

LEON COUNTY COUNTYWIDE CITIZENS
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2006 Annual Report

The By-Laws of the Leon County Water Resources Citizens Committee state that "It shall be the duty of the Water Resources Committee to consider the values provided to the public by the various lakes and related water resources of Leon County, including groundwater, and to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners policies, regulations, management activities and long-term funding strategies that protect or enhance these values. In assessing these values, the Committee also proposes to consider the various impacts to these resources from accelerated runoff, including flooding and surface and groundwater degradation. Last, to better accomplish these tasks the Committee proposes to consider an ecosystems approach wherever applicable.

A Report listing the actions taken by the Committee must be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners at least annually. The actions and other activities taken by the Committee in 2006 are listed below by meeting dates.

Date Action

1/04: The Committee reviewed the Wakulla Springs Degradation of Water Quality report and discussed the probable causes of degradation, the options and recommendations in the report, and the role of the Committee to provide advice to the Board. The committee also discussed the role of septic tanks within the springshed and the alternative management of existing and future systems. Management options considered by the Committee included the relocation of the disposal from the sprayfield to a different area away the Wakulla Springs Basin; the impact of channelization of the southeast sprayfield on nitrate absorption within the underlying geology; the development of a septic tank policy; fertilizer usage education; and taxing fertilizer sales.

The Committee also discussed the need to review and update existing lake management plans in Leon County, as well the need to prepare new plans for selected water bodies that currently have no management plans, and considered a management plan for the Wakulla Springs springshed.

2/06: The committee reviewed and discussed the draft Lake Lafayette Management Plan, including the Plan's recommendations. Comments were provided to County Growth and Environmental Management (GEM) Department staff.

3/06: The committee selected several Cycle 2006-2 Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments (2006-2-T-002 and T-004) for review and comments based on the Committee's charter to review policies affecting County water resources.

4/03: The Committee reviewed the Cycle 2006-2 amendments selected at the March meeting. Following review and discussion, a letter was sent to the Board with the Committee's recommendation to support the staff recommendation to deny Proposed Amendment 2006-2-T-004, which was ultimately withdrawn by the applicant.

5/09: Blueprint 2000 staff updated the Committee on stormwater, greenway, and road improvement projects being undertaken by the 15-year extension of the extra-penny sales tax. County Public Works staff also updated the Committee on their review of the draft Lake Lafayette Management Plan.

6/06: No meeting.

7/03: No meeting.

8/07: Dr. Sean McGlynn presented a status report on the Woodville Recharge Basin Aquifer Protection Plan to the Committee for discussion. Following this, GEM staff updated the Committee on their efforts to acquire additional information for the draft Lake Lafayette Management Plan. County Public Works staff updated the Committee on the County's Water Quality Monitoring Program, including the latest sampling efforts.

At the Committee's request, GEM staff provided an update of the Highway 27 Wal-Mart redevelopment and permitting issue. This included a discussion of the decisions of the County's Board of Adjustment and Appeals; how stormwater will be treated in any new development; and the design and maintenance of the existing stormwater pond onsite. GEM staff made a commitment to report back to the Committee following an inspection of this facility.

9/05: Anthony Gaudio of the County's Septic System Citizens Advisory Committee discussed his committee's efforts to develop a proposed Ordinance amending Article III "On-site Sewage Disposal Systems" (OSDS) of Chapter 18 "Utilities" of the Code of Laws of Leon County, Florida, as well as additional recommendations governing OSDSs.

Staff presented Cycle 2007-1 Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment applications for the Committee's review. The Committee selected for review Proposed Amendments M-006, M-007, T-015, T-018, and the Southside DRI Amendment.

10/05: No meeting.

11/06: Following receipt of a letter from the County's consultant, County GEM staff presented a revised summary of the Lake Lafayette Study Final Report to the Committee. An extended discussion of these recommendations was conducted by the Committee afterwards, and the Committee voted to send a letter to the Board containing the Committee's comments.

12/03: Dr. Sean McGlynn presented the recommendations from the Woodville Recharge Basin Aquifer Protection Study Report, Phase III (Draft). Following the presentation, a discussion of these recommendations was held by the Committee. Because there was no quorum, no official actions could be taken by the Committee. However, following the discussion, the Committee members presented were advised to send any comments on the proposed planning and management recommendations in this report to County Growth and Environmental Management staff for review and consideration.