

DRAFT

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of the Meeting September 17, 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**

As the most senior member of Board members present, Ms. Stone called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Ms. Stone led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Roll Call** – Ms. Folsom called the roll noting all those present on the Board and in the audience.

BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Don Wiley, *Vice Chair*, Sumter County Commissioner
Robert Holmes, Crystal River City Councilor
Michelle Stone, Marion County Commissioner

BOARD ALTERNATE(S) PRESENT

Diana Finegan, Citrus County Commissioner
Alys Brockway, Hernando Co Water Resource Mgr

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Jerry Campbell, *Chair*, Hernando Commissioner
Marcos Flores, *Treasurer*, Wildwood Councilor
Ryan Amsler, Hernando County Commissioner
Janet Barak, Citrus County Commissioner
Todd Coon, Sumter County Commissioner
Thomas Bronson, Brooksville City Councilor
Kathy Bryant, Marion County Commissioner
Robert “Bo” Smith, Belleview Commissioner
Jeff Kinnard, Citrus Co Commissioner
Carl Zalak, Marion County Commissioner

WRWSA STAFF PRESENT

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

WRWSA STAFF ABSENT

Robert W. Batsel, Jr., General Counsel

OTHERS PRESENT

Trevor Knight, Marion Co Water Res Liaison
Lisa Krentz, Hazen and Sawyer
Joseph Quinn, SWFWMD Water Supply Project Mgr
Paige TaraCruz, SWFWMD Environmental Prj Mgr

4. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda** – Mrs. Folsom noted a quorum was present for the Board to conduct regular business and that Item 7 would be deferred to the next meeting when all four counties are represented to consider the FY2025-26 budget for adoption.

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

(Vice Chair Wiley arrived at 3:35 p.m.)

6. **Consent Agenda**

- a. **Approval of Minutes** [approved July 9, 2025 minutes]
- b. **Public Officials Liability Insurance Policy** [approved FY 2025-26 renewal payment]
- c. **Bills to be Paid** [ratified August bills; approved September bills provided at the meeting]
- d. **Fiscal Year 2025-26 Calendar of Board Meeting Dates**
- e. **Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget Amendment – Purvis Gray Client Assistance** [approved budget amendment in the amount of \$2,600]

Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Ms. Finegan, to approve Consent Agenda Items 6.a., 6.b., 6.c., 6.d., and 6.e., as presented.

At Ms. Folsom's request to discuss Item 6.d., Ms. Stone amended her motion, seconded by Ms. Finegan's amended action, to approve Consent Agenda Items 6.a., 6.b., 6.c. and 6.e. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Fiscal Year 2025-26 Calendar of Board Meeting Dates – Ms. Folsom noted that the Florida Association of Cities/Counties appears to scheduling events on the third week of the month. Vice Chair Wiley suggested moving November, January and September to the second week of the month.

Following consideration, Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Ms. Finegan, to approve Item 6.d. meeting dates as follows: November 12, 2025; January 14, 2026; March 18, 2026; May 20, 2026; July 15, 2026; September 9, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Consideration of this item was deferred to November 12, 2025 Board meeting as a representative from each County needs to be present for budget approval.

8. As-Needed Technical and Engineering Services – Authorization to Issue Work Orders

Ms. Folsom, Executive Director, presented this item. At its September 2022 meeting the Board authorized the award of contracts for General Professional Engineering/Technical Services. The agreements with these firms do not authorize any work; work must be authorized through the issuance of subsequent Work Orders, which must be approved by the Board. The agreements took effect October 1, 2022 and are valid for a three-year period (through September 30, 2025) and may be extended for two (2) one-year (1-year) periods upon mutual written agreement of both parties.

Ms. Folsom said staff recommends issuance of the following one-year extension of As-Needed General Engineering/Technical Services to the following firms:

Firms (listed alphabetically)	Location
INTERA	Tampa
Hazen and Sawyer	Tampa
Applied Sciences Consulting	Tampa
Stantec Consulting Services	Riverview
Kimley-Horn & Associates	Ocala
CHA Consulting	Winter Springs

Ms. Folsom noted that the Board also authorized the issuance of work orders for FY 2024-25 to two of these firms, Reiss Engineering and Weber and Associates. These work orders have subsequently expired. In order to provide technical and engineering support on an as-needed basis in the coming fiscal year, it is necessary for one or more new work orders to be issued. Staff recommends issuance of work orders in the amount of \$10,000 to the following firms:

Firms (listed alphabetically)	Location
Applied Sciences Consulting	Tampa
INTERA	Tampa

Following consideration, Ms. Finegan moved, seconded by Ms. Stone, to (1) authorize the Executive Director to issue one-year extensions of As-Needed General Engineering/Technical Services agreements as shown above through September 30, 2026; and (2) authorize the Executive Director to issue the two work orders in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 each for the period through September 30, 2026 to Applied Sciences Consulting and INTERA. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Charles A. Black Wellfield Engineering Analysis

Ms. Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, will presented this item. The Water Supply Contract with Citrus County requires that an engineering analysis be completed of the infrastructure at the Charles A. Black Wellfield and Treatment Plants every five years. The most recent report was

completed in September 2021 at a cost of \$30,000. The evaluation will examine the condition and useful life of the water supply facilities, and project expenditures for Renewal and Replacement (R&R) for the coming 5-year time period. The analysis will also include the recommended amount that Citrus County should deposit monthly to maintain the R&R fund balance between \$2 and \$3 million dollars, per the requirements of the Water Supply Contract.

Ms. Folsom noted that the Authority has a number of consultants currently under contract to perform work on an as-needed basis. Authority staff requested a proposal from CHA Consulting to update and re-evaluate the previous work conducted in 2021. Staff has identified a not-to-exceed amount of \$41,678 for this work. Funds are available in the FY 2025-2026 Water Resources Development Projects Expenditures as a line item. Included as an exhibit in the Board's meeting materials was the CHA Consulting Proposal.

Mr. Holmes moved, seconded by Ms. Stone, to approve the Work Order to CHA Consulting to conduct an Engineering Evaluation of the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facilities for an amount not to exceed \$41,678. Motion carried unanimously.

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.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Krentz provided an overview of current findings to date which 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.

Ms. Krentz responded to inquiries by Mr. Holmes regarding the Withlacoochee River and Green Swamp and that assessments are still under consideration. Ms. Folsom noted that Minimum Flows and Levels studies are ongoing. In response to Ms. Brockway's inquiries, Ms. Krentz said that conservation opportunities are being adjusted by utilities and will be reflected in the report.

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

11. Legislative Reports

Ms. Folsom, WRWSA 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 staff tracked that passed during the session was provided as an exhibit to this item.

Ms. Folsom provided a detailed presentation on the SB 1228 / HB 691 Spring Restoration Bill using a PowerPoint presentation.

The 2026 Legislative Regular Session will begin January 13, 2026. The dates and times for the Legislative delegations are listed below and Ms. Folsom plans to attend:

Citrus County	October 31, 2025	9 am	Citrus County Commission Chambers
Hernando County	December 15, 2025	1 pm	Hernando County Commission Chamber
Marion County	October 1, 2025	1 pm	College of Central Florida's Klein Center
Sumter County	TBD		TBD

Vice Chair Wiley stated there is the initiative to end property taxes, and counties will be looking for places to make reductions which may affect to this Board. He said it may have untended consequences for future planning.

Ms. Stone said that, in light of the large asset of the Charles A. Black Wellfield which is owned by all of us, how will that play out to make us whole should the Authority be dismantled. She said it is something to keep in mind when speaking with our legislators as this may be a possible unintended consequence.

Vice Chair Wiley said that water supply is an important issue for this region.

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

12. **Attorney's Report** – Mr. Hartley said he had nothing to report.
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** – An update was provided for each of the programs. In response to Mr. Holmes question, Mr. Folsom said the threshold for residents to be considered may be lowered to increase the pool of applicants.
 - d. **Correspondence** – Item(s) were included in the meeting materials.
 - e. **News Articles** – Article(s) were included in the meeting materials.
14. **Other Business** – None
15. **Next Meeting Time and Location**
 - The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2025, at 3:30 p.m. at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166.
16. **Adjournment** – Vice Chair Wiley adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

Jerry Campbell, Chair

Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director