

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
MINUTES OF
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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Public Comment Form Link: www.MySuwanneeRiver.com/Comments

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3:00 p.m., Tuesday
September 14, 2021

District Headquarters
Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Vice-Chair Schwab.

Oath of Office. Tom Reeves, Board Legal Counsel, administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Virginia Johns. Mrs. Johns was appointed to the Governing Board by Governor DeSantis on September 3, 2021.

Agenda Item No 2 – Roll Call

Governing Board

Seat	Name	Office	Present	Not Present
Aucilla Basin	Dr. George Cole		X	
Coastal River Basin	Richard Schwab	Vice Chair	X	
Lower Suwannee Basin	Larry Thompson		X	
Santa Fe & Wacc. Basins	William Lloyd		X	
Upper Suwannee Basin	Larry Sessions			X
At Large	Virginia H. Johns			
At Large	Vacant		-	-
At Large	Charles Keith	Sec./Treas.	X	
At Large	Harry Smith		X	

Governing Board Legal Counsel

Name	Firm	Present	Not Present
George T. Reeves	Davis, Schnitker, Reeves & Browning, P.A.	X	

Leadership Team

Position	Name	Present	Not Present
Executive Director	Hugh Thomas	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Amy Brown	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Tim Alexander	X	
Executive Office & Board Coordinator	Robin Lamm	X	

Agenda Item No. 3 - Election of Board Officers -Board Committee Assignments.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KEITH TO NOMINATE MRS. JOHNS AS BOARD CHAIR, SECONDED BY THOMPSON. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Vice-Chair Schwab handed the gavel to Chair Johns to continue the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 4 - Announcement of any Amendments to the Agenda by the Chair: None

Agenda Item No. 5 – Public Comment.

- Paul Still - Did not respond to being called for public comment.

Agenda Item No. 6 - Consideration of the Following Items Collectively by Consent:

- Agenda Item No. 7 - August 10, 2021 Governing Board Meeting, Workshops, Audit Committee and Lands Committee Meeting Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 11 - Detailed Assessment and Negotiations for the Acquisition of the Upper Alapaha Tract, Hamilton County (Shaffner)
- Agenda Item No. 13 - Renew Property and Casualty, Comprehensive General Liability, Public Officials Liability, Auto, and Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage from Public Risk Insurance Agency
- Agenda Item No. 14 - July 2021 Financial Report
- Agenda Item No. 15 - Inspector General Audit Report #21-01, Purchasing Card Program
- Agenda Item No. 16 - Inspector General Audit Report #21-02, Information Technology and Cybersecurity Controls
- Agenda Item No. 17 - Inspector General Audit Report #21-03, Prior Internal Audit Findings
- Agenda Item No. 18 - Annual Report of District Inspector General Activities for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021
- Agenda Item No. 19 - Inspector General Three-Year Audit Plan for Fiscal Years 2022 to 2024 and Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Internal Audit Work Plan
- Agenda Item No. 20 - Contract Renewal with Powell and Jones, CPA, for Audit Services for Fiscal Year 2021-2022
- Agenda Item No. 21 - Renewal of Environmental Systems Research Institute GIS Software License Maintenance
- Agenda Item No. 27 - Amendment to Contract 20/21-159 with Murphy Farms 2, LLC
- Agenda Item No. 28 - Amendment to Contract 20/21-150 with Murphy Farms of Hamilton County, LLC
- Agenda Item No. 29 - Amendment to Contract 20/21-169 with R&H Farms, Inc.
- Agenda Item No. 30 - Access Easement for Monitoring Wells on Lafayette Forest Wildlife and Environmental Area
- Agenda Item No. 32 - No Cost Extension, Task Work Assignment 19/20-009.014
- Agenda Item No. 33 - No Cost Extension, Task Work Assignment 19/20-041.011
- Agenda Item No. 36 - Amendment 5 of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Monitoring Grant Agreement AT002
- Agenda Item No. 38 - Dynamic Corporate Solutions, Inc., Compensation and Pay Practice Analysis

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHWAB, SECONDED BY KEITH TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 7 - August 10, 2021 Governing Board Meeting, Workshops, Audit Committee and Lands Committee Meeting Minutes. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 8 - Items of General Interest for Information/Cooperating Agencies and Organizations.

- A. Robbie McKinney, Hydrologist IV, Office of Water Resources, gave a presentation of hydrologic conditions of the District.
- B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. None
- C. Service Recognition. David Christian was recognized for five years of service to the District.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Election of Board Officers -Board Committee Assignments (Continued).

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. SCHWAB TO RETAIN THE CURRENT SECRETARY/TREASURER (MR. KEITH) AND VICE-CHAIR (MR. SCHWAB). SECONDED BY THOMPSON. MOTION CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. THOMPSON TO ADD MR. LLOYD TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND DR. COLE TO THE LANDS COMMITTEE. SECONDED BY KEITH. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL

Agenda Item No. 9 – Legal Activities Update. Mr. Reeves updated the Board on the Seven Springs Permit Appeals and the Florida Defenders of the Environment court case.

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Administration

Agenda Item No. 10 – Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Detailed Assessment and Negotiations for the Acquisition of the Upper Alapaha Tract, Hamilton County (Shaffner). Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 12 – R.O. Ranch Exchange with McB-Pinehatchee, Lafayette County. Steve Schroeder, Chief, Office of Administration, presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THOMPSON, SECONDED BY SCHWAB TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. KEITH VOTED NO ON THIS RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 13 – Renew Property and Casualty, Comprehensive General Liability, Public Officials Liability, Auto, and Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage from Public Risk Insurance Agency. Approved on Consent.

Finance

Agenda Item No. 14 – July 2021 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 15 – Inspector General Audit Report #21-01, Purchasing Card Program. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 16 – Inspector General Audit Report #21-02, Information Technology and Cybersecurity Controls. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 17 – Inspector General Audit Report #21-03, Prior Internal Audit Findings. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 18 – Annual Report of District Inspector General Activities for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 19 – Inspector General Three-Year Audit Plan for Fiscal Years 2022 to 2024 and Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Internal Audit Work Plan. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 20 – Contract Renewal with Powell and Jones, CPA, for Audit Services for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Approved on Consent.

Office of Information Technology

Agenda Item No. 21 – Renewal of Environmental Systems Research Institute GIS Software License Maintenance. Approved on Consent.

Resource Management

Agenda Item No. 22 – Permitting Summary Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 23 – Environmental Resource Permit Denial - Application Number ERP-123-212006-4, Carrie’s Heritage Village, Taylor County. Warren Zwanka, Director, Resource Management Division, presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THOMPSON, SECONDED BY KEITH TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS

Communications and Outreach

No items.

Land Management

Agenda Item No. 24 - District Land Management & Twin River State Forest (TRSF) Activity Summary. This summary was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Hydrologic Data Services

Agenda Item No. 25 – Governing Board Directive 21-0007, Agricultural Water Use Monitoring Assistance. Tara Rodgers, Chief, Office of Hydrologic Data Services, presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHWAB, SECONDED BY SMITH TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

WATER RESOURCES

Agriculture and Environmental Projects

Agenda Item No. 26 – Contracts with Local Entities for Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources Cost-Share Program. Leroy Marshall, Chief, Office of Agriculture and Environmental Projects, presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHWAB SECONDED BY COLE TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION WITH COUNTY CHANGED FROM COLUMBIA TO SUWANNEE ON THE HAINES PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SECOND MOTION MADE BY SCHWAB, SECONDED BY KEITH, TO WAIVE THE 50% MATCH FOR THE PROJECTS LISTED ON MEMO. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 27 – Amendment to Contract 20/21-159 with Murphy Farms 2, LLC. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 28 – Amendment to Contract 20/21-150 with Murphy Farms of Hamilton County, LLC. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 29 – Amendment to Contract 20/21-169 with R&H Farms, Inc. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 30 - Access Easement for Monitoring Wells on Lafayette Forest Wildlife and Environmental Area. Approved on Consent.

Minimum Flows and Levels

Agenda Item No. 31 - MFL Updates. Sean King, Chief, Office of Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels, provided an update to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 32 – No Cost Extension, Task Work Assignment 19/20-009.014. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 33 – No Cost Extension, Task Work Assignment 19/20-041.011. Approved on Consent.

Water Supply

Agenda Item No. 34 – Water Supply Update. Emily Ducker, Program Manager, Office of Water Supply, provided an update to the Board.

Water Resources

Agenda Item No. 35 – Agricultural Monitoring Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 36 – Amendment 5 of Florida Department of Environmental Protection Monitoring Grant Agreement AT002. Approved on Consent.

The Board Meeting was recessed at 4:55 p.m. to begin the First Public Hearing on Millage and Budget.

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
 MINUTES OF
 FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 BUDGET**

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5:05 p.m., Tuesday
 September 14, 2021

District Headquarters
 Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order and Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Governing Board

Seat	Name	Office	Present	Not Present
Aucilla Basin	Dr. George Cole		X	
Coastal River Basin	Richard Schwab	Vice Chair	X	
Lower Suwannee Basin	Larry Thompson		X	
Santa Fe & Wacc. Basins	William Lloyd		X	
Upper Suwannee Basin	Larry Sessions			X
At Large	Virginia H. Johns	Chair	X	
At Large	Vacant			
At Large	Charles Keith	Sec./Treas.	X	
At Large	Harry Smith		X	

Governing Board Legal Counsel

Name	Firm	Present	Not Present
George T. Reeves	Davis, Schnitker, Reeves & Browning, P.A.	X	

Leadership Team

Position	Name	Present	Not Present
Executive Director	Hugh Thomas	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Amy Brown	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Tim Alexander	X	
Executive Office & Board Coordinator	Robin Lamm	X	

Chair Johns opened the public hearing on the Tentative Millage Rate and Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Agenda Item No. 2 - Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Tentative Millage Rate and Tentative Budget Presentation. Christina Green, Senior Budget and Fiscal Analyst, Office of Finance, provided this presentation to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Resolution Number 2021-04, Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget. Mrs. Green presented this recommendation to the Board

Mrs. Green noted the District received no inquiries regarding the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Millage.

No public comments.
Closed public comments

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY THOMPSON TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 4 - Resolution Number 2021-05, Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.
Mrs. Green presented this recommendation to the Board

No public comments.
Closed public comments

MOTION WAS MADE BY THOMPSON, SECONDED BY KEITH TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

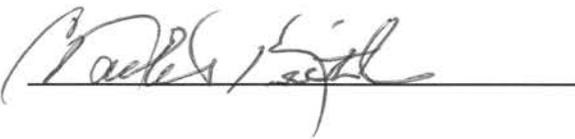
Chair Johns closed the public hearing on the Tentative Millage and Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Agenda Item No. 5 – Announcements. Monday, September 27, 2021, at 5:05 p.m. is the Final Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Millage and Budget.

Agenda Item No. 6 – Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.


Chair

ATTEST:





GOVERNING BOARD MEETING RESUMED AT 5:15 P.M.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Agenda Item No. 37 – **Public Hearing** - 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. Katelyn Potter, Division Director, Outreach and Operations, presented this item to the Board.

Chair Johns opened Public Hearing regarding the Acceptance of the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan.

Chair Johns requested Paul Still for comments, but he did not respond

The Board Chair suspended this hearing until the end of agenda waiting on response from Mr. Still.

Agenda Item No. 38 – Dynamic Corporate Solutions, Inc., Compensation and Pay Practice Analysis. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 39 - County Alliance for Responsible Environmental Stewardship Program Memorandum of Agreement. Mr. Thomas presented this item to the Board.

Cacee Hilliard, Florida Farm Bureau, thanked the District for their support of the County Alliance for Responsible Environmental Stewardship Program.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHWAB, SECONDED BY KEITH TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 40 - Announcements. Mr. Thomas updated the Board on the status of the Interlocal Agreement with Columbia County regarding Country Club Road.

Agenda Item No. 41 - Governing Board Comments. Board Members discussed Mr. Thomas Contract increase.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHWAB, SECONDED BY KEITH TO INCREASE MR. THOMAS' SALARY BY 6.5 PERCENT AND SEND TO THE OCTOBER BOARD MEETING FOR APPROVAL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REOPEN Agenda Item No. 37 – **Public Hearing** - 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. Katelyn Potter, Division Director, Outreach and Operations, presented this item to the Board.

Chair Johns opened the floor for Public Comments.

Paul Still provided comments to the Board.

Chair Johns closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COLE, SECONDED BY THOMPSON TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 42 - Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.


Chair

ATTEST:





**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
MINUTES OF
GOVERNING BOARD WORKSHOPS**

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3:00 p.m., Tuesday
September 27, 2021

District Headquarters
Live Oak, Florida

Workshops began at 3:00 p.m.

Governing Board

Seat	Name	Office	Present	Not Present
Aucilla Basin	Dr. George Cole		X	
Coastal River Basin	Richard Schwab	Vice Chair	X	
Lower Suwannee Basin	Larry Thompson		X	
Santa Fe & Wacc. Basins	William Lloyd			X
Upper Suwannee Basin	Larry Sessions		X	
At Large	Virginia H. Johns	Chair	X	
At Large	Vacant		-	-
At Large	Charles Keith	Sec./Treas.	X	
At Large	Harry Smith		X	

Governing Board Legal Counsel

Name	Firm	Present	Not Present
George T. Reeves	Davis, Schnitker, Reeves & Browning, P.A.	X	

Leadership Team

Position	Name	Present	Not Present
Executive Director	Hugh Thomas	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Amy Brown	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Tim Alexander	X	
Executive Office & Board Coordinator	Robin Lamm	X	

County Alliance for Responsible Environmental Stewardship Program (CARES) Presentation

Hugh Thomas, Executive Director, introduced John Hoblick, President, Florida Farm Bureau, to the Board. President Hoblick thanked the Board for their support of the CARES program. Chair Johns, Secretary Keith and President Hoblick, signed the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the CARES partnership with the District that was approved at the September 14, 2021 Board Meeting.

Water Management Districts' Budget Comparison

Christina Green, Senior Budget and Fiscal Analyst, provided a presentation regarding the five water management districts' budgets compared to the Suwannee River Water Management District budget.

Tim Alexander, Deputy Executive Director, informed the Board that St. Johns Water Management District had revised their millage to a roll back rate instead of an increased rate as previously mentioned during the budget comparison presentation.

Ethics Training

Tommy Reeves, Board Legal Counsel, provided a presentation to the Board Members regarding Voting Conflicts and Conflicting Contractual or Employment Relationships.

Workshops ended at 4:13 p.m.

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
 MINUTES OF
 FINAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 BUDGET**

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5:05 p.m., Monday
 September 27, 2021

District Headquarters
 Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order and Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Governing Board

Seat	Name	Office	Present	Not Present
Aucilla Basin	Dr. George Cole		X	
Coastal River Basin	Richard Schwab	Vice Chair	X	
Lower Suwannee Basin	Larry Thompson		X	
Santa Fe & Wacc. Basins	William Lloyd			X
Upper Suwannee Basin	Larry Sessions		X	
At Large	Virginia H. Johns	Chair	X	
At Large	Vacant		-	-
At Large	Charles Keith	Sec./Treas.	X	
At Large	Harry Smith		X	

Governing Board Legal Counsel

Name	Firm	Present	Not Present
George T. Reeves	Davis, Schnitker, Reeves & Browning, P.A.	X	

Leadership Team

Position	Name	Present	Not Present
Executive Director	Hugh Thomas	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Amy Brown	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Tim Alexander	X	
Executive Office & Board Coordinator	Robin Lamm	X	

Chair Johns opened the public hearing on the Final Millage Rate and Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Agenda Item No. 2 - Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Final Millage Rate and Final Budget Presentation. Christina Green, Senior Budget and Fiscal Analyst, Office of Finance, provided this presentation to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Resolution Number 2021-06, Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget. Mrs. Green presented this recommendation to the Board

Mrs. Green noted the District received no inquiries regarding the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Millage.

No public Comments.
Closed public comments.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY SCHWAB, TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 4 - Resolution Number 2021-07, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Mrs. Green presented this recommendation to the Board

No public Comments.
Closed public comments.

MOTION WAS MADE BY THOMPSON, SECONDED BY KEITH TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chair Johns closed the public hearing on the Final Millage and Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

Agenda Item No. 5 – Announcements. None

Agenda Item No.6 – Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.



Chair

ATTEST:

