

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**FLORIDA KEYS AQUEDUCT AUTHORITY**

**HELD ON**

**January 7, 2026**

**Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority**  
**1100 Kennedy Drive**  
**Key West, Florida 33040**

**Immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Closed Attorney/Client Session**

The following MEMBERS were present:

Richard J. Toppino. . . . . Chairman  
J. Robert Dean. . . . . Vice-Chairman  
Nicholas W. Mulick. . . . . Secretary/Treasurer  
Luis Gonzalez Sr. . . . . Member  
Erica Sterling . . . . . Member

Gregory W. Veliz. . . . . Executive Director  
Shawn D. Smith. . . . . General Counsel  
Nathalia M. Archer . . . . . Assistant General Counsel  
Lynese Mariscal. . . . . Director of Finance  
David Hackworth. . . . . Director of Engineering  
William Osterhoudt. . . . . Director of Water Operations  
Jay Miller. . . . . Director of Wastewater Operations

A LIST OF ATTENDANCE IS RETAINED WITH THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THIS MEETING.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairman Toppino at 11:14 a.m.

Pam Albury presented the invocation and Chairman Toppino led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **SERVICE AWARDS**

Darren Threlkeld	Maintenance Mechanic A	10 Years of Service
Zayli Mayor	Senior Accountant	20 Years of Service

## **FKAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ORGANIZATION – ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

On the motion of Mr. Gonzalez, seconded by Mrs. Sterling, the Board approved that the current officers of the Board of Directors be re-elected by acclamation.

No further nominations were made, and nominations were closed.

The Board unanimously elected officers as follows:

Chairman:	Richard J. Toppino
Vice Chairman:	J. Robert Dean
Secretary/Treasurer:	Nicholas W. Mulick

## **ADDITION TO THE REGULAR AGENDA**

EO-01. Consideration to affirm the appointment of Kathryn Ovide as Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority's Representative to the Career Service Council

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By consensus the Board approved the Agenda including the addition of item EO-01.

## **DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS**

Executive Director Report:

- Moment of silence in acknowledgement of the passing of Jorge "Kiki" Lopez
- Tallahassee Update

## **CONSENT AGENDA WATER /WASTEWATER**

On motion of Mr. Mulick, seconded by Mr. Dean, the Board unanimously approved the following items by Consent:

1. DOA- 01. Approval of Resolution No. 26-1, Adopting the 2025 Update to the Monroe County Local Mitigation Strategy.
2. DOWW- 01. Approval of FKAA-IFB-0002-26, for the purchase of two (2) Pentair upright turbine pumps from Barney’s Pumps, Inc. (in the amount of \$53,858.)

## **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

### **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

#### **EO-01. APPROVAL TO AFFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF KATHRYN OVIDE AS FLORIDA KEYS AQUEDUCT AUTHORITY’S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CAREER SERVICE COUNCIL**

On recommendation of Mr. Veliz, and motion of Mr. Mulick, seconded by Mr. Dean, the Board approved to affirm the appointment of Kathryn Ovide as Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority’s Representative to the Career Service Council.

### **DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION**

Department Presentation:

Summary of Financial information for November 2025.

#### **DOA-01. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE FKAA RULES AND REGULATIONS AND TO CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2026, UNLESS DIRECTED OTHERWISE BY THE BOARD**

On recommendation of Mrs. Mariscal, and motion of Mr. Mulick, seconded by Mr. Gonzalez, the Board approved proposed modifications to the FKAA Rules and Regulations and to conduct public hearings, effective February 1, 2026, unless directed otherwise by the Board.

### **DIVISION OF ENGINEERING**

Department Presentation:

CIP Update

### **DIVISION OF WASTEWATER**

#### **DOWW-01. APPROVAL THE SOLE-SOURCE PURCHASE OF 70 BARNES RAZOR GRINDER PUMPS FOR THE CUDJOE REGIONAL COLLECTION SYSTEM, FROM F.J. NUGENT AND ASSOCIATES, INC. (IN THE AMOUNT OF \$105,000.)**

On recommendation of Mr. Miller, and motion of Mr. Gonzalez, seconded by Mrs. Sterling, the Board approved the sole-source purchase of 70 Barnes Razor grinder pumps for the Cudjoe Regional collection system, from F.J. Nugent and Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$105,000.

**DOWW-02. APPROVAL OF FKAA-IFB-0003-26 AND AWARD A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT, WITH THE OPTION OF UP TO THREE (3) ONE-YEAR RENEWALS, FOR THE PURCHASE OF CHEMICALS UTILIZED IN THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PROCESS, TO HAWKINS INC., (FOR THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$725,786.20)**

On recommendation of Mr. Miller, and motion of Mr. Gonzalez, seconded by Mr. Dean, the Board approved FKAA-IFB-0003-26 and award a one-year contract, with the option of up to three (3) one-year renewals, for the purchase of chemicals utilized in the wastewater treatment process, to Hawkins Inc., for the estimated annual amount of \$725,786.20.

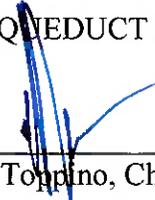
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

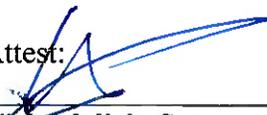
**ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.



FLORIDA KEYS AQUEDUCT AUTHORITY

By:   
Richard J. Toppino, Chairman

Attest:   
Nick Mulick, Secretary/Treasurer

**ATTENDANCE**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Richard J. Toppino  
J. Robert Dean  
Nicholas W. Mulick  
Luis Gonzalez Sr.  
Erica Sterling

**FKAA STAFF**

Gregory Veliz	Randy Acevedo
Pam Albury	Lynese Mariscal
Nathalia Archer	Jay Miller
Shawn Smith	Heather Arencibia
David Hackworth	Karla Garcia
Christine Malsheimer	Ashley Roberts
Teri Veliz	Peter Gomez
William Osterhoudt	Sotey Jackson
Lisa Milo	Jackie Revoredo
Breanna Escobio	Lauren Wells
Venda Storr	Christie Martin
Kelcee Degraffenreid	Zayli Mayor
Diancy Fundora	Lissette Ramas
Alexa Soto	Brittany Dudley
Darren Threlkeld	

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**