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## **South Florida Water Management District**

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### **GOVERNING BOARD MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA**

June 5, 2025

9:00 AM

District Headquarters, B-1 Auditorium  
3301 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

**FINAL - REVISED\***

\*Item 19 was revised

1. Call to Order - Chauncey Goss, Chairman, Governing Board
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Employee Recognitions
  - June 2025 Employee of the Month: Pablo Escobar, Engineering/Construction Manager
  - June 2025 Team of the Month: Saltwater Interface Mapping Team
  - 25-Year Service Award: Christopher Graham, Crew Chief, St. Cloud Field Station
  - 30-Year Service Award: Lori Wenkert-Lane, Senior Project Manager, Ecosystem Restoration
  - 30-Year Service Award: Lucy Hernandez, Supervisor, Human Resources Information Services
  - Good Samaritan Award: Hao Luo, Senior Engineer, Hydro Data Management
4. Agenda Revisions
5. Agenda Item Abstentions by Board Members
6. Audit & Finance Committee Report - Jay Steinle, Chairman
7. Big Cypress Basin Board Report - Charlette Roman, Chair

8. Consider Approval of the Minutes for the May 8, 2025 Meeting
9. Executive Director's Report - Drew Bartlett
10. General Public Comment
11. Board Comment
12. Move Consent Agenda Items to Discussion Agenda
13. Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items
14. Board Vote on Consent Agenda

### **Consent Agenda**

15. Exchange Agreement, Green Heart of the Everglades Project, Collier County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

#### **Agenda Item Background:**

The District acquired approximately 11,053 acres of land in July 2023, within the Green Heart of the Everglades Project in Collier County. Subsequent to the acquisition, the District granted Jungle Erv's possession of approximately 1,213.82 acres of the lands for the purpose of conducting scenic airboat tours under a license agreement, which will expire on July 2, 2025. Approximately 137.58 acres of the license agreement lands owned by the District is directly adjacent to and most accessible from other Jungle Erv's owned lands. Jungle Erv's owns approximately 92.70 acres of land that is south of the District's 137.58 acreage and adjacent to the balance of the lands owned by the District. Jungle Erv's also owns approximately 14.53 acres improved with a shell rock road path. Contemporaneously with the expiration of the license agreement, the District will convey to Jungle Erv's fee title to the 137.58 acres that has an appraised value of \$275,000, and Jungle Erv's will convey to the District fee title to the 92.70 acres which has an appraised value of \$340,000, and also convey to the District an access easement with respect to the 14.53 acres which has an appraised value of \$110,000. Notwithstanding the difference between the appraised values, the Exchange Agreement provides that no monetary consideration will be paid by the District or otherwise.

#### **Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0601 Approve declaring surplus for exchange and conveyance fee title land interests containing 137.58 acres, more or less, in exchange for the acquisition of fee title land interests containing 92.70 acres, more or less, and permanent easement interests containing 14.53 acres, more or less, all within the District's Green Heart of the Everglades Project, in Collier County.**

[Resolution No. 2025-0601](#)  
[Exhibit A Maps](#)

16. Release of Canal Easement, Miami-Dade County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

**Agenda Item Background:**

Pursuant to a request from the applicant and underlying fee owner, Century Homebuilders Group, LLC, the District has determined it is in the public interest to release a portion of the C-4 (Tamiami Canal) right of way easement containing approximately 0.23 acre, which has been platted for residential purposes, located in Section 5, Township 54 South, Range 40 East, Miami-Dade County.

The applicant installed a four-foot-high chain-link fence along the new right of way line and a 16-foot-wide lockable gate at the south terminus of the cul-de-sac of SW 102nd Court, where it intersects with the new right of way line. This additional access to the C-4 was requested by Field Operations Division as a requirement of the release. The appraised value of the 0.23+/- acre release parcel is \$80,000.00.

**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0602 Approve releasing a portion of a canal right of way easement containing 0.23 acres, more or less, C-4 (Tamiami Canal) Project, located in Section 5, Township 54 South, Range 40 East, Miami-Dade County.**

[Resolution No. 2025-0602](#)

[Exhibit A Map](#)

17. Release of Reservations (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

**Agenda Item Background:**

The District has certain reserved rights to construct canal and road rights of way. Applications requesting release of these reservations are received as they constitute a defect on title which must be resolved prior to a property sale, especially when financing is involved. Applications are reviewed to determine if there is a present or future need for the reservations. If it has been determined there is no present or future need, the reservations may be released for a reasonable and appropriate payment based on the value of the land and may require such other terms and conditions determined by the Board. For canal reservations held by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (TIITF), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires a recommendation from the District that there is no District or local need for TIITF-held canal reservations prior to a release being issued by DEP.

Staff evaluated the properties' size and location for future flood control and reclamation purposes related to water storage and conveyance. It has been determined that there is no present or apparent future need for the reservations listed below, therefore staff asks the Board to consider approval of the following:

**Broward County**

- Release District canal reservations and recommend release of TIITF canal reservations for Pulte Home Company, LLC (File No. 18957) for 18.67+/- acres (District canal reservations) and 29.09+/- acres (TIITF canal reservations); subject to payment of release value of \$134,822.00

**Palm Beach County**

- Release District canal and road reservations for TPG AG EHC III (PHM) Multi State 1, LLC (File No. 18953) for 40.13+/- acres; subject to payment of release value of \$132,429.00.
- Release District canal reservations for Boca Raton Associates X, LLLP (File No. 18967) for 0.34+/- acre; subject to payment of release value of \$15,000.

**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0603 Authorize release of certain canal and road reservations.**

[Memorandum Exhibit A](#)

[Resolution No. 2025-0603](#)

[Maps](#)

18. Right of Way Occupancy Permit and Waiver, Aerial Parallel Run with Waiver of Criteria, L-29 Canal, Florida Power and Light Company (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

**Agenda Item Background:**

Florida Power and Light Company (Applicant or FPL) requests a Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit Number 17123-R (ROW Permit) to authorize an existing aerial parallel run with 4 utility poles (1 pole proposed for replacement) and associated down guys within the south right of way of the L-29 Canal beginning 100 feet east of Structure S-12A and continuing east for approximately 900 feet. The existing aerial parallel run is located within 40 feet of top of bank and requires waiver to the 40-foot setback rule set forth in District rules. The facilities provide power to existing FPL customers, including Tippy's Outpost Tribal Market and Airboat Tours and two communication towers. Granting of the waiver will legitimize the existing facilities and allow FPL to replace an existing substandard utility pole.

Applicant has demonstrated a substantial hardship that supports granting of the requested waiver. The hardship results from existing site constraints that render it impossible to install an aerial parallel run that complies with both the 40-foot setback rule from top of bank and the required minimum 15-foot setback from the L-29 levee toe imposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The existing communication towers at this location obstruct the only path available to meet both criteria.

The existing parallel run has been in existence at this location for nearly 60 years without adverse impact to the District. The application has been reviewed by District Field Operations and the USACE, which has granted Section 408 authorization. Granting of the waiver will not adversely impact the District's ability to perform routine or emergency operations, maintenance, or future construction activities.

**Recommended Action:**

**Approve issuance of Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit 17123-R and the order granting the associated petition for waiver to authorize an existing aerial parallel run with 4 utility poles (1 pole proposed for replacement) and associated down guys to be located within 40 feet of top of bank (Application No. 240515-43855).**

[Backup Presentation](#)

19. Works of the District (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

**Agenda Item Background:**

This is a request to declare and adopt additional features as works of the District. Pursuant to Section 373.086, Florida Statutes, the Governing Board has the authority to adopt works of the District. District staff is requesting the Governing Board take action and declare the following features inclusive of all levees, dams, canals, structures, pump stations and other associated features to be works of the District.

A-1 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB), Bolles Canal (L-26), C-139 Annex Restoration, C-139 FEB (G-406, G-551, G-552, G-711E), C-4 Emergency Detention Basin (G-420, G-420S, G-421, G-422), L-8 Divide Structure (G-541), G-716, and L-8 Flow Equalization Basin (G-538, G-539).

Boma FEB Complex, Brady Ranch Project, Grassy Island Project, Lake Hicpochee Hydrologic Enhancement, Lakeside Ranch Stormwater Treatment Area (STA), Nubbin Slough STA, Taylor Creek STA, Ten Mile Creek Water Preserve Area (Reservoir & STA), STA-1E, STA-1W, STA-1W Expansion No.1, STA-1W Expansion No. 2, STA-2, STA-3/4, and STA-5/6.

Aquifer Storage and Recovery Facilities (Located on: L-63N, L-63S, C-38N, C-38S, C-40, C-41, C-43, C-44, C-59, Taylor Creek, Kissimmee River, Hillsboro), Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands (Deering Estates, Cutler Flowway, L-31E Flowway), Broward County Water Preserve Areas, Caloosahatchee River (C-43) West Basin Storage Reservoir, Central Everglades Planning Project (CEPP) EAA (A2 Reservoir & STA), CEPP North (S-620, S-622, S-630, S-630A, S-630B, S-630C), CEPP South (S-355W, S-333N, S-356E, S-334E, S-631, S-632, S-633), Indian River Lagoon South (C-23 to C-44 Interconnect, C-23/C-24 North Reservoir & STA, C-23/C-24 South Reservoir, C-25 Reservoir & STA, C-44 Reservoir & STA), Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project (C-18W Impoundment Project), Picayune Strand Restoration Project, Site 1 Impoundment, C-111 South Dade (8.5 Square Mile Area Flood Control Infrastructure (S-357N, C-357, L-357W), L-359 Detention Area, C-111 North Detention Area, C-111 South Detention Area, S-332D Flowway, Frog Pond Detention Area, C-111 Spreader Canal Aerojet Canal Features), Kissimmee River (S-69 Weir), S-229A, S-229B, S-229C, S-332B, and S-332C.

**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0604 Declare and adopt additional features as Works of the District of the South Florida Water Management District.**

[Resolution No. 2025-0604](#)

20. Big Cypress Basin Tower Microwave Equipment Purchase (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

**Agenda Item Background:**

The microwave network is a critical component of the District's Flood Control Operations. The microwave network transports both Supervised Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) data and other critical network traffic. This item covers the procurement of microwave radios, antennas, related equipment, and services for the

Big Cypress Basin Tower project. The purchase also includes radios for the C-43 and FAKA Union towers to establish communication with the Big Cypress Basin tower. Once complete, this effort will extend the District's connectivity to the County Barn Road tower in Naples, establishing full microwave backbone coverage across the Big Cypress Basin and making the District and Big Cypress Basin more resilient for storms and managing flood control.

This request is to approve issuing a purchase order to Aviat U.S., Inc. to procure the equipment and services required for the Big Cypress Basin Tower project in the amount of \$1,990,303, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the National Association of State Procurement Officials Contract Number 43190000-22-NASPO-ACS, Cooperative Master Agreement Number 00318.

**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0605 Approve issuing a purchase order to Aviat U.S., Inc., to procure equipment and services for the Big Cypress Basin Tower project in the amount of \$1,990,303, using a special procurement pursuant to Sec 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using the National Association of State Procurement Officials Contract Number 43190000-22-NASPO-ACS, Cooperative Master Agreement Number 00318, for which Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025. (Purchase Order No. 4500155939)**

[Resolution No. 2025-0605](#)

21. Redwood Software RunMyJobs Subscription Service (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

**Agenda Item Background:**

The Redwood Software RunMyJobs subscription service is the enterprise job scheduling and automation platform currently integrated with the District's on-premise SAP S/4HANA system. This subscription service was selected for its native compatibility with SAP S/4HANA and its robust monitoring and auditing capabilities. Its implementation has significantly improved operational reliability, reduced manual intervention, and enabled Information Technology (IT) staff to manage SAP workloads more efficiently through centralized dashboards and proactive alerting. RunMyJobs continues to operate without incident and is integral to the reliable execution of automated SAP processes, including financial postings, data integrations, and scheduled system tasks. Amending the contract will ensure continued stability, vendor support, and alignment with the District's IT modernization strategy, enabling the uninterrupted performance of mission-critical business operations.

This request is to authorize amending a contract with Redwood Software, Inc. for a scheduling and automation software subscription service for an additional five years, August 1, 2025 through July 31, 2030, in the amount of \$291,834 for a revised contract total of \$441,834.

**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0606 Authorize amending a contract with Redwood Software, Inc., for a scheduling and automation software subscription service for an additional five years, August 1, 2025, through July 31, 2030, increasing the**



**amount by \$291,834 for a revised total of \$441,834, for which \$52,500 in Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600004569-A01)**

[Resolution No. 2025-0606](#)

22. Adoption of the 2025 Collier County Local Mitigation Strategy (Staff contact, Carolina Maran, Ph.D., P.E.)

**Agenda Item Background:**

Formal adoption of the 2025 Collier County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) by the District's Governing Board is required to receive federal hazard mitigation grant program funding, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for the District's projects in Collier County. There is no cost for the District associated with the formal adoption of this plan.

The LMS was developed and revised by the Collier County's Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group, in coordination with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders having an interest in reducing the impact of disasters, and with input from the private sector and other members of the public. The purpose of the LMS is to mitigate natural, technological, and human-made hazards that pose risks to public health and safety, threaten economic stability, and impact the quality of the natural environment. The LMS provides a rational, managed basis for considering and prioritizing mitigation options, and for developing and executing sound, cost-effective mitigation projects. The LMS provides a basis for justifying the solicitation and use of local, state, and federal funding sources to support hazard mitigation projects and initiatives.

**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0607 Adopt the 2025 Collier County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy for the purpose of hazard mitigation funding eligibility; effective April 8, 2025.**

[Resolution No. 2025-0607](#)

**Discussion Agenda**

23. Central Everglades Planning Project Update

A. CEPP EAA Reservoir G-372S Pump Repurposing Improvements Project, Palm Beach County

**Agenda Item Background:**

As part of Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, Central Everglades Planning Project - Everglades Agricultural Area Phase, the G-372S Pump Repurposing Improvements Project, located in Palm Beach County, will repurpose three 75-cfs electric motor-driven pumps to drive water east to the STA 3/4 Inflow Canal providing a low flow, environmentally friendly, cost-effective pumping capability at the G-372 Pump Station. The construction of the EAA A-2 STA required backfilling of the STA 3/4 seepage canal, which was the main water source for the seepage pumps. This project

includes the construction of a temporary cofferdam, dewatering, cutting a single 8 ft wide x 8 ft high opening through the 30-inch concrete wall, and modifying the flow turning vanes to facilitate flow entering from the south rather than the existing flow from the north. The work also includes replacement and improvement of electrical features, concrete slabs, and other miscellaneous work.

The G-372S Pump Repurposing Improvements Project was referenced as a project feature in the Post Authorization Change Report (PACR) for the EAA A-2 Reservoir/STA Project to repurpose the pumps.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is recommended for award. In accordance with District policy and consistent with state law for Request for Bids procurements, this item was competitively bid through a sealed bid process. The bid opening for this project was on May 19, 2025.

**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0608 Authorize entering into a 754-day contract with Douglas N. Higgins Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the CEPP EAA G-372S Pump Repurposing Improvements Project in the amount of \$2,882,000, for which \$500,000 in dedicated funds (State Appropriations) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005202)**

[Resolution No. 2025-0608](#)

B. CEPP EAA Reservoir Miami Canal Phase 1 (North) - Conveyance Improvements Project, Palm Beach County

**Agenda Item Background:**

As part of Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, the Central Everglades Planning Project - Everglades Agricultural Area Phase, the Miami Canal Phase 1 (North) Conveyance Improvements Project, located in Palm Beach County, will provide 1,000 cubic feet per second of additional conveyance capacity in the Miami Canal through widening and deepening of 6.2 miles of the canal utilizing mechanical and hydraulic dredging. Improving canal conveyance is necessary to move Lake Okeechobee water south to the EAA Reservoir complex. Phase 2 (South) Conveyance Improvements for the balance of 8.8 miles will be a future project.

CEPP was authorized by Congress in the Water Resources Development Acts of 2016, 2018, and 2020, and includes four phases: CEPP - Everglades Agricultural Area, CEPP North, CEPP South, and CEPP New Water. CEPP EAA Phase plays a crucial role by improving the quantity, timing, and distribution of water flows from Lake Okeechobee south to the EAA A-2 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area in the central Everglades and CEPP North and South move water south to Florida Bay and Everglades National Park.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is recommended for award. In accordance with District policy and consistent with state law for Request for Bids procurements, this item was competitively bid through a sealed bid process. The bid opening for this project was on May 20, 2025.



**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0609 Authorize entering into a 990-day contract with Phillips and Jordan, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the CEPP EAA Miami Canal Conveyance Improvement Phase 1 North Project, in the amount of \$99,751,952, for which \$20,000,000 in dedicated funds (State Appropriations) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005203)**

[Resolution No. 2025-0609](#)

C. CEPP South S-355W Spillway Project, Miami-Dade County

**Agenda Item Background:**

In December 2024, the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board agreed to assume responsibility for constructing the S-355W Spillway Project, a component of the Central Everglades Planning Project - South. This was necessary to expedite time frames for the construction of the Blue Shanty Flow way since this project must be built before significant berm degrade and construction work can commence. With this award, construction is expected to be completed one and a half years ahead of schedule.

As part of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan, Central Everglades Planning Project - South Phase, the S-355W Spillway Project, located in Miami-Dade County, will be constructed as a remotely operated divide structure in the L-29 Canal and provide a maximum of 1,200 cubic feet per second flow through a double gated spillway for water deliveries to the eastern L-29 Canal. Ancillary components of this project include control/generator building, retaining wing walls, upstream/downstream stilling wells, and temporary bypass features. The project also includes the construction of a right turn lane on Tamiami Trail and a two-lane public access bridge within FDOT Right of Way. Upon completion, the S-355W Spillway will serve as the main public access entrance for the Tigertail Community and future recreational features to be constructed under a separate contract.

CEPP was authorized by Congress in the Water Resources Development Acts of 2016, 2018, and 2020, and includes four phases: CEPP – Everglades Agricultural Area, CEPP North, CEPP South, and CEPP New Water. The CEPP South Phase will remove water flow barriers in the southern portion of the project's footprint to allow natural flow of water south into Everglades National Park.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is recommended for award. In accordance with District policy and consistent with state law for Request for Bids procurements, this item was competitively bid through a sealed bid process. The bid opening for this project was on May 27, 2025.

**Recommended Action:**

**Resolution No. 2025-0610 Authorize entering into a 1030-day contract with Kiewit Infrastructure South Co., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the CEPP South S-355W Spillway Project, in the amount of \$49,977,000, for which \$15,000,000 in dedicated funds (State Appropriations) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of**

**future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005204)**  
[Resolution No. 2025-0610](#)

**Technical Reports**

24. Water and Ecological Conditions Report - John P. Mitnik, P.E., and Cassondra Armstrong, Ph.D.

**Staff Reports**

25. Monthly Financial Report - Candida Heater, Division Director - Administrative Services
26. General Public Comment
27. Board Comment
28. Adjourn

**Public Comment Procedure**

The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board encourages the public to provide comment and input to the Governing Board. Public comment is accepted at the two dedicated General Public Comment periods at the beginning and the end of the meeting. Public comment is also accepted on the Consent Agenda and each Discussion Agenda item.