



South Florida Water Management District

GOVERNING BOARD MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

April 9, 2026

9:00 AM

District Headquarters, B-1 Auditorium
3301 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

FINAL

1. Call to Order - Chauncey Goss, Chairman, Governing Board
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Employee Recognitions
 - April 2026 Employee of the Month: Ellen Allen, Section Leader, Vegetation Management Section
 - April 2026 Team of the Month: Migrating and Securing our Internal Payroll Systems, Applications and Products for Future Growth Team
 - 40-Year Service Award: Brian Turcotte, Enterprise Scientific Data Manager, Information Technology
4. Agenda Revisions
5. Agenda Item Abstentions by Board Members
6. Audit & Finance Report - Jay Steinle, Chairman
7. Consider Approval of the Minutes for the March 5, 2026 Meeting
8. Executive Director's Report - Drew Bartlett
9. General Public Comment

10. Board Comment
11. Move Consent Agenda Items to Discussion Agenda
12. Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items
13. Board Vote on Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

14. Land Acquisition, Shingle Creek Mitigation Project, Orange County (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

Shingle Creek Mitigation Project is located in southern Orange County adjacent to Shingle Creek corridor and is generally considered to be the headwaters for the Everglades. The District has been acquiring land from willing sellers to preserve and protect this important resource. Staff is seeking Governing Board approval to acquire 1.23 acres, more or less, from a willing seller for a purchase price of \$40,000.

The proposed acquisition of privately-owned land within the Shingle Creek Project area support the District's environmental mission and strategic priorities. The acquisition will continue to consolidate District ownership for improved resource protection, enhance land management efficiency, and advance long-term conservation objectives. As more parcels are acquired to fill in the scattered ownership pattern, the District strengthens its ability to manage these environmentally sensitive lands.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0401 Authorize the acquisition of land interests containing 1.23 acres, more or less, in the total amount of \$40,000 located in the Shingle Creek Project Area in Orange County, for which dedicated funds (Wetland Mitigation Fund) are budgeted.

[Resolution No. 2026-0401](#)
[Exhibit A Map](#)

15. Release of Reservations (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

The District has certain reserved rights to construct canal and road rights of way. Applications requesting release of these reservations are received as they constitute a defect on title which must be resolved prior to a property sale, especially when financing is involved. Applications are reviewed to determine if there is a present or future need for the reservations. If it has been determined there is no present or future need, the reservations may be released for a reasonable and appropriate payment based on the value of the land and may require such other terms and conditions determined by the Board.

Staff evaluated the property's size and location for future flood control and reclamation purposes related to water storage and conveyance. Based on responses from Lake

Worth Drainage District, Palm Beach County Engineering Department and SFWMD Internal Departments, it has been determined that there is no present or apparent future need for the reservations listed below, therefore staff asks the Board to consider approval of the following:

Palm Beach County

- Release District canal and road reservations for the Ernestina Zapata Trevino Revocable Trust, (File No. 18975) for 4.62+/- acres; subject to payment of release value of \$38,251.52.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2025-0402 Authorize release of certain canal and road reservations.

[Memorandum Exhibit A](#)

[Resolution No. 2026-0402 with Exhibit A](#)

[Map 1](#)

[Map 2](#)

16. Mudge Ranch Amended and Restated Northern Everglades Payment for Environmental Services Agreement (Staff contact, Jennifer Reynolds)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Northern Everglades and Estuaries Protection Program, the Mudge Ranch Water Management Area Project, located in Glades County, supports the Caloosahatchee River Watershed Protection Plan. The approximately 300-acre project retains direct rainfall and excess runoff in order to reduce discharges and moderate flows from the West Caloosahatchee Basin. Originally approved by the Governing Board on December 12, 2013, and expanded in 2024, the project is estimated to store approximately 630 acre-feet of water per year. The ancillary nutrient retention benefits from the project are approximately 265 pounds of phosphorous and 2,116 pounds of nitrogen annually.

The existing Contract No. 4600005082 and its four subsequent amendments included construction and 13 years of operations at a total cost not to exceed \$709,266.88. Staff requests Governing Board approval to enter into an amended and restated service agreement with Mudge Ranch LLC, to extend the agreement term to include an additional ten years of operation, update the terms and conditions, and add \$960,000 for a revised agreement total of \$1,669,266.88.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0403 Authorize entering into an Amended and Restated Payment for Environmental Services Agreement with Mudge Ranch LLC, for the Mudge Ranch Water Management Area Project, to update the terms and conditions, extend the term by ten years, and add \$960,000 for a revised contract amount of \$1,669,266.88, for which \$96,000 in dedicated funds (State Appropriations) was provided by the Florida Legislature and is budgeted in Fiscal Year 2025-2026, and the remainder is solely dependent on future legislative funding and subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005082-A01)

[Resolution No. 2026-0403](#)

Backup Presentation

17. C-139 Flow Equalization Basin Project, Change Order No. 6, Hendry County (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of Restoration Strategies, the C-139 Flow Equalization Basin (FEB) Project, located in Hendry County, works in conjunction with the existing Everglades Stormwater Treatment Area 5/6 (STA 5/6) to meet the Water Quality Based Effluent Limit to achieve compliance with the State of Florida's numeric phosphorus criterion. The project assists in managing source basin runoff from the C-139 Basin by attenuating peak flows and temporarily storing a portion of stormwater runoff prior to it being conveyed to STA 5/6.

On December 10, 2020, the Governing Board awarded the C-139 FEB Project contract to Condotte-Ryan JV for \$79,933,411.00 (Contract 4600004345). Construction was substantially complete and operable in December 2024, and its features include the G-550 Inflow Pump Station, G-551 outflow structure, G-552 seepage discharge structure, G-711E structure, embankments, and canal improvements in Deer Fence and L-3 Canals. During construction, claims occurred that required step negotiation for resolution. A step negotiation meeting was held on February 26, 2026 regarding all outstanding claims to close out the project for \$1,021,997.78 and 346 calendar day time extension.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0404 Authorize Change Order No. 6 with Condotte-Ryan JV, for the construction of the C-139 Flow Equalization Basin Project, for an additional amount not to exceed \$1,021,997.78, for which dedicated funds (State Appropriations) and Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2025-2026. (Contract No. 4600004345-CO06)

[Resolution No. 2026-0404
Presentation Backup](#)

18. Request to Release Approximately 5.2 Acres of a Recorded Conservation Easement Provided Under Environmental Resource Permit No. 36-04614-P (Staff contact, Jill S. Creech, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

Timothy and Kacey Schneider request to release approximately 5.2 acres of a recorded conservation easement, located in Lee County.

On September 11, 2003, the District issued Environmental Resource Permit No. 36-04614-P, Application No. 000726-7 (Permit) for the construction and operation of a stormwater management system for a residential subdivision project called Hendry Creek Parcel (Project). The Permit required a conservation easement over an approximately 5.2-acre on-site mitigation area to offset a portion of the Project's overall wetland impacts. The conservation easement was granted to the District in accordance with the Permit, however, the Project was never constructed and the Permit expired on August 14, 2010.

The property containing the conservation easement was sold to Timothy and Kacey Schneider on July 24, 2017. Timothy and Kacey Schneider now request that the Governing Board release the conservation easement.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0405 Approve the release of a recorded conservation easement for a project known as Hendry Creek Parcel.

[Resolution No. 2026-0405](#)

[Exhibit A](#)

[Exhibit B](#)

19. Microsoft Enterprise Agreement (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

The District relies on Microsoft enterprise software to support its desktop computing environment, collaboration tools, and server infrastructure across the organization. To support these capabilities, the District maintains enterprise licensing through a Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, the standard licensing model used by large organizations to provide consistent access to Microsoft software and services. The agreement includes core productivity and collaboration applications such as Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneDrive, SharePoint, Power BI, and Teams, as well as Windows Server and SQL Server.

Staff requests authorization to issue annual purchase orders to SHI International Corporation for a Microsoft Enterprise Agreement for a three-year period in the total amount of \$4,751,663. The Microsoft Enterprise Agreement provides standardized enterprise licensing for the District's Microsoft products and services and ensures continued access to software updates, security enhancements, and technical support necessary for daily operations. While unit costs increased as expected, strategic licensing and modernization efforts along with negotiated terms resulted in substantial annual savings.

Entering into a new Enterprise Agreement will maintain a predictable and cost-effective licensing structure while supporting the District's ongoing cybersecurity initiatives, improving workforce productivity through modern collaboration tools, and enabling the continued transition to secure cloud-based services. The agreement also provides access to emerging capabilities, including artificial intelligence tools and advanced security features available within the Microsoft platform.

The Microsoft Enterprise Agreement will be procured as a special procurement pursuant to Section 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy using SHI International Corporation Contract Number 2024056-02 with the City of Mesa, Arizona through the OMNIA Partners National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance, a previously competed cooperative purchasing vehicle available to public agencies.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0406 Authorize issuing annual purchase orders to SHI International Corporation, for a Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, for a three-year period, in the amount of \$4,751,663, for which \$1,439,897.98 of Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and the remainder is subject to Governing

Board approval of future years' budgets, using SHI International Corporation Contract Number 2024056-02 with the City of Mesa, Arizona and OMNIA Partners National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance. (Purchase Order No. 4500161012)
[Resolution No. 2026-0406](#)

20. Authorize Publication of Notice of Proposed Rule and Repeal Rules 40E-22.061 and 40E-22.222, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) (Staff contact, Maricruz R. Fincher)

Agenda Item Background:

During the 2025 legislative session, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 108 (SB 108), which created section 120.5435, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and amended section 120.74, F.S. As part of the new requirements under SB 108, the District, in coordination with the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee, must review all of its existing rules by July 1, 2030. The District must include in its annual regulatory plan a schedule of the rules it will review each year during the review period.

To comply with these requirements, the District's 2025-2026 Regulatory Plan contains the yearly review schedule for 2025-2026, which includes, but is not limited to, rules in Chapter 40E-22, F.A.C. (Regional Water Shortage Plans). For each rule under review, the District must decide to either make a technical change, a substantive change, no change, or repeal the rule.

Prior to this review, District staff determined that Rules 40E-22.061 and 40E-22.222, F.A.C., should be repealed because they are redundant of Rule 40E-21.691(6)(a) and (4)(a), F.A.C., respectively. As a result, a Notice of Rule Development was published in the Florida Administrative Register on January 7, 2025.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0407 Authorize publication of a Notice of Proposed Rule in the Florida Administrative Register (FAR) and Repeal of Rules 40E-22.061 and 40E-22.222, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

[Resolution No. 2026-0407](#)

[Notice of Proposed Rule 40E-22.061 40E-22.222](#)

21. Publish a Notice of Proposed Rule in the Florida Administrative Register and Adopt Amendments to Rule 40E-7.215, F.A.C. (Staff contact, Candida Heater)

Agenda Item Background:

During the 2025 legislative session, the Florida Legislature passed Senate Bill 108 (SB 108), which created section 120.5435, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and amended section 120.74, F.S.

As part of the new requirements under SB 108, the District, in coordination with the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee, must review all of its existing rules by July 1, 2030. The District must include in its annual regulatory plan a schedule of the rules it will review each year during the review period.

To comply with these requirements, the District's 2025-2026 Regulatory Plan contains the yearly review schedule for 2025-2026, which includes, but is not limited to, Rule 40E-7.215, F.A.C. (Definitions).

At its March 5, 2026 meeting, the Governing Board approved publication of the Notice of Proposed Rule for amendments to Rule 40E-7.215. During final preparation of the rule package for publication, staff identified several clarifying revisions in the form accompanying the rule that will ensure consistency with the District's intended implementation.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0408 Approve an updated Notice of Proposed Rule and authorize publication of the Notice of Proposed Rule in the Florida Administrative Register (FAR), adopting amendments to Rule 40E-7.215, F.A.C

[Resolution No. 2026-0408](#)

[Form No 1112 Statement of No Suspension](#)

Discussion Agenda

22. Update on Water Supply Conditions and Resolution Proclaiming April 2026 as Water Conservation Month (Staff contact, Carolina Maran, Ph.D., P.E., and Todd Kimberlain)

Agenda Item Background:

April generally marks the last full month of South Florida's dry season and it is usually when water needs are most acute, highlighting the importance of conserving water. Since 1998, the month of April has been proclaimed Water Conservation Month in Florida to increase awareness and promote efficient use of the state's water resources.

With this resolution, the District will join the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association, other water management districts, local governments, and other organizations in supporting water conservation through the adoption of water conservation resolutions and proclamations throughout Florida. Water conservation measures and the efficient use of water results in a decrease of water demands and is more cost-effective than developing alternative water supplies.

In addition, an update on water supply conditions will be provided. Earlier in the current dry season, Water Shortage Warnings were declared for the Biscayne Aquifer and its recharge areas in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties, the Lower Tamiami Aquifer in Lee and Collier Counties, and the Indian Prairie Basin in Glades and Highlands Counties. These areas have been experiencing a drier than normal dry season and drought conditions, however conditions recently improved in the Biscayne Aquifer and the water shortage warning was rescinded for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties on March 30, 2026.

An update on the rainfall, groundwater and surface water conditions in these areas will be presented.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0409 Proclaim April as Water Conservation Month.

[Resolution No. 2026-0409](#)

Technical Reports

23. Water and Ecological Conditions Report - John P. Mitnik, P.E., and Cassandra Armstrong, Ph.D.

Staff Reports

24. Monthly Financial Report - Candida Heater, Division Director - Administrative Services
25. General Public Comment
26. Board Comment
27. Adjourn

Project Updates

Agenda Item Background:

[CERP Report](#)

[NEEPP Report](#)

Public Comment Procedure

The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board encourages the public to provide comment and input to the Governing Board. Public comment is accepted at the two dedicated General Public Comment periods at the beginning and the end of the meeting. Public comment is also accepted on the Consent Agenda and each Discussion Agenda item.