



**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING,  
COMMITTEE MEETING(S) 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.

September 9, 2025  
3:00 p.m.

District Headquarters  
Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Agenda Item No 2 – Roll Call / Oath of Office for Board Member Virginia H. Johns  
Tom Reeves, Board Legal Counsel, conducted the Oath of Office to Mrs. Johns for her reappointment to the Governing Board.

**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: None

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

- Agenda Item No. 6 - August 12, 2025 Governing Board Meeting, Audit Committee Meeting, and Workshop Minutes
- Agenda Item No. 11 - Property and Casualty Insurance, Liability Insurance, Auto Insurance and Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage from Public Risk Insurance Agency
- Agenda Item No. 12 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Tillis Farms, LLC, Levy and Alachua Counties

Minutes of Governing Board Meeting and First Public Hearing on FY2025-2026 Millage & Budget  
September 9, 2025

Minutes of Lands Committee Meeting and Final Public Hearing on FY2025-2026 Millage & Budget  
September 22, 2025

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- Agenda Item No. 13 - Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Riley Putnal, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties
- Agenda Item No. 14 - Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Shade Tree Nursery, LLC, Suwannee County
- Agenda Item No. 15 - July 2025 Financial Report
- Agenda Item No. 16 - Inspector General Audit Report Number 25-01, Follow-up on District Corrective Actions Regarding Prior Internal Audit Findings
- Agenda Item No. 17 - Inspector General Report Number 25-02, Land Acquisition and Management
- Agenda Item No. 18 - Annual Report of District Inspector General Activities for Fiscal Year 2024-2025
- Agenda Item No. 19 - Inspector General Three-Year Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2026 to 2028 and Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Internal Audit Work Plan
- Agenda Item No. 22 - Water Use Permit 219878-7 Nutrien-White Springs, Hamilton County
- Agenda Item No. 24 - Contract with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to Administer the Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning Program
- Agenda Item No. 31 - Task Work Assignment with B&B Dugger, Inc for Prescribed Fire and Vegetation Management Services for Fiscal Year 2025-2026
- Agenda Item No. 32 - Renewal of Contract with Florida Forest Service and Funding Approval for Twin Rivers State Forest.

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

Agenda Item No. 6 - August 12, 2025 Governing Board Meeting, Audit Committee Meeting, and Workshop Minutes. Approved on Consent.

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

- A. Robbie McKinney, Manager, Office of Water Resources, gave a presentation of hydrologic conditions of the District.
- B. Cooperating Agencies and Organizations. None
- C. Service Recognition. Sharon Hingson was recognized for five years of service to the District.

### **GOVERNING BOARD LEGAL COUNSEL**

Agenda Item No. 8 – Legal Activities Update. None

Agenda Item No. 9 - GBD25-0005, Conduct of Governing Board and Committee Meetings. Mr. Reeves presented this item to the Board.

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

## **BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **Administration**

Agenda Item No. 10 – Facilities Update. Ben Glass, Chief, Office of Administration, provided the facilities update.

Agenda Item No. 11 – Property and Casualty Insurance, Liability Insurance, Auto Insurance and Workers Compensation Insurance Coverage from Public Risk Insurance Agency. Approved on Consent.

### **Agriculture Projects**

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

Agenda Item No. 13 – Agricultural Cost-Share Task Work Assignment with Riley Putnal, Suwannee and Lafayette Counties. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 14 – Agricultural Cost-Share Contract and Task Work Assignment with Shade Tree Nursery, LLC, Suwannee County. Approved on Consent.

### **Finance**

Agenda Item No. 15 – July 2025 Financial Report. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 16 – Inspector General Audit Report Number 25-01, Follow-up on District Corrective Actions Regarding Prior Internal Audit Findings. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 17 – Inspector General Report Number 25-02, Land Acquisition and Management. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 18 – Annual Report of District Inspector General Activities for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 19 – Inspector General Three-Year Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2026 to 2028 and Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Internal Audit Work Plan. Approved on Consent.

### **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 – Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Regulatory Plan. Warren Zwanka, Chief Hydrogeologist, 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.

Water Use Permitting

Agenda Item No. 22 – Water Use Permit 219878-7 Nutrien-White Springs, Hamilton County. Approved on Consent.

Environmental Projects

Agenda Item No. 23 – Agriculture and Environmental Projects Monthly Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 24 – Contract with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to Administer the Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning Program. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 25 – Recommendations for the Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources Cost-Share Program for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Mary Diaz, Chief, Office of Environmental Projects, presented this item to the Board.

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

Agenda Item No. 26 – Governing Board Directive Number 25-0006, Regional Initiative Valuing Environmental Resources Cost-Share Program. Mrs. Diaz presented this item to the Board.

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

**OUTREACH AND OPERATIONS**

Communications and Outreach

Agenda Item No. 27 – Outreach and Communications Activity Summary. This summary was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Land Acquisition

Agenda Item No. 28 – Land Acquisition and Disposition Activity Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 29 – Rulemaking to Amend Rules 40B-9.021, 40B-9.041, 40B-9.126, 40B-9.131, 40B-9.1381, 40B-9.1411, and 40B-9.151, Florida Administrative Code, for Land Acquisition and Management. Mr. Zwanka presented this item to the Board.

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

Land Management

Agenda Item No. 30 – Land Management Update Report. This report was provided as an informational item in the Board materials.

Agenda Item No. 31 – Task Work Assignment with B&B Dugger, Inc for Prescribed Fire and Vegetation Management Services for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Approved on Consent.

Agenda Item No. 32 – Renewal of Contract with Florida Forest Service and Funding Approval for Twin Rivers State Forest. Approved on Consent.

**WATER RESOURCES**

Agenda Item No. 33 – Water Resources Division Updates. Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, provided updates to the Board.

Alden Rosner, Suwannee County, thanked the District for the funding of the RIVER Projects. Sherilyn Pickles and Jamie Willoughby, Madison County, thanked the District for funding of the RIVER Projects.

**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 3:57 p.m.

  
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Chair

ATTEST:

  
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**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
 MINUTES OF FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL  
 YEAR 2025/2026 BUDGET**

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

Open to Public

September 9, 2025  
 5:05 pm.

District Headquarters  
 Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order and Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

**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 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	

Chair Johns opened the public hearing on the Tentative Millage Rate and Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Agenda Item No. 2 – Resolution Number 2025-09 Tentative Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget. Kristin Thompson, Finance Program Manager, Office of Finance, presented this item to the Board.

Mrs. Thompson noted the District received one inquiry regarding the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Millage.

One call was received regarding Tentative Millage rate.

Chair Johns opened the public comments on the Tentative Millage for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

No comments received.

Chair Johns closed public comments.

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

Agenda Item No. 3 – Resolution Number 2025-10, Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.  
Mrs. Thompson presented this item to the Board.

Chair Johns opened the public comments on the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

No public comments.

Chair Johns closed public comments.

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

Chair Johns closed the public hearing on the Tentative Millage and Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Announcements. Monday, September 22, 2025, at 5:05 p.m. is the Final Public Hearing on Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Millage and Budget.

Agenda Item No. 5 – Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

  
Chair

ATTEST:

  
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**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
 MINUTES OF LANDS COMMITTEE MEETING**

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September 22, 2025  
 3:00 p.m.

District Headquarters  
 Live Oak, Florida

1. Call to Order / Committee Roll Call. Meeting began at 3:00 p.m.

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
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

**Conservation Easement / Fee**

3. Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Conservation Land Acquisition Project Ranking. Katelyn Potter, Director, Outreach and Operations Division, presented this item to the Committee.

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

4. Land Acquisition for Environmental Project Ranking. Warren Zwanka, Chief Hydrogeologist, Resource Management/Projects Division, presented this item to the Committee.

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

**Property Exchange / Surplus / Conveyance**

5. Conveyance 203 Road and Telford Spring Boat Ramp within the Telford Spring Tract, Suwannee County. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Committee.

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

6. Declaration of Surplus for Four Nature Coast Parcels, Gilchrist County. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Committee with the memo corrected to reflect the funding source to be Save our Rivers Funding, not Florida Forever Funds.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SESSIONS, SECONDED BY KEITH TO APPROVE THE ITEM WITH THE CORRECTED INFORMATION REGARDING FUNDING SOURCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Removal from Surplus for the Hatchbend Uplands Tract, Lafayette County. Mrs. Potter presented this item to the Committee.

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

8. Announcements. None

9. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

  
Chair

ATTEST:

  
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**SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
 MINUTES OF FINAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL  
 YEAR 2025/2026 BUDGET**

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

September 22, 2025  
 5:05 pm.

District Headquarters  
 Live Oak, Florida

Agenda Item No. 1 – Call to Order and Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

**Governing Board**

<b>Seat</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Aucilla Basin	George Wheeler		X	
Coastal River Basin	Richard Schwab	Vice Chair	X	
Lower Suwannee Basin	Larry 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**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Firm</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
George T. Reeves	Davis, Schnitker, Reeves & Browning, P.A.	X	

**Leadership Team**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Executive Director	Hugh Thomas	X	
Assistant Executive Director	Tim Alexander	X	
Deputy Executive Director	Amy Brown	X	
Executive Office & Board Coordinator	Robin Lamm	X	

Chair Johns opened the public hearing on the Final Millage Rate and Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Agenda Item No. 2 – Resolution Number 2025-11, Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget. Kristin Thompson, Finance Program Manager, Office of Finance, presented this item to the Board.

Chair Johns opened public comments on the Final Millage for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Mrs. Thompson noted the District received two inquiries regarding the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Millage.

No public comments.

Chair Johns closed public comments.

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

Agenda Item No. 3 – Resolution Number 2025-12, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.  
Mrs. Thompson presented this item to the Board.

Chair Johns opened public comments on the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

No public comments.

Chair Johns closed public comments.

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

Chair Johns closed the public hearing on the Final Millage and Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Announcements. None

Agenda Item No. 5 – Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

  
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Chair

ATTEST:

  
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