

**AGENDA**  
**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**  
**FINAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 MILLAGE AND BUDGET**

**GoTo Webinar Link:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8657204238249358091>

**Public Comment Form Link:** [www.MySuwanneeRiver.com/Comments](http://www.MySuwanneeRiver.com/Comments)

Open to Public

September 26, 2022  
5:05 p.m.

District Headquarters  
Live Oak, Florida

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Final Millage Rate and Final Budget Presentation
3. Resolution Number 2022-09, Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget
4. Resolution Number 2022-10, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023
5. Announcements
6. Adjournment

Any member of the public, who wishes to address the Board on any agenda item, or any other topic, must sign up (including the completion of the required speaker forms) with the Executive Director or designee before the time designated for Public Comment. During Public Comment, the Chair shall recognize those persons signed up to speak on agenda items. To the extent time permits, the Chair shall thereafter recognize those persons signed up to speak on non-agenda items. Unless, leave is given by the Chair, (1) all speakers will be limited to three minutes per topic, (2) any identifiable group of three persons or more shall be required to choose a representative, who shall be limited to five minutes per topic. When recognized by the Chair during Public Comment, a speaker may request to be allowed to make his or her comments at the time the Board considers a particular agenda item. The Chair may grant or deny such request in the Chair's sole discretion.

Definitions:

•"Lobbies" is defined as seeking to influence a district policy or procurement decision or an attempt to obtain the goodwill of a district official or employee. (112.3261(1)(b), Florida Statutes [F.S.]

•"Lobbyist" is a person who is employed and receives payment, or who contracts for economic consideration, for the purpose of lobbying, or a person who is principally employed for governmental affairs by another person or governmental entity to lobby on behalf of that other person or governmental entity. (112.3215(1)(h), F.S.)

The Board may act upon (including reconsideration) any agenda item at any time during the meeting. The agenda may be changed only for good cause as determined by the Chair and stated in the record. If, after the regular time for Public Comment, the agenda is amended to add an item for consideration, the Chair shall allow public comment on the added agenda item prior to the Board taking action thereon.

All decisions of the Chair concerning parliamentary procedures, decorum, and rules of order will be final, unless they are overcome by a majority of the members of the Board in attendance.

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.

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Governing Board  
FROM: Christina Green, Budget Manager, Office of Finance  
THRU: Hugh Thomas, Executive Director  
DATE: September 15, 2022  
RE: Resolution Number 2022-09, Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve Resolution Number 2022-09 to adopt a Final Millage Rate of 0.3368 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

**BACKGROUND**

The Suwannee River Water Management District is the taxing authority that tentatively proposes to levy the rolled-back millage rate of 0.3368 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY 2023), which is a 6.83 percent reduction from the current Fiscal Year 2021-2022 millage rate of 0.3615. The rolled-back millage rate of 0.3368 is based on taxable property values from all the property appraiser's offices within the District.

At the July 12, 2022, Governing Board meeting, the Board approved a tentative rolled-back millage rate of 0.3368 for FY 2023, a Tentative Budget of \$71,293,401, and authorized staff to notify the property appraisers for all counties within the District. Staff was given the ability to adjust the rate minimally if revised information was received.

At the September 13, 2022, First Public Hearing, the Board approved Resolution 2022-07 to adopt a FY 2023 Tentative Millage Rate of 0.3368 and approved Resolution 2022-08 to adopt a FY 2023 Tentative Budget of \$71,293,401.

The Final FY 2023 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 the District's core mission. This tentative millage rate and 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.

CG/rl  
Attachment

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022-09**

**ADOPTION OF FINAL MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023  
COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2022, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

**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, 2022, and ending September 30, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board of the District has determined that a final millage rate as provided for in sections 200.065, 373.503, and 373.536, Florida Statutes, is necessary to provide funds for the final budgeted expenditures of the District for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY 2023) 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 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 FY 2023 tentative millage rate and budget was held by the Governing Board of the District at 9925 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida, on September 13, 2022, commencing at 5:05 p.m., as provided in the notice, and

**WHEREAS**, the final public hearing on the FY 2023 final millage rate and final budget was held by the Governing Board of the District at 9225 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida, on September 26, 2022, 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. There is adopted and levied a final millage rate, as provided for in sections 373.503 and 373.536, Florida Statutes, at the rolled-back rate, for FY 2023, to be assessed on the tax rolls for the year 2022, 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 0.3368 of a mill is for FY 2023 to defray expenses of the Suwannee River Water Management District for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2022, and ending September 30, 2023.
3. The FY 2023 final millage rate of 0.3368 is equal to the rolled-back rate of 0.3368 mills.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2022, 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:  
VIRGINIA JOHNS  
RICHARD SCHWAB  
CHARLES KEITH  
WILLIAM LLOYD  
LARRY SESSIONS  
HARRY SMITH  
LARRY K. THOMPSON

ATTEST:

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SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Governing Board  
FROM: Christina Green, Budget Manager, Office of Finance  
THRU: Hugh Thomas, Executive Director  
DATE: September 15, 2022  
RE: Resolution Number 2022-10, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve Resolution Number 2022-10 to adopt a Final Budget of \$71,293,401 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

**BACKGROUND**

The Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY 2023) has been developed in accordance with the budget guidelines set forth by the Governing Board. Additionally, 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.

At the July 12, 2022, Governing Board meeting, the Board approved a Tentative Budget for FY 2023 of \$71,293,401. Also, at the July 12, 2022, Governing Board meeting, a tentative rolled-back millage rate of 0.3368 was approved.

At the September 13, 2022, First Public Hearing, the Board approved Resolution 2022-07 to adopt a FY 2023 Tentative Millage Rate of 0.3368 and approved Resolution 2022-07 to adopt a FY 2023 Tentative Budget of \$71,293,401.

The following is a summary of the Final Budget for FY 2023 and program highlights.

**BUDGET SUMMARY:**

The Final Budget for FY 2023 represents a standardized approach to budgeting and fiscal responsibility. It reflects the District's effort to diligently address core mission responsibilities that consist of water supply, water quality, flood protection and natural systems in accordance with Governing Board priorities, legislative directives, adopted minimum flows and minimum water levels (MFLs) schedule, and the District's Strategic Plan. The Final Budget for FY 2023 is \$71,293,401, which includes the General Fund \$10,404,629 and Special Revenue Funds \$60,888,772 (See Attachments).

The Final Budget proposes to reduce last year's adopted millage rate of 0.3615 to the rolled-back rate of 0.3368 for FY 2023. The projected ad valorem revenue for FY 2023 is \$6,850,897. The District budgeted 95.25% or \$6,525,588 of the projected ad valorem revenue in the FY 2023 Final Budget.

## **GENERAL FUND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS:**

The Final Budget for the General Fund for FY 2023 is \$10,404,629. It includes District revenue of \$5,645,906, state revenue of \$2,740,000, transfer out to Special Revenue Fund of (\$2,000,000), and fund balance utilization of \$4,018,723. District revenue includes ad valorem, investment income, and permit fees. State revenue includes FY 2023 state appropriation for operations and environmental resource permitting.

The General Fund is the principal operating fund used to account for most of the District's general activities and technology and information services including:

- Water Resource planning and monitoring (water supply planning; other water resources planning; research data collection, analysis, and monitoring; and federal planning technical assistance)
- Land acquisition, restoration and public works (water source development projects; waters supply development assistance; surface water projects; and non-water source development projects)
- Regulation (consumptive use permitting; water well construction permitting and contractor licensing; environmental resource and surface water permitting; and other regulatory and enforcement activities)
- Outreach (water resource education; public information; and legislative affairs)
- District management and administration (administrative and operations support; and tax collector/property appraiser fees)

## **SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS' HIGHLIGHTS:**

The Final Budget for the special revenue funds for FY 2023 is \$60,888,772. It includes District revenue of \$2,259,162, state revenue of \$31,161,473, federal revenue of \$18,127,980, transfer in from General Fund of \$2,000,000, and fund balance utilization of \$7,340,157.

- District revenue includes timber and ad valorem revenues.
- State Revenue includes FY 2023 State Appropriation for land management, MFLs, Payment-in-Lieu of Taxes; Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) Grants; Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services – Florida Forest Service grants; Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission grants; and Florida Department of Environmental Protection Springs grants. State Springs and Alternative Water Supply Funding in the amount of \$24,093,645 or 34% of the District's budget is allocated to springs protection and restoration.
- Federal Revenue includes American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and state fiscal recovery funds appropriated by the Florida legislature for projects through FDEP's wastewater grant program; Federal Emergency Management Agency grants to update Flood Risk Maps and to deliver quality data that increases public awareness to reduce future flooding vulnerability and Federal Clean Water Act 2018 Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Education Grant for a Suwannee Valley Springs Initiative project.
- Fund Balance utilization includes District committed fund balance for Agricultural and Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources (RIVER) cost-share projects, project effectiveness metrics, and regional water resource development projects, Fund Balance utilization also includes restricted fund balance for Suwannee River Partnership, DOT projects, and land and conservation easement acquisitions.

The Final FY 2023 Budget reflects a full-time equivalent (FTE) work force of sixty-six (68) employees and one (1.0) OPS position.

<b>PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (Final Budget)</b>
<b>1.0 Water Resources Planning and Monitoring</b>	\$12,179,535
<b>2.0 Acquisition, Restoration and Public Works</b>	\$48,736,400
<b>3.0 Operation and Maintenance of Lands and Works</b>	\$6,283,343
<b>4.0 Regulation</b>	\$2,040,044
<b>5.0 Outreach</b>	\$216,027
<b>6.0 District Management and Administration</b>	\$1,838,052
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$71,293,401

The Final FY 2023 Budget will enable the District to protect water resources for the benefit of its citizens and natural systems while lessening the burden on taxpayers and establishing a high level of public service. This Final Budget documents District’s commitment to implement cost efficiencies and enhance existing programs.

CG/rl  
Attachments

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2022-10**

**ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023  
COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2022, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

**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, 2022, and ending September 30, 2023, 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 and final public budget hearings, were prepared and transmitted, pursuant to section 200.065, Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the first public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY 2023) tentative millage rate and budget was held by the Governing Board of the District at 9925 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida, on September 13, 2022, commencing at 5:05 p.m. as provided in the notice; and

**WHEREAS**, the final public hearing on the FY 2023 Final Millage Rate and Final Budget was held by the Governing Board of the District at 9225 County Road 49, Live Oak, Florida, on September 26, 2022, 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; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Board of the District, prior to adopting a final budget, has adopted Resolution Number 2022-09, Adoption of final Millage Rate for FY 2023, which established the final millage levy for FY 2023 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:

The attached budget is hereby adopted as the final budget of the District for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022, and ending September 30, 2023, as the final operating and fiscal guide of the District for the upcoming fiscal year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2022, 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:  
VIRGINIA JOHNS  
RICHARD SCHWAB  
CHARLES KEITH  
WILLIAM LLOYD  
LARRY SESSIONS  
HARRY SMITH  
LARRY K. THOMPSON

ATTEST:

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# Suwannee River Water Management District

<b>Final Budget FY 2022 - 2023</b>	<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>LAND MANAGEMENT &amp; OPERATIONS SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</b>	<b>DISTRICT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</b>	<b>STATE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</b>	<b>FEDERAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</b>
<b>Revenues</b>						
District Revenue	\$ 7,905,068	\$ 5,645,906	\$ 2,259,162	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Local Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Revenue	33,901,473	2,740,000	2,291,119	-	28,870,354	-
Federal Revenue	18,127,980	-	40,000	-	-	18,087,980
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 59,934,521</b>	<b>\$ 8,385,906</b>	<b>\$ 4,590,281</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 28,870,354</b>	<b>\$ 18,087,980</b>
Transfers In	2,000,000		-	2,000,000	-	-
Transfers Out	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance Utilization	11,358,880	4,018,723	1,988,062	3,033,941	2,318,154	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUES, TRANSFERS &amp; FUND BALANCE UTILIZATION</b>	<b>\$ 71,293,401</b>	<b>\$ 10,404,629</b>	<b>\$ 6,578,343</b>	<b>\$ 5,033,941</b>	<b>\$ 31,188,508</b>	<b>\$ 18,087,980</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Salaries & Benefits	7,483,656	5,635,346	959,447	-	872,863	16,000
Contractual Services	21,716,230	2,378,602	3,089,398	2,050,000	9,614,000	4,584,230
Operating Expenditures	2,277,800	1,429,573	776,227	30,000	36,000	6,000
Operating Capital Outlay	283,044	170,608	112,436	-	-	-
Fixed Capital Outlay	4,766,000	-	766,000	-	4,000,000	-
Interagency Expenditures	34,766,671	790,500	874,835	2,953,941	16,665,645	13,481,750
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 71,293,401</b>	<b>\$ 10,404,629</b>	<b>\$ 6,578,343</b>	<b>\$ 5,033,941</b>	<b>\$ 31,188,508</b>	<b>\$ 18,087,980</b>

# BUDGET SUMMARY

## Suwannee River Water Management District - Fiscal Year 2022-2023

THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ARE 5.0% MORE THAN LAST YEARS TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES.

I. ESTIMATED REVENUES AND BALANCES	MILLAGE PER \$1,000	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	TOTAL BUDGET
<b>ESTIMATED REVENUES</b>				
AD VALOREM TAXES (Rolled-back rate)	0.3368	\$ 5,266,426	1,259,162	\$ 6,525,588
OTHER REVENUES			-	
Federal Revenue		-	18,127,980	18,127,980
State Revenue		2,740,000	31,161,473	33,901,473
District Revenue		86,480	-	86,480
Permit and License Fees		163,000	-	163,000
Investment Income		130,000	-	130,000
Timber Sales		-	1,000,000	1,000,000
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES</b>		<b>8,385,906</b>	<b>51,548,615</b>	<b>59,934,521</b>
<b>TRANSFERS IN/(OUT)</b>		(2,000,000)	2,000,000	-
<b>BEGINNING FUND BALANCE/RESERVE PROJECTED</b>		14,259,550	14,387,248	28,646,798
<b>TOTAL REVENUES, TRANSFERS &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ 20,645,456</b>	<b>\$ 67,935,863</b>	<b>\$ 88,581,319</b>
<b>II. EXPENDITURES</b>				
WATER RESOURCES PLANNING & MONITORING		\$ 4,719,846	7,459,689	\$ 12,179,535
ACQUISITION, RESTORATION & PUBLIC WORKS		1,590,660	47,145,740	48,736,400
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LANDS & WORKS		-	6,283,343	6,283,343
REGULATION		2,040,044	-	2,040,044
OUTREACH		216,027	-	216,027
ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONS SUPPORT		1,838,052	-	1,838,052
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$ 10,404,629</b>	<b>\$ 60,888,772</b>	<b>\$ 71,293,401</b>
<b>ENDING FUND BALANCES/RESERVES</b>		10,240,827	7,047,091	17,287,918
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATED EXPENDITURES, TRANSFERS AND FUND BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ 20,645,456</b>	<b>\$ 67,935,863</b>	<b>\$ 88,581,319</b>

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