

October 20, 2000

**Memorandum**

---

TO: Palm Beach County NPDES Permittees  
FROM: Alan D. Wertepny, P.E.  
SUBJECT: Minutes of NPDES Steering Committee Meeting Held On October 18, 2000  
(Our Ref. No. A0001.01)

---

**I. Attendees/Introductions**

Approximately 23 of the 40 co-permittees were represented at the October 18, 2000 NPDES Steering Committee meeting. Steering Committee Members present included: Laurent Van Cott (Chair), John Bonde (Vice Chair), Randal Krejcarek (Secretary), Allen Trefry (Member), Rebecca Travis (Member), and Brian Sullivan (Member). The steering committee approved the minutes of the September 20, 2000 meeting. A list of those present at the meeting is available upon request.

**II. Administrative Activities**

**a. The State of Florida's NPDES Program**

Acceptance of delegation from EPA to the State of Florida is scheduled to occur on October 22, 2000. Next week the State will have official delegation and will be sending out notification letters along with an invoice to the MS4 permittees. The invoice should be sent directly to Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District (NPBCID) as the lead entity in Palm Beach County. The funds for the State's permit fee have been accounted for in the co-permittees budgets and interlocal agreement with Northern. At the present time, the NPDES Municipal Coordinator for FDEP is Fred Noble. Fred Noble worked closely with Michael Bateman in the development of the NPDES State Rules. The State is in the process of obtaining the resources and manpower to administer the program. It is my opinion that it will take the State six (6) to eight (8) months to initiate any effective administration of the program. We have requested from both the State and EPA information on Sarasota County renewal of their NPDES Permit. Discussions with EPA indicate that Sarasota's 4<sup>th</sup> year submittal included the reapplication and their proposed permit activities for the next five (5) year term. EPA has provided comments and a preliminary draft permit. However, this draft is not available until the State conducts its review and issues the

permit to Sarasota. This will occur following acceptance by the State of the NPDES Program. EPA has agreed to submit a copy of Sarasota's reapplication as a guideline for Palm Beach County's submittal. Alan Wertepny will continue to coordinate both with EPA and the State on obtaining information regarding Sarasota's permit. Van Cott asked the question "Once the State accepts delegation where do you submit the NOI's for construction projects?" He also requested that this information could be included on our web site. Review of the draft rules for the NPDES construction permit, the rules specify that the NOI's should be submitted to the following address:

NPDES Stormwater Notices Center, MS#2510  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
2600 Blair Stone Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

**b. FEMA's Flood Maps for Palm Beach County**

FEMA has distributed drafts of the Flood Insurance Rate Maps to Palm Beach County Municipal Government through a joint meeting of the County's EOC, FEMA Representative and Municipalities. These maps and the supporting documentation are in draft form and should be reviewed very carefully by the municipalities. A number of changes have occurred within Palm Beach County, which the municipalities should be aware of. These changes include the following:

- All flood elevations are referenced to the North American Vertical Data of 1988 (NAVD) as compared to the previous reference to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD). The difference between NGVD 1929 and NAVD 1988 in Palm Beach County is 1.56 feet. NAVD 88 equals NGVD 29 minus 1.56 feet. In other words, if the revised FEMA map indicates an elevation of 18.0, the NGVD elevation is 19.6 feet.
- Some areas in Palm Beach County, which were previously not identified with a flood elevation, may now have a flood elevation. FEMA has developed new flood elevations for the C-51 canal and other canals within Palm Beach County. These new flood elevations will affect municipalities current programs for the administration of the flood plan management regulations. In the C-51 basin, Royal Pam Beach, Village of Wellington and Palm Beach County are impacted. For your information new flood stages not discussed at our meeting have been developed by FEMA for the E-3 canal, E-4 canal, Jupiter Creek, Keller Canal, Lake Osborne, L-14 canal, L-16 canal and Hillsboro canal.

- Areas previously identified by FEMA as Zones A0 (shallow flooding of 1-3 feet) are still identified as Zone A0 even though development may have occurred in these areas which is meeting the SFWMD requirements. An example: Within the City of West Palm Beach, Vista Center, Riverwalk, Andros Isles and Baywinds are identified as Zone A0 requiring flood insurance.

All municipalities are advised to review these FEMA maps and coordinate a response through Palm Beach County. Palm Beach County's EOC will be coordinating meetings with the affected municipalities and FEMA. The Steering Committee requested that on our website we provide information on these FEMA meetings and schedules.

### **III. Florida's TMDL Program**

Scott McClelland with Camp Dresser McKee, Inc. provided an overview of the Total Maximum Daily Loads Program in Florida affecting Palm Beach County. TMDL's are defined as the maximum amount of pollutants that receiving water can assimilate without exceeding applicable water quality standards. A TMDL analysis must consider all point sources, non-point sources, natural conditions and contains a margin of safety. TMDL is a required program by both the State and the Federal Government. As a result of the Clean Water Act, EPA and the State of Florida are required to identify and prioritize impaired waters. If pollutants to impaired waters are man induced and controllable, then TMDL's are to be established. In 1999 Florida's Watershed Restoration Act was approved. This Act defined the process for developing the Impaired Water Listing and delisting and required rules for preparation of the impaired water bodies and a TMDL water allocation process. The State established a water technical advisory committee, which assisted in the rule making process for this Act and envisioned that a TMDL allocation technical advisory committee will be formed to assist in implementation. Scott McClelland was a member of the previous water technical advisory committee and he plans on being a member of the TMDL advisory committee. Congress has indicated that EPA's and TMDL rule can not be implemented until at least 2001. The 1998 303(d) waters list of impaired water bodies for Palm Beach County identified high and low priority water bodies. The high priority water bodies will be addressed within the Year 2002 to 2006. The low priority water bodies will be addressed by the Year 2011. The States approach to TMDL's is on a watershed basis and has a five (5) step process. These steps include preliminary basin assessment, coordinated monitoring program, data analysis and TMDL development, basin plan development and implementation.

In dealing with the TMDL, the best advice Scott offered was 1) do not get on a 303(d) 2) if you get on a 303(d) list, get involved in the Watershed Management Plan, provide supporting monitoring data to confirm or disprove that it is indeed impaired water body

and participation in the TMDL allocation process.

Information on the Florida's TMDL program can be obtained through an FDEP website, which will be added as link on our group's NPDES website. The Steering Committee and co-permittees present at this meeting expressed an interest to monitor the activities and participate in the TMDL process. It was suggested that further discussions with the group be held either in January or February of next year. In this discussion the current listing of impaired water bodies and parameters should be reviewed by the NPDES permittees.

#### **IV. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. at the offices of Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District. The meeting will concentrate on the reapplication requirements of the NPDES Permit.

I believe that these minutes accurately reflect the discussions and decisions of this meeting; however, the writer will welcome additions and/or corrections in writing within seven days of the date of these minutes. Should you have any questions, please call me at extension 231.

ADW/jeh

Copies: Peter L. Pimentel  
All Attendees and Co-Permittees