

**MELBOURNE-TILLMAN WATER CONTROL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES**

June 24, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District (MTWCD) Board of Directors was called to order by Philip Weinberg, President on Tuesday June 24, 2025 at 9:00 AM in the City of West Melbourne Council Chambers, Veterans Memorial Complex, 2285 Minton Road, West Melbourne, Florida.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all present.

**ROLL CALL**

The following Board Members were present:

Philip Weinberg, President  
Don Jordan  
Drew Powshok  
Brant Hoffman  
Scott Morgan  
Jay Woltering

Absent: Joe Hale, Vice President

Also present: Rick Nipper, District Manager  
Lisa Blackett, Secretary/Treasurer  
Jim Beadle, District Attorney

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS/VISITORS/STAFF**

Mike McCabe, District Engineer  
Bo Rainbolt, Assistant Manager of Operations  
Andrea Young, Mayor of the City of West Melbourne

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The District Manager announced Keith Jerdon has resigned his position on the MTWCD Board of Directors, effective June 3, 2025. He added the City of West Melbourne appointed Scott Morgan to the Board of Directors for the remainder of Mr. Jerdon's term and welcomed Mr. Morgan to the Board.

The Manager announced the public hearing to approve the District's user fee rates for fiscal year 2025/2026 would be held on August 14, 2025 at 5:30 pm at the City of West Melbourne Council Chambers, Veterans Memorial Complex, 2285 Minton Road, West Melbourne, Florida.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

The President presented the minutes of the April 22, 2025, Board meeting for approval. Drew Powshok **motioned to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2025 Board meeting.** Brant Hoffman **seconded the motion.** The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

The President presented the Operating Statement through May 31, 2025 for Board approval. Scott Morgan **motioned to approve the Operating Statement through May 31, 2025**. Brant Hoffman **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion**.

#### **BUDGET**

At the request of the Manager, the Board approved a budget transfer of \$3,428 from Account 5450000 (Liability Insurance) to Account 5540000 (Books, Publications & Subscriptions) to engage Streamline Technologies for website maintenance services. The scope includes ensuring the District's website complies with WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility standards in alignment with ADA requirements. Drew Powshok **motioned to approve the move of \$3428 from Account 5450000 (Liability Insurance) to Account 5540000 (Books, Publications & Subscriptions)**. Don Jordan **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion**.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

The District Manager reported the MS-1 facility was vandalized since the previous Board meeting. A neighboring resident observed two juveniles in the vicinity of the building and notified law enforcement. The District Manager and responding officer found that the building's exterior door had been forcibly breached, granting unauthorized access to the interior of the building. He added significant damage was reported, including:

- Paint poured onto the District's hurricane pump
- Broken bathroom fixtures including the toilet, sink, and showerhead were broken, resulting in uncontrolled water flow.
- The District's pressure washer, furniture and miscellaneous supplies were thrown into the adjacent C-1 Canal/Turkey Creek.

A police report was filed with the intent to pursue charges. He added he was subsequently informed by Palm Bay Police that two individuals had been cited for trespassing in the restricted area. At the time of the citation, law enforcement officers were unaware of the full extent of the vandalism. Following a brief investigation, one individual was arrested and formally charged with vandalism.

The Manager said that initial assessments placed the damage in excess of \$10,000. However, District mechanics successfully restored the hurricane pump to operational condition, and all repairs were completed in-house. With the damage cost estimates that only marginally exceeding the District's insurance deductible, the Manager said he elected to withdraw the submitted insurance claim.

The District Manager reported continued engagement with Corcoran & Associates following the conclusion of the legislative session. He announced a representative from the firm would attend the August Board meeting to provide updates on legislative matters relevant to the District.

The Manager stated in an effort to support outreach, District staff would conduct operational tours for newly elected City of Palm Bay council members and the incoming Brevard County Commissioner. The tours are intended to familiarize local officials with District operations to provide context for modifications to the District's User Fee Schedule.

In response to the recent vandalism at the MS-1 facility, Board Member Jay Woltering inquired whether installing security cameras could help deter future incidents. The Manager stated he is evaluating wireless surveillance solutions similar to a device with Ring-style capabilities to receive real-time alerts in the event of an unauthorized access.

The Board President requested an estimate of repair costs. The Assistant Manager of Operations reported preliminary material expenses of approximately \$1000. The Assistant Manager of Administration/Treasurer confirmed all repair costs are being documented for submission to the State Attorney's Office as part of the

restitution process related to the criminal case. Board member Scott Morgan asked whether “No Trespassing” signage is posted at the facility. The Manager confirmed that numerous signs are positioned throughout the site.

#### **ENGINEER’S REPORT**

The District Engineer provided updates on ongoing infrastructure projects:

- Westbrook Bypass: Installation of three bypass pipes beneath the driveway entrances had been completed and the inlet structures were being set. The next phase involves connecting the pipes to the canal. Due to elevation discrepancies, the canal will need to be dipped approximately two feet to match the level of the bypass. While complications were encountered during construction, most have been resolved. The project is expected to be completed by the end of July.
- Hollywood Boulevard Drainage Improvement: There are two parcels of land located on the SE and NE corners of Eber Road needed to support the installation of two ponds. The goal is to mitigate discharge impacts on Eber Road and improve drainage capacity within the Districts’ 69 basin.

#### **ASSISTANT MANAGER/OPERATIONS REPORT**

The Assistant Manager of Operations reported that the pumps have been installed and are being run weekly to ensure there are no reliability issues. He added the 8” pump had been ordered and is expected to arrive in the next three weeks. He reported the heavy equipment group had been focused heavily on removing sandbars and obstructions that may impede water flow in C-69 and C-70 by implementing a maintenance plan that successfully improved flows.

The Assistant Manager of Operations reported that the District had received the replacement props any hydraulic cylinders for the harvester but installation was not yet completed due to breakdowns with District mowers. Board Member Scott Morgan if the harvester’s downtime had resulted in increased canal dipping activity. The Assistant Manager of Operations explained that when the harvester is out of service, vegetation is intercepted by containment booms located and Fred Lee Park and the MS-1 dam structure. The vegetation is removed using the long-reach excavation equipment assisted by an airboat to maneuver weeds into position. He added the process was an alternative in main canals, the harvester is essential for feed canals such as C-10 where dense submerged vegetation requires mechanical cutting. Mr. Morgan asked the Assistant Manager of Operations if he had looked at opportunities for grants or appropriations for replacing the harvester and he advised he lacks the technical expertise required to develop competitive proposals. The District Manager added in his experience grants are usually 50/50 cost share which would also be difficult to manage budgetarily but would continue to work with the Corcoran Group for remedies. The Board President suggested grant opportunities could include the St. John’s River Water Management District as they provided the grant used to purchase the harvester.

The Assistant Manager of Operations stated that Sonar has been successfully used in the smaller canals where harvesting is not feasible, however due to the product’s toxicity and high cost, Sonar is used in limited volumes to ensure sufficient dilution before reaching the Indian River Lagoon. The District Engineer added studies were performed which authenticated that at the US 1 bridge, there was zero concentration of fluoridone or glyphosate in the water which would enter the Indian River Lagoon.

The Assistant Manager of Operations reported he attended an event hosted by the City of Palm Bay which highlighted their stormwater operations which he found educational.

#### **ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

None

#### **SECRETARY/TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that FEMA had requested additional information related to the District's submission. The requested documentation was provide and FEMA indicated they anticipate completing their review by the end of the Calendar year.

**CLOSING**

The Board President stated that the next Board meeting would be Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 9:00 AM in the City of West Melbourne Council Chambers, Veterans Memorial Complex, 2285 Minton Road, West Melbourne, Florida.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

Scott Morgan – none

Don Jordan – none

Drew Powshok – none

Jay Woltering – none

Phil Weinberg – Discussed the recent sewer main failure in the City of Palm Bay, which resulted in the release of approximately 3.2 million gallons of raw sewage from a 37-year old pipe with a projected lifespan of 100 years. He added emergency response efforts led to the recovery of roughly two million gallons through the efforts of an external contractor engaged to assist with containment and remediation.

**ADJOURN**

Phil Weinberg, President adjourned the meeting at 9:36 am.

Respectfully,

Lisa Blackett,  
Secretary  
Board of Directors