



**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2021 – 9:00 AM
2379 BROAD STREET, BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604**

MINUTES

Board Members Present

Kelly Rice, Chair
Joel Schleicher, Vice Chair
Rebecca Smith, Ph.D., Secretary
Ed Armstrong, Treasurer
Michelle Williamson, Member*via Zoom
Jack Bispham, Member
Seth Weightman, Member*via Zoom
John Mitten, Member
Ashley Bell Barnett, Member*via Zoom
John E. Hall, Member
William Hogarth, Member

Board Members Absent

Roger Germann, Member

Staff Members

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

Board Administrative Support

Virginia Singer, Board & Executive Services Manager
Lori Manuel, Administrative Coordinator

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., on June 22, 2021, at the Brooksville Office, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899.

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

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Kelly Rice called the meeting to order and opened the public hearing. He noted that the Board meeting was being recorded for broadcast on government access channels, and public input will be provided in person.

Chair Rice 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, a member of the public may submit a Request to Speak card to comment on agenda items only during the meeting. If the speaker 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 Rice 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 Rice introduced each member of the Governing Board and staff (this served as roll call). Secretary Rebecca Smith confirmed that a quorum was present.

1.2 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Joel Schleicher offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 Employee Recognition

Chair Rice recognized employees who have reached at least 20 years of service with the District and thanked them. The following staff was recognized: Michelle Hopkins

1.4 Additions/Deletions to Agenda

Mr. Brian Armstrong, Executive Director, stated there were no changes to the agenda. He stated that Board Members were provided with updated exhibits for the following items:

2.2 Governing Board Travel - Annual Environmental Permitting Summer School

2.13 Approval of Release of Conservation Easement and Quit Claim Deed – Environmental Resource Permit No. 43025469.016 - SIPOC Pond Modifications - Sarasota County

2.14 Approval of Consent Order Between SWFWMD and Christ Church of Longboat Key, Inc. - Permit Violations - ERP No. 43007606.002 - CT No. 413561 - Manatee County

Vice Chair Schleicher requested the following item be moved from Consent to Discussion:

2.6 FARMS – Rolling Meadows Ranch, (H792), Polk County

1.5 Public Input for Issues Not Listed on the Published Agenda

Mr. David Ballard Geddis, Jr., spoke regarding the reclaimed water variance.

CONSENT AGENDA

FINANCE/OUTREACH AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

2.1 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, and
2. Adopt Resolution No. 21-07 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, and
3. Adopt the *SunTrust/Trust Deposit Account Resolution and Authorization for Business Entities* 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, and
4. Adopt the *SunTrust/Trust 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.

2.2 Governing Board Travel - Annual Environmental Permitting Summer School

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

2.3 Budget Transfer for Replacement and Expansion of Information Technology Bureau Enterprise Storage Equipment

Staff recommended the Board approve the budget transfer of \$405,298 for the procurement of hardware, warranty and services associated with the replacement of the District's enterprise Storage Area Network (SAN) to Enterprise Servers (P480) from:

1. Southern Basin Aquifer Recharge (010-5530-Q177-8101) \$250,000
2. Virtual Server Attached Storage Expansion Lease (010-0550-P497-6704) \$100,000
3. Software Maintenance (010-0510-Z050-3422) \$28,298
4. Enterprise Servers (010-0550-P480-6404) \$27,000

2.4 Independent Auditing Services Contract

Staff recommended the Board:

1. Exercise the renewal option within the current contract and approve the fourth amendment to the agreement engaging JMCO to perform the fiscal year 2020-21 auditing services, and
2. Authorize the Executive Director or designee to execute the fourth amendment to the current contract with JMCO to perform the fiscal year 2020-21 auditing services.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2.5 Tampa Bay Estuary Program Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement (W027)

Staff recommended the Board approve the Tampa Bay Estuary Program Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement.

~~2.6 FARMS – Rolling Meadows Ranch, (H792), Polk County~~

~~Staff recommended the Board:~~

- ~~1. Approve the Rolling Meadows Ranch project for a not to exceed project reimbursement of \$221,272.35 with \$221,273 provided by the Governing Board.~~
- ~~2. Authorize the transfer of \$221,273 from fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS Fund to the H792 Rolling Meadows Ranch project fund.~~
- ~~3. Authorize the Assistant Executive Director to sign the agreement.~~

OPERATIONS, LANDS AND RESOURCE MONITORING COMMITTEE

2.7 Easement Associated with the Ridge Road Widening Project SWF Parcel No. 15-010-062X

Staff recommended the Board:

1. Approve the Purchase/Sale Agreement and authorize the Executive Director to execute on behalf of the District; and
2. Approve the Non-Exclusive Perpetual Easement and authorize the Chair and Secretary to execute on behalf of the District; and
3. Authorize staff to execute any other documents necessary to complete the transaction in accordance with the approved terms.

2.8 Residential Lease for Lake Hancock - SWF Parcel No. 20-503-260X

Staff recommended the Board approve, accept, and authorize the Governing Board Chair to sign the Lease Agreement for Lake Hancock - SWF Parcel No. 20-503-260X on behalf of the District.

2.9 Easement for CFWI Crooked Lake Site - SWF Parcel No. 20-020-165 and 20-020-166

Staff recommended the Board approve, accept, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the Easement Agreement on the behalf of the District.

2.10 Management Agreement with Sarasota County for Management and Use of the Myakka River Schewe Tract – SWF Parcel No. 21-708-136X

Staff recommended the Board:

1. Approve the Management Agreement Between the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota County, Florida for Management and Use of the Myakka River Schewe Tract (Agreement); and
2. Authorize the Governing Board Chair to execute the Agreement on behalf of the District.

REGULATION COMMITTEE

2.11 Water Use Permit No. 20003069.015 - Symon Grove / Symon Grove, LLC (DeSoto County)

Staff recommended the Board approve the proposed permit.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

2.12 Approval of Partial Assignment and Assumption of Conservation Easement - Environmental Resource Permit No. 43028370.026 - Tidewater Preserve - Manatee County

Staff recommended the Board approve and accept the attached Partial Assignment and Assumption of Easement for the Tidewater Preserve.

2.13 Approval of Release of Conservation Easement and Quit Claim Deed - Environmental Resource Permit No. 43025469.016 - SIPOC Pond Modifications - Sarasota County

Staff recommended the Board approve the requested Release of Conservation Easement and Agreement for Release of Conservation Easement.

2.14 Approval of Consent Order Between SWFWMD and Christ Church of Longboat Key, Inc. - Permit Violations - ERP No. 43007606.002 - CT No. 413561 - Manatee County

Staff recommended the Board:

1. Approve the Consent Order.
2. Authorize District Staff to pursue additional enforcement measures to obtain compliance with the terms and conditions of the Consent Order, including filing appropriate actions in Circuit Court, if necessary.

2.15 Approve Governing Board Minutes - May 25, 2021

Staff recommended the Board approve minutes as presented.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio - 00:11:13)

FINANCE/OUTREACH & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Treasurer Ed Armstrong called the Committee to order. (Audio – 00:11:37)

3.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion - None

3.2 Fiscal Year 2022 Recommended Annual Service Budget

Mr. John Campbell, Resource Management Division Director, provided a presentation outlining Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Recommended Annual Service Budget (RASB). The presentation included the FY2022 development calendar, metrics, and a comparison of expenditure budget by category for FY2021 and FY2022. Mr. Campbell stated the District's proposed budget for FY2022 total is \$191.2 million. This is an increase of 4.2 percent. Mr. Campbell provided an overview of the changes. He stated the Division Directors would provide additional information regarding the changes to their Division budgets.

Ms. Jennette Seachrist, Resource Management Division Director, provided an overview of the Resource Management Division proposed FY2022 budget. She stated the proposed budget total is approximately \$78 million. Ms. Seachrist stated the overall budget has decreased by approximately 13.5 percent from FY2021 and provided an overview of the changes.

Mr. Brian Starford, Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring Division Director, provided an overview of the Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring Division proposed FY2022 budget. He stated the proposed budget total is approximately \$62 million. This is an increase of \$18.4 million or 42.2 percent from FY2021. Mr. Starford stated most of this increase is because of \$16 million received from the sale of surplus lands in FY2021. These funds must be used to purchase additional conservation lands to better meet the District's four areas of responsibility. Mr. Starford provided an overview of the significant changes.

Ms. Michelle Hopkins, Regulation Division Director, provided an overview of the Regulation Division proposed FY2022 budget. She stated the proposed budget is approximately \$13.3 million. This is a decrease of approximately \$109,000 from FY2021. Ms. Hopkins provided an overview of the changes.

Mr. Michael Molligan, Employee and External Relations Division Director, provided an overview of the Employee and External Relations Division proposed FY2022 budget. He stated the budget total is approximately \$6.6 million. This is a decrease of approximately \$25,000 from FY2021. Mr. Molligan provided an overview of the changes.

Mr. Campbell provided an overview of the Management Services Division proposed FY2022 budget. He stated the proposed budget is approximately \$24.3 million. This is an increase of approximately 6.7 percent. He provided an overview of the changes. For the Districtwide budget, Mr. Campbell provided a comparison of expenditures by category, program, Areas of Responsibility, and revenues by source for FY2021 and the proposed FY2022 budgets.

Staff recommended the Board authorize staff to prepare the Standard Format Tentative Budget Submission for FY2022 based on the recommended budget as presented, adjusted for any modifications made by the Governing Board on June 22, 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 – 45:27:00)

3.3 Budget Transfer Report

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

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Board Member Seth Weightman called the Committee to order. (Audio – 00:47:35)

4.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion

2.6 FARMS – Rolling Meadows Ranch, (H792), Polk County

Vice Chair Schleicher requested this item be moved to Discussion. He expressed his support for the project but stated his opposition was regarding the 75 percent cost share guidelines associated with the Facilitating Agricultural Management Services (FARMS).

Staff recommended the Board:

4. Approve the Rolling Meadows Ranch project for a not-to-exceed project reimbursement of \$221,272.35 with \$221,273 provided by the Governing Board.
5. Authorize the transfer of \$221,273 from fund 010 H017 Governing Board FARMS Fund to the H792 Rolling Meadows Ranch project fund.
6. Authorize the Assistant Executive Director to sign the agreement.

A motion was made and seconded to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed ten in favor and one opposed. Vice Chair Schleicher voted in opposition of the 75 percent cost share associated with this project. (Audio – 00:48:48)

4.2 Polk Regional Water Cooperative – Southeast Polk Wellfield Lower Floridan Aquifer Test Production Well No 3 Project (Q294), Approval and Transfer of PRWC Resolution Funds

Mr. Eric DeHaven, Assistant Director of Resource Management Division, presented an overview of the Southeast Lower Floridan Aquifer (SE LFA) Wellfield. He explained the first third-party review was completed and a recommendation was made to construct a third test well. This well will eventually be converted to a production well if the wellfield project moves forward.

Mr. DeHaven provided a history and data from the two previously constructed test wells numbers. He provided information regarding the benefits, costs and staff evaluation ranking associated with this project. Mr. DeHaven responded to questions. In the event the well is not used by the PRWC for water supply, the District would take ownership of the well site as a monitor station.

Mr. Brian Armstrong, Executive Director, asked for clarification of the request that will be presented at the August Board meeting. Mr. DeHaven explained that staff will be requesting approval of the 30 percent design third-party review of this project. He stated that as this project continues to progress, the data from the additional test well will be important for final design.

Staff recommended the Board authorize staff to execute a cooperative funding agreement with the PRWC for the LFA Test Production Well Number 3 Project (Q294) and approve the transfer of \$2,062,500 from the Polk Partnership Resolution Fund (H094) to the project.

A motion was made and seconded to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio – 01:02:43/01:15:48)

OPERATIONS, LANDS, AND RESOURCE MONITORING COMMITTEE

Board Member Jack Bispham called the Committee to order. (Audio – 01:17:00)

5.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion - None

5.2 Hydrologic Conditions Report

Mr. Granville Kinsman, P.G., Hydrologic Data Manager, provided a presentation regarding hydrologic conditions. Mr. Kinsman stated that May was the second driest month in 107 years. Although water supplies remained healthy, demands increased throughout the District. At the end of June, rainfall has greatly improved, and groundwater levels are in the normal range. The Northern, Tampa Bay, and Lake Wales Ridge lakes are in the below normal range, while Polk Upland lakes remain in the normal range. The Hillsborough, Withlacoochee, Peace and Alafia rivers are all in the normal range. Mr. Kinsman stated the City of Tampa, Bill Young and Peace River reservoirs showed declines due to demands but remain healthy. The climate forecast anticipates rainfall to be near normal for the summer and fall months. The monitoring of tropical weather will continue.

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

REGULATION COMMITTEE

Vice Chair Joel Schleicher called the Committee to order. (Audio – 01:28:04)

6.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion - None

6.2 Denials Referred to the Governing Board – None

6.3 Overpumpage Discussion

Mr. Darrin Herbst, Water Use Permitting Bureau Chief, presented information explaining the overpumpage compliance process. He outlined the information that is considered when determining if a permittee is overpumping, outreach that is provided to assist the permittee, and potential enforcement actions that are taken if necessary. Mr. Herbst provided a graph that demonstrates the months required for the 12-month running average to reflect that a permit is in compliance after corrective action is completed. He provided information regarding two water use permits that are on the monthly overpumpage list and explained the corrective actions that were taken. Mr. Herbst stated that the Southwest Florida Water Management District is the only District that tracks overpumpage monthly.

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

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

7.1 Consent Item(s) Moved to Discussion - None

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

8.1 Industrial Advisory Committee

A written summary of the May 11 meeting was provided.

8.2 Public Supply Advisory Committee

A written summary of the May 11 meeting was provided.

Vice Chair Schleicher thanked Tampa Bay Water for the tour of their facilities they hosted for Governing Board Members on May 27.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

9.1 Executive Director's Report

No information was presented.

CHAIR'S REPORT

10.1 Chair's Report

Chair Rice stated that the next Board meeting will be on July 27 at 9:00 a.m., in the Brooksville office.

10.2 Employee Milestones

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.