Due to the COVID-19 virus, this meeting was held through electronic media to reduce public gatherings and practice social distancing.

The Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District met at 5:01 p.m. on September 22, 2020 at the Brooksville Office. The following persons were in attendance:

Board Members Present
Kelly Rice, Chair  
Joel, Schleicher, Vice Chair*  
Rebecca Smith, Ph.D., Secretary*  
James Murphy, Treasurer*  
Jack Bispham, Member*  
Roger Germann, Member*  
Seth Weightman, Member*

*Attended via electronic media

Staff Members Present
Brian Armstrong, Executive Director  
Amanda Rice, Assistant Executive Director  
Karen West, General Counsel  
John J. Campbell, Division Director  
Jennette Seachrist, Division Director  
Brian Starford, Division Director  
Michael Molligan, Division Director  
Michelle Hopkins, Division Director

Board Administrative Support
Virginia Singer, Board & Executive Services Manager  
Lori Manuel, Administrative Assistant

This meeting was available for viewing through internet streaming. Approved minutes from previous meetings can be found on the District's Web site (www.WaterMatters.org).

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Approval of Tentative Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Service Budget Public Hearing Minutes

Chair Rice called the meeting to order. He introduced the other members of the Board. This served as roll call and a quorum was confirmed. Chair Rice led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Rice provided information to members of the public wishing to address the Governing Board concerning any item listed on the agenda or any item that does not appear on the agenda. 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 issue/topic designate a spokesperson.

The meeting was briefly recessed to allow for communication with any members of the public who wished to provide input.

Chair Rice requested a motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2020 Tentative Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Annual Service Budget Public Hearing.

A motion was made and seconded. The Motion carried unanimously. (Audio – 01:49:40)

Chair Rice turned the gavel over to Treasurer Murphy.
2. **Opening Comments**
Treasurer Murphy stated the purpose of this final Truth in Millage (TRIM) public hearing was to provide an opportunity for the public to speak and ask questions prior to the Governing Board’s adoption of a final millage rate and budget for FY2021.

3. **Budget Overview**
Mr. John Campbell, Management Services director, stated there were changes to the budget since the September 8, 2020 Governing Board meeting. These changes will be presented under agenda item 5.

4. **Public Announcement of the Name of the Taxing Authority, Rolled-Back Rate, Percentage Increase Over Rolled-Back Rate, and Millage Rate to be Levied for Fiscal Year 2021**
Mr. Campbell presented the required public announcement of the name of the taxing authority, the rolled-back rate, the percentage of increase over the rolled-back rate, and the millage rate to be levied for FY2021 and read into the record as required for the District.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TAXING AUTHORITY</th>
<th>ROLLED-BACK RATE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE OVER ROLLED-BACK RATE</th>
<th>FINAL MILLAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southwest Florida Water Management District</td>
<td>0.2669 mill</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.2669</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Reconciliation of Tentative to Final Fiscal Year 2021 Budget**
Mr. Campbell stated there were no changes to the expenditure budget since the September 8, 2020 Governing Board meeting.

Mr. Campbell outlined the changes to the revenue budget that occurred since the September 8, 2020 Governing Board meeting. He explained the state funding for the Weeki Wachee River Channel Restoration project was reduced from $4,195,000 to $2,097,500. The balance from prior years was increased by $2,097,500 to fund the District’s share of the restoration project.

6. **Public Comments**

a. **Letters/Resolutions Received**
Treasurer Murphy noted that any letters and resolutions received regarding the final millage rate and budget have been compiled into an Appendix “C” and are hereby incorporated, by reference, into the public record of this meeting.

b. **Persons Wishing to Address the Board**
Mr. David Ballard Geddes spoke in opposition of a water district levy.

7. **Adopt Final Fiscal Year 2021 Millage Rate**

    SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
    
    RESOLUTION NO. 20-13

    ADOPTION OF FINAL MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

This resolution is made a part of these minutes as if set forth in full, but for convenience, is filed in the permanent resolution files of the District.

Vice Chair Schleicher stated he would like to see further reductions in the millage rate.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution No. 20-13, Adoption of Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2021, of 0.2669 mill, which was seconded. The motion carried unanimously. (Audio – 02:02:20)
8. **Adopt Final Fiscal Year 2021 Budget**

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 20-14

ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

This resolution is made a part of these minutes as if set forth in full but, for convenience, is filed in the permanent resolution files of the District.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution No. 20-14, Adoption of Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021, in the amount of $183,494,869, which was seconded. The motion carried with six in favor and one opposed. Vice Chair Schleicher stated his opposition is based on fiscal concerns associated with any new expenditures due to the uncertain economic impacts. (Audio: 02:03:27)

9. **Introduce All Materials as Composite Exhibit**

Treasurer Murphy stated the record will reflect all materials presented today are part of the permanent record of the public hearing.

10. **Adjournment**

Chair Rice adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions, including access to and participation in the District's programs, services, and activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation, or who would like information as to the existence and location of accessible services, activities, and facilities, as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact Donna Eisenbeis, Sr. Performance Management Professional, at 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext. 4706; or email ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (Voice). If requested, appropriate auxiliary aids and services will be provided at any public meeting, forum, or event of the District. In the event of a complaint, please follow the grievance procedure located at WaterMatters.org/ADA.