

SPRINGS COAST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024 – 1:30 PM VIA TEAMS

MINUTES

Committee Members Present Jennette Seachrist, SWFWMD Alys Brockway, Hernando County Jody Kirkman, Marion County Cisco Pavez, Pasco County Moira Homann, FDEP Lauren Campbell, FDEP Will Fontaine, FGUA Michelle Sempsrott, FWC Andrea Bowling, FWC Vanessa Bauzo, FDACS Curt Williams, Agriculture Charles Lee, Environmental Patricia Spellman, Academia Rick Owen, State Parks

<u>Presenters</u> Chandler Kennan, FDEP Sandi Will, SWFWMD <u>Staff Members</u> Vivianna Bendixson Madison Trowbridge Frank Gargano Virginia Singer Jeremy McKay Catherine Wolden John Clark

<u>Technical and Administrative Support</u> Jeremy McKay Lori Manuel

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 Management Committee (SCMC) of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) met for its regular meeting at 1:30 p.m., on July 10, 2024, via Microsoft Teams.

Ms. Jennette Seachrist, Resource Management Director, called the meeting to order. Roll was called.

- 2. <u>Additions or deletions to the agenda</u> There were no additions or deletions.
- 3. <u>Action Item: Minutes Approval from May 22, 2024</u> A motion was made for approval of the May 22, 2024 minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

4. Public Input

None

5) <u>Action Item: FY2026 FDEP Springs Funding Process – Dr. Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD</u> Dr. Madison Trowbridge, Springs Scientist, provided a presentation regarding the FY2026 FDEP Springs Funding process. She provided an overview of the funding application. Dr. Trowbridge stated that Carrieanne Adkins, Government Affairs Regional Manager, will be the contact for any pre-application meetings. She stated that any questions regarding completing the application can be directed to Lisa Laupert, Natural Systems Restoration Manager. Dr. Trowbridge summarized the document requirements that must be submitted with the completed application. She outlined the two changes to the application that were requested by the SCMC. Dr. Trowbridge provided an overview of the review process and criteria. She stated that pre-submittal meetings are available upon request. All applications are due October 4.

Staff recommended the Committee approve the FY2026 Springs Funding Application, Evaluation, and Prioritization Process.

A motion was made to approve staff recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

6) <u>Action Item: FY2025 SCMC Meeting Dates – Dr. Madison Trowbridge, SWFWMD</u> Dr. Madison Trowbridge presented a timeline for the application, approval process and meeting dates FY2026 SCMC Committee.

Staff recommended the Committee approve the future SCMC meeting dates.

A motion was made to approve staff recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7) <u>Presentation: An Overview of SWFWMD's Available Monitoring Data and Maps –</u> <u>Sandie Will, P.G., SWFWMD</u>

Ms. Sandie Will, Data Collection Bureau Chief, presented an overview of the District and its areas of responsibility. She provided an outline of the Data Collection Bureau and it's responsibilities. Ms. Will explained the in-house process of collecting, assessing and verifying data. She outlined and summarized the responsibilities of the disciplines in the Data Collection Bureau. This included Geohydrologic Data, Hydrologic Data, Water Quality Monitoring and Mapping and GIS. Ms. Will provided a step-by-step process to search for various data.

Ms. Alys Brockway asked if the water quality data for the Weeki Wachee Springs was available on the District's Springs dashboard. Dr. Trowbridge responded that the springs websites are being updated and that data will be available in a more user-friendly format.

8. Presentation: Basin Management Action Plans (BMAP) updates – Chandler Keenan, FDEP

Ms. Chandler Keenan, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, provided an overview of the BMAP, Basin Analyses and the next steps for the BMAP updates. She stated that the BMAPs are scheduled to be updated by July 2025. Ms. Keenan outlined the key components and provided a historical timeline related to BMAPs. She summarized information regarding the BMAPs for the four basins within the District. These included Rainbow Springs and River, Crystal River and Kings Bay, Homosassa and Chassahowitzka springs, and Weeki Wachee Springs. Ms. Keenan provided an update regarding bills and legislation associated with the springs that passed during the 2024 session. She provided information regarding project reporting that is included in the State-Wide Annual Report (STAR). Ms. Keenan highlighted specific projects and presented water quality data for each. She outlined BMAP updates that will be adopted by July 1, 2025, and provided a timeline. She summarized the analysis used

and provided draft examples. This included the Nitrogen Source and Inventory Loading Tool (NSILT) and the Springs Vent Analysis. Ms. Keenan acknowledged the local governments that have assisted with the collection of data for the Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal System.

Mr. Charles Lee asked about the increase and potential source in the Total Maximum Daily Load data associated with nitrate levels as related to the water quality for Rainbow River. Ms. Keenan responded that data and stronger methodology have improved since the 2018 NSILT. Continuous data is not available to provide an accurate comparison that would capture the growth in these areas. Mr. Will Fontaine stated that the future removal of three wastewater plants and septic removal will provide a trending down impact in that area.

Ms. Seachrist asked if the projects entered in the water quality grant portal would be automatically added to the STAR. Ms. Keenan responded in the negative.

9) Open Discussion

Dr. Trowbridge informed the group that the Surface Water Improvement Plans (SWIM) refinements for all five springs first magnitude springs systems have been approved by the District Governing Board. They have been implemented and adopted. Ms. Seachrist expressed appreciation to everyone who assisted with the quantifiable objective refinements.

10) Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2024 via Teams.

11) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.