

# APPROVED

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### FINAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FINAL FISCAL YEAR 2012 MILLAGE RATE AND ANNUAL SERVICE BUDGET

#### GOVERNING BOARD SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

TAMPA, FLORIDA

SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

The Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District met at 5:05 p.m. on September 27, 2011, at the District's Tampa Service Office. The following persons were present:

#### Board Members Present

H. Paul Senft, Chair  
Hugh Gramling, Vice Chair  
Douglas B. Tharp, Secretary  
Albert G. Joerger, Treasurer  
Jeffrey M. Adams, Member  
Carlos Beruff, Member  
Bryan K. Beswick, Member  
Jennifer E. Closshey, Member  
Neil Combee, Member  
Todd Pressman, Member  
Judith C. Whitehead, Member

#### Staff Members Present

William S. Bilenky, Interim Executive Director  
Lou Kavouras, Deputy Executive Director  
Richard S. Owen, Deputy Executive Director  
Bruce C. Wirth, Deputy Executive Director  
Kurt Fritsch, Acting Deputy Executive Director  
Daryl F. Pokrana, Director, Finance Dept.  
Linda R. Pilcher, Assistant Director, Finance Dept.  
Cathy A. Linsbeck, Senior Budget Analyst, Finance  
Eloise M. Buzbee, Senior Budget Analyst, Finance  
Alan J. Lynch, Senior Budget Analyst, Finance  
Michael B. Cacioppo, Staff Budget Analyst, Finance

#### Board Member(s) Absent

Michael A. Babb, Member

#### Board's Recording Secretary

Linda De Jonge, Senior Administrative Assistant

A list of others present who signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent records of the District. This meeting was available for viewing through internet streaming. Approved minutes from previous meetings can be found on the District's Web site ([www.WaterMatters.org](http://www.WaterMatters.org)).

#### 1. Call to Order (Video 02:21:20)

Chair Senft called the meeting to order, and said it is time to proceed with the public hearing as scheduled and properly noticed for this date and time. Public comment will only be accepted here at the Tampa Service Office.

Mr. Tharp noted that a quorum was present.

#### 2. Open Public Hearing

Chair Senft said this hearing is for the purpose of adopting a final millage rate and budget for the Southwest Florida Water Management District, pursuant to Sections 373.536 and 200.065, Florida Statutes, as amended. If any member of the public would like to speak during this hearing, please fill out a blue card located at the desk outside the door and give the card to Ms. Kavouras who is seated at the table in front of the dais. Members of the public will be called on at the appropriate time during the meeting and will be limited to three minutes per speaker.

Chair Senft introduced Mr. Joerger, Treasurer and Chair of the Finance and Administration Committee, and relinquished the gavel to him. (Track 10 – 00:00/01:22)

Mr. Joerger said the purpose of this hearing is to provide the public an opportunity to speak and ask questions prior to the Governing Board taking any actions regarding the budget. Following this, the Board will adopt a final millage rate and budget for fiscal year (FY) 2012. The development of the FY2012 budget began in January 2011, with this Board's approval of the budget priorities and assumptions. Since then, the Board and staff have worked together to produce a balanced budget. This included balancing the budget with greatly reduced revenues; merging the Basins into the District; prioritizing projects and evaluating existing commitments; establishing new operating baselines; adopting a fund balance policy which is the basis for the District's spend-down plan; and reductions in workforce. All of this was done while working closely with the staffs of the Governor's Office, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Legislature.

Mr. Joerger said the budget was developed in compliance with Senate Bill 2142, which established a cap of \$108 million as the maximum amount of ad valorem taxes that may be levied by this District for FY2012. This represents a 36 percent (or \$57 million) revenue reduction from FY2011. Overall, the District's FY2012 budget is \$156 million, a decrease of \$124 million (or 44 percent) below the current year budget of \$280 million. On August 24, the District received a letter from Governor Scott following his review of the District's tentative budget submission. The Governor expressed his appreciation for the \$120+ million in efficiencies and savings achieved by this District. Governor Scott also applauded our forward thinking in meeting the region's water supply needs into the future. He recognized that the financial engine has allowed the District and its partners to construct vital infrastructure instrumental in supporting the growth of the region over the last decade.

Mr. Joerger noted that, on September 7, the Legislative Budget Commission reviewed the District's budget for the first time, and had no disapprovals.

Mr. Joerger said, on September 13, at the first public hearing, the Governing Board adopted a FY2012 tentative millage rate of 0.3928 mill and tentative budget of \$156 million. No changes have been made since that date. This budget will achieve the District's statutory responsibilities to manage and protect the public's water and related natural systems, on a pay-as-you-go basis, without bonded debt.

Mr. Joerger personally thanked the Board, as well as District staff, for their participation and special efforts required to develop the budget. (Track 10 – 01:22/04:57)

3. **Budget Overview**

Ms. Pilcher presented the budget as it will be adopted, by Fund. (Track 10 – 04:57/06:20)

4. **Public Announcement of the Name of the Taxing Authority, Rolled-Back Rate, Percentage Decrease, and Millage Rate to be Levied for FY2012**

Ms. Pilcher presented the required public announcement of the name of the taxing authority, the rolled-back rate, the percentage of tax decrease below the rolled-back rate, and the millage rate to be levied for FY2012, and read into the record as required for the District.

TAXING AUTHORITY	ROLLED-BACK RATE	PERCENTAGE OF TAX DECREASE BELOW ROLLED-BACK RATE	MILLAGE RATE
Southwest Florida Water Management District	0.6168	-36.32%	0.3928

(Track 10 - 06:20/06:43)

5. **Final Fiscal Year 2012 Budget**

a. **Reconciliation of Tentative to Final Fiscal Year 2012 Budget**

Ms. Pilcher said there have been no changes to the budget since the tentative budget hearing, held September 13, 2011.

b. **TRIM Budget Summary**

Ms. Pilcher noted that this summary was used to prepare the newspaper advertisement and is provided for the Board's information only. (Track 10 – 06:43/07:18)

6. **Public Comments**

a. **Letters/Resolutions Received**

Mr. Joerger noted the District has received no correspondence or telephone calls from taxpayers since the September 13 tentative budget hearing.

b. **Persons Wishing to Address the Board**

Mr. Joerger requested that anyone wishing to address the budget come forward, and state their name, address, and group affiliation, if any. No one came forward. (Track 10 – 07:18/07:44)

7. **Adopt Final Fiscal Year 2012 Millage Rate**

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 11-18  
ADOPTION OF FINAL MILLAGE RATE  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012**

This resolution is made a part of these minutes as if set forth in full but, for convenience, is filed in the permanent resolution files of the District.

Following consideration, **Mr. Combee moved to adopt Resolution No. 11-18, Adoption of Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2012, of 0.3928 mill. Mr. Tharp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.** (Track 10 – 07:44/08:10)

8. **Adopt Final Fiscal Year 2012 Budget**

**SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 11-19  
ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012**

This resolution is made a part of these minutes as if set forth in full but, for convenience, is filed in the permanent resolution files of the District.

Following consideration, **Mr. Combee moved to adopt Resolution No. 11-19, Adoption of Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2012, in the amount of \$155,543,897. Mr. Beruff seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.** (Track 10 – 08:10/09:26)

9. **Introduce All Materials as Composite Exhibit**

Mr. Joerger introduced all budget materials as a composite exhibit. He stated that the record should reflect that all materials presented here this afternoon are part of the permanent record of the public hearing.

Mr. Joerger relinquished the gavel to Chair Senft.

10. **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Joerger moved, seconded by Mr. Beruff, to adjourn the meeting. (Track 10 – 09:26/10:32, Video 02:33:39)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.