

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
SUNSHINE WATER CONTROL DISTRICT**

The Board of Supervisors of the Sunshine Water Control District held a Special Meeting on March 30, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter the matter may be heard, at the La Quinta Inn, 3701 N. University Drive, Coral Springs, Florida 33065.

**Present:**

Peter Palmer	President
Scott Botting	Vice President
Frankie Romano	Secretary

**Also present:**

Jamie Sanchez	District Manager
Janice Rustin	District Counsel
Orlando Rubio	District Engineer
Cory Selchan	Field Superintendent

**FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Call to Order**

Mr. Palmer called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Roll Call**

The Oath of Office was administered to Mr. Botting before the meeting.  
Supervisors Palmer, Botting and Romano 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.)**

No members of the public spoke.

Ms. Sanchez provided Mr. Botting with a new Supervisor packet and reviewed the documents, including Form 1, the Sunshine Law, conflicts of interest, Board Member pay, and Board Member responsibilities. Ms. Rustin explained the requirement to complete four hours of ethics training. Mr. Palmer suggested Staff re-send the links to the online courses.

Ms. Sanchez urged Mr. Botting to contact her or Mr. Selchan with questions or concerns.

**FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Consideration of Resolution 2026-03,  
Electing and Removing Officers of the  
District and Providing for an Effective Date**

Mr. Palmer presented Resolution 2026-03. Ms. Sanchez stated this is where the Board will elect a President, Vice President and Secretary and anyone can make a nomination and state their preferred slate of officers. Mr. Botting asked about the Secretary’s responsibilities. Ms. Sanchez stated the Secretary is an additional Board Member. The President is responsible for executing documents approved during meetings; it is typically the Board Member who is contacted by Staff between meetings if there is a need.

Mr. Botting nominated the following slate:

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Peter Palmer   | President      |
| Scott Botting  | Vice President |
| Frankie Romano | Secretary      |

No other nominations were made.

The Resolution removes the following from the Board:

- |                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Laurence Kaldor | President |
|-----------------|-----------|

The following prior appointments by the Board remain unaffected by the Resolution:

- |                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Craig Wrathell | Assistant Secretary |
| Jamie Sanchez  | Assistant Secretary |
| Craig Wrathell | Treasurer           |
| Jeff Pinder    | Assistant Treasurer |

**On MOTION by Mr. Botting and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, Resolution 2026-03, Electing, as nominated, and Removing Officers of the District, and Providing for an Effective Date, was adopted.**

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Review of Proposals for Disaster Monitoring Services

**A. Respondents**

Mr. Selchan stated Staff received a few proposals, but the vendors are not under contract. The Board will consider the Selection Committee's choice and, once the Board confirms the vendor that was selected, Staff will negotiate a contract and enter into an agreement with that vendor. Asked why Disaster Services are needed, Mr. Selchan explained that it is for debris removal from the canals after a severe storm or disaster.

**B. Ranking/Evaluation**

Discussion ensued regarding the Request for Proposals (RFP) process, Evaluation Criteria, District's liability, disaster relief, the last storm/hurricane that required disaster services, FEMA funding/reimbursement, how much the District budgets for disaster recovery, and if disaster funds are being invested.

**C. Authorization to Negotiate and Finalize Contract(s)**

Mr. Selchan stated the Selection Committee, which consisted of himself, Mr. Rubio and Mr. Romano, previously selected the debris removal contractor.

Ms. Rustin clarified that two RFPs were advertised; one for disaster debris removal and another for disaster debris monitoring, which is an administrative contract that facilitates review of the invoices from the removal contractors and ensures that specific FEMA requirements are met.

Mr. Selchan stated, based on the Evaluation Criteria, the Committee recommends awarding the Disaster Debris and Disposal Services contract to Ceres Environmental and the Disaster Monitoring Services contract to Rostan Solutions.

Discussion ensued regarding disaster monitoring, how best to secure a backup contractor, potential for price-gouging, adding an addendum to the disaster debris removal contract, a contingency, procurement law, a Davis-Bacon Rule, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), HUD, contract lengths, and whether to approve the contracts.

**On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, awarding the Disaster Debris and Disposal Services contract to Ceres Environmental, and authorizing District Staff to prepare and advertise a separate RFP for a backup disaster removal contractor, were approved.**

**On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Botting, with all in favor, awarding the Disaster Monitoring Services contract to Rostan Solutions, LLC, was approved.**

Mr. Selchan stated the next step is for Staff to negotiate the contract terms, which are essentially already in the RFP.

**SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Review of Proposals for Disaster Debris and Disposal Services**

- A. Respondents**
- B. Ranking/Evaluation**
- C. Authorization to Negotiate and Finalize Contract(s)**

This item was addressed during the Sixth Order of Business.

**EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Discussion: Employee Salary**

Mr. Selchan stated this item was brought to his and Ms. Sanchez’ attention by Mr. Romano, who conducted a salary comparison of similar local entities in South Florida. Mr. Selchan referenced a handout of the North Springs Improvement District (NSID) employee salaries compared to the SWCD employee salaries. The purpose is to consider bringing the SWCD employee salaries up to the industry standard, which would require the Board to approve an additional \$30,000 or \$40,000, most likely from Unassigned Fund Balance, as the current budgeted “Salary and wages” amount will not cover the increases.

Ms. Sanchez stated Unassigned Fund Balance can be used; however, when the increases are reflected in the financials, that budgeted line item will be over 100%.

Mr. Botting supports the salary increases if it does not adversely-impact taxpayers.

The Board and Staff discussed the employee information in the handout, if the employees in question are union members, how salary increases/promotions are merited, starting rates, changes in the industry, evaluations, overtime, flex-time, employee retention and transferring funds from the General Fund into “Salary and wages.”

**On MOTION by Mr. Botting and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, authorizing SWCD employee salary increases, to make each position**

comparable to employees in nearby Special Districts, commencing with the next pay period, was approved.

**NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS****Continued Discussion/Consideration:  
Update Water Control Plan [Capital Plan]**

Mr. Rubio presented the Water Control Plan, February 2026 – Update. The purpose of the plan is to identify where the District is in terms of capital projects. Engineering’s main function is to prioritize the capital projects that are most pressing. Over the years, the main capital improvement projects been involved in are the West Outfall Canal (WOFC) Improvements, which serves the 3500 acres of the SWCD, which is the West Basin. The canal feeds Pump Station 2, which is the biggest of the two pump stations in the District. The purpose of that canal improvement is to improve the hydraulics to better feed the pump station and improve the backwater effects of the upstream drainage systems in the West Basin.

Mr. Rubio reviewed the pertinent information in the Report, including a description of the District, a map delineating the legal boundary and sub-districts or units, narrative descriptions of land use, drawings and narrative sufficient to describe each facility’s capacity for the management and storage of surface waters and potable water supply if applicable, and descriptions of environmental or water quality programs that the District has implemented or plans to implement.

Mr. Rubio stated, in the past, his firm completed numerous canal projects, including the WOFC Phases 1A through 1C in 2018 for approximately \$3.5 million, and Phase 2, which cost \$3.3 million, and pump station repairs. His firm also participated in a cost-share culvert replacement project with the City, which served the low-lying Westchester residential area. He provided an update of the WOFC Phase 3 canal improvement project that is underway and discussed how the old pump stations failed due to flawed redesign work by the previous District Engineer, causing the District to file a lawsuit against them for repairs of the hydraulics and electrical work. Mr. Rubio stated, because of where they are situated, all canal and pump station repair work must be done in the dry season.

Discussion ensued regarding the hydraulics issue, how many gallons the pump stations were able to pump, the lawsuit, the \$3.75 million settlement that the District used to fund the repairs, the pump manufacturer and the purchase of a 1-meg generator to back everything up.

Asked about change orders, Mr. Rubio stated he recently asked the contractor for a change order to extend the WOFC Phase 3 improvements and go south of Atlantic Boulevard, in order to address a small section of the canal while work in that area is underway. Mr. Selchan stated he suggested extending the footage by 90' to 100' to put the mudbank on the other side of the bridge and clean out everything underneath the bridge while the project is underway. This way, the material and built-up debris on either side of the bridge can be removed and Staff does not have to worry about the bridge during the next phase of the project.

Discussion ensued regarding the scope of the additional work in the change order, the exact location of the work area, the bridge, a scheduled walk-through, cost-savings due to the current drought conditions and not needing to re-mobilize, additional project costs, the staging area, disposal costs of contaminated materials, and if a fishkill occurred in the work area.

Mr. Rubio summarized the tentative projects scheduled over the next five years, including the WOFC, culvert replacement at Royal Palm Boulevard, minor canal improvements in the northern part of the District near the corporate park, and a monitored telemetry system for the canals that has been on the books for a while. He recommended approval of the Water Control Plan as part of the review process.

Mr. Botting asked if there would be any financial impact to homeowners. Mr. Rubio stated only one or two projects are targeted every fiscal year and the WOFC Pump Station 3 replacement was in the prior fiscal year.

Ms. Sanchez referred to Page 3 of the financials, which outlines the WOFC expenditures, under "Field operations". Mr. Selchan stated, once a project is targeted, it is funded from the "Unassigned" funds on Page 45.

Mr. Botting inquired about budget workshops. Ms. Sanchez stated Management typically invites Board Members to participate in the preparation of the proposed budget that is subsequently presented at the proposed budget meeting.

Mr. Rubio, Mr. Selchan and Ms. Sanchez responded to Mr. Botting's questions about the current water control project costs, unassigned fund balance, annual field operations budget amount, surplus amount, reserve accounts, total asset amount in the bank and if any pumps need to be replaced in the next five years. Mr. Selchan assured that the District has sufficient funds to pay the bills and improve its infrastructure.

**On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Botting, with all in favor, the updated Water Control Plan/Capital Plan, as presented, was approved.**

**TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Acceptance of Unaudited Financial Statements as of February 28, 2026**

Discussion ensued regarding the “Chemicals” line item; mechanical dredging; annual chemical and equipment costs; spraying schedule; current environmental factors impacting the canals, including engine runoff; fishkill or oxygenation issues due to product use; whether any of the products contain cancer-causing carcinogens; and if there are recent canal-related lawsuits, complaints or cease-and-desist letters against the District.

**On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, the Unaudited Financial Statements as of February 28, 2026, were accepted.**

**ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Approval of Minutes**

- A. February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting
- B. March 11, 2026 Regular Meeting

**On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, the February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, and the March 11, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, both as presented, were approved.**

**TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Supervisors’ Communications**

In response to Mr. Romano’s question, Mr. Selchan stated the District is financially solvent and is not in need of anything. In response to Mr. Botting’s question, Mr. Selchan stated the District recently obtained several new vehicles.

Mr. Palmer welcomed Mr. Botting to the Board and stated he is pleased with the new slate of officers, disagrees with individuals who serve in political positions for long periods of time, and he thinks the current membership is knowledgeable and bring new life, vision and ideas to the Board. He stated he has no intention of serving for 15 or 20 years and is looking forward to seeing what the new Board Members will accomplish together. He voiced his hope that the two vacant seats will be filled in the November General Election, as the Governor will not be appointing individuals to those seats.

Mr. Botting thanked everyone for welcoming him; and stated he is going to be critical, especially regarding the financials; plans to ask tough questions but is not here to give anyone a hard time. His goal is to make sure that he represents the District’s taxpayers responsibly.

**THIRTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Staff Reports**

**A. District Counsel: Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.**

Ms. Rustin stated the legislative session ended and very few bills that passed affect the District. A Special Session will be held after Passover/Easter, with the primary focus on the budget. She discussed the bills that passed, including tort claims and increasing sovereign immunity limits from \$200,000 per person and \$400,000 per incident, to \$350,000 per person and \$500,000 per incident.

Mr. Palmer asked if there were any recent public records requests from a resident who has made frequent requests. Ms. Sanchez stated Staff received a request for audio from that particular individual but no documents requests. Mr. Selchan stated there was an email from the individual asking about the schedule for canal debris removal a few months ago. Asked if the current legal meter has stopped on that individual, Ms. Rustin stated yes.

**B. District Engineer: Craig A. Smith & Associates**

**I. Presentation: Monthly Engineer’s Report**

Mr. Rubio presented the Monthly Engineer’s Report from February 11, 2026 to March 4, 2026, and provided updates on the Pump Station 3 Replacement at Royal Lands, the West Outfall Canal Improvements Project, and the Culvert E18 Repair. He presented the following:

**II. Consideration of Proposal No. OCASA-0855 for Culvert E18 Repairs**

Mr. Botting recommended barricading the area from a risk mitigation standpoint. Discussion ensued regarding the scope of work, the cost summary, and PVC pipes.

**On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, CAS Proposal No. OCASA-0855 for Culvert E18 Repairs, for professional services for surveying, engineering design, permitting and bidding, for a total amount of \$16,785, was approved.**

**III. Permit Application(s)**

- **Mastec D-HCS359**

Mr. Botting suggested adding a diver cost to the permit application to monitor diver damage, if any. Mr. Palmer suggested exploring this item at a future meeting.

On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, the Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Mastec Communications Group via Tillman Fiber for directional bore installation of 70 LF of 1-2" HDPE conduits by SWCD Canal L16-2, across NW 103<sup>rd</sup> Drive, subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the February 4, 2026 recommendation letter, was approved.

- Mastec D-HCS358

On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Romano, with all in favor, the Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Mastec Communications Group via Tillman Fiber for directional bore installation of 60 LF of 1-2" HDPE conduits by the SWCD Canal on Coral Springs Drive & NW 44<sup>th</sup> Street, subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the February 4, 2026 recommendation letter, was approved.

- Mastec D-HCS354

On MOTION by Mr. Botting and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, the Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Mastec Communications Group via Tillman Fiber for directional bore installation of 60 LF of 1-2" HDPE conduits under Canal GG, subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the February 4, 2026 recommendation letter, was approved.

- Mastec FB-HCS313

On MOTION by Mr. Botting and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, the Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Mastec Communications Group via Tillman Fiber for directional bore installation of 70 LF of 1.5" HDPE conduits under SWCD Canal 20-2, subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the February 4, 2026 recommendation letter, was approved.

- Mastec D-HCS315

On MOTION by Mr. Botting and seconded by Mr. Palmer, with all in favor, the Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Mastec Communications Group via Tillman Fiber for directional bore installation of 210 LF of 1-2" HDPE conduits under Canals LL and KK, subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the February 4, 2026 recommendation letter, was approved.

- MCIMetro 2511CBHF

On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Botting, with all in favor, the Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by MCIMetro via Amdocs for directional bore installation of 140 LF of 1-2" HDPE conduits under SWCD Canals D and E, subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the February 24, 2026 recommendation letter, was approved.

- Comcast JB0001943511

**On MOTION by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Botting, with all in favor, the Right-of-Way Permit Application, submitted by Comcast for directional bore installation of 208 LF of 1-2" HDPE conduits under SWCD Canals BB, CC and U, subject to the Special Conditions set forth in the March 24, 2026 recommendation letter, was approved.**

**C. District Field Supervisor: Cory Selchan**

Mr. Selchan reported the following:

- Rainfall: 1" of rainfall was received March 14 through 15, 2026 and 2" of rain for the entire month. Water levels on the east side are very low, which restricts the ability to maintain the canals, as they are difficult to access. In such cases, crews will maintain the banks.
- The ditches are dry and difficult to access.
- The focus is on cleaning out the main drains, which facilitates pumping; all other projects will have to be addressed after his tenure.
- Staff has a punchout with the homeowners in Carriage Point for Pump Station 3. Staff removed it and installed a permanent structure. Per a recent HOA request, Mr. Selchan will meet with them to discuss the project.
- The projects are going well. He and Mr. Rubio will contact the City to see if the additional work is doable in the current timeframe in order to lessen mobilization costs.

Discussion ensued regarding the earthwork involved to install a dike, project completion date, project costs, value of the work, likelihood that an RFP will be necessary for additional work, whether a change order is legally possible if the additional work is creating issues with the existing work, and the District's Procurement Policy.

Ms. Rustin checked the Policy and stated, as part of its Policy, the District adopted Florida Statute 255.20, which is competitive solicitation for public construction and improvements. If a project is more than \$300,000, the District must advertise a competitive bid. Mr. Botting suggested Mr. Selchan obtain an estimate of the change order and, if it is \$300,000 or less, it can be approved at the next meeting, without going through the RFP process.

Mr. Selchan thanked the Board for approving the salary increase, which will help his employees during the current economic downturn.

Mr. Botting suggested budgeting a monthly barbecue event for the District’s employees. Ms. Rustin discussed nuances of the Public Purpose Doctrine; whereby public funds cannot be used to pay for private purposes.

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

Ms. Sanchez stated the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 budget will be presented at the May meeting. Only one Board Member at a time can participate in District Staff’s meeting or call about the budget. Mr. Palmer will follow up with Ms. Sanchez and let her know who will assist Staff with budget preparations.

- **NEXT MEETING DATE: May 13, 2026 at 4:00 PM**
  - **QUORUM CHECK**
- **Performance Measures/Standards & Annual Reporting Form (for informational purposes)**

**FOURTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Public Comments**

No members of the public spoke.

**FIFTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**SIXTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

[SIGNATURES APPEAR ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

  
President/Vice President