

Pine Tree Water Control Development District

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September 14, 2026

Governor Ron DeSantis

Governor's Appointments Office

The Capitol Building, 7th Floor, Suite 705-1

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: Pine Tree Water Control District – Vacancy on Board of Supervisors

Dear Governor DeSantis:

On behalf of the Pine Tree Water Control District (“District”), we respectfully request that you exercise your authority under section 298.12(1), Florida Statutes, to fill a vacancy on the District’s Board of Supervisors.

The Pine Tree Water Control District is an independent special district located in Palm Beach County. The District’s charter, codified in Chapter 2009-270, Laws of Florida, provides that the Board of Supervisors shall be qualified and elected in accordance with Chapter 298, Florida Statutes. The charter further provides that the provisions of Chapter 298 applicable to water control districts are applicable to the District except where inconsistent with the District’s charter.

On June 23, 2026, Supervisor Charles Brown resigned from the Board of Supervisors, effective immediately, creating a vacancy on the three-member Board. The District currently has two Supervisors serving on the Board:

- Ruben Ferrazzano, Supervisor; and
- Rebekah Urbina, Supervisor.

Supervisor Ferrazzano is a legal resident of Rustic Ranches and therefore satisfies the District charter’s requirement that at least one member of the Board of Supervisors be a legal resident of Rustic Ranches.

Following Supervisor Brown’s resignation, the remaining Supervisors were responsible for filling the vacancy pursuant to section 298.12(1), Florida Statutes. The remaining Supervisors considered the appointment of a third Supervisor at a Board meeting held on August 31, 2026, and further considered the vacancy at a meeting on September 14, 2026. Despite their efforts, Supervisors

Ferrazzano and Urbina were unable to reach an agreement regarding the appointment of a third member to the Board.

Section 298.12(1), Florida Statutes, provides that, in the event of a vacancy in an office of supervisor elected by the landowners, the remaining supervisors may fill the vacancy, or, if they fail to act within 30 days, the Governor may fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting, when a successor is elected for the unexpired term.

The statutory 30-day period following the June 23, 2026, vacancy has expired, and the Board remains unable to fill the vacant seat. The District therefore respectfully requests that the Governor appoint a qualified individual to serve as the third Supervisor of the Pine Tree Water Control District in accordance with section 298.12(1), Florida Statutes.

In making any appointment, the District respectfully requests that consideration also be given to the District's charter requirement that at least one member of the Board of Supervisors be a legal resident of Rustic Ranches. That requirement is currently satisfied by Supervisor Ruben Ferrazzano, who is a legal resident of Rustic Ranches. Accordingly, the appointment of a third Supervisor need not alter the Board's existing compliance with this charter requirement, if Supervisor Ferrazzano remains in office.

For your consideration, enclosed with this request are copies of the following:

1. The Pine Tree Water Control District's charter, Chapter 2009-270, Laws of Florida;
2. Supervisor Charles Brown's June 23, 2026, resignation;
3. The relevant minutes or records from the August 31, 2026, Board meeting;
4. The relevant minutes or records from the September 14, 2026, Board meeting, if available; and
5. Any additional information concerning the qualifications of prospective appointees that may assist the Governor's Office in making the appointment.

We respectfully request that the Governor's Office acknowledge receipt of this request and advise the District regarding any additional documentation or information required to process the appointment.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance in restoring the Pine Tree Water Control District's Board of Supervisors to its full three-member composition.

Respectfully,

Pine Tree Water Control District