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 (District) met for its regular meeting at 8:00 a.m., on October 20, 2020, at its Brooksville Office, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida. The following persons were in attendance either in person or via electronic media:

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

**Staff Members**
- Brian J. Armstrong, Executive Director
- Amanda Rice, Assistant Executive Director
- Karen E. West, General Counsel
- John J. 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

Approved minutes from previous meetings can be found on the District's website (www.WaterMatters.org).

**CONVENE PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING**

1.1 **Call to Order**
Chair Rice called the meeting to order and opened the public hearing.

Chair Rice provided a telephone number to any member 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.

1.1a **Oath of Office for Board Members**
Ms. Virginia Singer, Board and Executive Services manager, administered the Oath of Office for reappointed Board Member Ed Armstrong and newly appointed Board Member John Mitten.

1.2 **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**
Board Member John Mitten offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Chair Rice introduced each member of the Governing Board (this served as roll call), and staff at the dais. He noted that the Board meeting was being recorded for broadcast on government access channels, and public input was only taken during the meeting via telephone communication.

1.3 Additions/Deletions to Agenda
Mr. Brian Armstrong, executive director, stated there was an addition to the Consent Agenda:

General Counsel's Report
2.7a Initiation of Rulemaking to Amend Chapter 40D-9, Florida Administrative Code

Chair Rice stated there was good cause to amend the agenda as allowed by Section 120.525, Florida Statutes.

1.4 Public Input for Issues Not Listed on the Published Agenda
Mr. David Ballard Geddes spoke regarding COVID-19.

Consent
Finance/Outreach and Planning Committee
2.1 Resolution No. 20-15, Commending Jeffrey M. Adams for His Service as a Member of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board
Staff recommended the Board approve Resolution No. 20-15, Commending Jeffrey M. Adams for his service as a member of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board.

2.2 Office of Inspector General Performance Measures
Staff recommended the Board approve the OIG performance measures.

2.3 Budget Transfer Report
Staff recommended the Board approve the Budget Transfer Report covering all budget transfers for September 2020.

Resource Management Committee
2.4 Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Priority List and Schedule Update
Staff recommended approval of the District's Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels 2020 Priority List and Schedule for submission to DEP for review and approval as required by Chapter 373, F.S.

Operations, Lands & Resource Monitoring Committee
2.5 Management Agreement with Hernando County for the Management and Use of the Bayport Tract - Weeki Wachee Preserve Project - SWF Parcel No. 15-773-160X
Staff recommended the Board approve the management agreement between the District and Hernando County for the management and use of the Bayport Tract SWF Parcel No. 15-773-160X

Regulation Committee
2.6 WUP No. 200085750.010 / City of Davenport / City of Davenport (Polk County)
Staff recommended approval of the proposed permit.

General Counsel's Report
2.7 Authorization to Issue Administrative Complaint and Order – Well Construction Violations – St. Pete Complete Environmental, Inc. - Unlicensed - CT Number 409223 – Pinellas County
Staff recommended the Board:
1) Authorize District staff to issue an Administrative Complaint and Order to St. Pete
Complete Environmental, Inc. to obtain compliance, recover an administrative fine/civil penalty, and recover any District cost and fees, if appropriate.

2) Authorize District staff to obtain compliance with the terms of the Administrative Complaint and Order in Circuit Court, if necessary.

2.7a **Initiation of Rulemaking to Amend Chapter 40D-9, Florida Administrative Code**
Staff recommended the Board authorize the initiation of rulemaking to amend Chapter 40D-9, Florida Administrative Code, to modify the District’s land use rules.

**Executive Director’s Report**

2.8 **Executive Director’s Report: Approve Governing Board Minutes - September 22, 2020**
Staff requested the Board approve the minutes as presented.

2.9 **Executive Director’s Report: Approve Fiscal Year 2020 Final Budget Hearing Minutes - September 22, 2020**
Staff requested the Board approve the minutes as presented.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously. (Audio - 00:13:15)

Chair Rice relinquished the gavel to the Finance Committee Chair James Murphy, who called the meeting to order. (Audio – 00:14:25)

**Finance/Outreach & Planning Committee**

3.1 **Moved for Discussion** - None

3.2 **Investment Strategy Quarterly Update**
Mr. John Grady, Public Trust Advisors, presented the investment review and the quarterly investment report for the quarter ending September 30, 2020.

Staff requested the Board accept and place on file the District’s Quarterly Investment Reports for the quarter ended September 30, 2020.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the staff’s recommendation. The motion carried unanimously. (Audio - 00:42:35)

3.3 **Annual Review of Board Policy, District Investment Policy**
Mr. John Campbell, Management Services director, provided an overview of the District investment policy. He outlined the proposed modifications to the policy.

This item was presented for the Board’s information, and no action was requested. A copy of the current Investment Policy with the recommended changes redlined throughout the document is attached. Also attached is a “clean draft copy” of the revised Investment Policy that will be included as a consent item in the November 2020 Board packet and approval will be requested at that time.

3.4 **Development of Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year (FY)2022**
Mr. John Campbell, Management Services director, stated that pursuant to Section 373.535, Florida Statutes, the water management districts are required to submit a preliminary budget to the Florida Legislature for review. Mr. Campbell provided a schedule for the FY2022 budget development, budget metrics, preliminary operating budget assumptions and revenue budget assumptions.
Staff requested the Board approve the general budget assumptions as outlined in the October 20, 2020 budget presentation for the development of the preliminary budget for FY2022.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the staff's recommendation. The motion carried unanimously. (Audio – 01:08:05)

Submit & File Reports

3.5 Office of Inspector General Quarterly Update - July 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020
This item was for the Board's information; no action was needed.

Committee Chair Murphy relinquished the gavel to the Resource Management Committee Chair Seth Weightman, who called the Committee to order. (Audio – 01:09:16)

Resource Management Committee

4.1 Consent Item(s) Moved for Discussion - None

Committee Chair Weightman relinquished the gavel to the Operations, Lands and Resource Monitoring Committee Chair Jack Bispham, who called the Committee to order. (Audio – 01:10:15)

Operations, Lands & Resource Monitoring Committee

5.1 Consent Item(s) Moved for 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 September rainfall was slightly above the long-term mean. However, as of October 20, there is still a four-inch deficit for district-wide rainfall. Mr. Kinsman stated that groundwater levels in the northern, central, and southern counties remain in the normal range but are showing normal seasonal declines. The northern, Lake Wales and Tampa Bay lakes remain in the normal range, and the Polk Upland lakes were in the above normal range. The Hillsborough, Peace and Alafia Rivers were in the above normal range. The Withlacoochee River remained in the normal range. Mr. Kinsman stated the City of Tampa and Bill Young reservoirs are considered full and the Peace River reservoir system has a healthy supply. The climate forecast anticipates below-normal rainfall for the upcoming winter and spring because of La Niña conditions.

This item was provided for the Board's information only, and no action was required.

Committee Chair Bispham relinquished the gavel to the Regulation Committee Chair Roger Germann, who called the Committee to order. (Audio – 01:19:54)

Regulation Committee

6.1 Consent Item(s) Moved for Discussion - None

6.2 Denials Referred to the Governing Board
None were presented

Committee Chair Germann relinquished the gavel to Chair Rice. (Audio – 01:20:30)

General Counsel’s Report

7.1 Consent Item(s) Moved for Discussion - None

7.2 2020 Sunshine Law Presentation
Ms. Megan Albrecht, staff attorney, provided a presentation outlining the Sunshine Law. She explained the Sunshine Law is a right of access to governmental proceedings of public boards. Ms. Albrecht stated that Board members are subject to sunshine law.

Ms. Albrecht outlined the requirements that Board members must adhere to in order to maintain compliance with the Sunshine Law. She stated that meetings must be open to the public and reasonably noticed. Ms. Albrecht stated that minutes of meetings must be taken and promptly recorded. She provided hypothetical examples of violations and penalties associated. Ms. Albrecht explained the process of curing violations.

Ms. Albrecht addressed violations of the Sunshine Law as related to social media. She provided hypothetical examples.

This item was for the Board's information; no action was needed.

Committee/Liaison Reports
8.1 Agricultural and Green Industry Advisory Committee
Mr. Michael Molligan, Employee and External Relations director, provided information regarding the September 15 meeting. He highlighted recognition that was received regarding the Citrus County Task Force soliciting feedback from the citrus industry. The committee provided a letter to the Governing Board expressing its support and appreciation for the work of the task force and the collaborative manner, the effort was conducted. A written summary of the meeting was provided.

Executive Director's Report
9.1 Executive Director's Report
Mr. Brian Armstrong, executive director, provided the Board with an overview of his goals for FY2021. A written copy was provided for the Board's review.

Chair’s Report
10.1 2020 Employee Evaluation and 2021 Performance Goals for the Executive Director and Inspector General
Chair Rice stated that the Board Members were provided with the 2020 employee evaluation and FY2021 goals for the executive director and the inspector general. He stated that final recommended scores were provided based upon the individual scores received from Board.

A motion was made to approve the recommended evaluations for the Executive Director and the Inspector General, and an amendment to the executive director’s contract to provide for a salary increase for him. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. (01:34:10)

10.2 Chair’s Report
Chair Rice welcomed the new and re-appointed Board Members.

Chair Rice reminded the Board Members of the workshop scheduled for December.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 17 at 9:00 a.m., in the Tampa Office.

10.3 Employee Milestones
Chair Rice recognized staff who reached at least 20 years of service with the District and thanked them for their service. The following staff were recognized: Ronnie Crosby and Yolanda Velasquez.
Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Attest:

Chair

Secretary

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.