

APPROVED

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of the Meeting July 9, 2025

TIME: 3:30 p.m.
PLACE: Lecanto Government Building
ADDRESS: 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 280, Lecanto, Florida 34461

The numbers preceding the items listed below correspond with the published agenda.

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Campbell called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Chair Campbell led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Roll Call** – Chair Campbell asked each attendee to introduce themselves.

BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Jerry Campbell, *Chair*, Hernando Co Commissioner
Don Wiley, *Vice Chair*, Sumter County Commissioner
Marcos Flores, *Treasurer*, Wildwood City Councilor
Ryan Amsler, Hernando County Commissioner
Janet Barak, Citrus County Commissioner
Todd Coon, Sumter County Commissioner
Robert Holmes, Crystal River City Councilor
Robert “Bo” Smith, Belleview Commissioner

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Thomas Bronson, Brooksville City Councilor
Kathy Bryant, Marion County Commissioner
Jeff Kinnard, Citrus Co Commissioner
Michelle Stone, Marion County Commissioner
Carl Zalak, Marion County Commissioner

BOARD ALTERNATE(S) PRESENT

Trevor Knight, Marion Co Water Res Liaison

WRWSA STAFF PRESENT

Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP, Executive Dir
James Hartley, General Counsel Assistant
LuAnne Stout, Administrative Asst.

OTHERS PRESENT

Carrieann Adkins, SWFWMD Govt Affairs Reg Mgr
Debra Burden, Citrus Co Water Conservation Mgr
Audra Curts, City of Crystal River
Katheryn Eno, Purvis Gray & Company
Lisa Krentz, Hazen and Sawyer
Paige TaraCruz, SWFWMD Environmental Prj Mgr

WRWSA STAFF ABSENT

Robert W. Batsel, Jr., General Counsel

4. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda** – Mrs. Folsom noted that are no additions or deletions to the agenda.

5. **Public Comment** – There being no members of the audience requesting to address the Board, Chair Campbell closed public comment.

6. **Consent Agenda**

- a. **Approval of Minutes** [approved May 21, 2025 minutes]
- b. **Bills to be Paid** [ratified June bills; approved July bills provided at the meeting]
- c. **2025-2026 Regulatory Plan** [Approve plan as provided by staff for publication]

Mr. Holmes moved, second Ms. Barek, to approve Consent Agenda Items 6.a., 6.b. and 6.c., as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Financial Audit**

Ms. Katheryn Eno, Partner with Purvis Gray & Company, LLP, presented this item. Purvis Gray and Company has prepared the annual audit of the Authority’s financial statements for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2024.

Included as an exhibit in the Board's meeting materials is the Authority's financial position provided to Purvis Gray & Company. The following exhibits were included as separate documents: A. June 12, 2025 letter from Purvis Gray and Company; B. Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Ms. Eno provided a review of the documents provided.

Ms. Barek moved, seconded by Mr. Wiley, to approve the Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24, dated June 7, 2024, as presented at the meeting and submittal of this report to the Auditor General and to the Florida Department of Financial Services. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Water Supply and Conservation Grants Program – Approval of Awards

Ms. Folsom, Executive Director, presented this item. At the Authority's May 21, 2025 meeting, the Board set the total allocation of funds in Fiscal Year 2025-26 for the Local Government Grant Program at \$180,000. The Authority has received four grant applications, one each from Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties. A summary of the applications is presented below while copies of the applications are included as exhibits to this item.

The applications received reflect continuations of member government proven effective water conservation programs. Staff analysis of the applications indicates all of the proposed water conservation programs meet the Authority's grant program requirements. Representatives of each of the applicants have been invited to attend the meeting and answer any Board questions regarding their respective water conservation grant applications.

The applications received total \$274,960.00. Staff recommends the Board approve the FY 2025-26 grant amounts as noted below totaling \$180,000.00. Sumter County has been notified that the amount being granted is not the full amount being requested.

The following exhibits were included in the Board's meeting materials:

- Citrus County Water Supply and Conservation Grant Application
- Hernando County Water Supply and Conservation Grant Application
- Marion County Water Supply and Conservation Grant Application
- Sumter County Water Supply and Conservation Grant Application
- Belleview Water Supply and Conservation Grant Application

Mr. Flores moved, seconded by Mr. Wiley, to approve the grants in the amounts recommended (Citrus County - \$47,175.00; Hernando County - \$47,000.00; Marion County - \$18,285.00; Sumter County - \$65,040.00; City of Belleview - \$2,500.00) and authorized the Chair to sign the Grant Agreements. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Resolution 2025-05 Adoption of Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Consideration of this item was deferred to September 17, 2025 Board meeting as a representative from each County needs to be present for budget approval.

10. Regional Water Supply Plan

Ms. Lisa Krentz representing Hazen and Sawyer provided an update on the project status a summary of the future water supply modeling that Hazen and Sawyer has completed. The Authority entered into a cooperative funding agreement with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) in December 2022 (23CF0004079) for Regional Water Supply Plan Update project. The Authority entered into a contract with Hazen and Sawyer in January 2023 to undertake the project. With the assistance of the SWFWMD, St. Johns River Water Management District, and a Technical Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from member governments and public supply utilities in the four-county region, the Plan Update is being coordinated.

This project is behind schedule due to some delays in the availability of the Central Springs Model. The model has been received now and the project is progressing. Findings to date include some utilities have surplus unallocated reclaimed water, demand-supply mismatch exists geographically by utility, and conservation and reuse are helpful but not sufficient alone.

This item was provided for the Board's information and no action was required.

11. Legislative Report

Ms. Folsom, Executive Director, presented this item. The 2025 Legislative Regular Session began on March 4, 2025 and ran for two extended periods ending June 16, 2025. Staff has gathered updated information on relevant bills that are related to conservation and water supply from SWFWMD, 1000 Friends of Florida, and the Florida Engineering Society's Conservation and Environmental Quality Committee, and the House and Senate websites.

A summary of the bills that WRWSA that staff has been tracking that passed during the session is provided in the meeting materials.

Ms. Folsom provided a more detailed presentation on the SB 492 / HB 1175 Mitigation Banks Bill for the Board's information. In response to Mr. Holmes' inquiry, the next presentation will be on the SB202 / HB11 Municipal Water and Sewer Utility Rates; as of July 1, it was the only bill not signed yet by the Governor.

This item was provided for the Board's information and no action was required.

12. Attorney's Report – Mr. Hartley noted that the 12-month extension to the agreement with EcoLand Design has been executed.

13. Executive Director's Report – Ms. Folsom presented the following items which required no action and highlighted items which had activity since last Board meeting.

- a. Water Use Permit Demand Summary** – A summary was in the Board's meeting materials.
- b. Water Use Permit Activity Report (WMIS Notifications)** – A list of notifications was included in the Board's meeting materials.
- c. Residential Irrigation Evaluation Programs Update** – Ms. Folsom said the focus for Phase 7 program is on follow-ups to 25% of the core evaluation participants, a comparison of pre- and post-evaluation water usage, a satisfaction survey and a report. This program will be complete in December 2025. She also noted that the Phase 8 program began in May 2025 and will be completed utilizing grant funding from the SWFWMD WISE program.
- d. Correspondence** – Item(s) were included in the meeting materials.
- e. News Articles** – Article(s) were included in the meeting materials. It was noted that Phase 2 of the Florida Water Loss Program has started, which provides free water audit services to municipalities in Florida.

12. Other Business – None

13. Next Meeting Time and Location

- The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166. .

14. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Jerry Campbell, Chair

Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director