



SPRINGS COAST STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, January 25, 2023 – 2:00 PM
2379 BROAD STREET, BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604

MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Kelly Rice, SWFWMD
Robert Holmes, City of Crystal River
Alys Brockway, Hernando County (Alternate)
Tom Marinelli, Pasco County (Alternate)*
Kim Shugar, FDEP*
Gregory Workman, FWC*
Yesenia Escribano, FDACS*
Rebecca Bays, Citrus County

Staff Members

Jennette Seachrist
Vivianna Bendixson
Jeremy McKay
Madison Trowbridge
Mandi Rice
Randy Smith
Frank Gargano

Committee Administrative Support

Lauren Vossler

FDACS – Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
FDEP – Florida Department of Environmental Protection
SCMC – Springs Coast Management Committee
FGUA – Florida Governmental Utility Authority

FWC – Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
SWFWMD – Southwest Florida Water Management District
SCSC – Springs Coast Steering Committee

1. Call to Order and Roll

The Springs Coast Steering Committee (SCSC) of the Southwest Florida Water Management District met for its regular meeting at 2:00 p.m., on January 25, 2023.

Committee Chair Rice called the meeting to order. Ms. Lauren Vossler called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

2. Action Item: Minutes Approval from November 9, 2022

A motion was made for approval of November 9, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. Public Input

None

4. Presentation: FY2024 FDEP Springs Funding Preliminary Evaluations, Preliminary Rankings, and Project Overviews – Vivianna Bendixson, SWFWMD

Ms. Vivianna Bendixson, SWIM Program Manager, provided members with a detailed FY2024 application process, along with the FY2023 Springs Coast Management and Steering Committee timeline. She provided the FY2024 FDEP request summary by Basin

Management Action Plan and the FDEP Springs funding summary for the SWFWMD region. Ms. Bendixson stated the FY2023 project selections have been announced and APP01 – Florida Governmental Utility Authority (FGUA) – Chatmire Septic to Sewer was approved for funding and will be withdrawn from the FY2024 submittal process. Ms. Bendixson discussed the four FY2024 applications received, including APP01, the criteria, the prioritization matrix and the preliminary rankings. With the selection of APP01 for funding in FY2023, some of this information will change and will be provided at the final evaluations and rankings presentation.

5. Presentation: FY2024 Project Presentation by Applicant

a) Hernando County Utilities Department

Mr. Gordon Onderdonk with Hernando County Utilities Department provided members with a presentation on the Septic-to-Sewer Conversion Project District A, Phase Two in Hernando County. He mentioned the estimated cost per lot is \$36,000 and the anticipated grants and county contributions will be \$32,400. The estimated connection cost to residents will be \$3,544. Hernando County is seeking \$800,000 in FDEP Springs funding for this project for FY2024 funding. The project start date is 2024 and is set to be completed in 2026.

Ms. Rebecca Bays asked if the area bordering State Road 50 includes commercial properties. Mr. Onderdonk explained there are currently a few commercial properties, and Hernando county will look at the feasibility of continuing to connect to commercial properties in the 30 percent design.

b) City of Crystal River

Mr. Alan Gari with the City of Crystal River presented information regarding the Crystal River wastewater treatment plant upgrades. Mr. Gari explained this project included improvements to the plant to reduce nitrogen discharge and harden infrastructure. With upgrades, an additional 2.9 mg/L of nitrogen removal is expected. Crystal River is requesting funding for 75 percent of the total project cost of \$5,669,500. The project duration is an estimated two to three years.

6. Adjournment

Prior to adjournment, Ms. Brockway announced that the Hernando County Springs Protection Workshop will take place on April 14, 2023 at the Sand Hill Scout Reservation located at 11210 Cortez Blvd. in Brooksville.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

7. Next Meeting: March 8, 2023, 2:00 p.m.