



**SPRINGS COAST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, December 7, 2022 – 1:30 PM**  
**2379 BROAD STREET, BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604**

**MINUTES**

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Committee Members Present

Michael Molligan, SWFWMD  
Ken Frink, City of Crystal River  
Ken Cheek, Citrus County  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County  
Jody Kirkman, Marion County  
Jason Mickel, Pasco County  
Ken Weaver, FDEP  
Will Fontaine, FGUA  
Michelle Sempstrott, FWC  
Jessica Stempien, FDACS  
Suzy Folsom, Public Supply  
Alana Todd, Regional Planning Council  
Iliia Balcom, Industry  
Patricia Spellman, Academia  
Rick Owen, State Parks

Staff Members

Vivianna Bendixson  
Randy Smith  
Frank Gargano  
Madison Trowbridge  
Virginia Singer  
Jeremy McKay

Committee Administrative Support

Lauren Vossler

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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  
TWG – Technical Working Group

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**1. Call to Order and Roll**

The Springs Coast Management Committee (SCMC) of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) met for its regular meeting at 1:30 p.m., on December 7, 2022, via Microsoft Teams.

Mr. Michael Molligan, Employee, Outreach & General Services Director, called the meeting to order. Roll was called and a quorum was noted.

**2. Action Item: Minutes Approval from October 26, 2022**

***A motion was made for approval of October 26, 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 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. She discussed the updated water quality criteria for new members of the management committee.

Ms. Bendixson discussed the four FY2024 applications received and the prioritization matrix. She mentioned in May there will be a meeting discussing lessons learned, and in July the criteria and prioritization matrix will be up for review.

**5. Presentation: FY2024 Project Presentation by Applicant**

**a) Citrus County**

Ms. Tina Malmberg with Citrus County provided members with a presentation on the Southwest Regional Water Reclamation Facility project. She explained the intent of the project will be to include a new advanced treatment facility with the ability to send reclaimed water to the Sugarmill Woods Golf Course. Citrus County anticipates future grant funding will be available to complete the last phase. The project benefit will be the reduction of pollutant loads by an estimated amount of 877 lbs/yr. total nitrogen (TN). The project start date is 2024 and is set to be completed in 2026.

**b) Hernando County Utilities Department**

Mr. Rick Kirby 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 this project is the second highest ranked project in the priority focus area (PFA). The estimated connection cost to residents will be \$3,544. Hernando County is seeking \$800,000 in FDEP Springs funding for this project. The project start date is 2024 and is set to be completed in 2026.

**c) City of Crystal River**

Mr. Allen Gari with the City of Crystal River presented information regarding the 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. Presentation: Chassahowitzka Technical Working Group Update - Dr. Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD**

Dr. Madison Trowbridge, Springs Scientist, provided an overview on the Surface Water Improvements and Management Plans. She discussed the current quantifiable objectives for the Chassahowitzka River include water quality, water quantity, and natural systems focus areas.

Dr. Trowbridge provided the potential refinements discussed at the TWG meeting. These potential refinements include redefining water clarity into different river portions, redefining water clarity as an indicator using the 2006-2015 average as a threshold, redefining submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) into different river portions, and redefining the desirable SAV targets. These potential refinements are similar to those approved for Rainbow River, Crystal River/Kings Bay, and Weeki Wachee.

Mr. Molligan asked Dr. Trowbridge to provide an overview of the technical working group and what is involved for the benefit of the new committee members. Dr. Trowbridge explained the technical working group is a team of experts selected by the committee. The working group analyzes data for each of the different systems to review the quantifiable objectives and provide proposed refinements to the committee.

**7. Open Discussion**

The January 11<sup>th</sup> SCMC meeting has been canceled.

**8. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.