



SPRINGS COAST STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, November 9, 2022 – 2:00 PM
2379 BROAD STREET, BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604

MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Kelly Rice, SWFWMD*
Robert Holmes, City of Crystal River*
Beth Narverud, Hernando County (Alternate)*
Tom Marinelli, Pasco County (Alternate)*
Ken Weaver, FDEP*
Gregory Workman, FWC*
Chris Pettit, FDACS*

Staff Members

Jennette Seachrist
Vivianna Bendixson
Jeremy McKay
Madison Trowbridge
Brian Armstrong
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 November 9, 2022.

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

2. Action Item: Minutes Approval from July 27, 2022

A motion was made for approval of July 27, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. Public Input

None

4. Presentation: FY2024 FDEP Springs Funding Applications – Vivianna Bendixson, SWFWMD

Ms. Vivianna Bendixson, SWIM Program Manager, provided members with an update of the FY23 FDEP request summary by Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP). She discussed the FDEP Spring funding requests and summary for the SWFWMD region as projects await

notification from the FDEP on selection for FY2023 funding. Ms. Bendixson provided the FY2024 Springs Funding process overview and FY24 FDEP request summary by BMAP. She also provided summaries on the four FY2024 applications received and the FDEP springs funding requests for the SWFWMD region. Full presentations for new applications will be given at the January 25th SCSC meeting upon the committee's request or as recommended by the Springs Coast Management committee. Ms. Bendixson provided a detailed FY2023 timeline. Springs Coast Steering and Management committee meeting dates were provided to members as well.

Chair Rice requested further high-level information on applications three and four.

5. Presentation: Informing Septic to Sewer Conversion Outreach in Florida Through Community – Based Social Marketing – Lisa Krimsky, University of Florida IFAS Extension

Dr. Lisa Krimsky, Ph.D. UF/IFAS Water Resources Regional Specialized Agent South District, explained to members this project utilizes a community-based social marketing approach to develop more effective outreach strategies for local governments conducting septic-to-sewer conversions. She discussed conducting focus groups and public opinion surveys to determine perceived barriers, motivators, and other educational needs that may influence the willingness of Florida residents to convert from septic to sewer.

Dr. Krimsky explained the results of the study indicate that while there are minor differences between communities, a statewide marketing plan for septic-to-sewer conversion projects can be used as long as it does not follow a one-size-fits-all approach. She mentioned information should address homeowner priorities and provide information that will make the process easier. The barrier of upfront costs can be removed if they are dispersed over time. Alternative funding and fee structures should be considered to remove the primary external barrier to conversion. While attitudes regarding conversion were positive, outreach materials should focus on addressing homeowner priorities rather than environmental and water quality benefits.

6. Next Meeting: January 25, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Ms. Brockway mentioned the upcoming Springs Protection Workshop on April 14, 2023 at the Sand Hill Scout Reservation.

Chair Rice mentioned to committee members the District had sent an overview of the first magnitude springs.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.