



# Council Minutes

May 12, 2008  
10:00 a.m.

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## **REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT**

Chair, Commissioner Deborah Kynes, City of Dunedin  
Vice Chair, Commissioner Bill Dodson, City of Plant City  
Secretary/Treasurer, Commissioner Jack Mariano, Pasco County  
Past Chair, Mayor Scott Black, City of Dade City  
Commissioner Nina Bandoni, City of Safety Harbor  
Ms. Jane Bittner, Gubernatorial Appointee, Pinellas County  
Commissioner Woody Brown, City of Largo  
Mayor Larry Bustle, City of Palmetto  
Commissioner Linda Chaney, City of St. Pete Beach  
Deputy Mayor Bob Consalvo, City of New Port Richey  
Commissioner Ronnie Duncan, Pinellas County  
Mr. Julian Garcia, Jr., Gubernatorial Appointee, Hillsborough County  
Mr. Robert Kersteen, Gubernatorial Appointee, Pinellas County  
Councilor Bob Matthews, City of Seminole  
Commissioner Bob Minning, City of Treasure Island  
Councilwoman Mary Mulhern, City of Tampa  
Councilman Karl Nurse, City of St. Petersburg  
Council Member Carlen Petersen, City of Clearwater  
Councilman Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton  
Ms. Kim Vance, Gubernatorial Appointee, Hillsborough County  
Commissioner Jane von Hahmann, Manatee County  
Mr. Philip Waller, Gubernatorial Appointee, Hillsborough County  
Commissioner Robert Worthington, City of Gulfport  
Mr. Bob Clifford, Ex-officio, Florida Department of Transportation  
Mr. Mike Downs, Alt., Ex-officio, Department of Environmental Protection

## **REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT**

Commissioner Larry Crowley, City of South Pasadena  
Commissioner Rose Ferlita, Hillsborough County  
Council Member Alison Fernandez, City of Temple Terrace  
Ms. Angeleah Kinsler, Gubernatorial Appointee, Hillsborough County  
Council Member Janice Miller, City of Oldsmar  
Mr. Andy Núñez, Gubernatorial Appointee, Pinellas County  
Vice Mayor Robin Saenger, City of Tarpon Springs  
Councilman Ed Taylor, City of Pinellas Park  
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Gubernatorial Appointee, Pinellas County  
Mr. Charles Waller, Gubernatorial Appointee, Pasco County  
Ms. Michelle Miller, Ex-officio, Enterprise Florida  
Mr. Todd Pressman, Ex-officio, SWFWMD

## **OTHERS PRESENT**

Shawn College, Exec. Planner, Hillsborough Planning Commission  
John Healey, Planner, Hillsborough County  
Trisha Neasman, Planner, SWFWMD  
Lesa Lannon, Permitting Engineer, Mosaic Fertilizer  
Ivana Kajtezovic, Environ. Planner, Tampa Bay Water  
Rae Dowling, External Affairs, FPL, Manatee County  
Tanya Portillo, Direction Environ. Affairs, FCG  
Paula Dye, Planner, Tampa Bay Water  
Cyndi Tanapein, Planning, FL. Design Consultants  
Cindy Davis, Gulfport Citizen

## **STAFF PRESENT**

Mr. Manny Pumariaga, Executive Director  
Mr. Donald Conn, Legal Counsel  
Ms. Suzanne Cooper, Principal Planner  
Ms. Lori Denman, Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary  
Mr. John Jacobsen, Accounting Manager  
Ms. Wren Krahl, Manager of Administration/Public Information  
Mr. Bill Lofgren, Principal Planner  
Mr. John Meyer, Principal Planner  
Mr. Greg Miller, Senior Planner  
Mr. Patrick O'Neil, Senior Planner  
Mr. Brady Smith, Senior Planner  
Ms. Jessica White, Senior Planner  
Ms. Erika Wiker, Planner  
Ms. Kim Williams, Communications/Graphics Coordinator  
Mr. Avera Wynne, Planning Director

### **Call to Order** - Chair Kynes

The May 12, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council was called to order by Chair Kynes at 10:07 a.m.

The Invocation was given by Secretary/Treasurer Mariano, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

### **Roll Call** - Recording Secretary

A quorum was present. There were no voting conflicts.

### Announcements – Chair Kynes

Councilman Karl Nurse was welcomed to the Council. He is replacing former Councilman Earnest Williams as the representative for the City of St. Petersburg.

### One Bay Town Hall Meeting

A flyer for the meeting was distributed. On June 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be a One Bay Town Hall Meeting entitled Voice It. There will be several regional locations in which citizens will be able to voice their opinions about the future of our region. Please share any connections that you may have to organizations that would be willing to send out a notice on their list serve or send an email blast to their contacts. People can also voice their opinion via a web based survey at [www.myonebay.com](http://www.myonebay.com). Please contact Brady Smith at ext. 42 if you have any questions.

## Regional Visioning Workshop

On May 23<sup>rd</sup> TBRPC will be hosting a Regional Visioning Workshop. If you would like to learn more about the regional visioning efforts taking place across the United States, please plan on joining us. John Fregonese will be the featured speaker. Please RSVP to Ms. Bobbi Jaroy at ext. 10.

1. **Approval of Minutes** - Secretary/Treasurer Mariano  
The minutes from the April 14, 2008 meeting were approved. (von Hahmann/Bustle)
2. **Budget Committee** -Secretary/Treasurer Mariano  
The Financial Report for the period ending 03/31/08 was approved. (von Hahmann/Dodson)
3. **Consent Agenda** - Chair Kynes  
APPROVED THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:  
**Budget and Contractual** – None

### **Intergovernmental Coordination & Review (IC&R) Program**

1. IC&R Reviews by Jurisdiction
2. April 2008 IC&R Database
3. IC&R #050-08 – Hillsborough County MPO Draft FY 2008/09 – 2009/10 Unified Planning Work Program
4. IC&R #051-08 – Sarasota/Manatee County MPO Draft FY 2008/09 – 2009/10 Unified Planning Work Program
5. IC&R #052-08 – Pasco County MPO Draft FY 2008/09 – 2009/10 Unified Planning Work Program
6. IC&R #053-08 – Pinellas County MPO Draft FY 2008/09 – 2009/10 Unified Planning Work Program

### **DRI Development Order Reports (DOR)**

DRI # 263 – Hillsborough County Mine Consolidation S/D, Hillsborough County

### **DRI Development Order Amendment Reports (DOAR)**

1. DRI # 240 – Heritage Harbour (Phase 2), Manatee County
2. DRI # 255 – Bexley Ranch, Pasco County

### **Notice of Proposed Change (NOPC) Reports**

DRI # 243 – Mitchell Ranch Plaza, Pasco County

### **Annual Report Summaries (ARS) / Biennial Report Summaries (BRS)**

1. DRI # 93 – Lake Brandon, RY 2006-07, Hillsborough County
2. DRI # 102 – Creekwood, RY 2006-07, Manatee County

### **Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments Reviewed**

1. DCA # 08-2, Pasco County
2. DCA # 08-1, City of Plant City
3. DCA # 08-1AR, City of Oldsmar
4. DCA # 08-ARA, City of Oldsmar
5. DCA # 08PEFE-1, City of St. Pete Beach (adopted)
6. DCA # 08-1ARA, City of St. Petersburg (adopted)
7. DCA # 08ER-1, Belleair Shore
8. DCA # 08PEFE-1, Manatee County (adopted)
9. DCA # 08ER-1, City of South Pasadena (adopted)
10. DCA # 08-1AR, City of Tampa
11. DCA # 08D-1, Manatee County

The Consent Agenda was approved. (Black/von Hahmann)

4. **Item(s) Removed from Consent Agenda and Addendum Item(s) - None**  
*Council members shall notify Chairman of any items they wish to be pulled from the Consent Agenda. These items will be discussed and voted on separately after the remainder of the Consent Agenda is approved.*

5. **Review Item(s) or Any Other Item(s) for Discussion - None**

6. A. Ms. Henrietta Gurri McBee, Director of Project Development for Florida Power & Light, provided a presentation on FPL's plans to meet the growing demand for electricity in the state of Florida. FPL is pursuing the development of various energy sources to provide electricity in the future.

FPL is Florida's largest electric utility in the state of Florida. In the United States FPL Energy is one of the sister subsidiaries under FPL Group. Combined, they are the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest generator in the nation and have the largest wind generation and solar portfolio. It's a clean energy business plan that works, and shows that FPL can do the right thing for the environment and continue to work through generation requirements for the future.

FPL takes pride in learning, listening and leading in the environment. We are proud of the awards that we secured throughout the years and continue to be first and foremost in leading the way for the global national green energy renewable. We believe in a carbon position which is very aggressive for a utility. We have been a part of a world wildlife fund, and have been recognized with the number one environmental ranking by Innovest, five straight times, and have been ranked number one by Fortune 500 companies.

We are directly involved in environmental activism, as proven by our company president, Armando Olivera. He was the only utility representative who was chosen to be named as part of the Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change in the state of Florida after Governor Crist announced his executive orders this past July.

FPL works with many government officials to continue to work through the issues that are unique to each region of the state. We join the climate leaders and USCAP, who are supporting the mandatory policies for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and have committed to increasing our portfolio by reducing our carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to global warming. We have done this by initiating a \$2.4 billion commitment.

Today, when we talk about renewable energy we are talking about wind and solar. We are hoping to build a wind turbine in the state of Florida. I am the lead developer working on the St. Lucie Wind Project in St. Lucie County. We are working collaboratively with the local officials there. To produce wind energy you need abundant land or offshore availability and sustained winds of 10-55 MPH. Even though the state of Florida is not as windy as other parts of the country, we believe we can sustain a wind project on the east or west coast of the state.

FPL Energy operates the largest solar generation facility in the world located in the Mojave Desert which produces 310 MW in total. That's power for 90,000 homes. There are almost a million mirrors which focus the sun's power, and it uses no water, and generates no emissions.

We do have challenges in Florida. We don't have natural resources like the central states

such as wind and unhindered sun. In the state of Florida we have sunshine, but we also have cloud coverage, wind, and debris in the air which causes an affect on the sunshine. We have to work through these issues and educate people on renewable energy.

Generation deployed projects all have their constraints, good and bad. Coal and gas can work 100% if they are properly taken care of and have proper pollution control. Wind and solar produce 25% of the time so you have to offset them. You have to continuously increase your mix so you aren't dependent on one type of generation. The 2007 Fuel Mix that FPL has worked on is Natural Gas 50%, Nuclear 20%, Purchased Power 15%, Oil 8%, Coal 5%, and Renewable 2%. What that means is that if something happens to one of those resources you could have a problem. That's why, as a state, we need to work together to better change our fuel mix so you aren't dependent on one resource. FPL believes renewables should be increasing that fuel mix and that's why we are working so hard and have made the financial commitment to increase our renewable portfolio.

We have also proposed two nuclear units at Turkey Point. The Public Service Commission granted the ability to add nuclear facilities, as well as updating the existing St. Lucie and Turkey Point facilities which will increase our mix and make more nuclear which will help with the entire portfolio.

Our commitment is to achieve 50% improvement in generation efficiency by 2020. We are committed to an additional 1899 MW of demand management savings by 2020. We want to reduce an estimated 19,000,000 tons of carbon dioxide as compared to 2006 and we believe that doing this in our business plan is investing in renewable technology energy sources such as wind and solar and ocean current. We are completely aligned with Florida Atlantic University's Dr. Rick Driscoll's program and ocean current technology. We believe that is a very viable future. It is in its infancy right now and we are working closely with them. We will have to work through the issues such as underwater permitting, jurisdiction, wildlife considerations, technical requirements for putting a turbine in the water. This has a great potential.

The St. Lucie wind project is about 13.8 MW that we are trying to install at the nuclear facility on property that is currently owned by Florida Power & Light. The wind turbine technology has completely changed in the last 20 years. It has become more efficient, quieter, and is free, clean, uses no water, does not need an air permit. You just put it up and it starts producing. You can typically build one of these projects within a year. We are using FPL Energy's sister company's technology and expertise to build in the state of Florida.

As mentioned earlier on the solar potential in Florida, we commissioned this past year a solar voltaic solar array in Sarasota (250 KW). It is the largest in the state and are hoping to do more. We are actively developing multiple solar sites. We are looking at some potentials in Martin County, we are talking to people at NASA and Desoto County, as well as other counties. We are also continuing to deploy our Sunshine Energy Program which is our voluntary green power program.

As I mentioned earlier, we are also doing new nuclear. New nuclear is a great thing for us in the future because it provides us base-load 24/7, 99% of the time. It addresses your base needs, diversifies your fuel mix, is emission free, and has proven performance. The

nuclear industry is the most regulated industry in the United States. It's very safe. The technology used at Chernobyl would never have been deployed in the U.S. nor would it have been allowed by NRC. Nuclear is a good option for a number of reasons. It's been proven, has high performance generation, is safe, secure, affordable, reliable, and economically beneficial. We are using more electricity. We are growing in the FPL territory by over 70,000, and more electricity is being used per person because of TVs and computers.

The benefits are that when you use your existing facilities and upgrade them you are actually saving money because you are using existing technology and you are trying to make it more efficient. We are doing upgrades at two nuclear units. Our existing generation encompasses 11,000 acres in South Miami and we also have the 3 natural gas units and 2 nuclear units.

One of my first projects at FPL was working on the habitats for the wetlands and projects that we surround all of our generation stations. Many of our stations have environmental projects that we've associated with and helped work through such concerns as wetlands, swamps, etc. We have a whole website dedicated to the environmental projects we have.

Ocean thermal, which is the change in the temperature in the water, is a potential hydrogen power source. You can harness that temperature and use it for cooling purposes. We have projects going on with hydrogen and I think we should also look at fuel cell storage. We should be able to take energy from the wind, store it in the cell, and use it when you need it.

FPL has not only partnered with FAU but also with FIT, UF, and other state universities to work through grant programs the Florida DEP has. We won a DEP grant for the St. Lucie wind project. We have partnered with UF and FIT for solar cell, as well as micro-turbine technology. We believe it's good business to partner with your Florida State Universities.

Questions & Comments:

Sec./Treas. Mariano:

When the sun shines is that when the best amount of solar energy is available during peak times?

Ms. McBee:

Yes. Germany has less solar potential than the state of Florida. They have required each utility to make "x" percent of their generation be produced by solar. Therefore, the customer has to buy that and so the solar generation is more expensive. By mandating those requirements they grew the business and the suppliers to produce the equipment, which created jobs, and they created an increase in the portfolio renewables because it was mandated to be a part of the portfolio. We are doing this because we think it is good business. Governor Crist is doing a lot to move forward. Two weeks ago he passed the most robust energy legislation that the state has ever seen and hopefully he will sign it. I think we are on the right track to try to move forward as a community to increase our portfolio and renewables.

Commissioner von Hahmann:

Back to Germany. When you say they mandate that the customer purchase, exactly what do you mean?

Ms. McBee:

If you are a customer of that utility, the utility has to sell you a portfolio and a piece of that has to be solar.

Commissioner von Hahmann: So your bill is actually divided.

Ms. McBee: Europe has done that because of the Kyoto principal that they must abide by. They have very rigorous requirements that are needed, therefore, they have had no choice but to mandate it. France, in the 1970s, said they weren't going to let another oil embargo take them down. Over 80% of France's generation is nuclear. Spain has been working hard to catch up. Therefore, you can fly over Spain and see wind everywhere.

Councilman Roff: I know the U.S. has over a 250 year supply of coal. Is there any technology to burn coal clean?

Ms. McBee: You have clean coal technologies like pulverized coal. FPL has proposed a super clean pulverized coal project as part of their Glades project after the PSC mandated that FPL reduce its dependance on gas. There is more research on this. Right now with the carbon footprint issue and other emissions, people are leery and that's why wind and solar are being looked at.

Sec./Treas. Mariano: When it comes to solar, other than the initial expense, people should save money.

Ms. McBee: They will save money. If you have a house or business and you deploy solar you will save money because you won't be bringing power into that establishment. FPL won't take credit for you putting solar on your house because you built it and you paid for it. That would be your incentive and you would take an IRS credit for that.

Councilwoman Mulhern: If the energy is free for wind and solar and hydrothermal, waves, etc., how does an energy company see making a profit on this? How can we go forward so that there is motivation for a power company to push these when we know that we don't have to pay for the resource?

Ms. McBee: The resource is free, however it is only available 25% of the time, or less depending on where it is. What we need to do is continue working with the industry of solar and wind and increase efficiency as much as possible and harness as much resource as possible. That's why the ocean current is promising because that current is running 24/7 just a few miles off the coastline.

Councilwoman Mulhern: I wouldn't want to stop at that 25% because the technology is going to change and you are going to have the fuel cells, hydrogen or whatever you will need to be able to deploy it all the time, not just when the sun shines. It seems to me that what the companies ought to be doing is figuring out a way to create the infrastructure, kind of patent the research and development into the structures that deliver the energy to diversify instead of continuing to just accept that we're going to have to use oil, natural gas, and all those things.

Ms. McBee: The wind industry has been very excited by the production tax credit. If you build a wind turbine you will only get money for every megawatt you produce. If it doesn't blow you won't get a dime back. And that's only an offset to your tax liability. The tax credit is a part of the financing plan.

Chair Kynes: Sludge is the by product of sewer and as long as there are people there will be sludge and nobody can figure out what do to with it. There is a very small company who is converting sludge into bio fuel.

Ms. McBee: I'm glad you brought that up. I believe that we need to deal with the landfills, particularly those that are wasting methane gas. You should

use that methane gas. As far as sludge is concerned, absolutely. I've actually spoken with those folks in Tarpon Springs. Our businesses need to continue to move forward and use the resources. FPL Energy has a letter of intent with Citrus Energy to do ethanol. We need to continue to push it.

Council Person Petersen:

I know France is heavily invested in nuclear. We don't have Chernobyl but we had Three Mile Island. Second is nuclear waste. Are we creating a huge problem for future generations in trying to solve our own current consumption? Everything I have read, we have not figured out how to dispose of this waste.

Ms. McBee:

Three Mile Island is a perfect example of the NRC and the procedures were right on. Indicators were telling the operators something was wrong and the operators chose not to look at those indicators. It was an operator error. That said, things started to happen because of human interaction. Nuclear operators are some of the most rigorously trained and they cannot misinterpret those gauges. I can assure you it is the most regulated business in the U.S. and it is safe because we haven't had any major accidents. I don't think we will either. Three Mile Island was a good example of where there could be faults, and they were human, and what to do to fix that. It's unfortunate that this incident stopped the industry and many people lost their jobs. And now for FPL to purchase equipment we have to go overseas. I'm doing a huge study at St. Lucie and I have to buy equipment from the French.

Your second question was about nuclear waste. Nuclear waste is in the government's hands. There are many scientists that have solutions. The government has been sued for not having done its legislative duty of fixing that problem. Each utility has had to develop its own procedures that are certified by the NRC as a part of their licensing requirements. Many of these utilities are running out of space. We have had to create more space and in our case, above ground storage. To get certified is worse than building a new nuclear facility because it is so rigorous. The solution is to either remove the government as the leader in the spent fuel issue and get some business minds together, with scientists, to fix this or we leave it the way it is and wait for the government. That said, there are rigorous plans on how to grow the business and keep the spent fuel in the facilities. Each one of those plans is reviewed by the NRC who goes through over ten procedures to make sure it is safe.

Commissioner von Hahmann:

I truly believe that ocean current technology is the wave of the future for the state of Florida. I do question the viability of your wind solution unless you are going off shore.

Ms. McBee:

Off shore is only 5 percentage points better. There is no turbine in the U.S. that's off shore currently and to do that they are going to have to create a turbine for the U.S. electrical system. It will cost 3 to 4 times more.

Commissioner von Hahmann:

Then there is the visual thing. I don't see this as being a viable source in the state of Florida because we just don't have enough wind.

Ms. McBee:

We have enough. And it does bring in jobs and people as tourism. They will be located on the barrier island where the St. Lucie Nuclear facility is located. It uses no water or air. We also advocate and pay for a Kid Wind Program. Teachers are pulled out of the schools and we teach

them about renewable potentials.

Commissioner von Hahmann: I'm just thinking about the issues we have in trying to site cell towers.

Ms. McBee: I can tell you the executive orders that were issued in July 2007 specified solar and wind as the two renewables because they don't need air or water permits. It's what Floridians want.

Ms. Vance: How much space is available on the coastline?

Ms. McBee: A wind turbine takes less than 100' x 100' and you can park right up to it. You can park your car, you can put picnic tables there. There's no noise, just the wind turbine creating energy when the wind is blowing.

Sec./Treas. Mariano: I was reading that nuclear waste from overseas was trying to be sent to the U.S.

Ms. McBee: I have no comment on that. I think that needs to be handled in a better way. This would really affect our customers because we have to build on-site storage facilities for spent fuel.

- B. Ms. Paula Dye, AICP, Chief Environmental Planner, Tampa Bay Water, presented information on the Future Surface Water Expansion Study and the Long-Term Water Supply planning process.

Our board of directors recognizes that in order to be sure that they meet their goals for the future we need to plan well in advance. Their goals are: environmental stewardship, cost, and reliability as we look at future water supply ideas and serving the public into the long term future. In order to make sure that we can develop supplies can take it 10 years from the idea to when it comes out of your tap. It takes that long because the board wants to make sure the best projects are chosen to meet the goals of environmental sustainability, be cost affective, and reliable everyday.

Our board of directors updates our Long Term Water Supply Plan every five years. That's a requirement of our interlocal agreement. It's similar to your comprehensive plans in your local governments in that it is the background data and analysis that you need to plan sufficiently for the future. It also has a very large public involvement component. Last year the TBRPC staff helped with that. We went out and held six public workshops across the region, one in each of our member government's location. We also convened a Planning Advisory Committee. TBRPC helped create a web site. We really do rely on your staff as we are updating our Plan to help with the outreach activities that need to be conducted, and they do an excellent job.

We collected input with a list of over 300 ideas and that lead to the board approving a concept short list for further evaluation in 2008. Our goal is to complete the update of our Long Term Water Supply Plan by the end of this year and we are scheduled to take it to the board in October.

Some of the ideas from the list of 300 were not viable such as towing icebergs from polar regions or collecting rainwater from local bridges. We had the public help us with how we weighed the criteria that evaluated those other ideas to narrow the list down and move the best ideas forward. We can't do a million dollar study on each of the 300 ideas so what we want to make sure we are doing is moving those best ideas forward and understanding them as much as possible. At the end our board of directors can choose the best project to move forward with.

We also solicited input on source water protection ideas, which is protecting the drinking water supply at its source. As an environmental planner this is one of the favorite things that I get to work on in the office. When I first started working for the agency about 10 years ago it was only about 5-10% of my time because most of our supply sources were far away from any development and we didn't have surface water supplies in our portfolio. Over the last 10 years we added river supplies and they can be more vulnerable to pollution, and we also know with all the developments that have been going on in our region, that they are getting closer and closer to our previously isolated well fields. Because of that, as development occurs, it is important to protect that drinking water supply at its source. We asked the public, what are the best things for the region to do, and what were the best things for Tampa Bay Water to do specifically? I was happy to see that the public thought everything the region was doing was important. I think that shows there is a lot of strong environmental activities going on both with our member governments and the regional agencies such as Agency On Bay Management and the Tampa Bay Estuary Program that are implementing good protection programs. For Tampa Bay Water they recommended that because we have no regulatory purview that we continue to advocate for protection of our drinking water supplies.

As we looked at the comprehensive list of 300 ideas we found there were a lot of different types of water supply sources available, from surface water to brackish groundwater to additional seawater desalination and reclaimed. The input received from the public was used to develop the criteria and the board approved 16 ideas to move forward into 2008 to evaluate those further against the Master Water Plan Goals. Those 16 project concepts are: 3 brackish groundwater ideas, 2 seawater desalination ideas, 2 reclaimed water, 8 fresh groundwater, and 1 surface water supply. Part of our Future Surface Water Expansion Study, which you will provide input on today, is looking at the Alafia Expansion as well as the Downstream Augmentation Supply sources to see if a second regional reservoir would assist in making the surface water supplies a reliable drinking water source. As we are siting that reservoir we are looking at contiguous water supply sources such as Bullfrog Creek and Little Manatee to see if there might be water available off those as well.

Our board also directed us to take a look at interregional coordination. As we narrowed the list down there were several ideas outside our service area. The state of Florida has water supply requirements called Local Sources First that utilities and water supply authorities and municipalities have to look to developing all their local water supply sources first before they look outside their region. The system engineer that did the analysis for us found that there were 5 or so feasible projects outside of our region. Because of Local Sources First our board directed us to go out and speak with folks, work with the state, and work with other regions on ways that in the long term future, might have opportunities in the long term for cooperative efforts. Right now one of our staff people is chairing the Governor's Florida 2030 Water Summit in September. That is one of the ways staff is implementing this direction from our board. We are also talking to entities like Polk County to see if there is a future long term potential ability. Perhaps even share a second regional reservoir.

Source water protection continues to be an important part of our plan and we will be working more on that as the years go by. Our goal is to make sure we are ensuring water quality while we are also making sure development can occur because development can be compatible with drinking water supply. What we try to do at Tampa Bay Water is find ways to make technical and scientific recommendations to our members as they are

looking at development proposals so that they can be compatible.

Another one of our planning efforts is our Future Surface Water Expansion Study, and a second potential regional reservoir. There are 3 of the 16 short list concepts that could provide water for this because the reservoir by itself is not a water supply source. What it does instead is take surface water supply, which is not reliable during dry periods or droughts, and store water during the high flow periods to use during the dry periods. Our feasible study is in progress. Our final goal at the end of 2008 is to be able to recommend three potential candidate sites for further review.

Why are we doing land evaluations now? In 2006 land pressures were pretty intense, the real estate market was red hot and our board was concerned because it can take over 10 years to look at siting and developing a regional reservoir and options might diminish in the future. In looking at the potential sites for a regional reservoir there are certain technical things you have to legally look at. How you prioritize is something the public can help with.

Brady Smith, TBRPC Planner, introduced the Audience Response System and lead the Council members through an interactive polling exercise. To view the Reservoir Siting Criteria ranking exercise please view the presentation at the web site shown below.

In closing, Ms. Dye referred Council to [www.futurewater.org](http://www.futurewater.org) for more information and public input. The next steps in the Long Term Planning process include: Update Water Demand Projections-Spring 2008; Evaluate Concept Shortlist-Summer 2008; and Long Term Water Supply Plan and Master Water Plan Update-Fall 2008.

Council presentations can be found at [www.tbrpc.org/councilagendas/councilpresentations.htm](http://www.tbrpc.org/councilagendas/councilpresentations.htm)

7. **Council Members' Comments** - Chair Kynes

Councilor Bob Matthews said the Mayor of Seminole, Jimmy Johnson, is doing very well and is attending meetings and recovering.

8. **Program Reports**

A. **Agency on Bay Management (ABM)** - Chair, Mr. Robert Kersteen

The full Agency met at the Tampa Bay Watch facility on May 8<sup>th</sup>. On the agenda were two important items:

Ms. Paula Dye, of Tampa Bay Water, presented the most recent Long-Term Water Supply planning process; and the evaluations on-going to locate a potential second reservoir site in southern Hillsborough County. ABM members were polled to identify their priorities for evaluation criteria for the reservoir.

The second item was an overview of the Port Dolphin deepwater port proposal. This project, under review for permits from the US Coast Guard, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and several other federal as well as state agencies, would include a two-station mooring system with a pipeline to allow large vessels to deliver and re-gasify the product into pressurized natural gas, and then transport it onshore to existing natural gas transmission lines. The port would be located 28 miles off Manatee County in the Gulf of Mexico, and receive 45 - 90 visits per year from the specially-designed ships. (The Agency on Bay Management's Natural Resources/Environmental Impact Review Committee will take up this project as well as three other significant

permit applications affecting Tampa Bay at a special meeting this Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, at the Tampa Port Authority.)

After the meeting Agency members were treated to a picnic and had the opportunity to kayak in the Shell Key Preserve. It was a beautiful day and a good time was had by all.

Aside from the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Agency's Public Information committee will meet on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Council.

**B. Clearinghouse Review Committee (CRC) - Chair, Commissioner Bill Dodson**

The CRC met on April 28, 2008. This was an informational meeting. The agenda included presentations and discussions on the following Council programs:

Developments of Regional Impact (DRI), the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF), the Statewide Regional Evacuation Study (SRES), and the Audience Response System (ARS). The next CRC meeting will be announced as needed.

**C. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) - No Report.**

**D. Emergency Management**

June 1<sup>st</sup> will mark the beginning of the 2008 Hurricane Season and the time again to initiate a public awareness campaign to alert the region's citizens to get prepared.

Resolution #2008-2 has been prepared declaring the month of June as Hurricane Awareness Month in the Tampa Bay region. Motion to approve Resolution #2008-2 (Kersteen/Duncan)

**E. Legislative Committee - Chair, Mr. Julian Garcia, Jr.**

We had a very eventful legislative session that just recently ended.

This session 313 bills passed both houses of the Legislature. As in 2007, the number of bills relating to water and the State's natural resources were limited.

The transportation package was the only infrastructure-related legislation to survive.

The most important bills addressed during the regular session regarding water, environmental and growth management are contained in the final 2008 Legislative Session report in your folders; however, I would like to highlight a few items:

The General Appropriations Act for FY 2008/09 includes spending priorities totaling over \$66.2 billion. General Revenue is \$25.6 billion and Trust Funds are \$40.6 billion.

Florida Forever received \$300 million in bonds for land acquisition and conservation. You may recall that Council did a resolution in favor of this legislation.

Drinking & Wastewater Revolving Loan Programs received \$67.7 million for the drinking water revolving loan program and \$117.8 million for the wastewater revolving loan program.

Beach Restoration received \$21.9 million to restore and protect Florida's beaches.

Regarding the Dept. of Community Affairs: The Dept. lost a total of 17 positions which

is 10% of its total workforce. Regional Planning Council's received \$2.4 million, a decrease in the amount of \$1.152 million for all eleven RPC's combined.

Under the Dept. of Transportation: The Department's Transportation Work Program received \$7.1 billion.

Regarding the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development there was much discussion of economic incentives and mechanisms to enhance the State's economy, including \$25.5 million for the QTI (Qualified Targeted Industries Tax Incentives). \$11.9 million was allocated to Enterprise Florida.

Other items included:

DRI Exemption for Port Related Facilities. Port related industrial or commercial projects located within 3 miles of or in a port master plan area which rely upon utilization of port and intermodal transportation facilities shall not be developments of regional impact where such expansions, projects or facilities are consistent with comprehensive master plans.

Transportation Concurrency Backlog Authorities; Sec. 163.3182, F.S. was amended to provide additional clarification as to the power and authority of the transportation authorities.

Under Developments of Regional Impact and SB 1706:

The bill also grants a new exemption to the DRI process for limited number of developments located in counties with a population greater than 1.25 million. The land must be proposed for at least two uses, one of which is for use as an office or laboratory appropriate for the research and development of medical technology, biotechnology, or life science applications.

Under House Bill 7135:

- Creates the Florida Energy and Climate Commission
- Makes revision to the telecommuting program for employees of public entities.
- Provides that the future land use element of local comp plans must discourage urban sprawl.
- Provides that any solar energy device added to a homestead shall not increase the taxable value of the property.
- Encourages each metropolitan planning organization to consider strategies that integrate transportation and land use planning to provide for sustainable development and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Mr. Conn provided a report on the Tax Budget Reform Commission. The Commission completed its work earlier this month. As a result of many months of work there will be seven constitutional amendments placed on the ballot for consideration later this fall. Most of those deal with school funding and reductions in ad valorem for schools. There is a complete listing of these in the 2008 Legislative Session Final Report that is in your Council folder, prepared by the Wren Group, beginning on page 31. Perhaps the major proposal, and the one most talked about that will be on the ballot would eliminate state required school property tax and would replace all state required property tax revenues

for schools with the equivalent to be made up from a reduction of sales tax exemptions and increase in sales tax or some other revenue sources to be identified by the legislature. It would be a shift away from ad valorem to some other option of state funding to be determined by the legislature.

Another proposal that will be on the ballot would require 65% of school funding to be for classroom instruction, obviously aimed at reducing the use of funds for administration and overhead.

A third ballot initiative deals with religious freedom. It would delete the prohibition against using revenues from the public treasury directly or indirectly in aid of any church, sect, or any religious denomination or in aid of any sectarian institution. I believe this is directed at school vouchers and is an effort to remove any questions about the appropriateness of vouchers for private schools.

A fourth education related initiative deals with a local option for community colleges authorizing counties to levy a local option sales tax to supplement community college funding.

There were some other proposals not related to education dealing with how the property appraiser would assess property for ad valorem tax purposes prohibiting any consideration of changes or improvements to residential property which increase resistance to wind damage and installation of renewable energy devices so that if you improved your home in that regard that would not adversely affect your property tax. It could not be taken into consideration when the assessor values your property.

There is also a constitutional amendment relating to assessment and how working waterfront properties will be assessed; and finally, another proposal dealing with an exemption of perpetually conserved land. That is land that is perpetually leased or an easement or provided to the estate or local government for conservation purposes and would be exempt from property taxes.

In a very summary fashion, those are what finally made their way through the Tax & Budget Reform Commission and if you have any questions, or would like to review the more detailed explanations, refer to page 31 of the Final Legislative Report.

- F. Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC) - No Report**
  - G. Telework Tampa Bay - No Report.**
  - H. Economic Development - No Report.**
  - I. Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) - No Report.**
9. **Other Council Reports - None**
10. **Executive/Budget Committee Report - Chair Kynes**

We met today to discuss the possibility of refinancing the building debt through Northern Trust Bank. The committee, after much deliberation, directed staff to continue to work with Hillsborough County and issue a short bid package to request bids from banking institutions to refinance the building over the remaining amortization life of the original note of 14+ years.

We also discussed hosting a joint Regional Planning Council conference with Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. The conference would be held on October 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.. The committee believes this will be a great networking opportunity to enhance dialogue and interaction with our neighbor to the south. Each Council member will receive a *Save The Date* notice and an invitation at a later date.

11. **Chair's Report - Chair Kynes**

Chair Kynes reminded Council members to take the Hurricane Awareness resolution to their jurisdiction as it is a great way to let people know we need to get prepared.

12. **Executive Director's Report - Manny Pumariega**

Mr. Pumariega asked Council members to help identify citizens and groups that could take part in the One Bay effort by providing their opinions and feedback. He also reminded the members of the Regional Visioning Workshop being held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at TBRPC and asked them to RSVP with Bobbi Jaroy at ext. 10.

**Adjournment** 11:44 a.m.

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Lori Denman, Recording Secretary

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Commissioner Deborah Kynes, Chair