

Memorandum

DATE: September 30, 2004
TO: Palm Beach County NPDES Permittees
FROM: Alan D. Wertepny, P.E.
REF. NO. A3050.01
SUBJECT: Minutes of NPDES Steering Committee Meeting held on September 20, 2004

I. Attendees/Introductions

Approximately 20 of the 40 co-permittees were represented at the September 20, 2004 NPDES Steering Committee meeting. Steering Committee members present included: Laurent Van Cott (Chair), Jay Foy (Vice Chair), Randal Krejcarek (Secretary), Allen Trefry (Member), Karen Brandon (Member), and Tony Puerta (Member). A copy of the sign-in list is available upon request.

II. Administrative Activities

- a. Approval of August 18, 2004 Meeting Minutes** – Allen Trefry made a motion for approval of the August 18, 2004 meeting minutes. It was seconded by Jay Foy and approved by the Steering Committee.

- b. Sediment and Erosion Control Training Program** – Alan Wertepny discussed a cost estimate for establishing our own FDEP certified sediment and erosion control training program. The estimate was divided into three activities. These included pre-program activities, the two-day event, and post-program coordination. The estimate for all three activities was approximately \$9,900. It was recognized that the cost estimate for the training program would be lower for each additional event as we gain more experience in conducting the program. The members of the Steering Committee wanted to reduce cost in conducting these programs. Allen Trefry noted that the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (FAEP) conducted a training program using Palm Beach County ERM facilities and charging participants approximately \$125.00 each and raised approximately \$4,000. Since FAEP charged for the course, the training materials were not free from FDEP. The Steering Committee requested that staff (Alan Wertepny) coordinate with Allen Trefry and FAEP to determine their cost for conducting a program for us. David Rotar said he

would investigate with the Town of Jupiter to see if the City's facility could be available if we charged for the program. Alan Wertepny mentioned that FDEP scheduled a "Train the Trainer" program for October 22, 2004. This event is offered two times a year and it may be advisable to send Anne Capelli to this event. A motion was made by Jay Foy and seconded by Karen Brandon to authorize up to \$1,000 to pay for Anne Capelli's time and travel expenses to attend this event. The Steering Committee unanimously approved the motion.

III. TMDLs

Due to Hurricane Ivan there is a delay in posting of the revised draft list of impaired waters for Group 3 Basins, which includes the Lake Worth Lagoon/Palm Beach County Coastal area. FDEP indicated that the revised draft list should be posted between September 20, 2004 and September 24, 2004 and that they would extend the comment period for a full thirty days from the date the revised list is posted. We have received copies of draft letters to Mr. Jay Foy and Mr. Richard E. Walesky (Director of Environmental Resource Management for Palm Beach County) responding to their comments on the draft verified list of impaired waters for the Group 3 Basins. In these letters, FDEP provided the following comments:

1. **Dissolved Oxygen Criteria** – FDEP agrees that the canals in Palm Beach County would not be expected to meet Class III Dissolved Oxygen (DO) criteria (5.0 mg/l) and FDEP has initiated a monitoring program that will lead to restructuring of the classification system to allow for a more appropriate DO criteria for canals. However, this may take at least two years. Since reclassification has not occurred, FDEP is required to implement Florida's current water quality standards. FDEP recognizes that they could develop a site specific alternative criteria for DO for canals but that would require extensive data including continuous DO recording to establish precise criteria.
2. **L-8 Turbidity** – FDEP stated that the turbidity listing for the L-8 Canal is contingent on the determination of natural background turbidity for the canal. For the initial assessment, any turbidity value above 29 was treated as a possible exceedance. FDEP is still reviewing available historical turbidity data for the L-8 Canal to determine the natural background. They will then re-evaluate the listing criteria value.
3. **Iron** - FDEP agrees that iron is a natural component of the groundwater in Palm Beach County and that groundwater concentrations range well above the Class III iron criteria (1.0 mg/l). FDEP is currently reviewing groundwater data in Palm Beach County. FDEP may be able to establish site specific alternative criteria for iron and

then reassess the surface water data against the site specific alternative criteria.

The Steering Committee decided to delay further discussions on the Group 3 Basins until the next scheduled meeting.

IV. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20, 2004, 9:00 a.m., at the offices of Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss FDEP's revised draft list of impaired water bodies for the Group 3 Basins and the Annual NPDES Report to the State.

I believe 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 (561) 683-3113, extension 231.

ADW:jeh

Copies: All Co-Permittees
Vista Stewart