

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
of the
LAKE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
November 16, 2016

The Regular Hearing of the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Water Authority was held at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 in the Lake County Administration Building, County Commissioners Chambers at 315 West Main Street, Tavares, Florida.

Members Present-District #

Staff Present

Peggy Cox, Chairwoman (#1)
Adam Dufresne, Vice Chair (At Large)
Doug Bryant (#4)
Charles Clark (#5)
Carolyn Maimone (#3)

Michael J. Perry, Executive Director
Patricia Burgos, Environmental Prog. Mgr.
Ron Hart, Water Res. Prog. Mgr.
Sergio Duarte, Water Res. Proj. Mgr.
Ben Garcia, GIS Manager
Carole Barice, LCWA Attorney
Linda Marino, Administrative Assistant
Anna Ely, Recording Secretary

A list of others present that signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent files of the Water Authority.

1. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. and everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MS. MAIMONE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAKE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY, MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2016 – REGULAR MEETING. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion.

Motion approved 5-0.

Mr. Perry stated that he would like to recognize outgoing Board members John Harris, Charles Clark and Carolyn Maimone for their service to the Lake County Water Authority.

He noted that John Harris was unable to attend the meeting as his daughter is in the hospital. He explained that Mr. Harris served for two terms and served as Chairman for part of that time. He stated that Mr. Harris visited with staff as frequently as he could and was very dedicated to the staff's safety.

Mr. Perry presented Charles Clark with a framed print and stated that Mr. Clark had served the Board for two terms in two different districts for a total of eight years. He noted that Mr. Clark provided the Board with checks and balances from a technical and scientific perspective. He

stated that it would be difficult without him on the Board from both a sentimental and technical perspective and he would miss his sense of humor.

Mr. Perry also presented Carolyn Maimone with a framed print and stated that Ms. Maimone had also served the Board for two full terms for a total of eight years as well. He noted that she is very consistent in her devotion to our resources and our county and to what she feels is the right thing to do.

He stated that Ms. Maimone has always been open to us, and we have always able to go to her for open and frank opinions. She has become an incredible asset to the Board and an incredible friend. Chairwoman Cox stated that she is going to miss Ms. Maimone terribly, as she has always been extremely helpful.

Mr. Bryant stated that it has been a pleasure getting to know Mr. Harris, Mr. Clark and Ms. Maimone the last couple of years. He stated that it is unfortunate that they have only been able to communicate at Board meetings and haven't been able to get together in a none Board-related role. He stated that Mr. Clark and Ms. Maimone brought such an incredible knowledge to the Board and all Board members can learn from their passion.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

3:45 

Mr. Perry gave the water level report and stated that it has been dry since Hurricane Matthew last month and there has been no release from Lake Apopka since that time.

He stated that it is a similar story for the Middle Lakes/Superpond, but not quite to the extreme as Lake Apopka. He explained they have been moving water from the Clermont Chain into Lake Harris, which has helped to keep the void up just a bit and popped it up over the regulation schedule. Griffin flirted with regulation schedule and now has fallen off due to evaporation and the lack of rain.

He stated that there has been minimum flow through the Burrell Lock and Dam and through the Moss Bluff Lock and Dam, but no flow coming from Lake Apopka.

He talked about the difference in water levels in the Clermont Chain during Hurricane Hermine and Hurricane Matthew and the flow of water from Big and Little Creeks. He noted that during Hurricane Hermine the water staged up and then returned to normal rather quickly, while has taken longer to return to normal since Hurricane Matthew.

He stated that during Hurricane Hermine, the flow at Big Creek was 352 cfs and that it is currently at 46 cfs. He noted that the peak for Little Creek was 327 cfs, and at this time, it is down to 70 cfs. He explained that historically, Little Creek is the one that would stage up slower and take longer to drain off, but recently Little Creek is starting to stage up faster.

Chairwoman Cox noted that the changes in the flow of Little Creek are most likely because of the repairs the Water Authority made to the culverts in the area.

 3:49

Mr. Perry explained that staff was struggling to keep the water level below the regulatory range. He stated that Mr. Hart and Mr. Duarte were out every day during the hurricane, checking on the structures and making sure there weren't any problems. He noted that the water level never exceeded 97.5 msl.

He spoke about the structure at Cherry Lake and the effort it takes to move 300 cfs through the structure. He explained that while the water moves through the structure smoothly at first, as water builds up downstream the discharge slows down. He stated that thankfully they were able to bring the flow down to 125 cfs. He stated that with Hurricane Matthew, the instantaneous discharge through the structure was over 400 cfs and a lot of water was stacking up downstream near the Harris Chain. He noted that it got to the point where it was hard to move the water that quickly and the discharge dropped off to 260 cfs.

He explained that when there are incredibly long periods of high flow from Big and Little Creek, it really stacks up water and it is hard to move it out through the system. He stated that the water level is finally returning to normal and staff is lowering the flow through the structures. He noted the target level is 97.10 msl and stated as the weather forecast calls for drier weather, the structures should be completely closed by the weekend.

Mr. Perry stated that Lake County is still at 1.78 inches below historic average rainfall year-to-date. He explained that most of the rainfall received has fallen in the southern part of the county, while Emerald Marsh to the north has received considerably lower than average rainfall over the last 10 or more years. He noted that Lake Minnehaha to the south is at 97.02 msl this year compared to 97.06 msl this time last year.

 3:58

Mr. Perry informed the Board that he had attended a Delegation Meeting on Monday, November 12, where he gave an update on Water Authority projects over the past year.

He stated that he also informed them of the vacancy for District 2 and explained that the Water Authority would like to see what it would take to get the position filled. He noted that he would be speaking to Representative Metz, whose district includes that portion of the county.

Mr. Perry stated that about one third to one-half of the delegation meeting was about education. He also noted that Randall Rainey and others were there to speak about Emerald Lakes and stated that he needs to share the rest of the story with the new delegation members.

Chairwoman Cox stated that the legislature sure was in a hurry to have a delegation meeting, even though the newly elected legislatures have not even been sworn in yet.

Mr. Perry informed the Board that the new steel alum tank for the NuRF had arrived. He showed a picture of the tank and stated that Ron Hart, Sergio Duarte, and Brian Nagy were there for its arrival and installation.

He also informed the Board that five people have been interviewed for Linda Marino's Office Manager Position. He stated that there is no one who can replace Linda and it has been an incredibly difficult task, as Linda has been with the Water Authority for 27 years.

 4:04

Mr. Perry updated the Board on the progress at the Bourlay House. He passed around some of the antique hardware and stated that what once was just a challenge has now become an obsession. He stated that there are several layers of paint on all the door hinges and doorknobs and it takes several days to clean and paint each door.

He stated that the interior of the house is almost complete. He noted that there are a couple of rooms where they might want to refinish the hardwood floors and a couple of ceilings left to paint. He stated that once the inside has been completed, it would be time to start on the outside.

He noted that lately there have been a few trespassing incidents on the property due to people driving on the property to play Pokémon Go.

Mr. Perry also informed the Board of the upcoming Christmas Holiday Parades and stated that both Clermont and Tavares parades will be on December 3rd, with one being in the morning and one in the evening. He asked that Board members let him know if they wish to participate in any of the parades.

4. CONSENT ITEMS

None

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

 4:13

a. Review of Proposed Volleyball Fieldhouse at Hickory Point

Mr. Perry introduced Robert Chandler, with Lake County Tourism to speak about the proposed Volleyball Fieldhouse at Hickory Point.

Mr. Chandler gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the project and stated that in late 2013 when they began the project they wanted to capitalize on the growing popularity of sand volleyball and other niche sports. He explained that given the limited resources in Lake County it doesn't make sense to go after the traditional field sports.

He stated that Hickory Point presented an ideal location for sand volleyball, and in partnership with the Water Authority, they had the opportunity to build the largest complex in Florida for a relatively low cost.

He stated that the volleyball facility was completed in the summer of 2014 and features 21 courts with outdoor showers and court lighting. He explained that the Lake County Board of County

Commissioners provided \$400,000 for its construction, and that USA Volleyball manages the facility.

He noted that while 2014 wasn't a full season, they still had several events. He stated that 2015 had one regional event and three national events along with several other large events.

He stated that with 21 courts, it is the largest facility in the state of Florida and one of the largest in the nation. He explained that in order for the facility to become the number one complex in the nation, it needs locker rooms, public restrooms, training rooms, media space and concession space.

He stated that in 2015 they made the top three finalist in the 2016-2017 NCAA Sand Volleyball National Championship, which is the keystone event in volleyball. He explained that when they spoke to the NCAA they were told that the reason they were not awarded the event was due to the lack of support facilities.

He noted that besides the NCAA Championship, there are high school championships, invitational events and other national and international tournaments that would like to come to the facility if there was a facility to support the event.

He stated that a fieldhouse would not only benefit users of the Volleyball Facility, it could also be used by the Soccer Club and could be an additional amenity for Hickory Point.

Mr. Chandler stated that the building would 4000 sq. feet building with locker rooms, public bathrooms, meeting and media space, a training space and an area for a concessions. He explained that the building would be adjacent to the north end of the courts.

He stated that the media and meeting space would not be available to the public, as it would be used as a supplementary asset to events being held at the Volleyball Complex, Soccer Complex or Hickory Point.

He stated that the process would include budgeting, architect, construction manager, meetings, lease revision, design approval, finalize design, project bid, and final approval by LCBC, and would be estimated to open in the spring of 2018. He noted that the plan is for the exterior design of the building to match the existing Hickory Point Pavilion.

Mr. Chandler stated that the revised lease would include the scope of the fieldhouse, an extension to the term of the lease, an increase in annual payment to LCWA, the boundaries of leased area and any additional items requested by Water Authority. He stated they hope to have the revised lease to attorney in next week or two, as they would like to go before both the Water Authority Water Authority Board and Lake County Board of County Commissioners in January.

Vice Chair Dufresne asked Mr. Chandler if would have a media deck and Mr. Chandler stated that due to cost factors they would not be adding a media deck. He explained that should they need a raised media area, they could use scaffolding for the event.

Vice Chair Dufresne also asked about the parking area and Mr. Chandler explained that the only paved parking area would be for handicapped parking.

Vice Chair Dufresne stated that he likes the concept and is in agreement with it.

Ms. Maimone also stated that she would like to see any trees that are removed, be replaced in the open area behind the building so there would be a shady area. Mr. Chandler stated that there would be no problem with replacing the trees.

In response to questions from Chairwoman Cox, Mr. Chandler stated that the cost of the building itself would be 1.2 to 1.5 million, with the final cost coming in at close to 2 million dollars. When asked about the NCAA Championship, it was noted that it is held the first or second week in May every year.

Mr. Clark asked if the County would be using any ad valorem tax money and Mr. Chandler explained that all funding would come from the tourism development tax.

Mr. Clark explained that while he is was against the volleyball facility from the beginning, as he believes it is an inappropriate use of the park; they aren't able make good use of what is already there unless they have a facility such as the one that is proposed.

Mr. Bryant noted that Mr. Chandler had stated that the facility could be used for other programs and events. He asked who would be managing the facility.

Mr. Chandler explained that management of the facility would be a combination of the Tourism Department and USA Volleyball. He stated that USA Volleyball would handle most of the scheduling of the facility. He noted that the twenty by forty foot covered outdoor porch would also be available for rent with possible revenue sharing.

Mr. Bryant asked if the restrooms would be available, should there be a need for them and Mr. Chandler stated that they would. Mr. Bryant also stated that he is in agreement with Ms. Maimone regarding the replacement of any trees removed during construction.

Chairwoman Cox asked who would own the building as the Water Authority owns the land. Mr. Chandler stated that he didn't have a definite answer. He noted that at the end of the twenty-year lease, if the Water Authority were to decide they didn't want to continue the partnership, it would be the Water Authority's building. He also noted that if the agreement is cancelled before that time, they would not be moving the building.

Mr. Chandler explained that Lake County would be insuring the building and USA Volleyball would also extend their insurance to cover the facility. He noted that he would need to consult their legal department for specific details.

Mr. Chandler also stated that the facility would have its own separate electric meter, water meter and sewer hookups and would not be on Hickory Point's electric, water and sewer.

Chairwoman Cox asked what action the Board needed to take and Mr. Chandler explained that the County wants to know whether the Water Authority Board is good with the general parameters of the project, such as the size, scope and placement of the building, so they can start drafting documents.

Chairwoman Cox stated that the County should find out if they are going to need additional land for any stormwater retention. Ms. Maimone stated that she was under the impression that the volleyball courts were still drainage.

 4:38 pm

Mr. Perry explained that while the courts still act as drainage, the St. Johns River Water Management District had stated that Hickory Point is at its stormwater maximum capacity for impervious surfaces. He stated that when the Water Authority built the new office building, additional stormwater retention was required.

He suggested that with the size of the fieldhouse, they would most likely be required to put in a retention area. Mr. Chandler stated that he would be sure and check into it.

Mr. Perry stated that they should also look into who will be maintaining the facility. He stated that currently the Water Authority is mowing the grass and occasionally the Water Authority gets last minute calls that the area needs to be mowed for a tournament.

He stated that the details of who will maintain the facility should be determined and added to the agreement. He noted that the Water Authority is mowing the area as a courtesy at this time.

Mr. Perry stated that there needs to be an actual survey this time, so that it is formalized and everyone knows what area is designated to the Volleyball Facility. He also noted that parking has always been an issue and they need to insure that parking is in the parking lots, not along the side the road and under the trees.

Mr. Chandler stated that they would be putting in some kind of fencing to insure that parking is only in the designated parking areas.

Attorney Barice stated that the new lease would need to address any costs that the Water Authority might incur and Mr. Chandler stated that the amount paid to the Water Authority would be increased to cover any additional costs.

Mr. Perry noted that currently USA Volleyball is able to rent out courts and receive revenue from the rental and Mr. Chandler stated that was agreed upon as part of the \$3,000 annual payment in the original contract.

 4:44

Ms. Maimone stated that it would be easier to make a decision on how much money the Water Authority should get, depending on the current profit being made by the facility, and how much they expect the facility to make once the fieldhouse is built.

Steve Bishop, with USA Volleyball, stated that the \$3,000 the Water Authority receives at this time is more than what they would have received if the agreement had been for 10%.

Mr. Bryant stated that he would be happy with a set fee as long as they make sure that any costs the Water Authority may incur are covered.

MS. MAIMONE MADE A MOTION STATING THAT THE BOARD AGREES TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PLANS, AND TO INCLUDE THE CHANGES THAT WERE DISCUSSED. Vice Chair Dufresne seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Dufresne asked Mr. Chandler if they were going to add more outdoor showers and Mr. Chandler stated that they shouldn't need any more outdoor showers with the addition of the locker rooms.

Mr. Bryant stated that the Board agrees with the concept, with the understanding that the Board's requests would be incorporated into the plans and would come back to the Board in the form of a lease.

Motion approved 5 -0.

b. Offer of Purchase on Old Building



Mr. Perry stated that staff had received best price forms back from both LifeStreams and SDG and noted that Board members should have copies of both forms.

He explained that SDG best price offer was for \$175,000 minus commission, while the offer from LifeStreams is for \$200,000 LifeStreams with no commission costs.

He reminded the Board that the appraised value of the property was considerably higher than either offer. He stated that for the recent bid, the Board had set a minimum of \$310,000 and he noted that they had rejected an offer of \$245,000 at that time.

MR. CLARK MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE \$200,000 ALL-CASH OFFER FROM LIFESTREAMS. Vice Chair Dufresne seconded the motion.

Mr. Bryant stated that it is troubling him that they are looking at less than 60% value of the appraisal.

Ms. Maimone stated that property values have not changed that much since the appraisal was completed. She stated that business property is not moving at this time and explained that business property sales are the first to fall off in a downturn, and the last to bounce back when things improve.

Chairwoman Cox stated they also must consider the expense of maintaining the building, along with the cost of electric and water.

Motion approved 5 - 0.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Hart addressed the Board and stated that it has been a pleasure to serve the current Board for the last 4 years. He complimented them on the integrity and professionalism they have conducted themselves and stated that they have set the standard for all future Board members.

The Board took a short break at 5:01 pm and returned at 5:16 pm.

 5:01 BREAK

 5:16

CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSION ITEMS

c. Partial Acquisition of Lake Norris Acres

Ms. Burgos informed the Board that the State had informed her that they would not be able to participate in the purchase of Lake Norris Acres, as all available funding for 2016 had been directed to other projects at this time.

She showed an aerial of the area and explained that staff is proposing a partial purchase of three lots at this time.

Chairwoman Cox noted staff is asking the Board to consider the purchase of three (3) lots comprising 18+ acres for an amount not to exceed \$175,000, with an option for the remaining 80+ acres for a period of two (2) years

Chairwoman Cox asked if staff has any idea what kind of money might come from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant.

Ms. Burgos stated that a representative of the National Parks Services has informed her that there is the possibility 50% matching grant up a \$200,000 from Land and Water Conservation Fund. She stated that there are also possible grants from Federal, State and the Green Bank Foundation.

Ms. Burgos noted that Green Bank had asked how much the Water Authority is looking for and Chairwoman Cox stated that the Water Authority should give them a potential amount and suggested asking for 50% of the purchase price. She stated that with the different grants available, it is likely that the Water Authority would be able to get 50% of the purchase price in matching grants.

Chairwoman Cox stated that these three lots offer the best connection from Bear Track Preserve to the wetlands and Lake Norris.

Mr. Richards addressed the Board and pointed out the lots in question on the aerial. He noted the location of a trail to Lake Norris located on one of the lots. He pointed out an adjacent lot and explained that he has a note with Wells Fargo Bank on that particular lot. He stated that it is the only part of the property with an outstanding note and the bank is pressing him to make a decision about what he is going to do with the property.

He explained that by selling the three lots in question, he would be able to secure the loan and keep the rest of the property intact, and would not have to sell individual lots. He noted that the Water Authority would be then have the next two years in which to secure grants to purchase the rest of the parcel.

Mr. Bryant stated that the joint appraisal with the St. Johns River Water Management District gave the value of the entire property at \$776,000 and Mr. Richards is offering the property to the District for \$725,000. He stated that the property fits into the Seminole State Forest, Lake Norris and Bear Track Preserve and the Wekiva/Ocala Greenway.

He stated that \$175,000 for 18 acres is a lot of money, but the advantage of purchasing the property is that it will connect Bear Track Preserve with Lake Norris.

He stated that although Florida Forever Funds are only available from June to August, they could apply again in 2017. He noted that the Water Authority could apply for other available grants. He stated that the Water Authority has everything they need from the Green Bank except for the actual Letter of Commitment with a dollar amount.

Mr. Bryant stated that the Water Authority is not going to purchase the whole piece of property on its own. He stated that there are other agencies that are willing to be a part of the purchase, and the prospects that the Water Authority is going to be able to partner with another agency looks good.

Mr. Richards stated that while he has not tried to sell the lots separately, but he does have people who have indicated that they are interested in purchasing individual lots.

Mr. Clark asked if the Water Authority would be willing to purchase the property at \$175,000 even if they are unable to get any other funding. Vice Chair Dufresne stated that he would be willing to and Ms. Maimone stated that she is not in favor of purchasing any portion of the property.

MR. CLARK MADE A MOTION TO PURCHASE OF 18+ ACRES OF THE LAKE NORRIS-BRIAN RICHARDS PROPERTY FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$175,000. Mr. Bryant seconded the motion.

The motion and second were withdrawn.

MR. CLARK MADE A MOTION CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF 3 LOTS THAT COMPRISE THE 18+ ACRES OF THE LAKE NORRIS-BRIAN RICHARDS PROPERTY FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$175,000 WITH AN OPTION FOR THE REMAINING 80+ ACRES FOR A PERIOD OF TWO (2) YEARS. Vice Chair Dufresne seconded it.

Motion approved 4 – 1, with Ms. Maimone in opposition.

 5:44

d. Approval to Reinvest Maturing CD's

Ms. Marino addressed the Board and explained that the Water Authority had sent out a Request for Quotes for Investments. She handed out copies of the rate quotes received and noted the top three rates.

She stated that Seacoast Bank quoted a 12-month CD at .5, which is the same rate we are currently receiving from Center State Bank. She stated that Seaside National Bank quoted .5 for a Money Market, which is higher than the current .3 we are currently receiving from TD Bank. She stated that SunTrust Bank quoted the highest Treasury note at .65, but unfortunately, the Water Authority does not qualify, as the Agency does not have 50 million in assets.

Ms. Marino explained that she had received a late submittal from TD Bank for a 6 million dollar CD with an even higher rate, but she would not recommend investing 6 million dollars in a CD. She noted that TD Bank did come back later and quote a 12-month CD at .79, which is not on the list.

She stated that she would like to recommend that the Board allow Mr. Perry to decide how to invest these funds, as better rates may be received later. She recommended that 2 million be put into a 12-month CD and the balance be put into a money market account.

MS. MAIMONE MADE A MOTION THAT WHEN THE CURRENT CD AND MONEY MARKET MATURE, ALLOW THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO INVEST 2 MILLION IN A CD AND 6.4 MILLION IN A MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT THAT BEST MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE LAKE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY AND SATUATORY REQUIREMENTS, AND REPORT THE RESULTS AT THE DECEMBER 14 BOARD MEETING. Chairwoman Cox seconded the motion

Motion approved 5 - 0.

e. Participation in Litigation Regarding General Chemical

Postponed to a future meeting

 5:49

f. Status of Wolf Branch Land Use Issues

Ms. Burgos reported on the status of the Wolf Branch Vacation Petition and explained that for the vacation petition to be approved it would have to be proven that the adjacent construction landfill would have an alternate access to their property. She stated that at this time, the landfill is being accessed along the railroad, but the owners are unable to provide proof that it is an approved access and the property owner of the adjacent grove owner will not give access.

She stated that staff is recommending to let it the matter drop at this time and to be vigilant in watching for anything that may be of concern.

She also stated that as the Wekiva Parkway goes through, the plan is to convert the railroad to a Rail to Trails.

Mr. Bryant asked about the five lots in Section H and Ms. Burgos stated that as the owners of those lots also own the adjoining lots, there are no access issues for those lots.

Attorney Barice stated that she takes issue with the County's requirement, as there has never been a road through the preserve and the property has been fenced off for more than 20 years.

Chairwoman Cox stated that it makes perfect sense to let it go at this time, but stay aware of anything happening in the area.

Ms. Burgos also addressed the Board regarding the proposed Wolf Branch Innovation District. She stated that she would like to have approval for Chairman Cox or the Executive Director to file a letter with the Lake County Board of County Commissioners and the City of Mount Dora, documenting the Water Authority's request to participate in any plans for the Wolf Branch Innovation District.

She stated that she has informed Lake County and the City of Mt. Dora repeatedly that they need to come to the Lake County Water Authority Board to provide information and receive permission for the trail. She noted that the plan is for the trail to connect to Sullivan Ranch, which is south of the Wolf Branch Preserve.

Chairwoman Cox asked if anyone had any objection to sending a letter to the City Manager of Mount Dora and the Chairman of the Lake County Commission. There was no objection and the Board was in agreement with sending a letter.

 5:58

g. Restrooms at Sawgrass Preserve

Ms. Burgos asked for permission to put out a bid for the installation of two restrooms at Sawgrass Island Preserve.

MS. MAIMONE MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO RELEASE A BID FOR THE INSTALLATION OF TWO (2) SINGLE UNIT RESTROOMS AT SAWGRASS ISLAND PRESERVE. Vice Chair Dufresne seconded the motion.

Motion approved 5-0.

 5:59

h. Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council Letter

Chairwoman Cox noted that Board members should all have a copy of the Harris Chain of Lakes Restoration Council letter sent by Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Perry stated that Mr. Clark had raised some concerns at the last meeting and wanted to insure that the Board had actually taken action on the recommendations in the Water Authority's letter of response.

Chairwoman Cox explained that the letter had been addressed to her as Chairman of the Board and she had asked that it be moved to this month, as she had not had time to add her responses to Mr. Perry's. She noted that her comments are in green and the LCWA responses are in orange.

She stated that one of the big issues was that the Harris Council wants to remove the dyke on the north shore of Lake Apopka and flood the North Shore. She stated that several tens of thousands of dollars have been spent to enhance the North Shore as a bird and wildlife refuge with wildlife drive similar to Merritt Island. She noted that the North Shore promotes eco-tourism, with people coming to see the birds and wildlife. She also noted that the Loop Trail that attracts hikers and cyclists, and stated that all of that would be gone if they were allowed to flood the North Shore.

Ms. Maimone asked what benefit the Harris Council thought that would provide and Chairwoman Cox stated that the Harris Council stated they want to create more area for fishing.

Ms. Maimone stated that flooding the North Shore would most likely cause a fish kill, which in turn would cause a bird kill. Chairwoman Cox stated that the toxic waters of Lake Apopka are not something they would want to have flooding the North Shore.

Chairwoman Cox stated that the Harris Council also wants to plant Hydrilla to create fish habitat, while also controlling the growth of the Hydrilla. She noted that this method used in Lake Toho, but it costs a fortune to control the Hydrilla. Mr. Perry noted that the best that can be done when controlling Hydrilla is maintaining navigable channels in the lake. Chairwoman Cox stated that Hydrilla causes nothing but problems.

 6:02

Mr. Clark noted that on the last page the headings are reversed and needs to be corrected. He also stated that although he agrees with the first sentence in black at the bottom of the page, he felt it should be removed, as it does not offer anything constructive. He noted that he would also like to discuss issues 3, 7, 8, 10 and 11.

He asked, "Who is speaking for the Water Authority?" He stated that he would like to take each item individually and ask if anyone on the Board disagrees with the statement.

Chairwoman Cox asked if anyone disagreed with the statement made regarding Issue #3 that states "While SJRWMD has made reductions in phosphorus and chlorophyll (algae) and improved water clarity slightly, fisheries habitat (i.e., aquatic plants) have not increased significantly." No one was in disagreement.

Ms. Maimone stated that she is in agreement with all the statements made in the letter.

Mr. Clark stated that Issue #7, states that the Water Authority's position on Hydrilla is to support the current State approach. Chairwoman Cox noted that the State's position is to eradicate it wherever they find it.

Ms. Maimone and Mr. Clark both stated that wherever it states, "the Water Authority agrees" the wording needs to be changed to "the present Water Authority Board agrees".

Mr. Clark noted that Issue #8 states, "The Water Authority feels that a minimum discharge should be continuous." and "The Water Authority feels that is one of the most significant issues". No one was in disagreement.

Mr. Clark stated that in Issue #11, regarding Fisheries and Downstream Lakes, states, "The Water Authority defers to FWC to take the lead on this issue but is willing to partner where able". He stated that he recommends that they remove the portion stating "but is willing to partner where able". The Board was in agreement with removing that portion of the sentence.

 6:10

MR. CLARK MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT THE REVISED RESPONSE TO ROBERT JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN, HARRIS CHAIN OF LAKES RESTORATION COUNCIL AND OTHER PERTINENT ENTITIES.

Ms. Maimone seconded the motion.

Motion approved 5 -0.

i. Executive Director Contract

Chairwoman Cox listed the proposed changes to the Executive Director's contract:

- Extend the date of the agreement
- Delete the language "five (5) years" from the contract period
- Reduce the maximum severance pay to twelve to four (4) months
- Amend the language to allow payment for all accrued and unused sick and annual leave subject to normal withholdin
- Delete the language regarding the employer matching the employees private pension contribution, if any

MS. MAIMONE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT. Vice Chair Dufresne seconded the motion.

Motion approved 5-0.

7. LEGAL STAFF REPORT

Attorney Barice stated that she had invited representatives of the Salem Law Group, but they stated that they would not be ready in time for the November meeting. She stated that they may come to the December meeting.

8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Bryant stated that he would be glad to recommend Ms. Maimone and Mr. Clark to any boards that might apply to in the future.

Ms. Maimone stated that she would miss everyone, and that her fellow Board Members have been awesome. She also stated that she would like to invite fellow Board Members and staff to her 50th birthday party at 1884 in Eustis on Saturday at 6 pm.

Vice Chair Dufresne stated that he is going to miss Mr. Clark's wit and way of breaking things down. He stated that it has been a pleasure serving on the Board with Ms. Maimone and she would be missed.

Chairwoman Cox stated that she was going to miss Mr. Clark and Ms. Maimone. She stated that it has been a pleasure to be on the Board for the last four years and she is looking forward to another four.

9. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Staff Reports
- b. Monthly Financial Reports – October 2016

11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Flat Island Preserve, Long 4-5 mile Hike, Sunday, Nov. 6, 2016 (9 am – Noon)
- Hydrology & Geology of Lake County Presentation, Royal Highlands, Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016 (10:00 am)
- Love Our Lakes Clean-up planning meeting, Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016 (3:30 pm)
- Lake Sumter State College at NuRF, Friday, Nov. 18, 2016 (9am - 11am)
- Invasive Snail Egg Removal, Friday, Dec. 2nd, Venetian Gardens (9:00 am)
- Lakes Presentation, Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016, Royal Harbor (10:00 am)
- Minneola Elementary 4th & 5th grade STEM night, Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 (6 - 7:30 pm)
- Love Our Lakes clean up, Hickory Point & Wooten Park, Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 (8:30am to noon)
- Sawgrass Island Preserve, Long 4-5 mile Hike, Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 (9 am – Noon)
- Board Meeting - Wednesday, **December 14, 2016** (3:30 pm)
BCC Chambers/Admin. Building
- Water Resource Jeopardy, Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2017, Garden Club (10:00 am)
- Water Resource Jeopardy, Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017, Groveland Garden Club (10:00 am)
- Water Resource Jeopardy, Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017, Poinsettia Garden Club (10:00 am)

- Lake Norris Conservation Area, Dog & Owner Hike, Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017 (9am – Noon)
- Water Resource Jeopardy, 10am, Azalea Garden Club, Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017 (10:00am)
- Board Meeting - Wednesday, **January 25, 2017** (3:30 pm)
BCC Chambers/Admin. Building
- Wolf Branch Sink Preserve Open House, Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017 (8:30 am to 3:00 pm)
- Hawthorne HOA Community Expo, Tuesday, Feb. 14, (10:00 am - 1:00 pm)
- Hickory Point Park 25th Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017
- Freshwater Master Naturalist class at Hickory Point & Hidden Waters, Friday, Feb. 17, 2017 (9am – 3pm)
- Flat Island Preserve, Firefly & Bats, Friday, March 10, 2017 (6:30 pm to 8:30 pm)

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.