



South Florida Water Management District

GOVERNING BOARD MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

September 10, 2026

2:00 PM

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
 - September 2026 Employee of the Month: Luis Castro, Building Maintenance Mechanic
 - September 2026 Team of the Month: Big Cypress Basin Structure Maintenance and Heavy Equipment Team
 - 45-Year Service Award: John Burns, Heavy Equipment Operator, West Palm Beach Field Station
4. Agenda Revisions
5. Agenda Item Abstentions by Board Members
6. Big Cypress Basin Board Report - Charlette Roman, Chair
7. Consider Approval of the Minutes for the August 13, 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. Release and Partial Release of C-30 Canal Easements (Staff contact, Ray Palmer)

Agenda Item Background:

The District operates and maintains the C-30 Canal, a large portion of which is located within 26,310-acre Sunbridge master planned community currently under construction. In connection with various previous Sunbridge permit requirements, access easements totaling approximately 5.3 acres (South Access Easements) and 0.692 acres (North Access Easement) were granted to the District and improved pursuant to District requirements for access to the C-30 Canal.

In connection with the South Access Easements, which intersect with an existing C-30 access easement, an additional 0.454-acre access easement was granted and improved to serve as a temporary bypass access area while certain infrastructure improvements were being made to a portion of the South Access Easements. As the aforesaid infrastructure improvements are completed and the full South Access Easements area is in use, the additional 0.454-acre access easement that served temporarily as a bypass access area (Release of Access Easement Area) is no longer needed or used, and can be released.

A 0.386-acre portion of the North Access Easement lies within a portion of a newly created Plat that includes a dedicated public road directly adjacent to the remaining 0.306 acres of the North Access Easement (Remainder Access Easement). To further accommodate the District and provide a wider turning radius for District vehicles and equipment, an additional 0.004-acre access easement area adjoining the Remainder Access Easement (Additional Access Easement) was granted to and constructed for the District. With the Additional Access Easement and a dedicated public road being directly adjacent to the Remainder Access Easement, the Partial Release of Access Easement Area is no longer needed and can be released. However, until the dedicated public road is completed, operational, and accepted by Osceola County, the District will have a temporary access easement with respect to the Partial Release of Access Easement Area.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0901 Release a 0.454-acre, more or less, access easement and partially release a 0.386-acre, more or less, portion of an access easement in consideration of (i) an additional 0.004-acre access easement area, (ii) the dedication and construction as a public road of a portion of the 0.386-acre partially released access easement, (iii) the grant of a temporary access easement over the 0.386-acre partially released access easement until the

dedicated public road is completed and (iv) the prior grant and construction of a 5.3-acre, more or less, access easement and a 0.692-acre, more or less, access easement, all in connection with the District's C-30 Canal, located in Osceola County.

[Resolution No. 2026-0901](#)
[Maps](#)

15. Request for Right of Way Occupancy Permit, Hendry County (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

Florida Power & Light Company (Applicant) requests a Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit Number 17751-R (ROW Permit) for an existing unauthorized aerial parallel run within the east right of way of the L-1 and the L-2 Canals beginning just south of C.R. 835 and continuing southward approximately 10 miles. The ROW Permit for this existing 10-mile-long utility installation requires a waiver of District criteria because it does not fully comply with the requirement that parallel run installations be installed within 10 feet of the right of way line. Of the 90 poles within the right of way, 36 are compliant (within 10 feet of the right of way line). The remaining 54 poles (which range from 10+ to no more than 25 feet from the right of way line) require a waiver.

The District's overbank (e.g., the land between the top of bank and the right of way line) is extraordinarily wide through this canal reach, varying from 150 to 230 feet from top of bank. In addition, the closest pole is 145 feet from the top of bank. Given the generous width of the overbank and the distance between the existing poles and the top of bank, it would be unreasonable and of no benefit to the District to require FPL to relocate approximately 60 percent of the poles 15 feet (or less) closer to the right of way line. If required to relocate the poles and associated distribution lines, FPL would incur a significant and unnecessary financial hardship.

The existing aerial parallel run has been in its current location for more than 20 years without any adverse impact to District operations or maintenance. If the waiver is granted, the existing poles will not interfere with or adversely impact the District's routine or emergency operations, maintenance, or future construction activities.

Recommended Action:

Approve issuance of Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit 17751-R and the associated petition for waiver to allow an existing aerial parallel run to be located more than 10 feet from the right of way line (Application No. 260507-64017).

[Backup Presentation](#)

16. Request for Right of Way Occupancy Permit, Miami-Dade County (Staff contact, Rich Virgil, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

Miami River Port Terminal, LLC (Applicant) is applying for a Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit Number 17632-R (ROW Permit) to authorize a private 6-slip marina located on the north side of the C-6 Canal at N.W. 33rd Avenue in Miami-Dade County. The proposed marina is associated with an import/export business. The facility

includes 6 slips for temporary vessel mooring while loading and unloading goods, a concrete seawall, and 25 wood fender piles. The proposed marina complies with all District criteria. No waivers are required.

The District authorizes marinas (defined as facilities with mooring for four or more vessels) by issuing a Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit, which is a permit type that must be approved by the District's Governing Board.

If approved, construction of the proposed marina will not adversely impact the District's ability to perform routine or emergency operations, maintenance, or future construction activities. As condition of the ROW Permit, the Applicant will be responsible for maintenance and management of all facilities associated with the permit.

Recommended Action:

Approve issuance of Standard Right of Way Occupancy Permit Number 17632-R (Application No. 250113-49108).

[Backup Presentation](#)

17. C-23/24 South Reservoir Package I - Change Order No. 10, St. Lucie County (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of maintaining the District's critical flood control infrastructure, the C-23/24 South Reservoir Package I Project, located in St. Lucie County, is a precursor project for the Indian River Lagoon-South (IRL-S) authorization of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. This project includes the excavation, widening and hardening of approximately 4.7-miles of the C-23 Canal, replacement of the G-78 water control structure with a new gated water control structure S-456, and replacement of various project culverts within the limits of construction.

On April 11, 2024, the Governing Board awarded the C-23/24 IRL-S South Reservoir Package I Project contract to Phillips Heavy, Inc. for \$59,431,000.00 (Contract No. 4600004965). Previous Change Orders one through nine have been issued in the amount of \$1,169,780.13 for a revised contract cost of \$60,600,780.13.

One of the Project components of this work includes the replacement of Culvert CS#11. This work was intended to be a partial replacement of the culvert due to access constraints. During the ongoing construction activities, staff were able to resolve these constraints with the adjacent property owner, allowing for a full replacement of the structure. Performing this replacement now will alleviate the need to replace it in the near future which would otherwise impact our newly constructed work. Change Order No. 10 includes the additional cost to fully replace the structure. These changes result in an increase to the Contract price by \$912,712.69 for a revised total contract value of \$61,513,492.82 and adds 0 days to the Contract time.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0902 Authorize Change Order No. 10 with Phillips Heavy, Inc., for the construction of the C-23/24 South Reservoir Package I Project, for an additional amount not to exceed \$912,712.69, for which dedicated funds (State Appropriations) are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2025-2026. (Contract No.

18. Big Cypress Basin I-75 Weir 2 Structure Relocation, Collier County (Staff contact, Lucine Dadrian, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

As part of the Big Cypress Basin (BCB) Capital Program, the I-75 Weir 2 Structure Relocation project will establish a new water control structure to replace the existing, aging facility. The current structure will be decommissioned and demolished due to its deteriorating condition after the new structure is constructed. The newly designed structure is a critical flood control structure that will enhance water level regulation, mitigating excessive drainage in the I-75 Canal basin situated north of the site, while also optimizing groundwater recharge during the dry season. The new installation will include a remotely operated, three-gate water control structure with a flow capacity of 600 cubic feet per second. It will feature a 24-foot wide service bridge, stilling wells, communication and generator building, and various additional appurtenances. Furthermore, to ensure continued access to the canal, a new boat ramp will be constructed just north of the existing structure.

The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is recommended for award. In accordance with District policy and consistent with state law for Request for Bids procurements, this item was competitively bid through a sealed bid process. The bid opening for this project was on September 1, 2026.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0903 Authorize entering into an 895-day contract with Thomas Marine Construction, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for the BCB I-75 Weir 2 Structure Relocation Project, in the amount of \$9,378,500, for which \$4,300,000 in Big Cypress Basin Ad Valorem funds are budgeted in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Contract No. 4600005401)

[Resolution No. 2026-0903](#)

[Presentation Backup](#)

19. Infinite Talent Human Resources Software Subscription Services (Staff contact, Akintunde Owosina, P.E.)

Agenda Item Background:

The District uses the Infinite Talent Acquisition BrassRing and Onboard software solutions to support the recruiting and employee onboarding processes. These applications are integrated with the District's SAP S/4HANA Human Capital Management environment and automate key hiring and onboarding activities. These solutions streamline the movement of applicant and employee data, improve efficiency, and reduce manual processing. Renewal of these services will ensure continuity of critical business functions while maintaining existing system integrations and established workflows. The renewal also avoids the cost, implementation efforts, and operational risk associated with replacing a mature and proven solution.

Staff request authorization to issue annual purchase orders to Infinite Talent, Inc. for Human Resources subscription services for a four-year period in the amount of \$347,097.

These cloud services will be obtained as an exception to competition for proprietary computer software pursuant to Sec. 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0904 Authorize issuing purchase orders to Infinite Talent, Inc., for Human Resources Software Subscription Services, for a four-year period, in the amount of \$347,097, as an exception to competition for proprietary computer software pursuant to Sec. 155-6 of the District's Procurement Policy, for which \$85,491 of Ad Valorem funds are subject to Governing Board approval of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Adopted Budget and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of future years' budgets. (Purchase Order No. 4500163199)

[Resolution No. 2026-0904](#)

20. Approval of the District's 2026-2027 Regulatory Plan and Certification to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (Staff contact, Maricruz R. Fincher)

Agenda Item Background:

The District is required to prepare an annual regulatory plan by October 1 of each year to inform the Florida Legislature and the public of agency rulemaking. The regulatory plan identifies laws enacted or amended during the previous 12 months that create or modify the District's duties or authorities, and whether rulemaking is required to implement the law(s). It also identifies any discretionary rulemaking the District plans to undertake.

Additionally, the Governing Board and General Counsel must certify to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (JAPC) that they have reviewed the regulatory plan and the agency's rules to determine if they remain consistent with the agency's rulemaking authority and the laws implemented.

The regulatory plan must also list the District's existing rules adopted before July 1, 2025, and a yearly schedule of the rules the District will review during the five-year rule review period from 2025 through 2030. The District must review at least 20% of its rules each year, until all of its subject rules have been reviewed. The District may amend its yearly schedule in subsequent regulatory plans.

Beginning this year, the regulatory plan must also include information on the District's licensing activities of the prior fiscal year, categorized by type of license.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0905 Certify to the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee that the Governing Board and General Counsel reviewed the District's 2026-2027 Annual Regulatory Plan and that the District reviewed its rules to determine if the rules remain consistent with the District's rulemaking authority and the laws implemented.

[Resolution No. 2026-0905](#)

[SFWMD 2026-2027 Regulatory Plan](#)
[JAPC Certification](#)

21. Governing Board Policy: Election of Officers of the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board (Staff contact, Maricruz R. Fincher)

Agenda Item Background:

To ensure consistency among all Water Management Districts, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) issued a guidance memorandum requesting a uniform policy for Governing Board officer elections. District staff recommends updating Chapter 101, Agency Administration, Section 101-1 to include a policy detailing the nomination and election of officers, terms, and procedures related to officer vacancies. This policy is consistent with the guidance provided by DEP and with the policies of the other Water Management Districts.

Governing Board members are citizen volunteers who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate. The Governing Board sets policy for the District, whose mission is to safeguard and restore South Florida's water resources and ecosystems, protect our communities from flooding, and meet the region's water needs while connecting with the public and stakeholders.

Recommended Action:

Resolution No. 2026-0906 Create District Policy Sec. 101-1 Governing Board Officers.

[Resolution No. 2026-0906](#)

[Resolution Attachment A](#)

[Florida Department of Environmental Protection Guidance Memo](#)

Technical Reports

22. Water and Ecological Conditions Report - John P. Mitnik, P.E., and Cassandra Armstrong, Ph.D.
- Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir Update - John P. Mitnik, P.E.

Staff Reports

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

Final Presentation and Project Updates

Agenda Item Background:

[22 Mitnik Armstrong Water and Ecological Conditions Report](#)
[CERP 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.