



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

Budget Public Hearing & Board of Supervisors Meeting & Zoom Video Conference

August 15, 2024 – 6:00 pm
District Work Center
15600 Jupiter Farms Rd., Jupiter, FL 33478

Budget Public Hearing Agenda

- 1) Pledge of Allegiance
- 2) Presentation of the Budget
- 3) Landowner Comments
- 4) Adjourn

Board Meeting Agenda

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Consent Agenda
 - A) Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
 - B) Approval of Warrant List
- 3) Landowner Items
- 4) Public Information Report
- 5) Treasurer's Report
 - A) Finalization of 2024/2025 District Budget
 - B) Verizon Tower
- 6) Executive Director's Report
 - A) Digital Easement Mapping of Jupiter Farms Update
 - B) Vegetation Management Contract Update
- 7) Supervisor of Operations Report
 - A) Rocky Pines Overlay Update
 - B) Sale of Surplus Equipment
 - C) Solid Waste Authority Update
 - D) Update About Road Issues

- 8) Engineer's Report
 - A) Finalization of Palm Beach Country Estates Paving/No Paving Petitions
 - B) Canal C Project
 - C) Asphalt Overlay Update
 - D) Palm Beach Country Estates Modeling Update
 - E) Busch Wildlife Update
 - F) Water Quality Update
- 9) Attorney's Report
- 10) Old Business
- 11) New Business
- 12) Adjourn

Public Information Monthly Report August 2024

**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 and Budget Public Hearing (Aug.15) release

The following items were updated or added to the website:

- 1) Multiple copy changes on several pages
 - Statistics, Board Meetings, Elections, Budget, Budget Meeting, Petitions, Referendums
- 2) Monthly Meeting (June 20) minutes
- 3) Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting and Budget Public Hearing (Aug. 15) information and Zoom registration invitation
 - Agenda, staff reports and slide presentation

Attended Monthly Meeting (July 18) at District Office and Staff Meeting/Retirement Luncheon (June 22) for Holly Rigsby.

Attended Employee Breakfast and took staff pictures.

The August newsletter has been printed and mailed to all landowners. It included 2024/2025 Proposed Budget Highlights, a profile on Dustin Fazio, candidates for Board of Supervisors 2024 Elections, and the Annual Budget Hearing and Annual Landowners Meeting information.

We worked with Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Fazio and Janice Rustin of LLW on the Request for Proposal for Vegetation Management in the District. We created a new webpage for Requests for Proposals and posted the legal advertisement prepared by Ms. Rustin. This is to comply with Florida law, as the legal ad and the notice of intent to award (the evaluation committee ranking) has to be published on a dedicated location on the District website. In addition, we listed the Request for Proposal with a brief description and link to the dedicated webpage under Latest District News which appears on all pages of the site, as well as including a link under the About Us navigation dropdown menu at the top of the website.

Donna DeNinno originally secured four initial proposals for accessibility-compliant website development and hosting and did extensive research and prepared outlines to work with legal, Michael Howard, John Meyer, and Holly Rigsby on content and changes for the District's website. Keeping costs within budget was a primary consideration, as well as meeting the accessibility guidance. We do have the accessibility statement suggested by legal on the existing website regarding creating a new compliant site and that the District will provide content upon request to those currently unable to access any information. Covid-delayed Florida Senate and House bills sponsored by Florida Association of Special Districts to change requirements for special district websites were signed into law on July 1, 2020. Ms. DeNinno and Legal

reviewed changes and reported on options at the July 16, 2020, Board Meeting. The Board approved creating the new site based on the latest information required by the State.

We are continuing to update pages within the existing website that will be included in the creation of the new site, once reviewed by the committee and Board. Nine Portable Document Files (PDFs) that are required to be on the website have been remediated through a third-party accessibility company. As requested by the Board, we are now including Staff Reports and Presentations in addition to the Agenda for meetings. We are currently updating these files dating back to October of 2020. New PDF remediation checkers have been released and we are using these to check our remediated files for compliance. We have sent staff information with tips for preparing more accessible documents that will be used as PDF files on the website so remediation will be easier.

Municode is now a wholly owned subsidiary of CivicsPlus (these are companies we quoted with for the creation of an accessible website). Both companies use the same software, have the same features and similar costs. An updated quote was received for \$4,050 per year, which incorporates design of the site, hosting, maintenance. We continue to edit and revise the existing website, remediate PDF files, and prepare for moving the website to a new host. We are concerned with the rapidly increasing cost of website hosting with CivicsPlus/Municode. The last quote received in September of 2022 had increased almost \$1,000 from January. This could mean hefty increases each year. While this quote is still less than other government-oriented hosting companies, it may be much more beneficial to create an accessible WordPress site and use accessibility checking software/company to ensure Americans with Disabilities Act compliance. As per Ms. Kennedy's request, we spoke with Todd Wodraska at Special District Solutions to ask whether they offered website creation and hosting for special districts. As a company that creates, manages, and provides administrative and financial services, they do provide website hosting through GoDaddy and use a stock WordPress template for the companies they manage. They said that it hasn't been done before but they could provide a quote to allow us to use their template and host on their server, however this is something the District can do on its own. We have also been in recent discussions with Streamline, another website creation and hosting service. **We will be discussing website options with the committee.**

The District office and staff met on April 23, 2021, to review and discuss updates by Legal of the District's Policy & Procedures Manual. These revisions to Chapters 1-6 and associated Appendices have been incorporated into the manual. Mike Dillon, Donna DeNinno, and Mike Howard met on June 16, 2021, for additional discussion. A Policy Committee Meeting was held on October 5, 2021, at the District Office with John Meyer, John Jones, Mike Dillon, Donna DeNinno, Bill Capko and Seth Behn in attendance and Amy Eason attending via Zoom. Three landowners also attended. The Policy & Procedures Manual Update was discussed, and additional revisions were made. John Meyers and Donna DeNinno made additional updates and changes to Chapters 1-6 and the Table of Contents in December and January, and the latest revision was submitted to Michael Howard, Mike Dillon, Legal, and Engineering, with comments due back by January 20, 2022. Michael Howard and John Meyers made a few additional changes after the January 20 meeting. Mr. Meyer asked at the February 17, 2022, meeting if Chapters 7-9 and Chapter 10 could be completed by the end of the year. Comments have been received from legal, Laura Bender, and Mrs. Rigsby for additional updates to Chapters 1-6 and Appendix C, which includes election information, and a draft was sent to the Board and Staff for review. Chapters 7 and 8 were received from engineering and reviewed by Mr. Meyer, Mr. Howard, and the staff and after comments, Chapters 7 and 8 have been combined and revisions made. Mr. Behn sent a draft of the procurement policy to staff and the Board for comments and changes in late November. This will be the new Chapter 9. Chapters 7-9 were incorporated into the draft manual and sent to the committee for review prior to the

December 8 meeting. Mr. Meyer has sent changes, and these are being reviewed by Engineering and Legal. The board approved the Procurement Policy section separately in January.

Changes to Chapters 7 and 8 were made by Engineering and were forwarded to the committee for review in April 2023. We received responses in May 2023, and these were incorporated into the manual. The manual was updated with an interactive Table of Contents and formatted to prepare for accessibility.

We prepared and sent out an overview of all the items/comments that still need to be addressed by staff on November 1, 2023. In addition, we have been working with the committee on a list of additional definitions for possible inclusion in the manual. Revisions and additions to the manual regarding the Executive Director and Supervisor of Operations job descriptions were made and the Manager of Operations title has been replaced throughout the rest of the manual with the Executive Director title. Staff held a Zoom meeting on January 10, 2024, to discuss all outstanding questions and comments in the manual, revisions were made, and the revised draft was sent to the committee for final review prior to being sent to the rest of the Board. The Board received the updated draft, which now exceeds 100 pages on January 16, 2024, and to allow time for a thorough review, a date of February 15, 2024, was set for approval by the Board. After receiving no comments or revisions from the Board, the final updated version of the Policies and Procedures Manual was adopted. We worked on the remediation of the PDF version of the Manual for posting on the website and created a Policies and Procedures webpage. We also updated the Culverts and Permits webpage to reference the Manual per request by Robert Eustice at AECOM. We continue working on recreating the engineering drawings in the Appendix in a format that can be remediated. **We added the “No-Pave” petition with the April 18, 2024, Board-approved correction to the Manual. The Manual has been temporarily uploaded to the website while we continue to remediate the PDF file once again.**

Susan Kennedy, Karen Brandon, and Donna DeNinno held a January 2022 Zoom meeting to discuss options for public education materials, with an initial focus on information for the wet season - District drainage and flooding management. The consensus was to consider a series of options such as animations, infographics, videos, and fact sheets on a number of subjects of interest to the landowners and of importance to the District. The Board was updated on this approach at the January Board meeting. Ms. DeNinno has provided research information to Ms. Kennedy and Mrs. Brandon for consideration of topics to include in our projects. Ms. DeNinno secured original art files from South Florida Water Management District, and they have given us permission to utilize their materials in our projects. The first project will be on drainage and flooding with print fact sheets/infographics. Ms. Kennedy, Mrs. Brandon, and Ms. DeNinno have had three Zoom meetings, and an initial draft was sent to Board members for comments at the May Meeting. Ms. Kennedy asked Ms. DeNinno to send her the file so she could make edits, and Ms. DeNinno sent her the information on May 20, 2022. **Ms. Kennedy is currently working on the file.**

The premier of the Drainage in the District Video was shown at the Annual Landowners' Meeting in September 2022, and links to the video on YouTube were provided to community social media. **The YouTube video has received 594 views, 13 likes, and 4 subscribers as of August 9, 2024. The video has also been run on Jupiter Farms Resident's social media a few times.**

We continue to work with Mr. Howard, Ms. Kennedy, and 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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15600 Jupiter Farms Road, Jupiter, Florida • (561) 747-0550 • Fax (561) 747-9182

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Charles F. Haas, Treasurer
RE: Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2024
CC: Staff
Date: August 11, 2024

Routine Business

- 1) The Proposed Budget will be the subject of a Public Hearing prior to the Board of Supervisor's meeting. A copy of the presentation I expect to make is attached to this memo. The presentation mirrors the one I presented at the July meeting. However, since the preliminary assessment roll was completed, I have added a slide reflecting the average change of assessment in each community.
- 2) Also included is Exhibit A, the one-page summary of the budget, which is attached to the Budget Resolution.
- 3) We have been in communication with our contact with Wireless Propco, LLC. This is the company plans company that has made a proposal to the District for the purchase of the outstanding Verizon lease. The existing lease has a Right of First Refusal. As we noted previously the Wireless Propco, LLC put this transaction on hold while they clarified this clause that both party's attorneys believe is not relevant to this transaction. Nevertheless, since Wireless Propco, LLC has other pending business with Verizon, they wanted to make sure that Verizon didn't have an issue with it.

Wireless Propco, LLC is now in a position to move ahead with the transaction, and we believe we are in a position to close on Thursday August 22, 2024. I would ask the board to pass a resolution authorizing the chairman to sign all the necessary documents pending approval by the District's attorney.

A copy of the original Letter of Intent is attached to this report. There have been no changes to the financial aspects, namely that WPL would pay, upon closing, South Indian River Water Control District \$766,521 for an 80-year easement on the existing space plus an additional 250 square feet and 50% of any additional revenue from any future lease of the additional space.

- 4) The preliminary assessment rates for the trim notice were certified to the Palm Beach County Information Services on July 23, 2024.
- 5) The final payment on the 2009 Hookup Financing Note was made on August 1, 2024. The ending fund balance is estimated to be greater than the target amount. The attached memo describes the plan to return the overage to the participating landowners.
- 6) Following the Board's direction, we will be sending our report to the District's Public Information Officer for uploading to the website.

Board Consideration

- 1) The Board will be asked to approve the list of disbursements. (Sent under separate cover.)
- 2) The Board will be asked to approve the Proposed Budget and adopt the Uniform Method of Collecting Assessments.
- 3) The Board will be asked to approve the signing of an Agreement with Wireless Propco, LLC for the sale of an easement currently occupied by Version and an addition 250 square feet of contiguous land for the sum of \$766,721 plus a share of future revenues as defined in the agreement.

Please note: The attachment for the Hookup Financing Notice is attached. For the other referenced budget attachments, please visit the District's Budget page at: <https://www.sirwcd.org/budget.html>.



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To: Board of Supervisors
From: Charles F. Haas, Treasurer
RE: 2009 Hookup Financing Note
CC: Staff
Date: August 11, 2024

Memorandum

The note for the 2009 PBCE Hook up Financing Pan was paid in full on August 1, 2024.

In reviewing the current year's activity in the debt service fund for this note, we determined that the ending fund balance was significantly greater than the targeted amount. Upon investigation, we found that the final assessment rates for the note, which were to be reduced to account for accumulated reserves, were left on the county's role at the prior year levels. With this rate not being changed, the estimated ending fund balance is \$80,000 in excess of the \$3,000 target.

There are 570 parcels (592 Equivalent Residential Units since 1" meters are assessed more than 3/4" meters) that are impacted, making returning the excess funds directly cost prohibitive and would eat up most of the money that would be paid back to the landowners.

All of the affected parcels are also being assessed for the Palm Beach Country Estates Water Distribution System Bond, which for the Proposed Budget is at \$664 per parcel, an increase from \$632 per parcel in the current year. I believe the best remedy to return the funds to the landowners is to reduce the Palm Beach Country Estates Assessment on these parcels over the next three years (to prevent a see-sawing effect). The schedule would be Year 2024/2025 a \$65 reduction, Year 2025/2026 a \$40 reduction and Year 2026/2027 a \$20 reduction.

Of note the Palm Beach Country Estates Water Distribution System Bond Assessment will have its' final assessment in the year 2029/2030.



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Memorandum

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Executive Director
SUBJECT: Report for July 19, 2024, through August 15, 2024
DATE: August 8, 2024

Administrative

- A) District engineers (AECOM) have entered into a three-year contract for survey of easements and water management features (culverts and structures) in Jupiter Farms.
- B) South Indian River Water Control District obtained support from the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative on August 5, 2024, requesting a 50% cost share for years two and three of the Jupiter Farms easement survey effort. The project will be championed by them during the next legislative session. The Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative chair encouraged the District to submit for “resilience” funding from the Department of Environmental Protection and that the Palm Beach County lobby staff will provide support for both efforts.

Outreach

- A) Represented the District at the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative meeting.
- B) Both Dustin and I arranged and attended a face-to-face meeting with Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District’s Executive Director, Dan Beatty, and the Programs & Facilities Maintenance Administrator, Jared J. Kneiss, to discuss potential future cooperation and information sharing.

Human Resource Management

- A) Employee Mike Roman obtained his Class A Commercial Driver’s License with the District’s training support.

Infrastructure and Equipment

- A) The District’s Vegetation Management Request for Proposal (RFP) is proceeding as follows:
 - a. Advertised on August 7, 2024.
 - b. All inquiries, requests for clarifications and/or corrections are due by August 23, 2024.
 - c. The deadline to submit completed proposals to the District is September 4, 2024.
 - d. The Selection Committee will schedule a review meeting at a later date.
 - e. Contract to be awarded by Board on September 19, 2024.

- B) Completed the construction of office space for the Supervisor of Operations, Dustin Fazio.
- C) Conducted site visit with the I-95 maintenance contractor to establish South Indian River Water Control District heavy equipment access strategy, if needed, to clear the culverts under I-95 to ensure Palm Beach Country Estates drainage is unrestricted.
- D) Continued data gathering for development of the 'Equipment Replacement Schedule'. The dump trucks are the next priority due to heavy corrosion of the cab bodies, broken welds in the dump beds, age (over 20 years), and milage (300K+ miles).
- E) Purchased two new mowing tractors and sold two retired mowing tractors at auction.
- F) The annual "Cut Back" of woody vegetation on the South Indian River Water Control District canals has been delayed due to the District-owned hydraulic mulching head failure. Still waiting for repair parts.

Policies and Procedures

- A) Policy discussions with Palm Beach County Engineering Department staff regarding the South Indian River Water Control District mowing contract and other items to verify roles and responsibilities. The meeting resulted in reaching an agreement on the procedure for the District to initiate renegotiation of the pay received for mowing the Palm Beach County roads within the District.
- B) Procedure discussions with employee operators and administrative staff.

William C. Kennedy

William Chad Kennedy
Executive Director



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Memorandum

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Supervisor of Operations
SUBJECT: Report for July 19, 2024, to August 15, 2024
DATE: August 8, 2024

Administrative

- 1) Sold the G930B Motor Grader on Gov.Deals auction in July.
- 2) Sold the John Deere 5101, John Deere 6430, Kobelco 135SR (Excavator), John Deere CX 15 (Mowing Deck), and John Deere 2737 (Zero Turn Mower) on Gov.Deals auction in August.
- 3) On-site meetings and phone conversations with Landowners related to maintenance activities throughout the District.
- 4) Reviewed Mechanic's maintenance log for July.
- 5) Contacted Solid Waste Authority Area Supervisor regarding large holes in easements created by their grapple trucks.

Water Control

- 1) Received 6.15 inches of rain in this reporting period.
- 2) Surveyed swale elevations and cleaned swales as weather permits.
- 3) Crews installed two driveway culverts, prepared swales for three new construction culvert installations, inspected two driveway culverts, and installed two temporary construction culverts.
- 4) Terra Tech continues to spray canals for aquatic weed control.
- 5) Crews continue to inspect Landowner driveway culverts for replacement and drainage swales for recontouring.
- 6) Crews continue to inspect and replace inoperable drainage culverts.
- 7) Crews continue to shoot elevations of existing swales and pipes throughout the District to collect data for future projects.
- 8) After heavy rains and winds, crews removed storm debris from swales and culvert ends to promote drainage.

Road Maintenance

- 1) Roads are scheduled to be graded once a week, depending on weather and current road conditions they may be skipped or graded more than once a week.
- 2) Road re-contouring (Pull-ins) will be performed as weather permits. Landowners will be notified by red and white signs placed at the end of each road at least forty-eight hours prior to work being executed.
- 3) JW Cheatum completed the asphalt overlay project on Palm Beach Country Estates “Pink Roads” and Jupiter Farms Haynie Lane.

Dustin Fazio

Dustin Fazio
Supervisor of Operations

Memorandum

To South Indian River Water Control District
Board of Supervisors

CC

Subject Engineer's Report for July

From Karen D. Brandon, PE, District Engineer

Board Meeting Date August 15, 2024

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 an 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 FY 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 aerials 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. Riobak 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 October when conditions are drier. They are expected to deliver the Contract documents to AECOM on August 9, 2024, so that the Board President can execute the Contracts at the Board meeting.

- 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.

There has been no further activity or communication between the petitioner and AECOM for the 20th Plan of Improvements.

- C. **Future Plan of Improvements – The Referendum documents, exhibits and cost estimates have been drafted and will be sent to the Treasurer to finalize the Notices with the amount of the assessments.**
- D. 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 continuing on the addition of the canal cross sections and basin outfalls into the Palm Beach Country Estates hydraulic model. Project completion is estimated to be at the end of September.

II. Operation And Maintenance

- A. **Asphalt Overlay Project** - Bid documents were prepared and an Advertisement for Bids was published on February 4, 2024 for the asphalt overlay of approximately 2.45 miles of roads including: Haynie Lane from south of 167th Place North to Randolph Siding Road, 145th Place North, 64th Way, 65th Way, 66th Trail North, 67th Trail North and 68th Drive North the bids are due by March 7, 2024.

The bid opening was held on March 7, 2024. Four bids were received for the Asphalt Overlay project. The bid submittals are under review for responsiveness.

The final contract documents are being reviewed by the District Attorney.

The final contract documents were sent to JW Cheatham for their execution and submittal of the bonds and Certificate of Insurance . With one modification to the Certificate of Insurance, the Contract will be ready for execution by South Indian River Water Control District.

The pre-construction meeting was held on May 23, 2024. The Notice to Proceed was issued to JW Cheatham for June 17, 2024. Due to the wet weather experience this week, they have pushed their start date back to June 24th. Weather permitting, they anticipate the work taking less than one month to complete.

JW Cheatham has requested a final inspection. District staff inspected the roadways on August 7, 2024, and found some issues. A follow-up meeting with the contractor will be scheduled. The Contractor has submitted a final Pay Application for review.

- B. **Storm Debris Removal Contract** - The Storm Debris Removal Contract was advertised for bids on March 10, 2024. The bid due date was extended to April 22, 2024, in response to one of the current contract holders. We anticipate awarding contracts at the May Board meeting.

Four bids were received on April 22, 2024. Staff recommends awarding contracts to the lowest three (3) bidders.

The three (3) lowest bids were awarded at the May Board meeting. The contract documents have been sent out to the contractors for execution.

Contract documents have been fully executed with two of the three contractors. The third contractor had some questions that are currently being reviewed with legal staff.

- C. **The July 17, 2024, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2024. The agenda includes a Cycle 5 Permit Update/Discussion.**
- D. 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 GIS services for the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative meeting on August 5, 2024.

- E. 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 (PPA) 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 Flowway 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.

Staff requested an update from Jeff Buck on August 8, 2024, for next month's Annual Report.

- F. 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.

- G. 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.



H. 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.