

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

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

July 7, 2008

The Hernando County Task Force met at 3:30 p.m., at the SWFWMD Governing Board Room, Brooksville, Florida.

Task Force

Members Present

Nicholas Nicholson, Chair
James Adkins, Secretary
Jim Griffin, Member
Charles Morton, Member
Norman Pallot, Member
James Polk, Member

Technical Advisory

Group Members Present

John Burnett, Hernando Co.
Bruce Hasbrouck, FDOT
Kevin Kemp, FFWCC
Sam Lyons, CRBB Member
Denise Tenuto, SWFWMD

Recording Secretary

Josie Guillen, SWFWMD

Task Force

Members Absent

Charlie Miller, Member

Technical Advisory

Group Members Absent

Colonel Paul L. Grosskruger,
USACE
Chris Anastasiou, FDEP

SWFWMD – Southwest Florida Water Management District
FDEP – Florida Department of Environmental Protection
CRBB – Coastal Rivers 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.

****AUDIO DIGITAL FILE OF THE TASK FORCE MEETING IS NOT AVAILABLE****

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Nicholson convened the meeting. Members were in attendance and a quorum was present.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Nicholson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Approval of the Minutes**

Following consideration, Mr. Jim Griffin moved, seconded by Mr. James Adkins to approve the May 5, 2008 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Update on the Legislative Funding Request**

Mr. Mark Rials updated the Task Force on the status of funding for the 2007 report to the Legislature. Due to reductions in taxes, no funding was available to the council. Mr. Rials then asked the members what they wanted to do about the previous information submitted on the 2007 Report to the Legislature. Mr. James Polk made a motion to re-submit the same information for the 2008 Report to the Legislature unless other projects come into play before that time. Mr. Adkins seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

5. **Update on the Wildlife and Habitat**

Mr. Kevin Kemp, FFWCC gave an update on Fish and Wildlife habitat in Hernando County. He stated that there is very little data upon which to report. A discussion among Task Force members over the hydrologic conditions within the county was held and a request was made to have data presented at the next board meeting.

6. **Update on Continuation of Salinity Data from 2005-2008**

Mr. Chris Zajac, SWFWMD gave an update on the salinity data, rainfall, and flow on the Weeki Wachee River. The update focused on data collected as part of Project Coast for a single station located in the estuary. The presentation demonstrated that salinity concentrations at the estuary station were increasing and while flows were decreasing in the Weeki Wachee River from January 2005 to June 2008.

7. **Open Discussion**

Open discussion included public comments as noted in item 9.

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

- Hydrologic Conditions Report for Hernando County – Granville Kinsman, SWFWMD
- Draft Report to the Legislature – Paul Thomas
- Salinity Tolerance of Barnacles – Veronica Crow

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 25, 2008 at the Springs Coast Environmental Education Center, Weeki Wachee.

9. **Public Input**

- Mr. Bill Pent spoke on the silting of the Weeki Wachee River.
- Ms. Suzanne Kirkconnell spoke on her concerns for reduced flows of the Weeki Wachee River and accumulation of sand and sediment.
- Mr. Guy Panzner spoke on his concern that a study should have been done before the groin removal project because he felt the sand accumulation in the river in front of his residence was a result. He also expressed his concern for reduced flows, hydrologic conditions and increased salinity causing sabal palm die-off in the salt flats and barnacle growth in the river. Mr. Panzner was advised that the Task Force members did not support nor conduct the groin removal project.

Mrs. Panzner provided the Task Force members with recent pictures evidencing same.

10. **Adjournment**

There being no further business or announcements presented before the Task Force, the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.