

AGENDA  
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
FINAL PUBLIC HEARING  
ON THE  
FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

5:05 p.m., Tuesday  
September 22, 2015

District Headquarters  
Live Oak, Florida

1. Call to order and roll call.
2. Explanation of purpose of public hearing which is to adopt a final millage rate and final budget.
3. Final Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget.
4. Comments and questions from the general public.
5. **Approval of Resolution No. 2015-23 Adopting a Millage Rate of 0.4104.**  
**Staff recommends approval of Resolution No. 2015-23 to adopt a millage rate of 0.4104 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.**
6. **Approval of Resolution No. 2015-24 Adopting a Final Budget of \$43,335,921.**  
**Staff recommends approval of Resolution No. 2013-24 to adopt a final budget of \$43,335,921 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.**
7. Announcements:  
Governing Board Meeting, October 13, 2015, 9:00 a.m., District Headquarters
8. Adjournment.

Note:

The above represents the agenda for the September 22, 2015 Governing Board Final Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Millage Rate and Budget for the Suwannee River Water Management District. This agenda may be revised under the direction of the Board Chair.

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Carlos D. Herd, P.G., Interim Executive Director

DATE: September 8, 2015

RE: Adoption of Resolution No. 2015-23, Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget

### RECOMMENDATION

**Staff recommends the Governing Board approve Resolution 2015-23 to adopt a Final Millage Rate of 0.4104 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.**

### BACKGROUND

The Suwannee River Water Management District is the taxing authority that tentatively proposes to levy the roll-back millage rate of 0.4104 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 (FY 2016), which is a 0.0 percent change from the roll-back rate. The roll-back millage rate of 0.4104 is based on taxable property values from all the property appraiser's offices within the District.

At the July 14, 2015, Governing Board Meeting the Board approved a proposed roll-back millage rate of 0.4104 for FY 2016, a Tentative Budget of \$43,335,921 and authorized staff to notify the property appraisers for all the counties within the District.

At the September 8, 2015, the first public hearing on the tentative millage rate and tentative budget the Governing Board approved Resolution 2015-21 to adopt a tentative millage rate of 0.4104 for FY 2016 and Resolution 2015-22 to adopt a tentative budget of \$43,335,921.

The FY 2016 millage rate and 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. The millage rate and budget has been developed in keeping with statutory provisions and direction provided by the Governor's Office, the Florida Legislature, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

SM/rl  
Attachment

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2015-23**

**ADOPTION OF FINAL MILLAGE RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) by authority of Article VII, Section 9(b) of the Florida Constitution, and Chapters 200 and 373, Florida Statutes, is authorized to levy ad valorem taxes on taxable property within the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the ensuing fiscal year of the District shall extend the period beginning October 1, 2015, and ending September 30, 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board of the District has determined that a millage rate as provided for in Sections 200.065, 373.503 and 373.536, Florida Statutes, is necessary to provide funds for the tentative budgeted expenditures of the District for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and should be levied in the amount set forth herein; and

**WHEREAS**, notices of proposed property taxes, advising of date, time, and place of the first public budget hearing, were prepared and transmitted, pursuant to Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, by the county property appraisers of each county within the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the first public hearing on the tentative millage rate and budget was held by the Governing Board of the District at 9925 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida, on September 8, 2015, commencing at 5:05 p.m. as provided in the notice, at which the name of the taxing authority, the rolled-back rate, the percentage of change from the rolled-back rate, and the millage rate to be levied were publicly announced, and the general public was allowed to ask questions and speak prior to the adoption of any measures.

**WHEREAS**, the public hearing on the final millage rate and budget was held by the Governing Board of the District at 9925 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida, on September 22, 2015, commencing at 5:05 p.m. as provided in the notice, at which the name of the taxing authority, the rolled-back rate, the percentage of change from the rolled-back rate, and the millage rate to be levied were publicly announced, and the general public was allowed to ask questions and speak prior to the adoption of any measures.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**; by the Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District that:

1. The Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District does hereby adopt as its final millage rate 0.4104 of a mill for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, to be assessed on the tax rolls for the year 2015, for the purpose of levying a uniform ad valorem tax on all taxable property in the counties within the District as certified by the county property appraisers pursuant to Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, excluding lands held by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to the extent specified in Section 373.543, Florida Statutes.

2. This final millage rate of 0.4104 of a mill is for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 to defray expenses of the Suwannee River Water Management District for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016.
3. This Fiscal Year 2015-2016 millage rate of 0.4104 is equal to the roll-back rate of 0.4104 mills.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 22ND DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2015, A.D., AT \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.,  
BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:**

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
BY ITS GOVERNING BOARD**

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**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:**

**DON QUINCEY, CHAIR  
ALPHONAS ALEXANDER, VICE CHAIR  
VIRGINIA H. JOHNS, SECRETARY/TREASURER  
KEVIN W. BROWN  
GEORGE M. COLE  
GARY JONES  
VIRGINIA SANCHEZ  
RICHARD SCHWAB  
BRADLEY WILLIAMS**

**ATTEST:**

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Carlos D. Herd, P.G., Interim Executive Director

DATE: September 8, 2015

RE: Adoption of Resolution No. 2015-24, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

### RECOMMENDATION

## **Staff recommends the Governing Board approve Resolution 2015-24 to adopt a Final Budget of \$43,335,921 for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.**

### BACKGROUND

At the July 14, 2015 Governing Board Meeting the Board approved a Tentative Fiscal Year 2015-2016 (FY 2016) Budget of \$43,335,921 and a proposed roll-back millage rate of 0.4104. At the September 8, 2015, the first public hearing on the FY 2016 tentative millage rate and tentative budget the Governing Board approved Resolution 2015-21 to adopt a tentative millage rate of 0.4104 and Resolution 2015-22 to adopt a tentative budget of \$43,335,921.

The FY 2016 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.

The following is a summary of the FY 2016 Budget and program highlights.

#### **Budget Summary:**

The FY 2016 Budget represents a standardized approach to budgeting and fiscal responsibility. It reflects the District's effort to prudently address core mission responsibilities that consist of water quality, water supply, flood protection, and natural systems in accordance with Governing Board priorities, Legislative directives, adopted Minimum Flows and Levels schedule, the District's 2010 Water Resource Assessment, and the District's Strategic Plan.

The FY 2016 Budget is \$43,335,921 and supports the District's water supply, water quality, flood protection, and natural systems responsibilities. The Budget proposes to reduce the existing millage rate of 0.4141 to the roll-back rate of 0.4104. The Budget includes \$5,580,000 in projected ad valorem revenue and \$20,105,463 in reserves for agricultural and local government cost-share projects, springs protection and restoration projects, water supply planning, water resource development projects, water quality improvement projects, and natural systems projects.

The Budget also includes FY 2016 State appropriations of \$3,917,909 for water supply protection and development activities, minimum flows and levels program, water quality improvement projects, operational activities and regulatory initiatives. Additionally, the Budget includes \$5,030,000 for seven new springs protection and restoration grants. Approximately 57% of the District's budget is allocated to springs protection and restoration.

The Budget also has \$1,020,000 from a Federal grant for implementation of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Risk Map program to deliver quality data that increases public awareness and to reduce future flooding vulnerability.

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

The FY 2016 Budget reflects a Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) work force of 68 employees and two student intern positions. The District does not have any OPS or contingent worker positions.

**Program Highlights:**

- Establishing minimum flows and levels (MFLs) for the Steinhatchee River, Steinhatchee Rise, Steinhatchee TAY76992 Unnamed Spring, Upper Suwannee River, White Spring, Lime Spring, Suwannee Spring, Alapaha Rise, Holton Creek Rise, SUW923973 (Steverson) Spring, SUW1017972 Unnamed Spring, Lake Butler and Lake Hampton;
- Continuing the partnership with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to acquire light detection and ranging (LiDAR) mapping;
- Completing the Ichetucknee Springshed Water Quality Improvement Project that will reduce the City of Lake City's wastewater nutrient loadings to the Ichetucknee River by up to 85 percent;
- Completing the Middle Suwannee River Restoration and Aquifer Recharge Project that will rehydrate roughly 1,500 acres of ponds and 4,000 acres of wetlands in Mallory Swamp, enhance flow for springs along the Middle Suwannee River Basin, and recharge the aquifer increasing groundwater supplies helping both agriculture and domestic water users throughout the area;
- Continuing spring grants for the Advanced Nutrient Management through Center Pivots, Improved Conservation and Nutrient Optimization of Dairy Wastewater, and Improved Water Conservation through Center Pivots to improve water quality; and
- Implementing seven new springs grants to protect and improve flow and quality.

The FY 2016 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 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.

SM/rl  
Attachment

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2015-24**

**ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2015  
AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016**

**WHEREAS**, Chapters 200 and 373, Florida Statutes, require that the Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District (District) adopt a final budget for the District for each fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board of the District, after careful consideration and study, has caused to be prepared a final budget, including all items that are necessary and proper as provided by law for the District, for the ensuing fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015, and ending September 30, 2016, as provided for in Sections 200.065, 218.33, and 373.536, Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, notices of proposed property taxes, advising of date, time and place of the first public budget hearing, were prepared and mailed, pursuant to Section 200.065, Florida Statutes, by the county property appraisers of each county within the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the first public hearing on the tentative millage rate and budget was held by the Governing Board of the District at 9925 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida, on September 8, 2015, commencing at 5:05 p.m. as provided in the notice; and

**WHEREAS**, the final public hearing on the millage rate and budget was held by the Governing Board of the District at 9925 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida, on September 22, 2015, commencing at 5:05 p.m. as provided in the notice; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board of the District, prior to adopting a final budget, has adopted Resolution Number 2015-23, Adoption of Final Millage Rate of Taxation for the Properties lying within the Boundaries of the Suwannee River Water Management District for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 to Defray Expenses of the Suwannee River Water Management District for the Fiscal Year Commencing October 1, 2015 and Ending September 30, 2016, which established the final millage levy for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 as provided for in Sections 200.065, 373.503 and 373.536, Florida Statutes.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;** by the Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District that:

**Section 1.** The Governing Board of the Suwannee River Water Management District does hereby adopt as its final budget for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016, the final budget of \$43,335,921, a summary of which is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 22ND DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2015, A.D., AT \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.,  
BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT:

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
BY ITS GOVERNING BOARD

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**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:**

DON QUINCEY, CHAIR  
ALPHONAS ALEXANDER, VICE CHAIR  
VIRGINIA H. JOHNS, SECRETARY/TREASURER  
KEVIN W. BROWN  
GEORGE M. COLE  
GARY JONES  
VIRGINIA SANCHEZ  
RICHARD SCHWAB  
BRADLEY WILLIAMS

ATTEST:

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# BUDGET SUMMARY

## Suwannee River Water Management District - Fiscal Year 2015-2016

I. ESTIMATED REVENUES AND BALANCES	MILLAGE PER \$1,000	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	TOTAL BUDGET
<b>FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION</b>		<b>\$7,373,215</b>	<b>\$ 12,732,248</b>	<b>\$20,105,463</b>
<b>ESTIMATED REVENUES</b>				
AD VALOREM TAXES (Roll-back rate)	0.4104	\$5,580,000		\$5,580,000
OTHER REVENUES				
Federal Revenue			\$1,210,000	1,210,000
State Revenue			15,599,858	15,599,858
Local Revenue			105,600	105,600
Permit and License Fees		135,000		135,000
Interest Earnings		300,000		300,000
Timber Sales		300,000		300,000
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES</b>		<b>\$6,315,000</b>	<b>\$16,915,458</b>	<b>\$23,230,458</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND BALANCES</b>		<b>\$13,688,215</b>	<b>\$29,647,706</b>	<b>\$43,335,921</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE/RESERVES</b>		<b>21,581,704</b>	<b>11,447,236</b>	<b>33,028,940</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND BALANCES, ESTIMATED ENCUMBRANCES, AND FUND BALANCE/RESERVES FOR FUTURE PROJECTS</b>		<b>\$35,269,919</b>	<b>\$41,094,942</b>	<b>\$76,364,861</b>
<b>II. EXPENDITURES</b>				
WATER RESOURCES PLANNING & MONITORING		\$5,799,142	\$3,790,600	\$9,589,742
ACQUISITION, RESTORATION & PUBLIC WORKS		3,972,924	24,089,197	28,062,121
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS & WORKS		1,385,752	1,227,909	2,613,661
REGULATION		779,098	540,000	1,319,098
OUTREACH		245,483	0	245,483
ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONS SUPPORT		1,505,816		1,505,816
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$13,688,215</b>	<b>\$29,647,706</b>	<b>\$43,335,921</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE/RESERVES</b>		<b>21,581,704</b>	<b>11,447,236</b>	<b>33,028,940</b>
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES, ESTIMATED ENCUMBRANCES, AND FUND BALANCE/RESERVES FOR FUTURE PROJECTS</b>		<b>\$35,269,919</b>	<b>\$41,094,942</b>	<b>\$76,364,861</b>

*THE TENTATIVE, ADOPTED, AND/OR FINAL BUDGETS ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED TAXING AUTHORITY AS A PUBLIC RECORD.*