



South Florida Water Management District

GOVERNING BOARD MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

September 11, 2025

2:00 PM

District Headquarters, B-1 Auditorium

3301 Gun Club Road

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

FINAL

1. Call to Order - Chauncey Goss, Chairman, Governing Board
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Employee Recognitions
 - September 2025 Employee of the Month: Chris Tomblin, Instrumentation Control Technician 2
 - September 2025 Team of the Month: Okeechobee Field Station Structure Team
 - 25-Year Service Award: Chad Brcka, Water Supply Plan Manager
4. Agenda Revisions
5. Agenda Item Abstentions by Board Members
6. Big Cypress Basin Board Report - Charlette Roman, Chair
7. Consider Approval of the Minutes for the August 14, 2025 Meeting
8. Executive Director's Report - Drew Bartlett
9. General Public Comment
10. Board Comment

11. Move Consent Agenda Items to Discussion Agenda
12. Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items
13. Board Vote on Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

14. Parking Lease, Cano Health, LLC, Miami-Dade County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

The District initially acquired this portion of the C-9 Canal right of way in Miami-Dade County on June 13, 1952. Cano Health, LLC currently leases 0.15 acres, which provides additional parking for their patients and staff. The current parking lease began June 13, 2013, with satisfactory performance to date. However, a new lease agreement is required since the leasing entity completed a Chapter 11 Reorganization in June of 2024. The Lessee has asked to continue leasing the property. The lease terminated June 3, 2025, and is currently month-to-month while a new lease is being processed.

The Lessee installed and is responsible for maintenance of the entry gate and fencing around the parking area. The Lessee will be responsible for removal of the fence at the end of the Lease.

Staff is seeking Governing Board authorization to approve a new parking lease located on the C-9 Canal right of way in Miami-Dade County for five years with Cano Health, LLC. The lease agreement will have the standard provision for termination by the District for convenience of 180 days. The approximate annual revenue will be \$12,830.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0901 Authorize entering into a five-year parking lease with Cano Health, LLC, on 0.15 acres, more or less, in Miami-Dade County as more particularly described herein. (Contract No. 4600005241)

[Resolution No. 2025-0901](#)

[Exhibit A](#)

15. Access Easement Exchange, Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW), Lee County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

The District has existing access easement interests totaling approximately 6.75 acres that provide ingress and egress to its fee owned lands in Section 36, Township 46 South, Range 27 East located in the Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed (CREW) project area south of Corkscrew Road in Lee County. The District will enter into an Agreement for Exchange of Real Property Interests with CAM-7 Sub, LLC, a Florida limited liability company whereby the District will release the Existing Access Easement, in exchange for the acquisition of a relocated newly constructed access easement interest of approximately 7.62 acres and an additional access easement interest of approximately 3.50 acres, all located in the CREW project area adjacent to

and south of Corkscrew Road in Lee County. This has been determined to be an even real estate value exchange. However, the new road and new easement benefit the District as it improves access to the CREW project area for land managers.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0902 Authorize release of an access easement interest containing 6.75 acres, more or less, in exchange for acquisition of a relocated newly constructed access easement interest of 7.62 acres, more or less, and an additional access easement interest of 3.50 acres, more or less, all located in the CREW project area south of Corkscrew Road in Lee County.

[Resolution No. 2025-0902](#)

[Exhibit A](#)

[Exhibit B](#)

16. Surplus and Sale to Central Florida Expressway Authority, Reedy Creek Project Property, Osceola County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX) is an independent government agency of the State of Florida that is conducting a project for the extension of Poinciana Parkway in Osceola County. In connection with the extension project, CFX desires to acquire fee title to approximately 3.97 acres of District owned lands located within the District's Reedy Creek Project in Osceola County. The District and CFX have reached a proposed agreement whereby CFX will acquire the 3.97 acres of District lands for the payment to the District of \$255,250.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0903 Authorize declaring surplus for sale and conveyance fee title land interests containing 3.97 acres, more or less, within the District's Reedy Creek Project in Osceola County, for the payment of \$255,250 to the District.

[Resolution No. 2025-0903](#)

[Exhibit A](#)

[Exhibit B](#)

17. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Land Management Services Agreement (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

Cooperative agreements with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) have been executed since 1991 to provide cost-effective public-use and land management support on District managed lands, which has helped reduce the need for additional staffing within the Land Stewardship Section. In October 2007, the District entered into Agreement Number 4600000961 with FWC to provide public use, law enforcement support, and land management services on District managed lands. This Agreement has been routinely amended over the years.

Through this Agreement, the FWC administers the public hunting program including law enforcement support on 18 different District properties. Additionally, this Agreement provides funding for the operation of hunter check stations, the

administration of managed public waterfowl hunts on STA 1W, STA 2, and STA 3/4 in coordination with the District, and assisting in the management of public recreation on 242,494 acres of District acquired property.

The District's funding of this Agreement further provides for two full time wildlife biologist positions and seasonal employees on the DuPuis and CREW Wildlife and Environmental Areas. These positions help establish and administer public use programs, develop area specific public use regulations, assist with land management activities such as prescribed burning and habitat restoration, and provide wildlife management services on District lands for listed and non-listed wildlife species.

This request is to authorize a three-year extension to the existing Agreement Number 4600000961-A07 with FWC to provide additional years of resource management services on included lands, in an amount not to exceed \$657,000. Approval of Agreement Number 4600000961-A08 will help ensure public recreation on District lands, and help ensure these lands are managed in an environmentally beneficial manner.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0904 Authorize amending Agreement No. 4600000961-A07 with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to extend the term of the Agreement by three years to continue to provide public use and land management services on District lands in an amount not to exceed \$657,000 for a total revised amount not to exceed \$5,948,801, of which \$219,000 is made up of \$49,000 in Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds, \$24,709 in Ad Valorem funds, and \$145,291 in Dedicated Funds (Lease Revenue), subject to Governing Board approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget and future years' budgets. (Agreement No. 4600000961-A08).

[Resolution No. 2025-0904](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

18. Publish a Notice of Proposed Rule in the Florida Administrative Register and Adopt Rules 40E-7.700 through 40E-7.702, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

The District is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control Project (C&SF) system consisting of 2,200 miles of canals, 2,100 miles of levees, over 1,500 water control structures, and 90 pump stations. The C&SF system provides flood control, water supply, navigation, water management, and recreational benefits to South Florida. The District must maintain the C&SF system free of aquatic vegetation, trash, and other debris, which can lead to blockage of canals and structures resulting in increased risks of flooding, navigational hazards, and impediments to water supply. Hazards arising from the accumulation of aquatic vegetation, trash, and other debris in the C&SF system are particularly prevalent in Collier, Broward, Glades, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Polk, and St. Lucie Counties.

Staff drafted new rules to establish measures required to prevent discharges of aquatic vegetation, trash, and other debris into C&SF system or other Works of the District,

and to set forth remedial action when the District determines a system owner and/or operator is violating or has violated the rules in this new chapter. Staff conducted two rule development workshops in 2023 and revised the draft rules based on public comments received from these workshops. Staff also hired an economist to prepare a Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs (SERC). The SERC will be available at <https://www.sfwmd.gov/our-work/flood-control> once the Notice of Proposed Rule is published in the Florida Administrative Register.

Staff seeks Governing Board approval to publish a Notice of Proposed Rule and Adopt Rules 40E-7.700, 40E-7.701, and 40E-7.702, F.A.C., provided that no requests for public hearing are received, and no substantive changes are made to the proposed rules.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0905 Authorize publishing a Notice of Proposed Rule and Adopt Rules 40E-7.700, 40E-7.701, and 40E-7.702, F.A.C., for the purpose of adopting new rules to require owners and/or operators of water management systems, including special districts, that directly connect to and make use of the Central & Southern Florida Flood Control Project (C&SF) system or other Works of the District to take actions to address ongoing operations and maintenance concerns resulting from aquatic vegetation, trash, and other debris that enter the C&SF system.

[Resolution No. 2025-0905](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

[Notice of Proposed Rule](#)

19. Emerson Process Management Power and Water Solutions, Inc., Licensing and Services (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

The District uses Emerson Process Management Power and Water Solutions, Inc.'s Ovation automation platform for its Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. To ensure the District's SCADA system remains current and secure, the Ovation automation platform will be upgraded with new hardware, the latest Ovation software version, upgraded third-party software, and current operating systems.

This request is to enter into a contract with Emerson Process Management Power and Water Solutions, Inc., for software licenses, implementation services, and expert technical support for the next ten years in the amount of \$4,424,698.

These services will be obtained as an exemption to competitive solicitation for proprietary computer software pursuant to Sec. 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0906 Authorize entering into a contract Emerson Process Management Power and Water Solutions, Inc., for software licenses, implementation services, and expert technical support for the next ten years in the amount of \$4,424,698 as an exception to competitive solicitation for proprietary computer software pursuant to Sec. 155-6 of the District's

Procurement Policy, of which \$1,620,649.80 of Ad Valorem funds are subject to Governing Board approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets (Contract No. 4600005239)

[Resolution No. 2025-0906](#)

20. SAP Technical Resource Consultant (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

SAP technical resources are high salaried and difficult to hire and retain as full-time employees. The SAP Solution Center uses staff augmentation services to provide resources for projects that require expert level knowledge, allowing the full-time staff to focus on the daily support.

This request is to amend Purchase Order Number 4500135356 with Phoenix Business, Inc., extending the services for an SAP Technical Resource Consultant for an additional five years through September 30, 2030, and increasing the amount by \$1,311,440 for a revised total of \$2,168,400 (total of nine years), using the Sourcewell Contract Number 090320-PNX.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0907 Authorize an amendment to Purchase Order Number 4500135356 with Phoenix Business, Inc., extending the services for an SAP Technical Resource Consultant through September 30, 2030, and increasing the amount by \$1,311,440 for a revised total of \$2,168,400, for which \$262,080 in Ad Valorem funds is subject to Governing Board approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Purchase Order No. 4500135356)

[Resolution No. 2025-0907](#)

21. Approval of the District's 2025-2026 Regulatory Plan and Rule Review Schedule (Staff contact, Maricruz R. Fincher)

Agenda Item Background:

Section 120.74, Florida Statutes (F.S.), requires each agency to prepare an annual regulatory plan by October 1 of each year to inform the Florida Legislature and the public of agency rulemaking. The regulatory plan identifies laws enacted or amended during the previous 12 months that create or modify the District's duties or authorities, and whether rulemaking is required to implement the law(s). Additionally, it identifies any discretionary rulemaking the District plans to undertake.

Section 120.74(1)(d), F.S., requires that both the Governing Board and General Counsel certify to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC) that they have reviewed the regulatory plan and that the agency regularly reviews all of its rules to determine if they remain consistent with the agency's rulemaking authority and the laws implemented.

By October 1 of each year, the District must publish its regulatory plan on its website and publish a notice in the Florida Administrative Register that the regulatory plan is available.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0908 Certify to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee that the Governing Board and General Counsel reviewed the District's 2025-2026 Annual Regulatory Plan and that the District reviewed its rules to determine if the rules remain consistent with the District's rulemaking authority and the laws implemented.

[Resolution No. 2025-0908](#)
[2025-2026 Regulatory Plan](#)
[JAPC Certification](#)

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

Agenda Item Background:

Formal adoption of the 2025 Polk 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 Polk County. There is no cost for the District associated with the formal adoption of this plan.

The LMS was developed and revised by the Polk County 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. 2025-0909 Adopt the 2025 Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy for the purpose of hazard mitigation funding eligibility.

[Resolution No. 2025-0909](#)

23. Third Party Claims Administration (Staff contact, Jennifer Smith)

Agenda Item Background:

This request is to enter into a one-year contract with four one-year renewal options with Davies Claims North America, Inc., for third-party claims administration. Davies Claims North America, Inc., will partner with the District for workers' compensation, and general and automobile liability. These self-insured programs protect the District's approximately 1,523 employees.

Davies Claims North America, Inc., was awarded a contract for Third Party Claims Administrator Workers Comp, Liability & Property through a competitive bid process administered by the City of Naples, Florida (RFP 24-024). The District is permitted to

utilize RFP 24-024 for its own third-party claims administration as an exception to competitive solicitation pursuant to Florida Law as well as Section 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0910 Authorize entering into a one-year contract with four one-year renewal options with Davies Claims North America, Inc., to provide Third-Party Claims Administration Services for specialized processing of District self-funded insurance claims for workers' compensation, general and automobile liability losses, in the amount not to exceed \$375,000, for which \$75,000 of dedicated funds (Self-Insurance Fund) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets, using the City of Naples, Florida Request for Proposal (RFP) 24-024. (Contract No. 4600005233)

[Resolution No. 2025-0910](#)

24. Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project Flow Way 2 C-18W Impoundment Project: Proposed Relocation of Electrical Transmission Lines (Staff contact, Jennifer Reynolds)

Agenda Item Background:

The C-18W Impoundment is a feature within Flow way 2 of the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project (LRWRP), a component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) and is located in Palm Beach County. In order to construct a portion of an associated levee and canal for the C-18W Impoundment and accommodate clearance requirements, FPL will need to relocate 230kV transmission lines within the project area. FPL has provided a non-binding Preliminary Estimate of \$6,305,448 for the proposed relocation. To account for potential inflation, contingencies, and adjustments in scope as the project advances, staff recommends authorizing a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,566,537. The utility relocation will need to be completed prior to the initiation of construction which is expected in 2027. In order for FPL to commence with the detailed design of the proposed relocation, a deposit of \$730,545 is required at this time.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0911 Authorize entering into a facilities relocation agreement(s) with Florida Power & Light Company (FPL) for the design, relocation and removal of power transmission facilities within the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project (LRWRP), Flow way 2 C-18W Impoundment in an amount not to exceed \$7,566,537, including payment of a required deposit of \$730,545, for which dedicated funds (State Appropriations) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board Approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Adopted Budget. (Contract No. 4600005260)

[Resolution No. 2025-0911](#)

[Estimate Letter](#)

Discussion Agenda

25. Phase Two of the Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment and Recreation Area

Project (Staff contact, Jennifer Reynolds)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program (NEEPP), the Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment and Recreation Area (LKBSTA) Project, located in Okeechobee County, will remove Total Phosphorus (TP) loads from key contributing basins before they enter Lake Okeechobee.

In December 2021, the District entered into a Project Agreement with EIP Florida Water Quality, LLC, for the design, construction, operation, and land acquisition of the LKBSTA Project for an amount not to exceed \$300,000,000. In May of 2024, the Project Agreement was amended to expand the total project footprint from 3,400 acres to approximately 4,824.90 acres in Okeechobee County within which the LKBSTA Project components will be constructed and operated increasing the project benefits from approximately 12-15 metric tons of TP removed to 20-22 metric tons of TP removed per year. The land will be acquired for \$41,250,000, which is equal to the appraised value.

Phase One of the LKBSTA Project included all due diligence work to determine project viability as well as preparation of the preliminary design and necessary permit applications. Phase Two of the LKBSTA Project will include transferring project land to District ownership, completing the design, permitting and pre-construction services, construction and post-construction tasks, and operation of the project until turnover to the District occurs. Staff requests Governing Board approval to amend the Project Agreement with EIP Florida Water Quality, LLC, for Phase Two of the Project.

Recommended Action:

A. Resolution No. 2025-0912 Authorize an amendment to the Project Agreement with Ecosystem Investment Partners Florida Water Quality, LLC, for Phase Two of the Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment and Recreation Area (LKBSTA) Project in an amount not to exceed \$615,691,600, for which \$63,800,000 in dedicated funds (State Grant MN022), including funding for land acquisition, are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and subject to a grant amendment, and the remainder is subject to future DEP grant funding and Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600004527-A2)

B. Resolution No. 2025-0913 Authorize acquiring land interests containing 4,824.90 acres, more or less, for the Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment and Recreation Area Project in Okeechobee County, in the amount of \$41,250,000, plus associated costs, for which dedicated funds (State Grant MN022) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

C. Resolution No. 2025-0914 Advise the Florida Department of Environmental Protection of the proposed acquisition of land interests containing 4,824.90 acres, more or less, for the Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment and Recreation Area Project in Okeechobee County, and requesting the release of funds in the amount of \$41,250,000, and associated costs, from the dedicated funds (State Grant MN022) for the acquisition such land interests.

[A. Resolution No. 2025-0912](#)

[B. Resolution No. 2025-0913](#)
[C. Resolution No. 2025-0914](#)
[LKBSTA Location Map](#)

Technical Reports

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

Staff Reports

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

Draft Presentations and Project Updates

Agenda Item Background:

[26 Mitnik Armstrong Water and Ecological Conditions Report](#)
[CERP Report](#)
[NEEPP Report](#)

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.