Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the South Indian River Water Control District
Held on February 19, 2026

The regular meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District was held on February 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the District Work Center, 15600 Jupiter Farms Road, Jupiter, Florida, and via Zoom video conferencing. Present in person were Supervisors Susan Kennedy, Tom Powell, John Meyer, Beth McElroy, and Bob Berman. Also present were Chad Kennedy, executive director; Dustin Fazio, supervisor of operations; Karen Brandon and Robert Eustice, engineers; Chuck Haas, treasurer; and Donna DeNinno, public information;. Approximately 20 landowners were present in person. Approximately 8 landowners and Seth Behn, attorney, were present via Zoom video conferencing.

Ms. Kennedy called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

Ms. Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January Meeting. Mr. Berman commented that there was a spelling error in Mr. Bratten's name. He again stated that he'd like the minutes to have less detail and is unnecessary. It should just reflect action items by the Board. He asked about the rate for the recording secretary and whether the same amount would apply to Ms. DeNinno. She responded that it would be capped at a maximum of $1000 and that this was due to the length of the meetings. A more typical meeting would be $500 or less. Mr. Meyer said it was a 3 1/2-hour meeting, so he expects the minutes to be longer and prefers to err on the side of including more detail for transparency purposes. **Ms. McElroy motioned to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2026, board meeting. John Meyer seconded the motion, and it carried by a vote of four to one.**

Ms. Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Berman asked about a charge in the amount of $43,000 from the Treasurer. Mr. Haas responded that the figure represented charges for both October and November services. October services were higher due to workload, with November charges substantially reduced. Mr. Berman then expressed the need to document work done by the Supervisors for more transparency. **Mr. Berman motioned that the District be provided with credible, verifiable documentation of work performed by the Supervisors prior to being paid according to the $50 per day compensation listed in the statutes, which would be reviewed by the Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer. The motion failed due to lack of a second. Mr. Powell motioned to approve the warrant list. The motion was seconded by Mr. Meyer, and it carried unanimously.**

Several landowners spoke under Landowner comments. Ms. Kennedy first read a statement from Representative Meg Weinberger regarding HB4099. Ms. Weinberger said she was committed to listening to concerns from everyone in the District and working together on solutions, whether done at the local level or through statutes. The bill has been removed from the sub-committee agenda, and she was interested in setting up a public meeting to discuss the concerns and issues, but it would take time to get that organized.

Mr. Matt Gitkin of Jupiter Farms, in addressing the concerns regarding House Bill 4099, felt it was beneficial to explore the idea of Palm Beach Country Estates de-annexing from the District, and allow only for basic drainage responsibility, similar to Egret Landing. He noted Mr. Berman had previously mentioned possible de-annexing at the Landowners' Meeting in September. He showed a presentation listing options, such as annexing into the County, Northern Palm Beach Heights Water Control District, the Town of Jupiter, or developing their own Community Development District. He added that the process would require Palm Beach Country Estates

landowners support through a petition and referendum, direction from the Board to draft a legislative proposal, securing a Legislative sponsor, and approval from the Florida Legislature. The District would then be able to focus solely on water drainage, as all areas share the same basin, and leave paving, parks and beautification to Palm Beach Country Estates. He noted that the choice belongs to all Palm Beach Country Estates residents and not a select few. Mr. Gitkin requested that the presentation be attached to the minutes.

Ms. Mary Michaels of Jupiter Farms thanked the Board for all their work on behalf of the landowners. She had comments regarding the January 15, 2026, Board of Supervisors meeting. At the meeting she witnessed some landowners who were disruptive, hissing, booing, and physically intimidating and making inappropriate gestures that were directed towards her and other landowners. She acknowledged the meeting was contentious at times and it was not always possible to keep an eye on everyone all the time. To be clear, she understood that the Board does it's best to maintain order, but unfortunately this bad behavior was at the back of the room and not visible to everyone. She asked that the Board be vigilant toward inappropriate behavior and use their right to eject landowners who intimidate and bully. It is a breach of peace which should not be tolerated in a public forum. Her issue is not with the Supervisors, but with the behavior of some landowners. She said this behavior needs to be documented and asked that her statements be recorded verbatim for transparency, so harassing, bullying, and intimidating behaviors are on the record. She reminded everyone to remember how you treat people who disagree with you, as it says everything about you.

Mr. Dan Armas of Jupiter Farms thanked the Board for their service. He spoke about an issue with trespassers on his property where the District says it's a road easement. He said he had been unable to find any record of a road easement, only a drainage easement. He said ATVs are destroying the property and he's concerned about safety. He requested that the Board allow him to gate off the easement for his security and to secure the District's assets. He has corresponded with the District office and doesn't want to resort to remedial action, is cooperative, and is happy to speak about the issue any time.

Mr. Michael Howard of Jupiter Farms said as citizens of the United States we have the right to free speech, but when elected to a public position we voluntarily give up some of those rights through statutes and policy requirements. Someone speaking in an effort to change the operation of this District, who has been elected to represent this District and whose actions would be governed under state statute, as well as District policy, is a problem. It is unreasonable and unfair for any elected Supervisor to speak outside the office they are elected to, trying to change something when they should instead be working through a defined process to make changes.

Mr. Charles Bratten of Palm Beach Country Estates referenced the engineering study currently being done in Palm Beach Country Estates. He noted there are a lot of culverts where dirt has accumulated in front of them and would like to see the Board come up with a plan to identify and clean these culverts. He's spoken with Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Fazio regarding the issue and felt this could improve drainage. Also, he asked if the District could find a way to finish the back area of Canal C where culvert pipes didn't get put in due to running out of grant money. This could be part of the study and would help the neighborhood.

Mr. Aymeric Benet of Palm Beach Country Estates is building a house and looking into road paving. He can't find anywhere in the law that 90% approval is required. This is impossible and means roads won't be paved. He wanted to know the basis for the policy. Ms. Kennedy encouraged him to talk with staff.

Seth Behn spoke about Mr. Armas' comments and said he doesn't believe they received the title report he referred to and asked if he could send that to them so they could determine if it was an error in the survey or that the easement doesn't exist, and they'd be happy to respond.

Greg Horgan, of Palm Beach Country Estates said he had received a code compliance letter from the County stating his deck at the rear of his property needs to be torn down because it's on District property, who filed a complaint. He doesn't understand after 22 years why there's an issue. Ms. Kennedy said it would be addressed in a staff report. He said he had until March 2nd to take it down and is devastated by this.

Ms. DeNinno presented the public information report. She reported that she had sent the updated petition form to the Board and staff for review and asked if there were any changes. Mr. Meyer had requested the updated information be highlighted, which she has done and provided it to the District office. She also stated that she and Mr. Kennedy will start work on updating the Policies and Procedures manual.

Mr. Haas did not have anything that needed Board action. He wanted to apprise the Board of discussions with Mr. Bratten regarding banking and constraints the District operates under. Mr. Bratten thought his bank might be able to address some of those constraints. Notes may be considered versus a bond, which would be less expensive. The banks they had been dealing with would only offer 12 to 15-year financing. Mr. Bratten thought his bank would go out to 20 years and has spoken with a loan officer who confirmed this. This is premature, as there is no current need at this time, but we might be looking at banking relationships in a few months after Mr. Grigg does further reviews. Mr. Berman asked if this type of financing also could be instrumental in any other capital improvements. Mr. Haas said the key to this would be useful life of the project. It also depends on the size of a project – a commercial loan might be better.

Mr. Kennedy presented his executive director's report. He requested Board approval for Resolution 2026-03: Authorization to Prepare and Submit Four Independent Grant applications to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection under the Resilient Florida Grant Program for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027. These are 50/50 cost share grants for Jupiter Farms, Palm Beach Country Estates, Egret Landing, and Jupiter Park of Commerce to help prepare for flooding, intensified storms, and sea level rise. The money is available for a limited time, and he feels it would benefit the District. An initial resilience study would be done and identify shortcomings in drainage and infrastructure and identify fixes. After that, we'd be lined up to go after the implementation money. Ms. McElroy asked if our half would come from the Cell Tower Fund and Mr. Kennedy replied that it would come from reserves but shouldn't exceed $20,000 to $30,000 for each area. If we are not awarded a grant, we wouldn't get that cost back, however, we would not receive anything if we didn't try. Ms. Kennedy reiterated there would be two steps. The first would be the resilience/vulnerability study, and the second, would be securing the grants to address the issues. She also noted the Board would be appraised at each step. Mr. Meyer said this is a long-term project and asked about amount of grants. Mr. Kennedy replied he does not have specific amounts at this time, and if the amount would exceed District capabilities, it doesn't have to move forward. Mr. Berman asked about competition for the grant and Mr. Kennedy said yes. **Mr. Meyer motioned to approve Resolution 2026-03. Ms. McElroy seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.**

Mr. Kennedy then requested approval of Resolution 2026-04: Authorization To prepare Issuance Of A Request For Qualifications For An Engineering Consultant To Provide Professional Engineering Services Under A Continuing Contract Pursuant to F. S. 287. 055. The concept is to hire an engineering firm for the purpose of working on grants, in conjunction with the District Engineer, leaving them to concentrate on other District

mainstream projects. Mr. Berman asked if the Request for Proposal would also be for someone who could back up or replace the current District Engineer. He would like this firm to be qualified to step into the District Engineer role should something change in the future, and a local engineer might be beneficial versus a very large firm like AECOM. Ms. Kennedy said this is a different scope of work, so that shouldn't be the focus of the proposal. Mr. Kennedy said the original scope is to work on grant funding, but capabilities for other types of work would be considered. Mr. Powell said the District Engineer is appointed by the Board and is statutory, but this engineer would be appointed by Mr. Kennedy and wanted to be clear why the District would do this, especially if there aren't cost savings and AECOM is capable of doing this. Mr. Kennedy said it comes down to workload and while AECOM could do this, the Request for Proposal would give the District more flexibility. There is plenty of work for both firms. Mr. Berman asked what the difference is between a grant writer and an engineering firm, to which Mr. Kennedy replied that the engineer can then do the work associated with the grant, should it be approved. He added that while AECOM has a 100% success rate with securing grants, it would be worth seeing other proposals. Mr. Meyer indicated he was in favor of the concept but was concerned about cost. Mr. Kennedy said there is a cost, but with the 50% cost share with the grants that this firm would work on, it's an opportunity that can't be missed. Mr. Berman said they need to look at the costs associated with the grants and engineering required and questioned if a cap needed to be set. Ms. Kennedy said because it's a process, then guardrails can be set at each step. Mr. Kennedy said at each step he would come back before the Board. **Mr. Berman motioned to approve Resolution 2026-04. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion, and it passed four to one.**

Mr. Kennedy spoke about new office procedures in invoice review, monthly check runs, and digital implementation. If checks are done twice a month instead of just prior to a meeting, this will reduce workload and fees, and this would be a policy or procedure change. He'd like Board members to commit to check signing for a month. There is a transition plan moving some duties from the District Treasurer to the Chief Financial Officer.

Mr. Kennedy also discussed the National Resources Conservation Service Grant of approximately $1.5 million. In the first phase of the grant, the technical assistance administrative and monitoring costs that were done by AECOM were included, however, with the second phase, they do not include this funding. As a result, it is anticipated the District would have to cover those costs, estimated at $50,000.

Ms. Kennedy asked Mr. Kennedy to address Mr. Horgan's issue. He said over the years South Florida Water Management District has stressed that structures and vegetation in easements create issues for drainage, and as a result, South Indian River Water Control District sent out notification letters for those who have built structures, such as docks, in drainage easements. They also reached out to Palm Beach County to see if they had a permit and if they are out of compliance. Unless the Board directs otherwise, they will continue with this process.

Mr. Fazio presented the supervisor of operations report. He showed a presentation on road grading maintenance practices and plans for an expanded program being considered for implementation. He explained the pull-in and capping process on dirt roads to restore a proper road crown and cross-slope, while working to prevent shoulder buildup and importance of maintaining drainage flow to the swales. He explained that the schedule for grading is weather dependent and importance of avoiding over-grading, as it turns the dirt into sugar sand and exacerbates rutting. High shoulders contribute to this, as well as potholes and gator holes. If additional material is needed to establish the crown, shell rock is added. He discussed the options for capping materials. They are not using box blades any longer as there is no control to maintain crowns in the road. He stated he had sent the proposed new road grading plan to the Board for review and plans are to include it on the website.

Mrs. Brandon presented the engineer's report. She introduced Robert Eustice of AECOM who presented the drainage study and modeling that started as a Palm Beach County Estates project, but because everything is interconnected in the same outflow between the Turnpike Department of Transportation corridor, Egret Landing and the Jupiter Park of Commerce, these have been incorporated. He explained the study's purpose is how each of these areas interact now, as opposed to design assumptions of 40 years ago. Tools for measuring and understanding the system have advanced dramatically with drones and light ranging detection technology. AECOM is an ISO9000 firm where they meet benchmarks for highest levels of accuracy. The purpose of the study is to ensure public money is spent appropriately, as well as support grant funding requests.

Mr. Eustice explained how water moves through the system and how the level of service was defined in 1984. Roadways have to meet a 10-year, 72-hour storm, which established the minimum crown of the road, as well as finished floor elevation for homes. The West basin is Palm Beach Country Estates, and the East basin is Egret Landing and Jupiter Park of Commerce. Various design storms were modeled, and it is their recommendation that the design be 10-year, 24-hour, as is the case in Jupiter Farms. Canal berms are designed to a 25-year, 72-hour storm and structure/floor protection is a 100-year, 72-hour storm. South Florida Water Management District current standards for rainfall amounts have increased anywhere from 33 to 38%, a function of more intense storms – this is proven data – and there is discussion of increasing this further. The study approach was using the most current data to produce data inputs and model build, as well as calibration. They used data from Hurricane Milton and the October 2025 storm event as justification for the 10-year, 24-hour recommendation to help mitigate some of the issues that happened at that time. Because Palm Beach Country Estates is large, it was broken up into sections with basins to determine how the system was functioning in each area. He showed a table showing the percentage of pass/fail for each area for the 10-year, 72-hour and 10-year, 24-hour design storms, as well as maps showing inundation in 2025 as opposed to 1984. Much of it is in the western part of Palm Beach Country Estates. He noted an issue of concern is higher levels of flooding affecting septic systems. Mrs. Brandon added that the reason for such an increase in stage is not only the resulting increase in rainfall but also difference in storage over the land due to the amount of lot filling, larger homes, etc., where there is less percolation into the ground. The survey also has found that over the last 40 years, the canals are being silted in and this has resulted in reduced conveyance in the system.

The District does not have ability to restrict the size of homes, so the primary options the District has for addressing flooding include canal maintenance, berm restoration, drainage structures, operational readiness, and capital improvements that can address problem areas. Other agencies, such as the Florida Department of Transportation, South Florida Water Management District, and Palm Beach County, as well as residents and homeowner associations, affect the District's ability to manage drainage and flooding. Mr. Eustice believes that they can work with South Florida Water Management District to address some of the issues.

Mr. Eustice recommended actions include expanding and optimizing outfall capacity, verifying and replacing undersize and deteriorating culverts, canal berm improvements, targeted canal maintenance and dredging, applying for the vulnerability and resiliency grants, and formalizing operations and emergency protocols. They have had discussions with South Florida Water Management District as to the increase in rainfall and reduction in storage and they appear to be open to South Indian River Water Control District increasing discharge through our outfalls, however, they will not allow credit for storage issues related to building and lot filling. Regarding the Florida Turnpike, they are working through their proposed plan for Turnpike widening. They are looking to reduce storage within their system, which would mean higher stages within Palm Beach Country Estates, as well as possibly

impacting Egret Landing and Jupiter Park of Commerce. They have been advised they need a permit from the District.

Mr. Eustice stated that in a best-case scenario, a turnkey solution time frame is four years – need to secure grants, waiting on decisions and award process, vulnerability assessment, and then an alternative analysis for best solutions, which the Board would then decide on, and then another funding phase that would consist of grants or bonds. Finally, there would be a two-year window for design and construction. AECOM feels in the short term, canal dredging could have a big impact, as well as coordination with the Florida Department of Transportation, where there could be mutually beneficial increased discharge.

Ms. Kennedy asked if any other projects have been determined for easy implementation besides what was mentioned. Mr. Eustice responded that driveway culvert replacement is one option, however, it does not impact the model results. They just looked at outfall and major conveyance. However, during the October storm event, they observed that silted or undersized driveway culverts were impacting the neighbors. Ms. Kennedy said that we should look at local internal projects and procedures that might make an impact. Mr. Kennedy added that previously, when a driveway culvert needed replacement, they did just that driveway. Now they go from that culvert, all the way to the next canal and check the grade and identify other problem culverts, so we are implementing changes. Mr. Powell said originally they had no outfall until the 7th plan was implemented. However, with the Turnpike Authority adding two lanes, it will impact the outfall, and he didn't see this addressed in the presentation. Mr. Eustice said the model doesn't have their plan in it because they haven't finalized it, but they did give them the 45% engineering documents, where they are cutting the West Borrow Canal in half and putting in a retaining wall and 60-inch pipe, which still reduces the storage. He reiterated that the District is requiring a permit and even if they don't get a permit, they'd still have to meet the benchmark through South Florida Water Management District. He said during meetings with the Authority, they were not aware of how South Indian River Water Control District's system works and thought that all of Palm Beach Country Estates drained through Egret Landing. Mr. Powell was concerned that AECOM wasn't in the loop on what the Authority is doing. Mr. Eustice said they are coordinating with them on milestones for design. A letter was sent to Mr. Kennedy from the Enterprise Authority where they rejected the permit requirement. This was replied to with a request that they acknowledge that under Florida Statute 298, they do need a permit. Mrs. Brandon said they are also in touch with South Florida Water Management District regarding outfall allocations. She said if they are going to discharge more, we'd need to expand the outfall structure in addition to the ones that drain Palm Beach Country Estates. Mr. Berman said in discussions with the Turnpike Authority, they've found there is a complete disconnect between the administration, the CEO of the Turnpike Authority, and their engineers. Their design doesn't even show the sound wall that they have been told will go in at the time of widening. So, he's concerned it shouldn't be addressed solely through engineering and just requiring a permit may not be enough. Mr. Kennedy noted that Mr. Behn has been involved. He's concerned about when it might become a legal issue and doesn't want to wait too long. Mr. Powell felt there should be an impact study. Ms. Kennedy asked where they were in the South Florida Water Management District process and Mrs. Brandon replied they haven't applied, but there are monthly meetings between the Florida Department of Transportation and Turnpike staff with South Florida Water Management District. They obtained minutes from their December meeting and there were incorrect statements, and they were notified. Mr. Berman and Ms. Kennedy felt the answer was with the South Florida Water Management District. Mr. Kennedy says there is a choke point under I-95 and if it gets blocked there will be flooding in Palm Beach Country Estates, Egret Landing, and Jupiter Park of Commerce, as well as the highway.

Mr. Berman said in Palm Beach Country Estates, the homes being built are 3500 to 4500 square feet that cover most of the lot, so there is an additional lack of storage. He asked if there is anything in the resiliency grants that would be retroactive where we could get credit for the work that has already been done. Mr. Kennedy said that anything that happened in the past would most likely not be covered. He would have to investigate this. Mr. Berman said for 50 years, there has been standing water after a storm, but it quickly drains. He asked how often the storm events described in the modeling have occurred over the last 50 years. Mr. Eustice said there have been events meeting the design storms, but they are not designing for how often these storms would happen, and instead, they are statutorily required to meet the elevations and must come up with solutions. Mr. Berman said it does not appear that there would be flooded homes according to the modeling, and the chances that water would get into homes are extremely small. Mr. Eustice said something that is not represented in the presentation is access for emergency vehicles, so with elevations exceeding the wheel clearance depth, there is the potential for delaying these services. It is not just a nuisance but an issue with emergency services. Mr. Meyer asked if we have roads under two feet of water, how does it impact the road. Ms. McElroy questioned if there was a way to identify and prioritize which projects would give the best bang for the buck. Mr. Eustice responded there is, for example, other factors are shown that may be impacted, such as potable water. As a result, part of the alternative analysis is coming up with three different analyses to find the best, most cost-effective solution. He noted that the District also could do neighborhood improvement projects, which are more localized, targeted areas that can be integrated into the overall capital plan and can be implemented by staff. They have already spoken with Mr. Kennedy about potential projects and Mrs. Brandon said they will also be working on the water control plan where these types of things are identified. Ms. McElroy reiterated the importance of picking projects with the most impact, and Mr. Eustice responded that it is what the alternative analysis is about, offering multiple solutions for best use of public funds. There will be a ranking system that will be presented to the Board for funding. Ms. Kennedy noted the funding can be from the regular operating budget, or a bond or grant. Mr. Kennedy said there are number of things that have to be done, but the issue with the Turnpike has to be addressed first and he'll be coming before the Board as plans move forward. He noted with the grant we are receiving from the Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative; the District will be doing necessary survey work in Jupiter Farms. Mr. Berman asked that in the future, he would like to see a fixed cost for a project, regardless of how many hours it takes to do. After further discussion, **Mr. Berman motioned to accept the draft Drainage Study for Palm Beach Country Estates. Ms. McElroy seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Brandon provided an update on the Florida Turnpike. They have received the letter from the Turnpike Enterprise on January 28th and drafted a letter to send back on February 5. As of now there has been no reply. The letter clarified the need for them to apply for a District permit since they discharge through our outfall canal. They tried to imply the District has responsibility for the cross-drain culverts underneath the Turnpike and box culverts for maintenance and that is not in the agreement the District has with them, and this point was reiterated in the letter. The District only has responsibility for maintenance of the open canal. Mr. Powell once again was concerned about their drainage design's impact, and Mrs. Brandon responded that if they are reducing the size of the canal, they need to show us they will meet the same capacity as before. Mr. Meyer added that when the design application is submitted to South Florida Water Management District, they will have to protect South Indian River Water Control District as the upstream entity that needs the flow. Mr. Behn referred to the mutual maintenance agreement and the issue with the permit is ridiculous, as the cost burden to the District needs to have it to include the cost recovery for engineering time and modeling that needs to be provided and reviewed by us. Mr. Kennedy asked when the District should pursue recovery of the engineering costs and Mr. Behn said it should be done

through the permit. Ms. Kennedy said if they don't agree to a permit, we should push for an interlocal agreement so we will get our fees recouped. Every effort needs to be made to avoid litigation.

Mrs. Brandon reported on the National Resources Conservation Service Grant. They did approve a time extension until November 6th for the second phase of work which has been funded at $846,737. The District is waiting on the reimbursement for Phase 1 before starting Phase 2.

Mrs. Brandon said they have contracted with a subconsultant, Underwater Engineering Services, to inspect the C-18 Bridge and bridge over the C-14 Canal. They have applied for a temporary access permit from South Florida Water Management District to do the C-18 Bridge. Mr. Kennedy said they want us to have 5-year right-of-way permits and instead legal will meet with them to draft a memorandum of understanding because we need access. The inspection work is tentatively scheduled for February 25th, pending the access permit.

A landowner commented on House Bill 4099 that is to be discussed under the attorney's report. Ms. Mary Michaels of Jupiter Farms said one of the things she has always appreciated about the District is the ability of the Board of Directors and executive staff to identify a problem and then take swift action to solve the problem on behalf of landowners. She was excited to hear they would be looking at potential changes to policies and procedures. She requested consideration of adding to the policies a provision for censure, impeachment and removal of Supervisors who violate District policies and procedure. Specifically, she is speaking about Mr. Berman, who presented House Bill 4099 to the Palm Beach Country local delegation as a seated Supervisor. At the presentation, Mr. Berman failed to disclose his status as an elected and seated Board Supervisor. Mr. Berman violated his oath of office, which is policy 2.2.4. This action was not honest or impartial. He violated policy 2.2.5.4, which directs the Board to enact policies consistent with the desires of the landowners. Landowners and Supervisors were not consulted or notified regarding House Bill 4099. Mr. Berman violated policy 2.2.6, which regulates activities of individual Supervisors. Mr. Berman violated policy 2.2.8. House Bill 4099 is a conflict of interest designed to benefit Mr. Berman and his family-owned real estate company. Mr. Berman violated policy 3.3.2, which outlines the procedure for enacting new legislation. Mr. Berman's actions have wasted time and energy the Board could have directed elsewhere. Mr. Berman, please resign. She asked that her comments be transcribed for the record.

Mr. Behn presented the attorney's report on House Bill 4099. They have not had any updates from Ms. Weinberger's office, and as of now, it has not been put on the agenda for either of its two committee assignments and time is running short.

Mr. Behn talked about easement issues and Ms. DeNinno showed a map of the areas. He is asking for approval of Board Resolution 2026-02: Approval of the Partial Termination of the Easement Deed Recorded in Official Record Book 1886, Page 1416 of the Public Record of Palm Beach County, Florida. **Mr. Berman made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-02. Mr. Meyer seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.** Mr. Behn said they are also working with Mr. Kennedy regarding a property owner on Mellen Lane, where there is a specific choke point and determine if there is a way to obtain what the District needs. He also said there were some bills on Special Districts that would do some of the things they are looking for, but there doesn't appear there will be any broad impacts this session.

Mr. Kennedy said regarding the easements, there are more parcels with issues, such as Scribner's errors, particularly in Palm Beach Country Estates. To fix them all at one time would be costly and perhaps it should be in the regulatory process. In the most recent one, where the landowner wanted to abandon the easement, we did not

receive any funds from them. If the District initiates it, we pay. He asked the Board for direction on whether a regulatory process should be initiated. Mr. Berman felt it needs to be handled on a case-by-case basis. Ms. Kennedy said if we don't have a written policy then you may not be able to go back and staff is looking for guidance in the Policies and Procedures manual in order to make a determination whether to recoup costs. Let's look at putting that into writing. Mr. Kennedy will draft something and bring it back to the Board.

There was no old business.

Under new business, Ms. Kennedy asked if Supervisors had any comments. Mr. Berman spoke about House Bill 4099 and wanted to thank Representative Weinberger and her staff for their assistance. As they worked through the process, significant input had been received, including from Mr. Behn who provided notes at the last meeting, as well as Mr. Kennedy. Comments were received from Egret's Landing as well. All these comments were incorporated into information provided to her office. He expressed disappointment that the bill isn't moving forward. He had received 700 comments in support of the bill, mostly from Palm Beach Country Estates. There were some from Jupiter Farms in support, though the bill wouldn't affect them at all, and 40 positive comments were received from Egret Landing.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

ADJOURNED

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Recording Secretary Approved