



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

**YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/@SRWMD>
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.

January 14, 2025
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			
At Large	Vacant		-	-

***Vice Chair Schwab conducted the Board meeting with the absence of Chair Johns.**

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:

Deletion

- Resource Management - Agenda Item No. 14 - Water Well Permitting Interagency Agreement between Suwannee River Water Management District and St. Johns River Water Management District for Bradford County

**MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY LLOYD TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Agenda Item No. 4 – Public Comment:

- Bryan Buescher, Florida Karst Conservation Task Force - Concerns regarding Mill Creek Sink Project in Alachua County

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

- Agenda Item No. 6 - December 10, 2024 Governing Board Meeting, Workshop, and Lands Committee Meeting Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 11 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties
- Agenda Item No. 12 - November 2024 Financial Report
- ~~Agenda Item No. 14 – Water Well Permitting Interagency Agreement between Suwannee River Water Management District and St. Johns River Water Management District for Bradford County - Deleted~~
- Agenda Item No. 19 - Declaration of Surplus and Authorize Negotiations with Kurt and Karen Ardaman, Suwannee County

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY THOMPSON TO APPROVE THE ITEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH AGENDA ITEM NO. 14 REMOVED.

Agenda Item No. 6 - December 10, 2024 Governing Board Meeting, Workshop, and Lands Committee Meeting 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. Christ Wynn, Florida Wildlife Commission and Mikayla Rogers, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association.
- C. Service Recognition – Scott Gregor was recognized for 20 years of service.

GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL

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

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 – Governing Board Directive Number 25-0001, Agricultural Cost-Share Program - Revised. Mr. Glass presented this item to the Board.

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

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

Finance

Agenda Item No. 12 – November 2024 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

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 – Water Well Permitting Interagency Agreement between Suwannee River Water Management District and St. Johns River Water Management District for Bradford County. Approved on Consent.~~ Deleted

Environmental Projects

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

Agenda Item No. 16 – Task Work Assignment for Contract 24/25-044.001 with WSP USA. Leroy Marshall, Director, Resource Management/Projects Division, presented this item to the Board.

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

OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS

Communications and Outreach

Agenda Item No. 17 – Outreach and Communications Activity Summary. This summary was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Land Acquisition

Agenda Item No. 18 – Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 19 – Declaration of Surplus and Authorize Negotiations with Kurt and Karen Ardaman, Suwannee County. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 20 – Five-Year Land Acquisition Workplan. Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations Division, presented this item to the Board,

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

Agenda Item No. 21 – Governing Board Directive 25-0002, Land Acquisition and Surplus Guidelines – Revised. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Board.

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

Land Management

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

Agenda Item No. 23 – Use of District Lands for Apiary Lease. Lorna Ratliff, Chief, Office of Land Management, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 24 – Governing Board Directive 25-0003, District Lands Use and Lease – Revised. Mrs. Ratliff presented this item to the Board.

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

WATER RESOURCES

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

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Agenda Item No. 26 - Announcements. Mr. Thomas updated the Board on District activities.

Agenda Item No. 27 - Governing Board Comments. None

Agenda Item No. 28 - Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.



Chair

ATTEST:



