

Board Meeting Package

January 20, 2010 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South) Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899



MEMORANDUM

To:

Water Supply Authority Board of Directors and Interested Parties

From:

Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director

Date:

January 5, 2010

Subject:

Monthly Meeting of the Withlacoochee Regional

Water Supply Authority

The next meeting of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority will be on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, 4:30 p.m., at the SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899.

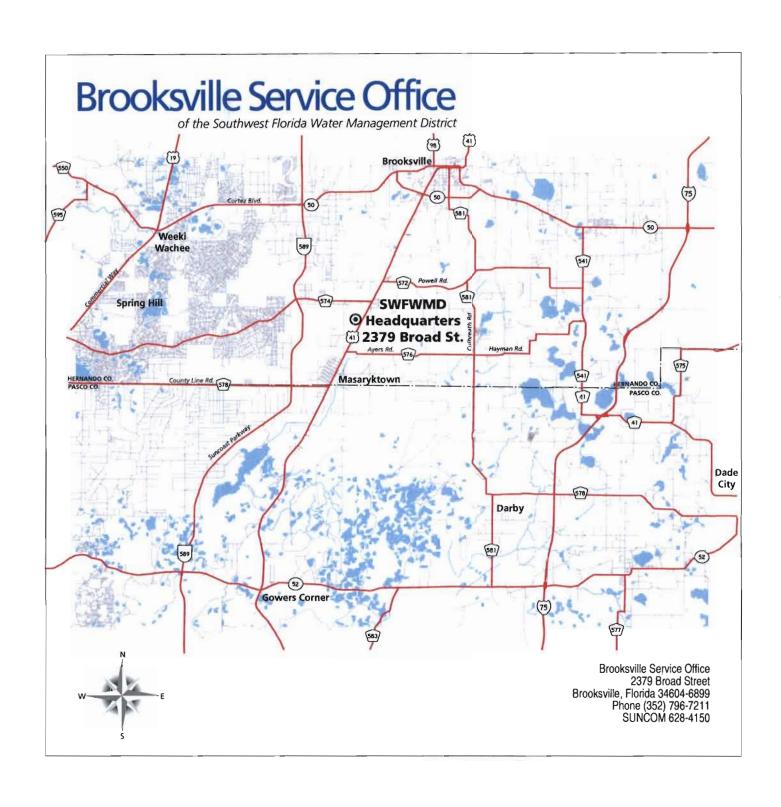
Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of the November 18, 2009 meeting
- Board Package*

Please note that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the above cited meeting, he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, he 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.

* For persons other than Board Members and government agencies, pursuant to Board policy adopted at the March 9, 1995 Meeting, a self-addressed 8.5 x 11 inch envelope, pre-stamped and with \$3.00 postage should be sent to the WRWSA at the address below. Board packages may also be obtained free of charge at the Board meeting.

Enclosures



WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South) Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

January 20, 2010 4:30 p.m.

Item	#1	Call to Order
Item	#2	Roll Call
Item	#3	Introductions and Announcements
Item	#4	Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2009 Meeting
Item	#5	Election of 2010 Officers Governing Board
Item	#6	Presentation of 2008-09 FYE Audit Mark White, Purvis Gray & Company
Item	#7	Presentation of Water Use Permit Application for Charles A. Black Water Suppl Facility Robert Knight, Citrus County Utilities Director & Layne Cady, P.E.
Item	#8	Presentation of Marion County Compendium Study Pete Hubbell, Water Resource Associates
Item	#9	Executive Director's Report Jack Sullivan, WRWSA
		 a. Bills to be Paid – November 2009 b. Revisions to WRWSA 2009-10 FY Budget c. Correspondence d. News Articles
Item	#10	Governmental Consultant Report Diane Salz, Governmental Consultant
Item	#11	Attorney's Report Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney
Item	#12	Other Business
Item	#13	Public Comment
Item	#14	Next Meeting Time and Location February 17, 2010, 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10 th Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323
Item	#15	Adjournment

4. November 18, 2009 Minutes

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES November 18, 2009

TIME:

4:30 p.m.

PLACE:

Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street (SR 41) Brooksville, Florida 34604

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

1. Call to Order

Chairman Dennis Damato called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

2. Roll Call

Mr. Sullivan, Executive Director, called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dennis Damato, Chairman, Citrus County Commissioner
John Druzbick, Hernando County Commissioner
Richard Hoffman, Vice-Chairman, Sumter County Commissioner
Barbara Fitos, Treasurer, Marion County Commissioner
Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner
Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner
Gary Bartell, Citrus County Commissioner
Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman
Christine Dobkowski, Belleview City Commissioner
Ken Hinkle, Inverness City Councilman
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner
Mary S. Rich, Ocala City Councilman
Rose Rocco, Hernando County Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman

MEMBERS ABSENT

Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner Jeff Stabins, Hernando County Commissioner Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner

3. Introductions and Announcements

Mr. Sullivan introduced others in the audience.

OTHERS PRESENT

Jack Sullivan, WRWSA Executive Director Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney Diane Salz, WRWSA Legislative Liaison Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates Granville Kinsman, SWFWMD John Ferguson, SWFWMD Ken Herd, SWFWMD Cara Martin, SWFWMD Doug Sanders, SWFWMD Todd Petrie, Marion County Utilities Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities Robert Moresi, P.G., Black & Veatch Steven King, E.I., Black & Veatch Jeff Halcomb, City of Ocala Darryl Muse, City of Ocala Janey Baldwin, Withlacoochee River Basin Board Tom Baldwin, Hernando County Citizen Peter Rocco, Hernando County Citizen Bernadine Flood-Nichols, Citrus County Connie Mullis, Legislative Assistant Senator Evelyn Lynn Tahla Paige, Recording Secretary

4. Approval of Minutes of October 21, 2009 Meeting

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Amsden to approve the minutes for the October 21, 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hinkle and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sullivan noted a schedule of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) Board Meetings for 2010 was enclosed in their packets and asked for a vote to approve next year's meeting schedule.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Amsden to approve the meeting schedule for calendar year 2010. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.

5. Hydrologic Conditions Report

Mr. Grainville Kinsman, Manager, Hydrologic Data Section, SWFWMD, gave a presentation on the current hydrologic conditions. In summary, he stated there had been little rainfall for the month of November and all indicators were declining. However, forecasts continue to reflect the El Nino effect for rainfall this winter, and unless abovenormal rainfall occurs, further declines are expected through May.

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

6. Report on Evaluation of Charles Black Water Supply Facility

Mr. Robert Moresi, P.G., Senior Hydrogeologist, Black & Veatch, gave an update on the engineering evaluation of CAB-1 & 2. Black & Veatch conducted a site visit on July 22, 2009; reviewed permitting compliance and discussed overall system performance, operation and maintenance; reported on standby generators; and, discussed property surrounding CAB-1. Black & Veatch recommended the following:

- a. Perform an evaluation to determine if there are valid reasons (hydraulic or electrical) to not operate Wells 3 and 4 simultaneously. The ability to operate these wells simultaneously would provide more flexibility in well operations, provide more well pumping capacity, and provide more redundancy if other wells are temporarily taken off-line.
- b. Continue to monitor the intermittent small leak at the ground storage tank at CAB-1, and correct the leak issue the next time that the tank is taken offline and drained for scheduled maintenance or cleaning.
- c. Closely monitor the AADF rates from the wells. When more water is needed, utilize wells which have a lower AADF (compared to its limit). Similarly, closely monitor the Peak Month rates for the wells. When necessary, utilize wells which have a lower Peak Month flow (compared to its limit).
- d. Apply for an increase from SWFWMD in the permit limitations restricted in the Water Use Permit (WUP) on the individual wells and for the Peak Month and AADF for the whole system, when necessary, to accommodate projected future increases in water demands.
- e. Continue to update water demand projections regularly to identify potential needs to expand water supply, treatment or transmission facilities in the future. If the high service pumping capacity at the CAB-1 facility is expanded in the future, it is recommended that the generator at CAB-1 be replaced as part of the future CAB-1 expansion project.
- f. Investigate the potential plans and routes for any new pipelines that would be required to handle the increased CAB-1 capacity envisioned in the C & D report, so that land and easement acquisitions can be planned in advance of an expansion.

Mr. Sullivan stated full detailed copies of the report were available for the Board's review. He added Citrus County Utilities would be applying for an updated water use permit that is a joint permit with Citrus County and the WRWSA, which would require extensive coordination. Mr. Sullivan stated meetings would be scheduled with Citrus County, consultants, and himself to discuss the various recommendations and funding for the facility. Mr. Adkins asked for a follow up on the operation of Wells 3 and 4. Mr. Sullivan replied the current generator could not power both pumps, they had not been wired for public use, and he intended to discuss these issues in the upcoming meetings with Citrus County.

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

7. WRWSA Regional Irrigation Audit and Education Pilot Project

Ms. Salz gave a presentation on the Regional Residential Irrigation Audit and Education Pilot Program. She stated it consisted of three elements:

- a. Training and certification of irrigation auditors to ensure that qualified auditors are available to undertake the 250 audits envisioned in the program.
- b. Field audits of residential irrigation systems and water conservation education through recommendations of the auditors and prepared conservation materials distributed to the homeowners.
- c. Follow-up surveys to determine whether the recommendations by the auditors and water conservation measures have been implemented.

She explained the funding would be obtained as follows:

- a. Hernando, Citrus and Marion Counties The WRWSA currently provides grants to each of these counties. A portion of each county grant (\$12, 500) would go toward the pilot program and matched by each county with \$12,500. The balance of the WRWSA grant and county match would go toward the county's current water conservation programs as in the past.
- b. The Village Center Community Development District (VCCDD) in Sumter County would contribute \$12,500 toward the pilot program. The WRWSA would match this with a \$12,500 grant to the VCCDD. The WRWSA attorney has provided a legal opinion that the WRWSA can contract with a Community Development District.
- c. The local funds plus the WRWSA's match for the pilot program equals \$100,000. This amount would be matched 50% 50% with the SWFWMD's Cooperative Funding Initiative Program. The total program funding would be \$200,000.
- d. The auditor training cannot be funded through the Cooperative Funding Initiative, Therefore, it was recommended the WRWSA include in its FY2011 budget an amount to fund one training/certification session for irrigation auditors. The charge by the training entity is \$300 per student with a minimum of 10 students or \$3,000. To provide some allowance for more than 10 students, it was recommended \$5,000 be set aside for training. The conservation coordinators and Ms. Salz felt to secure buy-in from prospective attendees that a \$50 charge for each student be levied upon application.

Ms. Salz explained the WRWSA Board needed to approve sending in an application for Cooperative Funding Initiative, as the deadline for applying is December 4, 2009. She made the following recommendation to the Board for approval.

The Cooperative Funding Initiative and submittal of the application to SWFWMD for funding consideration and submittal of the cover letter that states this project is the WRWSA's number one Cooperative Funding Initiative priority and include it in the WRWSA's 2011 fiscal year (FY) budget.

Ms. Rich asked if the funding came from the cities or just the counties. Mr. Sullivan replied currently just the counties. Mr. Bartell asked if approving the application would commit the local governments for funding. Ms. Salz said no, that the cover letter would indicate it is an application of the WRWSA. Mr. Bartell asked if it would impede local government funding from SWFWMD. Ms. Fitos and Ms. Rocco were deeply concerned the various county commissioners were not informed about the program and how the funding would be obtained before requesting approval for the application. The rest of the members agreed. Mr. Druzbick asked if the application was submitted and approved did the WRWSA have to accept the funding. Mr. Sullivan said no.

Public comment was made by Ms. Janey Baldwin. She felt the program was premature and should have gone before the local county commissions first.

Mr. Damato stated everyone on the WRWSA Board represented a county or some government entity, and Mr. Sullivan wanted a motion to move forward with intent to approve the process. There was no guarantee it will be put into place, and he asked Mr. Sullivan if it was possible to opt out of the permit process. Ms. Fitos added she did not want to make a commitment for the county she represented, and there was a possibility the county would not be able to fund the project due to the current budget constraints. Mr. Damato wanted to know if a county could opt out to apply for funding for their own irrigation program if they did not want to participate in the WRWSA program. Mr. Sullivan stated he would ask Mr. Brent White, SWFWMD, about the rules for cooperative funding programs. After extensive discussion it was agree the application could be submitted contingent on approval of funding from the counties and VCCDD.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Amsden to approve the Cooperative Funding Initiative and submit the application to SWFWMD for funding consideration and submit a cover letter that states this project is the WRWSA number one Cooperative Funding Initiative priority and this to be included in the WRSWA 2010 FY budget. And this would be contingent on the participation of the three counties and VCCDD. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bartel and carried unanimously.

8. Executive Director's Report

a. Bills to be Paid

Mr. Sullivan passed a handout to the Board detailing November 2009 bills which totaled \$36,198.16. Mr. Sullivan requested the Board approve the payment of those bills.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. McClain to approve payment of the October bills totaling \$36,198.16. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fitos and carried unanimously.

b. Correspondence

Mr. Sullivan stated there was only one piece of correspondence included in the packet, and reviewed additional correspondence in the hand-outs. Included were a copy of The Florida Senate Interim Report 2010-114 on Chapter 373, F.S., Water Resources, for a creation of a statewide water board, articles on the subject and a letter written to the Governor by Mr. Bartell against such action. Mr. Bartell urged the WRWSA members to monitor this bill and encouraged them to also write the Governor. Mr. Sullivan stated he was invited to attend the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association (FSAWWA) to be one of 50 water ambassadors at the Water Summit on November 30, 2009, but he was uncomfortable about attending this meeting when the FSAWWA supports this bill.

c. News Articles

Mr. Sullivan provided news articles on water supply issues relating to areas both regional and statewide.

9. Governmental Consultant Report

Diane Salz informed the WRWSA members there were a variety of bills that would be monitored and there were several that were placeholders for future bills.

10. Attorney's Report

Mr. Haag, Esq., stated he was asked at the previous meeting to research if the WRWSA could enter in an agreement with a Community Development District. In his opinion under Section 373.1962, Florida Statutes, there was no legal impediment to the WRWSA contracting with the VCCDD. Mr. Haag added the WRWSA could even add them as a member of the WRWSA.

11. Other Business

Mr. McClain suggested the WRWSA send a letter to the Senate President to object changing Chapter 373, F.S., Water Resources, for the creation of a statewide water board.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. McClain to send a letter objecting to changes to Chapter 373, F.S., Water Resources, for a creation of a statewide water board, giving Mr. Sullivan permission to draft and have the Chair sign the letter for the WRWSA. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fitos and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sullivan recommended cancelling the December 18, 2009 WRWSA meeting due to lack of business to discuss.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Druzbick to cancel the December 18, 2009 WRWSA meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.

12. Public Comment

None.

13. Next Meeting Time and Location

Next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2010, at 4:30 p.m. at the Southwest Florida Water Management District Headquarters, Governing Board Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, FL 34604.

14. Adjournment

Chairman Damato announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the Board and adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Dennis Damato, Chairman								
•								
Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director								

5. Election of 2010 Officers

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL



WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

January 6, 2010

To: Board of Directors, WRWSA

From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

Re: Election of 2010 Officers

To facilitate the election process, I normally outline for the Board members what the by-laws require and what has been the customary procedure for electing officers for the Authority. As you all probably realize, the Authority is organized under official rules adopted by the Authority. These rules set forth the officers for the Authority. As the **Executive Director**, I am the **ex officio Secretary** for the Authority, responsible for taking, preparing and distributing the minutes. I serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. There are three other officers required by the rules: a **Chairman**, a **Vice-Chairman** and a **Treasurer**. These three positions are elected each year at the January meeting. Our usual practice has been the election of the new Chairman to be conducted by the current Chairman. After election of the new Chair, the gavel is passed and the balance of the election is administered by the new Chair.

Our current officers are: Chairman **Dennis Damato**, Citrus County Commissioner; our Vice-Chair is **Richard Hoffman**, Sumter County Commissioner and our Treasurer is **Barbara Fitos**, Marion County Commissioner.

For those members recently appointed to the Board, I would provide the following additional information. A quorum for a meeting requires a majority of the member governments [Citrus, Hernando, Sumter and Marion Counties and Ocala] to be present. A county can be represented for quorum purposes by any local government within the county, including a small city. In order to help insure a quorum at regular meetings or a called Executive Committee meeting, the Board has historically elected officers from different counties, but that is not a rule requirement.

For your information, our Current Board is composed of the following local government officials:

Gary Bartell, Citrus County Commissioner
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner (current Chair)
Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner
Ken Hinkle, Inverness City Councilman

Rose Rocco, Hernando County Commissioner Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner Jeff Stabins, Hernando County Commissioner John Druzbick, Hernando County Commissioner Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman

Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner Richard Hoffman, Sumter County Commissioner (current Vice-Chair) Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman

Barbara Fitos, Marion County Commissioner (current Treasurer)
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner
Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner

Mary Rich, Ocala City Councilwoman Vacant, Ocala City Council

6. 2008-09 FYE Audit



We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities and the major fund of Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (the Authority), for the year ended September 30, 2009, and have issued our report thereon dated December 21, 2009. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit:

Our Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated October 26, 2005, and communications letter dated October 19, 2009, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

As part of our audit, we considered the internal controls of the Authority. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed test of the Authority's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, the objective of our tests was not to provide an opinion on compliance with such provisions.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our engagement letter.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2009. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Certified Public Accountants

P.O. Box 23999 • 222 N.E. 1st Street • Gainesville, Florida 32602 • (352) 378-2461 • FAX (352) 378-2505

Laurel Ridge Professional Center • 2347 S.E. 17th Street • Ocala, Florida 34471 • (352) 732-3872 • FAX (352) 732-0542

443 East College Avenue • Tallahassee, Florida 32301 • (850) 224-7144 • FAX (850) 224-1762

2201 Cantu Court, Suite #100 • Sarasota, Florida 34232 • (941) 379-2800 • FAX (941) 379-2899

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Significant Audit Findings (Continued)

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices (Concluded)

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events.

Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the financial statements was:

Management's estimate of depreciation expense is based on original judgments of useful lives and straight-line depreciation. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatement

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management.

The most significant audit adjustment related to transferring administrative funds between State Board of Administration (SBA) accounts and the write-down of the value of Fund B of the SBA to its fair market value.

Management has corrected all such misstatements.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated December 21, 2009.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Significant Audit Findings (Concluded)

Purvis, Gray and Company, LLP

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

This information is intended solely for the use of management of the Authority and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

December 21, 2009

Tallahassee, Florida

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Governing Board Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Tallahassee, Florida

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities and the major fund of Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (the Authority) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2009, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Authority. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. The prior year summarized comparative information has been derived from the Authority's 2008 financial statements and, in our report dated November 14, 2008, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities and the major fund of the Authority as of September 30, 2009, the respective changes in financial position, and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated December 21, 2009, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and other matters. The purpose of this report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Certified Public Accountants

P.O. Box 23999 • 222 N.E. 1st Street • Gainesville, Florida 32602 • (352) 378-2461 • FAX (352) 378-2505

Laurel Ridge Professional Center • 2347 S.E. 17th Street • Ocala, Florida 34471 • (352) 732-3872 • FAX (352) 732-0542

443 East College Avenue • Tallahassee, Florida 32301 • (850) 224-7144 • FAX (850) 224-1762

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (Concluded)

The management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 8 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consist principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

December 21, 2009

Purvis, Gray and Company, LLP

Tallahassee, Florida

This management discussion and analysis of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's (WRWSA) financial performance provides an overview of the financial activities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009, as compared to September 30, 2008. The purpose of this overview is to provide readers with a comprehensive picture of the WRWSA's financial condition and results of operations. This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and related footnotes, as details there are not necessarily repeated in this analysis.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Net assets of the Authority decreased by \$225,038 or 5.93%. The depreciation of plant equipment at the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility (CAB#1) provided a significant portion of the reduction in Net Assets of the Authority for the current FYE. Expenditures were up by \$121,221 or 22.40%. However, revenue was up by \$80,221 or 21.83%. Marion County's annual assessments accounted for a significant increase in local funding. There was a decline in funding from SWFWMD as the Authority worked separately to bring Marion County back into active status in the Authority and to integrate the County's plans into the Regional Water Supply Plan. However, SWFWMD revenue was replaced with additional funding from Marion County to prepare the Marion County Compendium to integrate Marion County's water supply studies into the regional Master Plan.
- Operating expenses for the year were up by 22.40% or \$121,221 from expenses in the 2008 FYE.
 The primary component was an increase of \$115,600 in Water Resource Projects over the
 previous year. There were also increases in Professional Services and General and
 Administrative Expenses as a result of continued activity in the development of Regional Master
 Water Supply Plan components.
- Revenues to the Authority consist of annual assessments of \$.20 per capita, revenue from the Authority's contract with Citrus County consisting of an amortization fee for the capital cost of the construction of CAB#1 and a surcharge for the Authority's administration of its contract with Citrus County and its maintenance and operations review. Local assessment revenues increased by 67.47% or \$57,784 over the previous year. Citrus wellfield amortization revenue remained the same and the administrative surcharge increased by 4.05% or \$2,120 over the previous year.
- Net Assets will provide the resources to fund projects and to continue to meet the obligations of the Authority. In particular, revenue from the CAB#1 facility provide a funding source for both local and regional water resource projects that will strengthen the Authority's role as a regional water planning agency and allow the Authority to influence development of water supply facilities in the region and conservation efforts at the local government level as well. In addition, assessment revenue from the re-entrance of Marion County into active status will assist the Authority in its regional activities.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Revenue from the CAB#1 facility has provided the resources for the Authority to support a number of special and on-going projects that increase the water supply capability of the region and are of special benefit to the local governments that are members of the Authority. Some of these projects include:

1. <u>Joint Funding of Water Supply Projects with Member Local Governments</u>

The Authority Board continued its grant program to assist local governments in developing local water supply projects. Since FY 1999-2000, the Authority has appropriated \$1,117,131 to local government projects in the region. During the 2008-2009 FY, the Board appropriated \$100,000 toward local government water supply projects. Proposals will be considered from any member local government in the Authority's jurisdiction.

2. Development of a Regional Water Conservation Program

As part of the implementation of its Regional Water Conservation Public Information Program, the Authority maintains a website (www.wrwsa.org) with links to water conservation issues. The Authority has also funded County water conservation programs in Hernando, Citrus, Marion and Sumter Counties. The Authority will continue its support of water conservation by placing the highest priority on local government grants that focus on water conservation programs.

3. <u>Tracking Water Resource Legislation During the 2009 Legislative Session that is of Interest to the Withlacoochee Region.</u>

The Authority has contracted since FY 2002-2003 with a Legislative Consultant to track legislation on water supply, water management districts and other water resource issues. The Authority has focused its attention on tracking any attempts to weaken or abolish the "Local Sources First" permitting requirements adopted by the 1997 Legislature. The Authority approved the continuation of its contract with the Legislative Consultant for additional work prior to and during the 2009 session.

4. Update of the Authority's 1996 Long-Range Water Supply Plan.

The Authority embarked on a seven-phase work program in conjunction with the SWFWMD to plan and implement a long-range water supply plan for the region. The update to the region's water supply Master Plan was initiated in 2005. Phase I of the Master Plan was completed in early 2007. Currently, the Authority and SWFWMD are working on Phases II and VII of the work program. Phase II consists of a more detailed analysis of each water supply project identified in the Phase I planning program.

These projects will be subjected to a prioritization matrix and will also be followed up with a search for implementation partners among the region's local governments along with participation by the Authority. Phase VII will include more detailed groundwater modeling to determine the impact on groundwater withdrawals of setting minimum flows and levels (MFL) on water resources within the region. The Authority will provide technical assistance to local governments to assist them in complying with the MFLs as they are established by the SWFWMD.

In September 2008, Marion County became active in the Authority again after a 17-year hiatus. The Authority agreed to Marion County's re-entry into active membership with the stipulation that Marion County integrate its water supply plans into the Authority's Regional Water Supply Plan. The Authority and Marion County entered into an Interlocal Agreement that would require Marion County to pay for the necessary studies to integrate its plans with the Authority's Master Plan. The Authority entered into a contract with Water Resource Associates to prepare the necessary studies and those studies are projected to be completed in early 2010.

5. <u>Continuation of Cooperation with Citrus County in Operation of the Authority's Charles A. Black Wellfield and Water Supply Facility (CABWSF).</u>

The CAB Water Supply Facility is currently operating and supplying water to the Citrus system. The Authority will continue to cooperate with Citrus County in the maintenance and permitting for the wells and the treatment facility per our operation and maintenance contract with Citrus County.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Balance Sheet and Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Assets provide information about the activities of the Authority as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Authority's finances. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting. All current year revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash was received or disbursed. The primary purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows is to provide information about the cash receipts and disbursements of an entity during a period. Accompanying footnotes provide further information related to amounts presented on the financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As shown in the table below, there was a reduction of 3.74% or \$142,763 in Total Assets during the 2008-2009 FY. This amount is primarily the result of depreciation of the physical plant at the CAB#1 facility. However, a significant outlay of funds each year for the Authority is through grants to local governments from Restricted Assets. The Authority provides joint participation grants to local governments as an incentive for local governments in the region to embark on water conservation programs. The Authority's funding formula provides up to 50% participation with local governments to a maximum grant of \$50,000. The Authority limits its outlay each year to no more than \$100,000 for these grants. These measures should maintain the Authority's continued financial strength to pursue its other program objectives.

Assets	FYE 2008	FYE 2009	% Change	\$ Change
Current and Other Assets	\$1,533,051	\$1,553,462	1.33%	\$20,411
Capital Assets	\$2,284,438	\$2,121,264	-7.14%	
Total Assets	\$3,817,489	\$3,674,726	-3.74%	-\$142,763

The Authority's Total Liabilities increased by 390.48% or \$82,275. However, as Accounts Payable these amounts are relatively insignificant in that the Authority has no long-term debt. The accounts payable shown in the Balance Sheet represent the Total Liabilities of the Authority and are normal payables at the end of each month or amounts remaining to be paid for contracts that will end at the end of each Fiscal Year. The ratio of Assets to Liabilities is about 15:1, which indicates a high degree of solvency for the Authority. In addition, the plant and equipment of the Authority is debt-free. Further, the Authority has a Maintenance and Use contract with Citrus County for the county to operate and maintain the Authority's CAB#1 water supply facility, prepare and obtain all permits required for operation and to maintain a Renewal and Replacement Fund for the facility. The funds provided by Citrus County to the Authority for amortization of the facility and for an administrative surcharge are sufficient to carry out the water resource projects of the Authority.

Liabilities	FYE 2008	FYE 2009	% Change	\$ Change		
Operating Account A/P	\$14,365	\$17,075	18.87%	\$2,710		
Water Resource Project Account A/P	\$6,705	\$86,270	1186.65%	\$79,565		
Total Liabilities	\$21,070	\$103,345	390.48%	\$82,275		

Computing and reflecting net assets is one way to illustrate the financial health and financial position of the Authority. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets are an indicator of whether the financial health is improving or deteriorating. The following table summarizes net assets for the Authority for FYE 2008 and 2009 for comparison purposes.

Net Assets:	FYE 2008	FYE 2009	% Change	\$ Change
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Debt	\$2,284,438	\$2,121,264	-7.14%	-\$163,174
Unrestricted Cash or Equivalent - Projects	\$987,380	\$914,881	-7.34%	-\$72,499
Unrestricted Cash or Equivalent - Operating	\$524,601	\$535,236	2.03%_	\$10,635
Total Net Assets	\$3,796,419	\$3,571,381	-5.93%	-\$225,038

Although there is a decrease in total net assets from FYE 2008 to FYE 2009, the majority of this decrease is attributable to the continued depreciation of the Authority's CAB#1 water supply facility. The decrease in cash assets, both unrestricted and restricted, is a better indicator of the financial position of the Authority. To better balance the outflow of cash for water resource projects with revenue from the CAB#1 contract with Citrus County, in 2007 the Authority reduced its annual grant obligation to a maximum outlay for local government grants to \$100,000 per year and reduced its match requirements from 67% to 50% with a maximum of \$50,000 rather than \$67,000 to any one grantee. These measures will help reduce the net decrease in assets over time.

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

Revenue for the Authority is categorized into unrestricted and restricted and is derived from two sources: member local government per capita assessments and contractual funds from Citrus County for amortization of the construction of the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility (CAB#1) and an administrative surcharge paid to the Authority. Member local government assessments are received from Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties and the City of Ocala. Per capita assessments for the small cities within the member counties are paid by the member county to avoid the issue of "double taxation." These per capita assessments are approved each year. For the 2009 FYE, the Authority and its member governments approved \$.20/per capita. All of this revenue is unrestricted and used for administration of the Authority.

Revenues from the CAB#1 facility are fixed by contract between Citrus County and the Authority. The monthly payment by Citrus County to the Authority is divided into "facilities recovery," based on an amortization table for the 35-year debt to the Authority and an administrative surcharge, termed "administrative recovery" that runs for 30 years from the inception of service till 2022. The facilities recovery is being placed in an investment account with the State Board of Administration Investment Pool and was restricted for use on water supply and water resource projects within the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) area until 1999. Although these funds are no longer restricted by SWFWMD as indicated below, the Authority continues to separate the funds to reflect funds available for administration and those available for water projects. The payback of these funds by Citrus County results from a "seed grant" by SWFWMD to the Authority for the purpose of building its first regional water supply facility. The administrative recovery revenue paid by Citrus County is increased by ±5% each year beginning in 1992, reaching a maximum of \$60,000 in 2011 through 2021. These monies are unrestricted and are used primarily for administration of the Authority.

The requirement that the facilities recovery funds from the CAB #1 be restricted arises from an Agreement between the Authority and SWFWMD signed in 1987. The Agreement expired in 1999 and therefore the funds from CAB#1 are no longer required to be restricted and may be used for water supply projects as well as administration of the Authority.

The last sources of revenue during this fiscal year comes from cooperative funding with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) and revenue from Marion County to prepare the Compendium to bring Marion County's water studies into the Regional Master Water Supply Plan. SWFWMD's Withlacoochee River and Coastal Rivers Basin Boards approved matching funds to continue to update the Authority's Regional Water Supply Master Planning and Implementation Program. This program is currently budgeted in two contracts at \$450,000 that are projected to be completed in early 2010. During the 2009 Fiscal Year, the Authority received matching funds of \$33,975. A comparison of revenues from FYE 2008 and 2009 is provided in the following table:

Operating Revenue	FYE 2008	FYE 2009	% Change	\$ Change		
Local Assessments (Per Capita)	\$85,642	\$143,426	67.47%	\$57,784		
Citrus Wellfield Administrative Funds	\$52,408	\$54,528	4.05%	\$2,120		
Citrus Wellfield Water Resource Project Funds	\$163,587	\$163,587	0.00%	\$0		
Project Revenue - Marion County	\$6,705	\$52,110	87.13%	\$45,405		
Project Revenue - SWFWMD	\$59,063	\$33,975	-42.48%	-\$25,088		
Total Operating Revenue	\$367,405	\$447,626	21.83%	\$80,221		

(Concluded)

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets (Concluded)

Operating expenses for the Authority increased by 22.40% during FYE 2009 over FYE 2008. The major increase came from a increase in monies spent on water resource projects. The increase resulted primarily from preparation of the Marion County Compendium to integrate Marion County into the Regional Master Plan. The following table provides a comparison of expenditures for FYE 2008 and 2009:

Operating Expenditures	FYE 2008	FYE 2009	% Change	\$ Change	
Professional Services	\$166,813	\$162,050	-2.86%	-\$4,763	
General & Administrative	\$21,534	\$31,917	48.22%	\$10,383	
Engineer Maintenance Report	\$0	\$0	0.00%	\$0	
Water Resource Projects	\$189,560	\$305,160	60.98%	\$115,600	
Depreciation	\$163,173	\$163,174	0.00%	\$1	
Total Operating Expenditures	\$541,080	\$662,301	22.40%	\$121,221	

Nonoperating revenues declined by 124.15% from the previous year. This was primarily due to a drop in investment rates of return coupled with an additional write-down of the value of investments in Fund B of the State Board of Administration.

NonOperating Revenue	FYE 2008	FYE 2009	% Change	\$ Change
Interest Income - General Fund	\$42,910	\$13,298	-69.00	-\$29,612
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	0	23,661	N/A	23,661
Total Nonoperating Revenue	\$42,910	\$10,363	124.15	-\$53,273

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS PROPRIETARY FUND SEPTEMBER 30, 2009,

WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Fund 2009 Operating **Project** 2008 Account Account Total **Total** Assets **Current Assets** Cash and Cash Investments 552,311 985,986 1,538,297 1,526,346 6,705 Accounts Receivable - Marion County 0 8,190 8,190 Accounts Receivable - SWFWMD 0 6,975 6,975 **Total Current Assets** 552,311 1,001,151 1,553,462 1,533,051 **Noncurrent Assets** Capital Assets: Property and Equipment, Net of Accumulated Depreciation 2,121,264 2,121,264 2,284,438 **Total Noncurrent Assets** 0 2,121,264 2,121,264 2,284,438 **Total Assets** 552,311 3,122,415 3,674,726 3,817,489 Liabilities Accounts Payable 17,075 86,270 103,345 21,070 **Total Liabilities** 17,075 86,270 103,345 21,070 **Net Assets** Investment in Capital Assets 0 2,121,264 2,121,264 2,284,438 Unrestricted 535,236 914,881 1,450,117 1,511,981 **Total Net Assets** 535,236 3.036,145 3,571,381 3,796,419

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS PROPRIETARY FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2009, WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Fund

		2009	mes - Enter prise run	<u>u</u>
	Operating Project			2008
	Account	Account	Total	Total
O- anatin - Barrana				
Operating Revenues				
Member Assessments:	¢ 20.020	•	e 20.020	07.250
Citrus County	\$ 28,028	\$ 0	\$ 28,028	\$ 27,350
Hernando County	32,439	0	32,439	31,401
Marion County	54,157	0	54,157	0
Sumter County	17,954	-	17,954	16,520
City of Ocala	10,848	0	10,848	10,371
Total Member Assessments	143,426		143,426	85,642
Project Revenues				
Project Revenue - SWFWMD	0	33,975	33,975	59,063
Project Revenue - Marion County	0	52,110	52,110	6,705
Total Project Revenues	0	86,085	86,085	65,768
Wellfield Revenues:				
Administrative Cost Portion	54,528	0	54,528	52,408
Facilities Cost Portion	0	163,587	163,587	163,587
Total Wellfield Revenues	54,528	163,587	218,115	215,995
Total Operating Revenues	197,954	249,672	447,626	367,405
				501,100
Operating Expenses				
Professional Services:	100.000			100.000
Consulting Executive Director Services	100,000	0	100,000	100,000
Legal Services	11,941	0	11,941	17,898
Financial Consultation and Accounting	1.000	0	1.000	000
Services	1,800	0	1,800	900
Lobbyist Fees	39,996	0	39,996	39,996
Audit Services	8,313	0	8,313	8,019
General and Administrative	31,917	205.160	31,917	21,534
Water Resource Projects	0	305,160	305,160	189,560
Depreciation (Total Operating Expenses)	(193,967)	163,174	163,174	163,173
(Total Operating Expenses)	(193,907)	(468,334)	(662,301)	(541,080)
Operating Income (Loss)	3,987	(218,662)	(214,675)	(173,675)
Nonoperating Revenue				
Interest Income - General Fund	13,298	0	13,298	42,910
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	(6,650)	(17,011)	(23,661)	0
Total Nonoperating Revenue	6,648	(17,011)	(10,363)	42,910
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	10,635	(235,673)	(225,038)	(130,765)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	524,601	3,271,818	3,796,419	3,927,184
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 535,236	\$ 3,036,145	\$ 3,571,381	\$ 3,796,419
,	122,230			2,7,2,117

See accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS PROPRIETARY FUND

FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2009, WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

		Business-Type Activities - Enterprise F					Fund	
	2009							
	Operating		Project					2008
		Account		Account		Total		Total
Cash Flows from Operating Activities								
Member Assessments Received	\$	143,426	\$	0	\$	143,426	\$	78,805
Wellfield Revenues Received		54,528		163,587		218,115		215,995
Project Revenues		0		77,625		77,625		126,001
Cash Paid to Contractors and Suppliers		(191,257)		(225,595)		(416,852)		(453,224)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities		6,697		15,617		22,314		(32,423)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities								
Interest Income		13,298		0		13,298		42,910
Unrealized Gains/(Loss) on Investments		(6,650)		(17,011)		(23,661)		0
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities		6,648		(17,011)		(10,363)		42,910
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash								
Investments		13,345		(1,394)		11,951		10,487
Anvestments		15,545		(1,371)	_			10,107
Cash and Cash Investments, Beginning of Year		538,966		987,380		1,526,346		1,515,859
Cash and Cash Investments, End of Year		552,311	\$	985,986		1,538,297		1,526,346
Presented in the Accompanying Statement of Net Assets as								
Cash and Cash Investments - Current	\$	552,311	\$	985,986	\$	1,538,297	\$	1,526,346
Total Cash and Cash Investments	\$	552,311		985,986	\$	1,538,297	\$	1,526,346
Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities								
Operating Income (Loss)	\$	3,987	\$	(218,662)	\$	(214,675)	\$	(173,675)
Reconciling Adjustments:								
Depreciation		0		163,174		163,174		163,173
Decrease (Increase) in Accounts Receivable		0		(8,460)		(8,460)		60,233
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable		2,710		79,565		82,275		(75,317)
Increase (Decrease) in Deferred Revenue		0		0		0		(6,837)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	\$	6,697	\$	15,617	\$	22,314	\$	(32,423)

Supplemental Schedule of Noncash Investing and Financing Activities

There are no noncash investing and financing activities for the years ended September 30, 2009 and 2008.

See accompanying notes.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (the Authority) is an independent special district serving the central Florida area. The Authority was organized in 1977 by an interlocal agreement between Citrus, Hernando, Levy, Marion, and Sumter Counties as provided by Florida State Law, Chapters 373.1962, and 163.01, Florida Statutes. The Authority amended the interlocal agreement in 1984 to release Levy County from membership. Marion County provided the Authority with its notice of intent to withdraw effective 1993; however, the interlocal agreement has not been amended to release them from membership. In September 2008, the Board approved Marion County to rejoin the Authority as an active member. The remaining four counties and various municipalities from the region currently make up the Authority's Governing Board. The primary purpose of the Authority, as defined in the interlocal agreement, is to assist its members in the management of their water resources and to provide dependable water supplies on a regional basis.

The Authority is not considered to be a component unit of any other entity, nor are there any component units for which the Authority exercises control or oversight.

Fund Structure and Basis of Accounting

The accounting policies of the Authority conform to generally accepted accounting policies for governmental entities and follows standards established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). All activities of the Authority are accounted for in a single major enterprise fund which uses the accrual basis of accounting. The enterprise fund is composed of an unrestricted operating account for general and administrative functions of the fund and a project account to account for various project activities of the fund.

Classification of Revenues

The Authority classifies its revenues as operating or nonoperating according to the following criteria:

- Operating Revenues—include activities that have the characteristics of exchange transactions, such as member assessments.
- Nonoperating Revenues—include activities that have the characteristics of nonexchange transactions, such as interest income.

Finance and Budgeting

The administrative rules of the Authority provide that each of the members appropriate funds on a per capita basis to fund the operations of the Authority. The per capita appropriations (20¢ per person for 2009) are based upon the most current annual population estimates available at the time the budget is adopted. Per capita appropriations become effective after approval of three-fifths vote of the full voting membership of the Authority's Governing Board and approval by the members.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

(Continued)

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Finance and Budgeting (Concluded)

The Authority prepares a tentative annual budget each year and forwards copies to the members at least four weeks prior to adoption of a final budget. The members may then take action in either approving or disapproving the proposed budget and provide for the necessary per capita appropriation. The budget may be amended by the Governing Board as necessary to conduct the financial affairs of the Authority. The Authority does not use encumbrance accounting. All appropriations lapse at year-end.

The Authority elects not to apply Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements issued after November 30, 1989, for its proprietary fund pursuant to the provisions of GASB Statement No. 20.

Property Taxes

Chapter 373.1962, Florida Statutes, provides that the Authority may levy ad valorem taxes, not to exceed one-half mill, upon approval of the electors residing in each county or municipality within the Authority's territory. The Authority has not levied any ad valorem taxes since its creation.

Cash and Cash Investments

Cash and cash investments consist of a bank checking account plus the State Board of Administration of Florida, Local Government Pooled Investment Account, more fully described in Note 2.

Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Capital Assets - Property and Equipment

Office equipment is recorded at historical cost with depreciation computed using the straight-line method over estimated useful lives of five to ten years. Repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

During the 1992-1993 year, the Authority completed the Citrus County Water Supply Project. The project consists of construction of a wellfield to provide Citrus County, a member government, with bulk water supply on an all requirements basis. The wellfield is owned by the Authority, with a reversionary interest to Citrus County. Payment for the water consists of monthly charges that recover the cost of the facility and pro rata overhead costs of the Authority over a thirty-five-year period. Citrus County is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the facility, as well as funding a replacement reserve account.

The wellfield is being depreciated on a straight-line basis over an estimated useful life of thirty-five years.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

(Continued)

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Concluded)

Revenue Recognition

■ Member Assessments

Revenues from member assessments are generally recognized ratably over the fiscal year of the Authority for which the assessments were budgeted. Amounts recognized, but not received at year-end, if any, are presented as accounts receivable from member governments in the accompanying statement of net assets.

■ Wellfield Revenues

Revenues from wellfield operations are fixed by contract and recognized ratably over the fiscal year (see Note 4 for further discussion). Amounts recognized, but not received at year-end, if any, are also presented as accounts receivable from member governments in the accompanying statement of net assets.

Prior Period Information

The financial statements include certain prior year summarized comparative information. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Authority's financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2008, from which the summarized information was derived.

Risk Assessment and Management

The Authority is exposed to the normal risks associated with governmental entities, including property loss, general liability, and fiduciary breach. The Authority manages these risks through coverages maintained by its members and contractors.

Subsequent Events

The Authority has evaluated subsequent events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements through December 21, 2009, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 2 - Deposits and Investments

The Authority has not adopted a formal investment policy, rather has elected to follow the investment guidelines of the Florida Statutes.

Deposits

As of September 30, 2009, all of the Authority's deposits are maintained in banks and financial institutions which are covered by the Florida Security for Public Deposits Act, Chapter 280 of the Florida Statutes, which requires that each public depository must maintain eligible collateral having a market value equal to 50% of the average daily balance for each month of all public deposits in excess of any applicable deposit insurance held by the depository during the twelve months immediately preceding the date of any computation of the balance. As such, the depository is not required to hold collateral in the Authority's name nor specify which collateral is held for the Authority's benefit. The Public Deposit Security Trust Fund, as created under the laws of the State of Florida would be required to pay the Authority for any deposits not covered

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (Continued)

Note 2 - Deposits and Investments (Concluded)

Deposits (Concluded)

by depository insurance or collateral pledged by the depository as previously described. As of September 30, 2009, all of the Authority's deposits were insured. The Authority's carrying amount of deposits for September 30, 2009, was \$816 and the bank balance was \$1,301.

The Authority invests excess operating cash with the State Board of Administration of Florida, Florida PRIME (formally Local Government Pooled Investment Accounts). The State Board of Administration investment pool invests primarily in commercial paper, repurchase agreements, bankers' acceptance notes, and U.S. Government obligations. On December 4, 2007, based on recommendations from an outside financial advisor, the State Board of Administration restructured the Pool into two separate pools: (1) Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund Investment Pool (LGIP, now Florida PRIME) consists of all money market appropriate assets; and (2) Fund B consists of assets that defaulted on a payment, paid more slowly than expected, and/or had any significant credit and liquidity risk. Fund B is restricted by the State Board of Administration and is not currently available for use. The State Board of Administration Florida PRIME is rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's and has a weighted average maturity of 33 days. The Fund B is not rated. These accounts are not insured or covered by Chapter 280 of the Florida Statutes. Investments in the State Board of Administration Florida PRIME and Fund B were \$1,508,661 and \$52,481, respectively, at September 30, 2009.

Note 3 - Capital Assets - Property and Equipment

	Beginning Balance		Increase Decrease			Ending Balance	
Capital Assets Being Depreciated			_			_	
Office Equipment	\$	1,560	\$	0	\$ 0	\$	1,560
Wellfield - Citrus County	_	4,895,231	_	0	0		4,895,231
Total Assets Being Depreciated	_	4,896,791		0	0		4,896,791
Accumulated Depreciation:							
Office Equipment		(1,560)		0	0		(1,560)
Wellfield - Citrus County		(2,610,793)		(163,174)	0	_	(2,773,967)
(Total Accumulated Depreciation)	_	(2,612,35 <u>3</u>)		(163,174)	0	_	(2,775,527)
Total Capital Assets Being							
Depreciated	\$	2,284,438	\$	(163,174)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$</u>	2,121,264

Depreciation expense for the years ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, is \$163,174 and \$163,173, respectively.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (Continued)

Note 4 - Wellfield Cost Recovery

The following is a summary of the water charges to be paid by Citrus County over the remaining life of the contract:

Fiscal						
Year		Cost Po				
Ending	Administrative		Facilities		Total	
2010	\$	56,755	\$	163,587	\$	220,342
2011		59,093		163,587		222,680
2012		60,000		163,587		223,587
2013		60,000		163,587		223,587
2014		60,000		163,587		223,587
2015		60,000		163,587		223,587
2016		60,000		163,587		223,587
2017		60,000		163,587		223,587
2018		60,000		163,587		223,587
2019		60,000		163,587		223,587
2020		60,000		163,587		223,587
2021		60,000		163,587		223,587
2022		60,000		163,586		223,586
2023		0		42,500		42,500
2024		0		42,500		42,500
2025		0		42,500		42,500
2026		0		42,500		42,500
2027		0		42,500		42,500
Total	\$	<u>775,848</u>	\$	2,339,130	\$	3,114,978

Note 5 - Commitments

Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance Program

During 1999, the Authority moved to participate with local governments in providing funding assistance for water supply projects. The primary purpose of the project is to assist local governments in funding local water resource projects. The Authority agrees to pay, on a reimbursement basis, one-half of the project cost not to exceed \$50,000 per approved project. During the year, five contracts were considered complete: the City of Brooksville and City of Wildwood were each reimbursed \$19,933, Hernando County was reimbursed \$22,677, and Citrus County was reimbursed \$40,375 on two separate contracts. As of September 30, 2009, two counties had open contracts with the Authority: Hernando County was reimbursed \$27,504 with the total contract being \$46,750 and the Citrus County contract was \$28,250 with \$14,020 being reimbursed.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

(Concluded)

Note 5 - Commitments (Concluded)

Planning and Implementation Program, Phases II and VII

On April 18, 2008, the Authority entered into two agreements with Water Resource Associates, Inc. (WRA). The first contract, Phase II of the Planning and Implementation Program, is comprised of two main tasks totaling \$300,000. The first task is a detailed water supply feasibility analysis and the second is collaboration to develop water supply projects. The second contract, Phase VII of the Planning and Implementation Program is also comprised of two main tasks and totals \$150,000. WRA will provide technical support the Authority and local governments, as well as complete the northern district modeling. WRA has eighteen months to complete Phase II and thirty-six months to complete Phase VII. SWFWMD will reimburse the Authority one-half the amount expended on Phase II and Phase VII. As of September 30, 2009, \$252,000 has been expended on Phase II and \$67,950 has been expended on Phase VII.

Marion County Integration

During September 2008, Marion County rejoined the Authority as an active member. In lieu of paying the delinquent dues, the Board of Director is requiring Marion County to pay the costs of bringing its portion of the Authority's Master Plan up-to-date as it related to Marion County's geographic area and for other expenses necessary for Marion County to a functional member of the Authority. The Authority entered into a \$145,000 contract with WRA to update the Master Plan. Marion County will reimburse the Authority for the entire contract expense.

WRWSA Regional Water Supply Master Plan

During the year ended September 30, 2004, the Authority selected WRA as consultants to update its Regional Water Supply Master Plan. The Authority has negotiated a contract for services with WRA in the amount of \$300,000 and work commenced on the project on March 16, 2005. During 2005, expenses in the amount of \$34,430 were incurred and the Authority will be reimbursed by SWFWMD for one-half of the amount, which is \$17,215. During 2007, \$68,998 was expended with the Authority being reimbursed \$34,499. Work on the Master Plan has been temporarily suspended while Marion County is being integrated into the Plan. Work on the Master Plan is expected to resume in 2010.

ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS OF REPORT PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS, ISSUED BY THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES; AND THE RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA



REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Governing Board Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Tallahassee, Florida

We have audited the financial statements of Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (the Authority) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2009, and have issued our report thereon dated December 21, 2009. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting, described in the below paragraph that we consider to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Certified Public Accountants

P.O. Box 23999 • 222 N.E. 1st Street • Gainesville, Florida 32602 • (352) 378-2461 • FAX (352) 378-2505

Laurel Ridge Professional Center • 2347 S.E. 17th Street • Ocala, Florida 34471 • (352) 732-3872 • FAX (352) 732-0542

443 East College Avenue • Tallahassee, Florida 32301 • (850) 224-7144 • FAX (850) 224-1762

2201 Cantu Court, Suite #100 • Sarasota, Florida 34232 • (941) 379-2800 • FAX (941) 379-2899

MEMBERS OF AMERICAN AND FLORIDA INSTITUTES OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MEMBER OF AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS PRIVATE COMPANIES AND S.E.C. PRACTICE SECTIONS

To the Governing Board Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Tallahassee, Florida

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS (Concluded)

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Concluded)

■ Segregation of Duties

The primary weakness in the Authority's internal control is a lack of segregation of incompatible finance and accounting duties. For example, accounting personnel of the consulting executive director have access to cash receipts and disbursements, post the general ledger, and reconcile bank statements. This weakness is, however, somewhat mitigated by controls that the Authority has established, such as the dual signature requirements on all checks, approval of all bills paid monthly by the Governing Board, and use of an outside accounting firm for interim quarterly compiled financial statements and general ledger activity review. We recommend that the Governing Board continue its oversight efforts in these areas.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Governing Board, others within the entity, and the Florida Auditor General, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

December 21, 2009

Purvis, Gray and Company, LLP

Tallahassee, Florida



MANAGEMENT LETTER

To the Governing Board Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Tallahassee, Florida

We have audited the financial statements of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (the Authority), whose headquarters is located in Tallahassee, Florida, as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009, and have issued our report thereon dated December 21, 2009.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We have issued our report on internal control over financial reporting and compliance and other matters. Disclosures in that report dated December 21, 2009, if any, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Additionally, our audit was conducted in accordance with Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*, which governs the conduct of local governmental entity audits performed in the State of Florida. This letter includes the following information, which is not included in the aforementioned auditors' report:

- Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address significant findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no significant findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)2., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires our audit to include a review of the provisions of Section 218.415, Florida Statues, regarding the investment of public funds. In connection with our audit, we determine that the Authority complied with Section 218.415, Florida Statues.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address in the management letter any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address violations of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, or abuse that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the determination of financial statements amounts that is less than material but more than inconsequential. In connection with the audit, we did not have any such findings.

Certified Public Accountants

To the Governing Board Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Tallahassee, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER (Concluded)

- Section 10.554(1)(i)5., Rules of the Auditor General, provides that the auditor may, based on professional judgment, report of the following matters that are inconsequential to the determination of financial statement amounts, considering both quantitative and qualitative factors: (1) violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, fraud, illegal acts, or abuse, and (2) control deficiencies that are not significant deficiencies. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)6., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the government be disclosed in the management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The legal authority for the Authority and a discussion of component units can be found in Note 1 of the financial statements.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)7.a., Rules of the Auditor General, requires a statement be included as to whether or not the governmental entity has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and identification of the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the Authority did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.
- Section 10.554(1)(i)7.b., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we determine whether the annual financial report for the Authority for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009, filed with the Department of Financial Services pursuant to Section 218.32(1)(a), Florida Statutes, is in agreement with the annual financial audit report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009. In connection with our audit, we determined that these two reports were in agreement.
- Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)7.c. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures. It is management's responsibility to monitor the Authority's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by same.

Pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statues, this management letter is a public record and its distribution is not limited. Auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to indicate that this letter is intended solely for the information and use of management, and the Florida Auditor General, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

December 21, 2009

Purvis, Cray and Coupany, LLP

Tallahassee, Florida

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL



WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

December 28, 2009

Dennis Damato, Chair Board of Directors Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority 1107 Shalimar Drive Tallahassee, FL 32312

Re: Management Response to Reportable Conditions in FY 2008-09 Audit

Dear Mr. Damato:

This is in response to the management letter by Purvis, Gray & Co. regarding a "significant deficiency" found during the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year audit of the WRWSA. The audit letter outlined one reportable condition. This deficiency cited a weakness in the internal control structure because of a lack of segregation of accounting duties.

With regard to the segregation of accounting duties, I would point out as I have in the past that the Authority's budget for services is extremely limited and therefore, the number of personnel to assign to accounting duties is restricted. The only person available to assign to accounting duties at present is myself as the Consulting Director. I have access to cash receipts and disbursements and reconcile bank statements.

In the past, and to the current time, the Authority has mitigated this inadequacy in personnel by adhering to a number of controls. One of these is a requirement for a dual signature on all checks, one of which must be an Authority Board Officer. In addition to dual signatures, all bills are presented to the Board monthly for approval and financial reports are made to the Board on a quarterly basis. A specific written reference to the amount of total bills approved by the Board of Directors appears in the official minutes. The Authority retains an independent accounting firm to prepare a quarterly financial report. Finally, the Authority provides for an independent audit to be prepared annually. I would anticipate that at some point in time when the number of Authority personnel is not so constrained those additional personnel would be available to adequately segregate accounting duties.

Sincerely,

cc:

Jackson E. Sullivan, AICP

Executive Director

Purvis Gray & Company WRWSA Board Members

ullivan

7. CAB Water Use Permit Application



MEMORANDUM

January 6, 2010

To: WRWSA Board of Directors
From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

Re: Water Use Permit for Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility (CAB WSF)

Pursuant to the Authority's Agreement with Citrus County to operate and maintain the CAB WSF, Citrus County has engaged the engineering firm of C & D Engineering, Inc. to prepare a joint application for the renewal of the Water Use Permit (WUP) for this facility. The Authority owns the wells that are the subject of the application (see attached map); however, Citrus County and the Authority entered into an agreement in 1989 that allowed Citrus County to operate and maintain the facility since the Authority had no personnel to undertake this function. Part of the Agreement required Citrus County to prepare any permits necessary for operation of the facility. Both Citrus County and the Authority are required to sign the WUP application.

Robert Knight, Director of Utilities for Citrus County will present the application to the Board for its approval and signature. The application can be signed by whomever the Board designates – the Chair or the Executive Director.

Recommendation: Approval of the application for submittal and designation of an agent to sign the application on behalf of the Authority.



WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

FIGURE 1 - SITE LOCATION MAP





8. Marion County Compendium Study

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL



WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

January 6, 2010

To WRWSA Board of Directors From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

Re: WRWSA - Regional Water Supply Plan Update - Water Supply Planning

Compendium for the Inclusion of Marion County

As you are aware, the WRWSA and its consultants have been developing the "Compendium" for the inclusion of Marion County into the WRWSA – Regional Water Supply Plan. This analysis was required by an agreement between the WRWSA and Marion County for their reintroduction back into the Authority. The Compendium has been completed, comments have been reviewed and where appropriate the document has been amended based on those comments.

The Compendium was forwarded to each of you and can also be viewed on the project management system that all of you have access to (if you have questions on accessing the document online please contact Pete Hubbell, Water Resource Associates (WRA) at phubbell@wraconsultants.com). WRA will be presenting the final document to the Board and responding to questions that you may have. Additional background on the Compendium, its content and format is given below.

A. WRWSA Planning History

Since the WRWSA is mandated to develop and supply water, the Authority has historically completed water supply planning studies, constructed a regional water supply facility in Citrus County, and developed a cooperative funding program to assist member local governments in developing adequate water supply facilities and water conservation (WRWSA Website).

A water supply planning effort by the WRWSA was completed in 1996 and was entitled "Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Master Plan for Water Supply". This report followed two previous efforts that included the "Water Sources and Demand Study" (1982) and the "WRWSA Master Plan for Water Supply" (1987).

Almost ten years elapsed from the completion of the 1996 WRWSA Master Plan, when the WRWSA determined it was necessary to update the regional water supply planning process. In 2007 the WRWSA, in cooperation with the SWFWMD, completed an update of the 1996 study. This report was entitled "Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Regional Water Supply Plan Update - 2005" (WRWSA RWSPU).

B. Inclusion of Marion County to Regional Water Supply Plan Update

In broad terms, the WRWSA RWSPU provides a means for the WRWSA to determine both the existing and projected water demands for the region. Ultimately, these demands will serve as a basis for future water supply development projects for the region, which were analyzed and are outlined in the RWSPU.

The inclusion of Marion County into the WRWSA has added challenges and opportunities with respect to regionally sustainable water supply development. Geographically, the WRWSA has increased by approximately 86% from 1,892 square miles to 3,516 square miles. The existing population of the WRWSA has increased by approximately 68% from 494,931 to 732,681 (2005 estimate).

The inclusion of Marion County to the WRWSA requires that the RWSPU be appended to consider existing and projected water demands in Marion County, and that the appended RWSPU outline the basis for future water supply development in the WRWSA region including Marion County. This Compendium presents the inclusion of Marion County to the RWSPU.

The Compendium water demand estimates were analyzed over a planning horizon, from the year 2005 to 2030. The planning horizon includes a more detailed, focused and reliable forecast of water need for the region, which will help shape water supply development projects. This demand analysis will contribute to the capital improvement programs for local governments and the WRWSA in the near term.

Much of the data contained in the Compendium was obtained from the Marion County Water Resource Assessment and Management Study (WRAMS) (WRA, 2007-a). The WRAMS project employed data collection, technical evaluation and stakeholder involvement processes. It was completed and adopted by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners in 2007.

As mentioned, unlike the other counties in the WRWSA RWSPU, Marion County spans parts of both the SWFWMD and the SJRWMD (Figure I-1). The two (2) jurisdictions add complexity to the WRWSA's water supply planning efforts involving Marion County, since the SJRWMD and the SWFWMD may have differing criteria. To help address this issue, the Compendium identifies differing criteria that could lead to inconsistent planning priorities for the timing and development of water supply projects in Marion County.

C. Compendium - Document Structure

The Compendium is organized into Chapters as follows:

 Chapter 1 – This chapter reviews and analyzes existing water demand and projections of future demand within the WRWSA. These water demands set the stage for determining the availability of water supplies for existing and future water users. In addition, water conservation measures (demand reduction) are explored.

- Chapter 2 This chapter reviews and characterizes traditional groundwater and alternative surface water sources relevant to water supply in Marion County. Environmental considerations of the sources are also presented.
- Chapter 3 This chapter presents an analysis of groundwater sources in Marion County to determine their availability to serve for future water supply development. In additional, jurisdictional considerations between the SJRWMD and the SWFWMD are explored.
- Chapter 4 This chapter delineates and evaluates new projects or project areas within each of the source types (both traditional and non-traditional). The chapter provides recommendations for further analysis of projects for future water supply development.

Phase II of the WRWSA's Master Regional Water Supply Planning & Implementation Program (MRWSP&IP) will be expanded to include Marion County. The recommended projects will receive in-depth feasibility assessment in Phase II (based on conceptual design). The Phase II projects will be evaluated, ranked and prioritized according to short-term, medium-term, and long-term planning horizons. Recommendation:

Recommendation: The Staff recommendation is for the WRWSA Board to accept the document as final.

Bills paid in December and bills to be paid in January will be presented at the January 20, 2010 Board meeting for approval.

9.b. Revisions to WRWSA 2009-10 FY Budget

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL



WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

January 6, 2010

To: WRWSA Board of Directors

From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

Re: Revisions to Adopted FY 2009-10 Budget

Usually, after the first quarter of the year, I review the budget document to determine if any changes have been made to the budget that need to be documented for the end of year audit report. In reviewing the 2009-10 FY budget, I noted several changes and additions that need to be made to bring the budget document into agreement with our financial records and subsequent actions of the Board. I have included in the Board Package a copy of the adopted 2009-10 FY budget and I have included the recommended 2nd revision budget. The following changes are recommended to document the changes needed to the budget:

- 1. On line 13 of the 2nd revision, my original estimate of the amount of funds received from SWFWMD for their ½ of the Phase II and VII work program during the year was revised upward from \$50,000 to \$66,000. My original estimate was made in June 2009 and less money was spent than anticipated.
- 2. On line 14 of the 2nd revision, I failed to include Marion County's payments to the Authority for preparation of the Compendium. In June 2009, I anticipated we would complete the study during the 2008-09 FY.
- 3. On line 51 of the 2nd revision, I revised my estimate upward of how much the Authority would pay out for the Phase II and VII work program from \$100,000 to \$132,000.
- 4. On line 52 of the 2nd revision, I included the payment to consultants for work on the Marion County Compendium mentioned under item 2. above.
- 5. On line 53 of the 2nd revision, I had to include a payout of \$6,000 to Black and Veatch for their work on the Citrus CAB water supply facility evaluation. In June 2009, I anticipated that this contract would be complete in the 2008-09 FY.

- 6. On lines 54 through 60 of the 2nd revision, I revised the local government contracts from \$100,000 to \$130,000 to coincide with the Board's action at the July 2009 Board meeting.
- 7. On line 61 of the 2nd revision, I revised my estimate of the payout for the North Sumter Data Collection effort from \$25,000 to \$33,333. In June 2009, I anticipated that \$8,333 of that contract would be spent and it was not.

Recommendation: Approve all changes to the budget to document financial records for the end of year financial audit.

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY Adopted 2009-10 FY Budget					Date of Preparation: 6/9/09	
	4/1/08 Population BEBR Est.	Comments on Budget Change	Annual Amounts (\$)	Rev/Exp Inc./(Decr.) 09 vs 10 FYE	% Inc/Dec Rev/Exp 09 vs 10 FYE	
Revenues: Administrative			FYE 09-10 (\$.19/cap)		_	
Assessments:	142 042	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$26,988	(\$1,040)	-3.71%	
Citrus	142,043 164,907	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$31,332	(\$1,107)	-3.41%	
Hernando Sumter	93,034	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$17,676	(\$278)	-1.55%	
	274,956	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$52,242	(\$1,915)	-3.54%	
Marion (Less City of Ocala)				1 1 1	-4.61%	
City of Ocala	54,462	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$10,348	(\$500)	-4.0170	
Total Population/Assessments @	700 100	0	2400 500	(04.040)	004	
19¢/Capita	729,402	See Attachment 2 for detail	\$138,586	(\$4,840)	-6%	
Carry-over Reserve Funds (Est.)		See Attachment 1 for detail	\$238,102	(\$34,179)	-12%	
Overhead from Citrus Contract		Based on Citrus County contract	\$56,755	\$2,227	5%	
Total Administrative Revenue Available			\$433,443	(\$36,892)	-9%	
Revenues: Water Supply Facility Development				1		
SWFWMD Matching Funds for Continuation of Water S	Supply Plan	Finalization of PH II and VII	\$50,000	(\$49,000)	-22%	
(SBA2) Carryover Reserve Funds (Est.)		See Attachment 1 for detail	\$1,133,288	\$117,989	11%	
(SBA2) Annual Citrus Amortization Pmts		See Attachment 2 for detail	\$163,587	\$0	0%	
Total Water Supply Development Revenue Available	е		\$1,346,875	(\$76,011)	-5%	
Total Revenues Available			\$1,780,318	(\$112,803)	-6%	
Evnandituras						
Expenditures: General Administration						
Executive Director		Based on Annual contract	\$100,000	\$0	0%	
Legal Services		Based on continuing contract	\$20,000	\$3,000	18%	
Monthly Meetings @ \$500/meeting	\$6,000	No change	1			
Other Services @ \$150/hr.	\$14,000	To monitor consultant input	1	1		
Legislative Consultant		Based on Annual contract	\$40,000	\$0	0%	
Advertising		Based on current usage	\$1,000	\$0	0%	
Audit		Raises based on CPI	\$8,600	\$100	1%	
Bank Charges		Based on current usage	\$400	(\$250)	-38%	
Bookkeeping Services		Based on current usage	\$1,800	(\$200)	-8%	
Office Supplies		Based on current usage	\$1,500	(\$500)	-33%	
Postage		Based on current usage	\$1,500	(\$300)	-17%	
Printing and Reproduction		Based on current usage	\$1,000	(\$2,250)	-69%	
Publications/Software		Based on current usage	\$750	\$0	0%	
Registrations/Dues		Based on current usage	\$1,250	\$0	0%	
State Fees/Assessments		Based on current usage	\$200	\$0	0%	
Telephone		Tel. usage at two office locations	\$4,500	\$2,500	125%	
Travel		Inc. travel by E.D. to Region	\$15,000	\$6,600	83%	
Web Page Maintenance		Based on current usage	\$13,000	\$0,000	0%	
Internet Services		Based on current usage	\$750	\$0	0%	
Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures			\$199,000	\$7,700	4%	
Castotal - Control Administration Expenditures			φ133,000	\$7,700	770	
Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves			\$234,443	(\$44,492)	-20%	
TOTAL ADMIN. EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANG	CE		\$433,443	(\$36,792)	-9%	
Water Supply Studies and Facilities				9		
Engineering/Master Plan Regional Framework Supp	ort	Propose WRA Sole Source Contract	\$25,000	\$25,000	100%	
Regional Master Plan - Phase 2 and 7 Planning Stud		Project completion of Ph 2 & 7	\$100,000	(\$98,000)	-39%	
Local Government Water Supply Projects (09-10 FY		Based on action of BoD	\$100,000	\$0	0%	
North Sumter Data Collection program	-,	Based on Contract w/ SWFWMD	\$25,000	(\$8,333)	100%	
Development of LG Agreements/Governance Docum	nents	Proposed new program	\$50,000	\$50,000	100%	
Subtotal - Water Supply Studies and Facilities Expe		r roposed new program	\$300,000	(\$188,333)	-40%	
Fund Balance for Water Supply Development Barrel	2400		\$4.040.075		400/	
Fund Balance for Water Supply Development Reser			\$1,046,875	\$112,322	10%	
TOTAL WRDF EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANC	E		\$1,346,875	(\$76,011)	-5%	
				P. Control		

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY 2nd Revision 2009-10 FY Budget					Date of Preparation: 1/6/10	
	4/1/08			Rev/Exp	% Inc/Dec	
ı	opulation	Comments on Budget Change	Annual	Inc./(Decr.)	Rev/Exp	
E	BEBR Est.		Amounts (\$)	09 vs 10 FYE	09 vs 10 FYE	
Revenues: Administrative			FYE 09-10 (\$.19/cap)			
Assessments:				(44.040)	0.7404	
Citrus	142,043	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$26,988	(\$1,040)	-3.71%	
Hemando	164,907	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$31,332	(\$1,107)	-3.41%	
Sumter	93,034	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$17,676	(\$278)	-1.55%	
Marion (Less City of Ocala)	274,956	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$52,242	(\$1,915)	-3.54% -4.61%	
City of Ocala	54,462	per capita rate reduced 5%	\$10,348	(\$500)	-4.0176	
Total Population/Assessments @	729,402	See Attachment 2 for detail	\$138,586	(\$4,840)	-6%	
19¢/Capita	729,402	See Attachment 1 for detail	\$238,102	(\$34,179)	-12%	
Carry-over Reserve Funds (Est.) Overhead from Citrus Contract		Based on Citrus County contract		\$2,227	5%	
Total Administrative Revenue Available		Based on Silius South, Solidasi	\$56,755 \$433,443	(\$36,892)	-9%	
Total Administrative Neverlae Available		_	V100,110	(400,000)	- 77	
Revenues: Water Supply Facility Development						
SWFWMD Matching Funds for Continuation of Water Supply	Plan	Finalization of PH II and VII	\$66,000	(\$33,000)	-15%	
Marion County Funds for Compendium		Per contract with Marion County	\$76,185	(\$68,815)		
(SBA2) Carryover Reserve Funds (Est.)		See Attachment 1 for detail	\$1,133,288	\$117,989	11%	
(SBA2) Annual Citrus Amortization Pmts		See Attachment 2 for detail	\$163,587	\$0	0%	
Total Water Supply Development Revenue Available			\$1,439,060	\$16,174	1%	
Total Revenues Available			\$1,872,503	(\$20,618)	-1%	
Expenditures:						
General Administration		Deced on Annual contract	\$100,000	\$0	0%	
Executive Director		Based on Annual contract	\$100,000 \$20,000	\$3,000	18%	
Legal Services	\$6,000	Based on continuing contract No change	\$20,000	\$3,000	10%	
Monthly Meetings @ \$500/meeting Other Services @ \$150/hr.	\$14,000	To monitor consultant input	- 1	1		
Legislative Consultant	\$14,000	Based on Annual contract	\$40,000	\$0	0%	
Advertising		Based on current usage	\$1,000	\$0	0%	
Audit		Raises based on CPI	\$8,600	\$100	1%	
Bank Charges		Based on current usage	\$400	(\$250)	-38%	
Bookkeeping Services		Based on current usage	\$1,800	(\$200)	-8%	
Office Supplies		Based on current usage	\$1,500	(\$500)	1	
Postage		Based on current usage	\$1,500	(\$300)	-17%	
Printing and Reproduction		Based on current usage	\$1,000	(\$2,250)	-69%	
Publications/Software		Based on current usage	\$750	\$0	0%	
Registrations/Dues		Based on current usage	\$1,250	\$0	0%	
State Fees/Assessments		Based on current usage	\$200	\$0	0%	
Telephone		Tel. usage at two office locations	\$4,500	\$2,500	125%	
Travel		Inc. travel by E.D. to Region	\$15,000	\$6,600	83%	
Web Page Maintenance		Based on current usage	\$750	\$0	0%	
Internet Services		Based on current usage	\$750	\$0	0%	
			*400 000	47.700	40/	
Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures			\$199,000	\$7,700	4%	
Fund Balance for Admin Decorate			\$234,443	(\$44,492)	-20%	
Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves			#£34,443	(#44,452)	-2076	
TOTAL ADMIN, EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE			\$433,443	(\$36,792)	-9%	
			, , , , , , ,	(0-0)102/	- "	
Water Supply Studies and Facilities					[
Engineering/Master Plan Regional Framework Support		Propose WRA Sole Source Contract	\$25,000	\$25,000	100%	
Regional Master Plan - Phase 2 and 7 Planning Studies		Project completion of Ph 2 & 7	\$132,000	(\$66,000)	-26%	
Marion County Compendium		Completion of Compendium	\$76,185	(\$68,815)		
CAB WSF Evaluation Study		Completion of Evaluation	\$6,000	(\$6,000)		
Local Government Water Supply Projects (09-10 FYE)		Based on action of BoD	\$130,000	\$30,000	24%	
Marion County Water Conservation	\$23,000					
Hemando County Water Conservation	\$45,500					
Citrus County Water Conservation	\$37,500					
City of Belleview Stormwater Reuse	\$8,000					
City of Crystal River Reuse Feasibility Study	\$8,000					
City of Ocala Xenscape Demonstration	\$8,000	Baradan Gartan in 1800	4		4000	
North Sumter Data Collection program		Based on Contract w/ SWFWMD	\$33,333	\$0	100%	
Development of LG Agreements/Governance Documents		Proposed new program	\$50,000	\$50,000	100%	
Subtotal - Water Supply Studies and Facilities Expenditu	162		\$452,518	(\$35,815)	-8%	
Fund Balance for Water Supply Development Reserves			\$986,542	\$51,989	5%	
and Science for Hater Supply Development Reserves			\$300,342	\$01,505	3/8	
TOTAL WRDF EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE			\$1,439,060	\$16,174	1%	
					1	

9.c. Correspondence



An Equal Opportunity Employer

Southwest Florida Water Management District

Bartow Service Office 170 Century Boulevard Bartow, Florida 33830-7700 (863) 534-1448 or 1-800-492-7862 (FL only) Lecanto Service Office Suite 226 3600 West Sovereign Path Lecanto, Florida 34461-8070 (352) 527-8131 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899 (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only) TDD only 1-800-231-6103 (FL only)

On the Internet at: WaterMatters.org

Sarasota Service Office 6750 Fruitville Road Sarasota, Florida 34240-9711 (941) 377-3722 or 1-800-320-3503 (FL only) Tampa Service Office 7601 Highway 301 North Tampa, Florida 33637-6759 (813) 985-7481 or 1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

Todd Pressman Chair, Pinellas

Ronald E. Oakley Vice Chair, Pasco

Hugh M. Gramling Secretary, Hillsborough

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Maritza Rovira-Forino Hillsborough

H. Paul Senft, Jr.

Douglas B. Tharp Sumter

Judith C. Whitehead Hernando

David L. Moore
Executive Director
William S. Bilenky

General Counsel

December 1, 2009

Mr. Jackson E. Sullivan, AICP
Executive Director
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
1107 Shalimar Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

Subject: Withlacoochee Master Regional Water Supply Planning and

Implementation Program (Phases II & VII): Water Supply Feasibility Analysis and Northern District Modeling & Local Community Technical Support (H037) - SWFWMD Agreement No. 07C00000085 – Request

for Extension of Task 1 Completion Schedule

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) entered into an agreement with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) for Phases II & VII of their Master Water Supply Plan. The contract initiation date was March 13, 2007, and the agreement will remain in effect until December 30, 2010.

At your request, the WRWSA desires to extend the completion date of Task 1 (Phase II) in the contract's Scope of Services. The reason for this time extension is to allow a thorough review of the draft plan by the Technical Review Committee, the District and St. Johns River Water Management District, the WRWSA Board, and the public.

The Task 1 completion date was adjusted once before on August 20, 2008, to accommodate the development of a compendium for the inclusion of Marion County into the WRWSA Master Water Supply Plan. The original and revised completion dates are listed in the table below.

Activity	Original Completion	Revised Completion	2 nd Revised	
	Date	Date	Completion Date	
Task 1 (Phase II)	September 15, 2008	December 31, 2009	June 30, 2010	

The District acknowledges that there have been additional developments in the WRWSA's planning process including: multijurisdictional coordination efforts between two water management districts, groundwater modeling refinements, updating the planning horizon to the year 2030 in order to match the District's Regional Water Supply Plan schedule, and the inclusion of quantitative water



Mr. Jackson Sullivan, AICP

Subject: Withlacoochee Master Regional Water Supply Planning and Implementation Program (Phases II & VII): Water Supply Feasibility Analysis and Northern District Modeling & Local Community Technical Support (H037) - SWFWMD Agreement No. 07C00000085 – Request for Extension of Task 1 Completion Schedule

Page 2

December 1, 2009

conservation options into the WRWSA's plan. The District appreciates these ambitious efforts.

In accordance with Paragraph 1.1 of the agreement, as SWFWMD's Project Manager, I hereby approve your request to extend the Task 1 Completion Date for the Master Regional Water Supply Planning and Implementation Program Phases II & VII to June 30, 2010. The District understands that there are no other changes to the scope and there are no changes to the cost of the project. I anticipate receiving the draft plan for District review by the end of this year.

Sincerely,

John Ferguson Project Manager

Water Supply & Resource Development

Mark Hammond

Director

Resource Projects Department

JFF/jch cc: Ken Herd

Steve Long, Contracts Karen Frasier, Finance

Project File

November 24, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mark Hammond, Director, Resource Projects Department

THROUGH: Ken Herd, Water Supply Program Director

FROM: John Ferguson, Hydrologist, Water Supply & Resource Development Section

JFF

SUBJECT: Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority In-Kind Services from District

(Report No. 2: April 09 - September 09), Project Code P074

Purpose: To provide a biannual update of District in-kind expenditures associated with the administrative support of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA). This report was requested by the Withlacoochee River Basin Board at its October 16, 2008 meeting.

Background: In March 2008, the WRWSA requested the District provide \$400,000 annually, beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2009, for five years to support administrative costs associated with staff, office, and operation elements. At the District Governing Board meeting on May 27, 2008, District staff proposed providing in-kind services to the WRWSA for administrative support in lieu of District funding. The proposal for in-kind services was accepted by the WRWSA at its meeting on July 16, 2008. This arrangement is considered temporary and the in-kind services will be reevaluated annually over five years, the length of the original proposal. Resources are budgeted through the District's general fund.

Summary of In-Kind Expenses:

Office Space - The office space provided by the District to WRWSA is a 262-square foot room on the second floor of Building 4 at the District's Brooksville Headquarters. The estimated office value, based on updated local private sector market value, is \$1,558.90 for six months (\$11.90 per square foot per year). This estimate was developed by averaging 72 current office space listings found in Ocala, Inverness, Brooksville, and Spring Hill. The District is also providing use of its Brooksville Governing Board Room for WRWSA Board meetings every other month.

<u>Administrative Support</u> - During this six-month period, approximately 201 hours of administrative secretarial support was allocated to the WRWSA. Services include basic clerical support such as typing, filing, taking **mi**nutes and preparing draft minutes of board meetings, answering the phone, helping assemble and mail monthly board meeting packets, scheduling meetings, etc. The WRWSA is solely responsible for its own financial record keeping.

<u>Printing Services</u> - WRWSA's Governing Board meeting packets were printed at an estimated \$4 per book, totaling \$660 for the five meetings held during this period.

<u>Additional Services</u> - Information Resources provided 17.5 hours of support this period, primarily for internet access assistance. Community and Legislative Affairs allocated an additional \$135 for advertising expenses and \$38 for travel.

SUBJECT: Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority In-Kind Services from District (Report No. 2: April 09 – September 09), Project Code P074
Page 2
November 24, 2009

Total Cost:

A summation of In-Kind Services cost/value during the reported period is provided in Table 1.

Table 1. In-Kind Services Cost/Value - Report No. 2

District Services Provided	Last Period Cost/Value 04-01-09 to 09-30-09	Total (FY2009) Cost/Value 10-1-08 to 9-30-09
Furnished Office Space ¹	\$1,558.90	\$4,558.90
Staff		
Administrative	\$5,265.00	\$9,780.00
Travel	\$38.00	\$49.00
Printing	\$0.00	\$420.00
Enterprise Infrastructure	\$415.24	\$446.24
Facilities & Construction	\$0.00	\$18.00
Printing		
Board Meeting Packets ²	\$660.00	\$1,056.00
Other (advertising, letterheads, etc)	\$135.00	\$961.53
Total of Actual Cost/Value ³	\$8,072.14	\$17,289.67

¹ The office space value estimate for the first period was \$3000, based on quotes gathered by WRWSA in early 2008. Due to changing economic conditions, the value for the "Last Period" was updated to a local average market price of \$11.90 per square foot per year.

JF/jch

cc: Withlacoochee River Basin Board Members

Jack Sullivan

Dave Moore

Gene Schiller

Lou Kavouras

Bruce Wirth

² Estimated values.

³ Expenses reimbursed by WRWSA are not included in the table (postage, office supplies, etc.).



Board of County Commissioners Citrus County

NEW CITRUS COUNTY COURTHOUSE 110 North Apopka Avenue Inverness, Florida 34450 (352) 637-9400

December 14, 2009

Mr. Jack Sullivan Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority 1107 Shalimar Dr. Tallahassee, FL 32312

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Enclosed is a copy of the expenditures Citrus County made from the renewal and replacement fund for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009. These expenditures were allowed by the Third Amendment to Joint Use, Operation and Management between the County and WRWSA dated August 20, 1997. 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 10/1/2008 - \$1,271,843.70
Deposit - 156,687.00
Expenses - (21,869.40)
Ending Balance 9/30/2009 - \$1,406.661.30

I have enclosed a computer printout of the expenditures along with copies of the individual invoices. If you have any questions regarding these transactions, please give me a call at 352-341-6449.

Sincerely,

Sarah C. Koser, CPA, CPFO, CGFO

LC. Kom

Finance Director

Enclosures

Cc via e-mail: Brad Thorpe, County Administrator

Robert Knight, Water Resources Director

James Morgan, Contract Compliance Manager

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL



WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

December 15, 2009

Honorable Senate President Jeff Atwater 824 U.S. Highway 1, Suite 210 North Palm Beach, Fl 33408

Re: Committee on Environmental Preservation & Conservation - Interim Report 2010-114, Chapter 373, F.S.

Dear President Atwater:

As Chairman of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, comprised of Citrus, Hernando, Sumter, and Marion Counties, I wish to express the Governing Board's concern with a recently released Senate interim report prepared for the Committee on Environmental Preservation & Conservation. Specifically, Interim Report 2010-114, Chapter 373, F.S., Water Resources, makes numerous unsubstantiated assertions that we feel the need to refute.

The first issue is that the report concludes that there is a need to prepare a non-substantive reorganization of Chapter 373, F.S. As we have observed in the past, non-substantive changes very quickly become substantive in the legislative process. One such attempted change last year was the repeal of the "local sources first" provision. Interestingly, this interim report recommends that "successes and failure of the policy (local sources first) should be examined and evaluated to identify inefficiencies and possible alternative solutions," without providing any basis for this recommendation.

The committee staff states that "the unintended consequence of this policy [local sources first] and state water management at the district or regional level is counties and regions believe that water in their region is 'their' water." We wonder what source is used to conclude that this was an "unintended consequence?" Based on the outpouring of support for the local sources first requirement a few years ago at a senate public meeting, it was made unequivocally clear that citizens of this area and in many parts of the State believe that regional waters should be

utilized in that region first and other regions should not have access to it until they have exhausted their alternative resources. That is what the statute states, and we strongly disagree with the staff's opinion on this issue.

Local sources first (LSF) policy requires that before seeking water in neighboring jurisdictions, water conservation strategies and water resources located in closer proximity should be optimized. It should be noted that Chapter 373, F.S., does provide that jurisdictions may more freely transfer water within regional boundaries when jurisdictions voluntarily choose to collaborate and form multi-jurisdictional entities, such as regional water supply authorities. Regional collaboration is promoted by the LSF policy, particularly when a water management district, such as Southwest Florida Water Management District, provides cost-sharing grants and joint-planning opportunities, which have resulted in the development of several regional reservoirs and the largest desalination plant in the United States. LSF policy should be heralded for promoting development of regional water supply projects, not maligned as "inadvertently impeding" regional water projects, as Committee staff noted during the interim report presentation.

The Committee also recommends "A central regulatory commission that oversees Florida's water resources and supply development, or review the DEP's role as a general supervisory authority." Justification for this recommendation is that "there is no centralized body that has responsibility for a statewide vision of water resource management or development." And, "frequently, the five water management districts lack consistency in regulation and policy development for a statewide resource that is regionally significant."

The inability to move forward when differences arise for lack of adequate procedure does in fact impede progress. However, creating a new bureaucracy for these reasons seem frivolous when it could be argued that what is lacking is a conflict/dispute resolution procedure for resolving extra-jurisdictional conflicts between water management districts. The timely resolution of such conflicts is a legitimate source for concern, but a conflict/dispute resolution process warrants serious consideration before instituting a new layer of government.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns. If you have any questions, please contact me or the Authority's Executive Director Jack Sullivan at 850.385.0220.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Citrus County Commissioner Dennis Damato, Chairman Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

cc: WRWSA Board members

Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney

David Moore, Executive Director, SWFWMD

Senator Charles Dean, District 3

Senator Paula Dockery, District 15

Senator Mike Fasano, District 11

Senator Evelyn Lynn, District 7

Senator Steve Oelrich, District 14

Senator Carey Baker, District 20

Senator Lee Constantine, Chair, Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

Senator Eleanor Sobel, Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

Senator Nancy C. Detert, Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

Senator Paula Dockery, Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

Senator Dennis L. Jones, D.C., Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

Senator Nan H. Rich, Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation

9.d. News Articles

From: disalz@yahoo.com

Subject: Fw: Senate Report on Water Resouces could have Significant Implications for Upcoming Session

Date: November 19, 2009 2:59:56 PM EST To: "Jack Sullivan" < jesull@comcast.net>

Reply-To: disalz@yahoo.com

FYI.

Sent from my BlackBerry® wireless handheld

From: "Chris Doolin" < cdoolin@nettally.com>
Date: Thu, 19 Nov 2009 14:23:07 -0500
To: Chris Doolincdoolin@nettally.com

Subject: Senate Report on Water Resouces could have Significant Implications for Upcoming Session

Senate Study calls for Review of "Local Sources First" policy and the possible creation of Central State Water Board.

"Water is the Lifeblood of Florida. It provides for our economic growth, natural beauty, food and electricity."

The above phrase captures the critical importance that water has to our communities. The issue of Water has always been an important issue to members of the Small County Coalition. We know that certain sectors are more reliant on water and certain areas of Florida have insufficient water resources making the issue of water management a critical concern and often a controversial issues with which to deal.

Recently, the Florida Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation conducted a review of CHAPTER 373, F.S., WATER RESOURCES. The report that was issued included findings, conclusions, and recommendations for consideration by the Legislature in the upcoming legislative session.

Excerpts Options and/or Recommendations

- 1. It is recommended that those sections of Chapter 373, F.S. that regulate water resources of the state should be combined.
- 2. It is recommended that annual funding for alternative water supply projects through a dedicated source of funding be restored through either existing or new sources of revenue.
- 3. It is recommended that "local sources first" policy currently in state statute be reviewed.
- 4. It is recommended that a central regulatory commission that oversees Florida's water resources and supply development be created, or review the DEP's role as a general supervisory authority.

A complete copy of the report can be found at the following website: www.flsenate.gov/data/Publications/2010/Senate/reports/interim_reports/pdf/2010-114ep.pdf

The current Small County Coalition policies on Water Utilization and Transfer are as follows:

- Ensure local government participation in water supply availability determinations;
- Continue Local Sources First Philosophy; and,
- Require that prior to transferring water from another region or county, entities in areas desiring water transfer, shall:
 - Maximize utilization of local sources to the extent to which sustainability is impacted;
 - Implement conservation methods or other locally identified opportunities;

- Take steps to limit cause of increased consumption, such as a moratorium on new construction until an adequate supply of water is available in the community; and,
- Ensure that any transfer determination meets a "No Harm" standard in reference to the region from which water is being transferred.
- That the State of Florida continue efforts to protect adequate water flow levels in the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, Flint River Basin.

It is recommended local county commissions review the implications of the recommendations in the report and discuss the impact of the recommendations with your local legislators, your Water Management Districts and your Regional Planning Councils. The Small County Coalition Executive Committee will discuss this report and a presentation will be made at the upcoming meetings in St. Pete.

Chris Doolin

President – Christian B. Doolin & Associates Vice – President – Robert P. Jones & Associates Mobile – 850-508-5492 E-mail – cdoolin@nettally.com Ocala Star Banner



OUR OPINION

Editorial: The first word on our water future

Published: Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 6:30 a.m.

The new state Senate Select Committee on Inland Waters will begin a series of public hearings on water issues in Ocala Wednesday night, and the people of Marion County would be wise to show up in force and let their voices be heard.

The Select Committee was appointed by Senate President Jeff Atwater to hold hearings around the state and propose water legislation that "balances the need for protection with access and consumption." Marion County, thankfully, is well represented on the panel, with Sens. Charlie Dean, R-Inverness, Steve Oelrich, R-Cross Creek, and Carey Baker, R-Eustis, all of whom represent portions of our county.

So far, Atwater and committee chairman Sen. Lee Constantine, R-Altamonte Springs, have largely talked about the pollution and the reduced flow of Florida's 700-plus springs. But the Select Committee is expected to delve much deeper into the water issue over the coming months and play a pivotal role in drafting new legislation that could overhaul Florida's water policies - potentially to the detriment of North Central Florida.

Constantine, who has earned high marks as point man in saving Wekiva Springs and its watershed north of Orlando, nonetheless bears watching, not only because he is from thirsting Orlando but because he is also chairman of the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation. That is the committee whose staff recently proposed legislation that would water down the vital Local Sources First law, which mandates communities exhaust all available local sources of drinking water before looking elsewhere for a new supply, as well as the establishment of a statewide water commission and, possibly, a state water czar. The staff's argument is that too many areas of Florida - that is, overgrown South Florida - are running out of water, while other areas - like here in Marion County - have ample supply, and the haves should be forced to share with the have-nots.

These are hardly new arguments, but South Florida is getting increasingly desperate for new and, importantly, cheap sources of water, and Atwater and Co. are calling for a comprehensive water bill that would reshape water policy to be taken up during the coming legislative session.

Rest assured, those to our south who lust for our water want to remove Local Sources First from the books, want to put all decision-making about water supply in the hands of an all-powerful and politically stacked statewide water commission and, most of all, want to raid our water supply under legislative cover with us helping pick up the tab.

Certainly, some of the work by the Select Committee on Inland Waters could be advantageous to Marion County, especially its efforts to establish statewide guidelines for springs protection. But that is just the sugar coating. It also is charged with devising ways to redistribute Florida's water supply, much like the 2003 Florida Council of 100 plan, from so-called water-rich areas to water-poor ones. We can't let that happen. We must let our voices be heard, and we can have the first word.

The hearing is scheduled Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Klein Center, inside the Ewers building at Central Florida Community College.

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From: Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>

Subject: Fw: Ocala Star-Banner on Water-Again!
Date: December 28, 2009 11:27:52 AM EST
To: Jack Sullivan <jesull@comcast.net>

--- On Mon, 12/28/09, Diane Salz < disalz@yahoo.com > wrote:

From: Diane Salz <<u>disalz@vahoo.com</u>>
Subject: Ocala Star-Banner on Water-Again!
To: "Diane Salz" <<u>disalz@vahoo.com</u>>

Date: Monday, December 28, 2009, 10:50 AM

Editorial: Hearing the will of the people - again

Star-Banner, 12/28/2009 View article on Star-Banner

The state Senate Select Committee on Inland Waters launched a statewide series of public hearings here in Ocala Wednesday evening. Like so many special legislative panels that have preceded it, the Select Committee is charged with finding solutions to Florida's lingering, and growing, water woes. What the committee members learned during more than three hours of citizen testimony was that the people have a clear grasp of the water issue, and that what Florida needs is not another special panel so much as a commitment to some simple principles and policies that will go a long way toward preserving and protecting our water supply.

Citizens were vehement that Florida's Local Sources First law should remain untouched. They are right, of course. Local Sources First mandates that communities must exhaust all available local water supply sources before looking elsewhere for water

Committee members, led by Chairman Sen. Lee Constantine, R-Altomonte Springs, assured the audience Local Sources First is safe from legislative meddling. Yet, we continually hear powerful lobbying forces to our south pushing endlessly for easing, or outright repeal, of this vital law.

The people also understand that state water managers have the proverbial cart before the horse when they propose billions of dollars in 'alternative water supply' projects be built on North Florida rivers - in the face of veracious public opposition - before implementing any semblance of a concerted regional or, better yet, statewide water conservation initiative. Everyone knows that through retrofitting our homes with low-flow faucets and toilets and communitywide water reuse systems, we could cut our water consumption in half, or more. It has been done in places like Pinellas and Sarasota counties, so we are not speculating.

Instead, the St. Johns River Water Management District persists in spending millions of dollars preparing for an \$850 million water pumping plant on the Ocklawaha River that would send water through 500 miles of pipeline to utilities in metro Orlando. Imagine how many water reuse systems and how many homes and businesses could be retrofitted with that kind of money.

Finally, the people want springs protection, which Constantine has championed in recent years, once and for all. The growth industry has stifled past efforts to place legal limits on contaminants flowing into our springs. But proponents are right that too much damage is being done to Florida's 700 springs, and especially Marion County's own Silver and Rainbow springs, as the volume of pollutants grows.

Set standards, and begin the salvation of these natural wonders now. Figuring out all the source points will come over time. In the meantime, scientists have identified many key polluters, including agriculture, septic tanks and urban stormwater runoff. Work on mitigating these in the short term and, long term, keep looking for other major polluters. None of these ideas - Local Sources First, serious conservation or springs protection - are new; and all will work, given a chance.

So why another special legislative committee on water? What we need are politicians in Tallahassee who actually listen to the people and embrace the science. What we need are leaders with the political will to do what the people have been advocating and the environmental has been needing for years.

Citrus County Chronicle - December 2, 2009

Swiftmud chief: Waste not

By Mike Wright

Citrus County commissioners were hoping for a sympathetic ear.

Instead, they got an earful themselves.

David Moore, executive director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District, said in no uncertain terms Tuesday evening that Citrus should do much more to curb the level of water use.

Conservation rates, enforcement of water restrictions and education are the best ways to bring water use down to a level deemed acceptable by the agency known as Swiftmud, Moore said.

Commissioners, who had hoped to convince Moore that Swiftmud's water rules were too strict for owners of large lots in Pine Ridge and Sugarmill Woods, were impressed by Moore's presentation.

"I actually like your approach," Commissioner Dennis Damato said. "Eliminate excessive use."

Moore said it's not the size of the yard that's driving water use, it's the unnecessary application.

"It's a matter of managing that irrigation," he said.

The permit that the county has with Swiftmud for its public utilities allows an average maximum water use of 150 gallons per day per person.

The county had considered conservation rates for Sugarmill Woods, Pine Ridge and Citrus Springs as to discourage people who use upward of 30,000 gallons of water or more each month. Commissioners in October scrapped the higher rates.

Moore said the agency studied water users in Citrus County and learned that the high use continued year-round, from rainy summer to the winter months.

"Why are people watering in the dead of summer anyway?" he said.

Moore said Swiftmud sent an employee Nov. 7-8 through Pine Ridge and Sugarmill Woods neighborhoods. The employee noted 153 water-restriction violations, he said.

"Plants don't waste water," he said. "People waste water."

Moore noted the county at one time hired two code officers to enforce water restrictions, but that those officers now share other duties. He suggested the county utilize utility workers as some other counties do.

County Administrator Brad Thorpe said he would bring the board a plan to allow utility inspectors to issue water-restriction citations.

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Citrus Daily

County to hire 'water police' to stop overconsumption

Submitted by Robby Douglas on Tue, 12/15/2009 - 4:29pm.

The Citrus County Commission today voted to hire five new people to help stop overconsumption of water.

The county would use the one full-time and four part-time employees to enforce county regulations to safeguard the county's water supply.

The hiring of the "water police" is the first step the county is taking to urge conservation of water that is drawn from the aquifer and local springs. The Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) has levied a \$240,000 fine on the county for not being in line with SWFWMD conservation standards.

According to the county, the biggest users of water are in the Sugarmill Woods area, which SWFWMD pointed out during that agency's presentation to the county at the county commission's last meeting. The county has made several attempts to reduce water use in that area, but has been frustrated in its efforts.

County Water Resources Director Robert Knight told commissioners today that the \$240,000 owed to SWFWMD must be paid. He offered the commission several options the county might consider to enforce the county's water standards and satisfy SWFWMD's push toward water conservation. "There has been no significant change of use by high-end users," Knight told commissioners.

Among options discussed were to establish surcharges and limiting water use countywide by both private well owners and utilities customers, a measure which could require every county resident to have a water usage meter installed to determine how much water each resident uses.

Knight also suggested that surcharges (also referred to as water conservation rates) be levied on the 30,000- and 50,000-gallon-per-month users, and that people who use from 10,000 to 14,000 gallons per month see a rate decrease.

During discussion, County Commissioner John Thrumston said he felth the timing was not right for instituting water conservation rates. Referring to those who are currently exceeding

county water standards, Thrumston said, "This is not rocket science. We know who they are."

For part, County Commission Chairman Gary Bartell said he was not ready to institute those rates, either. "I am not willing to even look at rates until you bring back something substantial," Bartell told Knight..

County Commissioner Winn Webb said the county might be being a bit hasty at this point. "Historically, government has a tendency for a knee-jerk reaction," Webb said, adding that instituting rates now might be overkill.

Today's commission meeting will not be the end to the end goal of water conservation, but is the first of many steps that the county will take to meet SWFWMD's goals.

December 15, 2009

Water police to tap users

By Mike Wright

Prepare for a return of the water police.

Citrus County commissioners on Tuesday said they supported beefing up enforcement of watering restrictions in the hopes of reducing water use and meeting a state agency's consent order.

Commissioners said they do not want to consider so-called conservation rates in Sugarmill Woods that would charge high-end water users a higher gallon rate than those who use less water.

"I'm not interested in even talking about rates today," Chairman Gary Bartell said during Tuesday's board meeting.

Water resources director Bob Knight said that the Southwest Florida Water Management District, commonly called Swiftmud, plans a \$239,000 fine against the county for violating a water pumping permit in Sugarmill Woods.

Knight said the county could offset the fine by hiring someone in utilities to enforce watering restrictions and issue citations. He also suggested a strong educational program aimed at people who use tens of thousands of water each month to irrigate their lawns.

He also said the county could utilize four part-time workers whose pay is funded by Workforce Connection.

Commissioners said they thought the county needed to do something to show Swiftmud it intends to reduce water use in Sugarmill Woods and other high-water use areas, such as Pine Ridge and Citrus Springs. The Swiftmud consent fine, however, is aimed only at the Sugarmill use.

Knight and Swiftmud officials say a small percentage of Citrus residents are using water in excess. Conservation rates as proposed would have actually decreased monthly bills for customers using less than 10,000 gallons of water per month.

Commissioners, however, said there was no guarantee that conservation rates would reduce water use. Also, they said, the county didn't know whether the creation of conservation rates would mitigate the Swiftmud consent fine.

What made better sense, they said, was increasing enforcement of water violations countywide, including in areas where officials know excessive water use is the norm.

"This is not rocket science," Commissioner John Thrumston said. "We know who these users are."

Commissioners say conservation rates might still eventually be necessary, but not yet.

Bartell said: "We don't need to bite off the whole chunk today."

ON HOLD

- County commissioners delayed for about one month an application to change the Citrus Springs master plan for a communications tower on the Citrus Springs golf course. The applicant has asked for an opinion from the Department of Community Affairs about the issue and hasn't received the information yet. Several Citrus Springs residents had attended Tuesday's meeting to voice an opinion.

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Century 21 Alliance Realty – Blog November 24, 2009 Water Reuse is Part of the Hernando County Water Treatment Plan

NOVEMBER 24, 2009

WATER REUSE IS PART OF THE HERNANDO COUNTY WATER TREATMENT PLAN

Hernando County Commissioners got a little greener this month! By approving the funding for the improvement of the Glen Wastewater Treatment Plant, the next phase of water reuse was put into action!

In two years the treatment plant, as well as other utility projects that are underway, should be completed and the Hernando County Utilities Department will have added the capacity to increase the amount of reclaimed water by 37% per day!! Increasing the availability of reclaimed water is encouraged by the Southwest Florida Water Management District, affectionately known as Swiftmud. According to Anthony Andrade, senior analyst for Swiftmud, "Reclaimed water is a vital water resource, we look at it not only as a help to meet our needs, it's critical to meet our needs."

The reclaimed water will more than likely be heading toward the local golf courses for irrigation. Every gallon of reclaimed water that is used by a golf course for irrigation, a gallon of drinking water does not have to be pumped.

Great job, Hernando County!

OTHER VOICES

New EPA water rules will mean higher costs

By Dominic M. Calabro Special to the Star Banner

Published: Sunday, November 22, 2009 at 6:30 a.m.

For the first time, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is poised to impose stringent new water-quality regulations on the state of Florida that will cost our state and its businesses and families billions of dollars a year.

These arbitrary regulations - which would apply to Florida but no other state - will impose additional economic hardship on virtually every segment of the Florida economy.

These rules are deeply unfair, because they are a result of a lawsuit from an environmental group instead of a deliberative scientific process. They also are unfair because the rules will require Florida to spend funds to clean rivers that were polluted by other states - without any obligations for those other states to contribute their proper and fair share.

Asking Florida to purify all of the water that comes down from Georgia, Alabama and other states is like asking Louisiana to make the muddy waters of the Mississippi as clean as the rainwater that fell in its Minnesota headwaters.

These regulations fail on a fairness level and on an environmental level, they lack good science, and they clearly violate sound economics. They won't work for Florida, and they will cost our state's residents billions of dollars.

That is because, if the new standards go through, water treatment facilities - the people who remove our waste from the water - will be required to make billions in investments in new technologies and infrastructure in order to continue to operate.

This could hit local governments especially hard in terms of paying for massive

retrofits to drainage facilities and public utilities. Cash-strapped local governments will be forced to raise fees and cut services, and families and businesses will have to pay more for their monthly water and sewer bills.

According to the Florida Water Environment Association, the new criteria imposed by the EPA could force utilities to spend up to \$50 billion in capital costs. Bonded over 30 years at 4 percent interest, this cost represents \$90 billion in new spending - costs that would be passed on to customers.

At present, the average monthly water/wastewater bill for Floridians is about In order to pay for the retrofits required to reach these new arbitrary standards, utilities will need to raise their rates, on average, by \$62 per month. That is over \$700 per year that the average utility bill would increase. And in some places, the rates will go even higher.

When Florida businesses face such higher costs, it reduces their ability to expand employment, increase wages and make investments. Many businesses will choose to relocate to other states or countries due to these higher costs. In addition, new businesses will be deterred from coming to Florida. This is especially a concern now when we badly need new business activity.

The additional costs borne by households will provide incentives to move away from Florida or to stay away in the first place - further robbing Florida of the growth that has fueled its economic engine.

This unilateral federal action would put a stake in the heart of job creation and put the brakes on Florida's economic recovery, just when it is needed the most.

Dominic M. Calabro is President & CEO of Florida TaxWatch, based in Tallahassee.

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OUR OPINION

Editorial: Preventing Forever Florida's end

Published: Saturday, November 21, 2009 at 6:30 a.m.

Forever, as it turns out, arrived in 2009.

That is when the short-sighted members of the Florida Legislature managed to kill all funding for the Florida Forever program.

This year, for the first time in the 40-year history of a very successful landpreservation program, all Florida Forever money was diverted into the state's general fund. No new money was set aside to purchase land.

This worthwhile program doesn't work through state condemnation proceedings to force the sale of environmentally sensitive lands or acquire unique open spaces. It involves a willing seller wanting to preserve his or her property for future generations.

So, when sellers of land could have used a boost in a bad economy, the Legislature axed the program in the name of balancing the budget.

The Legislature has managed to do what time and politics otherwise could never have managed.

Four former governors have become united and are calling for the Legislature to restore funding for the program: Two are Democrats (Reubin Askew and Bob Graham), and two are Republicans (Bob Martinez and Jeb Bush). A coalition of some 125 groups have lined up behind them.

Marion County residents should be enthusiastic supporters of the initiative as well. Over the decades, Florida Forever and its predecessors have helped save thousands of acres of natural lands in this county, including the critical acquisition of the 4,000-acre Avatar property north of Silver Springs in 2006.

"Florida's natural systems must be preserved, or our unique and wonderful state will be endangered," Martinez said in a statement last week.

The four former governors seek to have the Legislature designate \$15 million for the Florida Forever program during its 2010 session. Since the money is bondable, it would generate \$300 million for purchases in the coming years.

"People say growth ought to pay its way," Martinez told The Tampa Tribune. "What better way than using real estate revenues to save land?"

What better way indeed. If legislators can't answer that question, they should follow the advice of four former governors.

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County gets its feet wet on water issues

By Lou Elliott Jones

The Levy County Commission is looking for information on water — how much there is, how it is being used, where it is going and whether to join or form a water authority.

To that end it is checking whether a larger meeting place will be needed for a joint workshop on the region's water supply with the Suwannee River Water Management District and South West Florida Water Management District. The workshop set for noon, Dec. 8 at Bronson's old town hall, would also include representatives from the county's eight municipalities and the public.

At the same time, the commission decided in its Tuesday meeting that the county's eight municipalities — Fanning Springs, Chiefland, Otter Creek, Cedar Key, Bronson, Williston, Inglis and Yankeetown — will be invited to speak up about water-related issues, including water resources, water services and the consideration of joining or forming a utility authority.

The commission approved sending a letter to the municipalities inviting them to provide written input, and noting that a workshop will be scheduled at a future date to discuss the issues with the cities' leaders.

The letter and the workshop come as the commission is still weighing whether to accept an invitation, to join the Nature Coast Water Authority — which counts Fanning Springs, and Gilchrist and Dixie counties in its membership — or to form its own water authority as proposed by Commissioner Danny Stevens of Williston and Chiefland Mayor Teal Pomeroy. The City of Williston recently informed the commission it is interested in a county authority.

"There are a lot of issues with the water supply," Moody said, speaking about the water districts' briefing on Dec. 8. "That is the main purpose of this workshop."

Commissioner Chad Johnson of Chiefland and community activists Renate and Barney Cannon told the commissioners they might need a larger meeting place for the water supply presentation.

All three said a briefing hosted by state Rep. Debbie Boyd in Branford on Monday was well attended. In the presentation by the districts, they show that the area's water supply is being lowered by other areas taking water to fuel their growth.

Johnson said the briefing by SRWMD Assistant Executive Director Kirk Webster included a gloomy assessment.

"He said we don't have the votes and or the power to stop other districts from taking our water," Johnson said. "And he said we can't stop them from taking Suwannee River water."

Renate Cannon said dealing with the problem will be made more difficult by Webster's pending retirement at the end of the year. She commended the two districts' presentation which shows the minimum flows and levels for the water supply. "They are doing significant harm which is not supposed to be occurring," she said of the other areas of the state which are taking water.

Barney Cannon and Johnson noted that the meeting filled the Branford Elementary School cafeteria. "You may need to have a bigger place," Cannon said.

Commissioner Marsha Drew of Yankeetown said she discussed the water issues during a meeting with State Sen. . Steve Olerich of Gainesville. Olerich represents a portion of Levy County and is a member of the Florida Senate .Select Committee on Inland Waters. In addition, he serves on the Senate's standing committees on Commerce, General Government Appropriations, Public Utilities and the Policy and Steering Committee on Governmental Operations.

"He said he would do everything in his power to stop anyone from building a pipe to take water." Copyright www.chieflandcitizen.com. All rights reserved. Print this article | Close this print window

WMNF-FM - Blog

Tampa Bay Water Board meeting updates the reservoirs renovation status listen

12/14/09 Lauren Martinez WMNF Evening News Monday

The largest reservoir in Florida was supposed to be the standard for future reservoirs. However, interior cracks appeared on the surface of the \$140 million facility just one year after completion in 2005. During today's <u>Tampa Bay Water</u> board meeting, members hashed out details on how to repair the reservoir.

John Kennedy, the Tampa Bay Water Engineer and Project Manager for the renovation project updated the reservoir's status. Originally they were in contract with the National Research Council, but in October they substituted the consensus-based peer review proposal with the Association of State Dam and Safety Officials' peer review workshops.

"Staff has reviewed the workshop format approach and agrees that a workshop format approach will be an inappropriate peer review for this project, however, we believe that it is more cost effective to self administer a workshop based peer review. This will allow us to get the benefit of the peer review on schedule and at a lower overall cost."

The peer review panel will include three to five engineers, at least one owner or regulator of dams or levies and at least one panelist from academia. Kennedy says workshops begin in January of 2010.

"The pool of peer review candidates include both word-of-mouth and also using the roster of the Association of State Dam and Safety Officials which has nearly 3,000 individual and corporate members."

They propose to start contacting potential candidates early next year. The \$2 million short term repairs completed in June allows time for the team to work on getting the facility operational again. The next Tampa Bay Water board meeting is February 15th.

Leaders want plan on sharing water supply Nov 11, 2009 at 01:07 PM





News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

Shelley Lauten, president of <u>myregion.org</u>, leads a brainstorming session at a regional water strategy meeting Nov. 5 at Kissimmee City Hall.

By Jessica Solis Staff Writer

Osceola County officials, along with local business and organization leaders, met last week to begin outlining plans for a regional water strategy that they said is necessary as potable water supplies for Central Florida begin to decrease.

Myregion.org, a regional partnership for growth planning in the Central Florida area, gathered leaders from the political, construction and agricultural sectors in Kissimmee Nov. 5 to sit down and brainstorm the different ways water will be able to support growth and development.

Starting in January, the organization, which includes leaders from Osceola, Orange, Lake, Polk, Seminole, Brevard and Volusia counties, will begin formulating a policy brief that will highlight the region's three main water issues: supply, demand and conservation.

By April or May, the brief would give way to a policy report that would be reviewed by the organization's Congress of Regional Leaders. A separate policy report on water governance would be developed and presented in December 2010.

The gathering highlighted the increasing need for cities and counties to work together to find regional solutions to water issues, officials said.

"What we do here in our boundary lines doesn't stop here," Kissimmee Commissioner Cheryl Grieb – also a Congress of Regional Leaders member – said. "Having people from different cities and counties talk about their issues helps us because they may have problems that we may not be having here."

According to the South Florida Water Management District, one of Central Florida's main water authorities, the region will reach its sustainable limit of groundwater supply by 2013. With the deadline, no new pumping of water will be allowed.



Grieb

With the deadline looming, governments that depend on the region's groundwater as their main source of potable water should begin to lay out the blueprint for alternatives to meet demand, which is also expected to increase along with the region's population, myregion.org President Shelley Lauten said. By 2025, water use in Central Florida is set to increase by 36 percent.

"There's a sense of urgency," Lauten said.

Offsetting the groundwater shortage to meet supply and demand will come mostly from conservation and alternative water source efforts, Urban Land Institute engineer John Prowell said.

The Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit studies community development around the U.S. and partnered with myregion.org to develop new standards for water use.

Those alternative sources include using stormwater and surface water, reusing wastewater and desalination.

How much water conservation efforts will cost Osceola and other myregion.org counties is still unknown, Lauten said. The organization wanted its leaders to come up with ideas without considering costs, at least during the planning phase.

"It's too early to tell," Lauten said. "Let's figure out what we have in common, and if it's important, we'll pay for it together."

Lauten said the organization wanted to bring leaders from different constituencies together to avoid a potential water war, similar to disputes over water sharing that during a 20-year span cost local governments in the Tampa area millions of taxpayer dollars.

Unlike Tampa's local governments, Lauten said, Central Florida's leaders would reach an agreement on water sharing between their municipalities.

"We're smarter than that," she said. "We can come together."

In June, St. Cloud and the South Florida Water Management District settled a lawsuit brought against the district by the city when it denied the city's permit request to pump water from East Lake Tohopekaliga. The city ultimately withdrew its application to pump water from the lake, and the district offered to contribute \$500,000 toward the development of a water supply plan for the different utilities in its jurisdiction.

St. Cloud's Public Utilities Director Todd Swingle said the regional method would eventually work better for the county and the city's long-term water strategies.

"It's looking broader than just utilities, it's looking at the whole picture," he said.

Close Window

Tampa Tribune-Snowbirds swoop in on home deals

By TED JACKOVICS

tjackovics@tampatrib.com

You can add real estate offices after restaurants, golf courses, condos and RV parks on the list of where you will find snowbirds, the perennial winter visitors from Michigan, Ontario and other parts north who began arriving in early November.

Despite the poor economy, and stronger efforts by Western states to recruit seasonal visitors affluent enough to afford two residences, more snowbirds are expected to gather in Florida this year than last, partly because of housing prices here.

"It appears snowbirds are arriving in greater numbers early this year," said Walter Klages, who heads Tampa-based Research Data Services Inc., which provides consulting services for visitors bureaus.

"These are not tourists," Klages said. "They are part-time residents."

"Reservations are up this year," said Bobby Cornwell, executive director of the Florida Association of RV Parks & Campgrounds, which has 385 members. "This is not a recession-proof industry, but it is one of the few industries to escape the downturn."

In addition to those who stay in campers and recreational vehicles worth \$5,000 to a couple of million, snowbirds flock to condos and homes they rent or buy, said Michael MacKenzie, director of communications for the 70,000-member Canadian Snowbird Association, headquartered in Toronto.

This season is off to a good start primarily because of the parity of the Canadian and American dollar and an attractive U.S. real estate market, MacKenzie said.

"Whenever the Canadian dollar is almost at par with the U.S. dollar, you get more Canadians traveling and spending more money, in Florida particularly," he said.

"In addition, Canadians are seeing real estate deals they've not seen in a generation. People are seeing \$400,000 homes for \$200,000. We've never seen deals like this, so people are visiting and shopping to buy homes."

The National Association of Realtors reported that 23.6 percent of all international homebuyers in the United States in 2008 were from Canada, up from 11 percent in 2007. Canadians bought more than 40,000 U.S. homes in 2008, the association reported.

Just how many snowbirds visit Florida and other states each year is difficult to ascertain. Neither Visit Florida, the state's tourism marketing bureau, nor local visitors bureaus track how many people relocate to the state for long visits each year.

But Klages, in a 2006 study for the <u>Southwest Florida Water Management District</u>, found that Pinellas County's snowbird population peaked in March that year at 258,000.

In recent years, the University of Florida Bureau Of Economic and Business Research produced a handful of studies to show how to scientifically identify a state's snowbird population.

Still, locals can see the impact, from additional highway congestion caused by vehicles with out-of-state plates to the increased business, sales and property tax revenue from long-term visitors.

Tallying Florida's flock

A 2006 Journals of Gerontology paper by UF's Stanley K. Smith and Mark House estimated there were 818,000 snowbirds in Florida at the peak of the 2005 winter season.

Though specific numbers are lacking, anecdotal evidence of snowbird trends is plentiful.

"Typically, people think Canadians are the majority of the market," said Cornwell, from the RV parks association. "Others come primarily from Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York - those regions."

But some are like Judy Stein, who scouted Florida campgrounds and RV parks for several years on trips from Missouri.

She and her husband settled on the Dunedin Carefree RV Resort, where they live in a fifth-wheel camper.

"You figure you are blessed enough to live in the North and are able to get away from the cold weather and being grumpy and come to Florida, so you do it," Stein said.

"I always believe people come to our park because of the people who are here."

The Dunedin Carefree park's 235 sites are booked from Nov. 1 to May 2, office manager Darlene Proctor said. Plus, there's a monthly waiting list.

Rates vary by length of stay and other factors, but fall well within the Florida RV Park association's statewide estimate of \$350 a month for a park with few amenities and not in a good location to more than \$1,000 a month for a park near a beach.

In addition to the favorable location near water, restaurants and shopping, the Dunedin Carefree RV Resort benefits from being along the Pinellas Trail, a bicycle and pedestrian path that extends from Tarpon Springs to St. Petersburg.

About 30 percent to 40 percent of the snowbirds are Canadians, both French- and English-speaking.

However, many snowbirds live among permanent residents in rentals or homes they buy.

The best guess is that of about 200,000 Canadian snowbirds who stay in homes or condos, about 70 percent to 75 percent spend the winter in Florida, MacKenzie said.

Arizona is second with a 15 percent draw, followed by Texas and California with 5 percent each.

Property tax drawback

Why Florida? More snowbirds from Canada come from eastern provinces where weather is more severe than the western ones, so that means a two-hour plane ride or two-day drive to Florida, compared with a five-hour flight and much longer drive to Texas or Arizona.

But Arizona, in particular, has taken aim with advertisements directed at Canadians in recent years. The ads focus on Florida's property tax anomalies that penalize out-of-state property owners in terms of their tax liabilities, compared with those of year-round residents, MacKenzie said.

That stems from Florida's Save Our Homes law, which caps year-round resident assessments at 3 percent but allows unlimited increases for non-homestead owners.

That can result in snowbirds paying far more in taxes during a six month-stay at their Florida property than their neighbors who live here year-round.

10. Governmental Consultant Report

2009 Water Summit Consensus Voting and Notes from Group Discussion 11/30/09

Introduction

The 2009 Water Summit was conducted on Nov. 30, 2009, as part of the FSAWWA Fall Conference. The Water Summit was comprised of two primary sessions. The morning session was intended to provide an update on the information prepared by each of the nine committees working on important policy initiatives. The committees include: Water Resources Management, Water Conservation, Reclaimed Water, Surface Water, Desalination, Water Allocations/Transfers, Climate Change, Partnerships and Governance/Funding. In addition the committee reports, presentations to represent agricultural and regulatory considerations were also heard. The objective of the morning session was create "a common body of knowledge" regarding the issues being addressed.

The afternoon session was dedicated to determining the priorities for future legislative action through discussion and consensus voting. Based on the consensus voting, the top ranked legislative priorities for 2011 are: Water Resources, Water Conservation, Governance/Funding and Reclaimed Water. Short summaries of the priority items for each of these topics are shown below. Items that are not considered for legislative priority, but need to be addressed in other ways, are also noted in each discussion topic.

1) Water Resources

Legislative Priorities

- Funding needed for new water storage projects
- Need better definition of "regional alternative water supply projects" for permitting purposes
- Need to extend the water supply planning horizon beyond 20 years
- Need to address integration of multiple water sources conjunctive use permitting

Other action

 Need collaborative water supply planning between WMDs and utilities outside the SWFWMD/Tampa Bay Water area

2) Water Conservation

Legislative Priorities

- Need to protect permitted quantities when water conservation efforts are successful ("keep what you save") - could possibly be completed by regulation, not legislation
- Need funding for infrastructure improvements that decrease system losses (leaking pipes)

- Need to create a mechanism for increasing permit duration in relation to water conservation milestones
- Need some form of state-wide goal-based water conservation standards (not per capita)

Other action

- Need some form of state-wide water conservation standards for "sustainable development"
- Expand technology definition in current legislation

3) Governance/Funding

Legislative Priorities

- Need to address permit duration for multijurisdictional water supply efforts (bonding issues)
- Add exemption for multijurisdictional water supply entities (partnerships, bound by inter-local agreement, but not officially defined as a regional water supply authority)
 - O Treat same as regional water supply authorities
 - o Remove barriers to creation of MJWSEs
 - o Revisit "local sources first" test
 - o Distinguish between multijurisdictional water supply "efforts" and "entities"
- Protect the water allocations of wholesale water suppliers to prevent retail purchasers from "going it alone" and taking the allocation with them
- Provide for some form of alternative dispute resolution for water supply conflicts

Other action

- Need to address the perception that utilities are not adequately self-funding
- Need a statewide study of water management district responsibilities specifically relating to water supply – what's working, what's not, how can we make it work better.

4) Reclaimed Water

Legislative Priorities

- Need stronger state-wide goals for use of reclaimed water e.g. minimize use of potable water for non-potable use; maximize use of reclaimed water for non-potable use
- Need offset credits for potable water supplies for use of reclaimed water; trading/markets

Other action

Revise and strengthen the position statement used for discussion

- Explore the impact of numeric nutrient criteria on water utilities
- Indirect potable reuse and the need for education should be included in the next Florida 2030 update.

5) Partnerships

Partnerships are critically important, but specific topics addressed were also raised in other content discussions, but are repeated here for emphasis

- Extend planning horizon
- Encourage multi-jurisdictional efforts
- Increase collaboration between WMD's, utilities, DCA and FDEP; provide incentives for such collaboration

It was suggested that the notion of partnerships be re-framed as an over-arching goal, but not necessarily a tactical focus of a committee.

From: disalz@yahoo.com

Subject: Fw: 12/11 WRWSA Bill Tracking Report
Date: December 11, 2009 11:03:05 AM EST
To: "Jack Sullivan" <jesull@comcast.net>

Reply-To: disalz@yahoo.com

Sent from my BlackBerry® wireless handheld

From: Diane Salz <info@lobbytools.com>
Date: Fri, 11 Dec 2009 11:01:23 -0500 (EST)

To: <disalz@yahoo.com>

Subject: 12/11 WRWSA Bill Tracking Report

Sponsor				
ommission Gibbons	10/01/09			
Florida Energy and Climate Commission: Requires commission to prepare report on energy efficiency with respect to low-income households & rental housing properties to be submitted to Legislature by specified date; provides report requirements. Effective Date: July 1, 2010 08/19/09 HOUSE Filed 10/01/09 HOUSE Referred to Energy & Utilities Policy Committee; Military & Local Affairs Policy Committee; Government Operations Appropriations Committee; General Government Policy Council; Now in Energy & Utilities Policy Committee				
ommission Joyner	12/09/09			
Florida Energy and Climate Commission [EPSC]; Requires that the Florida Energy and Climate Commission prepare a report identifying ways to increase the energy-efficiency practices of low-income households. Requires that the report include certain determinations and recommendations. Requires that the commission submit the report to the Legislature by a specified date. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. 10/05/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Communications, Energy, and Public Utilities; Environmental Preservation and Conservation; General Government Appropriations				
Excise Taxes Saunders	10/01/09			
Distribution of Proceeds from Excise Taxes on Documents: Removes limitation on amount of such proceeds to be deposited into State Housing Trust Fund each fiscal year; retroactively repeals conflicting version of statute. Effective Date: July 1, 2010 09/04/09 HOUSE Filed 10/01/09 HOUSE Referred to Finance & Tax Council; Economic Development & Community Affairs Policy Council; Full Appropriations Council on Education & Economic Development; Now in Finance & Tax Council				
Jenne	10/12/09			
Excise Tax on Documents: Imposes tax on consideration for short sale transfers of real property; excludes specified unpaid indebtedness from such consideration; defines term "short sale"; authorizes DOR to adopt rules establishing arm's length criteria for short sale purposes. Effective Date: July 1, 2010 09/14/09 HOUSE Filed 10/12/09 HOUSE Referred to Finance & Tax Council; Criminal & Civil Justice Policy Council; Now in Finance & Tax Council				
Rich	12/09/09			
Relating to Public Meetings Rich 12/09/09 Public Meetings [EPSC]; Adds the risk manager and certain division heads of a governmental entity to the persons who may attend a private meeting discussing pending litigation. Authorizes the required public announcement of an attorney-client session to be made immediately before the session. Prohibits an adverse party from attending the attorney-client session, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. 10/05/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Judiciary; Governmental Oversight and Accountability				
Baker	12/09/09			
ent that the district governing board deleg	pate its authority to take final Procedure Act. Requires the board EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010.			
	ment that the district governing board delet ons by the board under the Administrative as to the governing board for final action. E			

SB 0152	Relating to Sales Tax Exemption/Drinking Water in	Lynn	12/09/09		
(C: 0216)	Containers Sales Tax Exemption/Drinking Water in Containers [WPSC]; Deletes an exemption for sales of drinking water in containers.				
(I: 0167)	EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/05/09 SENATE Filed				
	12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Commerce; Finance and Tax; Policy & Steen	ring Committee on ways and			
HB 0273	Relating to Water and Wastewater Utilities	Hudson	11/16/09		
(1: 0614)	Water and Wastewater Utilities: Provides for recovery through surcharge of costs for water & wastewater system improvement project requires PSC approval of surcharge; limits surcharge amount; provides requirements for surcharge billing, reconciliation, & adjustment provides project eligibility criteria; provides requirements for notice, maintenance, & availability of certain records. Effective Date: July 2010 10/27/09 HOUSE Filed 11/16/09 HOUSE Referred to Energy & Utilities Policy Committee; Government Operations Appropriations Committee; General				
	Government Policy Council 11/16/09 HOUSE Now in Energy & Utilities Policy Committee	Tent Operations Appropriation	is Committee, Ceneral		
CD 0274		Bennett	12/09/09		
SB 0274	Relating to Growth Management Growth Management [EPSC]; Expresses the legislative intent to revise laws 07/01/2010. 10/05/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Environmental Preservat	s relating to growth managen	nent. EFFECTIVE DATE:		
	Development Appropriations, Rules				
HB 0307	Relating to Water Protection and Sustainability Progra	•	11/20/09		
(C: 0604)	Water Protection and Sustainability Program: Revises requirements for expenditure of funds provided pursuant to program; specific authority for Northwest Florida & Suwannee River Water Management Districts to use such funds for additional purposes. Effective Date: July 1, 2010 11/04/09 HOUSE Filed				
	11/20/09 HOUSE Referred to Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Comn Government Policy Council		propriations Committee; General		
	11/20/09 HOUSE Now in Agriculture & Natural Resources Policy Committee				
SB 0372	Relating to Municipal Water & Sewer Utilities	Wilson	12/09/09		
(1: 0455)	Municipal Water & Sewer Utilities [EPSC]; Exempts municipalities in certain rates that a municipality may charge consumers located outside their bound Upon becoming law. 10/08/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Communications, Energy Appropriations	daries for water or sewer utili	ly services. EFFECTIVE DATE:		
SB 0376	Relating to Required Advertisements and Public Notices Dean 12/09/09 Required Advertisements and Public Notices [EPSC]; Authorizes a governmental entity to use its publicly accessible website for legally required advertisements and public notices. Provides that a notice, advertisement, or publication on a publicly accessible website in accordance with specified provision constitutes legal notice. Provides for notice of special election or referendum on a publicly accessible website, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/2010. 10/09/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Community Affairs; Governmental Oversight and Accountability; Judiciary; Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations				
HB 0441	Relating to Public Works Projects	Soto	12/04/09		
	Public Works Projects: Creates "Florida Reemployment Investment Act"; re- utilizing state funds or federal funds administered by state for certain purpo onsite employees; provides application; provides retroactive effect & period provides fine for noncompliance or bad faith circumvention; defines term "FI 12/04/09 HOUSE Filed	ses to employ specified num for compliance for projects b	ber of Florida residents as egun before enactment of act;		
HB 0455	Relating to Municipal Water and Sewer Utilities	Braynon	12/10/09		
(I: 0372)	Municipal Water and Sewer Utilities: Exempts municipalities in certain coun charge consumers outside their boundaries for provision of water or sewer 12/08/09 HOUSE Filed 12/10/09 HOUSE Withdrawn prior to introduction				
SB 0540	Relating to Water Resources	Constantine	12/09/09		
05 0070	Water Resources [EPSC]; Deletes an obsolete date relating to a water supplication of the second of t	ply assessment conducted by	the water management		
CD OF 46					
SB 0546	Relating to Land Acquisition Land Acquisition [EPSC]; Deletes an obsolete date with respect to impleme Environmental Protection and water management districts use alternatives of 10/27/09 SENATE Filed	to fee simple acquisition. EFF	FECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010.		
	12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation	n; Judiciary; General Govern	ment Appropriations; Rules		
SB 0568	Relating to Florida Springs Protection Act	Constantine	12/09/09		

	Florida Springs Protection Act [EPSC]; Provides a short title. Provides le and restore springs and ground water. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/27/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation Government Appropriations		•		
SB 0576	Relating to Environmental Control	Constantine	12/09/09		
	Environmental Control [EPSC]; Deletes an obsolete deadline for the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt rules regarding water quality credit trading among the pollutant sources to a water body or water body segment. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 10/27/09 SENATE Filed 12/09/09 SENATE Referred to Environmental Preservation and Conservation; General Government Appropriations; Rules				
SB 0604	Relating to Water Protection and Sustainability Trus		11/04/09		
(C: 0307)	Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund; Authorizes water manag resource development projects. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 11/04/09 SENATE Filed	ement districts to use certain mo	oneys in the fund for water		
SB 0614	Relating to Water and Wastewater Utilities	Bennett	11/04/09		
(I: 0273)	Water and Wastewater Utilities; Provides for recovery through a surcharge of certain costs relating to water and wastewater system improvement projects. Requires utilities to submit tariffs reflecting the surcharge for recovery of such costs to the Florida Public Service Commission for approval and to provide specified notice of such tariff filings. Specifies a limitation for the surcharge amount, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2010. 11/04/09 SENATE Filed				
SB 0690	Relating to Local Government Accountability	Dean	11/10/09		
	Local Government Accountability; Directs the DCA to institute procedures declaring that a special district is inactive. Specifies the level of detail required for each fund in the sheriffs proposed budget. Amends specified provision relating to the review of the actuarial reports and statements of retirement plans of governmental entities by the DMS. Revises provisions relating to the preparation of special district budgets, etc. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law. 11/10/09 SENATE Filed				

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