

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

COOPERATIVE FUNDING PUBLIC MEETING

NORTHERN REGION COOPERATIVE FUNDING INITIATIVE PUBLIC MEETING GOVERNING BOARD SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 5, 2020

The Northern Region Cooperative Funding Initiative (CFI) Public Meeting hosted by the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board convened at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at the Southwest Florida Water Management District Brooksville Headquarters, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604.

Governing Board Members Present

Kelly Rice, Committee Chair
Mark Taylor
Seth Weightman

Recording Secretary

Lori Manuel

Staff Members Present

Mandi Rice
Jennette Seachrist
Michael Molligan
John Campbell
Kevin Wills
Vivianna Bendixson
Scott Letasi
Jay Hoecker
Robyn Felix
Frank Gargano

A list of others who signed the attendance roster is filed in the permanent records of the District. Approved minutes can be found on the District's Web site (www.WaterMatters.org).

The numbers preceding the items below correspond with the published agenda.

1. **Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Committee Chair Rice called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

2. **Introductions**

Committee Chair Rice introduced the other members of the committee.

3. **Review CFI Preliminary Staff Evaluations and Rankings**

Mr. Kevin Wills, Cooperative Funding Initiative Program lead, provided a presentation of project evaluations and rankings. This presentation included a map depicting the location of the projects throughout the Northern region; explanation of rankings and how they are associated with the District Strategic Initiatives; regional priorities association with projects; multi-year comparison of funding requests; funding requests for FY2021 and recommendations; and preliminary rankings of project. Mr. Wills stated the regional priorities include ensuring long-term sustainable water supply and improving the Northern Coastal springs systems.

Mr. Wills outlined the 1A ranked projects. He explained that projects ranked 1A are multi-year projects with prior District commitment.

Mr. Wills outlined the high and medium ranked projects. He specifically addressed high ranked project WW09. He stated the funding associated with this project is contingent upon receiving funding from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

Mr. Wills specifically addressed medium ranked project Q134. He stated a third-party review will be done for this project. Mr. Wills stated a revenue agreement with FDEP has been executed for the full funding amount of \$7.5 million.

Ms. Jennette Seachrist, Resource Management director, stated project Q197 is a Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) community and is requesting a 75 percent cost share.

Mr. Wills identified projects, Q155 and Q173, and stated that these are not being recommended for funding. He explained that project Q155 is eligible for springs funding and an application has been submitted FDEP.

Committee Member Mark Taylor stated, although he was not requesting a presentation, he would like the status of projects N873, Q093, Q137 and Q138.

Ms. Seachrist stated that staff will be prepared to provide information at the April meeting.

4. **Receive Public/Stakeholder/Applicant Input**

Committee Chair Rice stated there were no Request to Speak cards.

5. **Board Discussion and Selection of Project Presentations in April**

Mr. Wills stated staff will provide an update to projects requested by Committee Member Taylor at the April meeting.

6. **FDEP Springs Funding**

Ms. Bendixson provided an overview of the springs funding process. She stated that the Springs Coast Management (SCMC) and the Springs Coast Steering Committees (SCSC) will submit a recommended list of springs projects for funding to the Governing Board for approval. The approved project list will be submitted to FDEP for final approval.

Ms. Bendixson provided a funding summary that outlined FDEP funds requested versus funds received from 2014 to present.

Ms. Bendixson provided an overview of the projects requested for funding within Basin Management Action Plans (BMAP) areas. These areas included Rainbow, Weeki Wachee, Chassahowitzka/Homosassa and Crystal River/Kings Bay.

Ms. Bendixson provided a timeline associated with springs funding.

7. **Timeline and Next Steps**

The next Northern CFI meeting is scheduled for April 1 at 10:00 a.m. in the Brooksville office. Action will be taken at that meeting.

8. **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, Committee Chair Rice thanked everyone who attended.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.