



WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

Board Meeting Package

March 16, 2022
3:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Lecanto Government Building
Room 166
3600 W. Sovereign Path
Lecanto, Florida 34461

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

Board of Directors

Effective March 2021

Office	Board Members
Acting Chair	The Honorable Kathy Bryant
Vice Chair	The Honorable Jeff Holcomb
Treasurer	The Honorable Jeff Kinnard

Jurisdiction	Board Members
Citrus County	The Honorable Holly Davis
	The Honorable Jeff Kinnard
Hernando County	The Honorable Jeff Holcomb
	The Honorable Eliza-BETH Narverud
Marion County	The Honorable Kathy Bryant
	The Honorable Michelle Stone
	The Honorable Craig Curry
Sumter County	The Honorable Craig Estep
	Vacant
City of Belleview	The Honorable Gary Ernst
City of Brooksville	The Honorable David Bailey
City of Bushnell	The Honorable Dale Swain
City of Inverness	The Honorable Gene Davis

Meeting Dates

The schedule of meetings for the 2021-2022 fiscal year are as follows:

November 10, 2021
~~January 19, 2022~~
March 16, 2022

May 18, 2022
July 20, 2022
September 21, 2022



March 7, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Water Supply Authority Board of Directors and Interested Parties

From: Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director

Subject: Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors Meeting

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority will hold a regular business meeting on **Wednesday, March 16, 2022 3:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Center Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461.**

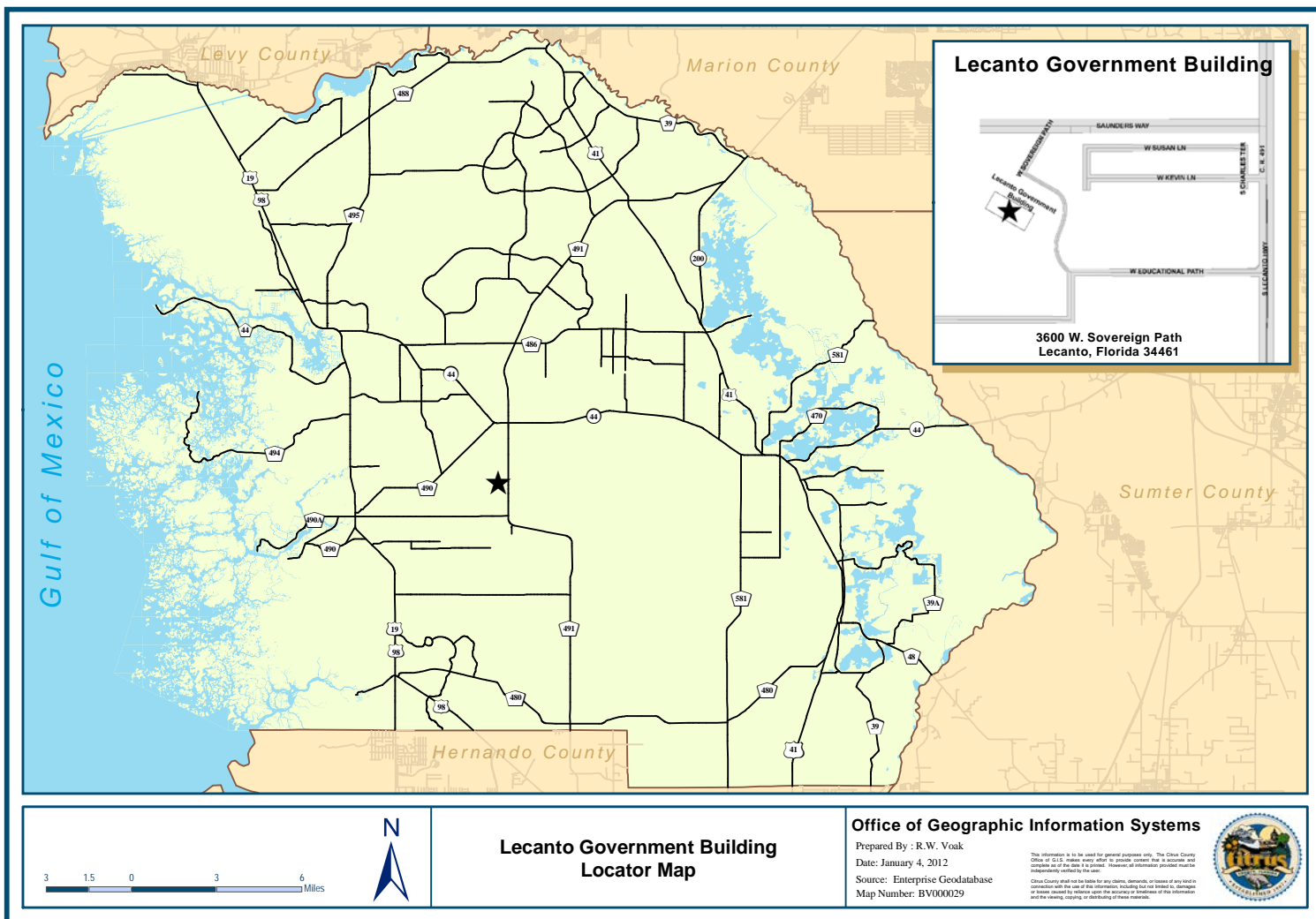
Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of November 10, 2021
- Board Package*

Please note that if a party decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the above cited meeting, that party will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, that party may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes that testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Enclosures

- * Copies of the Board Package are available through the Internet. Log on to www.wrwsa.org.
- On the Authority's Home Page go to the left side of the page and click on "Meetings."
 - On the slide out menu is a button for the current Board Package.
 - Click on the Board Package to download and/or print.



Driving Directions to 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto Government Building

From Brooksville:

- Go North on N. Main St. toward S. Broad St./E. Jefferson St.
- Take the 1st Left onto S. Broad St./W. Jefferson St.
- Turn Right onto US 98/Ponce De Leon Blvd.
- Turn Right onto CR 491 toward Lecanto (about 13.5 miles)
- Turn Left on W. Educational Path (traffic signal)
- Turn right at the Park onto W. Sovereign Path; continue to the right to the Lecanto Government Building

From Ocala

- Go southwest on SR 200 into Citrus County
- Turn Right onto CR 491 (stay on 491 through Beverly Hills, crossing Hwy. 486 and SR 44)
- Turn Right on Saunders Way
- Turn Left onto W. Sovereign Path; follow to Lecanto Government Building

From Bushnell

- In Bushnell, Go West on FL-48W
- Turn Right onto US 41; continue to follow US 41 N
- Continue straight onto FL 44 W/W Main St.; continue straight on SR 44
- Turn Left onto CR 491
- Turn Right onto Saunders Way
- Turn Left onto W. Sovereign Path; follow to Lecanto Government Building

From Wildwood

- Go West on SR 44W; continue on SR 44 through Inverness
- Turn Left onto CR 491
- Turn Right onto Saunders Way
- Turn Left onto W. Sovereign Path; follow to Lecanto Government Building.

LGB



**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

A G E N D A

**March 16, 2022 -- 3:30 p.m.
LECANTO GOVERNMENT BUILDING -- ROOM 166
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461**

At the discretion of the Board, items may be taken out of order to accommodate the needs of the Board and the public.

- 1. Call to Order . . . Kathy Bryant, Chair**
- 2. Roll Call . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director**
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance . . . Led by the Board**
- 4. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA**
- 5. Public Comment**
- 6. Consent Agenda . . . Kathy Bryant, Chair**
 - a. Approval of Minutes [November 10, 2021] 9**
 - b. Bills to be Paid [December, January and February bills included; March bills provided at the meeting] 15**
 - c. Water Conservation Month Resolution 19**
 - d. Springs Protection Awareness Month Resolution 21**
- 7. Election of Officers . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA 23**
- 8. Establishment of Proposed Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget Components . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA**
 - a. Grant Funding Amount and Guidelines 31**
 - b. FY 2022-23 Per Capita Rate 33**
- 9. Charles A. Black Wellfield – Renewal and Replacement Fund Annual Report . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA 35**
- 10. Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Project Phase V Final Report . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA 41**
- 11. Legislative Report . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA 63**
- 12. Special Presentation – Infrastructure Investment and Job Act . . . Elizabeth Keddy, Hazen and Sawyer 71**
- 13. Pilot Water Sense Labeled Irrigation Controller Install Project Results . . . Debra Burden, Citrus County Water Conservation Manager 73**
- 14. Attorney’s Report . . . Rob Batsel, WRWSA Attorney 79**
- 15. Executive Director’s Report . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA**
 - a. Charles A. Black Water Use Permit Renewal 82**
 - b. Water Use Permit Demand Summary 83**
 - c. Water Management Information System Water Use Permit Notifications 85**
 - d. Correspondence 89**
 - e. News Articles 101**
 - f. Upcoming Procurements – As-Needed General Engineering Services, Five-Year Regional Water Supply Plan, and Phase 7 Irrigation Audits 107**
- 16. Other Business**
- 17. Next Meeting . . . May 18, 2022; 3:30 p.m.; Lecanto Government Building, Room 166**
- 18. Adjournment**

Please note that if a party decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the above cited meeting, that party will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, that party may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes that testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Item 6.a.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

DRAFT

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of the Meeting November 10, 2021

TIME: 3:30 p.m.
PLACE: Lecanto Government Building
ADDRESS: 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 280, Lecanto, Florida 34461

The numbers preceding the items listed below correspond with the published agenda.

1. Call to Order

Chair Bryant called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. and requested a roll call.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, called the roll and a quorum will be present with the arrival of one more Board member.

BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Kathy Bryant, *Chair*, Marion County Commissioner
Craig Curry, Marion County Commissioner
Gary Ernst, Belleview City Commissioner
Oren Miller, Sumter County Commissioner
Beth Narverud, Hernando County Commissioner
Michelle Stone, Marion County Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilor

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Jeff Holcomb, *Vice Chair*, Hernando County Commissioner
Jeff Kinnard, *Treasurer*, Citrus County Commissioner
David Bailey, Brooksville City Councilor
Ken Brown, Crystal River City Councilor
Holly Davis, Citrus County Commissioner
Gary Search, Sumter County Commissioner

BOARD ALTERNATE(S) PRESENT - None

3. Introductions and Announcements

WRWSA STAFF PRESENT

Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP, Executive Dir
Robert W. Batsel, Jr., General Counsel
LuAnne Stout, Administrative Asst.

OTHERS PRESENT

Debra Burden, Citrus Co Water Conservation Mgr
Frank Gargano, SWFWMD Govt Affairs Reg Mgr
Mark Morgan, Hernando Co Project Design Chair
Bob Moresi, Black & Vetch
Joseph Quinn, SWFWMD Water Supply Project Mgr

4. Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Bryant led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Public Comment – There being no members of the audience requesting to address the Board, Chair Bryant closed public comment.

At this time, a quorum was not present so Item 6 was delayed.

7. General Counsel Services

Mrs. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, presented this item. She said staff received a letter dated October 12, 2021 (see exhibit) notifying WRWSA that Mr. Robert W. Batsel Jr. would be leaving the law firm of Gilligan, Gooding, Batsel, Anderson & Phelan P.A. to join a new firm Gooding & Batsel, PLLC on December 31, 2021. In addition the firm of Gilligan, Gooding Batsel, Anderson & Phelan P.A. will continue to practice under the new name Gilligan, Anderson & Phelan, P.A.

Mr. Batsel is interested in continuing to serve as Authority General Counsel for WRWSA, if the Board chooses that option. The new firm Gooding and Batsel, PLLC will also provide legal services to the City of Inverness and the City of Crystal River. Gilligan, Anderson & Phelan, PA will continue to represent the City of Ocala.

Ms. Narverud entered the meeting and Chair Bryant declared a quorum present.

Following consideration, **Mr. Swain moved, seconded by Mr. Curry, to keep current counsel. The Board consensus was for file and trust account balance be transferred to Robert W. Batsel, Jr. at his new law firm. Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Consent Agenda

- a. **Approval of Minutes** – The September 15, 2021 draft minutes were provided in the Board’s meeting materials and recommended for approval as presented.
- b. **Bills to be Paid** – Staff recommended ratification of bills for October (\$19,695.31) and approval of November (\$75,659.40).

Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Curry, to approve Consent Agenda Items 6.a. and 6.b. as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Charles A. Black Wellfield Fiscal Year 2020-21 Revenues

Mrs. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, will presented this item. The end of Fiscal Year 2020-21 represented the fifth full year operating under the revised Water Supply Contract with Citrus County. The purpose of this agenda item is to report to the Board the status of water sales to Citrus County and corresponding revenues for the fiscal year. The FY 2021-22 budget included the minimum contract charge of \$224,000. The revenue received reflects a surplus revenue of \$11,262.

This item was presented for the Board’s information and no action was required.

9. Minimum Flows and Levels – Priority Lists and Schedules

Mrs. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, presented this item. The purpose of this item is to provide a status report to the Board of the establishment of minimum flows and levels (MFLs) in the Authority’s four-county area. Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, requires each of the water management districts to have a Priority List and Schedule for the establishment of MFLs. The Priority List and Schedule identifies water bodies for which the District plans to establish minimum flows and levels and also identifies planned water reservations. Minimum flows and levels are limits set by the District Governing Board for surface waters and groundwater systems that are intended to prevent significant harm to the water resources or ecology of the area that may be caused by water withdrawals. Reservations set aside water from withdrawals for the protection of fish and wildlife or public health and safety.

The Districts are required to update this List and Schedule each year and provide the updated List to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) by November 15th. Included as exhibits to this item are the MFLs that have been established to-date, and the proposed Priority Lists and Schedules for waterbodies within the WRWSA four-county area that are to be approved by the District Governing Boards for submittal to the DEP in November. A GIS map of the MFL locations and the current status of the MFL are provided by the DEP Office of Water Policy at:

<https://fdep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=df89179a4994477a70e6ed3dfc16647>

The Water Management Districts will use these MFLs to assess the health of the environment and will limit the issuance of future water supply permits based on monitoring these locations. All MFLs are currently being met except for the Silver Spring MFL, which is listed as “Prevention” which means that the SJRWMD has a Prevention Strategy in place to bring it back to “Meeting” the MFL. This strategy includes conservation, aquifer recharge with the Ocala wetland aquifer recharge park, relocating supply to the lower Floridan aquifer, and increasing use of reclaimed for irrigation.

The most relevant upcoming MFLs to be set will be four locations along the Withlacoochee River to be set by 2024. The Withlacoochee River has been identified as a potential alternative water supply source for the region, but the potential quantities that could be available cannot be determined until the minimum flows are set. WRWSA will continue to monitor and report on efforts to set these MFLs.

This item was presented for the Board's information and no action was required.

10. Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Project Phase V – Draft Report

Mrs. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA, will present this item. Phase V of the Authority's Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Program began in September 2018 as part of the Authority's ongoing water conservation initiative. Phase IV of the Irrigation Audit Program was funded by and completed in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), Citrus, Hernando, and Marion counties and the North Sumter County Utility Dependent District (NSCUDD) and the Villages Community Center Development District (VCCDD). Phase V included an "enhanced" component when compared to the previous phases, whereby the WRWSA's contractor implemented various aspects of the irrigation audit recommendations, rather than relying on the homeowner for implementation. The report details the outcomes of this enhanced component. Phase V has been completed on time and within budget. Staff will provide a summary of the major findings of the Phase V effort.

The Phase V final report has been included in the Board's meeting materials. If approved by the Board, the Final Report will be submitted to the SWFWMD in accordance with the Cooperative Funding Agreement.

Following consideration, **Chair Bryant said the Board consensus is to accept the Draft Report with amended Marion County data to SWFWMD in December and submit draft to SWFMWD, and present final report to Board in January 2022 for approval.**

11. Attorney's Report

Mr. Batsel congratulated Board members for the work they are doing on their Commissions and Councils to acquire grants on springs and wastewater for their areas.

12. Executive Director's Report

- a. **Lead and Copper Rule Revision Presentation** – Mrs. Folsom noted that Mr. Brown had requested this item. She provided an informational slide presentation showing there is federal legislation revising the Lead and Copper Rule requiring: additional distribution system sampling, identification of the type(s) of piping upstream and downstream of the billing meters, additional orthophosphate treatment, lead service line replacement, and sampling in schools and childcare facilities. In response to Ms. Stone's and Mr. Miller's inquiries, Ms. Folsom said no federal funding has been included at this time which for a small utility may be onerous. She noted that results were to be reported to the state.
- b. **Water Use Permit Demand Summary** – Mrs. Folsom said that a summary and two graphs were included in the Board's meeting materials. Charles A. Black Wellfield pumpage continues to be below its permit limit.
- c. **Water Management Information System Water Use Permit Notifications** – Mrs. Folsom reviewed the list of WMIS WUP notifications which is increasing in length.
- d. **Correspondence** – Items provided in the meeting materials:
 - On September 14, 2021, the WRWSA received notice that WUP No. 201007121.006 (Charles A. Black Wellfield) had been renewed.
 - Citrus County notified the WRWSA that the Cost of Living increase for FY2022 would be in effect on October 1, 2021.

- e. **News Article(s)** – Items provided in the meeting material:
- Citrus Chronicle – Editorial: Residents need to see where funds will flow.
 - Citrus Chronicle – Springs protection begins with each of us.
 - WMNF – Attention all private well owners in Citrus County
 - Village News – CDD 13 approves Phase III development adding 2, 404 homes in the Vilages
 - Village News – Sumter County residents petition for cleanup of once-pristine Lake Panasoffkee
 - WUSF Public Media – Here's why red tide would continue to affect Gulf Coast beaches for months

13. **Other Business** – None

14. **Next Meeting Time and Location**

- Next Regular Board Meeting – January 19, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166.

15. **Adjournment** – Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Ms. Narverud to adjourn the meeting, Chair Bryant adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

Kathy Bryant, Chair

Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director

Item 6.b.

Consent Agenda

Bills to be Paid

**December, January and February
bills in the meeting materials;
March bills to be provided at meeting.**

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228, Lecanto, Florida 34461

Bills For Payment
12/15/2021

<u>Administrative Invoices</u>	<u>Invoice Number(s)</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, Executive Director	1148	12/6/2021	\$7,337.62
Rob Batsel, General Counsel	64106	12/1/2021	\$329.00
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Asst (Services)	11-Nov-21	12/1/2021	\$3,218.75
Beth Narverud (Nov Board Travel)		11/10/2021	\$19.58
Gary Ernst (Nov Board Travel)		11/10/2021	\$36.49
Dale Swain (Nov Board Travel)		11/10/2021	\$27.59
Karen Allen (Web Maintenance)	142	12/6/2021	\$150.00
Sun Trust Business Card Statement	12.2.2021	12/2/2021	\$642.00
Total Administrative Invoices			\$11,761.03

<u>Water Supply Studies and Facilities</u>	<u>Contract/ Budget</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Current Invoice(s)</u>
2022 General Services Contract	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	
Work Order 2022-01 INTERA Incorporated	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2022-02 PWR-RESPEC	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2022-03 WRA	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
FY20-21 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00	\$76,298.01	
Citrus County	\$45,650.00	\$14,317.95	
Hernando County	\$48,350.00	\$17,207.78	
Marion County	\$25,847.00	\$23,086.26 *	
Crystal River	\$9,090.00	\$9,090.00	
FY21-22 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00	\$140,000.00	
Citrus County	\$44,250.00	\$44,250.00	
Hernando County	\$48,750.00	\$48,750.00	
Marion County	\$21,847.00	\$21,847.00	
Sumter County	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	
Phase 5 Irrigation Program (Q040)	\$145,000.00	\$30,981.27	
Phase 6 Irrigation Program (Q138)	\$121,200.00	\$37,590.44	\$2,681.13 (1)
Total Project Invoices	\$871,984.00		\$2,681.13
Total Bills to be Paid			\$14,442.16
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA2 to SBA1		\$2,681.13
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA1 to SunTrust Bank		\$14,442.16

Notes:

(1) Phase 6 (Q138) - Irrigation Audits

Jack Overdorff, ECO Land Design	\$2,481.13	Invoice 473
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Services	\$200.00	Invoice 11-Nov-Q138-2021
	<u>\$2,681.13</u>	

* Marion Co. FY 19-20 Grant Funding Assistance Program
(invoice not rec'd, resubmitted July 2021, paid with FY20-21 funds) \$2,760.74 Invoice WRWSA FY19-20 002

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228, Lecanto, Florida 34461

Bills For Payment
1/13/2022

<u>Administrative Invoices</u>	<u>Invoice Number(s)</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, Executive Director	1152	12/31/2021	\$7,436.50
Rob Batsel, General Counsel	64106	12/1/2021	\$0.00
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Asst (Services)	12-Dec-21	12/31/2021	\$3,218.75
Karen Allen (Web Maintenance)	143	1/6/2022	\$150.00
Alliance for Water Efficiency (Renewal Membership)	6796	1/1/2022	\$500.00
Times Publishing (Cancel Jan Mtg)	203110	1/3/2022	\$66.00
Sun Trust Business Card Statement	1.2.20211	1/2/2022	\$71.88
Total Administrative Invoices			\$11,443.13

<u>Water Supply Studies and Facilities</u>	<u>Contract/ Budget</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Current Invoice(s)</u>
2022 General Services Contract	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	
Work Order 2022-01 INTERA Incorporated	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2022-02 PWR-RESPEC	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2022-03 WRA	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
FY20-21 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00	\$77,712.61	
Citrus County	\$45,650.00	\$14,317.95	
Hernando County	\$48,350.00	\$17,207.78	
Marion County	\$25,847.00	\$23,086.26 *	
Crystal River	\$9,090.00	\$7,675.40	\$1,414.60 (1)
FY21-22 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00	\$140,000.00	
Citrus County	\$44,250.00	\$44,250.00	
Hernando County	\$48,750.00	\$48,750.00	
Marion County	\$21,847.00	\$21,847.00	
Sumter County	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	
Phase 5 Irrigation Program (Q040)	\$145,000.00	\$30,981.27	
Phase 6 Irrigation Program (Q138)	\$121,200.00	\$37,590.44	\$0.00 (2)
Total Project Invoices	\$871,984.00		\$1,414.60

Total Bills to be Paid	\$12,857.73
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State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA2 to SBA1	\$1,414.60
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA1 to SunTrust Bank	\$12,857.73

Notes:

(1) Crystal River Local Govt Grant \$1,414.60 Invoice 12/16/2021

(2) Phase 6 (Q138) - Irrigation Audits
 Jack Overdorff, ECO Land Design \$0.00 Invoice - Dec n/a
 C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Services \$0.00 Invoice
 \$0.00

* Marion Co. FY 19-20 Grant Funding Assistance Program
 (invoice not rec'd, resubmitted July 2021, paid with FY20-21 funds) \$2,760.74 Invoice WRWSA FY19-20 002

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228, Lecanto, Florida 34461

Bills For Payment
2/16/2022

<u>Administrative Invoices</u>	<u>Invoice Number(s)</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, Executive Director	1157	2/1/2022	\$7,354.88
Rob Batsel, General Counsel			\$0.00
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Asst (Services)	1-Jan-22	2/1/2022	\$3,218.75
Karen Allen (Web Maintenance)	144	2/11/2022	\$150.00
Florida Administrative Register (Cancel Jan Mtg)	122107	2/25/2022	\$35.84
Sun Trust Business Card Statement	2.2.2022	2/2/2022	\$308.97
Total Administrative Invoices			\$11,068.44

<u>Water Supply Studies and Facilities</u>	<u>Contract/ Budget</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Current Invoice(s)</u>
2022 General Services Contract	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	
Work Order 2022-01 INTERA Incorporated	\$10,000.00	\$5,800.00	\$4,200.00 (1)
Work Order 2022-02 PWR-RESPEC	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2022-03 WRA	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
FY20-21 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00	\$79,222.11	
Citrus County	\$45,650.00	\$14,317.95	
Hernando County	\$48,350.00	\$17,207.78	
Marion County	\$25,847.00	\$21,576.76	\$1,509.50 (2)
Crystal River	\$9,090.00	\$7,675.40	
FY21-22 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00	\$140,000.00	
Citrus County	\$44,250.00	\$44,250.00	
Hernando County	\$48,750.00	\$48,750.00	
Marion County	\$21,847.00	\$21,847.00	
Sumter County	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	
Phase 5 Irrigation Program (Q040)	\$145,000.00	\$30,981.27	
Phase 6 Irrigation Program (Q138)	\$121,200.00	\$37,590.44	\$0.00 (3)
Total Project Invoices	\$871,984.00		\$5,709.50

Total Bills to be Paid	\$16,777.94
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State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA2 to SBA1	\$5,709.50
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA1 to SunTrust Bank	\$16,777.94

Notes:

(1) INTERA Incorporated - Project WRWSA C001.TECH	\$4,200.00	Invoice 12-21-18
(2) Marion Co Local Govt Grant Program 20R-205	\$1,509.50	Invoice WRWSA FY20-21 001, dated 1/19/2022
(3) Phase 6 (Q138) - Irrigation Audits		
Jack Overdorff, ECO Land Design	\$0.00	Invoice - Jan n/a
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Services	\$0.00	Invoice
	\$0.00	

Item 6.c.

Water Conservation Month Resolution

Ms. Suzy Folsom, Executive Director, will present this item.

The purpose of this item is to request the Board execute a resolution declaring April 2022 as “Water Conservation Month.” Declaring April as Water Conservation Month has historically been used by the Authority as a means to focus the public’s attention on the need for and benefits of conservation and to highlight the resources available to help them.

Since 1998, the state of Florida, water management districts, local governments and water-related organizations, such as the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association, have declared April as Water Conservation Month. April is typically the time of year when water demands increase due to generally hot and dry conditions. Declaring April as Water Conservation Month will further the Authority’s and its member governments’ water conservation efforts.

The resolution for the Board’s consideration is provided in the meeting materials as an exhibit.

See Exhibit

Staff Recommendation:

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign Resolution No. 2022-01 declaring April 2022 as “Water Conservation Month.”

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION 2022-01

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**DESIGNATES APRIL 2022 AS
WATER CONSERVATION MONTH**

WHEREAS, water is a basic and essential need of every living creature; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida, the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority designate April as water conservation month; and

WHEREAS, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority urges every consumer and each citizen and business to become more aware of the need to save water, and to take appropriate measures to conserve and protect this vital natural resource by practicing water-saving measures; and

WHEREAS, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors supports and encourages water conservation measures within the Withlacoochee Region; and

WHEREAS, the support of April 2022 as Florida's Water Conservation Month reinforces conservation messages and efforts put forth by the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors hereby proclaims April 2022 as WATER CONSERVATION MONTH in the Withlacoochee Region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair and Secretary of the Board of Directors are hereby authorized to affix their signatures to the Resolution on behalf of the Board.

PASSED and ADOPTED in Lecanto, Citrus County, Florida on this sixteenth day of March 2022.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WITHLACOOCHEE
REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

Attest:

BY Kathy Bryant, Chair

Suzannah J. Folsom, Secretary

Springs Protection Awareness Month Resolution

Ms. Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, will present this item.

The purpose of this item is to request the Board execute a resolution declaring April 2022 as “Springs Protection Awareness Month.” Declaring April as Spring Protection Awareness Month will allow the Authority to focus the public’s attention on protecting, maintaining and restoring where necessary the natural springs within the region. These springs are essential to the environment, economy, citizens and visitors of the region. By adopting the proposed Springs Protection Awareness Month Resolution, the Authority will demonstrate its commitment to environmental stewardship, including supporting efforts to conserve and restore the ecological balance of these spring systems.

The Authority encourages its members to continue and enhance where appropriate local efforts to protect our springs and to support the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the St. Johns River Water Management District in their efforts to conserve and protect our local springs.

The resolution for the Board’s consideration is provided as an exhibit in the Board’s meeting materials.

See Exhibit

Staff Recommendation:

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign Resolution 2022-02 declaring April 2022 as “Springs Protection Awareness Month.”

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PROCLAIMS APRIL 2022 AS
“SPRINGS PROTECTION AWARENESS MONTH”**

WHEREAS, Florida’s springs are essential to the environment, economy, residents and visitors of the state; and

WHEREAS, there are five first-magnitude spring groups within the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) that collectively discharge more than one billion gallons of water per day; and

WHEREAS, these groups are important not only for their ecological value but also for their economic impact on the communities that call these areas home; and

WHEREAS, the WRWSA, in partnership with the various stakeholders, is committed to helping to conserve and restore the ecological balance of these spring systems, thereby supporting regional economies and quality of life.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority hereby proclaims the month of April 2022 as “SPRINGS PROTECTION AWARENESS MONTH.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority shall continue to contribute to an adaptive management strategy to protect the region’s springs through restoration, planning, communication and education, monitoring, research and development, regulation, conservation, and land acquisition and management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chair and Secretary are hereby authorized to affix their signatures to the Resolution on behalf of the Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in Lecanto, Citrus County, Florida, on this sixteenth day of March 2022.

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER
SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

Attest:

By: _____
Kathy Bryant, Chair

Suzannah J. Folsom, Secretary

Election of Board Officers

The Board of the WRWSA annually elects its Board officers, including a Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer at its January meeting. The Executive Director is the Board Secretary who serves in an ex-officio capacity. Pursuant to the Election of Officers Policy, included as an exhibit to this item, the Board may entertain nominations for individual officers or a slate of officers. Typically, the current Vice Chair is nominated to become Chair and the current Treasurer is nominated to become Vice Chair. The office of Treasurer is customarily filled by a Board member from the county without a representative as an officer in the current slate of officers. This practice is informal, and circumstances may warrant nominations and elections to deviate from this practice. Also, pursuant to the Board Policy, the current Chair will chair the complete January meeting. The new officers will take their respective seats 24 hours before the next Board meeting.

Marion County Commissioner Kathy Bryant is currently the Board Chair.

The natural succession would have Commissioner Holcomb move into the Chair position, Commissioner Kinnard move to the Vice Chair position, and a Sumter County Commissioner nominated in the in the Treasurer Position. Commissioner Holcomb has requested that he not continue as an officer as he is campaigning for a state office and will not have the time to serve as the board Chair. Officers can serve two consecutive one-year terms.

The next officer election will be scheduled in January 2023


SECTION VIII. – Officers: The officers of the Governing Board shall be as follows:

1. A Chairman, who shall preside at meetings of the Governing Board; sign, as authorized by the Governing Board, any contracts or other instruments which are deemed to be in the best interest of the Authority; and perform such other duties incident to the office as may be prescribed by the Governing Board.
2. A Vice Chairman, who shall act in the Chairman's absence. The Vice Chairman shall perform such other functions as the Governing Board may from time to time assign.
3. A Treasurer, who shall be entrusted with the receipt, care and disbursement of Authority funds in accordance with fiscal policies and regulations adopted by the Governing Board.
4. If none of the above officers are present at a Board meeting where there is otherwise a quorum, the Authority Board may elect a chairman pro-tem for the duration of the meeting.

See Exhibits

Staff Recommendation:

Board election of officers.

BOARD POLICY WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY			
TITLE: BOARD MEMBER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES			
NUMBER: 2015-03		PAGE: 1 OF 4	
APPROVED BY: 	AL BUTLER, CHAIR	EFFECTIVE DATE: 3-18-15	SUPERSEDES:

The purpose of this Policy is to clarify and facilitate the duties and responsibilities of members of the Board of Directors.

The WRWSA's Board of Directors is comprised of thirteen (13) members who are appointed by the respective member governments governing bodies. Annually in January, members of the Board elect three (3) officers: Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer, who serve in their respective offices for one year. The following is an outline of the duties and responsibilities of the three Board Officers and the general duties of all Board members.

1. CHAIR

The Board Chair has the duties and responsibilities historically associated with the presiding officer in an organizational setting, as governed by Robert's Rules of Order, as well as certain other specific duties established by Board Policy. The duties of the Board Chair include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- a. Presiding over all meetings of the Board, which includes keeping order, being fair and impartial, enforcing the rules and decorum of debate and protecting the rights of all Board members;
- b. Being familiar with the basic rules of calling a meeting to order and declaring a meeting adjourned, establishing and following an agenda and the proper steps in making, debating and voting on motions;
- c. Recognizing Board members who wish to speak; no member may speak to a subject under discussion or introduce a motion without recognition by the Chair. When more than one member requests recognition at the same time, the order of speakers will be determined as fairly as possible by the Chair;
- d. Using the Chair's prerogative, when appropriate, to limit member debate by enacting time limits in accordance with Board Policy;
- e. Using the Chair's prerogative, when appropriate, to grant exception to the three-minute time limit allowed to members of the public wishing to address the Board;
- f. Ruling out of order any member of the public who speaks out of order, who fails to address the Board according to Board Policy or who is making profane, irrelevant or inflammatory statements;
- g. Presiding over annual elections by accepting nominations and motions to nominations, putting the nominations to vote and announcing the results in accordance with Board Policy;

BOARD POLICY	
WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY	
TITLE: BOARD MEMBER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES NUMBER: 2015-03	
PAGE: 2 OF 4	
APPROVED BY:	AL BUTLER, CHAIR EFFECTIVE DATE: <u>3-18-15</u> SUPERSEDES:

- h. Annually appointing members, committee chairs, committee vice chairs and Board liaisons to any Board and other committees that may be established, after seeking input from Board members.
- i. Signing the official minutes of Board meetings, Board Policies and other documents;
- j. Signing (along with the Executive Director or, in the absence of the Executive Director, another Board officer) Authority checks, either manually or by facsimile signature;
- k. Approving non-scheduled travel outside the Authority or travel to attend conferences or conventions outside the Authority by Board members or the Executive Director, as required by the Authority's Travel Policy when travel is expected to occur prior to the Board's ability to approve such travel;
- l. Concurring with the Executive Director and General Counsel in the initiation of legal action initiated in advance of full Board approval, if necessary, in the best interest of the Authority;
- m. Consulting with the Executive Director and General Counsel in the procurement of outside legal services necessary to adequately represent the Board and the Authority;
- n. Executing certain documents on behalf of the Board, including agreements for the recruitment, selection and compensation of the Executive Director, Board Policies, Settlement Agreements and certain other documents where signature authority has not been delegated to the Executive Director;
- o. Making final legislative policy decisions in the event that time frames preclude formal Board action as it pertains to any pending legislation, and reporting the same to the full Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting; and
- p. Other such duties as may be required on behalf of the Board of Directors.

2. VICE CHAIR

The office of the Board Vice Chair generally involves assuming all the duties and responsibilities of the Chair, including presiding at Board of Director meetings, when the Chair is unable to be physically present at a meeting or if the office of the Chair is vacated for any reason. In the case of disability, resignation, non-reappointment or death of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall become the Chair for the remainder of the Chair's term. The Vice Chair may have other duties as assigned by the Chair on behalf of the Board.

BOARD POLICY WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY			
TITLE: BOARD MEMBER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES NUMBER: 2015-03		PAGE: 3 OF 4	
APPROVED BY:	AL BUTLER, CHAIR	EFFECTIVE DATE: 3-18-15	SUPERSEDES:

3. TREASURER

The Board Treasurer has specific duties and responsibilities as expressed by Robert's Rules of Order and by Board Policy. The duties of the Board Treasurer include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- a. Signing, in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, either manually or by facsimile signature, all checks issued by the Authority, which are counter-signed by the Executive Director or another Board Officer;
- b. Signing, as primary signatory, either manually or by facsimile signature, all Authority financial account documents, documents to alter account structure or close accounts, and other financial reporting documents required by statute;
- c. Receiving the Authority's monthly report on cash and investments;
- d. Consulting with the Executive Director and staff in the preparation of the annual budget and annual third-party financial audit;
- e. Presiding over meetings, and assuming all of the duties of the Chair, in the event that the Chair and the Vice Chair are unable to physically be present at a meeting, if the Chair and the Vice Chair have to step down for any reason, or if the offices of the Chair and the Vice Chair are vacated for any reason;
- f. Customarily presiding over Budget Hearings conducted pursuant to Sections 200.065 and 373.536, Florida Statutes, at the prerogative of the Chair; and
- g. Assuming other such duties as assigned by the Chair and on behalf of the Board of Directors.

4. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Each Board member has certain duties and responsibilities in the public trust, as set forth generally in Robert's Rules of Order, and as further established by Board Policy, to wit:

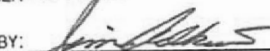
- a. Regularly attending meetings, hearings and workshops;
- b. Adequately preparing for meetings, hearings and workshops by reviewing the Agenda and Board Packet and being versed on the issues to come before the Board;
- c. Knowing the rules of order and debate, having an adequate knowledge of the various motions and parliamentary procedure and participating in debate as appropriate;

<p style="text-align: center;">BOARD POLICY WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY</p>
<p>TITLE: BOARD MEMBER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES NUMBER 2015-03</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PAGE: 4 OF 4</p>
<p>APPROVED BY: AL BUTLER, CHAIR EFFECTIVE DATE: 3-18-15 SUPERSEDES:</p>

- d. Accepting Board Committee and other committee assignments as assigned by the Chair and performing assigned tasks in a timely manner;
- e. Complying with laws governing public service, including Florida's Government-in-the Sunshine law and the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, as well as the financial reporting requirements found in Chapter 112, Florida Statutes and the Florida Constitution;
- f. Calling out a Point of Order only when a serious breach of the rules of debate has taken place;
- g. Voting on all issues before the Board except in the case of a voting conflict of interest pursuant to Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes, which requires that a Board member recuse him or herself in the event of conflicts of interest as outlined therein; and
- h. Other such duties as may be assigned by the Chair of the Board of Directors.

AUTHORITY: Chapter 373, Florida Statutes
Chapter 112, Florida Statutes
Section 200.065, Florida Statutes

REFERENCE: Board Policy 2015-01, Election of Board Officers
Board Policy 2015-02, Conduct of Board Meetings
Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, Eleventh Edition (2011)

BOARD POLICY WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY	
TITLE: ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS NUMBER 2015-01	PAGE: 1 OF 2
APPROVED BY:  JIM ADKINS, CHAIR	EFFECTIVE DATE: 01-21-2015 SUPERSEDES: N.A.

The purpose of this Policy is to clarify and facilitate the election process for Board of Directors Officers.

1. Officer Elections

The Board of Directors shall elect officers from its members in the following order:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Treasurer

The Executive Director shall serve as the non-voting Secretary for the Board.

2. Schedule for Elections

Election of officers shall occur annually in January. Elections will take place during the beginning of the Board meeting. New officers will assume offices twenty-four (24) hours prior to the next Board meeting.

3. Procedure for Election of Officers

- a. Separate elections shall be held for each office. The Board shall complete all voting on each individual office before proceeding to vote on the next office. Notwithstanding, a nomination for a slate of officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer) may be made prior to the Chair accepting nominations for the office of Chair.
- b. Nominations for new officers shall be made orally.
- c. When everyone has had a reasonable opportunity to nominate, the Chair will accept a motion to close nominations.
- d. The Chair shall then proceed to put the nomination(s) to vote. If there is only one nomination for an individual office, or a slate of officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer) is nominated, the Chair shall call for a vote orally. If there is more than one nomination for an office, the Chair shall call for a vote by ballot. Ballots must be signed by each member when voting.
- e. The Executive Director, with the assistance of the General Counsel, shall count the ballots, and the Chair will announce the results.
- f. Elections shall be determined by a majority.
- g. Should no candidate receive a majority on the first ballot, voting will continue with subsequent ballots until one candidate is elected. In the event three or more candidates are on the ballot, the names of all candidates will remain on subsequent ballots.
- h. If a candidate is present and does not decline, or if a candidate is absent but has consented to the candidacy, the candidate is elected. If the candidate is absent, has not consented to be a candidate and does not immediately decline upon being notified, the

BOARD POLICY WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY		
TITLE: ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS NUMBER 2015-01		PAGE: 2 OF 2
APPROVED BY:	JIM ADKINS, CHAIR	EFFECTIVE DATE: 01-21-2015 SUPERSEDES: N.A.

candidate is elected. If a person declines election, there is a failure to elect, and the Board may proceed to continue the election.

- i. Elections will be held in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*, except as otherwise specified above.

4. Terms of Office

Board members elected to office will hold office until the next election of officers is held, unless the office is vacated. Officers serve one-year terms. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

5. Filling Vacancies

A vacancy in any office shall be filled at the meeting of the Board of Directors at which the vacancy occurs or the next meeting after the vacancy occurs unless delayed to a date certain by action of the Board. In case of disability, resignation, non-reappointment or death of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall become the chair for the remainder of the Chair's term.

6. Practice of Rotating Offices

It is the practice of the Board to rotate offices among the Board representatives from each county, such that three of the four counties comprising the Authority have a representative as an officer (Chair, Vice Chair or Treasurer) of the Board. Typically, the current Vice Chair is nominated to become Chair and the current Treasurer is nominated to become Vice Chair. The office of Treasurer is customarily filled by a Board member from the county without a representative as an officer in the current slate of officers. This practice is informal and circumstances may warrant nominations and elections to deviate from this practice.

AUTHORITY: Chapter 373, Florida Statutes

REFERENCE: Section 286.011, Florida Statutes (Government in the Sunshine Law)
Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, Eleventh Edition (2011)

Establishment of Proposed FY 2022-23 Budget Components

Mr. Suzannah Folsom, Executive Director, will present this item.

a. Grant Funding Amount and Guidelines

Since 2005, the Authority has funded an annual grants program that provides matching funds for water conservation and water supply development projects. Member governments and other utilities in the region have applied for and received cooperative grants for projects of mutual benefit. The 2022-23 grants cycle will begin with an announcement to be sent to utility directors and water conservation coordinators in the region regarding the Authority's Local Government Grant Program. A copy of the proposed announcement is included as an exhibit to this item.

For the current fiscal year 2021-22 budget, the Board increased the grant funding budget amount by \$10,000 to \$140,000, and clarified on the forms and website that the grant funds could be available for Water Supply and Conservation Projects. In order to provide for this continuing program in the upcoming 2022-23 fiscal year and to allow staff to prepare the 2022-23 budget, staff requests the same amount of \$140,000 for the Grant Program.

See Exhibit

Staff Recommendation:

The Board set the total allocation of funds in fiscal year 2022-23 budget for the Local Government Grant Program at \$140,000 for water supply and conservation projects.

**DRAFT**

April 5, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Local Governments and Utility Directors in the Withlacoochee Region

From: Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director, WRWSA

Subject: WRWSA Funding for Water Conservation Projects

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) will accept applications for its Fiscal Year 2022-23 Local Government Water Conservation Grants Program starting on May 2, 2022. Applications must be received no later than June 30, 2022. This grants program is sponsored by the WRWSA to fund local water conservation projects on a matching basis. The staff will recommend to the Board that the Authority continue to accept grant applications for water conservation-related projects only. Applications and instructions will be available on the Authority web page at www.wrwsa.org by April 5, 2022. Applications will be considered by the Board at its July 20, 2022 Board meeting. Awards are scheduled to be made at the September 21, 2022 Board meeting.

If you have any questions about the grants program, please contact me at (352) 527-5956. You may also call LuAnne Stout at the Lecanto Office (352) 527-5795. If you desire to contact me by FAX, my FAX number is (352) 527-5797 and my e-mail address is "sfolsom@wrwsa.org".

cc: WRWSA Board Members

Distribution List:

Bruce Phillips, Belleview	Alys Brockway, Hernando Co. Water Conservation
Jeremy Burgess, Brooksville	Eric C. Williams, Inverness
Steve Macholz, Bushnell	Jody Kirkman, Marion County
Sue Taylor, City of Center Hill	Rachel Novak, Marion County
Ken Cheek, Citrus County	Town of McIntosh
Debra Burden, Citrus Co. Water Conservation	Rachel Slocumb, Ocala
Milton Hill, City of Coleman	Town of Reddick
Ken Frink, Crystal River	Bradley Arnold, Sumter County
Troy Slattery, Dunnellon	City of Webster
Gordon Onderdonk, Hernando County	Mark Odell, Wildwood

Item 8.b.

Establishment of Proposed FY 2022-23 Budget Components

Mr. Suzannah Folsom, Executive Director, will present this item.

b. FY 2022-23 Per Capita Rate

Each year the Authority Board must approve a per capita rate for each of the member counties. The current rate of \$0.19 per capita has been in effect for twelve years, since the 2009-10 fiscal year. The per capita rate is applied to the latest county population estimates prepared by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, which prepare the State's official population estimates.

In the coming fiscal year, a per capita rate of \$0.19 will generate a total revenue of \$164,906, an increase of \$3,190 or approximately 2.0% from the current fiscal year.

County	BEBR Population (April 1, 2021)	FY 2022-2023 Assessment
Citrus	155,615	\$29,567
Hernando	196,540	\$37,343
Marion	381,176	\$72,423
Sumter	134,593	\$25,573
Total	867,924	\$164,906

The assessments are billed quarterly to each County at a rate of 25% of the amount listed above.

Staff Recommendation:

Board approval of no change in the per capita rate of \$0.19 for preparation of the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget.

Charles A. Black Wellfield – Renewal and Replacement Fund Annual Report

Mrs. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, will present this item.

Citrus County has submitted to the Authority the annual report for the Charles A. Black (CAB) Wellfield Renewal and Replacement (R&R) Fund, documenting deposits and expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, the first two pages of which are included as an exhibit to this item.

This annual report is required by the Water Supply Contract between the WRWSA and Citrus County. Staff has reviewed this report, and has found that the report is consistent with the pertinent Contract requirements, which state in part:

R&R Reserve Fund Reporting – The County shall provide to the Authority an annual report on contributions to and utilization of the R&R Reserve Fund, describing the date and amount of contributions to the Fund, interest earnings in the Fund; and the date, amount, and description of expenditures from the fund, including the purpose of the capital facility replacement, renewal or major repair. This annual report shall be for the prior Contract Year and shall be provided no later than January 31st in the following Contract Year.

The R&R Fund was credited with \$180,000 in deposits from Citrus County and \$2,989.41 in interest revenue. Expenditures for totaled \$34,040.88 for replacement chlorine tanks, asphalt sealing, and pump repairs at CAB1 and Well #7. The R&R Fund balance increased from \$1,831,752.02 to \$1,980,700.55.

See Exhibit

Staff Recommendation:

Board acceptance of Citrus County's annual report for the CAB R&R Fund, documenting expenditures and deposits for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021.



ANGELA VICK
EX-OFFICIO CLERK
TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Citrus County, Florida



110 North Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450
(352) 341-6424 • Fax (352) 341-6458
ssullivan@citrusclerk.org

January 5, 2022

Ms. Suzannah Folsom
Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority
3600 West Sovereign Path – Suite 228
Lecanto, Florida 34461

Dear Ms. Folsom:

Enclosed is a listing of the interest revenue and transfers to as well as expenditures Citrus County made from the renewal and replacement fund for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021. These expenditures were allowed by the Water Supply Contract between Withlacoochee Water Supply Authority and Citrus County, Florida, dated October 12, 2016. This information is provided so that your records may accurately reflect the change in the amount of this fund. The following is a summary of the transactions in the renewal and replacement fund:

Beginning Balance 10/1/2020	\$1,831,752.02
Deposit	180,000.00
Interest Revenue	2,989.41
Less: Expenses	<u>(34,040.88)</u>
Ending Balance 9/30/2021	<u>\$1,980,700.55</u>

A detailed report of the above activity is attached along with copies of the individual invoices. If you have any questions regarding these transactions, please call me at 352-341-6464.

Sincerely,

Susan Sullivan, CPA
Senior Financial Analyst

Enclosures

Cc via e-mail: Randy Oliver, County Administrator
Ken Cheek, Water Resources Director

Detail of Transactions

Beginning Balance			\$ 1,831,752.02
Transfers In			
10/07/20	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
11/06/20	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
12/08/20	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
01/08/21	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
02/08/21	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
03/08/21	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
04/08/21	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
05/07/21	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
06/08/21	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
07/08/21	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
08/06/21	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
09/08/21	Contractual transfers	<u>15,000.00</u>	180,000.00
Interest Earnings			
11/01/20	Monthly interest earnings	419.25	
12/01/20	Monthly interest earnings	290.45	
01/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	256.04	
02/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	272.40	
03/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	284.67	
04/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	270.17	
05/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	220.49	
06/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	195.78	
07/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	159.65	
08/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	274.71	
09/01/21	Monthly interest earnings	185.26	
09/30/21	Monthly interest earnings	<u>160.54</u>	2,989.41
Repair & Maintenance			
06/29/21	Odyssey Manufacturing - Replace two chlorine tanks	22,017.00	
09/21/21	Pave-Rite - CAB1 & II asphalt sealing	7,776.00	
09/30/21	Bearings & Powertransmission - Repair CAB1/well 7 pump	<u>4,247.88</u>	(34,040.88)
Ending Balance			<u><u>\$ 1,980,700.55</u></u>



ODYSSEY
MANUFACTURING CO.

Odyssey Manufacturing Company

1484 Massaro Blvd.

Tampa, FL 33619

Marjorie O'donnell: modonnell@OdysseyManufacturing.com

Telephone: 813/635-0339

Item 1

Invoice 363611

Invoice Date 06/01/21

JUN 21 '21 12:37PM

Bill To:

Citrus County Utilities
110 N. Apopka Avenue
Inverness, FL 34450

Ship To:

Charles A Black Water Plant #1
Phone:352-746-5096
1999 N. Blue Jay Terrace
Hernando, FL 34442

Customer	Ship Via	F.O.B.		Terms		
CCO03	Odyssey Mfg.	Destination		Net 30 Days		
Purchase Order Number		Delivery Date		Order Date	Our Order Number	
82664		06/01/21		06/01/21		
Quantity Ordered	Quantity Shipped	Item Number	Unit of Measure	Unit Price		Extended Price
	Back Ordered	Item Description		Discount %	Tax	
2	2	TANK	GAL	11008.5000		22017.00
	0	Furnish & Install Assman 1,050 Gallon DW Tank			N	
Per Quote Dated 04/05/21						
Nontaxable Subtotal 22017.00						
Taxable Subtotal 0.00						
Tax 0.00						
Total Invoice 22017.00						

PAVE RITE INC

3411 W CRIGGER COURT
LECANTO, FL 34461
USA

Voice: 352-621-1600
Fax: 352-621-1645

INVOICE

Invoice Number: 2100.33
Invoice Date: Aug 30, 2021
Page: 1

Duplicate

Bill To:

CITRUS COUNTY UTILITY DIVISION
110 N. APOPKA AVE
INVERNESS, FL 34450

Ship to:

CITRUS COUNTY UTILITY DIVISION
110 N. APOPKA AVE
INVERNESS, FL 34450

Customer ID	Customer PO	Payment Terms	
CITRUS COUNTY UTILIT	82686	Net 30 Days	
Sales Rep ID	Shipping Method	Ship Date	Due Date
	Courier		9/29/21

Quantity	Item	Description	Unit Price	Amount
9,850.00		ASPHALT SEALING IN VARIOU		
		LOCATIONS CITRUS COUNTY		
18,950.00		1999 N BLUE JAY TER	0.27	2,659.50
		VARIOUS OTHER DRIVEWAYS PER DON	0.27	5,116.50
		MAIDLOW		
Subtotal				7,776.00
Sales Tax				
Total Invoice Amount				7,776.00
Payment/Credit Applied				
TOTAL				7,776.00

Check/Credit Memo No:

BEARINGS AND POWERTRANSMISSION HOUSE INC.

Phone # 352-564-2000 bpth56@aol.com
Fax #

9700-56400
Repair at
cab 1/well 7

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
8/10/2021	7199

Bill To

CITRUS COUNTY UTILITIES
6000 WEST FRONTIER LN
BEVERLY HILLS, FL. 34465

Ship To

P.O. Number	Terms	Rep	Ship	Via	F.O.B.
RON 8-12	NET30		8/10/2021	FED X	S'P'

[illegible]

Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Project Phase V Final Report

Ms. Suzy Folsom, WRWSA, will present this item.

Phase V of the Authority's Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Program began in December 2018 as part of the Authority's ongoing water conservation initiative. Phase V of the Irrigation Audit Program was funded by and completed in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), Citrus, Hernando, and Marion counties and the North Sumter County Utility Dependent District (NSCUDD) and the Villages Community Center Development District (VCCDD).

Phase V included an "enhanced" component when compared to the previous phases, whereby the WRWSA's contractor implemented various aspects of the irrigation audit recommendations, rather than relying on the homeowner for implementation. The report details the outcomes of this enhanced component. Phase V has been completed on time and within budget.

Staff will provide a summary of the major findings of the Phase V effort.

The Phase V final report has been provided as a separate document accompanying the Board's meeting materials. If approved by the Board, the Final Report will be submitted to the SWFWMD in accordance with the Cooperative Funding Agreement.

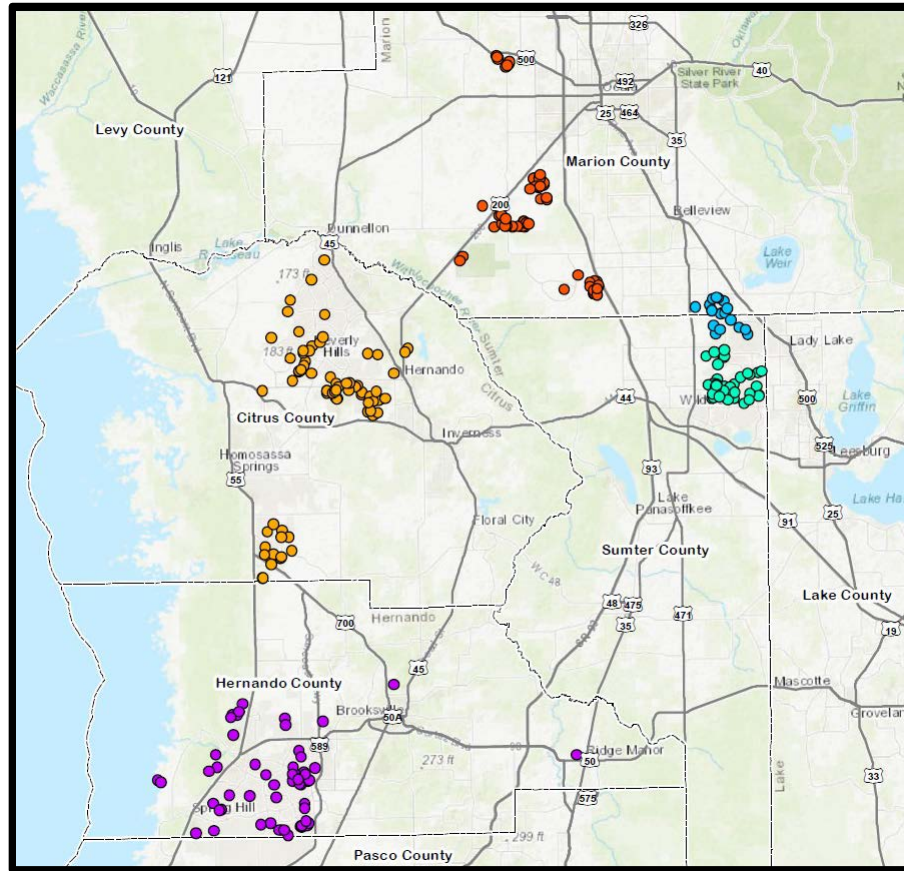
See Exhibits:

- Final Report (provided as a separate document)
- PowerPoint Presentation

Staff Recommendation:

Board accept the Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Program Phase V Final Report, dated March 2, 2022, and authorize staff to submit the Final Report to the SWFWMD.

Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Program Phase V Final Report



A Cooperative Funding Initiative (Q040)

March 16, 2022

Prepared by

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority



**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL
WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**



Phase 5 Irrigation System Evaluation Program

* Participating Utilities



Core and Enhanced Evaluations

Core Evaluations

- In-depth inspection
- Zone efficiency
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ practices
- Timing and run cycles
- Rain sensor
- Written report

Core Evaluation

* Check Water Meter



Leak Detector



Zone Analysis



Calibrate irrigation system runtimes to deliver $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ - inch water per week

Rain Sensors

- Only **10.6%** had working rain sensors
- **89.4%** needed installation or repair
- Install with a clear view of the sky
- Away from buildings, plants, heat



Spray Patterns Blocked



Other Maintenance Issues



Overspray



Poor Coverage

Enhanced Evaluations

Citrus County

- Same as core, plus:
- Implement some or all recommendations
- Advanced Water Sense labeled controller



Certified by
ICC-ES

Irrigation Controller

Citrus County



Certified by
ICC-ES

Enhanced Evaluation

Marion & Hernando County



Core vs. Enhanced Evaluations by Utility

Utility	Core	Enhanced
Citrus	63	14
Hernando	11	46
Marion	12	71
VCCDD	19	0
NSCUDD	47	0
TOTAL	152	131

Preliminary Results

Average savings:

- 191 gallons per account per day
- 81 gallons per person per day Core
- 161 gallons per day per person Enhanced*
- 83 gallons per day per person Enhanced**
- 20-22% per capita use reduction

Average Cost per Evaluation

- Core: \$401
- Enhanced: \$520*
\$723 **

*Hernando and Marion County- 54 -

** Citrus County

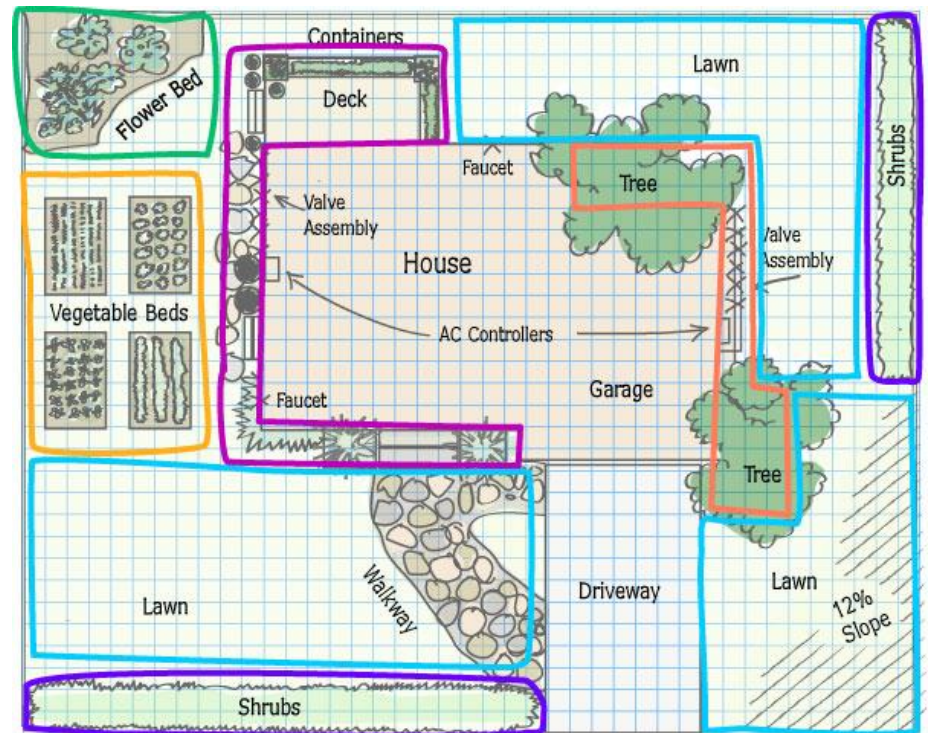
Pre vs. Post Water Usage

Utility	Evaluations with Pre/Post Use	Pre-Evaluation Water Use (MG)	Post-Evaluation Water Use (MG)	Water Saved (MG)	Percent Water Saved
Citrus	76	25.6	19.8	5.8	23%
Hernando	55	17.7	14.5	3.2	18%
Marion	83	26.9	20.6	6.3	23%
VCCDD	19	6.3	4.5	1.8	29%
NSCUDD	46	12.3	10.1	2.3	18%
Total	279	88.93	69.52	19.40	22%

Irrigation System Evaluation Program Goals

Goal: < 150 gallons per capita per day

- Target Single family residential customers
- water use > 20,000 gallons per month
- Voluntary participation
- FREE Irrigation system audits
- Efficiency recommendations



Project Budget

Budget \$145,000 for 260 evaluations

Spent \$131,940 for 283 evaluations

- * 50% SWFWMD - \$65,670
- * 25% WRWSA - \$32,985
- * 25% Utilities - \$32,985

Utility Participation

Utility	Evaluations	25% Contribution
Citrus	77	\$8,948
Hernando	57	\$7,110
Marion	83	\$10,455
VCCDD	19	\$1,830
NSCUDD	47	\$4,642
TOTAL	283	\$32,985

Cost Effectiveness

Evaluation Type	Cost/Benefit Calculation (\$/Kgal)
Core Evaluations	\$1.64
Enhanced Evaluation (Citrus County)	\$1.40
Enhanced Evaluation (Hernando and Marion Counties)	\$1.84
All Evaluations	\$1.70

Schedule

Milestone	Completion
Irrigation Evaluation Contractor procurement	September 2018
Irrigation Evaluations	December 2018 - September 2020
Draft Report to WRWSA Board	November 2021
Final Report to WRWSA Board	December 2021
Agreement Expiration	June 1, 2022

Staff Recommendation

- * Staff recommends that the Final Report accepted and submitted to SWFWMD.

Item 11

Legislative Report

Summary of Florida State Legislative Issues for Tracking

March 1, 2022

Bill Title	Significance	Bill	Sponsors	Status
"Stop Fracking Act"	<p>Would ban "all stages of a well intervention performed by injecting fluids into a rock formation to increase production at an oil or gas well"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes high-pressure well stimulation and matrix acidizing <p>Similar broad bans failed in 2019, 2020, 2021 sessions</p>	SB 208	Sen Farmer	No House companion, not viable in 2022
Local Ordinances	<p>This bill would require local governments to prepare a business impact statement before adopting a local ordinance that includes the direct and indirect economic effects of the proposed ordinances. Includes one-way attorney fee provision. What does the local government's "business impact statement" have to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A statement of the public purpose to be served by the ordinance Reasonable connection between the public purpose of the ordinance's impacts Estimated economic effect of the ordinance on other businesses both inside and outside the county or city; must consider both adverse and beneficial impacts as well as direct and indirect effects of the ordinance Estimate the number of businesses that the ordinance is likely to impact Provide an analysis of whether the ordinance is likely to deter or encourage the formation of new businesses Business Impact Statement Requirements Provide an analysis of the extent the ordinance will impede the ability of businesses to compete statewide and with other other domestic markets Provide a scientific basis for the ordinance Consider alternatives. <p>This is an unfunded mandate.</p>	SB 280 HB 403	Sen. Hutson, Rep. Giallombardo	<p>Passed in the Senate 1/27</p> <p>On agenda for the House</p>

Renewable Energy	<p>Would prohibit oil exploration, drilling or production on Florida land or in Florida waters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would require all electricity in the state be derived from renewable sources by 2040 • Would require carbon emissions to be reduced to net zero by 2050 • Creates advisory committee to reach these goals 	SB 336 HB 81	Sen. Berman, Rep Eskamani	<p>Approved in the Senate 1/27</p> <p>On the Special Order Calendar in the House for 3/3/22</p>
Sales Tax Holiday for Energy Star and WaterSense Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a sales tax exemption for certain ENERGY STAR and WaterSense products during a specified timeframe • Defining terms • Authorizing the Department of Revenue to adopt emergency rules 	SB 356 HB 201	Sen Jones Rep Daley	<p>Senate Appropriations 1/31/22</p> <p>House Commerce Committee 2/9/22</p>
Safe Waterways Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring the department to notify a municipality or county if the department issues a health advisory against swimming on the basis of elevated bacteria levels in a public bathing place within the municipality's or county's jurisdiction • Requiring the municipality or county to post certain signage around public bathing places that have elevated levels of specified bacteria 	SB604 HB393	Sen Berman Rep Hinson	<p>Senate Community Affairs</p> <p>1st House Reading on 1/11/22</p>
Sanitary Sewer lateral inspection Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants County's access for inspection, repair • Allows use of state or local funds allocated for environmental preservation or water quality protection 	SB 608 HB 303	Sen Brodeur, Rep Fetterhoff, Rep Giallombardo	<p>Senate Appropriations 2/2/22</p> <p>House 1st reading 1/11/22</p>
Public Meetings During Declared States of Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing for the suspension of certain statutory provisions during declared states of emergency for a specified timeframe • Authorizing governing bodies to use communications media technology to conduct meetings during declared states of emergency • Providing that certain remote participation by a governing body member in a meeting constitutes that individual's presence at such meeting and counts toward a quorum during a declared state of emergency • Authorizing members of a governing body to attend certain meetings in person or through communications media technology 	SB 674	Sen Cruz	<p>Senate Introduced 1/11/2022</p> <p>No House Companion</p>

Drinking Water in Public Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring district boards to coordinate with district school boards to identify certain schools and to provide funding to those schools by a specified date • Requiring school districts, as applicable, to install filters that meet certain specifications on drinking water sources • Requiring school districts, as applicable, to post signage on certain water sources • Requiring school districts to publish specified information on school district websites 	SB 676 SB 1648 HB 1245	Sen Cruz Sen Farmer Rep Nixon	Senate Appropriations 2/8/22 House In Committees 1/12/22
Bottled Water Excise Tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.125/bottle goes towards wastewater and stormwater revolving fund trust fund 	SB 798 HB 473	Sen Taddeo Rep Casello	Not viable in 2022
Implementation of the BGATF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring owners of certain onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to have the systems periodically inspected, beginning on a specified date • Requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to administer the inspection program • Requiring new or revised basin management action plans to include a list that identifies and prioritizes certain spatially focused projects 	SB832 HB561	Sen Stewart Rep Goff-Marcil	Senate Appropriations 1/27/22 1 st House Reading on 1/11/22
Long-term Cleanup of Harmful Algal Blooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDEP to procure innovative technologies to remove harmful algal blooms from water bodies 	SB 834 HB 421	Sen Brodeur, Rep Truenow, Rep Smith	Introduced in Senate 1/11/22 In House State Affairs 2/14/22
Private Provider Inspection of Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDEP no inspection fee • Inspectors must be certified • Owner notification to DEP 	SB 856 HB 309	Sen Brodeur, Rep Fetterhoff, Rep Giallombardo	Passed in Senate 3/1/22 House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations 2/14/22
Inventories of Critical Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires each water management district governing board, in cooperation with local governments, to develop a list of critical wetlands for acquisition using the Land Acquisition Trust Fund 	SB 882 HB 761	Sen Brodeur Rep Truenow	Senate Calendar 2/11/22 House 2 nd Reading 2/28/22

Municipal Water and Sewer Utility Rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring a municipality to charge customers receiving its utility services in another municipality the same rates, fees, and charges as it charges consumers within its municipal boundaries under certain circumstances 	SB 886 HB 515	Sen Jones Rep Robinson	Senate Introduced 1/11/22 House 1 st Reading 1/11/22
Nutrient Application Rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizing the use of rate tailoring in specified circumstances • Authorizing producers to use written recommendations from certified professionals to tailor their recommended nutrient application rates under certain circumstances • Requiring revisions to recommended application rates by certain state universities and Florida College System institutions to authorize rate tailoring 	SB 1000 HB 1291	Sen Albritton Rep McClure	Approved on Senate Special Order Calendar 2/17/22 House 2 nd reading 2/28/22
Aquatic Plant Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FWC to study nutrient removal technologies and mechanical aquatic plant management techniques 	SB 1128 HB 579	Sen Harrell Rep Melo	Introduced in Senate 1/11/22 House Special Order Calendar 3/1/22
Infrastructure Project Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits administering agency from disbursing funds from any category of General Appropriations Act for infrastructure projects under certain conditions • Requires grantee to use revenues for infrastructure projects for certain activities only; • Prohibits water management districts from disbursing funds to grantees for water-related projects unless certain conditions are met • Prohibits potential grantees from seeking funds for water-related projects under certain conditions • Provides criteria under which applicants may apply for water project grant funding • Prohibits applicants from seeking water project grant funding under certain conditions. 	SB 1162 HB 621	Sen Broxson Rep Fine	Not viable in 2022

Saltwater Intrusion Vulnerability Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring coastal counties to conduct vulnerability assessments analyzing the effects of saltwater intrusion on their water supplies and their preparedness to respond to threats, by a specified date • Requiring each coastal county to provide copies of its assessment to the Department of Environmental Protection and the respective water management districts • Requiring the water management districts, in collaboration with the coastal counties, to submit certain projects to the department based on the assessments by a specified date • Requiring the department to provide cost-share funding up to a specified amount for certain coastal counties 	SB 1238 HB 1019	Sen Polsky Rep Duggan	Senate Environment Natural Resources Committee 2/2/22 House 1 st reading 1/11/22
Floating Solar Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides for and encourages location of floating solar facilities on manmade bodies of water including reservoirs 	SB 1338 HB 1411	Sen Diaz Rep Avila	Senate Special Order Calendar 3/2/22 House in Commerce Committee
Land Acquisition Trust Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing an annual appropriation to the Department of Environmental Protection to implement the Heartland Headwaters Protection and Sustainability Act; • Requiring the funds to be used and distributed for specified purposes 	SB 1400 HB 603	Sen Burgess Rep Bell	Senate Appropriations 1/27/22 Passed in House 2/24/22
Water Quality Enhancement Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing for water quality enhancement areas, enhancement service areas, and enhancement credits • Providing requirements for water quality enhancement area permits, enhancement service areas, and enhancement credits • Directing the Department of Environmental Protection and water management districts to authorize the sale and use of enhancement credits to offset certain adverse water quality impacts and to meet certain water quality requirements 	SB 1426 HB 965	Sen Burgess Rep Truenow	Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Approval 2/28/22 House 1 st reading of 3 rd substitute on 2/28/22

PFAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating the task force within the Department of Environmental Protection • Providing the membership, organization, and duties of the task force • Requiring the department to provide staffing to assist the task force in the performance of its duties • Requiring the task force to convene by a specified date • Requiring the task force to submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date 	SB 7012 HB 1475	Sen Albritton Rep McClure	Senate Approved 2/28/22, reference review 3/1/22 House Special Order Calendar 3/3/22
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Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Ms. Elizabeth Keddy from Hazen and Sawyer will present this item.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act was enacted into law on November 15, 2021. The Act outlines \$550 billion for infrastructure improvement projects. These funds will be spent over a 5-year period. \$23.4 billion will go towards the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the Safe Drinking Water (DWSRF) programs. An additional \$15 billion will be appropriated to eliminating lead service water pipes with priority to disadvantaged communities. The funds will be administered through the State Revolving Fund and up to 49% could be administered as grants and forgivable loans.

Staff Recommendation:

This Item is for information only and no action is required.

Pilot Water Sense Labeled Irrigation Controller Install Project Results

Ms. Debra Burden, Citrus County Department of Water Resources, will present this item.

Citrus County has continued its Water Sense Labeled Irrigation Controller Install project as part of the utility's ongoing conservation initiative.

The project was funded in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District and Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority. Debra Burden will provide a summary of the work completed and the success of the continued project.

The Water Sense Labeled Irrigation Controller Program began in 2018, and now in its 5th phase. Citrus County presented previously to the WRWSA Board on January 15, 2020 about the results of the pilot program.

Staff Recommendation:

This item is for information only and no action is required.

Water Conservation Specialists

Citrus County has taken an active role in resource protection and promoting wise water use.

By Giles Lambertson



Debra Burden is the idea person in the Water Conservation section of the Department of Water Resources in Citrus County, Florida, and the impact of her ideas and of the work of her water conservation team is real and measurable.



Citrus County Water Conservation Manager Debra Burden and her team (from left) water conservation specialists Ed Bugbee, Tom McConnell, Reg West and Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program coordinator Steve Davis. The group is standing in the Florida-Friendly learning landscape garden that is used as a teaching tool to show people what plants are beneficial to their environment. (Photography by Stephen J. Shaner)

Tens of millions of gallons of water in the county is being saved every year through their efforts, thereby forestalling the time when water availability in the West-Central Florida coastal county will become a critical issue.

“We know we have enough water to meet our current demand and future demands for 20 years,” Burden says. “At the end of that 20-year period, we will need to look at alternative water supplies.”

Twenty years. That’s practically around the corner. The era of critical water usage in the county will arrive even sooner if Burden’s water conservation programs fail.

Persuading owners

Ironically, Citrus County has an abundance of water in and around it. No question about that. The Gulf of Mexico is to the west of the county, of course, but that’s saltwater. Inland, the county has 24 freshwater lakes, reputedly more than a hundred fishing spots including along two rivers, and hundreds of springs.

“We are surrounded by water,” Burden acknowledges. “We do have a lot of water here and that can be challenging to us. People say, ‘Conserve water? You have plenty of water.’”

The rest of the story is that the county also has plenty of people. Between 1960 and 2020, the population has grown from 9,000 to 19,000 (1970) to 93,000 (1990) to about 160,000 today. Needless to say, the water supply has not grown proportionally.

The water necessary to meet the needs of all these people is pumped from the Floridan aquifer that underlies the state. The aquifer is nearer the surface in Citrus County and immediately surrounding counties on the upper Gulf side of the state, which is why so many springs freely bubble forth. Three of them are so-called first-magnitude springs, meaning that each one discharges at least 100 cubic feet of water per second.

This is the water-rich environment in which Burden and her staff labor to persuade property owners and commercial interests to moderate their water usage. It is not always an easy sale. While there is general support from a public aware of the precariousness of the longer-term water situation, not everyone buys into conservation.

“We receive a great deal of public support and positive feedback for our education efforts and programming,” says Burden. “There’s one in my email inbox right now. But we do, of course, also receive negative comments. You know, why are we regulating water use when there is a bottled water company in the county with a water permit?”

The conservation manager says she responds with both personal and professional perspective. “I often reply that I don’t throw trash out the window just because some others do. Conserving water is the right thing to do. We do have a large number of people who are concerned about our springs. The public education that we do connects water use to the health of our springs. It shows how what we do on our own property can impact the springs.”

In the classroom

Burden is a Florida native who moved to Citrus County more than two decades ago and began working with the county, including in parks and recreation. In 2011, Citrus County was put on official notice by state and federal officials that its water management regime was failing to meet required conservation goals. County leaders responded by creating a water conservation manager position and Burden jumped at the chance to fill it.

“The job description was written for me. It has a lot of marketing and customer relations, and my degree is in public relations.” She heads a team of six people including a Florida-Friendly Landscaping coordinator and several water conservation specialists. Her responsibilities range from homeowner education to enforcement of one-day-a-week water restrictions.

Much of the work falls under the heading of education, though Burden doesn’t call herself an educator. “I think of myself as a program designer of education. I personally am not the one carrying out education in the field or in the classroom. I think I am more of a behind-the-curtains person.”

One of her education ideas involves elementary-age students and toilets. As part of Fix-A-Leak Week, the children in seven schools go home and check to see if family toilets are running. In the sixth annual leak-check in 2021, more than a hundred toilets were examined by the kids, who identified leaks that, if corrected, would save more than 3,000 gallons of water each day.

“Yes, that was my idea,” Burden admits. “That was a fun one. We are blessed to have teachers of students in third through fifth grade who want to participate. The teachers say they have the funniest conversations with the kids about their toilet checks. We know if we can teach our children about conservation, as they grow up, they will teach their parents.”

Burden credits water conservation efforts in other parts of the district for helping her. “The southern region of the district has had water conservation programs for 20 or 30 years. We have benefited from them. We pick up all the successful programs that we know have saved water.”

Improving irrigation

Irrigation counseling is where the conservation effort is most beneficial in terms of water volume preserved, according to Burden. “It is our big water saver and I’m most excited about it.”

The Gulf side of Florida is a famously warm region of the country, so year-round irrigation of lawns and landscape plants is common. On the other hand, the county averaged 60 inches of rain per year over the last decade, so it is not an arid region. Yet rain or no rain, property owners like to see their irrigation nozzles pivoting and spraying just to, you know, be sure the grass isn’t hurting.

The conservation team is trying to change such thinking and to modify some bad habits. Partnering with Southwest Florida Water Management District and Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, the county five years ago initiated an irrigation check-up program. Focusing on high water-users, one facet of the program begins with installation of a WaterSense irrigation controller on a property owner’s system.

WaterSense is a label attached to fixtures developed by commercial firms that meet the EPA’s water efficiency and performance standards. After the county installs a labeled irrigation controller, it follows up with training by the conservation staff on how to use the device. A full irrigation system inspection is given, with tips on how to improve various functions.

After each property owner is taught how to examine a system to ensure it is functioning properly, the person is asked to regularly perform such inspections, at least quarterly. The Water Resources Department then tracks water usage at the property for 12 months, comparing the results to the previous 12 months.

What is the department finding? Water savings. “On average, participants in the program are consuming 25 to 30% less water than before,” Burden says. The program mostly has focused on residential properties to date, with about 120 irrigation systems each year fitted with the WaterSense controllers and inspected. For the new year, the team is gearing up to focus on commercial irrigation systems.

“We found some of our customers struggled to make seasonal adjustments to the controller, overwatering at certain times of the year. A WaterSense controller can overcome that, turning off the irrigation after rain or reducing the amount of irrigating water being run through the system. Smart technology is the way of the future.”

She adds that conservation team members still go out to make sure property owners aren't watering the sidewalk and otherwise uselessly spraying water. "People who set up an irrigation system and forget about it are a huge barrier to water conservation." A corollary county program sends specialists out to properties for a free walk-through of water systems inside and outside a house and informs homeowners how to use water more efficiently.

Making headway

The various initiatives have garnered Citrus County Utilities three Partner of the Year awards from the EPA as well as three consecutive WaterSense Sustained Excellence Awards. These formally recognize that the county's various public education and active intervention activities are accomplishing significantly more than a drop in the bucket.

In fact, Burden says, "We are saving an estimated 70, 80, 90 million gallons of water each year. That's equivalent to easily serving one of our service areas for an entire month. When we talk about the 20-year time frame until we'll need alternative water sources, we factor in all these savings. If we took them away, we would get to the end of our water supply much sooner."

Still, Citrus County Utilities can't rest on its conservationist laurels. It has a full-time pipeline leak detection crew and has contracted with a satellite leak-finding company to ferret out leakage in its water lines. It also is closely monitoring the condition of its pipelines, which average about 30 years in the ground. The county also sends treated water from its treatment plant to a golf course for irrigation use and is upgrading the plant to increase the amount of reclaimed water it can distribute to other courses.

From all of this, the conservation manager concludes that the county is making headway in its efforts to protect the aquifer and use water resources efficiently.

"I really do think we are making progress. I look at our customers' water use. The number of them that are exceeding an ideal amount of usage is becoming less and less each year even though the size of our customer base is growing each year. So, that's a good sign."

Item 14

Attorney's Report

To be provided at meeting

Item 15

Executive Director's Report

Item 15.a.

Charles A Black Wellfield Water Use Permit Renewal

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, Executive Director will present this item.

The Charles A. Black Wellfield Water Use Permit number 7121.006 will expire on March 13, 2022. Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority is a co-applicant with Citrus County. The wellfield consists of seven public supply drinking water wells. The current permit has an average supply of 4,597,000 gallons per day (GPD) and a peak flow of 6,574,000 GPD.

Citrus County hired Jones Edmunds and Associates to assist in preparing the permit renewal application. WRWSA staff reviewed the permit application and provided comments prior to submittal. The application was submitting to the Southwest Florida Water Management District on January 31, 2022.

The requested term is 20 years, with an average permitted supply of 7,181,900 GPD and a peak supply of 9,121,013 GPD. This increase in capacity is based on population projections. The population served is expected to increase 39,630 by 2042. This includes the existing service area, service area expansion, and new proposed developments. The following table is included in the application report:

Table 3-2 2042 WUSA Projected Population

Area	Start of Service Date	Adjusted Total Functional Population 2020	Adjusted Total Functional Population 2025	Adjusted Total Functional Population 2030	Adjusted Total Functional Population 2035	Adjusted Total Functional Population 2040	Adjusted Total Functional Population 2042	Adjusted Total Functional Population 2045
WUSA Adjusted Growth ¹	Current	25,862	27,060	28,006	28,780	29,446	29,680	30,032
Foxwood	Current	152	152	153	153	153	153	153
Unincorporated	Current	762	774	779	782	785	786	787
Existing Service Area Subtotal		26,776	26,776	27,986	28,937	29,715	30,384	30,619
MC_450602_16_B	2024	162	172	178	183	187	189	191
BW_450800_16_PP	2024	658	662	666	669	672	673	675
BW_450800_17	2024	89	91	93	95	97	98	98
MC_450602_16_C_7_River	2028	381	385	389	392	395	396	398
BW_450101_6	2033	254	263	270	276	282	284	286
BW_450102_14_B	2033	157	159	160	161	162	163	163
BW_450102_14_A	2033	240	241	242	243	244	244	244
BW_450102_11	2033	330	331	331	332	332	333	333
BW_450102_9	2033	463	466	469	471	474	475	476
CS_450304_16	2038	11	12	13	14	15	15	15
NW_450500_4	2038	10	11	14	15	17	17	18
BW_450702	2038	1,919	2,056	2,133	2,187	2,232	2,247	2,270
Service Area Expansion Subtotal²		0	925	1,326	2,823	5,109	5,133	5,168
Crystal Ridge Development	2021	7	323	861	1,400	1,938	2,153	2,153
Crystal Glen Development	2022	3	40	107	174	241	267	267
Sterling Hills Development	2022	5	219	583	948	1,312	1,458	1,458
Planned Development Subtotal		14	14	582	1,551	2,521	3,491	3,879
Total		26,790	29,493	31,815	35,059	38,983	39,630	40,019

Notes: ¹ Projected population for the current WUSA from SWFWMD GIS model parcel database adjusted to remove the Arsenic impacted area to the north not projected to be served during the permit period.

² Projected population for the from SWFWMD GIS model parcel database shown for septic-to-sewer project areas. Projected start of water service is within 4 years of projected sewer project completion. Subtotal only includes areas after the start of service date is reached.

Staff Recommendation:

This item is for information and no action is required.

Item 15.b.

Executive Director's Report

Water Use Permit Demand Summary

Summary of Major Water Use Permits in WRWSA Service Area

Updated 3/2/22

Water Use Permit #	Applicant/Permittee Name	Permit Expiration Date	Permitted Average GPD	Actual 12-Month Rolling Average GPD*	Actual 5-Year Rolling Average GPD**	Actual Use / Permit Capacity	WRWSA RWSP Projection for 2021 GPD	RWSP Accuracy for 2020 +/-%
Citrus County								
207.007	City of Crystal River	3/27/2032	919,000	697,795	749,595	75.9%	742,000	6.3%
419.013	City of Inverness	5/18/1931	1,535,000	1,127,370	1061399	73.4%	1,128,000	0.1%
1118.008	Floral City Water Association, Inc.	2/28/2038	395,000	311,200	337,381	78.8%	302,000	-3.0%
2842.011	Citrus County	8/25/2035	4,780,000	2,631,799	2,533,540	55.1%	2,582,000	-1.9%
4153.014	Rolling Oaks Utilities, Inc.	8/20/2038	1,573,000	1,579,496	1,577,788	100.4%	1,510,000	-4.4%
4406.009	Homosassa Special Water District	2/13/2022	960,000	838,452	817,191	87.3%	762,000	-9.1%
7121.007	Citrus County - Charles A Black	3/13/2022	7,181,900	4,770,288	4,643,529	66.4%	3,740,000	-21.6%
9791.011	Citrus County - Sugarmill Woods	11/17/2025	2,435,300	2,170,453	2,119,372	89.1%	2,318,000	6.8%
11839.008	GCP Walden Wds. One & Two, LLC, c/o Sun Communities, Inc.	4/23/2039	187,900	113,689	146,112	60.5%	140,000	23.1%
20230.001	Ozello Water Association, Inc.	10/28/2031	1	0	0	0	450,000	N/A
Hernando County								
5789.013	Hernando Co. BOCC, Wiscon Maintenance Compound/Attn: Landis Legg	8/26/2035	23,299,000	20,203,318	18,164,628	86.7%	19,102,000	-5.5%
7627.005	City of Brooksville	2/25/2024	2,448,000	1,342,198	1,331,657	54.8%	1,128,000	-16.0%
Marion County - SWFWMD								
1156.013	Bay Laurel Community Development District	2/23/2041	7,560,900	3,622,773	3,345,012	47.9%	2,650,000	-26.9%
2999.005	Marion Utilities, Inc. Rainbow Lakes Estates	2/27/2035	126,000	95,216	96,792	75.6%	100,000	5.0%
5643.008	Utilities, Inc. of Florida - Golden Hills	2/23/2036	188,400	130,419	142,780	69.2%	160,000	22.7%
6151.014	Marion County Utilities Consolidated WUP	9/7/2021	16,552,300	5,767,365	4,776,710	35%	5,130,000	-11%
7849.005	Marion Utilities, Inc.- Woods & Meadows	4/20/2037	149,000	95,362	118,003	64.0%	140,000	46.8%
8020.008	Association of Marion Landing Owners, Inc.	9/9/2040	179,400	129,867	131,804	72.4%	160,000	23.2%
8339.008	Florida Governmental Utility Authority- Dunellon	3/21/2035	1,117,100	1,414,452	1,156,580	126.6%	910,000	-35.7%
8481.006	Marion Utilities, Inc.- Spruce Creek	6/24/2039	834,400	937,129	746,428	112.3%	690,000	-26.4%
Marion County - SJRWMD								
2993-11	Sunshine Utilities of Central Fla Inc - South Marion Regional Water System	12/17/2021	490,000	176,135	164,314	35.9%	238,000	35.1%
2995-6	Tradewinds Utilities Inc	2/27/2035	132,000	98,367	91,273	74.5%	100,000	1.7%
3016-4	Ocala East Villas Inc	8/27/1931	107,000	83,263	92,610	77.8%	100,000	20.1%
3021-5	Rolling Greens Communities	9/13/2025	610,000	486,251	358,131	79.7%	350,000	-28.0%
3043-7	Florida Governmental Utility Authority - Ocala Oaks	1/6/2040	194,000	139,202	132,133	71.8%	174,000	25.0%
3094-6	Marion Utilities Inc - Fore Acres	1/22/2041	110,000	106,137	102,308	96.5%	110,000	3.6%
3101-6	Marion Utilities Inc - Greenfields/Indian Pines	7/9/2041	142,000	128,057	127,325	90.2%	130,000	1.5%
3130-3	Sunshine Utilities - Sunray Estates	8/17/2040	229,000	180,992	145,258	79.0%	150,000	-17.1%
3137-5	City of Belleview	10/11/2036	1,022,000	1,008,093	933,991	98.6%	868,000	-13.9%
4578-7	Marion County Utilities Consolidated CUP	9/10/2023	6,440,000	5,821,562	5,629,498	90.4%	6,674,000	14.6%
50324-9	City of Ocala	8/7/2027	15,260,000	12,086,114	11,643,623	79.2%	11,530,000	-4.6%
Sumter County								
1368.008	Lake Panasoffkee Water Assoc Inc	8/22/2024	410,000	256,745	265,572	62.6%	308,000	20.0%
6519.01	City of Bushnell	3/29/2031	1,366,800	437,499	461,930	32.0%	610,000	39.4%
7185.006	City of Webster	8/29/2022	102,900	96,835	85,739	94.1%	170,000	75.6%
8135.013	City of Wildwood	3/31/2035	4,344,800	1,876,625	2,117,812	43.2%	4,272,000	127.6%
8193.005	City of Center Hill	9/10/2022	170,500	70,041	69,390	41.1%	162,000	131.3%
13005.011	Village Center Community Development District	1/23/2038	19,345,900	12,684,862	12,669,819	65.6%	24,482,000	93.0%
20597.000	City of Wildwood-Continental Country Club	6/17/2026	238,400	135,099	135,187	56.7%	210,000	55.4%
*12-month Rolling Average for most recent available data								
** 5-year Rolling Average for most recent available data								
***No flow data was available for Ozello Water Association								

Item 15.c.

Executive Director's Report

WMIS WUP Notifications

Summary of Recent Water Use Permit Activity in WRWSA Service Area

Water Use Permit #	Applicant/Permittee Name	Activity Type	Date	Avg GPD	Peak GPD	Use Type	Status
Citrus County							
2226.004	M & B Products, Inc./Attn: Andrea McClellan	Renewal	5/13/2021	27,450	73,900	Agricultural	In Review
7662.004	Champs Software Inc./Attn: Charlotte Duval	Renewal	7/8/2021	30,600	93,800	Landscape/ Recreation/ Industrial/ Commercial	In Review
4368.004	Citrus County School Board/Attn: Eric Stokes	Renewal	8/2/2021	87,000	321,400	Landscape/ Recreation/ Agricultural	Issued 11/23/21
191.005	Big Wave LLC	New(Expired)	10/22/2021	14,300	148,000	Agricultural	Issued 2/11/22
21005.000	Banmatie Ramcharan	New	12/1/2021	93,900	415,000	Agricultural	Issued 12/16/21
20925.001	Charles Strange, Jr.	Letter Modification	12/15/2021	73,600	198,500	Agricultural	Issued 12/29/21
10404.005	Cabot SW OpCo LLC / Attn: Rick Kelso	Renewal	1/19/2022	262,410	639,210	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
4406.009	Homosassa Special Water District / Attn: Rick Sandvick	Renewal	1/18/2022	960,000	1,180,000	Public Supply	In Review
7121.007	Charles A. Black Water Supply	Renewal	1/31/2022	7,181,900	9,121,013	Public Supply	in Review
10370.003	Fero memorial Gardens Cemetery	Renewal	44,592	48,800	140,500	Landscape/ recreation	In Review
Hernando County							
12841.004	Anthony J Murchio Life Estate, Trustee	Modification	9/13/2021	36,300	129,900	Agricultural	In Review
12310.002	Sean Arnold	Ownership Transfer	11/19/2021	71,700	204,000	Landscape/ Recreation	Withdrawn 11/30/2021
20242.002	The Cowgirl Company I LLC/Attn: Sarah Guthrie	Renewal	12/6/2021	189,600	604,300	Agricultural	Issued 2/14/22
12310.003	District School Board of Hernando County/ Attn:Jol	Renewal	12/1/2021	71,700	204,000	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 2/23/22
21015.000	Creative Environmental Solutions, Inc.	New	1/25/2022	37,800	77,500	Industrial/ Commercial	Withdrawn 1/25/22
215.014	Brooksville Quarry	Renewal	1/31/2022	264,350	537,775	Mining/ Dewatering	In Review
6946.005	Spartronics	Renewal	2/4/2022	37,800	77,500	industrial Commercial	In Review
12289.003	JG Ranch	Renewal	44,599	59,800	252,700	Agricultural	In Review
Marion County - SWFWMD							
20210.002	Roberts Quarter Horse Farm	Renewal	6/8/2021	426,380	1,340,630	Agricultural	Issues 11/19/21
10923.002	Spruce Creek Golf, LLC/Attn: Kenneth	Modification	7/26/2021	163,600	388,700	Landscape/	In Review
6151.014	Marion County Utilities / Jody Kirkman	Renewal	9/7/2021	16,552,300	24,693,400	Public Supply	In Review
10419.002	Jajolo Limited Partnership / Attn: Eric Abel	Renewal	11/2/2021	16,800	39,500	Landscape/	In Review
20174.001	On Top of the World Comm.,LLC/Kenneth D.	Renewal	10/28/2021	663,640	2,094,980	Agricultural	In Review
9558.002	Drake Ranch Partnership / Attn: Holland Drake	Renewal	1/25/2022	184,900	266,400	Agricultural	In Review
20213.002	Juliette Falls Public Water Supply	Renewal	1/27/2022	91,479	145,452	Public Supply	In Review

Water Use Permit #	Applicant/Permittee Name	Activity Type	Date	Avg GPD	Peak GPD	Use Type	Status
Sumter County							
11856.003	Brassboys Enterprises (c/o Clark H Smith) Miona Lake Golf Course	Renewal	2/25/2021	22,900	257,900	Landscape/ Recreation	Withdrawn 1/3/22
10385.003	Long Hammock Ranch III, LLC/ Attn: Chad Hughes	Renewal	3/25/2021	90,400	498,600	Agricultural	Issued 11/23/21
12208.003	Div. of Forestry, Dept. of Ag. and Cons. Serv/Attn: Keith Mousel	Renewal	5/13/2021	40,600	157,700	Agricultural	Issued 1/12/22
2777.005	T.P. Caruthers Jr. and Betty G. Caruthers	Letter Modification	8/18/2021	41,500	130,500	Agricultural	Issued 12/9/21
10923.002	Spruce Creek Golf, LLC/Attn: Kenneth Kirkpatrick*	Modification	7/26/2021	163,600	388,700	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
12301.002	Oxford Assembly of God Church, Inc.	Renewal	10/6/2021	1,000	2,000	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 1/24/22
6838.006	Florida Department of Corrections/ Attn: Andres Kra	Renewal	10/5/2021	457,500	789,500	Industrial/ Commercial/ Agricultural	Issued 11/5/21
8135.014	City of Wildwood	Letter Modification	9/24/2021	4,344,800	6,345,900	Public Supply	In Review
20991.000	Sorocaima J. Ascanio & Maria C. Hernandez	New	9/10/2021	100	100	Agricultural	Issued 2/23/22
20155.001	Skyline LLC	Renewal	9/8/2021	79,300	343,200	Agricultural	Issued 12/23/21
11632.004	Sumter Villas	Modification	10/20/2021	30,000	96,000	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 2/25/22
1926.004	Donald and Wilma Jones	New (Expired)	10/21/2021	71,700	310,200	Agricultural	In Review
20250.001	Dorothy and Norman LaPerle	Renewal	12/1/2021	107,000	370,000	Agricultural	In Review
20721.003	Wildwood Utility Dependent District/ Attn: Kenneth Blocker	Ownership Transfer	11/12/2021	2,600,000	3,800,000	Public Supply	Issued 12/2/21
13005.012	Arnett Environmental/Attn: Jamie Padgett	Ownership Transfer	12/16/2021	10,527,900	29,735,500	Landscape/ Recreation/ Public Supply	Issued 1/6/22
2622.010	Continental Country Club R.O., Inc./Attn: Mike Roberts	Letter Modification	12/9/2021	212,200	495,600	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 12/14/22
7180.004	Clyde Bexley	Renewal	12/8/2021	188,000	660,200	Agricultural	Completed 2/14/22
213.017	Cemex Construction Materials Florida LLC/Attn: James P. Morris	Renewal	12/6/2021	227,050	340,160	Mining/ Dewatering	In Review
20158.001	Girl Scouts of West Central Florida / Attn: Mary Pat King	Renewal	12/6/2021	3,320	6,640	Mining/ Dewatering	In Review
3152.008	Cow Hammock, LLC	Ownership Transfer	1/24/2022	464,400	1,318,000	Agricultural	Issued 2/10/22
8891.014	Cemex Construction Materials Florida LLC/Attn: James P. Morris	Renewal	1/19/2022	205,500	301,400	Mining/ Dewatering	In Review
4429.003	Daryl M Carter Trust	Letter Modification	1/14/2022	154,700	498,400	Agricultural	Issued 2/7/22
20281.002	CUP Properties LLC/ Attn: Ted Gelov	Letter Modification	1/11/2022	508,900	1,399,900	Agricultural	In Review
20281.003	CUP Properties LLC/ Attn: Ted Gelov	Letter Modification	2/4/2022	508,900	1,399,900	Agricultural	In Review
7933.007	C. Herman Beville Ranch	New (Expired)	2/7/2022	180,000	1,014,600	Agricultural	In Review
21020.000	D Randall Davis Trustee	New	2/18/2022	200,000	200,000	Agricultural	In Review
4644.004	Jack Drawdy	Renewal	2/24/2022	25,200	184,700	Agricultural	In Review
<i>*WUP #10923.002 is located within Marion and Sumter Counties</i>							

Item 15.d.

Executive Director's Report

Correspondence

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ESCROW CODE	MILLAGE CODE
2610271		0000

R See reverse side for important information.

RECEIVED NOV 09 2021



64
6 - 39283

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER
SUPPLY AUTHORITY
3600 W SOVEREIGN PATH STE 228
LECANTO FL 34461-7718



1700 N BLUE JAY TER HERNANDO 344
WELL SITE #1- COM AT SE COR OF S
W1/4 OF NW1/4, TH N 0 DEG 4M 4S
W AL E LN OF SW1/4 OF NW1/4 545.
19 FT, TH S 89 DEG 55M 56S W 24.
40 FT TO POB, TH S 89 DEG 55M 56
See Additional Legal on Tax Roll

Exemptions:
SWFWMD

MAILING ADDRESS: 210 N. APOPKA AVE., SUITE 100 • INVERNESS, FL 34450-4298 • (352) 341-6500

AD VALOREM TAXES					
TAXING AUTHORITY	ASSESSED VALUE	EXEMPTION AMOUNT	TAXABLE VALUE	MILLAGE RATE	TAXES LEVIED
General County	69,530	69,530	0	6.1937	0.00
Transportation Trust	69,530	69,530	0	.5972	0.00
Health Department	69,530	69,530	0	.0626	0.00
Library	69,530	69,530	0	.3207	0.00
Fire District	69,530	69,530	0	0.0000	0.00
Stormwater	69,530	69,530	0	0.0000	0.00
Fire Rescue EMS	69,530	69,530	0	.5881	0.00
Schools Local Req'd Effort	69,530	69,530	0	3.5690	0.00
Schools Capital Outlay	69,530	69,530	0	1.5000	0.00
Schools Discretionary	69,530	69,530	0	.7480	0.00
SWFWMD General	69,530	69,530	0	.2535	0.00
Mosquito Control	69,530	69,530	0	.4307	0.00
TOTAL				14.2635	\$0.00

RETAIN THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS.
WALK-IN CUSTOMERS,
PLEASE BRING FOR RECEIPT.

NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS	
LEVYING AUTHORITY	AMOUNT
Avoid waiting in line-Pay ONLINE at www.citrustc.us	
TOTAL	\$0.00

COMBINED TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS	\$0.00
--------------------------------	--------

IF PAID BY	Nov 30	Dec 31	Jan 31	Feb 28	Mar 31
	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ESCROW CODE	MILLAGE CODE
2610271		0000

R

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER
SUPPLY AUTHORITY
3600 W SOVERIGN PATH STE 228
LECANTO, FL 34461

1700 N BLUE JAY TER HERNANDO 344
WELL SITE #1- COM AT SE COR OF S
W1/4 OF NW1/4, TH N 0 DEG 4M 4S
W AL E LN OF SW1/4 OF NW1/4 545.
19 FT, TH S 89 DEG 55M 56S W 24.
40 FT TO POB, TH S 89 DEG 55M 56
See Additional Legal on Tax Roll

PAY IN U.S. FUNDS (NO POST DATED CHECKS) TO JANICE A. WARREN, TAX COLLECTOR • 210 N. APOPKA AVE., SUITE 100 • INVERNESS, FL 34450-4298

IF PAID BY	Nov 30	Dec 31	Jan 31	Feb 28	Mar 31
	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00

UNDER MINIMUM TAX - DO NOT PAY

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

Suzannah Folsom

has completed the UF/IFAS course

Sumter County Water School

Challenges Facing Urban Communities

on this date

October 22, 2021

Yilin Zhuang, Ph.D.

*Water Resources Regional Specialized
Agent in UF/IFAS Extension Central
District*



Norma Samuel, Ph.D.

*Florida-Friendly Landscaping Agent in
UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County;
Associate District Extension Director*

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

An Equal Opportunity Institution.

GILLIGAN, GOODING, BATSEL, ANDERSON & PHELAN, P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**1531 SE 36TH AVENUE
OCALA, FLORIDA 34471**

**PATRICK G. GILLIGAN
W. JAMES GOODING III
ROBERT W. BATSEL, JR.
CHRISTOPHER A. ANDERSON
WILLIAM H. PHELAN, JR.*
ROBERT W. BATSEL*
GWENDOLYN PASTEUR WILLIAMS
SYDNEY M. SIMMONS
*Of Counsel**

**TELEPHONE (352) 867-7707
FACSIMILE (352) 867-0237
www.ocalalaw.com
email: rbatsel@ocalalaw.com**

October 12, 2021

**By Email: loutout@wrwsa.org;
sfolsom@wrwsa.org
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
3600 West Sovereign Path, Suite 228
Lecanto, FL 34461**

RE: Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority-Multiple Matters

Dear LuAnne and Suzy,

On December 31, 2021, I will be leaving the firm of Gilligan, Gooding, Batsel, Anderson & Phelan, P.A. ("GGBAP") to join the law firm of Gooding & Batsel, PLLC. GGBAP will continue to practice under the name of "Gilligan, Anderson & Phelan, P.A." ("GAP").

Inasmuch as I am the primarily-responsible lawyer on the above matter(s), we are required by the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar to inform you that you have the right to choose to: (a) have me continue in my new capacity to represent you in such matter(s); (b) have GAP continue to represent you, in which case the file will be handled by another attorney in GAP if GAP agrees to continue to represent you; or (c) retain an entirely new lawyer. Alternatively, you may choose to have me represent you in some matters while one or more remaining members of GAP represent you in other matters.

If you wish to have me or a new lawyer continue to represent you, arrangements to secure your outstanding account with GAP will have to be made before the file can be released to me or your new lawyer. You may be liable for fees and costs for services already provided by GAP. Any retained/unspent fees or costs currently held by GAP will be promptly returned to you, or transferred to me or the new lawyer, as you designate.

Please advise me, as quickly as possible, of your decision so that continuity in your representation is assured. You may do so by indicating your choice below, and (a) if this letter was sent to you by mail, returning a signed and dated copy in the enclosed stamped envelope, or (b) if this letter was sent to you by email, returning it to the undersigned by facsimile or scan/email. If you do not respond, we will assume you want your file to remain with GAP.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Robert W. Batsel, Jr. /s/

Robert W. Batsel, Jr.

INSTRUCTIONS BY CLIENT

Instructions (select ONLY one):

- ☒ I wish my file and trust account balance to be transferred to Robert W. Batsel, Jr.
- ☐ I wish my file to stay with the current firm. Please contact me and advise me if the firm is willing to do so.
- ☐ I wish some of my files to stay with the current firm, and other files to be transferred to Robert W. Batsel, Jr. Please provide me with a list of all open files so I can designate my preference for each file.
- ☐ I will retain new counsel and have them contact the current firm.
- ☐ I wish a member of the current firm to contact me to answer questions I have.

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

By:

Print Name: Suzanne J. Folsom

Print Title: Executive Director

Date:

November 10, 2021

ATTN: AGENCY REAL PROPERTY CUSTODIAN/MANAGER

The Florida Resources and Environmental Analysis Center (FREAC), under contract with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, has prepared the Florida Public Lands Inventory for 2021-2022. This publication is in partial compliance with Sections 253.03 and 195.073, Florida Statutes, relating to accounting and documentation of public land ownership.

This year the data pertaining to the public land ownership(s) are available through the Public Lands Research Program's website at:

<http://floridapli.net>

On the website, select the button, *PLI Code Look-Up* and type in the name of your agency. Select the four-digit PLI code that corresponds to your agency's name to view the results. Your agency's four-digit code can **also** be found in parenthesis on the address label of the envelope that enclosed this letter. To use this code to look up your agency's ownership data on the website, select the second button, *Agency Data by PLI Code*, then enter your four-digit code on the screen.

The ownership data are derived from Florida Department of Revenue's tax roll data. These data are provided to facilitate compliance with the statutory requirement. Each public agency is asked to provide county property appraisers with corrective data relating to their real property ownership annually (Section 193.085, Florida Statutes, and Ad Valorem Tax Administration Rule (12D-1.04). Please note that the parcel data provided are taken directly from tax roll information supplied to the Department of Revenue by each county property appraiser's office.

Each public owner should review the ownership data and communicate any changes to the appropriate property appraiser's office so that the tax roll records will accurately reflect your agency's real property ownership.

Should you require a printed copy of your agency's public land ownership data, our office will discuss options for you to obtain a hard copy.

If you have any questions relating to the Florida Public Lands Inventory data, please contact:

The Public Lands Research Program
(850) 644-9292

or write to:

The Public Lands Research Program
Florida State University
Room C6140 UCC
296 Champions Way
P. O. Box 3062640
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2640

Sincerely,

Anthony K. (Tony) Roberts
Research Scientist, Public Lands Research Program
aroberts@fsu.edu

RECEIVED DEC 21 2021

January 1, 2022

Suzannah Folsom
Executive Director
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
3600 W. Sovereign Path
Lecanto, FL 34461

Dear Suzannah:

Thank you for your membership and active participation in the Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE). We accomplished a remarkable amount in 2021, as summarized on the enclosed list, and we could not have done this without the support of members like you.

This year, we encourage you and Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority to participate in ways you haven't before. Attend webinars, reach out for technical assistance, or join a committee to collaborate with peers. Your partnership will enable us to expand our vast collection of tools and resources, to continue our advocacy efforts, and to strengthen the overall impact of the AWE member network. As a reminder, AWE membership allows you to:

- Access the vast collection of research on our member-only online Resource Library and free or heavily discounted access to AWE's webinar archive.
- Access state-of-the-art tools including our Water Conservation Tracking Tool and Cooling Tower Estimating Model.
- Access Technical assistance from the experts on AWE's program staff.
- Participate in one or more of our three advisory committees (Education and Outreach, Research, and WaterSense & Water Efficient Products), keeping you at the forefront of water efficiency initiatives happening around North America.
- Feature your utility in our weekly email announcements and/or our bimonthly newsletter.
- Collaborate with AWE and our network of water conservation professionals to learn about and influence public policy.
- Get your utility verified as compliant with the AWWA G480-20 standard and be featured on our G480 Leaderboard.
- Access member-only discounts on Flume and Rachio products, as well as software programs including ConserveTrack, Open Channel Systems, and WaterWays.
- Customize our two animated videos, "Water: What you Pay For" and "Good Question: Why are my Rates Going Up?" To communicate with customers about the value of their water service.

Enclosed is your membership renewal invoice. For planning purposes, please note that for 2023 we will be instituting a 5% dues increase for all AWE members. This is the first time AWE has raised its dues since 2013, and this modest increase will allow us to expand our member-only offerings. We appreciate your understanding.

If you'd like more information about getting involved, please email us at membership@a4we.org. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you further!

Sincerely,



Ron Burke
President and CEO



33 N LaSalle Street
Suite 2275
Chicago, IL 60602

OFFICE (773) 360-5100

OLL-FREE (866) 730-A4WE

FAX (773) 345-3636

allianceforwaterefficiency.org
home-water-works.org



2021 Accomplishments

Thanks to the incredible support of our members, 2021 was a remarkably productive year for the Alliance for Water Efficiency. Notable accomplishments include:

- Challenged the weakening of federal showerhead and clothes washer efficiency standards, including filing a lawsuit. AWE helped persuade the Department of Energy to recently propose a reversal of these harmful changes.
- Successfully advocated for water efficiency funding in federal infrastructure legislation. In November, President Biden signed the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act*, which includes \$400 million in new funding for western states water efficiency. AWE will continue to advocate for funding available nationally.
- Successfully advocated for legislation to make water conservation rebates tax-free. This provision passed the U.S. House in November, and a Senate vote is expected in the near future.
- Launched a Corporate Advisory Council to enhance our collaborations with the business community.
- Launched the highly-anticipated version 4.0 of our Water Conservation Tracking Tool.
- Conducted twelve webinars to educate water efficiency professionals on a variety of important topics.
- Released an innovative Cooling Tower Estimating Model helping to identify where cooling towers are located, and to calculate the potential for water savings from water efficiency improvements and advanced technologies.
- Launched the second year of our Learning Landscapes Grant Program, helping to support educational outdoor spaces that allow school-age children to experience firsthand applied learning about landscape water use.
- Offered new member-only discounts on Flume and Rachio products, and the ConserveTrack software, to our utility members.
- Redesigned Home-Water-Works.org and the Water Use Calculator with new graphics, mobile responsiveness, Spanish translation, and more.
- Provided drought management resources including updated conservation tips on the Home Water Works Website, and articles on our Online Resource Library.



City of Inverness

Administration Office

212 W. Main Street

Inverness, Florida 34450-4149

Administration@Inverness-FL.gov

(352) 726-2611

Fax (352) 726-0607

December 22, 2021

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
ATTN: Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director
Lecanto Government Building
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228
Lecanto, FL 34461

Subject: Inverness City Council Member Appointment

Dear Ms. Folsom:

We are pleased to advise that during the City Council meeting of Tuesday, December 21, 2021, Councilman Gene Davis was appointed to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority as a representative from the City of Inverness. This appointment relates to the agreement with the City of Crystal River that representation will be alternated between the two cities annually. Therefore, Councilman Gene Davis will be the municipalities representative beginning January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

It is requested that notification be sent as to the dates and times of upcoming meetings and events that she will be required to attend.

If you should have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Jackson".

Susan Jackson
City Clerk



RECEIVED FEB 07 2022

123 NW Highway 19
Crystal River, FL 34428
352-795-4216 P
352-795-6245 F
www.crystalriverfl.org

January 16, 2022

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
Suzanne J. Folsom
3600 W. Sovergin Path, Suite 228
Lecanto, FL 34461

Our auditors, Mauldin & Jenkins, Certified Public Accountants, 1401 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 1200, Bradenton, Florida 34205, are engaged in the annual audit of our financial statements for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. To facilitate the audit, will you please confirm directly to our auditors the amounts paid during the year ended September 30, 2021, to the City of Crystal River for the following:

- Toilet Rebate Program

Please show amounts separately by month.

A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Michelle K. Russell-Maynard

Michelle K. Russell-Maynard
Finance Director
City of Crystal River, Florida

RECEIVED MAR 01 2022

February 18, 2022

Ms. Suzannah Folsom
Executive Director
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
3600 W. Sovereign Path
Lecanto, FL 34461

Dear Ms. Folsom:

Thank you for renewing your Water Supplier membership of \$500.00. We are very grateful.

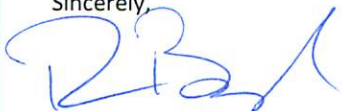
AWE accomplished a tremendous amount over the past year, providing tools, resources, and policy advocacy to help water efficiency professionals do their jobs. Some notable highlights include releasing our innovative Cooling Tower Estimating Model, launching the second year of our Learning Landscapes Grant program, and successfully advocating for \$400 million in federal water efficiency funding. None of this would have been possible without the support from members like you.

We look forward to working with you this year and beyond to meet your water efficiency goals and to advance AWE's mission of efficient and sustainable water use across North America. Here are just a few of the ways you can engage with our network and take advantage of member-only offerings:

- **Stay connected.** Our weekly member emails keep you updated on all the latest news at AWE and throughout the world of water conservation. Make sure your team receives our communications by sending their names and email addresses to us at membership@a4we.org!
- **Take advantage of the resources on our website.** Anyone on your staff is welcome to create a personal login account at www.a4we.org/user/register. Sign up today to access the member-only materials in our online resource library and more.
- **Help influence AWE's initiatives** by getting involved in one or more of our advisory committees: Education and Outreach, Water Efficiency Research, or WaterSense and Water-Efficient Products.
- **Check it out!** Version 4.0 of our Water Conservation Tracking Tool is now available. Get this state-of-the-art technical tool to design and track the success of your water conservation programs.
- **Involve your consumers.** Our Home Water Works website and Water Use Calculator at www.Home-Water-Works.org have been redesigned and updated with new graphics, mobile responsiveness, and a Spanish translation. Ask us how you can customize the calculator!
- **Follow our Legislative Watch page** on www.a4we.org to keep up with our advocacy activity as we work to secure federal funding for water efficiency, make water conservation rebates tax-free, and improve state-level policy.
- **Call or email us with your questions** about water efficiency and get one-on-one assistance.

To ensure that you receive AWE email updates and alerts, please add the Alliance domain (@a4we.org) to your email Safe Sender list. Our program and membership staff are here to help you get the most out of your membership. Give us a call at 773-360-5100 or email us at www.membership@a4we.org.

Sincerely,



Ron Burke
President and CEO



33 N LaSalle Street
Suite 2275
Chicago, IL 60602

OFFICE (773) 360-5100
TOLL-FREE (866) 730-A4WE
FAX (773) 345-3636

allianceforwaterefficiency.org
home-water-works.org



Item 15.e.

Executive Director's Report

News Articles

Florida Specifier: Three Florida utilities receive \$14 million in grants

By BLANCHE HARDY, PG

Holt Water Works Inc. in Okaloosa County will receive \$4,740,400

The Okeechobee Utility Authority in Okeechobee County will receive \$8,391,000

Floral City Water Association Inc. in Citrus County will receive \$1,240,000

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack and Acting State Director for Rural Development Jason Brower for Florida and the U.S. Virgin Islands recently announced that the USDA is investing \$14,371,400 to build and improve critical rural infrastructure in Florida. The Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program awards are designed to help people in rural areas access clean water.

“When we invest in rural infrastructure, we invest in the livelihoods and health of people in rural America,” Vilsack said. “Under the leadership of President Biden and Vice president Harris, USDA is committed to Building a Better America by investing in America’s rural infrastructure, expanding access to broadband, clean drinking water and resilient power infrastructure. The investments we are announcing today will drive the creation of good-paying union jobs and grow the economy sustainably and equitably so that everyone gets ahead for decades to come.”

Three recipients in Florida are receiving Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program awards.

The Okeechobee Utility Authority in Okeechobee County will receive \$8,391,000 to construct a sewer collection system to serve 503 residents that are currently on aged septic systems. The improvement is intended to correct health and sanitary issues by reducing nutrient loading into Lake Okeechobee and the Lake Okeechobee basin. The authority’s award will consist of both a loan and grant. Rochelle Urquhart, a public affairs specialist with the Florida State Office’s USDA Rural Development, reported that the “Okeechobee Utility Authority \$7,508,000 loan and \$883,000 grant were finalized in September 2021. Construction is projected to start during the last quarter of 2022 and anticipated to be completed December 2021.”

Holt Water Works Inc. in Okaloosa County will receive \$4,740,400 for water system improvements including construction of a new well, a new elevated storage tank, and replacement of asbestos pipes and aged meters with updated radio read water meters. The improvements will add a secondary source of water to correct health and sanitary issues. Holt’s award also includes both a loan and grant. Urquhart said Holt Water Works Inc.’s “\$4,000,000 loan and \$740,400 grant was finalized in September 2021. Construction is projected to start July 2022 and anticipated to be completed July 2023.”

Floral City Water Association Inc. in Citrus County will receive a \$1,240,000 loan to make improvements to the water system by extending water lines to residents that are currently on private wells and have water quality issues. The improvement will provide quality drinking water for the residents. “The \$1,240,000 loan was finalized in August 2021. Construction should begin August 2022 and is expected to be completed May 2023,” Urquhart said. The USDA accepts application yearround for the Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program. The program assists qualified applicants who are not otherwise able to obtain commercial credit on reasonable terms. Eligible applicants include most state and local government entities, private nonprofits, and federally recognized tribes. Funding is limited to rural areas and towns with a population of 10,000 or less, tribal lands in rural areas, and colonies.

Awards consist of long-term, low interest fixed rate loans with up to a 40-year payback period based on the useful life of the facilities financed. The loan can be accompanied by a grant when funding is available. Eligible projects include finance and acquisition, construction or improvement. Funds can be used to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of drinking water source acquisition, treatment, storage, and distribution; sewer collection, transmission, treatment, and disposal; solid waste collection, disposal, and closure; and storm water collection, transmission, and disposal. Funding also might be available for related activities such as legal and engineering fees, land acquisition, water and land rights, permits and equipment, startup, and maintenance, as well as other costs determined necessary and eligible under the governing code.

Certain regulating criteria need to be met to qualify under the USDA’s program. For example, the applicant must have the legal authority to construct, operate and maintain the proposed services or facilities and regardless of the class of applicant, the proposed facilities must be financially feasible and for public use. As with most public funding, applicants consisting of multiple financially participating partners are strongly encouraged. •

SWFWMD buys Southworth Tract — 589 acres in Hernando County

WMNF - December 14, 2021

By Seán Kinane

The Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) has approved the purchase of 589 acres of land within the Weekiwachee Preserve.

In an email news release Tuesday, SWFWMD says it will buy the Southworth Tract for about \$4.6 million. the funds come from the Florida Forever Trust Fund.

Protect water resources and minimize flood risks

SWFWMD says the purchase “supports the District’s mission to protect water resources and minimize flood risks.” The property has been identified in SWFWMD’s Florida Forever Workplan for acquisition since 1997.

The land is on the south side of Osowaw Boulevard at the intersection of Shoal Line Boulevard in Hernando County.

In the press release the Director of Advocacy of Audubon Florida, Charles Lee, said, “This is a great purchase of a highly significant coastal wildlife corridor property. Because of its location just west of US 19 in a rapidly developing area of Hernando County, this tract was destined for development had the District not acted quickly. It is a great relief to know it will now be preserved.”

More information provided by SWFWMD is below:

This important property purchase will allow the District to substantially complete the Weekiwachee Preserve Project by connecting seven District-owned parcels. This acquisition meets all four of the District’s Areas of Responsibility, which are water supply, water quality, flood control and natural systems. In addition, the project is consistent with the Governor’s direction for protecting Florida’s springs, waterbodies and natural systems.

“This is a significant acquisition that will not only conserve 589 acres of land in the Weeki Wachee Springshed but will also help protect and maintain good water quality across the nearshore coastal waters of the Springs Coast, which is home to one of the largest seagrass habitats in the world,” said Brian Armstrong, the District’s executive director.

“This property purchase is part of the long-term, overall conservation picture of Florida,” said John Mitten, District Governing Board member. “The opportunity to link this property with the others we already manage fits the strategy and is the missing piece in the puzzle.”

In 1991, the District’s Governing Board approved a plan to acquire and preserve approximately 24,445 acres along the coastal region of Hernando County, designated as the Weekiwachee Preserve Project. To date almost 13,000 acres have been acquired by the District within the project. The project was initiated to specifically protect estuarine marshes and lowlands; preserve and/or restore natural ecosystems and their functions; maintain and/or improve water quality; improve water conveyance; protect habitats and associated wildlife resources; prevent encroachment onto the floodplain; and preserve the aesthetic value of the lands within the project.

The Southworth Tract acquisition supports the District’s mission to protect water resources and minimize flood risks as well as provides the following benefits:

- Completes the conservation and protection of the Indian Creek watershed, which is an important local source of fresh water to the coastal estuary.
- The majority of the property falls within a springs protection area.
- Provides enhanced protection of natural systems, including a spring, tidal creeks, and forested wetlands in the area.
- Supports protection and maintenance of water quality across the nearshore coastal waters, which includes one of the largest seagrass habitats in the world.

The Southworth Tract is located within the Florida Wildlife Corridor identified within the Nature Coast Critical Linkages. The purchase supports the Florida Wildlife Corridor Act, which was passed by the Florida Legislature last session and signed by the Governor in July. This acquisition helps protect portions of the Florida Wildlife Corridor in southwestern Hernando County and provides important wildlife habitat.

State grants aimed at enhancing water quality in Alachua and Marion counties

The Gainesville Sun

December 19, 2021

By Cindy Swirko



Money for several projects in Alachua and Marion counties to protect springs and the aquifer has been allocated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Among the projects within the Suwannee River Water Management District are grants of \$2.8 million and \$4.1 million for improvements to the High Springs municipal wastewater treatment system.

Water use is the focus of an on-going Marion County project that will get an additional \$1.1 million to develop an alternative water supply to Ocala's municipal system that is expected to increase aquifer flow to Silver Springs.

Also funded in Marion County are "septic to sewer conversions" at the Don Garlits Museum and county's 4-H farm.

Too much pumping from the aquifer and nutrients from farms, septic tanks and wastewater facilities that make their way into aquifer/spring/river systems are degrading water quantity and quality.

The projects are aimed at curbing those problems.

A total of \$2 million was approved for a conservation easement on 718 acres near Mill Creek Sink in Alachua in the Santa Fe Basin, SRWMD reported. The sink has a cave network and is owned by the National Speleological Society.

Alachua County's Environmental Protection Department is a partner in the project, which is estimated to reduce nutrient loads and conserve about 44,000 gallons of water per day.

Charlie Houser, director of the county's Office of Land Conservation, said Mill Creek Sink is connected to the Hornsby Spring system in High Springs.

"The main creek is called Bad Dog Branch. It runs into Mill Creek, which goes into Mill Creek Sink. So anything that comes off this property is very likely to get into the sink and end up in the Hornsby Spring group," Houser said. "We are trying to get a conservation easement that will protect those creek corridors and limit what the landowner can do on the uplands."

Fiscal Reality Right Proposal, right time

Citrus Chronicle

December 21, 2021

Although Citrus County's natural heritage makes it a unique place to live, when it comes to rising water utility costs, Citrus County is not unique.

All across the United States, water and wastewater costs are rising. Even before the current, historic rate of inflation, water and sewer bills over the past decade have outpaced the annual rate of inflation by more than 30 percent.

Compounding the surge of water and wastewater costs is that federal aid to public water utilities, which serve around 87 percent of the nation's population, has plummeted 77 percent in real terms since its peak in 1977.

Local water utilities across the nation, therefore, are saddled with the fiscal reality of operating, maintaining, and improving water and wastewater systems amid inflationary pressures, federal and state compliance requirements, and the emerging impacts of climate change.

In light of this fiscal reality and the fact that Citrus County has not increased its rates beyond the annual index rate set by the Florida Public Service Commission since 2006, Citrus County's water resource department has been performing a balancing act between rising costs and available revenue.

If the county's balancing act between rising costs and available revenue is to be maintained, a modest rate increase is inevitable, as the county's water and wastewater systems rate study by Raffetis Financial Consultants Inc. of Maitland recently affirmed.

As such, the modest rate increase over four years from October 2022 to October 2026 proposed during last week's county commission workshop by Ken Cheek, the director of the county's water resource department, was the prudent and responsible thing to do.

Residential water rates for 10,000 gallons per month would inch up from the current \$27.09 to \$34.57 per month and commercial water rates from the current \$31.49 to \$40.19 per month. Residential wastewater rates would also nominally rise from the current \$66.99 per month to \$77.66 and commercial wastewater rates from the current \$95.19 to \$110.35 per month.

Since commissioners cannot vote during workshops, County Administrator Randy Oliver said the county staff would bring back the rate proposal for a vote in the summer or fall of next year.

Gauging by the generally positive reaction of the county commissioners to Cheek's fiscal reality check, the modest increase is the right proposal at the right time for affording the requisite revenue to underwrite a first rate public utility that benefits the county's residents and environment alike.

With the total rate increase over four years representing pennies on the dollar, it is a small price to pay for safe drinking water and the environmental protection of our natural heritage that makes Citrus County a unique place to live.

Editorial: Massullo seeks millions for Citrus projects

Citrus Chronicle

December 23, 2021

State Rep. Ralph Massullo, a Lecanto physician who has represented Citrus County since 2016, is preparing for the 2022 legislative session by submitting more than \$60 million in funding requests for Citrus County projects. Massullo's list includes the big three issues in Citrus County: water, transportation and mental health.

Water quality has long been a top priority here. The list includes \$4 million each for King's Bay and Homosassa River restoration projects that focus on clearing harmful Lyngbya algae and on planting beneficial eel grass. The Save Crystal River group has previously benefitted from state funding, which allowed it to successfully demonstrate what works in waterway restoration.

Other water projects on the list include \$2 million for the Homosassa septic-to-sewer plan to remove 135 residences from septic tanks, as well as \$2.5 million to provide clean drinking water to eastside neighborhoods where wells were contaminated by summer's historic rainfall. And there's \$4.2 million for restoring the Tsala Apopka lakes chain, our largest freshwater system, by removing tussocks and bottom sediment.

In the transportation arena, the largest item is \$20.7 million for a Turkey Oak bypass for State Road 44, to keep Crystal River from being crushed by exiting Suncoast Parkway traffic trying to get north on U.S. 19. The Hernando-Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization is studying likely parkway traffic repercussions in Citrus County, too. Also on the list are \$9.2 million for the first phase of a multi-use path on Fort Island Trail, and \$7.1 million for a 640-foot runway extension at Crystal River airport.

Massullo's list includes \$1.5 million for LifeStream Behavioral Center, the county's contracted mental-health services provider, to operate a 20-bed Baker Act facility in Lecanto. Currently, individuals must be taken out of county, a strain for the family as well as for the law enforcement transportation detail. A Baker Act intake center has been on Citrus County's wish list for years.

The funding request list also includes \$2 million for the final phase of the King's Bay Riverwalk. While Riverwalk is in Crystal River, it will benefit the entire county through providing recreation for local residents as well as an additional draw for visitors. Businesses are looking forward to it.

We applaud Rep. Massullo for listening to county needs, having the county's long-term interests at heart, and for being a continuing champion for Citrus County. His solid relationships in Tallahassee ensure that his requests will be taken seriously. We appreciate being so well-represented.

Item 15.f.

Schedule for Upcoming Procurements

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, Executive Director will present this item.

The following is a table of tentative dates for the upcoming procurements for As Needed Professions Services, Phase VII Irrigation Contractors, and the 2024 Regional Water Supply Plan Update Consultant. Timeframes for Board approval of the requests, advertisement, submittal due dates, submittal review, and Board approvals.

Schedule for Upcoming Procurements		
As Needed Professional Services	Board Approval of Request for Qualifications	Wednesday, May 18, 2022
	RFQ Advertised	Wednesday, May 25, 2022
	SOQs Due	Friday, July 15, 2022
	Evaluation	Monday, July 18, 2022 – Friday, August 10, 2022
	Board Approval of As Needed Professional Services Consultants	Wednesday, September 21, 2022
Phase VII Irrigation Evaluation Contractors	Board Approval of Request for Quotes	Wednesday, July 20, 2022
	Request for Quotes Advertised	Thursday, July 21 - Friday
	Quotes Due	August 19, 2022
	Evaluation	Monday, August 22, 2022 – Friday, August 26, 2022
	Board Approval of Irrigation Evaluation Contracts	Wednesday, September 21, 2022
	Begin Phase VII Irrigation Evaluations	December 2022
2024 Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP) Update Consultant	Board Approval of Request for Qualifications for RWSP Update	Wednesday, September 21, 2022
	Request for Qualifications Advertised	Thursday, September 22, 2022
	Statements of Qualifications Due	Wednesday, October 19, 2022
	Evaluation	Thursday, October 20, 2022 – Monday, October 31, 2022
	Board Approval of Consultant Shortlist for Negotiation	November 2022 Board Meeting (TBD)
	Agreement Negotiation	Late November 2022 – December 2022
	Board Approval of RWSP Update Consulting Services Agreement	January 2023 Board Meeting (TBD)

Staff Recommendation:

This item is for information only and no action is required.

