

ARTICLE I. WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION CHARTER  
(Last revised 7/9/2009, Resolution 2009-714)

Sec. 150-1. Creation.

The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board's Water Resources Advisory Commission ("Commission") is hereby created.

(Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004)

Sec. 150-2. Purpose.

The Commission shall serve as an advisory body to the Governing Board, and as a forum for improving public participation and decision-making in water resource issues affecting south Florida by:

- (1) Working to build consensus among and within the public and private sectors regarding water resource activities impacting south Florida, including the further development and implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and Regional Water Supply Plans,
- (2) Examining the effects of continued population growth, development and agriculture on south Florida's natural resources,
- (3) Assisting in developing actions that are needed to restore, preserve, and protect the greater south Florida ecosystem while providing for other water-related needs of the region, including water supply and flood protection, and
- (4) Assisting in promoting and monitoring the implementation of its consensus-based recommendations to the Governing Board.

(Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004)

Sec. 150-3. Tasks.

The Commission shall carry out the following tasks:

- (1) Serve as a forum for coordinating information on the status of the numerous efforts under way to study, restore, manage, protect, and preserve south Florida's water resources.
- (2) Serve as a forum for consensus building among the interests represented on the Commission on a variety of water resource issues, projects and/or programs.
- (3) Identify opportunities for enhancing coordination in the approaches being taken to studying, restoring, managing, preserving and protecting south Florida's water resources among those federal, state, and regional agencies, local governments, task forces, private and non-private organizations, and other parties that either have jurisdiction within south Florida or otherwise are involved in efforts impacting or benefiting south Florida's water resources.
- (4) Solicit and provide opportunities for public input on key issues involved in establishing and sustaining a healthy ecosystem and economy into the future.
- (5) Recommend strategies and actions for:
  - a. Improving coordination and eliminating duplicative efforts among governments, agencies, task forces, and other organizations;
  - b. Increasing understanding of the workings of south Florida's water resources, and the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project;
  - c. Restoring, managing, protecting, and preserving south Florida's natural resources including the greater Kissimmee-Lake Okeechobee-Everglades ecosystem;

- d. Promoting sustainable and environmentally compatible urban and agricultural development that supports healthy ecosystems;
  - e. Enhancing the public's understanding of the necessity for both preserving and restoring natural resources and supporting sustainable urban and agricultural development; and
  - f. Allocating and reserving water resources needed for the environment and all beneficial uses.
- (6) Identify and evaluate critical water resource issues, and prepare practical recommendations for timely resolution.
  - (7) Evaluate and monitor implementation of regional water supply plans.
  - (8) Evaluate and monitor CERP implementation and other Everglades restoration initiatives.
- (Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004)

#### Sec. 150-4. Status reporting.

The Commission shall provide the Governing Board with monthly status reports on its activity. The status report shall include tasks undertaken during the previous period. Minutes shall be posted to the Commission's website. The Commission shall develop a Priority Plan, update the Plan as needed and submit the updated Plan for review and concurrence at a regularly scheduled Governing Board monthly meeting. The WRAC Priority Plan shall include, but not be limited to, a listing of specific issues, programs and/or projects which shall be the focus of the Commission's deliberations. The Commission may submit additional reports and amendments and updates to previous reports as necessary to meet its charge.

(Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004; Res. No. 2007-600A, § 1, 6-14-2007)

#### Sec. 150-5. Membership.

- (a) The Commission members, which shall reflect the diversity of the overall south Florida community, shall include balanced and appropriate representation from the following six classifications:
  - (1) The South Florida business community;
  - (2) Water supply utilities;
  - (3) Agriculture;
  - (4) Public interest groups;
  - (5) Local government; and
  - (6) Environmental organizations.
- (b) The Commission membership shall also include one representative from each of the following agencies/governments:
  - (1) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers;
  - (2) U. S. Department of the Interior;
  - (3) U. S. Environmental Protection Agency;
  - (4) Florida Department of Environmental Protection;
  - (5) Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
  - (6) Florida Department of Community Affairs;
  - (7) Florida Department of Transportation;
  - (8) Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;
  - (9) Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida;
  - (10) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
  - (11) Seminole Tribe of Florida; and
  - (12) Other state/regional agencies as deemed necessary by the Governing Board.

(Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004; Res. No. 2009-714, § 1, 7-9-2009)

Sec. 150-6. Appointments.

(a) The members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Governing Board. Each Governing Board member, including the Governing Board Chair, shall appoint two Commission members.

(b) The Governing Board Chair shall select an appropriate number of Commission members to ensure balanced representation among the six classifications set forth in section 150-5 above. The Governing Board Chair's selections shall be subject to ratification by the Governing Board.

(c) The Chairperson of the Commission shall be selected by the Governing Board Chair.

(d) The Chair of WRAC may appoint one or more alternates for each member of the Commission.

(e) Commission members shall serve two-year terms. A member may be reappointed to serve subsequent terms of office. Notwithstanding the preceding provisions, the term of any WRAC member appointed by a member of the Governing Board and the term of his or her alternate, including members appointed by the Governing Board Chair to balance the Commission, shall automatically expire upon the expiration or termination of the term of the Governing Board member who made the appointment.

(f) The Governing Board may remove any member or any alternate member of the Commission.

(g) Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment and shall be for the same term of the original appointment.

(h) If a member has been appointed to serve as a representative of an entity named in section 150-5., failure to maintain that employment or membership may constitute cause for removal by the Governing Board Chair or, at the discretion of the Chair, by vote of the Governing Board.

(i) The Commission may request the creation of one or more technical committees by the Governing Board to assist with preparing technical information and briefings for the Commission. The Commission may request the creation of one or more subcommittees by the Governing Board to focus on subregional or local issues.

(Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004; Ord. No. 2007-600A, § 1, 6-14-2007)

Sec. 150-7. Meetings.

The Commission shall meet on a regular basis as necessary to complete the tasks set out in the mission of the Commission in accordance with the PP. The Commission shall also meet upon the call of the Governing Board chairperson or as directed by vote of the Governing Board. A member, or his or her alternate, that misses three consecutive meetings will forfeit his or her membership on the Commission and a vacancy shall be deemed to have been created.

(Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004)

Sec. 150-8. Staff support.

A reasonable and appropriate level of technical staff support to the Commission shall be provided. A reasonable and appropriate level of administrative staff support shall be provided by Governing Board Operations staff.

(Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004)

Sec. 150-9. Miscellaneous.

(a) The Governing Board reserves the right to appoint either a paid or unpaid facilitator to assist the Commission in resolving issues or in their deliberations.

(b) Commission members and alternate members shall not receive remuneration for their services. However, Commission members or his or her approved designated member alternate shall be reimbursed for travel and expenses in accordance with Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, for attendance at Commission or Committee meetings, to the extent funds are available for this purpose. Public officers and employees shall be reimbursed by their respective agencies in accordance with the same policy (Chapter 112, F.S.).

(c) Commission members and members of any technical committee or subcommittee created by the Governing Board upon request from the Commission, shall be subject to the applicable provisions of Chapter 286, Florida Statutes, Government in the Sunshine Law; Part III, Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees; and Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, Public Records.

(Res. No. 2004-1246, 12-8-2004; Res. No. 2009-714, § 2, 7-9-2009)