



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

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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.

December 10, 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	George Wheeler		X	
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	
Assistant 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:

- Jeff Hill – Introduced himself to new Board member.
- Mace Boyers, 83 Farms – Thanked the District for their support.

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

- Agenda Item No. 6 - November 12, 2024 Governing Board Meeting and Workshops Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 10 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Dairies, LLP, Gilchrist and Levy Counties
- Agenda Item No. 11 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Branford, LLC, Suwannee, Gilchrist and Levy Counties

- Agenda Item No. 12 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with 83 Farms, LLC, Alachua, Columbia, Gilchrist, and Lafayette Counties
- Agenda Item No. 13 - October 2024 Financial Report
- Agenda Item No. 16 - Interagency Agreement with Southwest Florida Water Management District to Receive Water Use Permitting Responsibility of Straughn Farms, Levy County
- Agenda Item No. 18 - 2025 Federal Emergency Management Agency Risk Mapping and Planning Program Five-Year Business Plan
- Agenda Item No. 19 - Task Work Assignment 20/21-066.005 with AECOM, Inc
- Agenda Item No. 21 - 2025-2029 Strategic Plan Acceptance
- Agenda Item No. 26 – 2024 Priority List for Establishment of Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels - Revised
- Agenda Item No. 27 – Task Work Assignment with Black and Veatch

Mr. Lloyd announced a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on Agenda Item Number No. 5, Consideration of the Following Items Collectively by Consent, which includes Agenda Item No. 10 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Dairies, LLP, Gilchrist and Levy Counties, and Agenda Item No. 11 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Branford, LLC, Suwannee, Gilchrist and Levy Counties. 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 KEITH TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED WITH THE EXECPTION OF MR. LLOYD.

Agenda Item No. 6 - November 12, 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, Chief, Office of Water Resources, gave a presentation of hydrologic conditions of the District.
- B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. None

GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL

Agenda Item No. 8 – Legal Activities Update. None

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Administration

Agenda Item No. 9 – Facilities Update. Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration, provided this update to the Board.

Agriculture Projects

Agenda Item No. 10 – Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Dairies, LLP, Gilchrist and Levy Counties. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Alliance Branford, LLC, Suwannee, Gilchrist and Levy Counties. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 12 – Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with 83 Farms, LLC, Alachua, Columbia, Gilchrist, and Lafayette Counties. Approved on Consent.

Finance

Agenda Item No. 13 – October 2024 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 14 – Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Preliminary Budget. Kristin Thompson, Manager, Office of Finance, presented this item to the Board.

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

Resource Management

Agenda Item No. 15 – Permitting Summary Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Water Use Permitting

Agenda Item No. 16 – Interagency Agreement with Southwest Florida Water Management District to Receive Water Use Permitting Responsibility of Straughn Farms, Levy County. Approved on Consent.

Environmental Projects

Agenda Item No. 17 – Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 18 – 2025 Federal Emergency Management Agency Risk Mapping and Planning Program Five-Year Business Plan. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 19 – Task Work Assignment 20/21-066.005 with AECOM, Inc. 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 – 2025-2029 Strategic Plan. Approved on Consent.

Land Acquisition

Agenda Item No. 22 – Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report. This report was provided as an informational item to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 23 - Repeal of Governing Board Directive Number 11-0002. Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations Division, presented this item to the Board.

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

Land Management

Agenda Item No. 24 – Land Management Update. This update was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

WATER RESOURCES

Agenda Item No. 25 – Water Resources Division Updates. Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, provided updates to the Board.

Minimum Flows and Levels

Agenda Item No. 26 – 2024 Priority List for Establishment of Minimum Flows and Minimum Water Levels – Revised. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 27 – Task Work Assignment with Black and Veatch. Approved on Consent.

Water Resources

Agenda Item No. 28 – Surface Water Improvement Plan Update. Susie Hetrick, Chief, Office of Water Resources, provided this update to the Board.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Agenda Item No. 29 - Announcements. Mr. Thomas updated the Board on District activities.

Agenda Item No. 30 - Governing Board Comments. None

Agenda Item No. 31 - Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.



Chair

ATTEST:





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

Workshop began at 9:45 a.m.

Land Management Presentation

Lorna Radcliff, Chief, Office of Land Management, introduced the Land Management Team to the Board to provide overviews of the District's Land Management programs, responsibilities, and goals.

Steve Carpenter, Senior Natural Resource Specialist, updated the Board on the timber program's accomplishments and future goals.

Scott Gregor, Senior Natural Resource Specialist, updated the Board on the vegetation management program's accomplishments and future goals.

Bill McKinstry, Senior Natural Resource Specialist, updated the Board on the reforestation program's accomplishments and goals.

Wri Irby, Land Management Specialist, updated the Board on the road and hydrologic improvements, road mowing, and tract improvement programs' accomplishments and goals.

Ms. Radcliff updated the Board on public use, special-use authorizations, boundary line marking, and cultural resource monitoring, programs' accomplishments and goals.

Workshop adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

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December 10, 2024
Following Board Meeting

District Headquarters
Live Oak, FL

1. Call to Order / Committee Roll Call. Meeting began at 11:03 a.m.

Committee Members	Present	Not Present
Richard Schwab - Chair	X	
Charles Keith	X	
Larry Sessions	X	
Harry Smith	X	
Larry Thompson		X
George Wheeler	X	

-Mrs. Johns and Mr. Lloyd also attended the Lands Committee Meeting.

2. Public Comment. None

Property Exchange / Surplus

3. Declaration of Surplus and Authorize Negotiations with Kurt and Karen Ardaman, Suwannee County. Katelyn Potter, Division Director, Outreach and Operations Division, presented this item to the Committee.

MOTION MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY SESSIONS TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Land Acquisition Work Plan Presentation. Mrs. Potter presented this informational item to the Committee.

5. Land Acquisition Procedure Presentation. Mrs. Potter presented this informational item to the Committee.

6. Announcements: None

7. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.



Chair

ATTEST:



