



**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.

July 8, 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		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 – Governing Board Secretary/Treasurer Election. Mr. Lloyd nominated Charles Keith to continue serving as Secretary/Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Governing Board Committee Assignments. No changes to Committee assignments.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHWAB, SECONDED BY KEITH TO MAINTAIN CURRENT COMMITTEES AS PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 5 - Announcement of any Amendments to the Agenda by the Chair:

DELETED:

- Business and Community Services – Agenda Item No. 19 - Resolution Number 2025-07, Release of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 State Appropriations

MOTION WAS MADE BY KEITH, SECONDED BY LLOYD TO APPROVE UPDATED AGENDA.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Agenda Item No. 6 – Public Comment.

- Paul Still – Concerns regarding Edwards Bottomland Mitigation Project, Bradford County (received via email and addressed to all Board Members)
- Amy Morie, Bradford Soil & Water Conservation District - Concerns regarding Edwards Bottomland Mitigation Project, Bradford County (received via email and copy given to Board Members)
- Carol Mosley – Rayonier/Chemours Land Purchase and Department of Military Affairs Agreement regarding management of lands (received via email and copy given to Board Members)

Agenda Item No. 7- Consideration of the Following Items Collectively by Consent:

- Agenda Item No. 8 - June 10, 2025, Governing Board Meeting and Executive Director Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 10 - Performance Evaluation Review and Contract Amendment of Executive Director
- Agenda Item No. 15 - Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Jackson Family Farms, LLC., Suwannee County
- Agenda Item No. 16 - Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee, and Lafayette Counties
- Agenda Item No. 17 - May 2025 Financial Report
- Agenda Item No. 21 - Rulemaking to Amend Rules 40B-2.301, 40B-2.321, and 40B-2.331, Florida Administrative Code, for Permitting of Water Use
- Agenda Item No. 29- Lease of District Lands for Apiary Leases
- Agenda Item No. 33 - Memorandum of Agreement with St. Johns River Water Management District for Surface and Groundwater Chemistry Analysis
- Agenda Item No. 34 - Adoption of the 2025 Coastal Rivers Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan Update

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

Agenda Item No. 8 - June 10, 2025, Governing Board Meeting and Executive Director Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes. Approved on Consent.

Returned to Public Comments for late arrival:

- John Quarterman-Manatee Spring River Water Gauge Concerns and Rayonier land concerns.

Agenda Item No. 9 - Items of General Interest for Information/Cooperating Agencies and Organizations.

- A. Robbie McKinney, Manager, Office of Water Resources, gave a presentation on hydrologic conditions of the District.
- B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. Mr. Thomas recognized Florida Department of Environmental Protection attendees.

GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL

Agenda Item No. 10 – Performance Evaluation Review and Contract Amendment of Executive Director.
Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Legal Activities Update. None

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Administration

Agenda Item No. 12 – Facilities Update. Ben Glass, Chief Office of Administration, provided this update to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 13 – Legislative Session Update. Tyler Winburn, Legislative and Government Affairs Coordinator, provided this update to the Board.

Agriculture Projects

Agenda Item No. 14 – Agricultural Cost-Share Contract with Milk-A-Way Dairy, Inc., Lafayette County. Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 15 – Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Jackson Family Farms, LLC., Suwannee County. Approved on Consent

Agenda Item No. 16 – Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Sanchez Farms, LLC., Dixie, Levy, Gilchrist, Suwannee, and Lafayette Counties. Approved on Consent.

Finance

Agenda Item No. 17 – May 2025 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 18 – Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Tentative Millage and Budget. Kristin Thompson, Manager, Office of Finance, presented this item to the Board.

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

~~Agenda Item No. 19 – Resolution Number 2025-07, Release of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 State Appropriations - Deleted~~

Resource Management

Agenda Item No. 20 – Permitting Summary Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 21 – Rulemaking to Amend Rules 40B-2.301, 40B-2.321, and 40B-2.331, Florida Administrative Code, for Permitting of Water Use. Approved on Consent.

Environmental Projects

Agenda Item No. 22 – Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS

Communications and Outreach

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

Land Acquisition

Agenda Item No. 24 – Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 25 – Resolution 2025-06, Sale of a Lot to Brian Keith Barton and Debra Ann Barton within the Turkey Island Tract, Levy County. Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations Division, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 26 – Governing Board Directive Number 25-0004, Land Acquisition and Surplus Guidelines – Revised. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Board. Modified motion to include the 11D-Surplus Guidelines listed on strikethrough copy instead of removing.

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

Agenda Item No. 27 – Cedar Hammock Conservation Easement Amendment, Levy County. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Board.

Chad Richar, Manulife Forest Management, provided comments to the Board.

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

Land Management

Agenda Item No. 28 – Land Management Update Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 29 – Lease of District Lands for Apiary Leases. Approved on Consent.

WATER RESOURCES

Agenda Item No. 30 – Water Resources Division Updates. Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, provided updates to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 31 – Lower Santa Fe and Ichetucknee Water Project Update. Dr. Brown presented this update item to the Board.

Water Resources

Agenda Item No. 32 – USGS Monitoring Agreement Update. Susie Hetrick, Chief, Office of Water Resources, presented this update to the Board.

Agenda Item No. 33 – Memorandum of Agreement with St. Johns River Water Management District for Surface and Groundwater Chemistry Analysis. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 34 - Adoption of the 2025 Coastal Rivers Surface Water Improvement and Management Plan Update. Approved on Consent.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Agenda Item No. 35 - Announcements. Mr. Thomas updated the Board on District activities.

Agenda Item No. 36 - Governing Board Comments. None

Agenda Item No. 37 - Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Chair

ATTEST:

[Handwritten Signature]



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

The workshop began at 11:00 a.m.

District Land Management Plan Discussion

Lorna Ratliff, Chief, Office of Land Management, provided a powerpoint presentation on the District Land Management Plan.

Workshop adjourned at 11:14 a.m.