

**MINUTES OF MEETING
SUNSHINE WATER CONTROL DISTRICT**

The Board of Supervisors of the Sunshine Water Control District held a Regular Meeting on June 11, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at Mullins Hall, 10170 NW 29th St., Coral Springs, Florida 33065.

Present:

Laurence Kaldor	President
Peter Palmer	Vice President
Frankie Romano	Secretary

Also present:

Jamie Sanchez	District Manager
Janice Rustin	District Counsel
Orlando Rubio	District Engineer
Cory Selchan	Field Superintendent
Gloria Guillo	Resident
Sonia Sage	Resident
Joe Morera	Resident
William Amos	Resident
Luong Ta	Resident
John Kuhnle	Resident
Mark Nyland	Member of the Public

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Mr. Kaldor called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Roll Call

All sitting Supervisors were present. Two seats are vacant.

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Public Comments [3-Minute Time Limit]
(Comments should be made from the
microphone to ensure recording. Please
state your name prior to speaking.)**

Mr. Kaldor explained the protocols for public comment.

Resident Gloria Guillo read the following prepared statement into the record:

"I am a co-founder of "Safe Water South Florida," a group of 60 families surrounding the lakes and canals that are serviced by the Sunshine Water Control District. This spring our families signed a petition stating that we do not want toxic and probably cancer-causing chemicals invading our lakes and canals; instead, we want non-toxic harvesting. Through our records request, we obtained safety data sheets and operation reports from the Sunshine Water Control District and the licenses of individuals involved in the spraying of toxic chemicals. However, the license for the Field Superintendent was omitted. Today we have submitted a records request for the Field Superintendent's license, a list of his specific responsibilities and an organizational chart showing the reporting structure. The Sunshine Water Control District records confirm that aquanine, a pesticide-herbicide that contains glyphosate was sprayed in and around winding parks lakes and canals in 2024 and on January 13, 2025. Were there any subsequent sprayings? To be clear, glyphosate is the same chemical used in Roundup that was found to be toxic and a probable carcinogen by the World Health Organization's Internal Agency for research on Cancer. Roundup lawsuits filed against Monsanto, now Bayer, claim the weed killer caused cancer and the company failed to warn about the health risks of glyphosate. In 2020, Monsanto agreed to pay nearly \$11 billion to settle most roundup cancer claims but lawyers are still accepting claims. Like Bayer and Monsanto, the Sunshine Water Control District, has failed to warn our families of health risks caused by glyphosate, even though they are spraying in our own backyards where children play, pets roam freely and organic vegetables grow. We want aquatic weeds either hand-harvested or mechanically-harvested like those used by our sister city, Lauderdale Lakes. On Monday, June 9, 2025, we wrote the District for their approval of a mechanical harvester demonstration project in Windings Park Lake and Canal on June 23, 2025, by Weedoo, the manufacturer and distributor of these Lauderdale Lakes harvesters. We have not received a reply and the budget for 2026 does not include a line item for the harvester and continues to list a \$100,000 line item for chemicals. We urge the Board not to approve this budget until it is corrected to reflect our community's wishes. If this demonstration project does not occur, we require that the Field Superintendent provides us with the date that the weeds will be hand-harvested."

Ms. Guillo continued speaking after being told she exceeded her time limit, and was ejected from the meeting.

FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**Acceptance of Unaudited Financial
Statements as of April 30, 2025**

Ms. Sanchez stated, per the Board's direction, she contacted a few banks regarding better interest rates or accounts that the District may have. Mr. Mark Nyland, from Fifth/Third Bank, is in attendance as a member of the public, to observe and listen.

On MOTION by Mr. Kaldor and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, the Unaudited Financial Statements as of April 30, 2025, were accepted.

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**Approval of Minutes****A. April 9, 2025 Regular Meeting**

Ms. Sanchez stated the April Minutes were presented and approved at the previous Board Meeting. However, despite the District's minutes being summary minutes, the resident who made the statements on Lines 55 through 57 would like the minutes changed, as the words are not verbatim of what she said. The audio recording was forwarded to the resident to assure her that her statements are on the record. She was not content with that and requested that this item be brought before the Board and re-considered.

Mr. Kaldor stated, based on the emailed communications, since she did not say the word "think", he was amenable to striking the word and revising the minutes.

Line 49: Change "thinks" to "knows"

Line 92: Change "Roman" to "Romano"

On MOTION by Mr. Kaldor and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, the April 9, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, as amended, were approved.

B. May 14, 2025 Regular Meeting

On MOTION by Mr. Kaldor and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, the May 14, 2025 Regular Meeting, as presented, were approved.

SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**Supervisors' Communications**

Mr. Kaldor suggested adding a new Agenda Item titled “New Business” on all future agendas, to be placed after public comments, before adjournment.

Regarding the “Weedoo” and Roundup matter, Mr. Palmer pointed out that, at the present time, the District budgets \$100,000 per year for the chemicals that are currently being used. He stated the invasive weeds are being sprayed for removal purposes, and, if they were to be cut, it would increase their spread. If the District opted to use harvester machines to maintain the canals, it would need to purchase ten or more machines and hire and provide benefits for additional technicians. So, instead of spending \$100,000 per year on the chemicals, which are currently approved in Florida and all municipalities, the addition of harvester machines would add several million dollars to the District’s ledger.

Mr. Romano discussed several logistical issues with using “Weedoo” boats to maintain the canals. Mr. Palmer stated he inspected several waterways within the District and the wildlife is not impacted by the spraying. Mr. Selchan stated whether it is a plant or an animal, these invasives try to take over new environments and crews do their utmost to manage and maintain the waterways with tools that are the most cost-effective. Every organization he has dealt with asserts that the chemicals are safe at the rate that they are being used.

Mr. Kaldor voiced his appreciation of public comments and members of the public who adhere to the three-minute time limit. The time limit is imposed so that everyone’s time is respected. If a person needs more time to make their statement, they can ask for an extension and, if time permits, the Board can grant it. There is a second public comments section towards the end of the meeting that residents can use to continue their statements.

Based on today’s comments, Mr. Kaldor asked if the Board should be concerned about “adequate warning” to residents regarding chemical spraying. Mr. Selchan stated there is nothing to warn the public about. The warning on the label is for the handlers of the chemicals, which is what was referenced during public comments. Mr. Selchan stated he has been a Field Superintendent for 43 years and never heard of anyone in this profession who has had any ill effects from any chemicals that are used; if he was aware of any safety issue whatsoever, an alternative would have been found.

Discussion ensued regarding the types of herbicides, glyphosate and the City of Lauderdale Lakes’ use of Weedoo machines to manage invasives in its canals.

Mr. Kaldor stated, after reviewing the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget, instead of the assessments being levied with a 4% increase, which is technically 3.99%, he asked that it be reduced to 2.99%. He motioned to lower the annual assessment, if possible.

Ms. Sanchez stated that the increase is already 2.99%.

Mr. Kaldor stated the District has a surplus and his goal is to reduce the assessment increase and suggested a reduction in the assessment increase from 2.99% to 2.49%.

Ms. Rustin suggested placing this item on the August agenda to allow Staff to review the numbers and gather data and a motion can be taken to place this on the next agenda for discussion and consideration.

On MOTION by Mr. Kaldor and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, adding a discussion item regarding lowering the annual assessment increase to 2.49% on the August agenda, was approved.

EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**Staff Reports****A. District Counsel: Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.**

Ms. Rustin reported the following:

- The Sunshine Law requires the District to take minutes of the meetings and they are required to be a generalized summary of the comments made and actions taken by the Board. There is no requirement for verbatim minutes but, since a resident stated that her comments were mischaracterized, the recommendation is to include her email into the record.
- If there is a “New Business” section on the agenda, the recommendation would be to discuss whether to place it on a future agenda; that way there is advance notice that the Board will be discussing and determining something.
- Regarding a request for presentation, the District adopted a Procurement Policy that requires all purchases over \$50,000 to be subject to competitive solicitation or a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). As a public entity, the District is required to have fair and open competition in all of its procurements. If the Board wants to hear a presentation from a contractor, the recommendation is to advertise a Request for Proposals (RFP) for that particular service to give other vendors an opportunity to present to the Board.

B. District Engineer: Craig A. Smith & Associates**I. Presentation: Monthly Engineer’s Report (MER)**

Mr. Rubio presented the Monthly Engineer's Report from May 12, 2025 to June 4, 2025. He provided updates on the West Outfall Canal (WOFC) Phase 3 Improvement Project and recommended the issuance of ROW permits to Comcast for the installation of conduits on a line for the ROW of Canal PP and Canals RR, 18-1 & NN.

On MOTION by Mr. Kaldor and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, the Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Comcast per the updated permit criteria manual, at a cost estimate of \$2,707.50, was approved.

II. Permit Application

a. Comcast Directional Bore Installation [12001 NW 35th St]

On MOTION by Mr. Kaldor and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, the CAS PROJECT NO. 15-1826 Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Comcast for installation: 5 LF of 1-2" HDPE conduit adjacent to SWCD Canal "PP", subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the May 12, 2025 recommendation letter, was approved.

b. Comcast Directional Bore Installation [12462 NW 39th St]

On MOTION by Mr. Kaldor and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, the CAS PROJECT NO. 15-1826 Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Comcast for an installation of a 2-2" HDPE conduits at three SWCD Canal ROWs, Canals "RR", "18-1" & "NN", having a combined length of 190 LF, subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the June 4, 2025 recommendation letter, was approved.

C. District Field Supervisor: Cory Selchan

Mr. Selchan reported the following:

- The District received only 2.86" of rain in the past month, which did not add much water to the system. The low water levels generated a few calls. The District adds two million gallons of water per day. The drier it gets, the more residents run their sprinklers, which has a detrimental impact to some extent.
- The District is operating smoothly.

D. District Manager: Wrathell, Hunt & Associates, LLC

- **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- **August 13, 2025 at 4:00 PM**

- **September 12, 2025 at 9:30 AM at LaQuinta Inn Coral Springs, 3701 N. University Drive, Coral Springs, Florida 33065 [Adoption of FY2026 Budget & O&M Assessments]**
- **QUORUM CHECK**

NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**Public Comments**

Resident William Amos stated he recently received a letter in the mail with three options that he feels sounds threatening. Residents must choose an option and are obligated to maintain an entire area. He lives on a wide stretch of land and lacks the physical strength or the resources to mow, pull weeds and fertilize it. He asked for clarification of what maintenance means and what will happen if a resident cannot maintain it.

Mr. Selchan explained that the intent of the letter was for residents to pick an option, it is an opportunity to enter into an agreement with the District to be given use of their property, with a few conditions. If the letter was not filled out and no options were chosen, there is no penalty, no recourse and Staff moves on with the project. The letter also mentions that, when the project is completed, the City, not the District, may enforce its codes on the ROWs in question. At that time, any fines, penalties or recommendations to do maintenance will come from the City, not the District.

Discussion ensued regarding the letter, City Code Enforcement, property rights, etc.

Resident John Kuhnle asked which entity is responsible for maintenance of the canal banks behind his home, which experienced a great deal of erosion after Hurricane Wilma. He asked who to contact about it.

Mr. Selchan stated the canal bank that Mr. Kuhnle referenced was disrupted by a group of downed trees and where the federal agency installed geotubes to stabilize the canal bank to add dirt and restore the canal. He discussed erosion, coral rock and mitigation costs. Mr. Selchan offered to inspect the area and give an assessment.

Ms. Sanchez asked all members of the public to sign the Attendee Sign-In sheet.

TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**Adjournment**

On MOTION by Mr. Kaldor and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.



Secretary/Assistant Secretary



President/Vice President