

AGENDA
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD INTERMEDIATE MEETING

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

February 27, 2012
1:00 p.m.

District Headquarters
9225 CR 49
Live Oak, Florida

1. Roll Call
2. Additions, Deletions, or Changes to the Agenda

Action Items

3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Amendment to the SRWMD/SJRWMD/DEP Interagency Agreement
5. Contract with AMEC for Upper Suwannee River Minimum Flows and Levels Surveying

Informational Items

6. North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership Stakeholder Committee Charter
7. Executive Director Transition
8. Announcements

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at District Headquarters in Live Oak, Florida

March 13, 2012	9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting Workshop
April 10, 2012	9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting Workshop

****Board Workshops immediately follow Board Meetings unless otherwise noted.**

7. Adjournment

The entire meeting of the Governing Board is a public hearing and will be governed accordingly. The Governing Board may take action on any item listed on the agenda. The Governing Board may make changes to the printed agenda only for good cause shown as determined by the Chairman and stated for the record. If any person decides to appeal any decision with respect to any action considered at the above referenced meeting and hearing, such person may need to ensure a verbatim record of the proceeding is made to include testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is made. Public attendance and participation at the District Governing Board Meetings are encouraged.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Jon Dinges, Director, Water Supply & Resource Management

DATE: February 23, 2012

RE: First Amendment to Interagency Agreement Between Suwannee River Water Management District, St. Johns River Water Management District, and Florida Department of Environmental Protection

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to execute the first amendment to the interagency agreement between Suwannee River Water Management District, St. Johns River Water Management District, and Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

BACKGROUND

The parties have identified the need to amend the Interagency Agreement to include a joint regional water supply planning process. The planning process includes the joint establishment and coordination of an open public process cooperative with all water user groups and other affected and interested parties.

Staff has coordinated the proposed first amendment with St. Johns River Water Management District and the Department of Environmental Protection. Staff has attached a copy to this memorandum.

JD/dd

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
AND
ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
AND
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT (“AMENDMENT”), by and between the SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, a special taxing district organized under Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, whose address is 9225 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida 32060, hereinafter referred to as “SRWMD”, and ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, a special taxing district organized under Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, whose address is 4049 Reid Street, Palatka, Florida 32177, hereinafter referred to as “SJRWMD”, and FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, whose address is 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, hereinafter referred to as the “DEPARTMENT”, is entered into in three originals this _____ day of _____, 2012.

PREMISES

The PARTIES entered into an Interagency Agreement on September 13, 2011, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A (“AGREEMENT”).

The PARTIES desire to amend the AGREEMENT as specifically set forth herein.

NOW THEREFORE, the PARTIES hereby amend the AGREEMENT as follows:

1. The following is inserted as Paragraph G:
 - G. Joint Regional Water Supply Planning. SRWMD and SJRWMD agree to prepare a joint regional water supply plan encompassing, at a minimum, the northern nine counties within the SJRWMD and any Water Resource Caution Areas designated by the SRWMD that are contiguous with the boundary between the Districts. SRWMD, SJRWMD, and the DEPARTMENT will jointly establish and coordinate an open public process, cooperative with all water user groups and other affected and interested parties, consistent with Chapter 62-40.531, Florida Administrative Code, and section 373.709, Florida Statutes.

2. Former Paragraph G is revised to be Paragraph H and the title is changed from Joint Planning and Implementation for Recovery to Implementation for Recovery.

3. Paragraphs H, I, and J of the AGREEMENT are respectively revised to be paragraphs I, J and K.

4. All other terms of the AGREEMENT are hereby ratified and continue in full force and effect.

5. This AMENDMENT shall become effective upon execution by all of the PARTIES. Upon execution by the last of the PARTIES, the date of execution shall be inserted above.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each party, or lawful representative, has executed this AMENDMENT on the date set forth next to their signature below.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

By: _____ Date: _____
David Still
Executive Director

ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

By: _____ Date: _____
Hans G. Tanzler III
Executive Director

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

By: _____ Date: _____
Herschel T. Vinyard Jr.
Secretary

SEP 12 2011

**INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
AND
ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
AND
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

ORIGINAL TO FILE _____
COPIES TO _____

THIS INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT ("AGREEMENT"), by and between the SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, a special taxing district organized under Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, whose address is 9225 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida 32060, hereinafter referred to as "SRWMD", and ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, a special taxing district organized under Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, whose address is 4049 Reid Street, Palatka, Florida 32177, hereinafter referred to as "SJRWMD", and FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, whose address is 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, hereinafter referred to as the "DEPARTMENT", is entered into three originals this 13 day of September, 2011.

NOW THEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

A) Effective water management in Northeast Florida requires close coordination between the SRWMD and the SJRWMD to ensure resource protection and equitable treatment of water users in the two districts.

B) The purpose of this AGREEMENT is to set forth specific responsibilities of SRWMD, SJRWMD, and the DEPARTMENT (hereinafter collectively referred to as "PARTIES") to achieve appropriate coordination with respect to the Districts' water supply and consumptive use permitting responsibilities in Northeast Florida. While SRWMD and SJRWMD agree that there has been a shift in the Groundwater divide over time, SJRWMD believes that additional data and analysis are necessary to determine the cause of this shift and the impact of the shift on the water resources within both districts.

SRWMD and SJRWMD agree to develop a scope of work to define changes and potential impacts in the Floridian aquifer system, including but not limited to, evaluating the effects and causes of migration of the groundwater divide and regional lowering of the potentiometric surface. Furthermore, SRWMD and SJRWMD agree to engage the National Research Council's Water Science and Technology Board to review and provide recommendations to the scope of work. Following review by the Water Science and Technology Board, SRWMD and SJRWMD agree to incorporate the National Research Council's suggestions and jointly execute the scope of work and produce a report for submission to the Water and Science Technology Board for review and recommendations. Following completion of the review and recommendation of the National Research Council study, PARTIES agree to accept the results as the best available information for planning and permitting decisions.

C) Development of a Joint Regional Groundwater Flow Model. In order to develop consistency in planning and permitting decisions, SRWMD and SJRWMD agree to jointly

develop regional groundwater and surface water models. PARTIES agree that one model will enhance efficiency and effectiveness for the process.

D) Data Needs and Analysis Collection. SRWMD and SJRWMD will respect each others' data and continue to share monitoring and technical data, and to communicate regularly concerning water resource issues of concern, including but not limited to: permitting, minimum flows and levels, water resource constraints analyses, regional water supply planning, and district-wide water supply assessments.

SRWMD and SJRWMD will strive to improve their working relationship to include agreement on the most appropriate tools to evaluate water resource concerns based upon the geomorphologic, hydraulic, and geologic / hydrogeologic conditions of an area of concern.

E) Minimum Flows and Levels. When setting minimum flows and levels ("MFLs") in the northeast Florida area, SRWMD and SJRWMD shall:

1. Develop one consistent MFL process,
2. Develop one consistent definition of "harm," and,
3. Agree to the environmental constraints developed by each district in the absence of an MFL.

DEPARTMENT will review and comment regarding proposed MFLs, MFL process, definition of "harm" and environmental constraints.

F) Development of Prevention and Recovery Strategy. SRWMD and SJRWMD will develop and implement one MFL prevention and recovery strategy when withdrawals in one district contribute to water resource impacts in the other district. MFL prevention and recovery strategies will be described within the regional water supply plans of SRWMD and SJRWMD. DEPARTMENT will review and comment regarding the strategies by SRWMD and SJRWMD.

G) Joint Planning and Implementation for Recovery. When it is determined that an MFL is in recovery, SRWMD and SJRWMD shall work together to recover the MFL as expeditiously as possible by reducing demand for groundwater through conservation, alternative water supply ("AWS") projects, or water resource development projects. SRWMD and SJRWMD will prioritize water conservation as the preferred means of reducing demand for potable water, reducing groundwater withdrawals, and the need for more AWS projects.

It is understood that self-supplied agricultural water users are generally limited in their ability to develop AWS projects as described in Fla. Stat. section 373.709(2)(a)2. Therefore, it is understood that groundwater, in most cases, is the most feasible water source for agricultural users.

H) Staffing. In order to promote efficiency and clear communication between SRWMD and SJRWMD under this AGREEMENT, SRWMD has agreed to provide office space, including a computer and communications equipment, for a SJRWMD staff member. The staff member will be closely involved with the technical aspects of the AGREEMENT, including but not limited to: analysis of data, planning issues, permitting, MFLs, and recovery and prevention strategies.

I) Department Arbitrator. In the event that the Executive Directors of SRWMD and SJRWMD cannot reach resolution of any of the above issues in this AGREEMENT, then the DEPARTMENT shall act as an arbitrator to resolve the issues.

J) The Chairmen and the Executive Directors of SRWMD and SJRWMD agree to meet at least quarterly to discuss progress under the AGREEMENT. The first progress report is due December 1, 2011, and subsequent progress reports shall be due quarterly thereafter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each party, or lawful representative, has executed this AGREEMENT on the date set forth next to their signature below.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

By: David Still Date: 13 Sept 2011
David Still
Executive Director

ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

By: Kirby B. Green III Date: 13 Sept '11
Kirby B. Green III
Executive Director

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

By: Herschel T. Vinyard Jr. Date: 9/7/11
Herschel T. Vinyard Jr.
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Brian Kauffman, Senior Professional Engineer

DATE: February 23, 2012

RE: Contract with AMEC for Upper Suwannee River Minimum Flows and Levels Surveying

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract with AMEC for Upper Suwannee River minimum flows and levels surveying. Staff will provide the surveying proposal and cost by the close of business on February 24 if negotiations are successful.

BACKGROUND

On February 14, 2011, the Governing Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into competitive negotiations with qualified firms under 287.055 Florida Statutes to secure surveying services for the Upper Suwannee River minimum flows and levels (MFLs) project for a cost not to exceed \$100,000. Data obtained under this contract will be used to develop a computer model to determine the frequency and duration of inundation of important habitat features.

Staff met with the top-ranked firm, AMEC, on February 14 to discuss the project. Staff reduced the scope of the surveying to stop at the state line in order to reduce the project cost and complete the surveying in a shorter time frame.

The proposed scope of work consists of surveying 217 river cross sections on 60 miles of the Suwannee River and establishing 128 permanent bench marks (PBM's) at 64 locations. Staff is currently negotiating with AMEC on a price to provide these services. Staff will provide the Governing Board with the final surveying proposal and cost by the close of business on February 24 if staff can

reach agreement with AMEC. Staff will proceed with the next ranked firm if a satisfactory price cannot be negotiated.

Funds for this project are budgeted in the FY 2012 Water Supply budget.

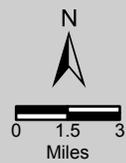
Staff is preparing a plan to accelerate surveying work for the middle Suwannee River minimum flows and levels project. Staff will provide this plan to the Governing Board in the near future.

BK/dd

Attachment: Map of proposed cross sections and PBM's



Upper Suwannee Survey Plan



Note: This map was created by the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) to be used for planning purposes only. SRWMD shall not be held liable for any injury or damage caused by the use of data distributed as a public records request regardless of their use or application. SRWMD does not guarantee the accuracy, or suitability for any use of these data, and no warranty is expressed or implied. For more information please contact the SRWMD at 386-362-1001. Map Created on 1/17/2012