

SPRINGS COAST STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025 - 2:00 P.M. **VIA TEAMS** 2379 BROAD STREET **BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604**

MINUTES

Committee Members Present Kelly Rice, SWFWMD, Chair

Robert Holmes, City of Crystal River

Diana Finegan, Citrus County Ryan Amsler, Hernando County Seth Weightman, Pasco County

Ken Weaver, FDEP* Gregory Workman, FWC* West Gregory, FDACS *

Presenters

Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD

Moira Homann, FDEP*

*Attended via Teams

Staff Members

Jennette Seachrist

Mandi Rice Randy Smith

Vivianna Bendixson Madison Trowbridge Carrieann Adkins **Devon Villareal** Taylor Grennan

Others Present

Alys Brockway

Technical and Administrative Support

Jeremy McKay Candice Harris

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., March 5, 2025.

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.

Action Item: Minutes Approval from January 22, 2025 3. A motion was made for approval of the January 22, 2025 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

4. Public Input

None

5. <u>Action Item: FY2026 FDEP Springs Funding Final Evaluations and Rankings – Dr. Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD</u>

Dr. Madison Trowbridge, Springs Scientist, provided a summary of the previous year's funding requests stating a total of \$5.8 million was requested all within the Weeki Wachee BMAP area. FDEP has not yet announced their funding selection for FY2025 but should provide an update on their website soon. Dr. Trowbridge provided an overview of the FY2026 FDEP request process and funding summary. Dr. Trowbridge discussed the five FY2026 applications received, funding criteria, the prioritization matrix and the FDEP Springs Funding final evaluation spreadsheet. She further reviewed the project benefit rankings with the committee and requested any questions at this time.

Mr. Seth Weightman inquired if there was an increase in the connection fee schedule for the Hernando County Package Plant application, as it is a multi-year project. Dr. Trowbridge stated the way FDEP has requested cost increases be held is that they be treated like a new project. Gordon Onderdonk, Hernando County Utilities Director, advised connection fees are at a five-year projection, and the project would be completed within that time frame.

A motion was made to approve and forward the submittal spreadsheet to the District's Governing Board for approval. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

6. Presentation: BMAP Updates - Moira Homann, FDEP

Moira Homann, FDEP, provided an overview of the Basin Management Action Plans (BMAP) advising the BMAPs are developed with stakeholder input, adopted by the FDEP Secretarial Order, enforceable, implemented through a phased approach, reported on annually and regularly updated. Ms. Homann advised within the BMAP, it is critical that entities plan for and report projects and project updates to the state through the Statewide Annual Report process. Ms. Homann further reviewed the Outstanding Florida Springs BMAPs in the SWFWMD area, key BMAP components and reviewed the BMAP updates that will be adopted July 2025.

7. Announcements and Other Business

None.

8. Next Meeting: July 23, 2025 at 2 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. This hybrid meeting will be both in person and via Teams.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.