



**JOINT MEETING
BRADFORD COUNTY COMMISSION;
THE CITY COMMISSION OF STARKE;
AND
SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2021

Governor Charley E. Johns Conference Center

1610 N. Temple Avenue

Starke, FL 32091

IN-PERSON AND TELEPHONIC

(Due to COVID-19)

Joint Scheduled Meeting

Meeting Time 5:30 P.M.

BRADFORD COUNTY COMMISSION PRESENT:

Commissioner District 3 – Chair Joseph C. Dougherty

Commissioner District 1 – Carolyn Spooner

Commissioner District 2 – Kenny Thompson

BRADFORD COUNTY COMMISSION NOT PRESENT:

Commissioner District 4 - Vice-Chair Danny Riddick

Commissioner District 5 – Diane Andrews

CITY OF STARKE COMMISSION PRESENT:

Commissioner Janice Mortimer (Vice Mayor)

Commissioner Tommy Chastain

CITY OF STARKE COMMISSION NOT PRESENT:

Commissioner Shannon Smith (Mayor)

Commissioner Wilbur Waters

Commissioner Danny Nugent

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (SRWMD) STAFF PRESENT:

Patrick Webster; David Christian; Tim Alexander; Amy Brown; Tom Mirti

COUNTY AND CITY STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: County Manager/County Attorney Will Sexton; Executive Assistant Alyssa Winston; Chief Deputy Clerk Rachel Rhoden; Public Works Director Jason Dodds; Zoning Director Randy Andrews; Building/Zoning Administrative Assistant Aleshia Wilsey; Fire Rescue Director Allen Parrish; Emergency Medical Service Chief Dylan Rodgers; Fire Chief Ben Carter; Emergency Management Director, Lt. Brad Witt; City Attorney Clay Martin; and City Manager John Holman.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Dougherty called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

1. INTRODUCTION – SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT STAFF

Patrick Webster introduced SRWMD staff and briefly outlined agenda topics to be discussed. [PowerPoint Presentation](#) provided.

2. HISTORIC OVERVIEW

- **PROBLEMATIC LOCATION**

Mr. Webster identified problematic locations at: 1) Pinewood Apartments; 2) Commercial Areas on 301; 3) Laura Street Bridge; 4) 301 Corridor; 5) Residential Areas and Golf Course; and 6) Orangewood. SRWMD anticipates that a study being conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in Bradford County will improve storm water issues in these areas.

- **GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS**

Mr. Webster presented information on active and completed projects in Bradford County where the SRWMD has provided funding or assisted in acquiring funding.

3. ACTIVE SRWMD PROJECTS

- **EDWARDS BOTTOMLANDS**

Mr. Webster advised that the Edwards Bottomlands project is a wetland mitigation project through partnership between the Florida Wildlife and Conservation District; City of Starke; Florida Department of Transportation; and SRWMD

USACE permitting requirements allow the SRWMD to complete the project successfully in 5 years.

- **FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Mr. Webster stated that the USACE is evaluating the feasibility of conducting improvements within the upstream reaches of Alligator Creek to reduce flooding within the basin.

4. FUTURE SRWMD PROJECTS COORDINATION AND OPPORTUNITIES

- **CITY OF STARKE WWTP EFFLUENT DISCHARGE**

David Christian presented information concerning the downstream of U.S. 301 to the lakes by addressing: 1) Discharge of wastewater from the treatment plant into Alligator Creek; 2) Flooding people in low lying areas around the lakes; 3) Recharge existing wetlands and build a new wetland; 4) Plug existing drainage and install a new drainage well; and 5) Conduct a watershed model.

- **CROSBY LAKE LAND ACQUISITION**
- **LAKE SAMPSON DRAINAGE WELL/BOAT RAMP**
- **FLOOD MITIGATION STRATEGIES**
- **SAMPSON, CROSBY, ROWELL LAKES WATERSHED STUDY**

5. NEXT STEPS

- **MOU**

Mr. Mirti identified next steps and asked for support, through a Memorandum of Understanding, of SRWMD future activities to improve water quantity and water quality.

- **INITIATE LAND ACQUISITION**
- **WWTP EFFLUENT DISCHARGE ADVANCED FEASIBILITY STUDY/CONCEPTS**
- **NEW GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS**
- **USACE FEASIBILITY STUDY RESULTS/PUBLIC OUTREACH**

6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

County Commissioner Spooner:

- Inquired of plans to address flooding issues in Lawtey and the City of Starke.
 - Mr. Webster replied that Chemours is working on a mine reclamation plan and improvements on SRWMD property to reduce flooding, and that USACE study should address flooding issues as well.

County Commissioner, Chair Dougherty:

- Comments pertaining to flooding and storage capacity from the Trail Ridge, Eastern side of the County.
- Progress of USACE study.

City Commissioner, Vice-Mayor Janice Mortimer:

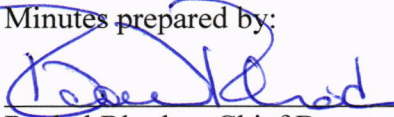
- Comments pertaining to overgrown ditch along the Eastside of State Road 16.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:26 P.M.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA


CHRIS DOUGHERTY, CHAIR

ATTEST: 
DENNY THOMPSON, CLERK TO THE BOARD

Minutes prepared by:

Rachel Rhoden, Chief Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved by BoCC at the Regular Scheduled Meeting on August 2, 2021.