



SPRINGS COAST STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2024 – 2:00 P.M.
HYBRID MEETING – IN PERSON AND TEAMS
2379 BROAD STREET
BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604

MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Kelly Rice, SWFWMD, Chair
Robert Holmes, City of Crystal River
Rebecca Bays, Citrus County
Seth Weightman, Pasco County*
Alys Brockway, Hernando County (Alternate)
Kathy Bryant, Marion County*
Ken Weaver, FDEP (Alternate)*
Gregory Workman, FWC*
Yesenia Escribano, FDACS*

Staff Members

Mandi Rice
Randy Smith
Vivianna Bendixson
Madison Trowbridge
Carrieann Adkins

Technical and Administrative Support

Jeremy McKay
Lori Manuel

*Attended via Teams

Presenters

Chandler Kennan, FDEP
Sandi Will, SWFWMD

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 July 24, 2024.

Committee Chair Rice called the meeting to order. Roll was called and a quorum was confirmed.

2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

There were no additions or deletions.

3. Action Item: Minutes Approval from March 6, 2024

A motion was made for approval of the March 6, 2024 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

4. **Public Input**

None

5. **Action Item: FY2026 FDEP Springs Funding Process – Dr. Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD**

Dr. Madison Trowbridge, Springs Scientist, provided a presentation regarding the FY2026 FDEP Springs Funding process. She provided an overview of the funding application. Dr. Trowbridge stated that Carrieann Adkins, Government Affairs Regional Manager, will be the contact for any pre-application meetings. She stated that any questions regarding completing the application can be directed to Lisa Laupert, Natural Systems Restoration Business Support Manager.

Dr. Trowbridge summarized the required documents that must be submitted with the completed application. She outlined the changes to the application that were requested by the SCSC. Dr. Trowbridge provided an overview of the review process and criteria. All applications are due October 4.

Staff recommended the Committee approve the FY2026 Springs Funding Application, Evaluation, and Prioritization Process.

A motion was made to approve staff recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

6. **Action Item: FY2025 SCSC Meeting Dates – Dr. Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD**

Dr. Madison Trowbridge presented a timeline for the application, approval process and meeting dates for the FY2026 Springs Coast Management Committee (SCMC) and the SCSC Committee. She stated the SCMC approved their schedule at their July 10 meeting.

Commissioner Kathy Bryant asked if staff has coordinated dates with the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority. She stated that she sits on that Board and some of the SCSC meetings are on the same day. Dr. Trowbridge stated that staff are not currently aware of any conflicts. Committee Chair Rice suggested that the dates be approved and once a conflict is determined adjustments can be made.

Ms. Alys Brockway asked when the application will be online. Dr. Trowbridge responded it will be posted the week of July 29.

Staff recommended the Committee approve the future SCSC meeting dates.

A motion was made to approve staff recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7. **Presentation: An Overview of SWFWMD's Available Monitoring Data and Maps – Sandie Will, P.G., SWFWMD**

Ms. Sandie Will, Data Collection Bureau Chief, presented an overview of the District and its areas of responsibility. She provided an outline of the Data Collection Bureau and its responsibilities. Ms. Will explained the in-house process of collecting, assessing and verifying data. She outlined and summarized the responsibilities of the disciplines in the Data Collection Bureau. This included Geohydrologic Data, Hydrologic Data, Water Quality Monitoring and Mapping and GIS. Ms. Will provided a step-by-step process to search for various data.

Mr. Robert Holmes asked if sinkholes are tracked. Ms. Will responded in the negative and stated that FDEP would track that information.

Committee Chair Rice encouraged the committee members to share this information with their appropriate counties and agencies.

8. Presentation: Basin Management Action Plans (BMAP) updates – Chandler Keenan, FDEP

Ms. Chandler Keenan, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, provided an overview of the BMAP, Basin Analyses and the next steps for the BMAP updates. She stated that the BMAPs are scheduled to be updated by July 2025. Ms. Keenan outlined the key components and provided an historical timeline related to BMAPs. She summarized information regarding the BMAPs for the four basins within the District. These included Rainbow Springs and River, Crystal River and Kings Bay, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka springs, and Weeki Wachee springs. Ms. Keenan provided an update regarding bills and legislation associated with the springs that passed during the 2024 session. She provided information regarding project reporting that is included in the Statewide Annual Report (STAR). Ms. Keenan highlighted specific projects and presented water quality data for each. She outlined BMAP updates that will be adopted by July 1, 2025, and provided a timeline. She summarized the analysis used for the Nitrogen Source and Inventory Loading Tool (NSILT) and the Springs Vent Analysis. Ms. Keenan acknowledged the local governments that have assisted with the collection of data for the Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System. Ms. Keenan responded to questions.

A discussion ensued regarding whether the extension of the Suncoast Parkway would provide any nutrient reduction benefits to the springs.

9. Announcements and Other Business

Dr. Trowbridge informed the group that the refinements to the Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Plans for all five springs first magnitude springs systems have been approved by the District Governing Board. They have been implemented and adopted.

10. Next Meeting Date if Approval: November 6, 2024 at 2 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for November 6 at 2:00 p.m. This will be both in person and via Teams.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.