

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

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/@SRWMD>
Open to the 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.

February 13, 2024
9:00 a.m.

District Headquarters
Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

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: None

Agenda Item No. 4 – Public Comment:

- Genaro Parga – Flooding concerns due to Buckeye Mill closure in Taylor County

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

- Agenda Item No. 6 - January 9, 2024, Governing Board Meeting and Workshops Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 10 - December 2023 Financial Report
- Agenda Item No. 14 - Renewal of Water Use Permit 2-121-219872-3, Suwannee River Power Plant, Suwannee County
- Agenda Item No. 16 - Amendment to Contract 23/24-046 with Herman Sanchez Jr., Dixie County
- Agenda Item No. 17 - Amendment to Contract 23/24-041 with Herman Sanchez III, Dixie County
- Agenda Item No. 18 - Amendment to Contract 23/24-043 with Sanchez Farms, LLC, Dixie, Levy and Gilchrist Counties
- Agenda Item No. 19 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract with Alliance Grazing Group, Levy County

Mr. Lloyd announced a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on Agenda Item No. 5, which includes Agenda Item No. 19 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract with Alliance Grazing Group, Levy County. The Conflict of Interest Form was completed and signed by Mr. Lloyd for this item. This form is hereby made part of these minutes and is filed in the permanent Governing Board Meeting minutes files of the District.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHWAB, SECONDED BY SESSIONS TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
MOTION CARRIED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MR. LLOYD.

Agenda Item No. 6 - January 9, 2024, Governing Board Meeting and Workshops Minutes. Approved on Consent.

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

- A. Robbie McKinney, Program Manager, Office of Water Resources, gave a presentation of hydrologic conditions of the District. Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, provided a powerpoint presentation regarding rainfall in Taylor County.
- B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. Hugh Thomas, Executive Director recognized the following:
 - Cliff Lewis, Georgia Environmental Protection Agency
 - Scott Downing, Suwannee Satilla Regional Planning Council
 - Shane Wood, CDM Consulting
 - Chris Wynn, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission
 - Bob Hochmuth, UF IFAS
 - Mark Warren, UF IFAS
- C. Service Recognition – Stephanie Armstrong, Doug Durden, and Steve Schroeder were recognized for five years of service to the District.

GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL

Agenda Item No. 8 – Legal Activities Update. No items.

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.

Finance

Agenda Item No. 10 – December 2023 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Governing Board Directive 24-0002, Finance Directive Update. Pam Shaw, Chief, Office of Finance, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 12 – Resolution 2024-02, Establish and Participate in the State Board of Administration's Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund, and Establish a New Deposit Account with First Federal Bank of Florida. Ms. Shaw presented this item to the Board.

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

Resource Management

Agenda Item No. 13 – Permitting Summary Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 14 – Renewal of Water Use Permit 2-121-219872-3, Suwannee River Power Plant, Suwannee County. Approved on Consent.

Agriculture and Environmental Projects

Agenda Item No. 15 – Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 16 – Amendment to Contract 23/24-046 with Herman Sanchez Jr., Dixie, and Levy Counties. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 17 – Amendment to Contract 23/24-041 with Herman Sanchez III, Dixie County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 18 – Amendment to Contract 23/24-043 with Sanchez Farms, LLC, Dixie, Levy, and Gilchrist Counties. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 19 – Agricultural Cost-Share Contract with Alliance Grazing Group, Levy County. Approved on Consent.

OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS

Communications and Outreach

Agenda Item No. 20 – Outreach and Communications Activity Summary. This summary was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 21 – 2024 Consolidated Annual Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Land Management

Agenda Item No. 22 – Land Management Update. This update was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Hydrologic Data Services

Agenda Item No. 23 – Agricultural Water Use Monitoring Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

WATER RESOURCES

Agenda Item No. 24 – Water Resources Division Updates. Dr. Brown provided updates to the Board.

Water Supply

Agenda Item No. 25 – Western Water Supply Plan Presentation. Emily Ducker, Chief, Office of Water Supply, provided this presentation to the Board.

Water Resources

Agenda Item No. 26 – **Public Hearing** and Approval of the 2024 Suwannee River Basin Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan Update.

Chair Johns opened the Public Hearing for the Approval of the 2024 Suwannee River Basin Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan Update.

Suzie Hetrick, Chief, Office of Water Resources, presented this item to the Board.

Public Comments received. None

Chair Johns closed Public Hearing.

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

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Agenda Item No. 27 - Announcements. Mr. Thomas updated the Board on District activities.

Agenda Item No. 28 - Governing Board Comments. None

Agenda Item No. 29 - Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.



Chair

ATTEST:





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

Workshop began at 11:33 a.m.

Nutrient Efficiency Demonstration Project Discussion

Bob Hochmuth and Mark Warren, UF IFAS, provided a powerpoint presentation regarding the Nutrient Efficiency Demonstration Project.

District Facilities Discussion

Steve Schroeder, Chief, Office of Administration, provided a powerpoint presentation on the completed and on-going projects at the District offices.

Workshop adjourned at 12:40 p.m.