

MINUTES OF MEETING **SPRING LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

The Regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Spring Lake Improvement District was held Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at the District Office, 115 Spring Lake Boulevard, Sebring, Florida.

Present were:

Kay Gorham
Butch Copeland
Tim Roland
Phil Gentry
Troy Marsh

Board Chair
Vice Chair
Secretary
Asst. Secretary
Asst. Secretary

Also, present were:

Bill Nielander
Joe DeCerbo
Israel Serrano
Diane Angell

District Attorney
District Manager
Deputy Manager
District Administrator

Residents & Guests

“See Sign in Sheet”

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Kay Gorham called the meeting to order and led the pledge. A moment of silence was held in remembrance of 911.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Upcoming meetings, events, correspondence

A. September 22nd, SLID 55th Anniversary

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

The Board received copies of the minutes from August 12, 2026, for review. There being no further questions.

ON MOTION by Butch Copeland, seconded by Troy Marsh with all in favor the minutes from August 12, 2026, Board meeting were approved.

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Approval of Financials

The Board received copies of the August 2026 Financials for review. There being no further questions.

ON MOTION by Phil Gentry, seconded by Troy Marsh with all in favor the financials from August 2026 were approved.

FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Treasurer Report

A. Update

The application for the Bark Park reimbursement has been submitted to FRDAP.

B. Resolutions

Various resolutions were presented to the Board for approval.

ON MOTION by Butch Tim Roland seconded by Butch Copeland with all in favor, Resolution 2026-16 adopting the Final Budgets for FY 2027 was approved.

ON MOTION by Phil Gentry, seconded by Troy Marsh with all in favor, Resolution 2026-17 Levying a GF Maintenance Assessment of \$347.91 per unit for FY2027 was approved.

ON MOTION by Tim Roland, seconded by Butch Copeland with all in favor, Resolution 2026-18 Levying a Lot Mowing Assessment of \$200 per lot and \$230 per commercial acre for FY2027 was approved.

ON MOTION by Butch Copeland, seconded by Troy Marsh with all in favor, Resolution 2026-19 Levying a Village I Assessment of \$126.09 per unit for FY2027 was approved.

ON MOTION by Butch Copeland, seconded by Phil Gentry with all in favor, Resolution 2026-20 adopting FY 2027 Utility Rates and fees was approved.

ON MOTION by Butch Copeland, seconded by Troy Marsh with all in favor Resolution 2026-21 FY 2026 Budget Amendment was approved.

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Manager

A. Updates

Joe reviewed several items from the Board Packet information, and there were no additional questions.

Israel informed the Board about the preliminary engineering proposal the District received from Davidson engineering for the ECO system. The proposal cost is \$165,890 and the District will look at using our line of credit at First Southern bank to spread the costs.

ON MOTION by Butch Copeland, seconded by Tim Roland with all in favor of accepting the Preliminary engineering proposal from Davidson Engineering \$165,890 and fund the costs from the line of credit.

Joe will be going to Tallahassee to meet with David Ramba regarding the Legislative Appropriation. The project is estimated at \$16 million.

Israel said he wanted to thank the County for the work they did for us at the entrance to Arbuckle Creek Park. They did this for the District at no cost.

Israel said he and Brandon will be working with the County on the county's stormwater project. The county will be going out for grants that will benefit Spring Lakes drainage system.

B. Employment Agreements

Several items that were brought to Joe's attention were included in the agreements, and there were no additional questions or concerns. Israel's job description will be reviewed with him, Joe, and Kay for adjustments.

ON MOTION by Butch Copeland, seconded by Tim Roland with all in favor Employment agreements for Israel and Diane were approved.

C. Landowners' Meeting (Date and Location)

The Board decided to hold the meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 6:00 p.m. in the community center. A State of the District presentation will be made.

D. Motion to approve FY '27 Meeting Schedule

ON MOTION by Troy Marsh, seconded by Butch Copeland with all in favor the FY '27 Meeting Schedule was approved.

E. Motion to approve FY '27 Holiday Schedule

The District follows the County's holiday schedule which was presented to the Board.

ON MOTION by Tim Roland, seconded by Butch Copeland with all in favor the FY '27 Holiday Schedule was approved.

F. Holiday Event Options

After discussion it was decided to hold the Holiday Event after the December 9th Board meeting. The event will take place at 1:00 o'clock at the Community Center, and staff will be dismissed for the day after the event. Holiday bonuses will be the same as last year and will be funded by Personnel reserves.

SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Attorney

Bill Nielander reported that the Airport brief is due by October 15th.

The AG's office has filed a motion to dismiss on behalf of the District on the other lawsuit. Currently there has been no response from the other side.

Discussion was held regarding the draft amended MOU with New Spring Lake Partners. Bill explained the options to the Board and it was decided that the original MOU would stay in place.

EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Parks Master Plan Update

Tim reported that we had hoped to have ABC Park open by the end of the month. However, there are still several things that need to be done. We hope to have the park open by the middle of October.

NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Festival

Phil gave an update on the festival. There are 135 Vendor spaces, 6 food trucks, 5 exhibitors, and inflatables for the kids. We are still waiting to hear if someone will be taking over the costume contest that was held in the past.

TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Supervisor Requests

Butch requested that we spray Pine Breeze Park for ants prior to the festival this year. He asked Israel for an update on Water Plant Two that was down from a lightning strike. Israel responded that the parts have been installed and Vince is working with Data Flow to get the plant back online.

Tim asked about Mosquito spraying. Israel reported they began spraying again last night.

Troy said he would like to reinforce the thanks to Highlands County for getting the entrance to Arbuckle Creek Park paved. It is nice to see cooperation between government agencies. He also thanked staff for working with the Monarch Society on getting the Educational Placards placed at the ECO Park.

Kay congratulated Randy on his 35 years with the District.

ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Comments

Tiffany Weaver asked several questions about the Parks Master Plan.

Loren Purk from the County Club Villas asked who they contacted regarding drainage at the Villas. Israel said this is private property and they needed to contact the HOA manager.

Troy who lives at 2724 Duane Palmer asked about drainage areas that the county overlooked on Duane Palmer and if there were plans for anything to be done.

Dee Nash of 205 Clubhouse Court said that heavy rains are pushing the covers off three water meter boxes in front of his Villa. Israel said they would look at getting the meter boxes raised.

TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 14, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m.

THIRTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Motion to Adjourn

ON MOTION by Butch Copeland, seconded by Tim Roland with all in favor the meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.
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Kay Gorham, Board Chair

Tim Roland, Secretary