

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
of the South Indian River Water Control District  
Held on May 18, 2023**

The regular meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District was held on May 18, 2023, 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 Michael Howard, John Meyer, and John Jones Susan Kennedy was present via Zoom conferencing. Also present in person were Charles Haas, treasurer; Mike Dillon, manager of operations; Karen Brandon, engineer; William Capko, attorney; Donna DeNinno, public information; and Jane Woodard, secretary. Two landowners were present in person. Two landowners were present via Zoom conferencing.

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

Mr. Meyer made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Howard opened the floor to landowner discussion. Mr. Troy Bard, landowner on 91st Terrace North, was concerned about the retention of vegetation affected by the maintenance project along C-14. Mr. Howard assured him the vegetation will be preserved unless it affects the works of the District. He noted that any time an area is disturbed, there will likely be some erosion, but the plan is always to keep the area stabilized.

Ms. DeNinno presented the public information report. Chapters 7 and 8 of the Policies & Procedures Manual have been reviewed by the Committee, incorporated into the Manual, and forwarded to the staff for further review.

Mr. Haas presented the treasurer's report. A draft of the budget has been forwarded to the Budget Committee to review.

Mr. Dillon presented the Manager of Operations report. The District has received over 6" of rain this reporting period. As part of the District's canal cleaning, Australian pines, acacias, and Brazilian peppers are to be removed. Three bids were received for this project and Mr. Dillon awarded the bid to Salgado Tree Trimming. They will work with the landowners to keep any native trees. However, some trees can create damage during a storm or hurricane, and it will be best to remove them now. The total distance for the clearing is less than one-half mile. It was noted this involves a group of approximately 50 normal sized trees, a group of approximately 100 small trees, and another cluster of about 30 trees. Mr. Dillon assured the landowners that he will have someone with the contractor at all times. He also noted the roots will not be taken out as they help to stabilize the canal banks.

Ms. Brandon presented the engineer's report. Regarding Section 7, a check for the final Request for Reimbursement has been received from the Department of Environmental Protection. She is still waiting for the final as-built information from Johnson-Davis on the four additional culverts. Three of the elevations were off so the surveyor is going to recheck them. She noted that all of them were a little on the high side so they can cut a notch to correct them.

Ms. Brandon reported that the Department of Environmental Protection has still not made a decision regarding the permit status for Canal C. The District has received the grant agreement for review and execution.

Regarding water quality monitoring, Ms. Brandon's staff reached out to see what laboratory Loxahatchee River District is using for Sucralose testing and it was found they ship to a lab in California. The other laboratory (Pace Analytical Services) is in-state but not certified. She will obtain more information and pricing before making a decision.

Ms. Brandon reported that her draft of the Engineer's Report for the 20th Plan of Improvements was forwarded to the Board for review. A proposal has been requested for a roadway survey as a base for construction plans. Ms. Brandon recommended approval of the Plan of Improvements. The Board had no questions of the engineer and **Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the Plan and proceed with the project. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.** Mr. Capko noted a public hearing will be scheduled to coincide with the next Board meeting.

Ms. Brandon reported on the engineering budget estimate for the stormwater modeling project in Palm Beach Country Estates. Two survey quotes were just received and, due to the difference between them, she will be reviewing the quotes with the two survey firms.

Mr. Howard inquired about a permit involving Black Diamond Contracting and Florida Power & Light. Ms. Brandon will suggest a field meeting with them next week.

Mr. Capko presented the attorney's report. He discussed pending legislation including the requirement of four hours of ethics training yearly for the Board members. He also discussed legislation regarding unlawful dumping on the District's property or right-of-way. The District will be required to report the unlawful dumping to a law enforcement agency. A third bill authorizes water control districts to designate certain roads for golf cart use, provided the county approves. Mr. Capko noted the District does not have traffic control authority and cannot set speed limits.

Mr. Dillon discussed a situation involving four landowners who are concerned about traffic and access to their property along Canal 4. They have asked if they can use the District's access instead of Randolph Siding. Mr. Dillon has informed them that equestrian traffic only will be allowed, but if there are any complaints about All Terrain Vehicle traffic, this will be shut down again.

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

ADJOURNED.