

## **SUMMARY MINUTES – DRAFT**

### **Watershed Management Policy Board June 5, 2007 – City Hall, Tallahassee Room 2:30-4:30 p.m.**

#### **I. Call to Order Commissioner Debbie Lightsey, Chair**

Commissioner Debbie Lightsey called the meeting to order just after 2:30 pm. Present in attendance from the Watershed Management Policy Board was Commissioner Lightsey, Commissioner Cliff Thael, Skip Cook, Tom Kwader and Andy Dzurik. All members of the Board were present. Present in attendance from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) were Dr. Julie Harrington, Doug Fry, John Buss and Theresa Heiker who was filling in for Joe Brown. TAC members absent from the meeting were Ron Bartel and Joe Brown. County representative Shington Lamy and City representative Michelle Bono were also present. Everyone present at the meeting including Policy Board members, TAC members and members of the audience gave a brief introduction of who they were and their affiliated organization.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes from March 29, 2007 meeting Michelle Bono**

Michelle Bono presented a copy of the minutes from the March 29, 2007, meeting to the Policy Board for their approval. All members of the Policy Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

#### **III. Presentation of the 2006 Water Champions Commissioner Lightsey / Commissioner Thael**

Commissioner Lightsey gave a brief explanation on the purpose and goal of the Watershed Management Policy Board. Commissioner Thael explained why the Water Champions award is important, what it symbolizes and what the award is designed to promote. Tom Bronakoski of the City's WCOT community access channel, produced a video interviewing the three Water Champion winners and focusing on the importance of environmental and water protection. Commissioner Lightsey and Commissioner Thael presented plaques to the 3 Water Champion winners: 1) George E. Lewis II 2) Nancy Miller 3) Dr. Joe Barnett. Photos were taken of each of the winners receiving their award.

#### **IV. Project Updates**

- **City / County Actions on Approving Watershed Board's Annual 2006 Report  
Commissioner Lightsey / Commissioner Thael**

The 2006 Annual Report was adopted and accepted by both City and County Commissions. Commissioner Lightsey stated that the Board is hoping to have funding for the upcoming fiscal year but added that budget cuts being impacted by the Special Legislative Session may affect the overall budget outcome for the Watershed Board. Commissioner Thael informed members that he is going to petition for funding to remain in place by proposing that the issues being addressed by this Board affect community health issues. Commissioner Lightsey added that there are two major projects that the Board is working on which require funding: 1) Signage 2) Water Atlas.

- **Water Atlas-Scope of Work, Executive Summary, Costs  
Lee Hartsfield, GIS**

- Lee Hartsfield, project manager for the Water Atlas program, advised that Leon County is one of seven counties taking part in the Water Atlas and that any improvements made by the other participating counties can be shared with this Board. However, there may be associated costs if the Board wants to add additional data at a future date. He updated the board on a change in the cost based on an error made by the Water Atlas staff.

There was a brief discussion on the value of the Water Atlas to the community overall. Dr. Tom Kwader initiated a discussion regarding a ground water component of the Water Atlas based on existing/available data such as City of Tallahassee Wells. As a result of that discussion, staff was asked to contact Doug Barr or Ron Bartel of the Northwest Florida Water Management District to determine if that agency had funding available to initiate a ground water component for the Water Atlas.

It was decided that the key factor will be to promote the Water Atlas' availability to the public once it becomes operational. The Board will look at links to other City/County sites and/or data that has relevance to this topic. It was decided that the Board will move forward with the core project now and consider other options in the future.

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**V. Fees Presentation**  
**John Buss**

John Buss gave a PowerPoint presentation on the City's stormwater fees for both citizens and businesses. Residents within the City pay \$6.93 per month and the costs for businesses are based on the type of business and the square footage of the business. During the fiscal year 2006/2007, non-profit businesses brought in approximately \$13,000,000 per year from stormwater fees. The stormwater fee for residents within Leon County is \$20.00 per year which is equivalent to 1.67 per month. The stormwater fee for non-residential parcels in Leon County is calculated by measuring the impervious area on the site, dividing that by the ERU base area (2,723 square feet) and then multiplying the number of ERU's by the annual fee. The total assessments in 2007 total \$880,796.

**VI. Future Direction**  
**Policy Board Members**

Michelle Bono reviewed the work that has been completed by the Board to date in regard to meeting the goals set forth in the Strategic Action Plan. The results are listed below:

- a. Three-Year Phase-In Period
  1. Collection, review and organization of data  
*\* The Board and staff have received presentations on the Water Atlas and are working to have the Water Atlas implemented for Tallahassee and Leon County.*
  2. Structural and non-structural Capital Projects
    - a. Inventory of Projects  
*\*This has been completed by the Board and staff.*
    - b. Prioritization  
*\*This has not been completed.*
  3. Regulatory and Fee Structure Review  
*\*This was reviewed during today's meeting.*
  4. New Projects  
*\*This has not been completed.*
  5. New Policies  
*\*This has not been completed.*
  6. TMDL Process  
*\*No action has been requested on this issue.*
- b. Long-Term Board Responsibilities
  1. Reporting  
*\*This has been completed by the Board and staff.*
  2. Watershed Management Plans  
*\*This has not been completed.*
  3. Implementation of the Watershed Management Plan  
*\*This has not been completed (see #2 above).*

4. Ongoing Data Collection and Oversight  
*The Water Atlas will collect this data.*
  5. Recommended Changes to Support Watershed Management Plans  
*\*This has not been completed (see #2 and #3 above).*
- c. Public Education and Participation
1. Hold public meetings in accordance with Florida Statutes, Section 286.011  
*\*This is currently being done by the Board and staff.*
  2. Recommend the design and installation of signs on major roadways  
*\*This is currently underway by the Board and staff.*
  3. Create and disseminate educational materials on non-point source pollution to watershed residents  
*\*The Board shared existing materials and did not see any gaps.*
  4. Educating lakeside residents  
*\*This is currently being done through the Water Champions Award and is on-going.*  
Commissioner Lightsey suggested an educational outreach be coordinated to hold a community wide meeting specifically targeted towards people who live near lakes.
  5. Prepare an annual report on the condition of major water bodies in Leon County  
*This has not been completed.*
  6. Establish and maintain a Watershed Protection Initiative website  
*\*This has been completed by the Board and staff.*
  7. Create an annual Watershed Champions Award  
*\*This has been completed by the Board and staff.*

Commissioner Thael recommended a Water Quality Summit to be held in the late fall. The goal of the Summit would be to build citizen support for protecting water resources. It was suggested that the Board and TAC analyze one Watershed to determine what we have now and whether or not any additional information is needed for this single watershed. This will help to develop standards for collection and recovery periods in the pond.

The board agreed to review the list and come back to its next meeting in September 2007 with some specific recommendations of next steps.

## VII. Other Business

It was also suggested that The Board and TAC need to review the five year Capital Budgets and compare what will be done in the various watersheds per city and county.

**Issues to be brought back at the next meeting:**

- Next Steps for the Policy Board to meet its objectives
- Contact Doug Barr or Ron Bartel to determine if the Northwest Florida Water Management District has funding available to initiate a ground water component for the Water Atlas

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. by Commissioner Lightsey