

**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

GoTo Webinar Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5934915711063561824>

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

Open to Public

Note: A digital recording system was used to record these proceedings and is on file in the permanent files of the District. A copy of the materials and handouts are a part of the record as set out in full herein and are filed in the permanent files of the District.

October 10, 2023  
9:00 a.m.

District Headquarters  
Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

**Moved Agenda Item No. 7 to this section on the agenda.**

**Agenda Item No. 7 - Items of General Interest for Information/Cooperating Agencies and Organizations.**

- A. Robbie McKinney, Chief, Office of Water Resources, gave a presentation of hydrologic conditions of the District.
- B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. Hugh Thomas recognized Chris Wynn, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission.
- C. Service Recognition. Kelly Landis was recognized for five years of service with the District.

**Agenda Item No 2 – Roll Call**

**Governing Board**

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

**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	Tim Alexander	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Amy Brown	X	
Executive Office & Board Coordinator	Robin Lamm	X	

Agenda Item No. 3 - Announcement of any Amendments to the Agenda by the Chair:

**Deletion:**

Investment Discussion Workshop

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

Agenda Item No. 4 – Public Comment:

- Tammy Bierman (online) – Did not respond when called on by the Chair.

Agenda Item No. 5 - Consideration of the Following Items Collectively by Consent:

- Agenda Item No. 6 - September 12, 2023 Governing Board Meeting, First Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Millage and Budget Minutes, September 25, 2023 Workshop, Lands Committee Meeting, and Final Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Millage and Budget Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 10 - Long Pond Conservation Easement, Levy County
- Agenda Item No. 11 - Rawson Conservation Easement, Lafayette County
- Agenda Item No. 12 - Taylor Conservation Easement, Gilchrist County
- Agenda Item No. 13 - Wright Utility Easement, Taylor County
- Agenda Item No. 17 - August 2023 Financial Report
- Agenda Item No. 20 - Renewal of Water Use Permit 2-007-216650-3, City of Starke, Bradford County
- Agenda Item No. 21 - Renewal of Water Use Permit 2-121-216465-8, Southern Cross Dairy, Suwannee County
- Agenda Item No. 26 - Prescribed Fire and Vegetation Management Services for Fiscal Year 2023-2024
- Agenda Item No. 33 - Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program Report

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

Agenda Item No. 6 - September 12, 2023 Governing Board Meeting, First Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Millage and Budget Minutes, September 25, 2023 Workshop, Lands Committee Meeting, and Final Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Millage and Budget Minutes. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 7 - Items of General Interest for Information/Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. Moved to beginning of agenda below Agenda Item No. 1

**GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL**

Agenda Item No. 8 – Legal Activities Update. Tom Reeves, Board Legal Counsel, updated the Board on Declaratory Statement response received.

**BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Administration

Agenda Item No. 9 – Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 10 – Long Pond Conservation Easement, Levy County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Rawson Conservation Easement, Lafayette County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 12 – Taylor Conservation Easement, Gilchrist County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 13 – Wright Utility Easement, Taylor County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 14 – Ellison Utility Easement, Dixie County. Steve Schroeder, Chief, Office of Administration, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 15 – Governing Board Directive 23-0003, Fraud Policy. Mr. Schroeder presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY SMITH TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 16 – Governing Board Directive 23-0004, Whistle-Blower's Act. Mr. Schroeder presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY LLOYD TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### Finance

Agenda Item No. 17 – August 2023 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

### Human Resources

Agenda Item No. 18 – Employee Health Care Insurance Coverages for Calendar Year 2024. Kelly Wooley, Human Resource Specialist, presented this item to the Board.

Ben Glass, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Chief, and Tyson Johnson, Gallagher Company, provided comments to the Board.

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

### Resource Management

Agenda Item No. 19 – Permitting Summary Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials. Warren Zwanka, Director, Resource Management, updated the Board on the Woodborough North Subdivision permit.

Agenda Item No. 20 – Renewal of Water Use Permit 2-007-216650-3, City of Starke, Bradford County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 21 – Renewal of Water Use Permit 2-121-216465-8, Southern Cross Dairy, Suwannee County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 22 – Renewal of Water Use Permit 2-023-217754-4, City of Lake City, Columbia County. Mr. Zwanka presented this item to the Board.

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

## **OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS**

### *Communications and Outreach*

Agenda Item No. 23 – Outreach and Communications Activity Summary. This summary is provided as an informational item to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 24 – Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Communications and Outreach Plan Presentation. Troy Roberts, Manager, Outreach and Operations Division, provided this presentation to the Board.

### *Land Management*

Agenda Item No. 25 - Land Management Update. This summary was provided as an informational item in the Board materials. Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations Division, updated the Board on the Hurricane Idalia cleanup on District Lands.

Agenda Item No. 26 – Prescribed Fire and Vegetation Management Services for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Approved on Consent.

### *Hydrologic Data Services*

Agenda Item No. 27 – Agricultural Water Use Monitoring Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

## **WATER RESOURCES**

Agenda Item No. 28 – Water Resources Division Updates. Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, provided updates to the Board.

### *Agriculture and Environmental Projects*

Agenda Item No. 29 – Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 30 – Task Work Assignment for Contract 20/21-069.003 with WSP, Inc. Leroy Marshall, Chief, Office of Agriculture and Environmental Projects, presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY SMITH TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 31 – Task Work Assignment for Contract 20/21-066.004 with AECOM, Inc. Mr. Marshall presented this item to the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY SMITH TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Minimum Flows and Levels

Agenda Item No. 32 – 2023 Priority List for Establishment of Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels. Sean King, Chief, Office of Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels, presented this item to the Board.

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

Water Supply

Agenda Item No. 33 – Five-Year Water Resource Development Work Program Report. Approved on Consent.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

Agenda Item No. 34 - Announcements. Mr. Thomas updated the Board on District activities.

Agenda Item No. 35 - Governing Board Comments. None

Agenda Item No. 36 - Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

  
Chair

ATTEST:

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

Workshop began at 11:23 a.m.

~~Investment Discussion Deleted from Workshop agenda.~~

Upper Suwannee Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels Discussion

Mr. King provided a powerpoint presentation on the progress of the Upper Suwannee Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels.

Workshop adjourned at 11:58 a.m.