The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board approved budget for the Big Cypress Basin (BCB) is $13.9 million for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. The Big Cypress Basin, which encompasses Collier County and a small portion of mainland Monroe County, manages a network of 153 miles of primary canals, 45 water control structures and four pumps, providing flood control during the wet season and protecting regional water supplies and environmental resources from over-drainage during the dry season.

Budget Highlights

- $4.6 million for operations, engineering and construction
- $3.6 million to operate the Big Cypress Basin Service Center to provide flood protection, provide grants to partner agencies and monitor water quality.
- $3.4 million for field operations and land management within the basin
- $2.4 million for debt service, fees and reserves
- The BCB budget also funds capital improvement projects needed to provide flood protection, water supply and environmental needs to BCB residents, including canal improvements and the replacement of crucial flood protection weirs
- Approximately 76 percent of the revenue funding the BCB budget comes from ad valorem (property) taxes. For the ninth year in a row, the SFWMD Governing Board approved a BCB budget that does not raise property tax rates. The millage rate for BCB property owners is $23.44 per $100,000 of taxable value.
SFWMD’s Big Cypress Basin 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget

Adopted Revenues $13,984,146

- Ad Valorem Taxes $10,661,990 76%
- Reserves $3,039,495 22%
- Investment Earnings $200,000 1%
- Licenses, Permits, Fees & Other $82,661 1%

Adopted Expenditures $13,984,146

- Flood Control Operations $3,290,701 27%
- Reserves $2,000,000 16%
- BCB Capital Projects $3,000,000 25%
- Collier County MOU $1,000,000 8%
- Property Appraiser, Tax Collector & Self Insurance Fees $373,286 3%
- Field Equipment & Fleet Replcmt $456,000 4%
- Modeling & Monitoring Support $688,142 6%
- BCB Service Center - Staff & Facilities $814,604 7%
- BCB Capital Program Support $254,215 2%
- Land Stewardship $259,000 2%