

**Lake Pickett Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
3165 McCrory Place, Suite 200, Orlando, FL 32803
Orange Blossom Conference Room and via WebEx
October 6, 2020**

Board Members Present: Chair Dan Washburn*, Vice Chair Bonnie Rimel*, Tim Wills*

Board Members Absent: Alan Ashlock, Beverly Young Haun

Staff: David Hansen, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD)
Melissa Lavigne*, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD)
Tim Hull*, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD)

Guests: Lawrence Clark*, Margo Winick*

*denotes attendance by Webex

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair Bonnie Rimel called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Chair Dan Washburn arrived at 5:05 p.m. to achieve a quorum.

II. Approval of the July 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Dan Washburn, seconded by Bonnie Rimel, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, with Alan Ashlock and Beverly Young Haun being absent; the Advisory Board approved the July 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented.

III. Public Comment on Propositions Before the Advisory Board

Lawrence Clark raised a concern about Pulte Homes digging out a retention area. He mentioned that it had been occurring over a period of time. Tim Wills offered that it looked like the swales were being demucked and that sand was being brought in. David Hansen reported that he had received a complaint about an activity like this and that the swales were being drained and dug out as they were not allowing for water to percolate into the soil. This would explain the sand being used to aid with the percolation of water. Mr. Hansen further reported that he had reported these actions to the EPD Environmental Permitting and Compliance and NPDES Sections and that they were monitoring for any non-compliance with any permits.

Mr. Clark also asked about a postcard that he and others had received concerning a proposed boat ramp. Bonnie Rimel confirmed that she had received the same postcard.

David Hansen offered that the postcards were advertising a community meeting on October 20, 2020 to discuss a proposed semi-private boat ramp, and that it would give residents an opportunity to voice their opinions about the boat ramp.

Mr. Clark also asked for the definition of a semi-private boat ramp. David Hansen responded with the definition.

IV. EPD Report

1. Aquatic Plant Management Update:

David Hansen reported that a vegetation survey had been conducted by Orange County staff on July 1 and 2, 2020. No hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) or water hyacinth (*Eichornia crassipes*) was observed during this survey. He mentioned that there was limnophila (*Limnophila sessiliflora*) near the Seminole County resident access dock in the northeast corner of the lake and another area near the ramp for the Estates at Lake Pickett community. Mr. Hansen added that these areas had been treated with herbicide on August 12, 2020. He also reported that a "sweep" for emergent vegetation had been conducted by Orange County EPD staff on July 16, 2020.

2. Budget Update:

David Hansen reported that there was currently \$441,816 total in the Municipal Service Taxing Unit budget. He also noted that the Fiscal Year 2021 annual revenue would be \$178,231 based on a millage rate of 1.7597. He also noted that there was \$401,103 held in reserves.

3. New/Old Business

David Hansen reported that as the high water levels in the lake were concerned, Seminole and Orange Counties were monitoring these levels and were "checking the boxes" on the Lake Pickett and Lake Mills Water Level Action Plan which he had been distributed to the members previously. He went on to say that some of the tasks would have to wait for water levels to go down in some of the inflow and outflow features. He also mentioned the documents available on the Orange County Water Atlas that may help members gain an understanding of the inflows and outflows to Lake Pickett and Lake Mills. Mr. Hansen also relayed the current water levels in Lake Pickett as compared to the Normal High Water Level and the Base Flood Elevation.

David Hansen mentioned that he had tried to contact Seminole County regarding any efforts toward the Outstanding Florida Water (OFW) designation for Lake Pickett. Mr. Hansen stated that Seminole County is aware of the Advisory Board's support of the designation and he will continue to inquire as to any efforts on their part. He

suggested that the next step for the Advisory Board might be to draft a letter of support for the designation. He also suggested members engage their neighbors to support the designation and that he and other Orange and Seminole County staff would be available to assist. He further mentioned resources available from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to provide assistance.

David Hansen mentioned that the governor may not extend the executive order allowing for virtual meetings after November 1st. Advisory Board members will be notified at a later date regarding in person, virtual, or blended meetings.

Dan Washburn asked if there was a formal application to fill out to begin the OFW designation process. David Hansen responded that there was not an application to be filled out, but rather it was important to document all of the ways Lake Pickett warranted the designation. He mentioned historical, archaeological and water quality documentation as important to include in a submission to FDEP. He also mentioned community meetings to engage the public. He reported that this information would be submitted to FDEP and that that agency would perform a fiscal analysis regarding the designation vs. non-designation.

Tim Wills asked if the OFW designation could be used to block development from occurring. David Hansen responded that the designation would not block development, but that any activity requiring an agency permit would be held to a higher standard.

Bonnie Rimel asked about gator hunting in Lake Pickett. She reported that she had seen an airboat on Lake Pickett and wondered if it had anything to do with alligator hunting. Tim Wills offered that he had been on the lake the same day as the airboat and had spoken to those on it. He reported that they were collecting water samples. David Hansen mentioned that he would contact the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission regarding gator hunting on Lake Pickett. Mr. Wills further suggested that with the permitting requirements and being on a private lake, a person would probably have to have a permit as well as live on Lake Pickett to gain access for gator hunting.

A discussion about alligators and nuisance alligators ensued with members expressing their experiences. Melissa Lavigne mentioned the FWC nuisance gator hotline that was available for citizens to report problems.

V. Non-Agenda Items

There were no non-agenda items.

VI. Next Meeting Date

David Hansen reported that the next scheduled meeting for the Lake Pickett Advisory Board will be on January 5, 2021.

VII. Adjourn

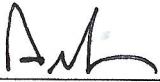
There being no additional comments by Advisory Board members, Dan Washburn made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Bonnie Rimel and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.



Dan Washburn, Chair

1/5/21

Date



Minutes Prepared by David Hansen

1/5/2021

Date