

Board Meeting Package

June 19, 2013 4:30 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 5, 2013

Subject:

Monthly Meeting of the Withlacoochee Regional

Water Supply Authority

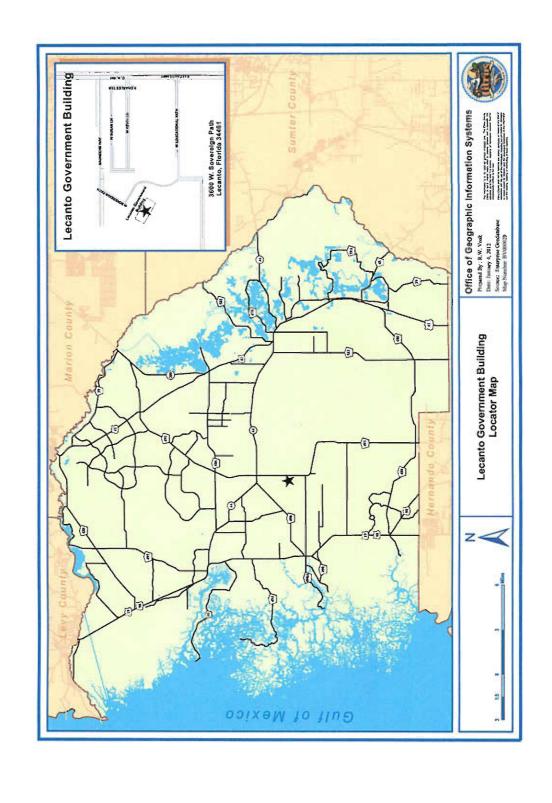
The next meeting of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority will be on Wednesday, June 19, 2013, 4:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Center Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461.

Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- · Minutes of the May 15, 2013 meeting
- Board Package*
 - * Copies of the Board Package are available through the Internet. Log on to www.wrwsa.org. On the Authority's Home Page go to the left side of the page and click on "Meetings." On the slide out menu is a button for the current Board Package. Click on the Board Package to download and print the 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



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

From Brooksville:

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

From Ocala

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

From Bushnell

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

From Wildwood

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



WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

3600 W. SOVEREIGN PATH, ROOM 166 LECANTO, FLORIDA 34461 June 19, 2013 @ 4:30 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.

Item	#1	Call to Order
Item	#2	Roll Call
Item	#3	Introductions and Announcements
Item	#4	Approval of Minutes of May 15, 2013
Item	#5	Approach to Springs Restoration Veronica Craw, SWFWMD Manager, Springs and Environmental Flows Section
Item	#6	Regional Water Supply Plan Update Gregg Jones, Cardno
item	#7	Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget Richard Owen, Executive Director
Item	#8	Executive Director's Report Richard Owen, Executive Director
		 a. Bills to be Paid [to be provided in Hand-out] b. Second Quarter Financial Report c. Board Meeting Times d. Status Report on the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River MFLs Petition e. Correspondence f. News Articles g. Other
Item	#9	Legislative Report Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Liaison
ltem	#10	Attorney's Report Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney a. Senate Bill 50 – Relating to Public Participation at Board Meetings b. Other
Item	#11	Other Business
Item	#12	Public Comment
Item	#13	Next Meeting Time and Location July 17, 2013, 4:30 p.m., Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461
Item	#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 May 15, 2013

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES May 15, 2013

TIME: 4:30 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 Dennis Damato called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) meeting to order at 4:37 p.m. and asked for a roll call.

2. Roll Call

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner
Rebecca Bays, Citrus County Commissioner
Ken Brown, Crystal River City Councilor
Al Butler, Sumter County Commissioner
Dennis Damato, Chairman, Citrus County Commissioner
Gary Ernst, Belleview City Councilor
Joseph Johnston, Brooksville City Councilor
Don Hahnfeldt, Sumter County Commissioner
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilor

MEMBERS ABSENT

Scott Adams, Citrus County Commissioner Kathy Bryant, Marion County Commissioner Wayne Dukes, Hernando County Commissioner Nick Nicholson, Hernando County Commissioner David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner Carl Zalak, Marion County Commissioner

3. Introductions and Announcements

Members of the audience introduced themselves. There were no announcements.

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Gregg Jones, Cardno Entrix Debra Burden, Citrus County Water Resources John Ferguson, SWFWMD Chris Zajac, SWFWMD Al Grubman, TOO FAR
Jan Grubman, TOO Far
Kim Dinkins, Marion County Water Resources
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Water Conservation
Mike Czerwinski, Environmental Consultant
Catherine Walker, SJRWMD

4. Approval of Minutes of April 17, 2013 Meeting

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

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. McClain to approve the minutes for the April 17, 2013 meeting. Mr. Butler seconded the motion.

Mr. Brown requested a correction to the April 17, 2013 minutes regarding Item 7, Water Conservation Month Proclamation. The minutes incorrectly state that Mr. Brown voted against the water conservation proclamation "... to reflect the fact that the Crystal River City Council had voted against adopting a similar resolution requested by the Southwest Florida Water Management District due to their concerns regarding a water use permit issued by the District for a bottled water operation in the city." The correction should state, "because the Mayor did not sign the proclamation with the support of the City Council."

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Hahnfeldt to approve the April 17, 2013 minutes as amended. Mr. McClain seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. Regional Water Supply Plan Update . . . Gregg Jones, Cardno ENTRIX

Mr. Jones presented the second progress report for the Regional Water Supply Plan Update. Work is ongoing in five of the eight task areas including water demand estimates, availability of ground and surface water, conservation and reclaimed water strategies, water supply project options, and meetings with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The first meeting with the TAC was on April 24, 2013; the members of the committee provided good feedback and useful information. The Cardno ENTRIX team continues to work on the availability of surface and groundwater, based on current MFLs. They are working with the local public utilities to get data for the University of Florida EZ Guide Conservation model. Along with conservation efforts, reclaimed projects are expected to play a significant role in meeting the water use needs of this region. Mr. Jones stated that he is meeting individually with utility directors from the member counties and with board members to hear ideas from as many people as possible.

Mr. Owen added that the Northern District Groundwater Flow model is on schedule. He hopes that this model will be available for use in the RWSPU as it includes the most recent information as well as the expanded geographical area.

Mr. Brown requested information from Cardno ENTRIX on the potential Crystal River desalination project. Ms. Bays asked that the team ensure that adequate water demands remain in the plan for future years to accommodate both the possible decline in water use at the Crystal River Nuclear Power Plant and increase in water use at the Levy County nuclear power plant site, which is also likely to affect the region's ground water supplies.

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

6. Water Use at the Duke Energy Nuclear Power Plant During Decommissioning . . . Duke Energy Representative

Mr. Owen stated that he had contacted Duke Energy for a representative to speak to the Board about the future water needs at the Crystal River Power Plant. Duke Energy has indicated that they are willing to speak to the Board, but were unable to attend today's meeting.

7. Local Government Grant Program – Further Board Direction on Program Guidelines . . . Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

Mr. Owen requested that the Board provide direction and clarification on some of the grant application guidelines. Mr. Owen recommended the following statements for the local government grant program:

- 1) Eligibility: That all public supply utilities within the region and member governments are eligible to apply for the WRWSA local government grants.
- 2) <u>Eligibility:</u> That applicants with past or ongoing grant projects may apply for a new grant, provided that the past, or ongoing, grant is on schedule, unless extenuating circumstances warrant a special exception. Such exceptions would be entirely at the discretion of the Authority Board.
- 3) Ranking criteria: That having had a previous grant from the WRWSA will not diminish standing for ranking applications, but will be only one consideration for ranking applications, including past performance in implementing projects.
- 4) Contract provisions: That the WRWSA local grant program be structured whereby invoices may be submitted monthly or bi-monthly for reimbursement of 50% of the costs incurred, consistent with the approved grant contract and scope of services. A provision will be included that the WRWSA grant funds will be refunded if a project is abandoned before it is completed.

The Board confirmed, by consensus, each of the items as stated.

8. Status Report on the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa River MFLs Petition . . . Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

Mr. Owen asked Diane Salz to present recent information that she has obtained from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) about the MFLs petition. Ms. Salz stated that DEP staff indicates that there is some question as to the process, as it is unlike any previous process. There will be a public hearing for testimony from interested parties. DEP will make a determination as to whether the MFLs set for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa rivers were set in accordance with Rule 62-40, F.A.C. Ms. Salz asked DEP staff if this is a jurisdictional matter and whether water quality is one of the criteria for setting the MFLs.

This case is attracting a lot of attention around the region and the state because it is a unique request. The Board requested additional information on the specific MFLs, what geographic area the rivers or springshed basins encumber, and the effect of considering water quality issues.

Mr. Haag added that the petition requests a stricter standard than was set. If DEP determines that the petition is correct, the issue would go back to rule-making and additional hearings before the Governing Board would be held. Otherwise, the determination by the Governing Board would be upheld. Ms. Salz stated that until the matter is resolved, the Governing Board has agreed that they will not set additional MFLs or take further action regarding the water use caution area that will directly impact this area. Mr. Owen explained that to date, neither the Clean Water Act nor nutrient impact has been factored into the decision-making process to set MFLs. If these water quality issues must be used to set the MFLs, all the MFLs set within the state will have to be re-examined.

Chris Zajac, SWFWMD, stated that the SWFWMD staff recommended 91% of historic flows for the Chassahowitzka River and 97% of historic flows for the Homosassa River. The Governing

Board adopted 97% for both rivers. While a 3% flow reduction is possible under this setting, SWFWMD models show that 1% of historic flow is already consumed, leaving approximately 2% available for future groundwater development. Mr. Grubman, representing TOO Far, explained that a major factor in the petition is the conflict between the MFLs and the Outstanding Florida Waterway designation of these rivers. If additional withdrawals will adversely affect the rivers, then the petition asks that no additional withdrawals be allowed under the MFLs.

Mr. Owen summarized the issue by stating that it is a timing issue of maximizing the groundwater used for human consumption. If groundwater withdrawals are limited to the existing withdrawals, the implications for the WRWSA and water supply planning will be significant. Such restrictions will affect the entire region and will result in potential water supply projects that are order-of-magnitude more expensive than development of groundwater resources.

9. Executive Director's Report ... Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

a. Bills to be Paid

The May 2013 bills were provided in the handout. Mr. Owen requested the Board approve payment of the May 2013 bills totaling \$40,121.46.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Butler to approve payment of the May 2013 bills of \$40,121.46. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bays and carried unanimously.

b. FY 2013-14 Proposed Per Capita Assessment

Mr. Owen presented the population estimates for the member counties as of April 1, 2012 for the purpose of establishing the rates for the coming fiscal year. Mr. Owen recommended maintaining the existing per capita rate of \$0.19, which funds the administration of the WRWSA. The administrative costs are either stable or slightly reduced; the project expenses are expected to be significantly lower than this fiscal year.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Swain to approve the per capita rate at \$0.19. The motion was seconded by Mr. McClain and carried unanimously.

c. Correspondence

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

d. News Articles

News articles were presented in the Board's package and additional articles in a handout. This item was presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

e. Other

Mr. Owen presented updates to the Board on the following issues:

- Hernando County-Groundwater Guardian Workshop. Mr. Owen stated that the
 Hernando County Conservation Coordinator and the Groundwater Guardians had
 organized a workshop "Your Water, Your World" that was held on May 10, 2013.
 The WRWSA was recognized as one of the sponsors of that workshop which was
 excellent and well attended. Both Mr. Owen and Ms. Smith attended the workshop.
- SWFWMD Public Supply Advisory Committee. The Public Supply Advisory
 Committee has been working on several issues including the Restore Act and
 Consumptive Use Permit rule making for review consistency. The DEP is finished
 with the rule making for 62-40, F.A.C. SWFWMD is making rule changes to be

consistent with DEP. The next workshop is May 23, 2013 at the SWFWMD office in Brooksville. Mr. Owen continues to attend these meetings to stay apprised of rule changes that will affect our member government.

- Central Florida Water Initiative. Under this initiative, all three water management districts will adopt one plan that covers the counties in this region. This may be a model for other counties that are within split jurisdictions for creating either one plan or for greater coordination between the plans. The districts will go into rule making for issues such as setting MFLs and numeric nutrient conditions.
- Cooperative Funding Initiative for FY 2014-15. SWFMWD is holding a workshop
 on August 1, 2013 for the next CFI cycle. Applications are due in October. The staff
 is developing strategic initiatives for each of the four regions that may result in
 different strategies for funding programs. Mr. Owen will attend the August 1, 2013
 meeting and will continue to work with the district staff to develop a project or
 projects for cooperative funding.
- **SWFWMD Governing Board Meeting.** Mr. Owen stated that he would attend the Governing Board meeting on May 21, 2013.
- City of Belleview. Mr. Owen will attend the Belleview City Council meeting to meet
 the Council and to discuss the WRWSA activities. He offered to attend the meetings
 of all member governments for the same purpose.
- Board Meeting Times. A Board member has requested discussion regarding the time
 of day that the Board meets. The request to consider an earlier start time will be
 placed on the agenda for June.

These items were presented for the Board's information; no action was required.

10. Legislative Update ... Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Liaison

Ms. Salz reviewed the results of the recent Legislative session regarding water supply, water resource, and public participation bills that are pertinent to the WRWSA and to its member governments. Several water supply and springs projects within the region are included in the budget; Ms. Salz will continue to monitor these items as they are forwarded to the Governor's office for signature. The WRWSA Board adopted a list of legislative and regulatory issues for the 2012-13 session. Ms. Salz provided this list of issues along with the status of each based on action during the session. The issues and actions are included in the Board's packet.

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

11. Attorney's Report ... Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney

There was no business from the attorney.

12. Other Business

One bill that passed during the legislative session requires that all boards and commissions provide members of the public with an opportunity to be heard on a proposition before the board or commissions. The effective date of the legislation is October 1, 2013. Mr. Haag was requested to provide direction to the Board as to the best method for obtaining public input during proceedings of the Board.

13. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

14. Next Meeting Time and Location

Next meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2013, 4:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461.

15. Adjournment

Chairman Damato announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the WRWSA and adjourned the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Dennis Damato, Chairman					
D' 1 10 0	Executive Director				

Item 6. Regional Water Supply Plan Update



Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Water Supply Plan Update Progress Report #3 (May 2013)

Cardno ENTRIX

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1) Task 1. Water Demand Estimates

a. Followed up on comments from TAC committee members on demand projections and worked with the water management districts to address them.

2) Task 2. Availability of Ground- and Surface Water

- a. Regarding the status of the expansion and update of the Northern District model that will be used to assess impacts to water resources from groundwater withdrawals from proposed wellfields, the water management districts have informed us that the work will be completed by July and the model will be ready to use in August. If this proves to be the case, we will be able to adhere to the original schedule that calls for completion of the first draft of the water supply plan by December 2013.
- b. The sub consultant that is assigned to determine the availability of water for water supply from the Withlacoochee and Ocklawaha rivers has completed their work. This information will be used to re-evaluate water supply options that will utilize water from these rivers.

3) Task 3. Water Conservation and Reclaimed Water Strategies

- a. Received permission from most of the WRWSA utilities to obtain data necessary to evaluate their water conservation potential using Florida's EZ Guide Water Conservation Model.
- Have completed the modeling for the cities of Wildwood and Bushnell and are evaluating the validity of the model results.
- c. Have completed work on evaluating the quantity of reclaimed water that will be available to offset demand through 2035 from each utility in the WRWSA's four counties.

4) Task 4. Water Supply Project Options

 The sub consultant that will update the seawater desalination project option at the Crystal River Power Plant site is proceeding with their analysis.



5) Task 8. Facilitation of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meetings

a. Preparing information for the second TAC committee meeting on June 18th on water demand projections and reclaimed water availability.

Item 7. Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget

Item 7. Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget . . . Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

Included as an exhibit to this item is the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 budget for the Board's review and approval. The budget has been prepared in a conservative manner in light of the continuing stagnant economic conditions of the region. Outlined below are the major aspects of the proposed budget. The overall proposed budget is in an amount of \$1,794,557, representing a decrease from the current year in an amount of \$116,535, or a 6.1% decrease. Comprising the total budget is:

- Administrative expenditures of \$218,810, down from the current year by \$7,013 or 3.1%.
- Water Supply Studies and Facilities expenditures of \$445,538, down from the current year by \$140.410 or 24.0%.
- Total proposed expenditures for the Authority decrease by \$147,423 or 18.2%.
- Administrative Reserves in an amount of \$437,696, up from the current year by \$40,591 or 10.22%.
- Water Supply Development Reserves in an amount of \$692,514, down from the current year by \$9,702 or 1.4%.
- Combined Administrative and Water Supply Development Reserves total \$1,130,210, representing an increase of \$30,889 or a 2.8% increase.

Revenues

Administrative

The Board set per capita assessments at \$0.19 per capita at its May 2013 Board meeting, the same assessment as in the current year. The per capita assessment generates \$141,940 in revenues, up just slightly from the current year (an increase of \$885) due to net changes in the region's population. Administrative revenue from the Charles A. Black (CAB) wellfield facilities generates \$60,000, the same as the current year. Combined, these revenue sources generate \$201,940 in new revenue for administrative purposes. This is slightly less than the proposed Administrative expenditures (\$218,810), with the difference (\$16,870) covered by utilization of Carryover Administrative Funds. Carryover Administrative Funds are estimated to be \$437,696 at the end of FY2013-14.

Water Supply Facility Development

Revenues for Water Supply Facility Development are derived from matching funds generated by ongoing cooperative projects, the CAB wellfield amortization payments and, if necessary, utilization of Water Resource Development Fund (WRDF) reserves. Cooperatively funded projects that will continue into the fiscal year include the Pilot Irrigation Audit Program, Phase 2 of the Irrigation Audit Program and the Regional Water Supply Plan Update. The SWFWMD did not approve any new cooperative funding projects for the coming fiscal year, but encouraged the Authority to come back with a robust water conservation proposal for consideration in the 2014-15 fiscal year. Revenues from cooperators during the fiscal year are projected to total \$121,548. The CAB wellfield is scheduled to generate \$163,587 in funds available for water supply development projects. Combined, these revenue sources generate \$285,135 in new project-related revenues. The total project-related expenditures are estimated at \$445,538, with the difference of \$160,403 funded by utilization of Carryover WRDF reserves. Carryover WRDF reserve funds are estimated to be \$692,514 at the end of FY2013-14.

Expenditures

General Administration

Staff has worked diligently to hold the line on administrative expenses. This has involved a comprehensive review of all administrative expenses, examining each for expenditures to-date, projected expenditures thorough the remaining fiscal year and then projecting these for the coming year. Most of the Authority's contracted staff support, including the Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Legal Services and Legislative Consultant are proposed at the current fiscal year levels of funding. Audit and Bookkeeping services have been proposed for modest increases. The increase in audit services is consistent with the audit contract, which provides for a cost of living adjustment each year. The bookkeeping services are proposed to increase from the current year of \$450.00 to \$500.00 per quarter. The budget for the current year includes only three quarters for bookkeeping services; the proposed FY2013-14 bookkeeping is budgeted for four quarters. The Authority previously incurred bank charges when transferring funds from the State Board of Administration accounts to the SunTrust account to pay bills. These charges are now being avoided by staff executing the transfers electronically. Funds have also been included in the proposed budget for the purchase of Public Officials Liability Insurance based upon the one proposal received during the current fiscal year. The actual amount may be less based upon staff seeking additional proposals for the Board's consideration. Office supplies, postage, telephone and travel are being proposed at slight reductions from the current year based on an analysis of past and projected expenditures. Printing and reproduction is projected to increase slightly. The existing account of Web Page Maintenance has been expanded to include computer maintenance, and the amount budgeted has been slightly increased. Publications/software, Rent, Registration/Dues and State Fees/Assessments are proposed at the current year levels of funding. A new line item for Contingencies has been added in the amount of \$1,872. This represents 5% of the other non-contract administrative costs (e.g., administrative costs excluding the Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Legal Services, Legislative Consultant, Bookkeeping and Audit services). These funds would be available for use for unanticipated expenses that may occur during the year, subject to Board authorization at the time. An example of an unanticipated expense during the current fiscal year was the purchase of a fire and water-resistant file cabinet.

Total administrative expenses are proposed at \$218,810, a decrease of \$7,013, or 3.1%, from the current fiscal year.

Water Supply Studies and Facilities

There are six (6) projects proposed in FY2013-14, and two projects completed this year, each of which is briefly described below.

- General Services the General Services project is proposed to continue at the current funding amount of \$75,000.
- Regional Water Supply Plan Update the Regional Water Supply Plan Update project will
 continue into the coming fiscal year, at an estimated amount of \$119,980, based upon
 expenditures to-date and projected for the remainder of the current fiscal year.
- 3. Local Government Water Supply Projects the Board previously approved setting the Authority's Water Conservation Grants program at a funding level of \$130,000 for the year.

- Grant proposals are due by the end of June and will be presented at the Board's August and September meetings.
- 4. North Sumter Data Collection Program this program was completed during the current fiscal year. No additional data collection efforts are currently proposed. Staff continues to work with the water management districts to assess the adequacy of the existing data collection network and will report back to the Board in the future should any additional projects be recommended. Funds for any such projects would come from reserves and would involve a budget amendment at that time.
- 5. Pilot Irrigation Audit Program follow-up and reporting activities for this initial audit program will continue into the first part of the fiscal year.
- 6. Phase 2 Irrigation Audit Program this program started in the current fiscal year and will be under full implementation during the coming year.
- 7. Purvis Gray Rate Analysis the Authority retained the services of Purvis Gray & Company to assist with revising the CAB Wellfield agreement with Citrus County and the associated schedule of payments. This effort has continued during the current year and at this time is projected to continue into the coming year.
- 8. Northern District Model Expansion phase 1 of this cooperatively funded project is being undertaken as a joint effort of the St Johns River (SJRWMD) and Southwest Florida water management districts, Marion County and the Authority. Phase 1 entails expanding an existing SWFWMD model to encompass all of Marion County and update the model with the best available information. Phase 1 is anticipated to be completed in the current fiscal year. Phase 2 of the project involves further expanding the model to the east coast of Florida. Phase 2 at this time is projected to be fully funded by the SJRWMD, but the Authority will want to stay engaged in the project as it progresses.

Fund Balances

Total fund balances at the end of FY2013-14 are projected to be \$1,130,210, with Administrative Reserves comprising \$437,696 and WRDF reserves being \$692,514. These funds could be used during FY2013-14 for possible projects and costs that may arise and that are approved by the Board, and will be available for future project funding.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the 2013-2014 budget, in a total amount of \$1,794,557, as presented in the Exhibit.

1 2 3		E REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHO roposed 2013-14 FY Budget As of May 28, 2013	RITY			
4 5 6	4/1/12 Population Estimate	Comments	Fiscal Year 2013-14	Fiscal Year 2012-13	\$ Change	% Change
Revenues: Administrative						0,-1-0,000,-0
9 Assessments:						
10 Citrus	140,761	per capita rate per capita rate	\$26,745 \$32,890	\$26,782 \$32,885	-\$37 \$5	-0.1% 0.0%
11 Hemando 12 Marion	332,989	per capita rate	\$63,268	\$63,032	\$236	0.4%
13 Sumter	100,198	per capita rate	\$19,038	\$18,357	\$681	3.7%
14 Total Population/Assessments @						
19¢/Capita	747,052	See Attachment 1 for detail Based on Citrus County contract	\$141,940 \$60,000	\$141,055 \$60,000	\$885 \$0	0.6%
16 Administrative Revenue from Citrus Contract 17 Carry-over Administration Reserve Funds (Est.)		See Attachment 2 for detail	\$454,568	\$397,105	\$57,461	14.5%
18 Total Administrative Revenue Available			\$656,506	\$598,160	\$58,346	9.8%
19 Revenues: Water Supply Facility Development						
21 SWFWMD Matching Funds for Pilot Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$2,200	\$18,900	-\$16,700	-88.4%
22 SWFWMD Matching Funds for Phase 2 (mgation Audit Program	1	SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$52,585	\$21,030	\$31,555	150.0%
LG Match for Phase 2 Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	50	\$36,038	-\$36,038	-100.0%
24 Villages Matching Funds for Pilot Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$200	\$1,550	-\$1,350	-87.1%
25 Villages Matching Funds for Phase 2 Imgation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI initiative	\$6,573	\$2,628	\$3,945	150.1%
26 SWFWMD Malching Funds for RWSP Update 27 (SBA2) Annual Citrus Amortization Prints		SWFWMD CFI Initiative See Attachment 1 for detail	\$59,990 \$163,587	\$125,000 \$163,587	-\$65,010 \$0	-52.0% 0.0%
(SBA2) Annual Cirus Amorization Pinnis (SBA2) Carryover WRDF Reserve Funds (Est.)		See Attachment 2 for detail	\$852,917	\$919,431	-\$66,514	-7.2%
Total Water Supply Development Revenue Available			\$1,138,052	\$1,288,164	-\$150,112	-11.7%
30					100000	
Total Revenues Available	3700		\$1,794,557	\$1,886,324	-\$91,767	-4.9%
33 Expenditures:						
34 General Administration 35 Executive Director		Based on annual contract	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$0	0.0%
Overlap fund for Continuing Executive/Administrative Resour	ce		\$0	\$5,000	-\$5,000	-100.0%
37 Administrative Assistant		Based on annual contract	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$0	0.0%
39 Legal Services 39 Monthly Meetings @ \$500/meeting	50 000	Based on annual contract	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0	0.0%
Monthly Meetings @ \$500/meeting Other Services @ \$150/hr.	\$6,000	No change No change			-	
41 Legislative Consultant	314,000	Based on annual contract	\$42,000	\$42,000	\$0	0.0%
42 Advertising		Based on current usage	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
Audit Audit		Based on CPI	\$8,865	\$8,500	\$365	4.3%
8ank Charges		Now avoiding bank fees	\$0	\$600	-\$600	-100.0%
45 Bookkeeping Services 46 Liability Insurance		Increase to \$500/quarter Based on bid received	\$2,000	\$1,350	\$650 \$2,100	48.1%
47 Office Supplies		Based on current usage	\$1,500	\$3,600	-\$2,100	-58.3%
48 Postage		Based on current usage	\$800	\$1,000	-\$200	-20.0%
Printing and Reproduction		Based on current usage	\$2,250	\$2,000	\$250	12.5%
Publications/Software		Based on current usage	\$200	\$200	\$0	0.0%
51 Rent (Lecanto Gov1 Bidg) 52 Registrations/Dues		Based on Lease Agreement Based on inventory	\$2,048	\$2,048	\$0	0.0%
52 Registrations/Dues 53 State Fees/Assessments		Based on current usage	\$2,000 \$175	\$2,000 \$175	\$0 \$0	0.0%
54 Telephone		Based on current usage	\$1,500	\$2,500	-\$1,000	-40.0%
55 Travel		Based on current usage	\$10,000	\$14,000	-\$4,000	-28.6%
Web Page/Computer Maintenance		Based on current usage	\$2,500	\$1,850	\$650	35.1%
Contingencies	- Version - Vers	5% of non-contract admin costs	\$1,872	\$0		100.0%
58 Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures			\$218,810	\$225,823	-\$7,013	-3.1%
Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves		See Attachment 2 for detail	\$437,696	\$397,105	\$40,591	10.2%
TOTAL ADMIN. EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE			\$656,506	\$622,928	\$33,578	5.4%
Water Supply Studies and Facilities				7		
General Services Contract (as-needed services)		RFQ's - Firms on Call	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0	0,0%
Update of Regional Water Supply Plan Local Government Water Supply Projects		SWFWMD CFI Centract	\$119,980	\$250,000	-\$130,020	-52.0%
Local Government Water Supply Projects North Sumter Data Collection Program		Based on action of BoD Based on Contract w/ SWFWMD	\$130,000	\$130,000	-\$5,000	
69 Pilot Imigation Audit Program Completion		SWFWMD CF/ Contract	\$6,800	\$5,000 \$37,800	-\$31,000	
70 Phase 2 Infigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Contract	\$105,170	\$42,060	\$63,110	150.0%
71 Purvis Gray Rate Analysis (CAB WSF)		Contract with Purvis Gray SJRWMD/SWFWMD/Marion County	\$8,588	\$8,588	\$0	0.0%
72 Northum District Model Expansion	\$0	\$37,500	-\$37,500	-100.0%		
74 Subtotal - Water Supply Studies and Facilities Expen	Subtotal - Water Supply Studies and Facilities Expenditures					-24.0%
75 Fund Balance for Water Supply Development Reserv	98		\$692,514	\$702,216	-\$9,702	-1.4%
778 TOTAL WRDF EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE			\$1,138,052	\$1,288,164	-\$150,112	-11.7%
79 TOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND WRDP EXPENSES AN	D FUND BALANCES		\$1,794,557	\$1,911,092	-\$116,535	-6.1%
32 Total Administration and WRDP Fund Balances	at FYE 2013-14	See Attachment 2 for detail	\$1,130,210	\$1,099,321	\$30,889	2.8%

ATTACHMENT 1

CALCULATION OF REVENUE FOR 2013-14 AND CALCULATION OF AMOUNT OF FUNDS NEEDED FROM RESERVES As of May 28, 2013

	4/1/12	Annual	
Revenue	Population	Amount	Sub-Totals
LOCAL ASSESSMENTS @ 19¢ PER CAPITA	1	1	:
ECONE NOCESOPILITIES TO THE CONTIN	1 1		
Citrus	140,761	\$26,745	
Hernando	173,104	\$32,890	
Marion	100,198	\$19,038	
Sumter	332,989	\$63,268	*****
Subtotal	1 1		\$141,940
CHARLES A. BLACK WATER SUPPLY FACILITY			
Amortization of Wellfield Cost	1 1	\$163,587	
Administrative Contribution		\$60,000	
Subtotal			\$223,587
MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR STUDIES			
SWFWMD Match for Pilot Program Irrigation Audits		\$2,200	
SWFWMD Match for Phase 2 Irrigation Audits	i i	\$52,585	
SWFWMD Match for RWSP Update	1	\$59,990	
LG Match for Phase 2 Irrigation Audit Program	1	\$0	
Villages Match UD Pilot Program Irrigation Audit Program		\$200	
Villages Match UD Phase 2 Irrigation Audit Program		\$6,573	
Subtotal			\$121,548
TOTAL REVENUE FOR FY 2013-14			\$487,075
Less: 2013-14 Administration Expense			-\$218,810
Less: 2013-14 WRDF Cost			-\$445,538
Funds Required from WRWSA Reserves	<u> </u>		-\$177,273

ATTACHMENT 2

ANALYSIS OF BEGINNING FUND BALANCES FY 2013 - 2014 As of May 28, 2013

ANALYSIS OF WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND BALANCE	CE		Notes
05/03/13 WRDF Balance (SBA2 & SBA2B)		\$1,029,508	SBA2 \$1,011,609.85, SBA2B \$17,898.12
FY 2012-13 WRD Fund Revenues			
Citrus Co. Payments 5/12 - 9/12 @ \$13,632,25/month		\$68,161	
Irrigation Audit Pilot Program Reimbursements		\$34,366	
Irrigation Audit Phase 2 Reimbursements		\$71,217	
The state of the s		V/ 1,211	One half of the payments to-date (no billings to WMD to-date) plus one half of the projected RWSP
SWFWMD RWSP Update Reimbursements		\$65,427	Update expense below
Subtotal		\$1,268,679	
Less: FY 12-13 Remaining Contract Balances:		1	
2012-13 Citrus Water Conservation Program	\$48,300		Budgeted amount
2012-13 Hemando Water Conservation Program	\$46,800	ı	Budgeted amount
2012-13 Marion Water Conservation Program	\$34,900		Budgeted amount
Irrigation Audit Pilot Program	\$40,405		See Program Spreadsheet
Irrigation Audit Phase 2	\$82,540	1	See Program Spreadsheet
2012-13 General Services Contract	\$50,000		High estimate for all remaining invoices this fiscal year
Northern District Model Expansion	\$37,500	į	Budgeted amount
2012-13 RWSP Update	\$95,317		\$250,000 minus amount billed to-date (\$35,537.26, not including retainage of \$1,765.12), divided by 9 months remaining in contract, times 4 months remaining in fiscal year
Expenditures Subtotal	450,011	\$415,762	•
Total WRD Funds at end of FY2012-13		\$852,917	
ANALYSIS OF ADMINISTRATIVE FUND BALANCE			
		1	
05/03/13 Admin Bal (SBA1 & SBA1B)		\$521,711	SBA1 \$515,021.35, SBA1B \$6,689.39
Admin from CAB WSF @ \$5,000/month		\$25,000	
Less: May - Sept Avg. Admin Cost @ \$18,429/mo.		-\$92,145	Average developed from 10/12 - 04/13 actual expenses
Total Administrative Funds at end of FY2012-13		\$454,566	
PROJECTED FUND BALANCES AT END OF FY2013-14			
Total Fund Balances beginning of FY 2013-14:		\$1,307,482	Net sum of above
Add: 2013-14 Revenues		\$487,075	
Deduct 2013-14 Expenses:		-\$664,348	
Projected Fund Balances at end of FY 2013-14:		\$1,130,210	

Item 8.b. Second 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 business-type activities and major fund of Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (the Authority), an Independent Special District, as of and for the three months and six months ended March 31, 2013, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements. 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 required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. If the omitted disclosures 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.

May 2, 2013

Tallahassee, Florida

Quis. Hay and Gompany

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority BALANCE SHEET

As of March 31, 2013

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS Cash in Bank - SunTrust Cash in Bank - LGIP Cash in Bank - Fund B Cash in Bank - LGIP/Citrus Revenue Cash in Bank - Fund B/Citrus Revenue	\$ 1,511.12 515,308.16 6,308.86 994,724.99 16,139.81
Total Current Assets	1,533,992.94
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT Equipment	3,728.84
Accum Deprec - Equipment Citrus Co. Wellfield 88'	(1,494.65)
Accum Deprec - Wellfield	4,895,231.21 (3,263,490.55)
Accum Deprec - Weillield	(3,203,490.55)
Total Property and Equipment	1,633,974.85
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3,167,967.79
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable - Special Projects	\$ 13,729.44
Accounts Payable - General	14,789.44
Total Current Liabilities	28,518.88
NET ASSETS	
Net Assets - Unrestricted	3,074,801,22
Net Income	64,647.69
Total Net Assets	3,139,448.91
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 3,167,967.79

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

For the Period Ended March 31, 2013

		onths ended arch 31, 2013	<u>%</u>	6 months ended March 31, 2013	<u>%</u>
REVENUE					
Citrus Co. Assessments	\$	6,695.41	5.80 %	,	6.48 %
Hernando Co. Assessments		8,221.21	7.13 %	16,442.42	7.96 %
Sumter Co. Assessments		4,589.21	3.98 %	9,178.42	4.44 %
Marion County Assessment		15,757.89	13.66 %	31,515.78	15.26 %
Citrus Co Facilities Recovery		40,896.75	35.46 %	81,793.50	39.61 %
Citrus County Wifld Admin Recov		15,000.00	13.00 %	30,000.00	14.53 %
SWFWMD Match Reg Irri Audit Pgm		18,496.89	16.04 %	18,496.89	8.96 %
Vlg Ctr CDD Irrigation Audit Pr		2,081.25	1.80 %	2,081.25	1.01 %
No Sumter Co UDD Irri Audit Pgm	-	3,607.50	3.13 %	3,607.50	1.75 %
Total Revenue		115,346.11	100.00 %	206,506.58	100.00 %
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Consulting Admin Asst		9,375.00	8.13 %	18,750.00	9.08 %
Executive Director Richard Owen		20,000.01	17.34 %	40,000.02	19.37 %
Advertising		466.57	0.40 %	709.93	0.34 %
Bank Charges		30.00	0.03 %	90.00	0.04 %
Lecanto Rent		170.64	0.15 %	2,218.32	1.07 %
Registration/Dues		430.00	0.37 %	659.00	0.32 %
Legal - Monthly Meeting		1,000.00	0.87 %	2,000.00	0.97 %
Legal - Other Services		1,406.74	1.22 %	3,233.42	1.57 %
Office Supplies		(35.79)	(0.03)%	56.23	0.03 %
Printing & Reproduction		845.24	0.73 %	1,327.76	0.64 %
Postage		175.86	0.15 %	302.34	0.15 %
Audit		8,565.00	7.43 %	8,565.00	4.15 %
Bookkeeping/Financial Asst.		0.00	0.00 %	463.60	0.22 %
Publications/Software		11.92	0.01 %	11.92	0.01 %
State Fees/Assessments		0.00	0.00 %	175.00	0.08 %
Web Page/Internet Services		725.00	0.63 %	950.00	0.46 %
Telephone		207.03	0.18 %	438.48	0.21 %
Travel		1,330.69	1.15 %	2,294.86	1.11 %
Legislative Consultant		10,500.00	9.10 %	21,000.00	10.17 %
08-09 North Sumter Data Coll.		0.00	0.00 %	3,227.45	1.56 %
FY11 Irri Audit Pmts Overdorf		5,400.00	4.68 %	15,605.00	7.56 %
FY11 Pmt Irri Audit Admin-Smith		2,700.00	2.34 %	6,300.00	3.05 %
2013 General Services Account		1,360.20	1.18 %	1,360.20	0.66 %
12-13 Update Reg Master Plan		11,629.44	10.08 %	11,629.44	5.63 %
FY12 CAB Eng. Evaluation & Updt		940.00	0.81 %	2,350.00	1.14 %
Total Operating Expenses		77,233.55	66.96 %	143,717.97	69.59 %
Operating Income (Loss)		38,112.56	33.04 %	62,788.61	30.41 %
OTHER INCOME					
Interest Income SBA 1		225.69	0.20 %	514.09	0.25 %
Interest Income SBA 2		607.82	0.53 %	1,344.99	0.65 %
Total Other Income	_	833.51	0.72 %	1,859.08	0.90 %
Net Income (Loss)	\$	38,946.07	33.76 %	\$ 64,647.69	<u>31.31</u> %



Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority BUDGET TO ACTUAL

For the Period Ended March 31, 2013

	6 months ended March 31, 2013 Actual	6 months ended March 31, 2013 Budget	Variance Over/(Under) Budget	Annual Budget	Budget Remaining
REVENUE					
Citrus Co. Assessments	\$ 13,390.82	\$ 13,391.00	\$ (0.18)	\$ 26,782.00	\$ 13,391.18
		16,442.50	(0.18)	32,885.00	16,442.58
Hemando Co. Assessments	16,442.42	9,178.50	(0.08)	18,357.00	9,178.58
Sumter Co. Assessments Marion County Assessment	9,178.42		(0.00)	63.032.00	31,516.22
•	31,515.78	31,516.00	0.22)		-
Citrus Co Facilities Recovery Citrus County Wifld Admin Recov	81,793.50	81,793.50	0.00	163,587.00 60,000.00	81,793.50 30,000.00
SWFWMD Match Reg Irri Audit Pgm	30,000.00 18,496.89	30,000.00 9,450.00	9,046.89	18,900.00	403.11
12-14 SWFWMD MatchRegIrrAudit	0.00	10,515.00	(10,515.00)		21,030.00
	0.00	,	, ,	21,030.00	36,038.00
LG Match 2012-14 Irr Audit Pgm	0.00	18,019.02	(18,019.02) (1,314.00)	36,038.00 2.628.00	2,628.00
12-14 Villages Matc Fund IrrAu	0.00	1,314.00	,	125,000.00	•
2012 SWFWMD Match MP Update		62,500.02	(62,500.02)		125,000.00
Vig Ctr CDD Irrigation Audit Pr	2,081.25	775.02	1,306.23	1,550.00	(531.25)
No Sumter Co UDD Irri Audit Pgm	3,607.50	0.00	3,607.50	0.00	(3,607.50)
Total Revenue	206,506.58	284,894.56	(78,387.98)	569,789.00	363,282.42
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Consulting Admin Asst	18,750.00	18,750.00	0.00	37,500.00	18,750.00
Executive Director Richard Owen	40,000.02	40,000.02	0.00	80,000.00	39,999.98
As Needed Services JES	0.00	2,500.02	(2,500.02)	5,000.00	5,000.00
Advertising	709.93	750.00	(40.07)	1,500.00	790.07
Bank Charges	90.00	300.00	(210.00)	600.00	510.00
Lecanto Rent	2,218.32	1,024.02	1,194.30	2,048.00	(170.32)
Registration/Dues	659.00	1,000.02	(341.02)	2,000.00	1,341.00
Legal - Monthly Meeting	2,000.00	3,000.00	(1,000.00)	6,000.00	4,000.00
Legal - Other Services	3,233.42	7,000.02	(3,766.60)	14,000.00	10,766.58
Office Supplies	56.23	1.800.00	(1,743.77)	3,600.00	3,543,77
Printing & Reproduction	1,327,76	1,000.02	327.74	2,000.00	672.24
Postage	302.34	499.98	(197.64)	1,000.00	697.66
Audit	8,565.00	4,249.98	4,315.02	8,500.00	(65.00)
Bookkeeping/Financial Asst.	463.60	675.00	(211.40)	1,350.00	886.40
Publications/Software	11.92	99.98	(88.06)	200.00	188.08
State Fees/Assessments	175.00	87.48	87.52	175.00	0.00
Web Page/Internet Services	950.00	924.98	25.02	1,850.00	900.00
Telephone	438.48	1,249.98	(811.50)	2,500.00	2,061.52
Travel	2,294.86	7,000.01	(4,705.15)	14,000.00	11,705.14
Legislative Consultant	21,000.00	21,000.00	0.00	42,000.00	21,000.00
08-09 North Sumter Data Coll.	3,227.45	2,500.02	727.43	5,000.04	1,772.59
FY11 Irri Audit Pmts Overdorf	15,605.00	12,500.02	3,104.98	25,000.00	9,395.00
FY11 Pmt Irri Audit Admin-Smith	6,300.00	5,400.00	900.00	10,800.00	4,500.00
FY11 Irrigation Audit Marketing	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	2,000.00	2,000.00
FY12 Purvis Gray Rate Analysis	0.00	4,294.02	(4,294.02)	8,588.00	8,588.00
2013 General Services Account	1,360.20	37,500.00	(36,139.80)	75,000.00	73,639.80
12-13 Update Reg Master Plan	11,629.44	124,999.98	(113,370.54)	250,000.00	238,370.56
12-13 Local Govt Water SupProj	0.00	64,999.98	(64,999.98)	130,000.00	130,000.00
12-14 Irrigation Audit Pgm	0.00	21,030.00	(21,030.00)	42,060.00	42,060.00
FY12 CAB Eng. Evaluation & Updt	2,350.00	0.00	2,350.00	0.00	(2,350.00)
Total Operating Expenses	143,717.97	387,135.53	(243,417.56)	774,271.04	630,553.07
Operating Income (Loss)	62,788.61	(102,240.97)	165,029.58	(204,482.04)	(267,270.65)
OTUED INCOME					
OTHER INCOME					
Interest Income SBA 1	514.09	0.00	514.09	0.00	(514.09)
Interest Income SBA 2	1,344.99	0.00	1,344.99	0.00	(1,344.99)
Total Other Income	1,859.08	0.00	1,859.08	0.00	(1,859.08)
Net Income (Loss)	64,647.69	(102,240.97)	166,888.66	(204,482.04)	(269,129.73)

Item 8.e. Correspondence

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL



WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

May 29, 2013

Ms. Kathryn H. DuBose, Coordinator Joint Legislative Auditing Committee 111 W Madison Street Room 876, Claude Pepper Building Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Dear Ms. DuBose:

I am writing in response to the May 3, 2013 letter we received from the Joint Legislative Auditing Committee regarding our Fiscal Year 2010-11 Audit and the audit finding found on page 22. This finding states, in part,

"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."

With regard to the segregation of financial and accounting duties, this comment has been contained in previous audit reports. The Authority's budget for services is extremely limited and therefore, the number of personnel to assign to accounting duties has been restricted. In the past, the only person to which accounting duties could be assigned was the consulting Executive Director. This individual also had access to cash receipts and disbursements and was responsible for reconciling bank statements.

The Authority mitigated this inadequacy in personnel by adhering to a number of controls. One of these is a requirement for dual signatures on all checks, one of which must be an Authority Board officer. In addition to dual signatures, all bills are presented to the Board 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 of Board meetings. The Authority retains an independent accounting firm to prepare a quarterly financial report. The Authority also provides for an independent audit to be prepared annually. These controls have been continued todate.

In addition, in FY2011-12, the Authority retained the services of Nancy Smith as an Administrative Assistant and the services of a new contracting Executive Director, allowing for greater separation of duties. The Authority's independent accountants provided advice as to how the accounting and financial duties could be separated between the Administrative Assistant and the new Executive Director. Based on these recommendations, the following protocols have been established and are being implemented:

- (1) The check signer and bank reconciler are different persons (the Administrative Assistant completes the bank reconciliation and the Executive Director signs checks).
- (2) The bank statement is opened and reviewed by someone (the Executive Director) other than the person completing the bank reconciliations (the Administrative Assistant).
- (3) Bank reconciliations are signed off by the preparer and the reviewer (Administrative Assistant signs as preparer and Executive Director reviews/signs the reconciliation after completion).
- (4) The person recording the day-to-day operations should not be a check signer (Executive Director is the check signer and Administrative Assistant does not sign checks).
- (5) The check signer should be the approver of wire transfers between accounts and to external parties (Administrative Assistant can initiate, but Executive Director is required to approve).

These protocols are being implemented by the Authority's contracting Executive Director and Administrative Assistant. The Governing Board of the Authority was informed of these new protocols as a part of the Management Response to Reportable Conditions in the FY2011-12 Audit.

I trust this letter adequately addresses your concerns. Should you require additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Owen, AICP

Lichard L. Owen

Executive Director

cc: Dennis Damato, Chairman

Mark White, Purvis Gray

Larry Haag, HAAG, HAAG & FRIEDRICH, P.A., Authority Attorney

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL



May 17, 2013

Leonard B. Sossamon, County Administrator Hernando County Government Center 20 N. Main Street, Room 263 Brooksville, FL 34601

Re: Preliminary Budget Request for the WRWSA for FY 2013-14

Dear Mr. Sossamon:

As the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority) begins its budget process, it is our policy to inform the member governments of the Authority's budget request for fiscal year 2013 -14. The Authority will vote on its final budget for FY 2013-14 at its June 19, 2013 Board meeting. I will forward the final budget to you as soon as it is approved. However, I am at this time providing you with our per capita assessment request for the coming fiscal year. The Board voted at its May 15, 2013 meeting to maintain its per capita assessment request at 19¢ for FY 2013-14. The proposed assessments are shown on the attached table. The impact to our member governments will vary depending on each government's change in population from the prior year. While the growth rate for the region as a whole was approximately 0.63% over the previous year, the population in Hernando County experienced a growth rate of 0.02%, resulting in per capita contributions for the County of \$32,890 in FY 2013-14.

Our proposed work program for the 2013-14 FY is also attached for your information.

The Authority has returned dollars to its member governments to help them improve their water supply capabilities. Over the past ten years the Authority provided direct grants of \$1,454,631 to its member counties. During the current fiscal year (2012-2013) the Authority is providing \$130,000 to three member governments to continue water conservation efforts. Citrus County received \$48,300, Hernando County received \$46,800 and Marion County received \$34,900 in Authority grant funds. In addition, the Authority has used its local government assessments along with other funds from its Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility in Citrus County to match funds from the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) to prepare an update to the Regional Water Supply Plan, to collect additional well field data in Sumter County and to administer a program for residential irrigation system evaluations to aid in water conservation. Citrus, Hernando and Marion counties, and The Villages of Sumter are all participating in the irrigation audit program. This year the Authority has also leveraged funds with the SWFWMD, the St. Johns

Leonard Sossamon, County Administrator May 17, 2013 Page 2

River WMD and Marion County to expand and update groundwater models used to determine the availability of groundwater in the region.

The Authority is well aware that all levels of government continue to experience major budgetary constraints. We believe the Authority's funding request is well worth the benefits of continued protection of our local water resources, ensuring these water resources are available to meet our members' future water needs and economic growth. We are committed to do our part by proposing a budget to our Board that will either have no increase or a slight decrease in the administrative costs of the organization, while continuing to implement our water supply planning and investigation programs, funding water conservation projects and providing administrative support for and funding of phase 2 of the irrigation evaluation program.

If you need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Owen, AICP Executive Director

Attachment

cc: Hernando County WRWSA Members
George Zoettlein, Hernando County Finance Director
Susan Goebel-Canning, Hernando County Utilities Manager
Alys Brockway, Water Conservation Coordinator

PROPOSED 2013-14 ASSESSMENTS WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY April 1, 2013

County	4/1/12 Population Estimate	Assessment @ \$0.19/Capita	Annual Amount	Quarterly Assessment
Citrus	140,761	\$0.19	\$26,745	\$6,686.15
Hernando	173,104	\$0.19	\$32,890	\$8,222.44
Sumter	100,198	\$0.19	\$19,038	\$4,759.41
Marion	332,989	\$0.19	\$63,268	\$15,816.98
Regional Totals	747,052	\$0.19	\$141,940	\$35,484.97

County	12-13 FY Assessment	13-14 FY Assessment	% Change
Citrus	\$26,782	\$26,745	-0.14%
Hernando	\$32,885	\$32,890	0.02%
Sumter	\$18,357	\$19,038	3.71%
Marion	\$63,032	\$63,268	0.37%

Totals	\$141,056	\$141,941	0.63%

Preliminary Budget Request for the WRWSA for FY 201314 Letters also sent to:

WRWSA Board Members Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney

Lee A. Niblock, Marion County Administrator John Garri, Finance Director Kim Dinkins, Water Resources Coordinator C.B. "Flip" Mellinger, Director of Utilities

Bradley Arnold, Sumter County Administrator Gloria Hayward, County Clerk Sue Farnsworth, Planner

Brad Thorpe, Citrus County Administrator
Angela Vick, County Clerk
Ken Cheek, Water Resources Director
Debra Burden, Water Resources Manager
Cathy Taylor, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Item 8.f. News Articles

Tampa Bay Times

Port Richey faces rate increases as a result of brown water outbreak

By Robert Napper, Times Correspondent

Wednesday, May 29, 2013 4:30am

PORT RICHEY — Residents are likely to see a higher-than-expected increase in their water bills as city leaders face the cost of combatting a recent brown water outbreak.

On Tuesday, the Port Richey City Council received the results of an engineer's study that found that the city's seven wells are suffering saltwater intrusion. City officials said the intrusion, which led to reports from residents of teacolored water, is being caused by a mix of drought conditions, overpumping and the wells' proximity to the coast.

The engineering study recommended that in order to reduce intrusion the city should dial back its production of treated water to 450,000-gallons-day, around half of the city's daily needs. The result will be a spike in cost to buy water from New Port Richey, or possibly Pasco County, to make up the shortfall.

In a 4-1 vote, the City Council voted to allow City Manager Tom O'Neill to complete a rate study already in the works, factoring in any increases associated with the brown water problem, then bring an ordinance forward for public hearings to amend water and sewer rates.

The study currently recommends a 3.5 percent increase for users each year over the next five years, but officials said that is likely to increase to cover increased water purchases.

Council member Terry Rowe voted against moving forward, saying he needed more information before he felt uncomfortable saddling customers with the costs of dealing with the well woes — especially since the city sold residents in 2006 on spending \$3 million to dig the now-struggling wells with the promise of reducing rates.

"It sounds like a money pit we are heading into," Rowe said.

It's unclear what a full year of buying water from New Port Richey will cost, but it's already been an expensive undertaking.

O'Neill had already ordered that well production be cut back while the cause of the brown water was investigated. Before the outbreak, Port Richey had been buying 10 to 20 percent of its water from its neighbor, but since the brown water reports, purchases from New Port Richey increased to 33 percent, according to O'Neill.

Since the complaints began flooding in from residents in March and the cutbacks began, the city has gone over its budget of \$100,000 for the fiscal year ending in September by \$89,000. But water quality has dramatically improved, O'Neill said.

"I think we've made good strides there," he said.

The cost, however, had Rowe wondering whether the city should even stay in the water business, while Mayor Eloise Taylor lamented the need for a rate increase she called inevitable. Others defended the service a small town can provide its residents. "I never want to see us abandon the water department," said council member Nancy Britton.

Port Richey faces rate increases as a result of brown water outbreak 05/29/13

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Florida Department of Environmental Protection" < Florida DEP@public.govdelivery.com>

Date: May 17, 2013, 7:04:56 AM MST

To: disalz@yahoo.com

Subject: FLORIDA CELEBRATES WATER REUSE WEEK MAY 19-25

Reply-To: FloridaDEP@public.govdelivery.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 17, 2013

CONTACT: DEP Press Office, 850.245.2112, DEPNews@dep.state.fl.us

FLORIDA CELEBRATES WATER REUSE WEEK MAY 19-25

~The Department encourages Floridians to help conserve the state's freshwater sources~

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Department of Environmental Protection will observe May 19-25 as Water Reuse Week. Governor Rick Scott <u>proclaimed</u> next week Florida Water Reuse Week to highlight the importance of water reuse to the sustainability of Florida's water supply and overall ecosystem. Water reuse is essential to ensuring safe, clean and sustainable water resources.

Florida has flourished as a national frontrunner in reclaiming water, which has transformed into a critical element of water management. Florida began celebrating Water Reuse Week in 2007, after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recognized the Department's Reuse Program as a national leader in water efficiency. Since then, Water Reuse Week has gained momentum and recognition with the help of partnerships from the Florida Department of Health, Florida Public Service Commission and other state agencies.

"While Florida currently reuses more water than any other state, there is still great potential for increased reclaimed water use to be a major part of meeting our future water needs while also protecting the environment," said DEP's Director of Water Policy Tom Beck.

Reclaimed water maintains hundreds of Florida golf courses and thousands of private residences – lowering the demands on valuable surface and ground waters used for

drinking. In 2010, Florida conserved more than 121 billion gallons of fresh potable quality water and replenished more than 80 billion gallons of recycled water back into aquifers as a result of water reuse. Florida currently uses reclaimed water to irrigate 281,781 residences, 525 golf courses, 877 parks and 324 schools statewide.

As part of the Department's efforts to bring greater consistency and predictability to its regulatory programs, the Department has worked with the state's five water management districts, the Florida Water Environment Association, utilities and other stakeholders to develop consistent approaches and incentives to increase the use of reclaimed water to meet the state's future water supply needs.

The Department's recently adopted CUPCon rule specifies how reclaimed water can be used to eliminate the harmful impacts of ground and surface water withdrawals, or to replace non-potable uses of high quality water in water limited areas. This results in increased use of reclaimed water, a decrease in disposal of reclaimed water into our rivers and estuaries, and less use of high quality water for non-potable purposes such as irrigation and industrial processes.

City and county governments, water and wastewater utilities, water management districts, state agencies, engineering firms and other organizations are invited to participate in the celebration. Floridians are urged to adopt the proclamation declaring their support for Water Reuse Week. Those who fill out the proclamation on the DEP Water Reuse Week webpage can provide a copy to Florida's Water Reuse Coordinator to have their name listed among other supporters on the DEP website.

Floridians are also encouraged to participate in Water Reuse Week by implementing these tips on saving and reusing water at home, starting this week:

- Turn off the tap when not in use. Regularly check taps and pipes for leaks and repair any leaks detected.
- 2. Never pour water away when there may be another use for it.
- 3. Washing machine rinse water, especially the last few batches of rinse water can be used for toilet flushing and floor cleaning.
- Reuse water from washing of fruits and vegetables, and dish/cup washing final rinse water to water plants.
- Install water-efficient taps and showerheads to cut water usage.
- Take shorter showers and turn off the shower while lathering and washing your hair.
- 7. Use a tumbler of water to rinse your mouth instead of leaving the tap running while you brush your teeth.
- 8. Use a pail of water to wash your car rather than a hose.
- 9. Rinse dishes in a plugged sink rather than under running water.
- 10. Do not use running water to defrost frozen food.

\$10M set aside for springs stirs hope and discussion

By <u>Kristine Crane</u> Staff writer Published: Monday, May 27, 2013 at 5:36 p.m.

When Mark Wray took ownership of Ginnie Springs in 1971, its crystalline waters were picture perfect.

But like the rest of Florida's springs, patches of algae have since clouded over some of the waters, making parts seem more like a moat than a sanctuary.

The demise of Florida's springs is an old problem, and for years, various solutions have been batted around among environmental activists, legislators and scientists.

Last week, state government might have signaled a willingness to dive into solving the host of problems in the springs by assigning \$10 million out of the budget to springs protection for efforts such as improving water quality, reducing nitrate levels and conserving water.

"We have a lot of projects in house that we know can help the springs," Florida Department of Environmental Protection press secretary Patrick Gillespie said.

Lawmakers and experts also are reviewing various counties' projects on restoring the springs, he said. Lawmakers will meet with officials from the DEP, the water management district and, possibly, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to work out the details. "Our goal is to get the best bang for our buck and stretch that \$10 million to benefit the most springs throughout the state," Gillespie said.

On paper, this bodes well for the decades-long battle to restore the springs to health, but in practice some of the players entrenched in the fight, such as Wray, say other issues need to be solved at the legislative level before that money can be put to good use.

"No money is going to do any good if we don't have maximum daily load numbers for nitrates and basin management action plans," Wray said. "We need accurate models and serious science to support an action plan that's realistic about our goals for having a healthy ecosystem."

Lesley Gamble, a partner in the "springs eternal project," a collaborative effort among scientists, artists and activists to promote and protect the springs, added that the nitrate levels for all springs — mainly from large-scale agriculture, leaky septic systems and animal waste — greatly exceed healthy levels.

"We need to think about having the right kind of agriculture in the right kind of places." Gamble

said. When dairy farms were relocated decades ago from South to North Florida, he explained, they were put in "unconfined" areas where the karst geology that typifies much of North Central Florida with its porous texture has allowed chemicals from fertilizers to seep into the aquifer that supplies most of the springs.

Wray agreed that a cap on commercial agricultural activity would be a step in the right direction. Instead, water districts "are issuing agricultural permits when springs and rivers are already struggling for flow and quality," he said, adding that recently two new vegetable farms have been licensed to operate on properties adjacent to Ginnie Springs.

Beyond the aesthetic and ecological ruin this agricultural activity is costing the springs, it's also spoiling the water we drink, Wray continued.

"We're all drinking this. Everyone in this county (Gilchrist) and in Alachua County is drinking this," he said. "It's just absurd."

Karen Ahlers, an environmental activist in Gainesville, said breaching the Rodman Dam, which was built half a century ago during construction of the ill-fated Cross-Florida Barge Canal, would be the "biggest bang for your buck that could be done" to help save the springs and other bodies of water.

"It would be to the benefit of the entire St. Johns River Basin, including the Oklawaha River and Silver Springs," Ahlers said.

Silver Springs, outside Ocala, could be a prime beneficiary of the Legislature's spending, Sen. Charlie Dean, chairman of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee, said recently. Dean said Silver Springs was at the top of his list of "doable" springs for improving water quality.

Ahlers said algae-eating fish populations in Silver Springs declined 90 percent after the construction of the dam.

"They could be doing a lot to improve the ecology of the spring that has been in steady decline for 40 years when these natural migratory paths were blocked," she said.

For her part, Gamble is also a water lover and diver who's disheartened to see the slimy water and loss of species and plant diversity up close.

"It's happening in less than a span of a generation. It's happening fast," she said.

Contact Kristine Crane at 338-3119 or kristine.crane@qvillesun.com.

Governor vetoes \$50 million for proposed bike trail along with \$27.3 million in water projects

Bruce Ritchie, 05/20/2013 - 03:54 PM

Gov. Rick Scott on Monday approved \$32 million in water projects in the 2013-14 state budget while vetoing others totaling \$27.3 million.

The governor also vetoed a \$50 million for a proposed bicycling trail across Central Florida that would have linked 14 existing bicycling trails.

The \$74.1 billion budget includes \$70 million for the **Florida Forever** land-buying program including \$50 million from the sale of state lands, plus \$11.1 million for agricultural conservation easements. Other budget highlights include \$70 million for Everglades restoration, \$10 million for springs protection and \$37.5 million for beach renourishment projects.

In 2011, Scott vetoed more than \$600 million of what he described as "special interest earmarks" including \$16.5 million in water projects. That included \$10 million to help improve St. Johns River water quality. Of the \$19 million in water projects proposed 2012, Scott vetoed \$12.6 million -- but not \$5.6 million for St. Johns River restoration.

The \$32 million in water projects approved this year includes \$7 million for St. Johns River restoration and an economic impact study. That project is supported by **Sen. John Thrasher**, R-St. Augustine and chairman of the **Senate Committee on Rules**.

Among the projects vetoed were three in Walton County in the home district of **Sen. Don Gaetz**, R-Niceville, totaling \$4.5 million.

The governor sounded a common refrain in answers to questions about his vetoes, including a direct question about whether he evaluated each of the water projects.

"We went through every line and tried to make sure we did the right thing for Florida citizens," the governor said. "The goal was jobs, improve education and keep the cost of government as low as possible."

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection had estimated the cost of the "Coast-to-Coast Connector" at \$42 million but \$50 million for the project appeared in the Department of Transportation budget during conference negotiations between the House and Senate.

"We love to bike," Scott said when asked about the veto. "We are doing projects like that out of the Department of Transportation. That's how we should being doing it instead of having a project like that."

Closing the gaps remains a priority of the **Florida Greenways & Trails Foundation Inc.**, foundation **President Dale Allen** said in an email. The group's web site highlights the <u>Coast to Coast Connector</u>.

"We will continue to work to educate elected officials as to the important public safety and transportation benefits of connecting existing trails into a real system of healthy outdoor mobility," Allen said.

While some environmentalists have expressed disappointment that the Florida Forever program remains below its historic \$300-million allocation from 1990 to 2008, some did praise the budget signed by the governor for funding the program and Everglades restoration.

"The Everglades still faces a multibillion dollar price tag to get much-needed clean freshwater flowing into its fragile ecosystems," **Eric Draper**, executive director of **Audubon Florida**, said in a written statement. "In addition, millions of acres of conservation lands on the Florida Forever list are waiting for funds for permanent protection. We look forward to working with agencies and our conservation partners to protect Florida's most special places."

The governor, for the third year in a row, vetoed \$2.5 million for regional planning councils. Scott R. Koons, chairman of the Florida Regional Councils Association Executive Directors Advisory Committee, said the money would have provided positions in the state's 11 councils to support infrastructure development for economic development projects. "We are extremely grateful to the support of the Legislature and the recognition of the role we play in job creation in Florida," Koons said.

The governor vetoed \$750,000 appropriated for **Friends of Florida Parks Inc.** for a match to private and public donations along with \$1 million to the **Wildlife Foundation of Florida**. The Wildlife Foundation of Florida said the \$1 million was needed to help the foundation grow and attract donors for state programs. Friends of Florida State Parks said it would have used the \$750,000 to provide a 40 percent match to local support groups to pay for state park improvements.

Related Research: * List of Water Projects Approved and Vetoed by Governor Rick Scott in the 2013-2014 Budget * Governor Scott: Florida Families First Budget Invests to Protect Florida's Natural Resources * Governor Rick Scott's Veto Letter for SB 1500 * Governor Rick Scott's Veto List for SB 1500 * April 4, 2013 "Water parade' in House follows vetoes of water projects in past 2 years" from The Florida Current * Senate list of water project requests for FY 2013-2014 * Governor's Water Project Criteria * May 16, 2013 Florida TaxWatch 2013 Turkey Watch Report * May 16, 2013 Statement from President Don Gaetz regarding Florida TaxWatch

Reporter Bruce Ritchie can be reached at britchie@thefloridacurrent.com.

Diane Salz < disalz@yahoo.com>

Fwd: NEWS RELEASE: District's Spring Experts to Begin Improvements at Chassahowitzka

Springs

May-99-2013-5:09-PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Chris Zajac < Chris. Zajac@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

Date: May 22, 2013, 2:35:07 PM EDT

Subject: NEWS RELEASE: District's Spring Experts to Begin Improvements at

Chassahowitzka Springs

May, 22, 2013

District's Spring Experts to Begin Improvements at Chassahowitzka Springs

The Southwest Florida Water Management District's (District) team of springs experts will begin the Chassahowitzka Springs sediment removal project the week of May 27, 2013. Eliminating the sand and organic materials that have deposited at the bottom of the spring over time will improve the recreational, economical and ecological value of the Chassahowitzka waterway, resulting in a cleaner, more historic looking body of water.

The District contracted with Underwater Engineering Services, Inc. (UESI), a marine construction company based in Fort Pierce, Florida, to complete the sediment removal. The project is scheduled to be completed in September 2013. UESI divers will remove the damaging nutrient-rich sediments from the headsprings by using a pump that works much like a swimming pool vacuum. The sand and water mixture moves through hoses to fabric bags where clear water filters out leaving the sediments in the bags. The bags are then removed and the sediments are used as a soil supplement on nearby private property.

The project is divided into different phases, including several weeks for site preparation, a few weeks for the installation of piping, tanks and other machinery and 10 weeks for the sediment removal operations.

The Chassahowitzka headsprings are rich in both prehistoric and historic artifacts. To protect and conserve these non-renewable cultural

resources, UESI contracted with Southeastern Archaeological Research, Inc. (SEARCH) to develop a plan to first survey the springs' basin and then monitor the sediment removal operation. SEARCH will identify and evaluate any cultural resources discovered for their National Register eligibility. Once identified, the artifacts will be documented by SEARCH and cataloged by the Division of Historical Resources in Tallahassee. The items will then be returned to Citrus County for public display. SEARCH and the District will also conduct a Public Archaeology event at the Chassahowitzka Headsprings to educate participants about the resources encountered during the survey and promote preservation of cultural materials found in Florida's springs.

Chris Zajac
Government Affairs Program Manager
Northern Planning Region
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34604
(352) 796-7211 ext. 4413
Cell # (352) 299-5538
chris.zajac@swfwmd.state.fl.us

Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>

Fwd: NEWS RELEASE: SWFWMD Governing Board Elects Officers

May 21, 2013 2:56 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Chris Zajac < Chris.Zajac@swfwmd.state.fl.us>

Date: May 21, 2013, 2:55:49 PM EDT

Subject: NEWS RELEASE: SWFWMD Governing Board Elects Officers

May 21, 2013

Governing Board Elects Officers

The Southwest Florida Water Management Governing Board voted today to elect new officers to the board.

Carlos M. Beruff was elected chair of the Governing Board. Beruff represents Manatee County, and is owner and president of Medallion Homes Gulf Coast, Inc. Beruff was appointed to the Board in July 2009, and re-appointed in March 2013.

Michael A. Babb was elected vice-chair of the Governing Board. Babb represents Hillsborough County and is president of Two Rivers Ranch, Inc. in Thonotosassa. Babb was appointed to the Board in June 2011.

Randall S. "Randy" Maggard was elected secretary of the Governing Board. Maggard represents Pasco County and is vice president of Sonny's Discount Appliances Inc. in Dade City. Maggard was appointed to the Board in October 2011.

Jeffery M. Adams was re-elected treasurer of the Governing Board. Adams represents Pinellas County and is an attorney and partner with the law firm of Abbey, Adams, LLP. Adams was appointed to the Board in April 2010.

Governing Board members are unpaid, citizen volunteers who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate. The Governing Board sets policy for the District, whose mission is to manage

the water and related resources of west central Florida to meet the needs of current and future water users while protecting the environment.

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Item 9. Legislative Report

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Legislative Update on Budget Issues June 19, 2013

For the first time in six years, Florida has a budget surplus. The 2013 Legislature passed a \$74.5 billion budget (\$4.5 billion more than last year) including \$59 million for water projects, of which Governor Rick Scott approved \$32.2 million. The following is the status of appropriations impacting the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority and its member governments:

Belleview (Marion County) Sanitary Sewer Extension: \$1.5 Million

Bushnell Sumter County Water Main Extension: \$1,234,032--VETOED*

Crystal River Kings Bay Cleanup: \$100,000

Marion County Wastewater Treatment: \$300,000--VETOED*

Springs Protection (Statewide): \$10 Million

^{*} The Governor's veto message: "One of Florida's most important resources is water. The Department of Environmental Protection and the state's five water management districts provide funding to protect the quality and quantity of Florida's water supply. These agencies work to ensure that Floridians' tax dollars are spent in a manner that will provide a demonstrable improvement statewide. While some water projects may also contribute to a statewide investment, not all projects demonstrate an ability to contribute to a statewide investment. . . . " (Gov. Scott, May 20, 2013)

Item 10.a. Senate Bill 50 Public Participation

HAAG, HAAG & FRIEDRICH, P.A.

452 PLEASANT GROVE ROAD INVERNESS, FL 34452 (352) 726-0901- TELEPHONE

(352) 726-3345 - FACSIMILE

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Richard Owen, WRWSA Executive Director

FROM:

Larry M. Haag, Esq. Sulfi

RE:

Senate Bill 50 - Relating to Public Participation at Public Meetings

DATE:

May 16, 2013

Attached hereto you will find a copy of Senate Bill 50, which is effective October 1, 2013. I believe that within the next meeting or two the Board needs to adopt Rules as described in subsection 4 of Florida Statute 286.0114, which was created by the Bill.

- 1. I believe that, as a general outline, what the Board needs to do is to move the public participation section to the beginning of the meeting rather than the end. In that fashion, any member of the public can have an opportunity to comment on anything that is shown on the Board's Agenda.
- 2. We should have criteria that individuals shall be given 3 minutes to make comments to the Board and individuals representing organizations shall have up to 5 minutes.
- 3. We should provide forms at the entrance to the meeting chambers for people to fill out indicating their desire to speak to the Board at that portion of

Page 2 of 2 Pages

Memo to Richard Owen, WRWSA

Re: SB 50 - Relating to Public Participation at Public Meetings

May 16, 2013

the meeting, stating their full name and address so that Nancy will have that

information for purposes of preparing her minutes.

4. Lastly, if in fact there are times which the Board is to take action on

issues which are <u>not</u> on the Agenda at the time those issues are discussed, we

should open the item for public comment prior to taking a final vote on the

matter.

We need to adopt formal Rules of Procedure to be included as an Appendix

to our Operating Statement.

Please give me your thoughts on this matter so we can start the drafting

process.

LMH/ss

cc: Nancy Smith

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An act relating to public meetings; creating s. 286.0114, F.S.; defining "board or commission"; requiring that a member of the public be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard by a board or commission before it takes official action on a proposition; providing exceptions; establishing requirements for rules or policies adopted by the board or commission; providing that compliance with the requirements of this section is deemed to have occurred under certain circumstances; providing that a circuit court has jurisdiction to issue an injunction under certain circumstances; authorizing a court to assess reasonable attorney fees in actions filed against a board or commission; providing that an action taken by a board or commission which is found in violation of this section is not void; providing that the act fulfills an important state interest; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Section 286.0114, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

286.0114 Public meetings; reasonable opportunity to be heard; attorney fees.

- (1) For purposes of this section, board or commission 28 means a board or commission of any state agency or authority or of any agency or authority of a county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision.
 - (2) Members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a board or commission. The opportunity to be heard need not occur at the same meeting at which the board or commission takes official action on the proposition if the opportunity occurs at a meeting that is during the decisionmaking process and is within reasonable proximity in time before the meeting at which the board or commission takes the official action. This section does not prohibit a board or commission from maintaining orderly conduct or proper decorum in a public meeting. The opportunity to be heard is subject to rules or policies adopted by the board or commission, as provided in subsection (4).
 - (3) The requirements in subsection (2) do not apply to:
 - (a) An official act that must be taken to deal with an emergency situation affecting the public health, welfare, or safety, if compliance with the requirements would cause an unreasonable delay in the ability of the board or commission to act;
 - (b) An official act involving no more than a ministerial act, including, but not limited to, approval of minutes and ceremonial proclamations;
 - (c) A meeting that is exempt from s. 286.011; or
 - (d) A meeting during which the board or commission is acting in a quasi-judicial capacity. This paragraph does not

55 affect the right of a person to be heard as otherwise provided 56 by law.

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- (4) Rules or policies of a board or commission which govern the opportunity to be heard are limited to those that:
- (a) Provide guidelines regarding the amount of time an individual has to address the board or commission;
- (b) Prescribe procedures for allowing representatives of groups or factions on a proposition to address the board or commission, rather than all members of such groups or factions, at meetings in which a large number of individuals wish to be heard;
- (c) Prescribe procedures or forms for an individual to use in order to inform the board or commission of a desire to be heard; to indicate his or her support, opposition, or neutrality on a proposition; and to indicate his or her designation of a representative to speak for him or her or his or her group on a 71 proposition if he or she so chooses; or
- (d) Designate a specified period of time for public 73 comment.
- (5) If a board or commission adopts rules or policies in 75 compliance with this section and follows such rules or policies when providing an opportunity for members of the public to be heard, the board or commission is deemed to be acting in compliance with this section.
- (6) A circuit court has jurisdiction to issue an injunction 80 for the purpose of enforcing this section upon the filing of an 81 application for such injunction by a citizen of this state.
- (7)(a) Whenever an action is filed against a board or 83 commission to enforce this section, the court shall assess reasonable attorney fees against such board or commission if the 85 court determines that the defendant to such action acted in violation of this section. The court may assess reasonable attorney fees against the individual filing such an action if the court finds that the action was filed in bad faith or was frivolous. This paragraph does not apply to a state attorney or his or her duly authorized assistants or an officer charged with enforcing this section.
 - (b) Whenever a board or commission appeals a court order that has found the board or commission to have violated this section, and such order is affirmed, the court shall assess reasonable attorney fees for the appeal against such board or commission.
- (8) An action taken by a board or commission which is found to be in violation of this section is not void as a result of 98 99 that violation.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that a proper and 101 legitimate state purpose is served when members of the public have been given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a 103 proposition before a board or commission of a state agency or 104 authority, or of an agency or authority of a county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision. Therefore, the 105 106 Legislature determines and declares that this act fulfills an 107 important state interest.

Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2013.