Regarding the Governing Board meeting on Tuesday, the District does not have a policy that written comments will be read as part of the Board meeting. If a member of the public is not present and has submitted written comments, each Board member is provided a copy of the comments, which we did on your behalf. I apologize if my response indicated that the comments would also be read aloud in the meeting.

To answer your questions, the mining rights for the Double Run Creek property were not available for purchase at the time of acquisition and were not offered as part of the transaction. The rights were previously leased by a third party with the intent that mining operations would continue, which the District was aware of at the time of acquisition. Any subsequent transactions regarding the mining rights would not fall under District jurisdiction.

The primary goal of the acquisition was to support Camp Blanding military buffers, while subsequently exploring the opportunity for flood abatement and water resource development projects. This language is expressly listed in the District's resolution for the land purchase, which the Board approved. Recreation and public access were not included as primary goals of the acquisition.

The management plan references public access and recreation, only if the opportunities do not interfere with a project. The site is still considered a project area.

Because the property is managed by the Florida Department of Military Affairs, any public access to the property would be initiated and led by that agency. Questions regarding future access and timing should be directed to the Florida Department of Military Affairs, per the management agreement.

We appreciate your love for the resource and recreation. If you are interested in recreational opportunities on District lands, please visit www.mysuwanneeriver.com.

Troy Roberts, CPM

Office Chief, Communications and Outreach

Suwannee River Water Management District

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