



South Indian River Water Control District™

Established 1923 • A Florida Special District
15600 Jupiter Farms Road • Jupiter, Florida 33478-9399 • (561) 747-0550 • Fax (561) 747-9182

www.sirwcd.org
sirwcd@sirwcd.org

Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting & Zoom Video Conference

May 15, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.
District Work Center
15600 Jupiter Farms Rd., Jupiter, FL 33478

Board Meeting Agenda

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Consent Agenda
 - A) Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
 - B) Approval of Warrant List
 - C) Discussion of Rescheduling or Combining June Board Meeting
- 3) Landowner Items
- 4) Public Information Report
 - A) Website Update
- 5) Treasurer's Report
- 6) Executive Director's Report
 - A) Warning Letters to Landowners Regarding District Easements Update
 - B) Maintenance Update of Turnpike Canals & Palm Beach Country Estates Outfall
 - C) Trailwood Community Update
 - D) Solid Waste Authority Update
 - E) Approval of Professional Staff Agreement for Public Information Officer
- 7) Supervisor of Operations Report
- 8) Engineer's Report
 - A) Canal C Project Update
 - B) 20th Plan of Improvement Update
 - C) Busch Wildlife Update
 - D) Water Quality Update
- 9) Attorney's Report
- 10) Old Business
- 11) New Business
- 12) Adjourn

Public Information Monthly Report May 2025

TO: Board of Supervisors
South Indian River Water Control District

FROM: Dick Gruenwald Associates
District Public Information Specialists

News releases/Notices were sent out to local newspapers and community publications:

- 1) Monthly Board of Supervisors Meeting (May 15, 2025) release
- 2) The District is Seeking to Fill Two Entry-level Laborer Positions release

The following items were updated or added to the website:

- 1) Copy changes on Latest News, Statistics, Current Projects, and Culverts
- 2) The District is Seeking to Fill Two Entry-level Laborer Positions
- 3) Monthly Meeting (Mar. 20, 2025) minutes
- 4) Attachments to Sep. 2024, Jan. 2025, and Mar. 2025 minutes
- 5) Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting (May 15) information and Zoom registration invitation
 - Agenda, Staff Reports and Slide Presentation

Attended monthly Board meeting on April 17, 2025, at District office and Teams Meeting on April 22, 2025.

Remediated 33 pages of information provided by District landowners for attachment to Sep. 2024, Jan. 2025, and Mar. 2025 meeting minutes.

We have reviewed analytics for the existing District website for the last 12 months. The number of daily visits ranged from a low of 190 to a high of 304. Most popular downloads are Board Meeting Agendas and Staff Reports, Minutes, and Board Meeting Presentations.

We are starting on a spring newsletter that will include Mr. Fazio's Certified District Manager certification, Safety Council Awards, Canal C project, 20th Plan of Improvement, C-706 "Outfall Canal" and Turnpike Canal tree and vegetation removal project, Update to Driveway Culvert Replacement Program, Hurricane preparation, and Family Day photos.

We worked with Mr. Kennedy and Ms. Rustin of Lewis, Longman and Walker to amend and restate Dick Gruenwald Associates' professional services agreement with the District. The original 1988 agreement was last updated in 1995, and many new services have been added over the last 30 years. Mr. Kennedy provided a copy of the agreement to the Board for review and consideration.

After discussion at an earlier Teams meeting, we completed a comprehensive review of the existing District website in preparation for the development of a new ADA accessible website. An overview was then prepared for committee and staff review of any needed updates and revisions to current content, potential new content, and compliance with statutory requirements. A navigation outline and current content on all pages of the website was prepared and disseminated to the team. We updated some content and verified/updated all external links on the site from an accessibility standpoint. Staff, the Executive

Director, Mr. Howard, and Mr. Meyer are currently reviewing the overview. **We have received some comments back and have implemented them while awaiting additional staff comments.**

On March 13, 2025, we attended a Teams meeting where a Standard Operating Procedure was discussed for handling permit-related emails. This will provide data for potential new forms for the website such as permits, work orders, inspection requests, etc. In addition, we have already discussed, and it has been approved by the board, to do the necessary surveys and work to create a GIS mapping account and eventually provide a link from the website.

We are continuing to work with the District Engineer on a Public Comment Form that is integrated into the Geographic Information System mapping for the District. The form includes contact information, the issue or concern details, comments, and the issue/comment type: General, Drainage, Roadway, Solid Waste Authority Damage and Other. It also will allow for the ability to upload images of the issue, as well as documents. In addition, there is input for the location of the issue. Suggested changes are being made to the form and will be embedded into the website once it has been approved.

We also plan to take new photographs throughout the District for use on the new site. We hope to have the new site up and running by the end of June/July.

We are continuing discussions with two potential service providers – CivicPlus and Streamline. Both companies offer the creation and hosting of government ADA-accessible websites. CivicPlus just recently switched from Drupal server-based hosting to the Amazon Webhosting Service cloud platform and content managing system. Streamline has a propriety platform. We have just received updated prices from both, and while they are lower than previous estimates, they are both quite a bit higher than our existing website hosting costs. This information has been provided to Mr. Kennedy and the committee for consideration.

The premier of the Drainage in the District Video was shown at the Annual Landowners' Meeting in September 2022, and links to the You-Tube video were provided to community social media. **The video has received 686 views, 13 likes, and 4 subscribers as of May 7, 2025.** The video has also been run on Jupiter Farms Resident's social media a number of times, which has increased views.

We continue to work with Mr. Howard, Ms. Kennedy, the Executive Director, and Supervisor of Operations on a regular basis. We review and monitor print and online media for all District-related stories articles on roads, drainage, and other issues of interest in Palm Beach County and Florida, as well as nationally, then prepare and distribute material to supervisors and members of the staff via e-mail.



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Memorandum

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Executive Director
SUBJECT: Report for April 10, 2025 through May 6, 2025
DATE: May 6, 2025

Policies and Procedures

The process to move the 457(b) funds to the State of Florida's Deferred Compensation Plan has begun and both the Florida League of Cities and the Florida Department of Financial Services are cooperatively working on the movement of the Plan. Once employees sign up with one of the three Investment Providers, the Florida Department of Financial Services will complete the "Rollover" paperwork to have the funds transferred into the Investment Provider selected by each participating employee. It will not be a bulk transfer of funds to the new provider. It will be individual co-provider transfers/rollovers.

Administrative

- A) The financial audit is currently ongoing.
- B) The District has developed a process to have "Warning Letters" served by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office to landowners that have:
 - a. Encroachments into the District's easements – Any object, structural or non-structural, within existing South Indian River Water Control District rights-of-way above, below, or at ground level, that does not constitute a District facility or a District permitted facility
 - b. Driveway culverts that require maintenance or replacement
 - c. Activities and structures that require, but do not have a District permit, or are deemed by the District Engineer to be non-compliant or differ with District issued permits, including utilities
 - d. Other situations as directed by the District Engineer, Executive Director or District AttorneyThe "Warning Letters" describe the circumstances, timelines, options, consequences, and financial implications to the recipient landowner.
- C) The Office Administrator is working on the transition of the District office to a better-quality, less-costly internet and telephone provider.

Outreach

The Executive Director participated in the May 8th Palm Beach County Estates Landowners Meeting.

Human Resource Management

The Executive Director, the Supervisor of Operations, and the Office Administrator are continuing to draft and refine updates to the Employee handbook. The draft document will be shared with the Policy Committee prior to going to the Board of Supervisors. The current focus is on ensuring that the relevant historical Human Resource Management policy memorandums are included in the document.

Infrastructure and Equipment

A) The C-706 “Outfall Canal” and Turnpike Canal Tree and Vegetation Removal Project

The work is part of needed maintenance on District rights-of-way to ensure that regional canals function optimally during a storm or hurricane event. The C-706 Tree and Vegetation Removal Project is intended to ensure the C-706 and a 2.5-mile section of Florida Department of Transportation’s Turnpike Authority canal between South Florida Water Management District’s C-18 canal and Donald Ross Road on both the West and East side canals can provide adequate flood protection for residents in Palm Beach Country Estates. The canals are not connected to the C-18 canal and must convey water to Interstate 95, then under the Interstate to the C-706 canal, and finally discharge into the Loxahatchee Estuary downstream of the S-46 Structure.

Due to logistics, funding, and permit requirements, the South Indian River Water Control District has initiated the land clearing effort over two phases. For both phases, after the vegetation is cleared, the District’s contractor will conduct an initial herbicide treatment of the areas on both sides of the Turnpike and then conduct monthly inspections and “touch-up” treatment to manage the vegetation. District staff will also conduct boom mowing as needed to keep the area ready to convey maximum flows.

A 1984 agreement between the Florida Department of Transportation and the South Indian River Water Control District made the District fully responsible for the stormwater management downstream of the Palm Beach Country Estates community adjacent to the Turnpike and Interstate 95. The agreement was necessary to drain the Palm Beach Country Estates site for residential development.

Phase One (Fiscal Year 2024-25)

The West Turnpike canal will be cleared of all obstructions between the C-18 canal and Donald Ross Road. The work will be completed with competitively-bid contractors using heavy equipment to grind wood vegetation from the Turnpike fence, eastward to the east toe of the canal. The C-706 “Outfall Canal” levees will be cleared of woody vegetation by District staff, starting from the point of discharge at Indiantown Road and moving westward to Interstate 95. The project’s Phase One began in April 2025 and is expected to be completed by July.

Phase Two (Fiscal Year 2026-27)

The East Turnpike canal will be cleared of all obstructions along the East Turnpike canal from the C-18 canal to Donald Ross Road. The work will include the design, permitting, and construction of two features. First, culverts will be installed across the eastern Turnpike canal to gain access to the large trees and conduct the clearing. Second, a platform will be constructed adjacent to the single culvert under Interstate 95. The platform will allow heavy equipment access to keep the culvert clear of debris if it dams or obstructs the culvert.

The District will complete the design and submit the two required permit applications to the Florida Department of Transportation in Fiscal year 2025-26 to allow for the culvert and platform construction.

The District will remove any trees remaining from Phase One within its C-706 right-of-way on both sides of the canal east of Interstate 95.

- B) The Canal C construction/realignment has resulted in roughly 230 dump truck loads of shell rock material being stockpiled on the District’s easement line with the Turnpike in Palm Beach Country Estates. Starting

in May 2025, the shell rock material will be distributed to the dirt roads throughout the District by staff and contractors. The trucking costs will be charged to either the East or West side depending on where it is used. The canal work also resulted in organic spoil that is not suitable for roads. That organic spoil will be placed on canal levees by District staff as needed to meet or exceed the required engineered elevations.

- C) The Trailwood Community Homeowners Association gravity discharge pipe into the District's Canal 2 (C-2) has been installed. Trailwood provided the District with a temporary construction easement to do the work on their portion of the site.

The District emphasizes that the completed work is a maintenance activity and will NOT provide additional or increased flood protection for the Trailwood community. Review of the historic records indicate that the Trailwood site was constructed at elevations below what the District Engineer suggested prior to it being constructed. The Trailwood area requires a stormwater pump station to provide flood protection for storm events that do not allow gravity flow discharge. That discharge pump is owned, maintained, and operated by the Trailwood Homeowners Association.

- D) The vegetation clam shell damage caused by Solid Waste Authority contractors at over 1,200 locations along roadsides within South Indian River Water Control District is still in negotiation and Supervisor Susan Kennedy (no kin to the Executive Director) has taken a lead role by offering to reach out to the Palm Beach County Commission.

The damage destabilizes roads, creates erosion, and has an adverse impact on water quality.

- E) The Geographical Information Systems instrumentation has been introduced as an option to the culvert replacement team to enhance their ability to identify elevations to ensure driveway culverts are installed to engineering elevation guidance within the District.

William C. Kennedy

William Chad Kennedy
Executive Director



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Supervisor of Operations Report – May 15, 2025

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Supervisor of Operations
SUBJECT: Report for April 18, 2025, to May 15, 2025
DATE: May 8, 2025

Administrative

- 1) Attended the Solid Waste Authority Annual Hurricane Debris Management meeting.
- 2) The Supervisor of Operations gave an update/report at the Jupiter Farms Residents meeting on May 13, 2025.
- 3) Employees Steve Sears and Ryan Reeves attended the Florida Stormwater, Erosion, and Sedimentation Control Inspector Training and Certification Program on May 13th and 14th.
- 4) On-site meetings and phone conversations were held with Landowners related to maintenance activities throughout the District.
- 5) The Mechanic's maintenance log was reviewed for May.
- 6) Employee Philip Walton was presented with a Special Recognition Award at the May Supervisors Board Meeting for recognition of his outstanding commitment and dedication to workplace safety in responding to an emergency situation and successfully extinguishing a fire on April 29th at the District work center.

Water Control

- 1) The District received 0.18 inches of rain in this reporting period.
- 2) The District rehabilitated a drainage outfall on 141st Lane North, east of 69th Drive North in Palm Beach Country Estates. This included tree removals, a swale cleaning, and bank restoration/stabilization.
- 3) The District completed Hurricane Milton debris removal in Jupiter Farms Canals. This work was originally contracted out and then funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Currently, these funds are on hold by the Federal Government.
- 4) Swale elevation, surveying, and swale cleaning operations continue as dry conditions allow.
- 5) Crews installed eight driveway culverts, prepared swales for two new construction culvert installations, inspected one new construction culvert, and installed one temporary construction culvert.

- 6) Crews continue to inspect Landowner driveway culverts for replacement and drainage swales for maintenance.
- 7) Crews continue to inspect and replace inoperable drainage culverts.
- 8) Crews continue to shoot elevations of existing swales and pipes throughout the District to collect data for future projects.

Road Maintenance

- 1) Road grading is still scheduled weekly for shell rock roads. Grader operators are authorized to do single passes during dry conditions. A single pass combats corrugation (wash boarding), while maintaining road stability.
- 2) Road pull-ins are postponed due to dry conditions.
- 3) Surplus shell rock from the Canal C realignment project is being spread at low locations on District roads.
- 4) The Supervisor of Operations and Executive Director consulted with a paving professional to discuss the permanent surface road maintenance and repair schedule.

Dustin Fazio

Dustin Fazio
Supervisor of Operations

Memorandum

To	South Indian River Water Control District Board of Supervisors
CC	William Chad Kennedy, Executive Director
Subject	Engineer's Report for April
From	Karen D. Brandon, PE, District Engineer
Board Meeting Date	May 15, 2025

The following is a summary of activities and communications that were of significance during the past month. Updated information is presented in **bold**:

I. **Current Capital Improvements And Other District Projects**

- A. Staff has executed a contract for the surveying of Canal C. Survey has been obtained. Staff prepared design cross sections and preliminary plans for the permit applications to expand and relocate Canal C to allow for maintenance on both sides of the canal. Staff also investigated the ownership of Canal C and has attended a meeting with South Florida Water Management District to discuss permitting. Per Board direction, staff submitted a Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative grant application for this project and was ranked on August 9, 2021. Staff submitted the House of Representatives forms for submission to the Florida Legislation for consideration. Notification was received March 9, 2022, that Legislative funding was approved for the Canal C project in the amount of \$312,500 for Fiscal Year 23. Staff is also researching the US Army Corps 404 Permitting and the delegation to Florida Department of Environmental Protection. It is anticipated that the project will qualify for an exemption for stormwater maintenance. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has confirmed that as long as there are no wetland impacts that are in Waters of the United States then a 404/Federal authorization will not be required. Staff submitted a letter to Florida Department of Environmental Protection requesting confirmation of qualification as an exemption or "No Permit Required". The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has requested completion of a Waters of the United States form followed by a site inspection for verification. Staff was notified by Florida Department of Environmental Protection this week that we have been assigned a new permit reviewer. A site inspection with the new reviewer has been requested. After requesting a site inspection with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection reviewer, we were informed on January 26, 2023, that our application has been assigned to yet another new reviewer (our third). We have requested a site inspection with the new reviewer.

A site inspection was held with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit reviewer on April 4, 2023. The reviewer, David White, was still unsure as to which permit route – No Permit Required, Exemption or General Permit will be required. He will review historic aerials and discuss with his manager. He also requested the fill quantity up to the top of bank. He now has a much better understanding of the project.

Staff has followed up with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection reviewer via email to request Florida Department of Environmental Protection's decision on the permit required. On June 21, 2023, staff received an email from the reviewer stating that he has reviewed the Waters of the United States information, and the additional historic aerals provided and will be drafting a No Permit Required letter for review and signature by his management.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection Grants office forwarded Agreement Forms and Insurance Requirements which are necessary for Florida Department of Environmental Protection to draft the grant agreement. These forms and the Certificate of Insurance were submitted to Florida Department of Environmental Protection in early December 2022.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection Grants office is currently working to finalize the Grant Agreement. Arlene Acevedo, has been assigned as the Project Manager for this Agreement.

South Indian River Water Control District received the Grant Funding Agreement from Florida Department of Environmental Protection for execution on May 2, 2023.

The Grant Funding Agreement was fully executed on May 18, 2023, and the first quarterly Progress Report was submitted to Florida Department of Environmental Protection on July 17, 2023. The Bid Documents are being prepared to advertise the project for bidding.

The construction contract was advertised for bids on November 19, 2023, with bids due on December 21, 2023. We have contacted four contractors and emailed bid documents. We will follow-up with phone calls as well.

Two bids were received on December 21, 2023. The bids came in very high. Staff has discussed options with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Grant Manager. A meeting is scheduled with the low bidder on January 16th to discuss reducing the scope of work.

A meeting was held with the low bidder on January 16th to discuss reducing the scope of work. They were interested in doing a portion of the work to allow the District to utilize the grant funding. At this time we are awaiting their response.

The low bidder, Rio-Bak, is interested in performing one-third of the work. Staff is working with the Manager to decide which segment gives the District the best value. The canal water levels remain abnormally high for this time of year. The contractor will need to wait until conditions dry out.

Staff has reviewed the canal sections and cut/fill quantities and determined the one third segment to move forward with. Rio-Bak is pricing out their cost based on the original bid unit costs for District review by April 19, 2024.

Rio-Bak submitted their revised bid. Staff has adjusted the scope slightly and reduced the contingency from 10% to 5%. The revised documents have been sent to Rio-Bak. Once they are signed, staff will proceed with issuance of a Notice of Award. Rio-Bak is finalizing their revised bid. Staff anticipates requesting award of the contract at the June Board meeting.

The Contract was awarded at the June Board meeting. The contract documents have been sent to Rio-Bak for their execution.

Rio-Bak has requested that the Notice To Proceed be pushed back until conditions are drier. The contract documents have been fully executed.

A Pre-construction meeting was held with Rio-Bak on October 24, 2024. It was agreed to postpone the Notice To Proceed until after the first of the year. The construction is anticipated to take 2-3 months, so it should be completed well before the Grant end date of June 30, 2025.

AECOM reached out to Rio-Bak on January 7, 2025, to get their scheduled start date. Rio-Bak agreed to provide a date early next week so that South Indian River Water Control District can issue the Notice to Proceed.

A pre-construction meeting was held on site on January 30th, with the contractor, Rio-Bak. The Notice to Proceed was issued for February 3, 2025. Rio-Bak has mobilized some equipment and is in the process of filing an National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction Permit and temporary dewatering permit from South Florida Water Management District.

Rio-Bak is approximately 35% complete on the project. They anticipate being substantially complete in early April.

Rio-Bak is approximately 55% complete on the project. They now anticipate being substantially complete by the end of April. Rio-Bak has submitted Pay Request No. 1. They have also submitted a Change Order for some additional culvert extensions, which will be covered by the Contingency.

Rio-Bak is approximately 85% complete on the project. They now anticipate being substantially complete by the middle of May, with final completion by the middle of June.

- B. The funding for the 20th Plan of Improvements has been received from the landowners. The next step is for the Engineer to prepare the Amendment for the 20th Plan of Improvements.

The draft 20th Plan of Improvements is being reviewed by legal, the Treasurer and staff. The draft Plan of Improvements will be submitted for Board consideration at the May Board meeting. The 20th Plan of Improvements was approved by the Board at the June meeting.

Legacy Survey, who proposed the lower price for the survey work, has been delayed in uploading their documentation required to get approved by our Procurement Dept as a subcontractor. We spoke with Legacy most recently on August 8, and they were working on the submittal. As soon as they are approved in our system, a purchase order will be issued to Legacy so that the survey work can proceed.

Legacy Survey has been approved in AECOM's Procurement system, the survey Task Order has been sent to Legacy for execution, and the survey work is tentatively scheduled for October 18, 2023, weather permitting.

Legacy Survey provided the survey data on October 31, 2023. The construction plan sheets are in the process of being set up for the engineer to prepare the design.

The bid documents have been drafted and the engineer is in the process of finalizing the design. As the contract documents are finalized, a permit application will be submitted to Palm Beach County.

The project was advertised for bids on February 4th. Bids are due on March 7, 2024.

The bid opening was held on March 7, 2024. Only one bid was received for the project and it was considerably higher than the original estimate. Staff is in discussions with the contractor to see if they are willing to negotiate a lower cost.

Since only one bid was received, the project was advertised for bid again on March 31, 2024, with bids due on May 1, 2024.

The bid opening was held on May 1, 2024. Two bids were received, which are higher than the bid received on March 7. Staff has been in discussions with the landowner who filed the petition and the District Attorney.

Staff received a request from the landowner who filed the petition to reduce the specification requirements for the road base thickness and the amount of driveway restoration required, in order to reduce the cost of the project.

A conference call was held on September 26, 2024, with the landowner who filed the petition to discuss the engineering and survey fees to date. The 20th Plan of Improvement is on hold pending the Referendum process for the future Plan of Improvement.

The petitioners paid the additional funds needed to the District on February 10, 2025, in order for the project to move forward to construction. Wynn and Sons, the low bidder, is agreeable to signing the contract. A Notice of Award for the construction contract is on the February 20th Board agenda.

The Notice of Award was approved at the February 20th Board meeting. The Contractor, Wynn and Sons, is in the process of executing the documents and securing his Payment and Performance Bonds. A Notice to Proceed is anticipated to be issued for the middle of April.

The Notice to Proceed was issued for April 14, 2025. A Pre-construction meeting was held on April 8, 2025. The contractor will begin with the construction survey.

The Contractor has performed initial grading of the road, prepared driveways, and had density tests taken on April 29th. A site inspection was held on April 30th. The Contractor anticipates being substantially complete by the end of May.

- C. The Drainage Study for Palm Beach Country Estates was approved at the June Board meeting. The first task is to complete the survey work, which has been delayed in getting started.

Legacy Survey has been approved in AECOM's Procurement system, the survey Task Order has been sent to Legacy for execution and Legacy is in the process of scheduling the work. Once started, the work should take two months to complete.



Legacy Survey began the survey field work on November 20, 2023, and the final survey data is expected to be delivered by the middle of February.

Legacy Survey is working to complete the survey deliverables, including the canal cross sections. They are expected to be done next week. Legacy Survey has submitted the topographic survey, and AECOM has begun delineation of the subbasins. The next step will be to develop the other basin input data.

Work is being finalized on the Palm Beach Country Estates hydraulic model. Final Quality Assurance/Quality Control checks and calibration are being performed while the report is being drafted.

The stage data to be used in the calibration has been requested from the Town of Jupiter multiple times, however, has not been received. AECOM is following up again this week. The report has been drafted for internal review with the calibration section pending.

- D. The Staff is working on updating both the Water Control Plan and the Public Facilities Report to include improvements that have been constructed.

An internal meeting is scheduled on January 13, 2025 to discuss the history, current tax structure, legal requirements and the engineering process for the Water Control Plan.

Drafts of the updated Water Control Plan and the Public Facilities Report are being finalized for distribution and review and comments.

The updated Water Control Plan and Public Facilities Report have been submitted for review by the South Florida Water Management District. The District – Florida Department Of Transportation maintenance agreement will be added as a Public Facilities Report exhibit.

The South Florida Water Management District has 60 days to review the Water Control Plan and Public Facilities Report.

As of May 8, 2025, no comments have been received from South Florida Water Management District.

II. Operation And Maintenance

- A. Staff continues to advance the development and buildout of the Geographic Information System utilizing ArcGIS Pro and the associated Field Collector application. All necessary hardware has been received and configured for use. A purchase order has been issued to Environmental Systems Research Institute for the required software licenses. AECOM has been actively compiling essential data, including surveys, as-built drawings, and permit information. Once the software licenses are activated and fully operational, staff will begin uploading the compiled data into the Geographic Information System platform for District use.
- B. Natural Resources Conservation Service Grant Application for Hurricane Damage – A meeting was held on November 1, 2024, with Natural Resources Conservation Service staff at their office in Royal Palm Beach. A draft Damage Survey Report was prepared and presented at the meeting to obtain submitted on November 8, 2024. A few additional comments were received and addressed on November 21, 2024. Once the application has been “approved” by the local Natural Resources Conservation Service staff, it will go to the State Engineer for final approval prior to formal submittal as a request for funding.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service confirmed on February 14, 2025, that the funds approved for the District have been frozen indefinitely through the Presidential executive order.

- C. On November 14th, staff conducted a field visit with the Executive Director and Supervisor of Operations to review site conditions for the design of pre-storm drainage control structures at the west ends of Canal C and Canal E. These structures will improve the operations of the Palm Beach Country Estates drainage network by enabling South Indian River Water Control District to direct water westward through existing connections to the South Florida Water Management District C-18 Canal during pre-storm drawdown, assuming South Florida Water Management District lowers stages in the C-18 Canal, ahead of a major storm. This will provide additional storage capacity within S South Indian River Water Control District's system and enhance stormwater conveyance during the event.

Staff is currently working on the design of the control structures and has been coordinating with Contech on the control structure gate and walkway.

Staff is preparing a design memorandum describing work completed to date for future use, should South Indian River Water Control District decide to move forward with these structures.

Staff is finalizing the draft design memorandum for submittal to the District for review and comments.

The draft design memorandum is undergoing internal Quality Control review and editing.

A conference call was held with Jesse Markle with South Florida Water Management District to discuss whether a permit will be required for internal structures and culverts within South Indian River Water Control District. He said a riser and culvert structure to lower the stage in Canal E to the west would require a General Permit. A proposed operation schedule should be submitted indicating what stages upstream and downstream would be experienced for the flashboards to be pulled and under what conditions the boards would be put back in. All operations would be coordinated with and subject to approval by South Florida Water Management District's Operations Control Center.

- D. **There has not been a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Steering Committee Meeting since last month's report. The next scheduled meeting is June 18, 2025, depending on topics requiring discussion.**
- E. Staff continues to monitor and participate in the activities of the Loxahatchee River Ecosystem Management Committee, the Loxahatchee River Initiative, and the Loxahatchee River Management Coordinating Council.

Staff assisted the Executive Director with preparation of a PowerPoint presentation regarding a grant application for easement surveys and Geographic Information System services for the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative meeting on August 5, 2024.

Staff attended the April 7, 2025, Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative meeting where the District's Executive Director presented a vision for improving the District's operational flexibility for water management to benefit water conservation, flood protection and potential benefits to the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River.

- F. Staff met with representatives from the Turnpike Authority and Florida Department of Transportation on April 7, 2025, to discuss maintenance of the canal/ditches on the east and west sides off the Turnpike. Topics discussed included the importance of clearing the canals and outfall route for flood protection and access for District maintenance staff.

As a follow-up to the meeting on April 7, 2025, the Turnpike Authority's consultant forwarded some old as-builts from 1955 and a typical section of the proposed Turnpike widening. These plans will not be sufficient to design a culvert crossing for South Indian River Water Control access on the east side of the Turnpike or for designing a platform on the west end of the box culvert under I-95. Therefore, as a next step, a survey quote has been requested from Legacy Survey.

- G. Staff had a conference call with South Florida Water Management District staff members Beth Kacvinsky and Jeff Buck on February 10, 2022, to discuss the G-92 Agreement between South Indian River Water Control District and South Florida Water Management District for operation of the structure. Beth will discuss with South Florida Water Management District operations staff and others to initiate the process of developing an updated agreement. Staff received an email with flow graphs for G-92 on March 9, 2022, for review. An update on the status of internal discussions at South Florida Water Management District regarding a new G-92 agreement was requested on March 11, 2022.

Staff attended the Palm Beach County Water Resources Task Force Meeting on March 31, 2022, and had the opportunity to speak with Jennifer Reynolds, who is the Director of Ecosystem Restoration and Capital Projects for South Florida Water Management District. The South Florida Water Management District is proposing to amend consumptive use permitting criteria to protect water made available by the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project. This water resource protection is a prerequisite for the South Florida Water Management District signing a Project Partnership Agreement with the US Army Corps of Engineers for the Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project by September 2022. Ms. Reynolds is not authorized to begin drafting agreements, such as the new G-92 Agreement, until after the rule is final. Staff reached out to Jeff Buck on December 2, 2022, to request an update as to when South Florida Water Management District will be ready to start discussing a new G-92 Agreement.

Staff had a conference call with Jeff Buck, Adnan Mirza (Operations), and Matt Alexander (Lead Engineer for Flow-way 2) of South Florida Water Management District on January 6, 2023. South Florida Water Management District is currently working on the C-18 West Impoundment design, and it is scheduled to take 2-3 years. No discharge through the G-92 structure is proposed during rainfall events. However, there may be the need for emergency releases from the reservoir. Staff explained that keeping the stages in the 13-13.5 ft National Geodetic Vertical Datum range in the C-14 Canal works best for South Indian River Water Control District. The C-14, C-4, C-5 and C-6 Canals are the most impacted when South Florida Water Management District discharges through the G-92 structure. The stages in the South Indian River Water Control District canals come up very quickly, especially when the ground is saturated. For now, South Florida Water Management District recommended that South Indian River Water Control District continue to work with Operations. More detailed modeling information will become available during the C-18 W Impoundment design process. South Indian River Water Control District can coordinate with Jeff Buck and Matt Alexander.

Staff requested an update from Jeff Buck on August 10, 2023. A detailed update was received from Jeff Buck and included in the Annual Report of the Engineer.

- H. Staff was contacted by the Palm Beach County Building Dept regarding the Policies and Procedures Manual for Regulation of Lot Filling and Grading Activity. As a result of comments from both homeowners and contractors, they are considering making some changes. The Engineer for Indian Trail Improvement District is going to suggest some edits based on the Village of Wellington's policy and send them to South Indian River Water Control District to review.

The Engineer for Indian Trail Improvement District forwarded some suggested edits based on the Village of Wellington's policy to South Indian River Water Control District, and the revisions are under review.

Doug Wise, the Building Director for Palm Beach County, requested that South Indian River Water Control District attend a Palm Beach County Workshop on July 9, 2024. The workshop included a discussion on Stormwater and Floodplain Management.

- I. We continue to receive, review, and comment on various permit applications for projects to be constructed within the District. Additionally, we attend site meetings and inspections related to permit applications and landowner requests.
- J. We continue to provide engineering assistance to the Executive Director, as needed, on operation and maintenance items, as well as landowner requests, utility requests, and inquiries from other governmental entities on issues that involve engineering support.

Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me for more detailed information on any of the above subjects.