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# **SOUTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

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**Thursday, December 18, 2025 | 10:00 a.m.**

The in-person and virtual zoom meeting of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council’s Executive Board was held on December 18, 2025. The meeting started at approximately 10:00am. A quorum of the full board was present.

### **BOARD MEMBERS’ PRESENT**

**Charlotte County:** Commissioner Joe Tiseo (zoom)  
Mayor Debbie Lux  
Mr. Don McCormick (zoom)

**Collier County:** Commissioner Bill McDaniel

**Glades County:** Commissioner Tim Stanley

**Hendry County:** None

**Lee County:** Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass

**Sarasota County:** Councilman Ron Smith – City of Venice

**Ex-Officio Members:** Phil Flood (zoom)

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Ms. Rebekah Harp – SWFRPC, Interim Executive Director  
Ms. Asmaa Odeh – SWFRPC, Deputy Director/Portfolio Manager/LEPC Coordinator  
Mr. Dirk Danley – Lee County Economic Development Office

### **Zoom Attendance**

Deputy Chief Mathew Marshall - LEPC  
Ms. Kristin Dozier – FRCA Executive Director  
Ms. Jennifer Hecker – CHNEP Executive Director  
Ms. Mesly Mata – TBRPC  
Natalie Hardman, City of Naples Natural Resource Manager

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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None

#### 5. AGENDA

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*Commissioner McDaniel requested to move agenda item 6b Executive Directors Contract after financials are presented. Commissioner McDaniel offered a motion to accept the agenda with adjustments presented. Commissioner Tim Stanely seconded the motion to accept the agenda with adjustments presented. The motion was approved unanimously.*

#### 6. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION ITEMS

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##### a) MINUTES: September 18, 2025

*Councilman Ron Smith offered a motion to accept the September 18<sup>th</sup> 2025, Council/Executive Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Tim Stanley seconded the motion to accept the September 18<sup>th</sup> 2025, Council/Executive Meeting Minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.*

##### c) FINANCIALS

###### i. September, October, November Financials

*Commissioner Bill McDaniel offered a motion to accept September, October, and November financials. Mayor Debbie Lux seconded the motion to accept the September, October, and November financials. The motion was approved unanimously.*

###### ii. FY24-25 Year End Closeout Budget Amendment

*Commissioner Tim Stanley offered a motion to accept the FY24-25 Year End Closeout Budget Amendment. Councilman Ron Smith seconded the motion to accept the FY24-25 Year End Closeout Budget Amendment. The motion was approved unanimously.*

###### iii. FY25-26 Budget Amendment

*Councilman Ron Smith offered a motion to accept the FY25-26 Budget Amendment. Mayor Debbie Lux seconded the motion to accept the FY25-26 Budget Amendment. The motion was approved unanimously.*

###### iii. 3 Month Financial Projection (Dec – Feb): (No Action Needed)

Interim Executive Director Rebekah Harp reported on the three-month projection

(December–February), also including October and November projected and actual comparison. Total estimate is approximately \$210,366 in revenues and \$202,635 in expenses, resulting in a small net income of about \$7,732.

#### **b) PROPOSED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S CONTRACT**

*Councilman Ron Smith offered a motion to accept the Executive Director’s Contract. Commissioner Bill McDaniel seconded the motion to accept the Executive Director’s Contract. The motion was approved unanimously.*

#### **d) MEMBER NOMINATIONS – January election of officers**

*The board decided to address vacant executive committee seats at the January 2026 meeting.*

### **7. REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE**

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Ms. Asmaa Odeh and Deputy Chief Mathew Marshall presented on the activities of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for FY24-25 and FY25-26. A special highlight of the Dwayne L Mundy Hazardous Materials Lifetime Achievement Award presented to Chief Michael Murphy.

Ms. Asmaa Odeh provided an update on our EPA Brownfields grant. A Region Wide Plan has been approved for all six counties, which will include a site inventory. Sites identified in the plan could be eligible for future Brownfields remediation funding.

### **8. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

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- **2026 Monthly Meeting Schedule** – Draft 2026 Meeting schedule provided
- **Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026** – **FDOT Sun Guide SWIFT Center, 10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers**

### **9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

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#### **a) Grant Activity Sheet**

As requested by the Council, staff provides a revised grant activity sheet each month. Staff are continuously working on applying for grants and contracts.

#### **a) Per Capita County Assessments**

As requested by the Council, staff provided per capita member assessment breakdown for

FY 25-26.

## 10. REPORTS

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### a) Directors Report

Interim Executive Director Rebekah Harp provided an update on the October 24<sup>th</sup> Regional Forum in Punta Gorda. The event turnout was successful at 80 attendees with presentations on Brownfields, Agriculture and Water. Ms. Harp also highlighted the December 2<sup>nd</sup> Punta Gorda Community Workshop which SWFRPC and CFRPC are working in partnership with the City of Punta Gorda to address inconsistencies with their land development code and comprehensive plan.

FRCA membership appointments are also needed, which will be addressed during the January meeting.

### b) State Agencies Comments/Reports

Mr. Phil Flood: reported that their Alternative Water Supply and Water Conservation projects grant cycle is open and they are accepting funding requests through February 26, 2026. Details are on our webpage or he can provide information.

Mr. Flood also mentioned that we are in the dry season and meteorologists are projecting a drier and warmer than normal dry season. Please conserve your water use.

The 2026 legislative session begins on January 13. The Governor released his proposed budget that includes \$810m for Everglades Restoration and a total of \$1.4 billion for all water related projects. The House and Senate typically release their budgets during the third week. If you haven't already made your pitch to legislators for funding, you should do so as soon as possible.

## 11. NEW BUSINESS

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No new business.

## 12. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

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Mayor Debbie Lux of the City of Punta Gorda informed the Board that the City held several emergency meetings regarding a bill submitted by Representative Oliver. Despite requests from both the City and the County to withdraw the legislation, the bill advanced with support from Representatives Oliver and Nix. The bill would remove the City's private utilities and transfer oversight to the County. Mayor Lux is requesting assistance in urging the representatives to withdraw the bills.

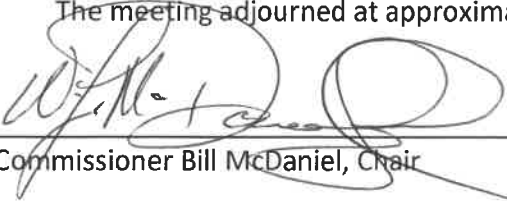
Commissioner Tim Stanley noted that the Board will be holding a workshop to discuss the

property tax issue. He emphasized that this is a matter all jurisdictions should be paying attention to, as a tax cut would impact everyone.

### **13. ADJOURN**

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The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:20 a.m.



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Commissioner Bill McDaniel, Chair

**The meeting was duly advertised in the December 5, 2025, issue of the FLORIDA ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER, Volume 51, Number 235.**