



**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022 – 9:00 AM
2379 BROAD STREET, BROOKSVILLE, FL 34604
(352) 796-7211**

MINUTES

Board Members Present

Joel Schleicher, Chair
Ed Armstrong, Vice Chair
Michelle Williamson, Secretary*
John Mitten, Treasurer
Kelly Rice, Former Chair
Jack Bispham, Member
Seth Weightman, Member*
William Hogarth, Member
John E. Hall, Member

Board Members Absent

Ashley Bell Barnett, Member

Staff Members

Brian J. Armstrong, Executive Director
Amanda Rice, Assistant Executive Director
Chris Tumminia, General Counsel
Brian Werthmiller, Inspector General
Jennette Seachrist, Division Director
Michelle Hopkins, Division Director
Brian Starford, Division Director
Michael Molligan, Division Director

Board Administrative Support

Virginia Singer, Board & Executive Services Manager
Lauren Vossler, Administrative Coordinator

*attended via electronic media

1. CONVENE PUBLIC MEETING

The Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) met for its regular meeting at 9:00 a.m., June 21, 2022, at the Brooksville Office, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604.

This meeting was available for live viewing through Internet streaming. An attendance roster is archived in the District's permanent records. Approved minutes from meetings can be found on the District's website at WaterMatters.org.

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Joel Schleicher called the meeting to order. He noted that the Board meeting was being recorded for broadcast on government access channels, and public input would be provided in person. Chair Schleicher stated that anyone wishing to address the Governing Board concerning any item listed on the agenda or any item that does not appear on the agenda should complete and submit a "Request to Speak" card. To assure that all participants have an opportunity to speak, members of the public may submit a Request to Speak card to comment on agenda items only during the meeting. If someone wishes to address the Board on an issue not on the agenda, a Request to Speak card may be

submitted for comment during "Public Input." Chair Schleicher stated that comments would be limited to three minutes per speaker, and when appropriate, exceptions to the three-minute limit may be granted by the Chair. He also requested that several individuals wishing to speak on the same topic designate a spokesperson.

Chair Schleicher introduced each member of the Governing Board and staff present at the dais (this served as roll call). A quorum was confirmed.

1.1a Oath of Office for Governing Board Members

Ms. Virginia Singer, Boards and Executive Services Manager, administered the Oath of Office to reappoint Board Members Ed Armstrong and William Hogarth.

1.2 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Treasurer John Mitten offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Employee Recognition

Chair Schleicher recognized staff who have reached at least 20 years of service. The following staff were recognized: Corey Denninger, Kelly Keck, Vito Morolla, Garry Flood, and Dave DeWitt.

1.4 Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Mr. Brian Armstrong, Executive Director, stated there were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

1.5 Public Input for Issues Not Listed on the Published Agenda

Mr. David Ballard Geddis spoke regarding an arbitrary government.

Mr. Tom St. Clair, representing the Hernando Audubon, spoke regarding the protection of the Weeki Wachee Preserve.

CONSENT AGENDA

Finance/Outreach & Planning Committee

2.1 Governing Board Travel - Annual Environmental Permitting Summer School

Staff recommended the Board approve the Governing Board travel request as presented.

2.2 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between Sarasota County Property Appraiser and Southwest Florida Water Management District

Staff recommended the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Sarasota County Property Appraiser and the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

2.3 Adopt Resolutions to Identify New Slate of Officers for Financial Documents

Staff recommended the Board:

1. Authorize the new slate of officers to apply their signatures to the required financial documents.
2. Adopt Resolution No. 22-10 authorizing the signatures of the newly elected officers of the Governing Board of the District and the use of facsimile or manual signatures on all warrants or checks of the District.
3. Adopt the Truist Resolution for Deposit Account document to identify the new slate of officers as authorized signers on existing accounts and give the officers the authority to give direction or confirmation to the Bank on all matters regarding the District's deposit accounts.

4. Adopt the Truist Corporate Resolution document to identify the new slate of officers as authorized signers on existing accounts and give the officers the authority to give direction or confirmation to the Bank on all matters regarding the District's custody accounts.

Resource Management Committee

2.4 Approve the Updated Silver Twin Lake Watershed Management Plan Floodplain Information for Regulatory Use and to Update Flood Insurance Rate Maps in Hillsborough County (N872)

Staff recommended the Board approve use of the updated Silver Twin Lake Watershed Management Plan floodplain information for best information available by the District ERP program and to update Flood Insurance Rate Maps in Hillsborough County.

Regulation Committee

2.5 Water Use Permit No. 20011963.004 - SCF Farms Inc./SCF Farms Inc., Handcart Citrus & Cattle Inc, et al. - Manatee County

Staff recommended the Board approve the proposed permit as presented.

Executive Director's Report

2.6 Approve Governing Board Minutes - May 24, 2022

Staff recommended the Board approve the minutes as presented.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously. (00:14:17)

FINANCE/OUTREACH AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Board Member John Mitten called the committee to order. (Audio – 00:15:12)

3.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion - None

3.2 Knowledge Management: Governing Board Member Duties and Responsibilities Policy

Ms. Robyn Felix, Communications and Board Services Bureau Chief, provided a presentation outlining the responsibilities for each of the Governing Board officers, the committee chairs, and the general duties of all members. She provided a summary of the proposed changes to the existing policy. Ms. Felix stated the Board Members can provide comments by July 1. The policy will be presented for Board approval at the July Board meeting.

This item was presented for information only. No action was required.

3.3 Fiscal Year 2023 Recommended Annual Service Budget

Ms. Amanda Rice, Assistant Executive Director, presented the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Recommended Annual Service Budget (RASB). She explained the timeline of the budget development process. Ms. Rice presented a comparison of budget metrics from FY19 through the proposed FY23. She provided a breakdown for expenditures by category for the District total operating budget and project budget.

Ms. Jennette Seachrist, Resource Management Division Director, provided an overview of the proposed FY23 division budget. She stated the proposed FY23 budget is approximately \$101 million dollars which is an approximate increase of 18.8 percent from FY22.

Mr. Brian Starford, Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring Division Director, provided an overview of the proposed FY23 division budget. He stated the proposed FY23 budget is approximately \$43 million which is an approximate decrease of 31 percent from FY22.

Ms. Michelle Hopkins, Regulation Division Director, provided an overview of the proposed FY23 division budget. She stated the proposed budget is approximately \$15.8 million which is an approximate increase of 19 percent.

Mr. Michael Molligan, Employee, Outreach and General Services Division Director, stated that the General Services Bureau was transferred to his division. He provided an overview of the proposed FY23 division budget. He stated the proposed budget is approximately \$17 million which is an approximate increase of 4.3 percent.

Ms. Rice stated that the Finance, Procurement, and Information Technology bureaus comprise the Business and IT Services Division. She provided an overview of the proposed FY23 budget for this division. She stated the proposed budget is approximately \$15.9 million which is an approximate increase of 9.3 percent.

Ms. Rice provided an overview of the District-wide budget. This included a breakdown of expenditures by category, program, and areas of responsibility. She also presented information outlining revenues by source. Ms. Rice stated the proposed FY23 budget totals \$199.8 million. She explained this is a 0.9 percent increase from FY22 and outlined the changes.

Ms. Rice stated FY23 estimated Ad Valorem revenue totals are \$122.5 million which is an increase of \$3.7 million from FY22. This is based on an estimated rolled-back rate with 3.44 percent from new construction indicated by the property appraisers' June 1 estimates of taxable property values. She stated the millage rate is estimated to be 10 percent lower than FY22.

Staff recommended the Board authorize staff to prepare the Standard Format Tentative Budget Submission for FY2023 based on the recommended budget as presented, adjusted for any modifications made by the Governing Board on June 21, changes in estimated ad valorem revenue based on the July 1 certifications of taxable value, and any additional funding provided by the state.

A motion was made and seconded to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio – 00:57:40)

3.4 Budget Transfer Report

This was for information only. No action was required.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Board Member William Hogarth called the committee to order. (Audio – 58:45)

4.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion – None

4.2 Knowledge Management: Cooperative Funding Initiative Governing Board Policy

Mr. Scott Letasi, Engineering and Project Management Bureau Chief, presented an overview of the proposed updates to the Cooperative Funding Initiative (CFI) Governing Board policy. He explained the finalized policy will be presented at the July Board meeting

for approval. Mr. Letasi stated once this policy is approved, it will be implemented for the FY24 CFI application cycle.

Ms. Jennette Seachrist clarified information regarding the addition of the septic conversion project requirements to the guideline and responded to questions.

This was for information only. No action was required.

OPERATIONS, LANDS, AND RESOURCE MONITORING COMMITTEE

Board Member Jack Bispham called the committee to order. (Audio – 01:10:50)

5.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion - None

5.2 Hydrologic Conditions Report

Ms. Tamera McBride, Hydrologic Data Section Manager, presented the hydrologic conditions update. She stated that June is the beginning of the wet season and hurricane season. District staff has been making preparations in anticipation. Ms. McBride stated that May rainfall was predominantly normal, but June has been dry for most of the region. Groundwater levels remain in the above normal to normal range. Surface water levels are in the normal range but have fallen to below normal range in the northern and Lake Wales Ridge lakes. Ms. McBride stated the Withlacoochee River is in the above normal range with the remaining rivers in the normal range. Public supply remains at sufficient levels. Above normal temperatures are anticipated for July, August, and September. She stated that tropical storm activity will continue to be monitored.

This was for information only. No action was required.

REGULATION COMMITTEE

Board Member John Hall called the committee to order. (Audio – 01:19:12)

6.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion - None

6.2 Denials Referred to the Governing Board

No denials were presented.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

7.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion - None

7.2 Knowledge Management: Proposals For Settlement in Civil Cases Governing Board Policy

Ms. Jennifer Soberal, Staff Attorney, presented an overview of proposed updates to the Proposal for Settlement in Civil Cases Governing Board policy. She provided the statutory authority for the policy and a summary of the proposed changes to the policy. She stated the final policy will be presented for Board approval at the July Board meeting.

This was for information only. No action was required.

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

8.1 Industrial Advisory Committee

A written summary of the May 10 meeting was provided.

8.2 Public Supply Advisory Committee

A written summary of the May 10 meeting was provided.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

9.1 Executive Director's Report

Mr. Brian Armstrong, Executive Director, reminded the Board to provide staff with comments related to any Knowledge Management items prior to the July Board meeting.

Mr. Armstrong stated that the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FFWC) has selected the District as landowner of the year for 2021 due to the District's commitment to allowing the FFWC to host hunts on District management properties.

Mr. Armstrong stated that the Florida Sterling Council recognized District staff from the Regulation Division for various awards promoting business excellence. These staff included Brandee Alexander, Michelle Eddy, Almays Gonzalez, Buddy Wood, Eryn Worthington, and Hannah Kuzlo.

CHAIR'S REPORT

10.1 Chair's Report

Chair Schleicher congratulated the newly elected Board officers.

Chair Schleicher stated that Executive Director Brian Armstrong received the Florida Association for Water Quality Control (FAWQC) 2022 Wade Hopping Leadership Award. This annual award recognizes an outstanding professional who oversees policies and/or personnel in the area of water resources and who dedicated to managing, improving, and protecting the quality of Florida's waters.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 26 at 9:00 a.m., in the Tampa Office.

10.2 Employee Milestones

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.