment, holding tanks, pump-out boats, dump stations, educational materials and signs, reimbursement of all sewage lines to connect to the pump-out equipment to the boat slips or to a dock or holding tank as well as sewage lines connecting pump-out equipment to a sewage treatment plant. Equipment installation can include electrical, pipes, and labor.

Chair Moberley stated to the Task Force members with economic times the way they are, the legislative will most likely not appropriate any funding for projects this year. Chair Moberley continued saying to the Task Force members that they need to be creative and to come up with projects that do not cost any money. Chair Moberley will be presenting to the members some no cost ideas later in the meeting.

5. **Website**

Chair Moberley stated that Mr. Jim Hunter had suggested to Chair Moberley to set up a website (a clearing house) to provide information from other agencies and volunteers performing work in Citrus County which can also offer hyperlinks to the other groups/agencies within the county. Chair Moberley is encouraging the idea of the website to the members to education the public. Chair Moberley introduced Mr. Richard Patz to give a brief discussion on the website. Mr. Patz would explore the possibility of having a website, a small grant to fund the website, or donation of funds.

Mr. Patz stated there are a large number of stakeholders in Citrus County related to waterways, navigation, fisheries, etc. Mr. Patz stated that there probably is not a central clearing house that anyone can gain access to and require the necessary information. Mr. Patz stated he would need to study this to determine if the theory has merit. If so, Mr. Patz will inform the members his recommendation as to what the Task Force might consider doing. Mr. Patz stated to the members he has experience writing and getting grants in the area.

Chair Moberley entertained a motion for Mr. Patz explore the option of a website and report back to the members. Mr. Ken Frink moved to accept the motion. Mr. Sawyer seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

6. **Update on Minimum Flows and Levels (relationship with Crystal River/Lake Rousseau)**

Mr. Sid Flannery with SWFWMD gave a presentation explaining what Minimum Flow is and translating how much water can be removed for water supply without damaging the ecology of a river or its receiving estuary? Mr. Flannery included the Minimum Flow rule schedule for the next few years. Mr. Flannery further explained fresh versus estuarine minimum flow studies.

7. **Task Force Position Regarding Crystal River and Lake Rousseau Activities in this Year's Annual Report**

Chair Moberley stated to the members that there is a great need in Citrus County and one of them being Three Sisters. Chair Moberley asked Mr. Dale Jones from FFWCC to discuss the possibility of using the \$150,000 the legislative granted to the Task Force towards Three Sisters.

Mr. Jones stated he does not know the exact details of the funds, but will research and get back to the members in about two weeks.

Chair asked the members, "What is our position regarding Crystal River and Lake Rousseau for our annual report?"

Mr. Bertoch asked the Chair what needs to be done about the work on Tsala Apopka? Is it a lack of funds? Chair Moberley responded that the members needed to be creative whether it be education or to have a campaign to gather the public to get permits to clean up a small amount of lake shore. Chair Moberley stated we need to continue to see what the Task Force can do for Tsala Apopka.

Mr. Michael Czerwinski stated part of the Task Force's objective is to take in response from the public and identify potential restoration plans. There are a number of issues for instances Crystal River/Kings Bay which are somewhat unresolved. It has been identified that there are problems with Lyngbya, salinity issues, and Lyngbya dredging.

Ms. Sandra Clodwick stated the Bureau of Invasive Plant Management has been transferred from FDEP to FFWCC, which could possibility be an asset to Lake Rousseau and would like some information on it. Ms. Clodwick would like to see FFWCC give a better balance concerning the invasive plant control.

Chair Moberley is directing the members on projects to be included in the report to the legislature which would require funding and also work on projects that do not require any funding. This way, if the legislature does not grant us funding for the projects, the Task Force is still moving ahead on certain projects.

8. **Beneficial Use of Dredged Material**

Mr. Allen Martin with FFWCC gave a presentation on the potential beneficial use alternatives for dredged sediments from Florida lakes. Mr. Martin stated what the background, goals, showed the study areas of 10 lakes FFWCC is focusing on,

sediment management options, categories of beneficial uses, such as: Engineering, Agricultural, Industrial/Commercial, Environmental Enhancement, and Recreational. Mr. Martin continued by stating the environmental enhancements, sediment characterization, and the characteristics of the lakes.

9. **Morrison Pool/Sinks**

No presentation given since Mr. Sawyer was satisfied with the current status of the Morrison Pool.

10. **Sources of Chlorophyll a in Kings Bay: Results of a Two-year Study by the University of South Florida**

Ms. Veronica Craw from SWFWMD gave a presentation on the nutrients and water quality of Kings Bay. Ms. Craw stated reduced water clarity was identified as a primary management issue in the Kings Bay SWIM Plan. Suspended solids were the primary cause of decreased clarity. The solids were primarily Chlorophyll. Twelve sites distributed throughout Kings Bay were sampled every other month from Oct 2005 – Nov 2007. The identity and bio-volume of chlorophyll sources were determined for each sample. The University of South Florida determined that Phytoplankton was the primary source of Chlorophyll a in Kings Bay and Diatoms were the dominant group of phytoplankton.

11. **Agenda and Location for Next Meeting**

Update on the Pump-out Station on the Homosassa River
Update on the Clearing House Website
Update on the Clemson Study
Update on FFWCC Hardwood Reduction in Flying Eagle
Update on Marion County Swales Ordinance
Update on FFWCC Spoil Site Funding for Three Sisters

The location of the next meeting will be at the Lecanto Government Building.

12. **Public Input**

- Mr. Duane Brooks, citizen, questioned the Three Sisters Springs, "Do we know how much that man wants for those springs? We'll have to wait and see what he wants for it."

Mr. Brooks stated there was an article in the paper about an ex-commissioner regarding the lake system. According to the article the ex-commissioner suggested taking the money from money currently being used to build a desalination plant and put the efforts into cleaning our lakes. It would mean to take 4 feet of sediment out and be replaced by 4 feet of water, which would result in 25 billion gallons of water in the lake system. The ex-commissioner should have done this 10-12 years ago.

In regards to clean up, it would be easier to install a seawall instead of giving \$500 to the Corp of Engineers. It would keep pollutants from going into the lake.

- Mr. Tom Kane, citizen, said the quality in Kings Bay has gone down hill in terms of clarity, diversity and quantity. Mr. Kane proposed to corner off 3-4 different places and see if we can restore that section of the bay. Mr. Kane suggested to

keep plant eaters off of it, provide a nursery area for young marine species, allow the plants to grow, and provide oxygen to clean out some of the areas.

Mr. Czerwinski suggested to Mr. Kane to attend the next Kings Bay Working Group meeting and bring his proposal to them as well.

Discussion Items (not on the agenda) from the Members

Chair Moberley informed the members that Dr. George Miskimen submitted a letter of resignation dated May 15, 2008. Meetings can be held, but until the position is filled, no action can be taken.

Mr. Ken Frink asked the members to review the documents (which was passed out earlier) from Marion County Land Development Code and give copies to the TAG to bring back some suggestions. Mr. Frink stated it is a low cost effort. Mr. Frink suggested copies of the documents be sent to the governing agencies (county, cities) which will be one step towards this effort.

Mr. Czerwinski showed an aerial photo of an area formerly known as Roscow Farms. This area is a 140 acre site with 70 - 300 linear feet of shoreline that is completely dry, as much as 25 acres of restoration. The landowner wants to mow and disk approximately 150 feet of the shoreline while it is still dry. Mr. Czerwinski is looking into getting some funding to get equipment at the site.

13. **Status Reports**

No presentations were made. The current Water Quality Monitoring report was mailed to the Task Force members in their agenda packet and was also available for the public at the meeting.

14. **Goals, Objectives, Actions, Projects, and Schedules**

No action taken.

15. **Adjournment**

There being no further business or announcements presented before the Task Force, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.