

AGENDA
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
1ST PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE
FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 BUDGET

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

5:30 p.m., Tuesday
September 11, 2012

District Headquarters
Live Oak, Florida

1. Call to order and roll call.
2. Explanation of purpose of public hearing which is to adopt a proposed millage rate and tentative budget.
3. Presentation of Tentative Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget.
4. Board discussion of the proposed millage rate for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 of 0.4143, a 2.0 percent decrease from the rolled-back millage rate of 0.4227, and a Tentative Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget of \$16,102,072.
5. Comments and questions from the general public.
6. **Adoption of proposed millage rate of 0.4143.**
Staff recommends the Governing Board adopt the proposed millage rate of 0.4143 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.
7. **Adoption of Tentative Budget of \$16,102,072.**
Staff recommends the Governing Board adopt the Tentative Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget of \$16,102,072.
8. Announcements.
September 25, 2012, 5:30 p.m. will be the Final Public Hearing on FY 2012-2013 Budget at the District Headquarters.
9. Adjournment.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Ann Shortelle, Ph.D., Executive Director

DATE: August 28, 2012

RE: Adoption of Proposed Millage Rate and Tentative Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Governing Board adopt a proposed millage rate of 0.4143 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and adopt a Tentative Budget of \$16,102,072 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

BACKGROUND

At the July 10, 2012 Governing Board meeting, staff recommended the Governing Board maintain the current millage rate of 0.4143 and consider a Tentative Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-2013 Budget of \$15,128,674. Budget changes are proposed to be made to the Tentative FY 2012-2013 budget that will adjust the budget to \$16,102,072.

The Tentative Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-2013 Budget has been developed in accordance with the budget guidelines set forth by the Governing Board. Also, staff has worked in cooperation with the Governor's Office and Legislature to ensure adequate fiscal resources are available to effectively implement our core mission. This budget was developed in keeping with statutory provisions and direction provided by the Governor's Office, the Florida Legislature, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

Below are the changes to the Tentative FY 2012-2013 budget, a summary of the budget, and program highlights.

Tentative Budget Additions:

The following additions are recommended to be made to the Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget.

- \$73,398 for the District's group health insurance plan as approved by the Governing Board at its August 14, 2012 meeting and position conversion adjustments.
- \$900,000 from FDEP for implementation of the Santa Fe River Nutrient Reduction and Irrigation Retrofit program.

Budget Summary:

The Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget represents a standardized approach to budgeting and fiscal responsibility. For the first time, the District has developed an annual

operations budget, which is consistent with the other water management districts and allows for improved tracking of costs and performance evaluations.

The Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget total is \$16,102,072 and only includes those items that are expected to be expended this fiscal year. The Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget supports the District's core mission and includes significant reserve funding for cost-share programs.

The proposed millage rate of 0.4143 is the same as last fiscal year. The District will continue to fulfill its core mission responsibilities that ensure an adequate water supply, maintain and improve water quality, and protect our natural systems.

The District proposes to set aside \$1.5 million for agriculture and \$1.5 for local government cost-share programs for water resource development, conservation, water quality, and natural system projects.

The Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget reflects a significant increase in focus on water resource and supply planning and monitoring while meeting the needs in the other program areas.

The fund reserves are now consistent with Governmental Accounting Standard Board's budgeting standards. The bulk of the reserve funds will be spent down over a four-year period to support core mission projects and cost-share programs that benefit the citizens and resources of the District.

The Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget is \$2,212,821 greater than FY 2011-2012 estimated actual expenditures. This is a result of including the District's land sales and the Santa Fe River Basin Management Action Plan grant.

Estimated State funding is at \$4,696,994, Federal funding at \$1,135,000, and Ad Valorem Taxes at \$5,200,000.

The Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget reflects a Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) work force of 66 employees. Three Other Personal Services (OPS) employee positions were converted to FTE positions. The District FY 2012-2013 budget does include two student internship positions. However, the District will not have any OPS or contingent worker positions.

Program Highlights:

- Continuation of the Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL) program with a goal to have MFLs set on priority rivers and springs within 5 years.
- Continuation of the North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and FDEP to develop regional water supply plan and to bring stakeholders of both districts together to assist in water supply planning efforts.
- Continuation of the data management, monitoring (inclusive of hydrologic, groundwater, and surfacewater monitoring networks), and analysis efforts to monitor and collect data to support the District's programs.

- Implementation of an Agricultural Team.
- Continuation of Flood Insurance Rate Maps updates through funding provided by the Federal Emergency Management Administration.
- Continuation of the land management and surplus lands program.
- Continuation of the Aquifer Recharge Feasibility Study in conjunction with SJRWMD.
- Continuation of efforts to improve, update, and enhance the District's commitment to information technology in the form of computing facilities, software and data management tools, Geographic Information System, and internet services to the public.
- Initiation of the Santa Fe River Basin Nutrient Reduction and Irrigation Retrofit program.
- Initiation of the Springs Restoration program.

The Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget will enable the District to protect our water resources for the benefit of our citizens and natural systems while lessening the burden on taxpayers and establishing a high level of public service.

The Tentative FY 2012-2013 Budget documents our commitment to implement cost efficiencies and enhance existing programs. We appreciate the input and support of the Governing Board in this process.

The final public hearing is scheduled for September 25, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at the District's office located at 9225 CR 49, Live Oak, Florida.