

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### GOVERNING BOARD SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA

MARCH 31, 2015

The Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) met for its regular meeting at 9:05 a.m. on March 31, 2015, at the District's Brooksville Headquarters. The following persons were present:

#### Board Members Present

Michael A. Babb, Chair  
Randall S. Maggard, Vice Chair  
Jeff Adams, Secretary  
David W. Dunbar, Treasurer  
H. Paul Senft, Member  
Bryan Beswick, Member  
Carlos Beruff, Member \* Via Phone  
George Mann, Member  
Wendy Griffin, Member  
Tommy Bronson, Member  
Michael A. Moran, Member  
Ed Armstrong, Member

#### Staff Members

Robert R. Beltran, Executive Director  
Brian Armstrong, Assistant Executive Director  
David T. Rathke, Chief of Staff  
Kurt P. Fritsch, Inspector General  
Karen West, Interim, General Counsel  
John J. Campbell, Division Director  
Ken Frink, Division Director  
Mark A. Hammond, Division Director  
Alba E. Más, Division Director

#### Board's Administrative Support

Cara Martin, Board & Executive Services Manager  
Lori Manuel, 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)).

#### **PUBLIC HEARING (Audio – 00:00)**

##### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Michael Babb called the meeting to order and opened the public hearing. He noted a quorum was present.

##### **2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Vice Chair Maggard offered the invocation. Chair Babb led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Chair Babb introduced each member of the Governing Board. He noted that the Board's meeting was recorded for broadcast on government access channels, and public input was only taken during the meeting onsite.

Chair Babb stated that anyone wishing to address the Governing Board concerning any item listed on the agenda or any item that does not appear on the agenda should fill out and submit a speaker's card. To assure that all participants have an opportunity to speak, a member of the public may submit a speaker's card to comment on agenda items only during today's meeting. If the speaker wishes to address the Board on an issue not on today's agenda, a speaker's card may be submitted for comment during "Public Input." Chair Babb stated that comments would be limited to three minutes per speaker, and, when appropriate, exceptions to the three-minute limit may be granted by

the chair. He also requested that several individuals wishing to speak on the same issue/topic designate a spokesperson.

**3. Oath of Office for Newly Appointed or Reappointed Board Members**

Ms. Cara Martin, Board and Executive Services Manager, administered the Oath of Office for Board Members Senft, Maggard and Moran.

**4. Additions/Deletions to Agenda**

Section 120.525, Florida Statutes, allows the District to change the published agenda for good cause shown, as determined by the presiding officer.

Mr. Beltran, Executive Director, noted the following changes requested to the agenda.

The following item was deleted from the agenda:

***Resource Management Committee***

**38. Out-of-Cycle Request for Project Approval of Timber Oaks Stormwater Retention Facility**

Board Member Moran requested the following item was moved from consent to discussion:

***Finance/Outreach & Planning Committee***

**17. FY2014-15 Budget Amendment - Florida Blue Revenue**

**Chair Babb said there is good cause to amend the published agenda as allowed by Section 120.525, Florida Statutes. A motion was made to approve the amendments to the published agenda, as amended, which was seconded. The motion carried unanimously. (Audio 00:04:50)**

**5. Public Input for Issues Not Listed on the Published Agenda**

Chair Babb noted at this time, the public is given an opportunity to comment on any topic not listed on the agenda. There were no *Request to Speak* cards submitted.

**CONSENT AGENDA (Audio 0:05:18)**

Chair Babb asked that before the Board considers action on the Consent Agenda whether there is anyone in the audience who wishes to address the Board regarding an item listed on the Consent Agenda.

Chair Babb stated he received no *Request to Speak* cards for any agenda items.

***Regulation Committee***

**6. Individual Water Use Permits Referred to the Governing Board**

**a. WUP No. 20004600.008 - Sweetwater Preserve, LLC / Sweetwater Preserve, LLC (Hardee County)**

Staff recommended the Board approve the proposed permit attached as an exhibit.

**b. WUP No. 20008135.010 - City of Wildwood (Sumter County)**

Staff recommended the Board approve the proposed permit attached as an exhibit.

***Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring Committee***

**7. Approve Amendment to Cooperative Agreement with Florida Forest Service**

Staff recommended the Board approve the extension and amendments to the current cooperative agreement with FDACS FFS.

8. **Approve Non-Exclusive Perpetual Easement to Polk County for Multiuse Trail – Lake Hancock, SWF Parcel No. 20-503-254X**  
Staff recommended the Board authorize the conveyance of a Non-Exclusive Perpetual Easement with Polk County for SWF Parcel Number 20-503-254X at no cost.
9. **Approve Amendment to Cattle Lease – Edward W. Chance Reserve, Gilley Creek Tract, SWF Parcel No. 20-601-110X**  
Staff recommended the Board approve renewal of Gilley Creek Cattle Lease and amendment of terms.
10. **Decline Right of First Refusal to Acquire the Remainder Fee Interest in a Conservation Easement, R.P. Ranch, SWF Parcel No. 20-780-102C**  
Staff recommended the Board authorize the Executive Director to decline the Right of First Refusal on SWF Parcel 20-780-102C.
11. **Decline Right of First Refusal to Acquire Additional Property Interests in a Parcel with a Conservation Easement, Upper Hillsborough Preserve, SWF Parcel No. 13-508-105C**  
Staff recommended the Board authorize the Executive Director to decline the Right of First Refusal on SWF Parcel No. 13-508-105C.
12. **Decline Right of First Refusal to Acquire the Remainder Fee Interest in a Conservation Easement, Bright Hour Ranch, SWF Parcel No. 20-780-101C**  
Staff recommended the Board authorize the Executive Director to decline the Right of First Refusal on SWF Parcel 20-780-101C.

***Resource Management Committee***

13. **Charlotte County Reclaimed Water Expansion Phase 3 (N556)**  
Staff recommended the Board approve the change in scope to revise the proposed reclaimed water customers and increase reclaimed water flows. Authorize the Assistant Executive Director or designee to execute the agreement for the Charlotte County Reclaimed Water Expansion Phase 3 Project.
14. **Initiation and Approval of Rulemaking to Amend Rule 40D-8.624, Florida Administrative Code, to Adopt Minimum and Guidance Levels for Lake Hobbs in Hillsborough County**  
Staff recommended the Board:
  - A. Accept the reports entitled, "Proposed Minimum and Guidance Levels for Lake Hobbs in Hillsborough County, Florida," dated February 11, 2015.
  - B. Authorize staff to make any necessary minor clarifying edits that may result from the rulemaking process and to complete report finalization.
  - C. Initiate and approve rulemaking to amend Rule 40D-8.624, F.A.C., to replace the previously adopted minimum and guidance levels with the proposed minimum and guidance levels for Lake Hobbs in Hillsborough County as shown in the Exhibit.
15. **Authorize Submission of Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the Port Richey Watershed in Pasco County to the Federal Emergency Management Agency**  
Staff recommended the Board authorize the submittal of the preliminary FIRMs for the Port Richey watershed in Pasco County to FEMA.
16. **Authorize Submission of Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the Lake Placid Watershed in Highlands County to the Federal Emergency Management Agency**  
Staff recommended the Board authorize submission of the preliminary FIRMs for the Lake Placid watershed in Highlands County to FEMA.



***Finance/Outreach & Planning Committee***

**17. FY2014-15 Budget Amendment – Florida Blue Revenue**

This item was moved to discussion

**18. Budget Transfer Report**

Staff recommended the Board approve the Budget Transfer report covering all budget transfers for February 2015.

***General Counsel's Report***

**19. Administrative, Enforcement and Litigation Activities that Require Governing Board Approval**

- None

**20. Rulemaking** – None

***Executive Director's Report***

**21. Approve CFI Northern Region Meeting Minutes - February 4, 2015**

Staff recommended the Board approve the February 4, 2015 meeting minutes.

**22. Approve CFI Heartland Region Meeting Minutes - February 5, 2015**

Staff recommended the Board approve the February 5, 2015 meeting minutes.

**23. Approve CFI Southern Region Meeting Minutes - February 11, 2015**

Staff recommended the Board approve the February 11, 2015 meeting minutes.

**24. Approve CFI Tampa Bay Region Meeting Minutes - February 12, 2015**

Staff recommended the Board approve the February 12, 2015 meeting minutes.

**25. Approve Governing Board Meeting Minutes - February 24, 2015**

Staff recommended the Board approve the February 24, 2015 meeting minutes.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously. (Audio – 00:5:20)

Chair Babb relinquished the gavel to Finance Committee Chair Dunbar who called the Committee meeting to order. (Audio 00:05:30)

***Finance/Outreach & Planning Committee***

***Discussion***

**26. Consent Item(s) Moved for Discussion**

**17. FY2014-15 Budget Amendment - Florida Blue Revenue**

Board Member Moran provided background information on the selection process the District utilized in choosing health insurance. He outlined some changes that have been introduced, which include a new health insurance agent and option to use a Health Savings Account (HSA). Board Member Moran stated claims activity is down by approximately \$640,000 (9.6%) from 2013 to 2014. Florida Blue and the District are still reviewing ways to keep claims activity down. As part of negotiations, the carrier offered additional funds in the amount of \$200,000 for wellness benefits. Board Member Moran asked if these funds would be utilized in the current fiscal year. Mr. John Campbell, Management Services Director, stated spending on wellness programs has been occurring slowly. The recommendation given by the experts is to introduce wellness options to staff in a way that will allow the District to glean information that assists in determining which programs staff may better utilize. Mr. Campbell stated the District recently held health screenings that 45% of staff attended. He also informed the Board of a tobacco use guideline

that has recently been adopted by the District. He stated he anticipates the majority of the wellness funds will still be available by the end of FY2015. He indicated this is going to be a multi-year program.

Staff recommended the Board approve Resolution No. 15-04, Second Amendment of the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Annual Service Budget to increase the District's FY2014-15 budget for the General Fund by \$200,000 from \$161,870,414 to \$162,070,414, and increase the FY2014-15 budget from \$166,698,619 to \$166,898,619 and encumber any unspent funds at year-end to roll into FY2015-16 to fund future Wellness Benefits.

Board Member Moran made the suggestion that the subcommittee for this discussion have two board members and two staff for representation. Committee Chair Dunbar agreed and stated another board member will be added to this subcommittee. Board Member Senft stated he was originally asked to be on the subcommittee, however, was unable to attend the first meeting. He stated he would like to serve on this subcommittee. Committee Chair Dunbar responded in the affirmative.

**A motion was made, seconded to approve the staff's recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.** (Audio – 00:12:40)

#### **27. Springs Protection Awareness Month**

Committee Chair Dunbar thanked Board Member Maggard and Mr. Brian Armstrong, Assistant Executive Director, for their representation at the Springs Awareness press conference that was held in Tallahassee on March 26.

Committee Chair Dunbar read Resolution 15-03 Springs Protection Awareness Month.

Ms. Robyn Felix, Communications Manager, introduced the following people, who were presented with plaques for their work toward improving Florida springs: Groundwater Guardian Team; Rainbow River Conservation; and Duke Energy.

Staff recommended the Board approve and execute Resolution No. 15-03 declaring April 2015 as "Springs Protection Awareness Month."

**A motion was made and seconded to approve the staff's recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.** (Audio – 00:15:10)

#### **28. Fiscal Year 2013-14 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report**

Ms. Linda Howard, Finance Bureau Chief, thanked her staff for their assistance with the annual report.

Ms. Linda Jenkins, representative from KPMG, provided a presentation on the annual financial report. She reviewed the reports and the results. She indicated the District's financial statements and major governmental funds were audited, focusing on a risk based approach. This identifies significant areas that present the most risk. Ms. Jenkins pointed out that the composition for this year is different than previous years due to the District utilizing an investment manager.

Ms. Jenkins stated there were some immaterial audit misstatements that have not been recorded in a financial statement, which included cut off of accounts payable and recording of donated capital assets during 2014 that should have been recorded in another year. The total impact of these uncorrected audit misstatements is four million dollars or one percent of the net position (balance sheet). These are not material to the financial statement if not corrected.



Ms. Jenkins reviewed the independent audit report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards. She stated there were no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

Ms. Jenkins stated that a management letter is done when an audit is completed. This letter provides an opportunity to offer suggestions for improvement. There were no negative findings or items to include in this letter.

The Auditor General requires a new report to be issued. This report is called an Independent Accountants Report. This report states if the District is in compliance according to Florida Statutes as related to investments. It was concluded the District was in compliance.

There were no federal programs audited for the District grant programs. There were major statement programs that were audited: Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) mitigation and two Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) programs.

Ms. Jenkins provided a financial overview and key changes. Cash investments for restricted funds in 2013 went down, this is related to the basins. Other assets showed a \$15 million increase due to a reclassification of surplus lands from capital assets to be held for sales. Total liabilities decreased by approximately \$14 million, this is normal operating decreases as well as unearned revenue. The total net position decreased by \$51 million or point three percent from prior years. This was offset by a \$30 million increase in the unrestricted net position. Ms. Jenkins reviewed changes in the Statement of Activities. She provided an update on the Accounting and Finance Report for Pensions. She stated the District will be required to recognize its share of the Florida Retirement Services (FRS) liability which includes pension expenses and both inflows and outflows if applicable. This is only in governmental activity statements, not funds statements.

Ms. Jenkins thanked the District for their cooperation with this audit.

Board Member Senft asked if an assumption has been done on the liability as related to the FRS. Ms. Jenkins responded in the negative but stated it will be a large liability.

Board Member Mann asked how the major programs, as related to FDOT and FDEP, were selected. Ms. Jenkins responded due to the large dollar thresholds associated with them.

Committee Chair Dunbar stated the District has been awarded a certificate of achievement of excellence for the District's annual financials for the 26 year in a row from the Governors Finance Officers Association.

The staff recommended the Board accept and place on file the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, including the Single Audits pursuant to OMB Circular A-133 and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General, the Management Letter and the Independent Accountants' Report for fiscal year ended September 30, 2014.

**A motion was made and seconded to approve the staff's recommendation. Motion carried unanimously. (Audio – 00:40:24)**

## **29. Legislative Update**

Mr. David Rathke, Chief of Staff, provided a legislative update. This included information regarding House Bill (HB) 703 and Senate Bill (SB) 918 which are the two primary water bills. He stated these bills both include language on springs, Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI); the Everglades and lakes; and Florida shared-use non-motorized trail network. Mr. Rathke outlined the differences between the two bills, which included: defining priority springs areas, re-evaluation of Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL) for priority springs; a new definition for MFL thresholds; requirement of an annual consolidated management report with a funding element. He stated the SB creates an advisory council comprised of: the Commissioner of Agriculture; the Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; the Executive Director of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and two appointees with scientific backgrounds.

He also referenced SB 584-586/HB 1291 which addressed Amendment One. There is debate on the use of funds associated with Amendment One. Mr. Rathke indicated there are significant differences in the funding amounts associated between the SB and HB.

Committee Chair Dunbar asked if there were any areas in the HB and SB budgets that may have similar allocations of funds. Mr. Rathke responded in the negative.

Chair Babb clarified that the budgeted numbers are correct but the amount indicated should be billion.

Board Member Senft asked about funding for septic tank replacements as related to the springs. Mr. Rathke responded funding for the septic tank replacement is budgeted in the SB.

Vice Chair Maggard asked about SB284 and HB383 wording as related to permitting private property rights. Mr. Rathke explained it was related to the permitting associated to the Koontz case in the St. Johns Water Management District. Vice Chair Maggard asked what the purpose of the language was. Mr. Rathke responded in his opinion it is to ensure some fundamental fairness in the way the rules are applied.

This item is provided for the Committee's information, and no action is required.

### ***Submit & File Reports - None***

#### ***Routine Reports***

*The following items are provided for the Committee's information, and no action is required.*

#### **30. Treasurer's Report and Payment Register**

#### **31. Monthly Financial Statement**

#### **32. Monthly Cash Balances by Fiscal Year**

#### **33. Comprehensive Plan Amendments and Related Reviews Reports**

#### **34. Development of Regional Impact Activity Report**

#### **35. Significant Activities**

Committee Chair Dunbar adjourned the Committee meeting, and relinquished the gavel to the Resource Management Committee Chair Senft, who called the Committee meeting to order.  
(Audio -00:55:38)



## **Resource Management Committee**

### ***Discussion***

#### **36. Consent Item(s) Moved for Discussion – None**

#### **37. Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Update**

Mr. Richard Owen, Executive Director for the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA), presented an update that included a historical background and service area information. He stated the Charles A. Black well field in Citrus County, that WRWSA owns but is operated and maintained by Citrus County, is permitted for four million gallons a day. The per capita rate in 2013 met and exceeded 150 gallons maximum per gallons per day. He provided information on the regional water supply plan update which included demand projects for various categories, public supply being the largest. However, he stated the domestic use is growing more quickly than public supply. Also included in this presentation: water source evaluation; public supply capacity by county; an example of surplus and deficit comparison; groundwater project options with location information; water conservation efforts; water conservation results; long term vision; short-term groundwater supply development; mid-term regional system interconnects; long term introduction of alternative water supply; and emphasis on partnership.

This item was presented for the Committee's information, and no action is required.

#### **38. Out-of-Cycle Request for Project Approval of Timber Oaks Stormwater Retention Facility**

This item was deleted from the agenda.

#### **39. FARMS - Duggal Farm - Amendment (H698), Hillsborough County**

Mr. Ed Craig, FARMS Program Manager, provided a presentation on Duggal Farm. His presentation included: location map; historical information; amendment information; original costs; and amendment costs.

Vice Chair Maggard requested the District be notified if the cooperator is approved for any funding from Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). Mr. Craig responded in the affirmative and indicated that routine coordination and communication with the NRCS office and the cooperator occurs in these type scenarios, and if this project receives requested funding from NRCS, the cooperator is required to pay a minimum of 25 percent of the total project costs pursuant to FARMS Rule 40D-26, F.A.C. The District evaluates and compares project cost invoices submitted by cooperators against cost share assistance provided by other agency cost share programs to avoid dual or overpayments associated with the project.

Treasurer Dunbar asked if funding is received from NRCS next year would the District receive those funds as reimbursement. Mr. Craig responded if NRCS awards funds and Duggal farms begins construction before there is a signed contract, the planned funds encumbered by NRCS would be nullified.

Staff recommended the Board:

- 1) Approve the Duggal Farm - Amendment project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement net increase of \$41,628 with \$41,628 provided by the Governing Board;
- 2) Authorize the transfer of \$41,628 from fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS Funds to the H698 Duggal Farm - Amendment project fund;
- 3) Authorize the Assistant Executive Director to sign the amended agreement.

**A motion was made and seconded to approve the staff's recommendation. This motion included ensuring notification if the project receives duplicate funds. Motion carried unanimously. (1:20:50)**



**Submit & File Reports**

**40. Lower Hillsborough River Recovery Strategy - Five Year Assessment**

Committee Chair Senft stated "A Request to Speak" card was received. Dr. Rich Brown, representing Friends of the River, provided historical information. He commended the District on the report.

Mr. Mark Hammond, Resource Management Division Director, stated the District is also pleased with the project results. He commended the cooperation between the District, the City of Tampa and the Friends of the River.

This item was provided for the Committee's information, and no action is required.

**Routine Reports**

*The following items are provided for the Committee's information, and no action is required.*

**41. Minimum Flows and Levels Status Report**

**42. Significant Water Resource and Development Projects**

Committee Chair Senft adjourned the Committee meeting, and relinquished the gavel to the Regulation Committee Chair Moran, who called the Committee meeting to order. (Audio 1:26:00)

**Regulation Committee**

**Discussion**

**43. Consent Item(s) Moved for Discussion** – None

**44. Denials Referred to the Governing Board** – None

**Submit & File Reports - None**

**Routine Reports**

**45. Overpumpage Report - March 2015**

**46. Individual Permits Issued by District Staff - March 2015**

Committee Chair Moran adjourned the Committee meeting, and relinquished the gavel to the Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring Committee Chair Maggard, who called the Committee meeting to order. (Audio 1:26:36)

**Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring Committee**

**Discussion**

**47. Consent Item(s) Moved for Discussion** – None

**48. Hydrologic Conditions Status Report**

Mr. Steve Desmith, Senior Professional Geologist, provided a presentation on the hydrologic conditions. He stated rainfall for February averaged four and half inches District wide. The majority being in the central and southern regions. He stated the 12-month rainfall conditions remain positive and are 2.7 inches above the long term mean. Rainfall for March was 1.8 inches District wide. Groundwater in some areas in the northern counties has declined slightly but is still within the upper normal range. Groundwater within the central counties is within the upper normal range. The southern counties are within normal range. Lake conditions in the District have improved. Lakes within the Tampa Bay area have shown a slight decline, but still within normal range. Lakes in the Polk counties are within normal range. Lake Wales Ridge have improved, although are not within normal range. River flows associated with the Withacochee River have shown a slight decline. The Hillsborough River is at above normal conditions, as a result, the Hillsborough Reservoir is at capacity. River flows associated with the Alafia River are positive, as a result, the Bill Young Reservoir is close to capacity at 15.2 billion gallons. River flows associated with the Peace River are positive. Public supply reservoirs associated with the Peace River

Manasota Water Supply Authority were able to add 100 million gallons resulting in 11 billion gallons in storage. The climate forecast indicate temperatures for April will be normal. The three-month forecast indicates temperatures will be normal with above normal rainfall in the northern region. The remainder of the year shows normal rainfall conditions. Temperatures are predicted to be above normal.

This item is presented for the Board's information, and no action is required.

**49. Approve Sale of Surplus Lands – Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve, East Tract, SWF Parcel No. 10-200-1227S**

Mr. Steve Blaschka, Real Estate Services Manager, presented historical information regarding the Green Swamp Wilderness Preserve.

Board Member Bronson asked the acreage size. Mr. Blaschka responded 2.57 acres.

Staff recommended the Board:

- Accept the offer;
- Approve the contract for sale and purchase; and
- Authorize execution of the contract and instruments necessary to convey the property.

**A motion was made and seconded to approve the staff's recommendation. Motion carried unanimously. (Audio – 01:42:38)**

**50. Declare Land Surplus and Approve Conveyance, Hernando County Fire Rescue District Station – Annutteliga Hammock Project, SWF Parcel No. 15-228-1342S**

Mr. Steve Blaschka presented historical information regarding this project. He reviewed the results of the direction that was given by the Governing Board.

Board Member Griffin clarified that the District has determined that based on the proposed use, it is in the public's best interest to surplus this property.

Staff recommends the Board:

- Declare SWF Parcel No. 15-228-1342S surplus;
- Declare the parcel is no longer needed for District purposes or for conservation purposes;
- Accept the appraisal;
- Authorize the Chairman to execute the Quit Claim Deed; and
- Upon successful negotiations of the conditions of sale, approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement and authorize the Executive Director to sign on behalf of the District.

**A motion was made and seconded to approve the staff's recommendation. Motion carried unanimously. (Audio – 00:1:46:24)**

***Submit & File Reports - None***

***Routine Reports***

The following items are provided for the Committee's information, and no action is required.

**51. Structure Operations**

**52. Significant Activities**

**Committee Chair Maggard adjourned the Committee meeting. (Audio 1:47:42)**



## **General Counsel's Report**

### ***Discussion***

#### **53. Consent Item(s) Moved for Discussion – None**

#### ***Submit & File Reports* - None**

### ***Routine Reports***

The following items are provided for the Committee's information, and no action is required.

#### **54. Litigation Report - March 2015**

#### **55. Rulemaking Update - March 2015**

## **Committee/Liaison Reports**

#### **56. Agricultural & Green Industry Advisory Committee Report**

Board Member Mann provided the Board with a written summary of the Agricultural and Green Industry Advisory Committee meeting that was held on March 12, 2015. He provided highlights of the meeting.

#### **57. Other Committee/Liaison Reports**

Board Member Moran provided an update of the Sarasota Estuary Bay Program (Program). He indicated the Program has experienced some issues that have distracted from its mission and goals. The Program has recently undergone significant human resource changes. Board Member Moran is optimistic there will be improvement based on these changes. He commended District staff on their representation. He stated if this Program does not improve, he will return to the Board with recommendations. Board Member Moran will continue to oversee this situation.

## **Executive Director's Report**

#### **58. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Robert Beltran stated he would like remind the Board of the tools the District offers that provides information on various measurable items. He referenced the Dashboard that included: budget; response times associated with permitting; compliance activities; Land Management activities and costs associated with them; etc.

Mr. Beltran also reviewed the District's spring's website that addresses the first magnitude springs. He indicated it provides a spring's dashboard with real time monitoring data associated with springs which includes: groundwater pumpage; rainfall; nitrogen loading; stream flows; nitrate concentrations; land uses, etc.

Mr. Beltran informed the Board on the employee meetings that occurred in March. He stated the Dale Twachtmann Service Award of Excellence was presented for the first time. This award is named after the first Executive Director.

## **Chair's Report**

#### **59. Employee Milestones**

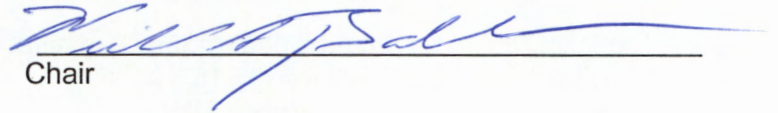
Chair Babb noted staff employees who have reached five-year increments in service to the District. He recognized staff members who have reached 25-year milestones, and thanked them for their service. This item was provided for the Board's information, and no action was required

The next Governing Board meeting is scheduled for April 28 in Haines City. The May 19 meeting will be in Tampa and the June 23 meeting will be in Brooksville

#### **60. Other**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.



Chair

Attest:



Secretary