



**WITHLACOOCHEE  
REGIONAL  
WATER  
SUPPLY  
AUTHORITY**

## **Board Meeting Package**

June 17, 2015  
3:30 p.m.

### **Meeting Location:**

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

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Water Supply Authority Board of Directors and Interested Parties

From: Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

Date: June 3, 2015

Subject: Monthly Meeting of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

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The next meeting of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority will be on **Wednesday, June 3, 2015, 3:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Center Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461.**

Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of the May 20, 2015 meeting
- Board Package\*

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

Enclosures

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

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

**LECANTO GOVERNMENT BUILDING  
3600 W. SOVEREIGN PATH, ROOM 166, LECANTO, FLORIDA 34461  
June 17, 2015 @ 3:30 p.m.**

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

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Introductions and Announcements**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
- 5. Public Comment**
- 6. SJRWMD Report on North Central Florida Water Initiative . . . Lou Donnangelo, SJRWMD**
- 7. Resolution Opposing SWFWMD Headquarters Relocation . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**
- 8. General Technical/Engineering As-Needed Services Contract Extensions . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**
- 9. Executive Director's Report . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**
  - a. Bills to be Paid [June 2015 Bills to be Provided in hand-out]**
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report**
  - c. Correspondence**
  - d. News Articles**
  - e. Other**
- 10. Legislative Report . . . Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Consultant**
- 11. Attorney's Report . . . Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney**
- 12. Other Business**
- 13. Next Meeting Time and Location . . . July 15, 2015, 3:30 p.m., Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461**
- 14. Adjournment**

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

**Item 4.**  
**Minutes**

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
May 20, 2015**

**TIME:** 3:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Lecanto Government Building  
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 166  
Lecanto, Florida 34461

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

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Butler called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

**2. Roll Call**

Richard Owen, Executive Director, called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Al Butler, *Vice-Chairman*, Sumter County Commissioner  
Dennis Damato, *Treasurer*, Citrus County Commissioner  
Stan McClain, *Vice-Chairman*, Marion County Commissioner  
Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner  
Earl Arnett, Marion County Commissioner  
Robert Battista, Brooksville City Councilor  
Ken Brown, Crystal River City Councilor  
Scott Carnahan, Citrus County Commissioner  
Gary Ernst, Belleview City Councilor  
Don Hahnfeldt, Sumter County Commissioner  
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilor

**ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Flip Mellinger, Marion County

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Kathy Bryant, Marion County Commissioner  
Nick Nicholson, Hernando County Commissioner

**3. Introductions and Announcements**

**STAFF PRESENT**

Richard Owen, Executive Director  
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney  
Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Liaison  
Nancy Smith, WRWSA Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jacob Arnette, Marion County  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Conservation  
Debra Burden, Citrus County Water Conservation  
Richard Radacky, DPW City of Brooksville

Phillis Rosetti, Crystal River Waterfronts Advisory Board  
Kevin Smith, Marion County

**Presentation of Plaque to Immediate Past Chair**

Chairman Butler presented a plaque to Jim Adkins, the WRWSA chairman from January 2014 through January 2015, in appreciation for his service to the Authority. Activities highlighted during that year included approval of the Revised and Restated Interlocal Agreement, completion of the *Regional Water Supply Plan* update, continuation of the regional residential irrigation system evaluation program, and input to the SWFWMD Springs Protection Initiative.

**4. Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2015 Meeting**

A copy of the minutes was provided in the Board packet for review.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Brown to approve the minutes for the March 18, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.

**5. Public Comment**

Alys Brockway, Hernando County Conservation Manager, announced the upcoming "Springs into Action" workshop scheduled for Friday, June 5, 2015, Glen Lakes Country Clubhouse, 9000 Glen Lakes Blvd. in Weeki Wachee. She invited the Board and other attendees to attend and handed out brochures about the workshop.

**6. Board Briefing . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**

Mr. Owen presented a summary of the mission, functions and responsibilities of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority. Mr. Owen reminded the members of several on going efforts including the Charles A Black Wellfield, participation with the SWFWMD Cooperative Funding Program to promote water conservation, grants to local governments for water conservation projects, establishment of various MFLs and coordination with Southwest Florida and St. Johns River water management districts, among other activities.

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

**7. Proposed Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**

Mr. Owen presented the proposed budget for fiscal year 2015-16. He advised the Board that Chapter 189.016, *Florida Statutes*, requires that the Authority adopt the budget by Resolution. The resolution is included in the handout and copies of the proposed budget are in both the Board's packet and the handout. Mr. Owen explained that the budget is presented on two pages for ease of reading with calculations included as attachments. He reviewed both the projected revenues and proposed expenditures. For 2015-16, projected revenues decrease by 1.2 percent from the 2014-15 fiscal year while expenditures for both administration and projects decrease by 19.9 percent. Mr. Owen recommended that the Board approve Resolution 2015-02 adopting the budget and authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution. He then read Resolution 2015-02 Adopting Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16, into the record.

During discussion, Mr. Brown asked about the Charles A. Black wellfield payments. Mr. Owen explained that the amortization payment was graduated up over the initial years until it reached the current level with termination of all payments in the 2026 timeframe. Mr. Owen also explained that the WRWSA is working with Citrus County to revise the existing agreement for purchase of water and expects to have a draft by the end of this calendar year. This revision is expected to ensure a stable revenue source beyond the termination of the existing agreement.



Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve Resolution 2015-02 and the fiscal year 2015-16 Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swain and carried unanimously.

**8. Report on the SJRWMD North Central Florida Water Initiative . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**

Mr. Owen requested that this item be postponed for presentation at the next Board meeting. The SJRWMD staff will lead the presentation. The SJRWMD staff is presently assessing the peer review comments and deciding what responses to make concerning the groundwater model, so it is too early to discuss any substantive information at today's meeting. Mr. Owen has met with staff of each of the water management districts and with staff of Marion County Utilities. He wants to continue this coordination process as the districts work to set MFLs, which may have significant implications for groundwater resources in Marion, Sumter and Citrus counties.

Mr. Damato asked if SJRWMD staff would be prepared to provide definitive information at the next meeting and requested that SWFWMD staff be available at the same meeting. It is important that the districts reach a consensus on the approach to using the groundwater model for all communities.

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

**9. Report on Charles A. Black Wellfield Activities . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**

Mr. Owen presented on update on activities at the Charles A. Black Wellfield in Citrus County. He has been meeting with Citrus County staff about two potential projects that, if implemented, will require modification of the existing water use permit for the wellfield. The first project is an expansion of the service area into northwest areas of Citrus County in response to arsenic contamination in private wells in that area. The second project is to build a transmission main along the recreation trail that will be constructed along with the Suncoast Parkway extension in Citrus County. The County has received concurrence from the Department of Transportation for this project, which will provide an interconnection between Sugarmill Woods and the CAB. This interconnection will provide greater redundancy and create a more regional system for the County.

Mr. Damato stated that the interconnection would also allow the county's system to be looped. He further suggested that the placement and construction of the Suncoast Parkway might allow a tie-in with a potential wellfield at Cardinal Lane.

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

**10. Executive Director's Report . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**

**a. Bills to be Paid**

Mr. Owen presented the April 2015 bills and requested concurrence of payment of the bills totaling \$22,302.96.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to ratify payment of the April 2015 bills of \$22,302.96. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.

Mr. Owen presented the May 2015 bills and requested approval of payment of the bills totaling \$21,980.06.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve payment of the May 2015 bills of \$21,980.06. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carnahan and carried unanimously.

**b. Board Policies – Alternate Board Members**

Mr. Owen reviewed the policy for Alternate Board Members that was prepared in response to the last Board meeting. Both the policy for Alternate Board Members and a staff procedure are included in the Board's packet. Mr. Owen requested approval of the Board Policy 2015-04, Alternate Board Members; the staff procedure was included for information only.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve Resolution 2015-04, Alternate Board Members, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swain and carried unanimously.

**c. Correspondence**

Recent correspondence was provided in the Board's packet and handout. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

**d. News Articles**

Mr. Owen noted that the Board's packet and handout include several news articles. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

**e. Other**

- *Environmental Permitting Short Course.* The annual Environmental Permitting Short Course is scheduled for July 7 – 10, 2015 in Orlando. Mr. Owen requested the Board authorize Diane Salz to attend the meeting at an estimated cost of \$1,530.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Carnahan to authorize Diane Salz to attend the Environmental Permitting Short Course. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swain and carried unanimously.

- *DEP Rulemaking.* Mr. Owen stated that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has initiated rulemaking on Chapter 62-40, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), Water Resource Implementation Rule, that is used to provide guidance to the water management districts in issuing water use permits. One change is to include a designation of certain fresh groundwater resources as an alternative water supply (AWS) where use of the Lower Floridan Aquifer is being considered by local utilities within the WRWSA region. The purpose of AWS is to avoid negative impacts to wells, springs, rivers and lakes. If it can be demonstrated, on a case-by-case basis, that the fresh groundwater is confined or semi-confined, a water management district may designate the Lower Floridan Aquifer as an alternative water supply.
- *SWFWMD Draft Regional Water Supply Plan Update.* Mr. Owen and others from WRWSA member governments have participated in meeting with SWFWMD staff to offer input on the *Update* as it has been drafted. One change was requested to include language in the *Update* for the potential use of the Lower Floridan Aquifer as an alternative water source. SWFWMD staff included language very similar to the guidance that is going into Chapter 62-40, F.A.C., so that when it can be demonstrated that the Lower Floridan is well confined and that use of the aquifer will not impact the resources that they are trying to protect, it is designated as an AWS. Such a designation allows local utilities to meet their permitting requirement to investigate and, where feasible, develop alternative water sources and it makes that source eligible for financial assistance from the water management district.



- *SJRWMD Staff Change.* Mr. Owen advised the Board that the SJRWMD Executive Director has recently resigned. The SJRWMD Board is scheduled to discuss hiring Ann Shortelle, currently director of the Suwannee River Water Management District, to fill that position. Mr. Owen will ask to meet with the next SJRWMD executive director and ensure an open line of communication with that organization.
- *Relocation of SWFWMD Headquarters.* At the most recent SWFWMD Governing Board meeting on May 19, 2015, the Governing Board discussed the possibility of moving the headquarters from Brooksville to the Tampa service office. The Board decided to postpone the decision for up to 60 days. A decision to move the headquarters will have a major impact on the WRWSA region.

The WRWSA Board discussed the impacts of moving the headquarters, including additional difficulties in coordinating with the District, the affect on current levels of service, the waste of taxpayers' money in abandoning or under-utilizing the existing facility as well as the major economic impact on Hernando County if the headquarters are relocated and staff removed from the area.

Mr. Adkins asked that the Director write a letter to the SWFWMD Board inquiring about the reasons for moving. Mr. Brown asked that the WRWSA Board prepare a Resolution stating that there is no benefit to the WRWSA in relocating the headquarters. The Board discussed the various reasons that such relocation would be detrimental to interests within the WRWSA area. Mr. Owen suggested writing a letter to the SWFWMD Governing Board expressing WRWSA concerns. It was agreed that copies of the letter would be sent to the WRWSA member governments, the Legislative Delegation and other interested parties. The letter will be sent immediately and a resolution will be presented at the next Board meeting.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Adkins to approve writing a letter to the SWFWMD Governing Board to address the concerns of the WRWSA about the proposed relocation of the District's headquarters and to authorize the Chairman to sign said letter for delivery to the SWFWMD as soon as possible. In addition, the motion included drafting of a resolution opposing the relocation that would be presented at the next Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carnahan and carried unanimously.

- *WRPC Closing.* Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council will be closing on May 21, 2015. The WRPC staff notified Mr. Owen that their library contains a number of items stored the WRWSA. Mr. Owen went to the office and picked up the materials and delivered these files and reports to the WRWSA office in Lecanto.

11. **Legislative Report . . . Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Consultant**  
Mrs. Salz reported on bills that passed the Legislature before it adjourned and also commented on bills that did not pass. Of particular interest is that the bills relating to water resources and constitutional Amendment 1 did not pass. Given that the House adjourned early, the state's budget for the upcoming fiscal year was not adopted. The Legislature will be back in Tallahassee for a special session, June 1 – 20, to address a limited agenda related to the 2015-16 budget.
12. **Attorney's Report . . . Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney**  
There was no report from the attorney.

**13. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**14. Next Meeting Time and Location**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2015, 3:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461.

**15. Adjournment**

Chairman Al Butler announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the WRWSA and adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m.

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Al Butler, Chairman

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Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

**Item 6.**  
**SJRWMD North**  
**Central Florida Water**  
**Initiative**

**Item 6. Report on the SJRWMD North Central Florida Water Initiative . . . Lou Donnangelo, SJRWMD**

Authority staff have met with staff of the SJRWMD regarding the District's proposed minimum flow and level for Silver Springs and an associated recovery and/or prevention (R/P) strategy. The proposed MFL is part of a larger initiative by the District entitled the North Central Florida Water Initiative. Encompassing the eastern portion of Marion County and northern Lake County, the Initiative includes development of a Regional Water Supply Plan, setting the MFL's for Silver Spring and the Silver and Ocklawaha rivers, development of any required R/P strategies and implementation of these strategies including potential regulatory and project components.

Depending upon the outcome of the proposed MFLs and associated R/P strategies, this Initiative could have far reaching implications for the WRWSA and some of its member governments and other utilities within the area in terms of the availability of groundwater resources. Consumptive Use Permittees not only within eastern Marion and north Lake counties, but also within adjacent areas of western Marion, northern Sumter and eastern Citrus counties could also potentially be affected by the Initiative.

Staff from the SJRWMD have been requested to attend the meeting to discuss with the Board the latest developments within the District's Initiative and options for moving forward to ensure our interests and the interests of member governments are taken into consideration by the District.

**Staff Recommendation:** This item is presented for information purposes and feedback from the Board.

**Item 7.  
Resolution Opposing  
SWFWMD HQ Relocation**

**Item 7. Resolution Opposing SWFWMD Headquarters Relocation . . . Richard S. Owen,  
WRWSA**

The SWFWMD Governing Board, at its May 19, 2015 monthly meeting, discussed its Business Plan, which included a recommendation to relocate the District's headquarters from its current location in Brooksville to Tampa. This item was discussed at the Authority Board meeting on May 20, 2015 under the Executive Director's Report, Other Topics agenda item. The Board directed staff to prepare a letter for the Chairman's signature to express the Authority's concerns with this proposal to relocate its headquarters and to request the Governing Board not take action until the Authority and other stakeholders could provide input to the District. A copy of this letter is included under Agenda Item 9.C Correspondence. The Board also directed staff to bring back a Resolution for its consideration at its next meeting recommending the District maintain its headquarters at its current Brooksville location.

Included as an exhibit to this item is proposed Resolution 2015-03 Recommending the Southwest Florida Water Management District Maintain its Headquarters in Brooksville, Florida.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends Board approval of Resolution 2015-03 Recommending the Southwest Florida Water Management District Maintain its Headquarters in Brooksville Florida, including any changes approved by the Board at the meeting.

**See Exhibit.**



**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-03**

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
MAINTAIN ITS HEADQUARTERS IN BROOKSVILLE FLORIDA**

**WHEREAS**, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA or Authority) is established pursuant to the provisions of Section 373.713, Florida Statutes, and represents Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties and the municipalities within these four counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD or District) is established pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, and encompasses all of the WRWSA geographic area except that portion of Marion County which lies within the St. Johns River Water Management District; and

**WHEREAS**, the SWFWMD, at its May 19, 2015 regular monthly Board meeting announced its plans to change the District's official headquarters from its Brooksville Office, located at 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida, which is situated within the WRWSA service territory, to its Tampa Service Office, which is situated well outside the WRWSA service territory; and

**WHEREAS**, the WRWSA Board of Directors met in its regular session on June 17, 2015 in Lecanto Florida and the published agenda for said meeting included consideration of this Resolution recommending the District maintain its official Headquarters in Brooksville Florida, including its associated staffing levels, services and functions; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's Headquarters Office has been located in Brooksville Florida for more than 50 years and represents a significant investment of public financial resources in the office buildings and other infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's stated reason for changing the official designated Headquarters location is to enhance the District's ability to recruit and retain highly qualified staff in the future and, by implication, such change in Headquarters location will lead to a reduction in staffing levels at the Brooksville location over time and, by implication, a reduction in the level of services and functions provided at the Brooksville office; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's current Brooksville Headquarters employs hundreds of staff that provide a wide variety of District services and functions that are strategically located to provide the full spectrum of District services to the residents, property owners, taxpayers and other constituents within the northern District region, including WRWSA member governments and other stakeholders, and such Brooksville location allows for the efficient and effective provision of such services to these stakeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, the District has already reduced the number of staff and functions at its Brooksville Headquarters, some of which have been relocated to the District's Tampa Service office and such relocations were made with no opportunity provided for public input; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no evidence that the District's current Headquarters location in Brooksville has led to an inability to attract and retain quality, professional staff resources, or that such location would hamper the District's ability to recruit such staff resources in the future, particularly given the ample highway and road network now linking the northern region with the Tampa Bay area; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the District staff working from the Brooksville Headquarters live within Hernando County and the surrounding communities providing a significant positive economic impact to the local economy that would be potentially jeopardized over time with the relocation of the Headquarters; and

**WHEREAS**, District stakeholders whom would be negatively affected by a District decision to move the official Headquarters from Brooksville were not informed of this proposal or given the opportunity to provide input prior to the District's May 19, 2015 Board meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Governing Board at its May 19, 2015 meeting decided to postpone action on this component of its Business Plan for up to 60 days, to allow for input on the proposal; NOW THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY:**

**Section 1:**

The Board of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority strongly urges the Governing Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District to maintain its official Headquarters at its existing Brooksville office, located at 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida; and

That the District maintain a proportionate overall level of District staff resources that realistically reflect that the Brooksville office is its official Headquarters; and

That the District reestablish the full complement of District services, functions and purposes that were historically located at the existing District Brooksville Headquarters.

**Section 2:**

Copies of this Resolution shall be provided to all members of the District Governing Board, the Governor, Speaker of the House, President of the Senate, all members of the Authority Legislative Delegation, each of the Authority member governments and all local governments located within the Authority service area.

**Section 3:**

This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED** in Regular Session this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WITHLACOOCHEE  
REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

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Al Butler, Chairman

Attest:

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Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

**Item 8.**  
**General Technical/Engineering**  
**Contract Extensions**

**Item 8. General Technical/Engineering As-Needed Services Contract Extensions . . . Richard S. Owen, WRWSA**

At its November 2012 meeting the Authority Board approved entering into contract with eight firms for the purposes of as-needed technical and engineering services. The Executive Director subsequently entered into such agreements with the following seven firms (listed alphabetically):

Atkins  
C&D Engineering  
Cardno  
Hoyle, Tanner & Associates  
Jones Edmunds  
Progressive Water Resources  
Water Resource Associates

One firm approved by the Board, HDR Engineering, did not return an executed Agreement to the Authority. Staff has contacted HDR Engineering and will provide a status report and recommendation at the meeting.

Work under each agreement is authorized through the issuance of a work order. Only three work orders have been issued to-date, one to Jones Edmunds for purposes of providing assistance with the development of an Agreement with the City of Wildwood and Marion County regarding the Champaign Farms wellfield, and two work orders have been issued to Water Resource Associates for general technical/engineering assistance.

These agreements were for an initial term of three years, ending in November 2015, with the ability to extend each agreement twice by a period of one year. The purpose of this item is to approve the first one year extension to each of the eight agreements with no changes in other agreement provisions.

Included as exhibits to this item are proposed Addendums to each Agreement for one year extensions. Staff has sent letters to each of the firms informing them that this proposed one year extension would be on today's Board meeting agenda. If approved by the Board, these Addendums will be sent to each respective firm for their signature.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends Board approval of the First Addendum to the Agreements for General Technical/Engineering Services as shown in the Exhibits with the following seven firms: Atkins; C&D Engineering; Cardno; Hoyle, Tanner & Associates; Jones Edmunds; Progressive Water Resources; and Water Resource Associates. The staff recommendation regarding HDR Engineering will be presented at the meeting.

**See Exhibits**

**Item 9.b.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter  
Financial Report**



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' COMPILATION REPORT

To The Governing Board  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
Ocala, Florida

We have compiled the accompanying financial statements of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (the Authority), an Independent Special District, as of and for the three months and six months ended March 31, 2015. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or provide any assurance about whether the financial statements are in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The management of the Authority is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the compilation in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The objective of a compilation is to assist the management of the Authority in presenting financial information in the form of financial statements without undertaking to obtain or provide any assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements.

Management has elected to omit substantially all of the disclosures and the statement of cash flows as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. If the omitted disclosures and the statement of cash flows were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Authority's financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. Accordingly, these financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

The budgetary comparison information is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information. The supplementary information has been compiled from information that is the representation of management. We have not audited or reviewed the supplementary information and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the supplementary information.

*Purvis, Gray and Company*

May 7, 2015  
Tallahassee, Florida

**Certified Public Accountants**

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

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

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
As of March 31, 2015

**Assets**

**Current Assets**

Cash in Bank - SunTrust	\$ 1,933.63
Cash in Bank - LGIP	524,469.78
Cash in Bank - LGIP/Citrus Revenue	946,404.51
A/R - Villages	103.75
Prepaid Expense	<u>170.64</u>

<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>1,473,082.31</b>
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**Property and Equipment**

Equipment	3,728.84
Accum Deprec - Equipment	(1,947.10)
Citrus Co. Wellfield	4,895,231.21
Accum Deprec - Wellfield	<u>(3,589,839.29)</u>

<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	<b>1,307,173.66</b>
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<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,780,255.97</u></b>
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**Liabilities and Net Position**

**Current Liabilities**

Accounts Payable - Special Projects	\$ 7,160.15
Accounts Payable - General	<u>14,991.81</u>

<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>22,151.96</b>
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**Net Position**

Net Position - Unrestricted	2,714,339.16
Net Income	<u>43,764.85</u>

<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b><u>2,758,104.01</u></b>
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See Accompanying Independent Accountant's Compilation Report

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority**  
**Statement of Revenue and Expenses**  
For the Period Ended March 31, 2015

	<u>3 months ended</u> <u>March 31, 2015</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>6 months ended</u> <u>March 31, 2015</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>Revenue</b>				
Citrus Co. Assessments	\$ 6,676.00	7.22 %	\$ 13,352.00	7.30 %
Hernando Co. Assessments	8,256.00	8.93 %	16,512.00	9.02 %
Sumter Co. Assessments	4,992.50	5.40 %	9,985.00	5.46 %
Marion County Assessment	15,913.00	17.20 %	31,826.00	17.39 %
Interest Income - SBA Accounts	662.61	0.72 %	1,264.54	0.69 %
Citrus Co Facilities Recovery	40,896.75	44.21 %	81,793.50	44.69 %
Citrus County Wifld Admin Recov	15,000.00	16.22 %	30,000.00	16.39 %
Phase 2 SWFWMD MatchRegIrrAudit	100.00	0.11 %	100.00	0.05 %
LG Match Phase 2 Irr Audit Pgm	0.00	0.00 %	(1,813.75)	(0.99) %
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>92,496.86</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>	<b>183,019.29</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Consulting Admin Asst	9,375.00	10.14 %	18,750.00	10.24 %
Executive Director	20,000.01	21.62 %	40,000.02	21.86 %
Advertising	35.84	0.04 %	68.60	0.04 %
Bank Charges	0.00	0.00 %	15.00	0.01 %
Lecanto Rent	0.00	0.00 %	2,047.68	1.12 %
Registration/Dues	444.00	0.48 %	538.00	0.29 %
Legal - Monthly Meeting	1,000.00	1.08 %	2,000.00	1.09 %
Legal - Other Services	743.98	0.80 %	2,605.72	1.42 %
Liability Insurance	0.00	0.00 %	2,362.68	1.29 %
Office Supplies	90.85	0.10 %	161.62	0.09 %
Printing & Reproduction	182.06	0.20 %	747.07	0.41 %
Postage	136.22	0.15 %	259.87	0.14 %
Audit	0.00	0.00 %	9,130.00	4.99 %
State Fees/Assessments	0.00	0.00 %	175.00	0.10 %
Web Page/Internet Services	235.38	0.25 %	602.88	0.33 %
Telephone	234.82	0.25 %	469.78	0.26 %
Travel	903.59	0.98 %	2,889.32	1.58 %
Legislative Consultant	10,500.00	11.35 %	21,000.00	11.47 %
Phase 2 Irrigation Auditor	900.00	0.97 %	2,400.00	1.31 %
General Services Acct	7,137.01	7.72 %	10,537.79	5.76 %
Phase 3 Irrigation Audit Progra	21,180.35	22.90 %	22,099.41	12.07 %
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>73,303.11</b>	<b>79.25 %</b>	<b>139,254.44</b>	<b>76.09 %</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 19,193.75</b>	<b>20.75 %</b>	<b>\$ 43,764.85</b>	<b>23.91 %</b>

See Accompanying Independent Accountant's Compilation Report

ACCOMPANYING SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority**  
**Budget to Actual**  
For the Period Ended March 31, 2015

	6 months ended March 31, 2015 Actual	6 months ended March 31, 2015 Budget	Variance Over/(Under) Budget	Annual Budget	Variance
<b>Revenue</b>					
Citrus Co. Assessments	\$ 13,352.00	\$ 13,352.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 26,704.00	\$ 13,352.00
Hernando Co. Assessments	16,512.00	16,512.00	0.00	33,024.00	16,512.00
Sumter Co. Assessments	9,985.00	9,985.00	0.00	19,970.00	9,985.00
Marion County Assessment	31,826.00	31,826.00	0.00	63,652.00	31,826.00
Interest Income - SBA Accounts	1,264.54	0.00	1,264.54	0.00	(1,264.54)
Citrus Co Facilities Recovery	81,793.50	81,793.50	0.00	163,587.00	81,793.50
Citrus County Wifld Admin Recov	30,000.00	30,000.00	0.00	60,000.00	30,000.00
Phase 2 SWFWMD MatchRegIrrAudit	100.00	17,647.50	(17,547.50)	35,295.00	35,195.00
LG Match Phase 2 Irr Audit Pgm	(1,813.75)	1,917.00	(3,730.75)	3,834.00	5,647.75
Ph 3 Irrig Aud Pgm SWFWMD Match	0.00	14,250.00	(14,250.00)	28,500.00	28,500.00
Ph 3 Irrig Aud Pgm County Match	0.00	7,125.00	(7,125.00)	14,250.00	14,250.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>183,019.29</b>	<b>224,408.00</b>	<b>(41,388.71)</b>	<b>448,816.00</b>	<b>265,796.71</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
Consulting Admin Asst	18,750.00	18,750.00	0.00	37,500.00	18,750.00
Executive Director Richard Owen	40,000.02	40,000.01	0.01	80,000.00	39,999.98
Advertising	68.60	499.99	(431.39)	1,000.00	931.40
Lecanto Rent	2,047.68	1,024.00	1,023.68	2,048.00	0.32
Registration/Dues	538.00	1,000.00	(462.00)	2,000.00	1,462.00
Legal - Monthly Meeting	2,000.00	3,000.00	(1,000.00)	6,000.00	4,000.00
Legal - Other Services	2,605.72	7,000.00	(4,394.28)	14,000.01	11,394.29
Liability Insurance	2,362.68	1,155.00	1,207.68	2,310.00	(52.68)
Office Supplies	161.62	600.00	(438.38)	1,200.00	1,038.38
Printing & Reproduction	747.07	1,000.00	(252.93)	2,000.00	1,252.93
Postage	259.87	450.00	(190.13)	900.00	640.13
Audit	9,130.00	4,565.00	4,565.00	9,130.00	0.00
Bookkeeping/Financial Asst.	0.00	999.99	(999.99)	2,000.00	2,000.00
Publications/Software	0.00	100.00	(100.00)	200.00	200.00
State Fees/Assessments	175.00	87.51	87.49	175.00	0.00
Web Page/Internet Services	602.88	1,075.00	(472.12)	2,150.00	1,547.12
Telephone	469.78	550.00	(80.22)	1,100.00	630.22
Travel	2,889.32	4,750.00	(1,860.68)	9,500.00	6,610.68
Contingency Funds	394.00	614.50	(220.50)	1,229.00	835.00
Legislative Consultant	21,000.00	21,000.00	0.00	42,000.00	21,000.00
FY12 Purvis Gray Rate Analysis	0.00	6,000.00	(6,000.00)	12,000.00	12,000.00
Phase 2 Irrigation Auditor	2,400.00	34,792.00	(32,392.00)	69,584.00	67,184.00
FY15 Local Govt Water Cons Proj	0.00	65,000.00	(65,000.00)	130,000.00	130,000.00
General Services Acct	10,537.79	37,500.00	(26,962.21)	75,000.00	64,462.21
Phase 3 Irrigation Audit Progra	22,099.41	28,500.00	(6,400.59)	57,000.00	34,900.59
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>139,254.44</b>	<b>280,013.00</b>	<b>(140,758.56)</b>	<b>560,026.01</b>	<b>420,771.57</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Position</b>	<b>43,764.85</b>	<b>(55,605.00)</b>	<b>99,369.85</b>	<b>(111,210.01)</b>	<b>(154,974.86)</b>

See Accompanying Independent Accountant's Compilation Report

**Item 9.c.**  
**Correspondence**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Diane Salz**

**850.339.8550**

**WITHLACOOCHEE WATER AUTHORITY ADOPTS FY2015-16 BUDGET**

*Enhanced Efficiencies are an Added Benefit for Member Governments*

LECANTO, FL, May 20, 2015 – The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's Board of Directors representing Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties adopted its 2015-16 budget, representing reduced costs and enhanced efficiencies for member governments. The Authority's per capita assessment has remained \$0.19 for the past five years, while overall expenditures for the coming year will be 19.9% less. Notably, the Authority's administrative budget is reduced by 1.9% from the current year owing to a diligent effort to hold the line and reduce, where possible, all administrative expenses. This is the fourth consecutive year that the Authority has successfully reduced its Administrative budget. The water resource development projects budget will be 31.3% less than the current year, reflecting completion of several key projects. Projects included in the coming year's budget continue the Authority's highly successful, on-going regional outdoor irrigation program conducted in partnership with the Southwest Florida Water Management District and Authority member governments. In addition, the Authority's Local Government Water Conservation Grants are funded at the current year's funding level of \$130,000, with grant proposals due by the end of June and will be presented to the Board in September. The grant program is intended to fund water conservation-related projects on a matching basis. Applications and instructions are found on the Authority's website at [www.wrwsa.org](http://www.wrwsa.org). Water conservation continues to be the most cost-effective way to stretch limited fresh ground water supplies in order to meet the region's growing demand. The next Authority Board of Directors meeting will be on June 17th at 3:30 pm at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461.

###



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Diane Salz**  
**850.339.8550**

**WITHLACOOCHEE WATER AUTHORITY HONORS PAST CHAIR**

*Hernando County Commissioner Jim Adkins Advanced Conservation Agenda*

LECANTO, FL, May 20, 2015 -- Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority representing Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties honored immediate past chairman, Hernando County Commissioner Jim Adkins for his outstanding achievements during his tenure. Notably, under Mr. Adkin's leadership, the Authority has significantly reduced water supply demand in the four-county region through water conservation by implementing a most successful outdoor irrigation program in partnership with its member governments and the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). According to Authority Executive Director Richard Owen, "building costly new water supply projects will be delayed through water conservation." Mr. Adkins also led the Authority's participation in SWFWMD's Springs Protection Initiative, and achieved significant milestones including: completion of the Authority's Regional Water Supply Plan; and inter-local agreement update during the 2014 calendar year. The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority is a multi-county special district of the State of Florida charged with planning for and developing cost-efficient, high-quality water supplies for its member governments. The Authority promotes environmental stewardship through its water conservation programs and will develop alternative water sources when necessary to augment traditional water supplies to meet the region's long-term needs. The Authority's next meeting will be June 17, 2015 at 3:30 p.m., in the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461.

###



May 27, 2015

Mr. Randy Oliver, Citrus County Administrator  
110 N. Apopka Avenue  
Inverness, FL 34450

Re: WRWSA Budget for FY 2015-16

Dear Mr. Oliver:

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority or WRWSA) Board approved its budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16 at its May 20, 2015 meeting. Attached is a copy of the budget and the Authority's FY 2015-16 Work Program. The budget is based upon, in part, maintaining the current \$0.19 per capita contribution from each County, resulting in Citrus County contributing \$26,752 in per capita revenues. In addition, pursuant to the Contract for Water Supply between the County and the Authority governing the Charles A. Black Wellfield, the budget also includes \$60,000 in Administrative Revenue and \$163,587 in Amortization Payments from the County.

The Authority's Work Program for the fiscal year calls for continued development and implementation of its regional work program to ensure our member governments' long-range water supply needs are met in a cost-effective and sustainable manner. We have maintained our local government grants program and our residential irrigation audit program to assist our member governments in water conservation. We continue to monitor and engage with the water management districts, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and other state agencies, and the State Legislature to stay abreast of water management activities that may affect this region and to advocate for the interests of our member governments and public supply water needs within our region.

I hope this information is sufficient for your budgetary needs. If you need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Owen, AICP  
Executive Director

Oliver, Citrus County  
May 27, 2015  
Page 2 of 2

Enclosures (2)

RSO/nhs

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Kristin Demers, Director, Management and Budget  
Ken Cheek, Water Resources Director  
Debra Burden, Water Conservation Manager

**FY 2015/2016 Budget Letters List of Copies:**

**WRWSA Board Members**

**Citrus County:**

Randy Oliver, County Administrator  
Kristin Demers, Office of Management and Budget Director  
Ken Cheek, Water Resources Director  
Debra Burden, Water Conservation Manager

**Hernando County:**

Leonard B. Sossamon, County Administrator  
Brian Malmberg, Assistant County Administrator, Operations  
Susan Goebel-Canning, P.E., Utilities Director  
Alys Brockway, Water Conservation Coordinator  
George W. Zoettlein, Assistant County Administrator, Management & Budget

**Marion County:**

Bill Kauffman, Interim County Administrator  
John Garri, Finance Director  
Flip Mellinger, Utilities Director  
Jacob Arnette, Water Resources Coordinator

**Sumter County:**

Brad Arnold, County Administrator  
Gloria Hayward, Clerk of the Court

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

**Adopted Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget**

May 20, 2015

	4/1/14 Population Estimate	Comments	Fiscal Year 2015-16	Fiscal Year 2014-15	\$ Change	% Change
<b>Revenues</b>						
Revenues: Administrative						
Assessments:						
Citrus	140,798	249 person increase	\$26,752	\$26,704	\$47	0.2%
Hernando	174,955	1,147 person increase	\$33,241	\$33,024	\$218	0.7%
Marion	337,455	2,447 person increase	\$64,116	\$63,652	\$465	0.7%
Sumter	111,125	6,021 person increase	\$21,114	\$19,970	\$1,144	5.7%
Total Population/Assessments @						
19¢/Capita	764,333	See Attachment 1 for detail	\$145,223	\$143,349	\$1,874	1.3%
Administrative Revenue from Citrus Contract		Based on Citrus County contract	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal			\$205,223	\$203,349	\$1,874	0.9%
Carryover Administration Reserve Funds (FYE 14/15 Estimate) (SBA1)		See Attachment 2 for detail	\$454,426	\$464,052	-\$9,626	-2.1%
Total Administrative Revenue Available			\$659,649	\$667,401	-\$7,752	-1.2%
Revenues: Water Resource Development (WRD) Projects						
Phase 2 Irrigation Audit Program SWFWMD Matching Funds		See Attach 3 for detail	\$750	\$35,295	-\$34,545	-97.9%
Phase 2 Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		See Attach 3 for detail	\$0	\$3,834	-\$3,834	-100.0%
Phase 3 Irrigation Audit Program SWFWMD Matching Funds		See Attach 4 for detail	\$8,825	\$28,500		
Phase 3 Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		See Attach 4 for detail	\$4,413	\$14,250		
Annual Citrus Amortization Payments (SBA2)		Based on Citrus County contract	\$163,587	\$163,587	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal			\$177,575	\$245,466	-\$67,891	-27.7%
Carryover WRD Reserve Funds (FYE 14/15 Estimate) (SBA2)		See Attachment 2 for detail	\$880,795	\$784,031	\$96,764	12.3%
Total Water Resource Development Revenue Available			\$1,058,370	\$1,029,497	-\$9,506	-0.9%
Total Revenues Available			\$1,718,020	\$1,696,898	-\$17,268	-1.0%



**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

**Adopted Fiscal Year 2015-16 Budget**

May 20, 2015

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2015-16</b>	<b>Fiscal Year 2014-15</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Expenditures: General Administration</b>					
Executive Director	Based on annual contract	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$0	0.0%
Administrative Assistant	Based on annual contract	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$0	0.0%
Legal Services	Based on annual contract:				
Monthly Meetings @ \$500/meeting	Meetings reduced from 12 to 10	\$5,000	\$6,000	-\$1,000	-16.7%
Other Services @ \$150/hr.	Hours reduced based on experience	\$12,000	\$14,000	-\$2,000	-14.3%
Legislative Consultant	Based on annual contract	\$42,000	\$42,000	\$0	0.0%
Advertising	Based on recent usage	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.0%
Audit	Based on 3% CPI	\$9,405	\$9,130	\$275	3.0%
Bookkeeping Services	\$500/quarter per Engagement Letter	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Liability Insurance	Based on FY 14-15 plus 5% rounded up	\$2,500	\$2,310	\$190	8.2%
Office Supplies	Based on recent usage	\$800	\$1,200	-\$400	-33.3%
Postage	Based on recent usage	\$800	\$900	-\$100	-11.1%
Printing and Reproduction	Based on recent usage	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Publications/Software	Based on recent usage	\$200	\$200	\$0	0.0%
Rent (Lecanto Gov't Bldg)	Based on lease agreement	\$2,048	\$2,048	\$0	0.0%
Registrations/Dues	Based on inventory	\$1,900	\$2,000	-\$100	-5.0%
State Fees/Assessments	Based on recent usage	\$175	\$175	\$0	0.0%
Telephone	Based on recent usage	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$0	0.0%
Travel	Based on recent usage	\$9,000	\$9,500	-\$500	-5.3%
Web Page / Computer Maintenance	Based on recent usage	\$2,000	\$2,150	-\$150	-7.0%
Contingencies	@ 5% of non-contract admin costs	\$1,000	\$1,229	-\$229	-18.6%
<b>Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures</b>		<b>\$212,428</b>	<b>\$216,442</b>	<b>-\$4,014</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>
Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves FYE 15/16	FYE14/15 Admin Funds Bal + FY15/16 Admin Rev's - FY15/16 Admin Exp's	\$447,221	\$450,959	-\$3,738	-0.8%
<b>Expenditures: Water Resource Development Projects</b>					
General Services Contract	RFQ's - Firms on Call	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0.0%
Local Government Grant Program	Based on Board direction	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$0	0.0%
Phase 2 Irrigation Audit Program	See Attach 3 Ph 2 Program	\$1,500	\$69,584	-\$68,084	-97.8%
Phase 3 Irrigation Audit Program	See Attach 4 Ph 3 Program	\$17,650	\$57,000		
Purvis Gray Rate Analysis (CAB WSF)	Continuation of Contract with Purvis Gray	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - Water Resource Development Projects</b>		<b>\$236,150</b>	<b>\$343,584</b>	<b>-\$107,434</b>	<b>-31.3%</b>
Fund Balance for Water Resource Development Reserves FYE 15/16	FYE14/15 WRD Funds Bal + FY15/16 WRD Rev's - FY15/16 WRD Exp's	\$822,595	\$685,913	\$136,682	19.9%
<b>Total Administration and WRD Expenses</b>		<b>\$448,578</b>	<b>\$560,026</b>	<b>-\$111,448</b>	<b>-19.9%</b>
<b>Total Administration and WRD Fund Balances at FYE 15/16</b>	See Attachment 2 for detail	<b>\$1,269,817</b>	<b>\$1,136,872</b>	<b>\$132,945</b>	<b>11.7%</b>
<b>Combined Expenditures and Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$1,718,395</b>	<b>\$1,698,898</b>	<b>\$21,498</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**CALCULATION OF REVENUE FOR 2015-16  
AND  
CALCULATION OF AMOUNT OF FUNDS NEEDED FROM RESERVES  
May 20, 2015**

Revenue	4/1/14 Population	Annual Amount	Sub-Totals
LOCAL ASSESSMENTS @ 19¢ PER CAPITA			
Citrus	140,798	\$26,752	
Hernando	174,955	\$33,241	
Marion	337,455	\$64,116	
Sumter	111,125	\$21,114	
Subtotal	764,333		\$145,223
CHARLES A. BLACK WATER SUPPLY FACILITY			
Amortization of Wellfield Cost		\$163,587	
Administrative Contribution		\$60,000	
Subtotal			\$223,587
MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR STUDIES			
SWFWMD Match for Phase 2 Irrigation Audits		\$750	
Cooperator Match for Phase 2 Irrigation Audit Program		\$375	
SWFWMD Match for Phase 3 Irrigation Audits		\$8,825	
Cooperator Match for Phase 3 Irrigation Audit Program		\$4,413	
Subtotal			\$14,363
TOTAL REVENUE FOR FY 2015-16			\$383,173
Less: 2015-16 Administration Expense			-\$212,428
Less: 2015-16 WRD Cost			-\$236,150
<b>Funds Required from WRWSA Reserves</b>			<b>-\$65,405</b>

**ATTACHMENT 2****ANALYSIS OF BEGINNING FUND BALANCES****FY 2015 - 2016****May 20, 2015**

<b>ANALYSIS OF WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND BALANCE</b>		
03/31/15 WRDF Balance (SBA2)		\$946,405
<b>FY 2014-15 WRD Fund Revenues</b>		
Citrus Co. Payments 4/15 - 9/15 @ \$13,632.25/month		\$81,794
Irrigation Audit Phase 2 Reimbursements		\$8,739
Irrigation Audit Phase 3 Reimbursements		\$25,350
Subtotal		\$1,062,287
<b>Less: FY 2014-15 Remaining Contract Balances:</b>		
2014-15 Citrus Water Conservation Program	\$40,250	
2014-15 Hernando Water Conservation Program	\$48,150	
2014-15 Marion Water Conservation Program	\$32,350	
Irrigation Audit Phase 2	\$12,923	
Irrigation Audit Phase 3	\$17,650	
2014-15 General Services Contract	\$18,170	
Purvis Gray CAB Support	\$12,000	
Expenditures Subtotal		\$181,492
Total WRD Funds at end of FY2014-15		\$880,795
<b>ANALYSIS OF ADMINISTRATIVE FUND BALANCE</b>		
03/31/15 Admin Bal (SBA1)		\$524,470
Admin from CAB WSF @ \$5,000/month		\$30,000
Less remaining FY Admin costs for 6 months		-\$100,044
Total Administrative Funds at end of FY2014-15		\$454,426
<b>PROJECTED FUND BALANCES AT END OF FY2015-16</b>		
Total Fund Balances beginning of FY 2015-16:		\$1,335,221
Add: 2015-16 Revenues		\$383,173
Deduct 2015-16 Expenses:		-\$448,578
<b>Projected Fund Balances at end of FY 2015-16:</b>		<b>\$1,269,817</b>

**ATTACHMENT 3**  
**Analysis of Revenues and Expenditures**  
**Phase 2 Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Program (N491)**  
May 20, 2015

ANALYSIS OF PHASE 2 REGIONAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM EVALUATION, CFI PROGRAM N491								
<b>REVENUE</b>								
	2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016	Program Total
	Budget	Received	Budget	Received	Budget	Projected	Budget	
SWFWMD Match	\$21,030	\$8,220	\$52,585	\$25,787	\$35,295	\$8,739	\$750	\$43,496
LG Match	\$36,038	\$24,100	\$0	\$1,570		\$500	281	\$26,170
Villages Match	\$2,628	\$2,693	\$6,573	\$2,742	\$3,834	\$453	94	\$5,888
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$59,696</b>	<b>\$35,013</b>	<b>\$59,158</b>	<b>\$30,099</b>	<b>\$39,129</b>	<b>\$9,692</b>	<b>\$1,125</b>	<b>\$75,929</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>								
	2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016	Program Total
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Projected	Budget	
	\$42,060	\$17,446	\$105,170	\$50,874	\$69,584	\$12,923	\$1,500	\$82,743

**Notes:**

Phase 2 evaluations and follow-up inspections will be complete by September 30, 2015.

The final report will be completed and a final invoice, if any, will be submitted by November 30, 2015.

Contract expiration date is December 31, 2015.

Funds on Deposit: Received \$12,012.50 from Citrus and Hernando counties each, for a total of \$24,025. Only portions of this money will be spent.  
Will be using these remaining funds to cover portions of Phase 3 costs.

**ATTACHMENT 4**  
**Analysis of Revenues and Expenditures**  
**Phase 3 Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Program (N640)**  
May 20, 2016

<b>ANALYSIS OF PHASE 3 REGIONAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM EVALUATION, CFI PROGRAM N640</b>								
<b>REVENUE</b>								
	<b>2014-2015</b>		<b>2015-2016</b>		<b>2016-2017</b>		<b>Total Contract</b>	
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Projected</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Projected</b>		
SWFWMD Match	\$28,500	\$25,350	\$8,825	\$8,825	\$1,375	\$1,375	\$35,550	
LG Match	\$14,250	\$12,675	\$4,413	\$4,413	\$688	\$688	\$17,775	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$42,750</b>	<b>\$38,025</b>	<b>\$13,238</b>	<b>\$13,238</b>	<b>\$2,063</b>	<b>\$2,063</b>	<b>\$53,325</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>								
	<b>2014-2015</b>		<b>2015-2016</b>		<b>2016-2017</b>		<b>Total</b>	
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Est. Act.</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Projected</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Projected</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	\$57,000	\$50,700	\$17,650	\$17,650	\$2,750	\$2,750	\$71,100	

EXPENDITURES: Revised based on final contract between SWFWMD/WRWSA

Notes:

LG Matching Revenues will come from "Funds on Deposit." Except, MC may have to issue PO for balance.

Expenditures	Expenditure Calculations								Total Program Budget
Item	Cost	2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017			
	\$ per item	#	Total	#	Total	#	Total		
	Evaluations	\$340.00	105	\$35,700.00	35	\$11,900.00	0	\$0.00	\$47,600.00
	Sensor	\$75.00	105	\$7,875.00	35	\$2,625.00	0	\$0.00	\$10,500.00
	Follow-up	\$100.00	0	\$0.00	10	\$1,000.00	25	\$2,500.00	\$3,500.00
	Administration	\$50.00	105	\$5,250.00	35	\$1,750.00		\$0.00	\$7,000.00
	Marketing	\$2,500.00	75%	\$1,875.00	15%	\$375.00	10%	\$250.00	\$2,500.00
				\$50,700.00		\$17,650.00		\$2,750.00	
	Revenues: Calculate at 75%							\$71,100.00	\$71,100.00

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
2015-16 Work Program**

**1. Joint Funding of Water Conservation Projects with Member Local Governments**

The Authority will continue its grant program to assist local governments in improving water conservation within the region in order to extend the use of groundwater as long as possible. Fresh groundwater is the least expensive source available to meet growing demands, however there is a limit to this source due to environmental impacts and impacts on other existing legal users caused by withdrawals. As the limit to fresh groundwater resources is reached, alternative, more expensive water sources will need to be developed. At the present time however, water conservation programs are the most appropriate way for the Authority to help local governments extend the use of lower cost groundwater supplies. Since 2002, the Authority has expended approximately \$1.5 million for local government projects in the region. During fiscal year 2015-16, the proposed budget anticipates appropriating an additional \$130,000 toward local government water conservation projects. Proposals will be considered from local governments and public supply utilities in the Authority's jurisdiction. The grant program guidelines and application package may be found on the Authority's web page at [www.wrwsa.org](http://www.wrwsa.org). The water conservation activities co-funded by this grant program help participating utilities meet and surpass the maximum 150 gallons per person per day that is required by the SWFWMD no later than 2019.

**2. Legislative and Governmental Affairs Advocacy on Behalf of the Authority and Its Member Governments**

The Authority Board, since 2002, has conducted legislative and governmental affairs advocacy year-round to promote initiatives on behalf of the Authority and its member governments and to protect the Authority's interests. Historically, the Authority has played a vital role in fine-tuning state and regional water supply planning, permitting and funding programs including "local sources first" and the Water Protection and Sustainability Program (SB 444). Each year prior to the Legislative Session the Authority Board reviews and approves policy direction to guide its advocacy efforts. Progress reports are provided on a regular basis. It is anticipated that during fiscal year 2015-16 the Florida Legislature will continue to revamp the state's comprehensive water policies and funding programs. The recent passage of the Constitutional Land and Water Conservation Amendment 1 has put priority emphasis by legislative leadership on the need to re-examine water resources policy and funding. The Authority will remain fully engaged in assisting the Legislature to methodically evaluate and revamp the state's comprehensive water policies and funding programs.

**3. Continuation of the Regional Residential Irrigation Audit Program to Promote Water Conservation within the Region**

This project provides an opportunity for residential water utility customers to obtain site-specific evaluations for optimizing the use of water through landscaping techniques and efficient irrigation systems, and to implement recommendations provided by a professionally certified contractor. Contractors used for the site-specific evaluations are professionals certified by the Florida Irrigation Society (FIS) or other recognized certifying agency in the targeted region. The initiative includes program information, water conservation education, reporting and analysis by a consultant. This continuing project targets existing inefficient landscape and irrigation water use and results in documented water savings and can lead to water quality protection through reduced

leaching of fertilizers and lawn chemicals. Results from the Pilot project indicate a total water savings of 29 million gallons per year for 230 residential customers, representing an average reduction in total water use of 36%.

The Authority initiated the Pilot program in 2011 with joint funding from the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). During Phase 2 of the program, 162 customers received evaluations of their irrigation systems; this program will be completed in fiscal year 2014-15. Phase 3 began on October 1, 2014 and will continue into fiscal year 2016-17. The three programs combined will reach 532 utility customers. This water conservation initiative also helps participating utilities meet and surpass the maximum 150 gallons per person per day that is required by the SWFWMD no later than 2019.

**4. Complete Revisions to the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility Agreement and Associated Rate**

During fiscal year 2011-12, the Board authorized a study of the current contract with Citrus County for water supply from the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility (CABWSF). The Authority put this facility into service in 1992. The Authority contracted with Citrus County to operate and maintain the facility. The current contract provides for an allocation of 2 MGD for Citrus County from the facility. However, for a number of years, the County has been utilizing significantly more water supply from the wellfield. The current contract expires in the early 2020's. The Authority engaged Purvis Gray & Company, CPAs, to prepare a rate analysis and recommend changes to the current contract between the Authority and Citrus County. A draft of this study was completed in the 2013-14 fiscal year. The Authority also retained Cardno TBE to update the engineering analysis of the facilities. This work was completed in fiscal year 2012-13. The objective of this initiative is for the Authority and Citrus County to reach a mutually acceptable new rate agreement that bases revenue to the Authority on water use and puts the Authority in a more long-term sustainable financial position.

**5. Continuation of Cooperation with Citrus County in Operation of the Authority's Charles A. Black Wellfield and Water Supply Facility**

The CABWSF is currently operating and supplying water to the Citrus County 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.

**6. Central Florida Groundwater Model Development**

The first phase of this project was jointly funded by the SWFWMD, St. Johns River WMD, Marion County and the Authority. The project was initiated in fiscal year 2012-13. Phase 1 of the project entailed updating and expanding the SWFWMD's Northern District Groundwater Model to encompass all of Marion County and to incorporate the most recent hydrologic data. Phase 1 of the project was successfully completed. The SJRWMD has continued the project to expand the model further to the east coast of Florida. The result of Phase 2 will be a new model that will encompass the entire central part of the state from coast-to-coast and will be utilized by both districts as appropriate. The Authority will continue to participate in the project steering committee to ensure continued cooperation and coordination in the determination of groundwater availability in the region. The intent is for both water management districts to utilize the same groundwater model for all of Marion County and the surrounding region in determining the availability of groundwater.

**7. Program Development and Technical Assistance**

- a) Support efforts to further define the hydrogeology of the region. Continue cooperation with the water management districts on the collection of hydrologic data to further refine the Districts' planning and regulatory models. Coordinate on efforts to better define the lower Floridan aquifer and the extent of fresh and brackish groundwater within the aquifer.
- b) Promote the WRWSA Regional Framework through coordination with WRWSA member governments to facilitate regional and sub-regional cooperation on water supply development and reclaimed water projects. Work with the SWFWMD in defining strategic priorities for the northern region and how these priorities may influence the ranking criteria for the District's Cooperative Funding Initiative, including potential District funding for regional and sub-regional traditional and non-traditional water supply development that is consistent with the WRWSA Regional Framework.
- c) Monitor SWFWMD and SJRWMD development of minimum flows and levels (MFLs). Provide technical assistance to WRWSA member governments in determining the potential impact to both the environment and potential water supply development based on proposed MFLs from the Districts.
- d) Work with the SWFWMD and SJRWMD as they update their respective regional water supply plans to ensure the interests of the Authority and its member governments are represented in the process.
- e) Coordinate with FDEP, SJRWMD, SWFWMD and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services on policy and rule development. Provide assistance to WRWSA member governments on FDEP and District rule development that may include Water Use Permitting, Environmental Resource Permitting, water conservation and future water supply development, including the statewide consistency initiatives. Monitor water management programs and rule development in other parts of the state, including the Central Florida Water Initiative, for implications to the WRWSA and its member governments.
- f) Monitor and coordinate with the water supply planning and development activities in adjacent communities and regions, including but not limited to Tampa Bay Water, the Central Florida Water Initiative and Lake and Levy counties for possible implications on water resource availability within the WRWSA region. Provide input to such activities when appropriate.





May 26, 2015

Mr. Michael Babb, Chairman  
Southwest Florida Water Management District  
2379 Broad Street  
Brooksville, Florida 34604

Dear Mr. Babb:

The purpose of this letter is to express our concerns with the District's proposed relocation of its Headquarters from its current location in Brooksville, Florida. The Board of Directors of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority received a report on this topic at its regularly scheduled Board meeting on May 20, 2015. At this meeting, the Board authorized me to send this letter to ensure our interests are taken into consideration by the District in a timely manner. The Board also instructed its staff to develop a proposed Resolution addressing the issue for the Authority Board's consideration at its June 17, 2015 regular monthly meeting.

At our May Board meeting, a number of concerns were discussed regarding the potential for the District to relocate its Headquarters from its current location to its Tampa Service Office. These concerns revolve around the potential negative impacts to the Authority, its member governments and other District stakeholders from throughout the District's northern region. Concerns include the potential for a reduction in the staffing levels at the Brooksville office over time, particularly since the proposed relocation to Tampa is, based upon the discussions at the District Governing Board's May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, intended to address future staff recruitment. A reduction in staff resources at the current Brooksville Headquarters would eventually lead to a reduction in the services and programs available at the Brooksville office. Other concerns included the fact that numerous District staff that currently work in the Brooksville Headquarters live within Hernando County and the surrounding communities, providing a significant economic benefit to the area. Relocation of the Headquarters would lead to a significant negative economic impact upon the local economy. In addition, the District has made substantial investment of public financial resources in the buildings and other infrastructure at the current Headquarters that could be put in jeopardy should the Headquarters be relocated.

Due to these and other concerns, we would ask that the District Governing Board give ample time for our input, and the input of other stakeholders from the northern District region, before making a decision on the Headquarters relocation. I understand the District Governing Board, at its May 19<sup>th</sup>

Michael Babb, Chairman  
May 21, 2015  
Page 2 of 2

meeting, decided to postpone action on this item for "up to 60 days." We would respectfully request that the District Governing Board provide this full 60 days, if not longer, before making a decision. This will allow ample time for the Authority Board, local governments and others to meet and provide their official input to the District on this important topic. We would also welcome the opportunity for our staff, along with other stakeholders from the District's northern region, to meet with District staff to discuss this issue.

Sincerely,



Al Butler, Chairman

cc: Authority Board of Directors  
Authority Legislative Delegation  
Robert Beltran, SWFWMD Executive Director  
Local Governments Within the WRWSA

## **WRWSA Members**

### **Citrus County**

Randy Oliver, County Administrator  
Citrus County  
110 N. Apopka Ave.  
Inverness, FL 34450

### **Hernando County**

Leonard Sossamon, County  
Administrator  
Hernando County  
20 N. Main St., Room 263  
Brooksville, FL 34601

### **Marion County**

Bill Kauffman, Interim County  
Administrator  
Marion County  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Ocala, FL 34471

### **Sumter County**

Bradley Arnold, County Administrator  
Sumter County  
7375 Powell Rd., Suite 200  
Wildwood, FL 34785

## **WRWSA Municipalities**

Christine K. Dobkowski, Mayor  
City of Belleview  
5343 S.E. Abshier Blvd.  
Belleview, FL 34420

T. Jennene Norman-Vacha, City  
Manager  
City of Brooksville  
201 Howell Ave.  
Brooksville, FL 34601-2041

Bruce Hickie, City Manager  
City of Bushnell  
P.O. Box 115  
Bushnell, FL 33513

Gene Bowles, Mayor  
City of Center Hill  
P.O. Box 649  
Center Hill, FL 33514

Milton Hill, Mayor  
City of Coleman  
P.O. Box 456  
Coleman, FL 33521

Dave Burnell, City Manager  
City of Crystal River  
123 US Hwy 19  
Crystal River, FL 34428

Eddie Esch, City Manager  
City of Dunnellon  
20750 River Dr.  
Dunnellon, FL 34431

Mayor Cary McCollum  
Town of McIntosh  
P.O. Box 165  
McIntosh, FL 32664

Town of Reddick  
P.O. Box 99  
Reddick, FL 32686-9999

City of Webster  
Kelly A. Williams, Mayor  
P.O. Box 28  
Webster, FL 33597

City of Wildwood  
100 N. Main St.  
Wildwood, FL 34785

Frank DiGiovanni, City Manager  
City of Inverness  
212 W. Main St.  
Inverness, FL 34450

John Zobler, City Manager  
City of Ocala  
110 SE Watula Ave.  
Ocala, FL 34471

**Legislative Delegation**

The Honorable Charlie Dean  
State Senator, District 5  
405 Tompkins St.  
Inverness, FL 34450

The Honorable Jimmie T. Smith  
Florida House of Representatives,  
District 34  
212 W. Main St., Suite 208A  
Inverness, FL 34450-4855

The Honorable Wilton Simpson  
State Senator, District 18  
P.O. Box 787  
New Port Richey, FL 34656

The Honorable Blaise Ingoglia  
Florida House of Representatives,  
District 35  
214 House Office Bldg.  
402 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

The Honorable Alan Hays  
State Senator, District 11  
871 S. Central Ave.  
Umatilla, FL 32784-9290

The Honorable Dorothy L. Hukill  
State Senator, District 8  
209 Dunlawton Ave., Unit 17  
Port Orange, FL 32127

The Honorable Dennis K. Baxley  
Florida House of Representatives,  
District 23  
315 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Ocala, FL 34471-2689

The Honorable Marlene H. O'Toole  
Florida House of Representatives,  
District 33  
916 Avenida Central  
The Villages, FL 32159-5704

The Honorable Clovis Watson  
Florida House of Representatives,  
District 20  
2815 NW 13<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 202  
Gainesville, FL 32609-2865

The Honorable Charlie Stone  
Florida House of Representatives  
3001 SW College Rd., Suite 104  
Ocala, FL 34471-4415

**Item 9.d.  
News Articles**

## **Ex-water official right to question SWFWMD move**

Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at 7:17 pm

In recent years, blows have been dealt to the state's water management districts, deflating their authority, structural depth and financial wherewithal. There's a skewed mindset in Tallahassee that matters of great local significance are adequately handled by officials far from the sources of concern.

Steps by the governor and state officials to trim the bureaucratic fat within the water districts have, in cases, been necessary and appropriate. However, Florida is on a path largely contrary to the best interest of its waters and those who care about them.

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) is huge, stretching from the northern tips of Levy and Marion counties southward through Charlotte County. To make it manageable, the district is broken into five regions, with all of Citrus, Hernando and Sumter counties in the Northern Planning Region, along with portions of Levy, Marion and Lake counties.

There are three SWFWMD service offices – one in Brooksville, another in Tampa and one in Sarasota. A movement is afoot to make Tampa the headquarters, consolidating key functions there.

Former SWFWMD executive director Emilio "Sonny" Vergara makes some good points as to why designating the Tampa facility as the principal office is suspect. He notes the decision was simply announced by the current executive director in an internal email. Vergara appropriately asks: Why no public notice? Why wasn't such a resolution on a governing board agenda? Why was there no public announcement of the plan?

Vergara brings up several valid reasons why the decision is a bad one, but looming in the background is a sense that this is a political power play, not a strategic decision to better manage SWFWMD.

State legislators representing Hernando County oppose the move based on the logical assumption that it will siphon jobs and residents/taxpayers from there to metro Tampa Bay. While water district officials may contend there's no imminent plan to relocate a majority of the Brooksville jobs to Tampa — hence no economic blow to Hernando County — Vergara notes that in recent years, numerous jobs/water district functions have been shifted southward.

While such a move wouldn't carry those ramifications for Citrus County, there are sound reasons to stick with three service offices rather a Tampa HQ with two outlying service offices — Brooksville and Sarasota.

There are unique differences between the various planning regions within SWFWMD. In the case of Citrus County, we're water-rich with a healthy aquifer, a host of freshwater springs, rivers and lakes. The central and southern areas of SWFWMD aren't freshwater rich and development interests exert great power, regardless of available natural resources to fuel growth.

Not so long ago, there were basin boards within SWFWMD consisting of local representatives addressing local concerns. Those boards were dismantled with the governor's tweaking of the water districts, wedging distance between the people and entities SWFWMD serves.

While the contention that Tampa is central, therefore a convenient meeting place, has a ring of logic for governing board members, that's not the case for many citizens and those doing business with SWFWMD.

The need to have Citrus

County's concerns well represented was initially undermined with the dissolution of the basin boards. The fact that the governor has allowed the vacancy of a Citrus/Levy/Lake/Sumter appointee to the SWFWMD governing board to linger compounds concerns about us having a voice. That leaves a lot of power in the hands of board members representing metro counties.

SWFWMD should not have an urban-centric perspective when there's such a great diversity within its region. By creating a business model that revolves around Tampa, there's ample reason to fear that the best interests of our corner of the water district will be secondary to the interests of metro Tampa Bay— which is an hour-plus drive and a world away from Citrus County.



Subject: Fwd: SJRWMD has a new director  
From: Diane Salz <salz.govconsultant@gmail.com>  
Date: Fri, May 22, 2015 9:18 am  
To: Richard Owen <richardowen@wrwsa.org>  
Cc: Nancy Smith <nsmith@wrwsa.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Diane Salz <[disalz@yahoo.com](mailto:disalz@yahoo.com)>  
Date: Fri, May 22, 2015 at 9:16 AM  
Subject: SJRWMD has a new director  
To: Diane Salz <[salz.govconsultant@gmail.com](mailto:salz.govconsultant@gmail.com)>

The St. Johns River Water Management District has a new executive director.

She arrives on the heels of a shake-up of its leadership that left five senior positions open.

90.7's Amy Green has been following the story. She spoke with Crystal Chavez about the new executive director.

CRYSTAL: Who is she?

AMY: Ann Shortelle is executive director of the Suwannee River Water Management District. Before that she was director of water policy at the state Department of Environmental Protection.

She is highly regarded, although some environmentalists worry she is too close to the DEP.

CRYSTAL: Let's back-track a little bit. Five people left in a big shake-up. Did anyone see this coming?

AMY: It's unclear.

What we do know is that the four senior managers submitted letters of resignation the same week the water district's executive director also stepped down. He had announced his resignation in March. Two of the four announced their resignations "in lieu of termination."

Together the five had nearly a century of experience at the water district. They were involved in land management and ensuring the region's future water supply.

Many environmentalists like the St. Johns Riverkeeper believe the departures are a sign of growing state influence in regional water decisions. They believe their conservation work conflicted with the Scott administration's growth-oriented agenda, and they were forced out.

CRYSTAL: Is more state influence in regional water decisions a bad thing?

AMY: Florida's five water districts were established to remove politics from the decision-making over the state's environmental resources. At the time the arrangement was seen as unique nationally and a model.

I talked with St. Johns Riverkeeper Lisa Rinaman. She says more centralized control makes way for political influence in these decisions.

"These decisions instead of based on sound science they actually could be more influenced by special interests who are using their relationships, using their presence in Tallahassee to influence decisions that should be made closer to the watershed."

CRYSTAL: Amy Green, now the water district is back in the news. The Orlando Sentinel reports a massive development planned for Deseret Ranch is being forwarded to the state for consideration despite environmental concerns. Is there a link between this project and the mass exodus?

AMY: I talked with Charles Lee of Audubon of Florida. He doesn't think so. He believes what happened at the St. Johns River Water Management District is part of a bigger picture.

Lee says soon after Gov. Rick Scott took office the South Florida Water Management District, Southwest Florida Water Management District and Suwannee River Water Management District all experienced similar turnover.

"What's now happened is the St. Johns district has been swept or purged in the same way that the other districts were earlier."

That means four of the state's five water districts all have undergone this turnover. Lee says the Northwest Florida Water Management District has experienced similar change but is less active because it receives less funding.

CRYSTAL: What does the governor's office say about these claims by environmentalists that they're playing politics with the water districts.

AMY: The governor's office didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Here's state Department of Environmental Protection spokeswoman Lauren Engel disputing any state influence in the turnover at the St. Johns River Water Management District.

"The St. Johns River Water Management District executive director has sole authority over their hiring decisions."

The water district's acting executive director issued a statement saying it wouldn't be productive to elaborate on the departures.

CRYSTAL: So, Amy Green, how does this affect me?

AMY: The St. Johns River Water Management District is like a gatekeeper to your drinking water.

One of the things the water district does is grant water use permits. The water district controls who gets to draw from your drinking water supply and how much.

This is important because as you know the region is growing fast, straining the water supply.

Subject: Fw: CFWI public meetings and permitting tip  
From: Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>  
Date: Tue, May 26, 2015 11:31 am  
To: Richard Owen <richardowen@wrwsa.org>  
Cc: Nancy Smith <nsmith@wrwsa.org>

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Water News <waternews@sjrwmd.com>  
To: disalz@yahoo.com  
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2015 11:24 AM  
Subject: CFWI public meetings and permitting tip

Email not displaying correctly? [Click to view online](#)

St. Johns River Water Management District

# Water News

News, meetings  
and notices

May 26, 2015

## Public meetings next week to discuss CFWI planning documents

Two public meetings are scheduled for next week to provide an opportunity for the public to learn about and comment on the Central Florida Water Initiative (CFWI) draft 2035 Water Resources Protection and Water Supply Strategies Plan (Solutions Plan) and minor changes to the draft 2015 Regional Water Supply Plan. The two draft documents will set a path forward for meeting water supply needs in central Florida for the next 20 years.

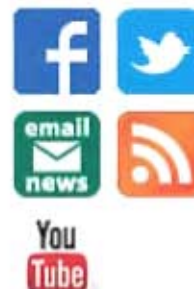
The meetings will include presentations and CFWI experts will be available to answer questions and receive public input.

**Date:** Monday, June 1, 2015  
**Time:** 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Chain of Lakes Complex, 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd. SW, Winter Haven

**Date:** Thursday, June 4, 2015  
**Time:** 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
**Location:** City Hall, 300 W Plant Street, Winter Garden

CFWI is a collaborative effort among the St. Johns, South Florida and Southwest Florida water management districts, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, regional

### Connect with us



### Upcoming meetings

For a listing of upcoming meeting dates, times and locations, visit:

- [Governing Board meetings and agendas](#)
- [Other District meetings and notices](#)

### Lobbyist registration requirements

### Contacts

District staff contacts for:

- [Local governments](#)
- [Public and media](#)

[How to contact your local government](#)

### About us



public water supply utilities and other stakeholders to develop a unified process to address central Florida's current and long-term water supply needs. The CFWI planning area includes Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole and southern Lake counties.

When finalized, the Solutions Plan will provide detailed information about water conservation; specific water supply project options and partnerships with water users; a financial assessment of the project options; management and implementation strategies.

The draft plans are available at [cfwiwater.com](http://cfwiwater.com). Comments can be provided online or by mail and email. Details are available on the website. The comment period will close on July 31, 2015.

For more information, please visit [cfwiwater.com](http://cfwiwater.com).

The St. Johns River Water Management District is a regional agency of the state of Florida whose mission is to protect and ensure the sustainable use of water resources. The District is responsible for managing groundwater and surface water resources in all or part of 18 counties in northeast and east-central Florida.

[floridaswater.com](http://floridaswater.com)

#### *Permitting tip*

### **Transfer of environmental resource permits**

The transfer of an environmental resource permit (ERP) typically falls into one or both of the following categories: an ownership transfer or transfer to the operation and maintenance entity.

All ERPs contain language requiring that (1) within 30 days of a change in ownership, the St. Johns River Water Management District must be notified of the change and the permit transferred to the new owner and, (2) within 30 days of receipt of the as-built certification, the permittee must submit a "Request for Transfer of Environmental Resource Permit to the Perpetual Operation Entity."

The District will need the following information:  
Ownership transfers:

1. Request from current permittee/owner to transfer the permit to a new owner
2. Acceptance of the transfer by the new owner
3. Copy of the instrument effectuating the transfer (i.e., deed)

Transfer to perpetual operation entity:

1. Form 62-330.310(2). Request for Transfer of Environmental Resource Permit to the Perpetual Operation Entity. Complete the form and submit with the required information. The form is available on the [District's website](#).

Please contact your local [service center](#) with any questions.