

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the South Indian River Water Control District
Held on October 20, 2022**

The regular meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District was held on October 20, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Work Center, 15600 Jupiter Farms Road, Jupiter, Florida, and via Zoom video conferencing. Present in person were Supervisors John Meyer, John Jones, Tom Powell, Michael Howard, and Susan Kennedy. Also present in person were Charles Haas, treasurer; Karen Brandon, engineer; Mike Dillon, manager of operations; Seth Behn, attorney; Donna DeNinno, public information; and Jane Woodard, secretary. Four landowners were present in person. Two landowners were present via Zoom conferencing.

Mr. Meyer called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

It was announced that there are no results yet from the Supervisor of Elections as to our election for supervisors.

Mr. Meyer opened the floor to landowner comments. There were no questions or comments.

Mr. Howard made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Powell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Matt Gitkin, landowner, thanked the Board and staff for the way the recent storm was handled; the system performed well.

Ms. DeNinno presented the public information report. Ms. Kennedy is currently editing the District's fact sheet. Engineering has updated Chapters 7 and 8 of the Policies and Procedures manual, and the chapters are under review by the attorney. Chapters 9 and 10 are still being worked on by the engineer and attorney.

Mr. Haas presented the treasurer's report. He has reviewed the personnel policies and vacation accruals. After 15 years of service, personnel are eligible for 20 vacation days/year. He recommended adding additional levels: After 20 years of service, increase vacation days to 26 days/year, and, as in Mr. Dillon's position, add an executive level with 32 vacation days/year. **Mr. Meyer made a motion to approve the revised vacation policy. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

Mr. Dillon presented the manager of operations' report. He requested Board approval to remove several items from inventory that are considered obsolete, as well as a concrete saw that was reported as stolen. **Ms. Kennedy made a motion to declare these all these items obsolete and remove them from inventory. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.** Mr. Dillon then requested ratification of the purchase of a John Deere 6105 Boom which was scheduled to be replaced this year. **Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the purchase of the 6105 Boom. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

Mr. Dillon reported on the effects of Hurricane Ian in the District. Two weeks prior to the hurricane, the District had received 11" of rain, and then received 6.77" with Hurricane Ian. There were reports of breaches in roads and swales in Jupiter Farms. The maximum discharge through G52 was 270 cubic feet

per second. There were no signs of water reaching flood stage. By the next day, the canals were all at or below controlled elevations. Overall, the District's system performed as expected. Standing water in yards and roads disappeared within 24 hours. Any erosion was repaired. There were only three calls for grading. Mr. Meyer commented that the direction the District is headed looks good. The Board will continue to see what can be learned in Section 7 and applied to other parts of Jupiter Farms, and also look at improvements that can be made in Palm Beach Country Estates. Ms. Kennedy commented on the need to look at historic events such as Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. She suggested establishing a long-term work plan for areas known to be deficient and include this in the annual maintenance budget. She noted that some issues may need capital improvements. Ms. Brandon commented that Miami and Key Biscayne are revisiting their stormwater master plan to update for the effects of climate change and rainfall intensity.

Ms. Brandon presented the engineer's report. In Section 7, the clearing of vegetation from the easements has been completed. Eight of the 12 risers have been delivered. The project was re-advertised, and **two bids were received. Only one of the bids was determined responsive, from Johnson-Davis at \$305,650. A motion was made to accept the bid from Johnson-Davis, seconded and carried unanimously.** A quarterly progress report was submitted to the DEP. A payment request in the amount of \$64,800 for clearing and purchase of risers has been prepared.

Ms. Brandon reported on the Canal C project. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has requested a Waters of the United States form and site inspection.

Ms. Brandon also reported on the road paving petitions. She is working with the attorney and treasurer to prepare referendum documents. The initial estimate did not include engineering and administration. The estimate for 153rd Court North (4 parcels) is \$96,300 depending on terms and interest rate. The estimate for 160th Street North (2 parcels) is \$81,900.

Ms. Brandon presented exhibits on water quality sampling in response to recommendations for modifications to the District's monitoring program. The exhibits showed the current sampling regimen. Monitoring locations and costs were discussed. Metals, fecal coliform, E. coli and sucralose were discussed. Reducing metals monitoring to one location was discussed, as well as replacing fecal coliform monitoring with E coli, and monitoring sucralose at only one or two locations. After the presentation and discussion, Ms. Kennedy stated she was not comfortable making a decision on this issue at this time, and requested a written report with a map and graphs. She was concerned about having data to justify removing some of the testing and selecting monitoring locations. Mr. Howard was in agreement, stating there should be a reason for eliminating certain monitoring locations. Ms. Brandon stated the request from the DEP was to have more samplings of E. coli and she recommended this be started. **After further discussion, the Board agreed to table this matter.**

Mr. Behn presented the attorney's report. He is still working on the Policies and Procedures Manual and expects to have it in final form by the next Board meeting.

Mr. Dillon reported on Palm Beach Country Estates landowner comments of water in Canal B that backflows to the west during heavy rainfall, having a negative impact on 87th Trail. Depending on how saturated the area is, within 24 hours the water recedes but this issue keeps coming up. Mr. Dillon has looked at widening the Canal B weir structure by the Turnpike. He questioned if the notch in the weir is

widened, would it increase flow, and discussed this with the engineer. He presented this issue for Board and staff discussion. Ms. Brandon noted that modeling could be performed to see the impact if the weir is widened. She would also want to look at the topography of the property being impacted. A change in the weir structure would require modification of the original permit. Mr. Powell commented that the east side floods every time it rains. The area is holding more water now and it is unlikely that South Florida Water Management District would approve a change in the permit. Mr. Howard suggested first checking the elevations for the area. Ms. Kennedy stated the Board should provide some type of answer to the landowner. Mr. Jones noted there are three main canals that drain Palm Beach Country Estates to the east and the structures work well. After further discussion, the Board agreed to have the engineer review the topography of the affected area before making a decision. A suggestion was made to establish an incentive plan for landowners to have ponds on their property for storage purposes. Mr. Jones asked the engineer to review this suggestion. It was noted that after a rainfall, water is covering more of the roads and is in the swales. However, the roads are passable and there is no standing water in the yards or in any of the homes.

There was no further business to come before the Board at this time. Mr. Powell made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNED.