



**WITHLACOOCHEE  
REGIONAL  
WATER  
SUPPLY  
AUTHORITY**

## **Board Meeting Package**

July 18, 2012  
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: July 5, 2012

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, July 18, 2012, 4:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Center Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461.**

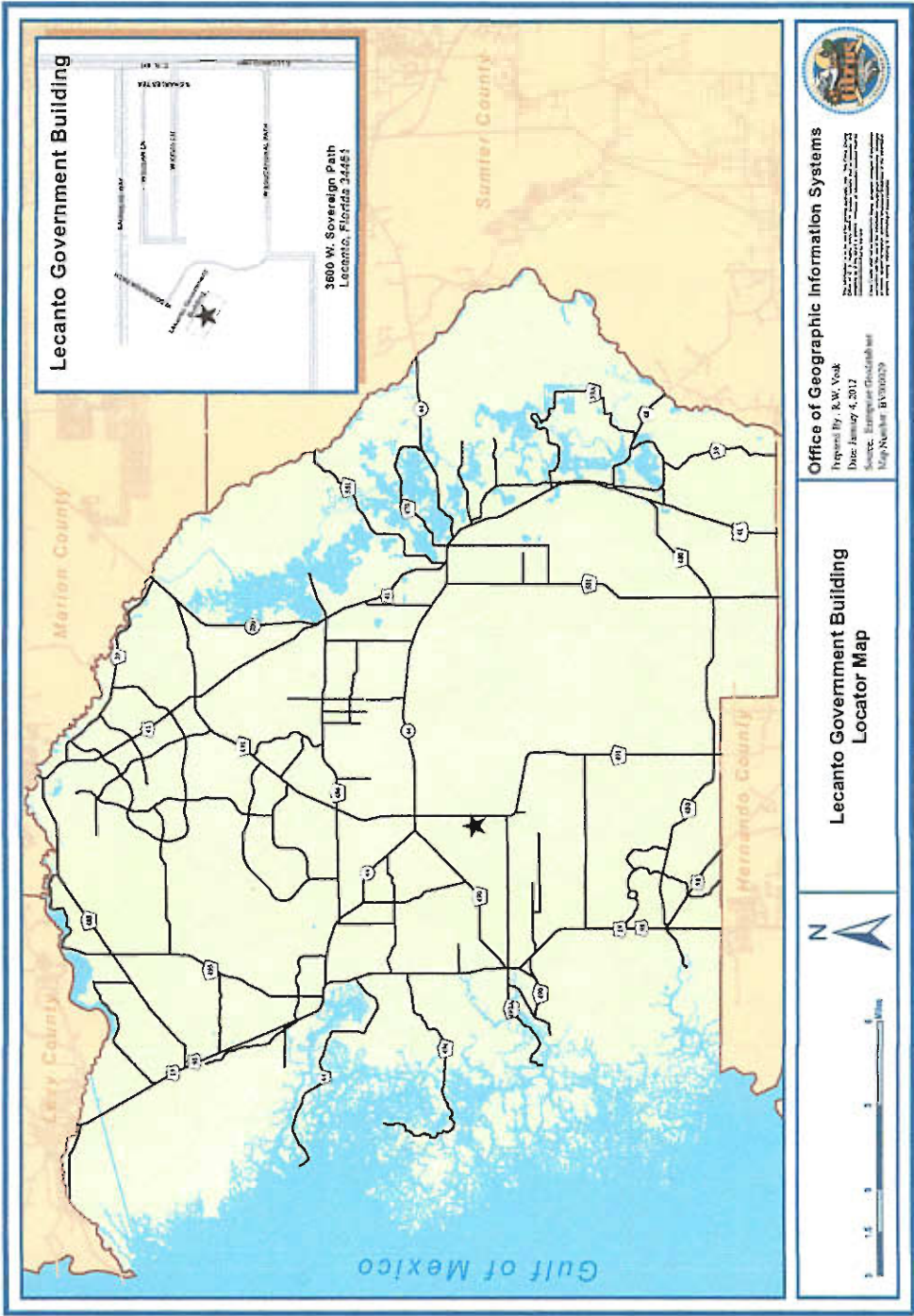
Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of the June 20, 2012 meeting
- Board Package\*

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.

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

Enclosures



**Office of Geographic Information Systems**  
Prepared by: R.W. Volk  
Date: January 4, 2017  
Source: Esri/ArcGIS Online  
Map Number: W000020

**Lecanto Government Building  
Locator Map**



## **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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**

**LECANTO GOVERNMENT BUILDING  
3600 W. SOVEREIGN PATH, ROOM 166  
LECANTO, FLORIDA 34461  
July 18, 2012  
4:30 p.m.**

- Item #1 Call to Order**
- Item #2 Roll Call**
- Item #3 Introductions and Announcements**
- Item #4 Approval of Minutes of June 20, 2012**
- Item #5 Local Government Grant Applications . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**
  - a. Citrus County**
  - b. Hernando County**
  - c. Marion County**
- Item #6 Executive Director's Report . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**
  - a. Bills to be Paid**
  - b. Sinkhole Remediation, Follow-up to June Board Discussion**
  - c. Amendment to the General Services Contract with Water Resource Associates**
  - d. Correspondence**
  - e. News Articles**
- Item #7 Legislative Update . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA**
- Item #8 Attorney's Report . . . Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney**
- Item #9 Other Business**
- Item #10 Public Comment**
- Item #11 Next Meeting Time and Location . . . September 19, 2012, 4:30 p.m., Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461**
- Item #12 Adjournment**

4. Minutes  
June 20, 2012

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
June 20, 2012**

**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 meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. and asked for a roll call.
2. **Roll Call**  
Mr. Jack Sullivan, Executive Director, called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner  
Dennis Damato, Chairman, Citrus County Commissioner  
John Druzbeck, Vice Chairman, Hernando County Commissioner  
Joe Johnston, Brooksville City Councilman  
Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner  
Maureen McNiff, Crystal River City Councilwoman  
John McLeod, Ocala City Councilman  
Jay Musleh, Ocala City Councilman

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Rebecca Bays, Citrus County Commissioner  
Wayne Dukes, Hernando County Commissioner  
Gary Ernst, Belleview City Councilman  
Richard Hoffman, Sumter County Commissioner  
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner  
David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner  
Charlie Stone, Marion County Commissioner  
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman  
Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner  
Carl Zalak, Treasurer, Marion County Commissioner

3. **Introductions and Announcements**  
Mr. Jack Sullivan introduced others in the audience.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jack Sullivan, WRWSA Executive Director  
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney  
Nancy Smith, Administrative Assistant  
Pete Hubbell, Water Resource Associates, Inc.  
Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Consultant  
David Hornsby, SJRWMD  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities  
Susan Goebel-Canning, Hernando County Utilities Director



Jay Hoecker, SWFWMD  
John Ferguson, SWFWMD  
Kim Dinkins, Marion County Water Resources Coordinator  
Al Grubman, TOOFAR  
Richard Owen, Hernando County Resident  
Jeff Halcomb, City of Ocala  
Debra Burden, Citrus County Water Conservation  
Peter Rocco, Hernando County Resident  
Rose Rocco, Hernando County Resident  
Michael Czerwinski, Environmental Consultant

**4. Approval of Minutes of May 16, 2012 Meeting**

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

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Johnston to approve the minutes for the May 16, 2012 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Druzbeck and carried unanimously.

**5. Contract for Consulting Executive Director . . . Jack Sullivan, WRWSA**

Mr. Sullivan presented the proposed contract between Richard S. Owen and the WRWSA for the position of executive director. The contract was negotiated based on the existing director's contract and establishes a July 1, 2012 effective date, compensation, and terms of separation.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Ms. McNiff to approve the new executive director's contract as stated. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnston and carried unanimously.

**6. Executive Director's Report ... Jack Sullivan, WRWSA**

**a. Bills to be Paid**

Mr. Sullivan provided a handout to the Board detailing the bills for June 2012 and requested the Board approve payment of these bills in the amount of \$28,091.67.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Mask to approve payment of the June 2012 bills totaling \$28,091.67. The motion was seconded by Mr. Druzbeck and carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report with the Board. Purvis, Gray and Company prepared the report for the three months and six months ended March 31, 2012. The current ratio of assets to liabilities is 21:1. Mr. Sullivan further advised the Board that the operating loss is coming out of the reserve funds as budgeted. He recommended approval of the financial report.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. McLeod to approve the financial report. The motion was seconded by Ms. McNiff and carried unanimously.

**c. Proposed Budget FY 2012-2013**

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2012-2013. He reviewed additions and deletions to the proposed budget compared to the prior fiscal year budget items. Significant changes to the upcoming budget include a reduction in the executive Director's compensation and reductions in the "overlap funds" included in the current budget, slightly offset by a small allowance for as-needed services from Mr. Sullivan,



requested by the incoming Executive Director, an increase in the administrative support, which is more than offset by Nancy Smith assuming responsibilities for administering Phase 2 of the Irrigation Audit program in lieu of retaining a separate contract administrator. Other changes include two matching grants through the SWFWMD Cooperative Funding Initiative program to update the Master Water Supply Plan and to continue the Residential Irrigation Audit program. The proposed budget also includes \$75,000 for seeking additional professional services as needed. The Authority will solicit various firms with abilities in engineering and planning, through a Request for Qualifications process. Chairman Damato requested clarification as to the dollar amount of contracts that can be let by the WRWSA without competitive bidding. Mr. Haag responded that state laws allows qualified firms to be contracted with as needed, as long as the contract is \$25,000 or less. Mr. Sullivan recommended approval of the proposed budget.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Druzbeck to approve the budget for FY 2012-2013. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mask and carried unanimously.**

**d. Request Travel for Diane Salz, Environmental Permitting Course**

Mr. Sullivan presented a travel request for Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Consultant, to attend the Environmental Permitting Summer School. The event is scheduled for July 17-20, 2012 on Marco Island. The FY 2011-2012 budget has money for both travel and registration.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Johnston to approve travel costs for Ms. Salz to attend the Environmental Permitting Summer School. The motion was seconded by Mr. Druzbeck and carried unanimously.**

**e. Correspondence**

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the correspondence provided in the Board's meeting packet and in the handouts. This item was provided for information only. No action was required.

**f. News Articles**

This item was provided for information only. No action was required.

**7. Legislative Update ... Diane Salz, Governmental Affairs Consultant**

Ms. Salz reported on several water and water-related issues under discussion in various venues across the state. She also advised the Board on upcoming meetings of the SWFWMD Governing Board, the Florida Conservation Coalition, and the Central Florida Water Initiative.

This item was provided for information only. No action was required.

**8. Attorney's Report ... Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney**

Mr. Haag had no business for the Board.

**9. Other Business**

There was no other business.

**10. Public Comment**

Al Grubman spoke to the Board concerning its adopted Phase II plan [Detailed Water Supply Feasibility Analyses] dated April 2010. He is concerned that it does not guarantee against

groundwater being transferred from county to county and he requested that the WRWSA officially amend this plan by the next board meeting.

Rose Rocco, Hernando County resident, addressed the Board with concerns about the types of materials being used to fill and stabilize sinkholes. Chairman Damato asked Richard Owen for some follow-up information on sinkhole remediation.

Pete Hubbell commented on the Phase II report. The Phase II report contains recommendations for short-, mid- and long-term water supply needs and resources. This does not commit the WRWSA or its member governments to any specific strategy. In addition, local governments that seek to inter-connect with other local governments in sharing water supplies do not come before the WRWSA for approval.

**11. Next Meeting Time and Location**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2012 at 4:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461.

Mr. Sullivan reminded the Board that traditionally, the WRWSA has not held a regular board meeting in August. He asked the Board to consider whether to meet on August 15, 2012. It was the consensus of the Board to eliminate the August meeting from the schedule.

**12. Adjournment**

Chairman Damato announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the WRWSA and adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

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Dennis Damato, Chairman

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Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

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## 5. Local Government Grants

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5. Local Government Grant Applications

At the Authority's May 2012 meeting, the Board approved an allocation of \$130,000 for the Fiscal Year 2013 grants program. The Authority has received three grant applications, a summary of which is included in the attached Exhibit A. Copies of the applications are also included as exhibits to this item.

As shown in Exhibit A, the total amount requested slightly exceeds the amount allocated for funding. Each of the applications meets the grants program requirements and staff believes each of the applications will contribute to the conservation and protection of the region's water resources. Staff has therefore reduced the amount recommended for each grant by a prorated amount to bring the total to the \$130,000 allocated.

**Staff Recommendation:** Approval of the grants in the amounts shown in Exhibit A for Fiscal Year 2013.

Exhibit A

2013 WRWSA Grant Applications and Staff Recommendations

Applicant / Program	Amount Requested		Amount Recommended		Adjusted Grant	Percent of Grant Recommended
Citrus County / Water Conservation		\$50,000		\$48,300	-\$1,700	96.6%
Hernando County / Water Conservation		\$48,400		\$46,800	-\$1,600	96.7%
Marion County / Water Conservation		\$36,100		\$34,900	-\$1,200	96.7%
Total		\$134,500		\$130,000	-\$4,500	96.7%



RECEIVED MAY 02 2012

## Board of County Commissioners

Water Resources Department  
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 202  
Lecanto, Florida 34461  
Phone 352-527-7669 Fax 352-527-5429

May 1, 2012

WRL -2012-27

Mr. Jack Sullivan  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
1107 Shalimar Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32312

Re: Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance Program

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

Enclosed for consideration by you and the Board is Resolution No. 2012-071, a project scope and the requested budget for the 2013 Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance Program. Citrus County intends to expend all granted funds for the 2013 program by September 30, 2013.

Through its annual grant, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority has supported Citrus County's water conservation program for many years. This valuable partnership has allowed Citrus County to educate its citizens on water use, provide an annual rebate program as incentive for citizens to upgrade their outdated fixtures and reduce overall demands on the county's water resources.

Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Debra Burden".

Debra Burden  
Water Conservation Coordinator  
Citrus County Water Resources Department

Enclosures: Grant Application Form  
Exhibit "A" – Scope of Work  
Citrus County Board Approved Resolution 2012-071

cc: Ken Cheek, Water Resources Director

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
Local Government Water Supply  
Funding Assistance Program**

**Grant Application Form:**

**Name of member local government:**

Citrus County Water Resources

**List previous grants received from WRWSA and date completed:**

Water Conservation Projects:

Resolution 2011-074 to be completed September 2012

Resolution 2010-075 completed September 2011

Resolution 2009-124 completed in August 2010

Resolution 2008-124 completed in August 2009

Resolution 2007-112 completed in August 2008

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**Short description of proposed water supply project:**

Water conservation education programs and projects to include rebates, irrigation audits, education, and indoor retrofits.

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**Is this a water conservation project?    Yes   X   No**

**Attachments to application:**

1.     Resolution of support that includes the following commitments:
  - a.    The local government will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program.
  - b.    The local government will expend its required matching funds first prior to requesting reimbursement from the Authority for its 50% match for the project.
2.     A summary of the project tasks (scope of services) with estimated costs by task, if applicable (see Exhibit A).
3.     A time schedule for the project and expected completion date that will be inserted in the local government contract.

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**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
1107 Shalimar Dr.  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
(850) 385-0220  
wrwsa@wrwsa.org**





## Exhibit A

2013

The following programs were created in an effort to reduce unnecessary water usage:

PROJECT	COUNTY BUDGET	WRWSA REIMBURSEMENT	Tasks	Estimated Water Savings
Annual Water Smart Rebate Incentive Program	\$50,000	\$25,000	Offer rebates to customers for installing water efficient products in their homes and irrigation systems.	5,700,000 Gallons Saved
2013 Irrigation Evaluation CFI	\$25,000	\$12,500	This is Phase II to WRWSA's Irrigation Evaluation Cooperative Funding Initiative through SWFWMD and member counties.	2,400,000 Gallons Saved
Water Conservation Education & Programming	\$25,000	\$12,500	Advertisements, surveys and bill inserts to educate residents on the need to conserve water. Participate in landscape classes, youth conservation education, rain barrel classes, bmp classes and water conservation workshops. Continue the indoor retrofit program for both residential and commercial sites. Conduct other water saving projects such as Florida-Friendly landscape demonstration gardens.	1,200,000 Gallons Saved
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>Total Projected Gallons Saved:</b>	<b>9,300,000</b>

\*Citrus County intends to expend all grant funding by September 30, 2013.



Item No.:	D1a
Date:	4/24/12
Approved for Agenda:	

## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

<b>THROUGH:</b>	Ken Cheek, Interim Water Resources Director <i>Ken Cheek</i>
<b>FROM:</b>	Debra Burden, Water Conservation Coordinator <i>Debra Burden</i>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Grant Funding Resolution for Water Conservation Program
<b>AGENDA DATE:</b>	April 24, 2012

### BRIEF OVERVIEW:

Citrus County Water Resources has an established water conservation program geared toward increasing water-use efficiency, reducing demands on local water resources, reducing the per person per capita to 150 gallons per day, and adhering to minimum permit requirements established by Southwest Florida Water Management District for consumptive use permits. The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's grant program assists local governments in meeting these requirements by providing assistance to water conservation programs such as Citrus County's. It is Citrus County Water Resources' goal to use this grant to leverage the existing conservation budget to carry out its water conservation program. WRWSA will reimburse expenses on a 50% basis, up to a maximum amount of \$50,000. County cash match is \$50,000.

### BUDGET IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:

FY 2012/2013 promotional activities budget request.

Account No.	Account Title	Current Budget	YTD Expenditures	Encumbrances	Available Balance
					\$0

### RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve and authorize the Chairman to execute a Resolution for a Water Conservation Program grant with the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, WRWSA, to be submitted for final approval by WRWSA board. This will allow the current water conservation program to continue to meet Southwest Florida Water Management District's water use permit requirements. WRWSA will reimburse expenses on a 50% basis, up to a maximum amount of \$50,000. County cash match is \$50,000.

Reviewed & Approved by:	
Management & Budget	<i>CB</i>
County Attorney	<i>PL</i>

RESOLUTION NO. 2012- 071

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA, COMMITTING FUNDS TO MATCH GRANT FUNDING FOR A WATER CONSERVATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners recognizes and supports an ongoing effort to educate our customers and the general public on the importance of water conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the County's Water Consumptive Use Permits No. 20007121.006 and 20009791.008 and 20002842.009, the County desires to continue to develop, improve upon, and expand the water conservation programs to reduce demands on the water resources of the service areas and increase efficiency of use; and

**WHEREAS**, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) participates with local governments in providing assistance for projects with emphasis on water conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Citrus County Water Conservation Program meets the grant funding eligibility requirements of the WRWSA,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Citrus County, Florida, as follows:

Authorize staff to submit the WRWSA water conservation program grant proposal for submission to the WRWSA Board with estimated program costs as listed in Exhibit "A".

ATTEST:

CITRUS COUNTY, A POLITICAL  
SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE  
OF FLORIDA

*for* Tyana Luthite, DC  
BETTY STRIFLER, CLERK

BY: Winn Webb

Winn Webb, CHAIRMAN

APPROVED AS TO FORM FOR  
THE RELIANCE OF CITRUS  
COUNTY ONLY:

Richard Wm. Wesch  
RICHARD WM. WESCH

# Board of County Commissioners

Hernando County



## Water & Sewer District Governing Board UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

21030 Cortez Boulevard  
Brooksville, Florida 34601  
TELEPHONE: (352) 754-4037  
FAX: (352) 754-4485  
[www.hernandocounty.us/utills](http://www.hernandocounty.us/utills)

June 26, 2012

Mr. Richard Owen, Executive Director  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
3600 W Sovereign Path  
Lecanto, FL 34461

Subject: Hernando County Utilities Funding Assistance Program Application  
FY 2013

Dear Mr. Owen:

Hernando County is seeking funding assistance through the Water Supply Authority's Funding Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 2013. In compliance with the requirements of the Program, attached is Hernando County's application and supporting documents. The County's current fiscal year conservation program runs through September 30, 2012, and all funds will be encumbered by that date. Therefore, the County will be in compliance with the approved conditions of the Authority in that its current project will be completed in order to be eligible for consideration for funding assistance of a new project.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact me at (352) 754-4749 or e-mail at [abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us](mailto:abrockway@co.hernando.fl.us)

Sincerely,

Alys Brockway, Water Conservation Division  
Hernando County Utilities Department

Cc: Susan Goebel-Canning, Utilities Director  
Grace Sheppard, Finance Coordinator  
Deborah Marenco, Grants Compliance Accountant  
Nancy Branas, Grants Compliance Specialist

RESOLUTION NO. 2012- 87 " " "

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA, SITTING AS THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE HERNANDO COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT, SUPPORTING THE HERNANDO COUNTY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT'S "LOCAL GOVERNMENT WATER SUPPLY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM" APPLICATION TO THE WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COUNTYWIDE WATER CONSERVATION AND QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAM; AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE THE APPLICATION AND ANY RELATED DOCUMENTS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED; AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF THE UTILITIES DEPARTMENT TO DESIGNATE APPROPRIATE STAFF TO PERFORM THE TECHNICAL, FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED HERewith; PROVIDING THAT THIS RESOLUTION SUPERSEDE PRIOR ACTIONS IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**WHEREAS**, the Hernando County Water and Sewer District (the "District") was created by ordinance and established in all of the unincorporated area of the county; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hernando County Board of Commissioners (the "Board") is the Governing Board of the District; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Hernando County Utilities Department (the "HCUD") is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the water and wastewater facilities and infrastructure of the county; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board recognized that in order to protect the water resources of unincorporated Hernando County and to properly plan for the future needs of its citizens, the establishment of a Water Conservation and Water Resource Protection Program for the County and the District is essential; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Southwest Florida Water Management District (the "SWFWMD") has identified water conservation as an essential planning and protection element of its water resource management program; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (the "Authority") was established, of which Hernando County is a member, to provide an entity to help ensure that an adequate and safe supply of water is available for the citizens of the region and the county; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Authority has established the “Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance Program” to which a member may apply for cooperative funding for water supply projects or projects relating to the development of water supply; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Authority has determined that the establishment and development of water conservation programs support and further the intention of the water supply development of the region; and,

**WHEREAS,** the HCUD has submitted an application to the Authority’s funding assistance program to seek financial assistance in the development of a countywide water conservation program (the “Project”) in order to provide water conservation education throughout the entire county.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA:**

**SECTION 1.** The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.

**SECTION 2.** The Board of County Commissioners (“Board”) hereby gives its official support for the Hernando County Utilities Department to submit an application to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for cooperative funding in the development of the County’s water conservation program.

**SECTION 3.** The Board, in order to meet the terms of the financial assistance program, agrees to budget and expend on the Project an amount equal to or greater than the required fifty percent (50%) matching funds as required by the program.

**SECTION 4.** The Board understands and agrees that it shall expend its required matching funds prior to the Authority expending its fifty percent (50%) match for the Project.

**SECTION 5.** The Board hereby authorizes its Chairman to execute the referenced Application and the Board further authorizes its Chairman to execute such additional documents including, compliance assurances and related documentation required by the Authority in connection with the foregoing.

**SECTION 6.** The Board further authorizes HCUD, Director Susan Goebel-Canning, to designate appropriate staff to perform the technical, financial and administrative activities associated herewith.

**SECTION 7.** In the event of any conflict between this Resolution and any prior resolution or actions of the Board, this Resolution shall supersede and control.

**SECTION 8.** If any section or part of this Resolution proves to be invalid, unlawful, or unconstitutional, it shall not be held to invalidate or impair the validity, force or effect of any other section or part of this Resolution.

**SECTION 9.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**ADOPTED IN REGULAR SESSION THIS 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2012 IN BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Attest: *Karen Nicolai* By: *Wayne Dukes*  
**KAREN NICOLAI** **WAYNE DUKES**  
**CLERK** **CHAIRMAN**



Approved for Form and  
Legal Sufficiency

By: *[Signature]*





**WITHLACOOCHEE  
REGIONAL  
WATER  
SUPPLY  
AUTHORITY**

## **Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance Program**

### **Program Guidelines:**

Since 1999, the Board of Directors of the Authority has provided assistance to local governments for water supply projects. Funding for these projects has come from the Authority's Water Resource Capital Projects Fund. Revenues secured from the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility owned by the Authority and operated and maintained by Citrus County have funded the program. Other funds from the Authority administration budget may be utilized as available.

**The criteria for selecting a local water supply project for potential funding are as follows:**

1. The project must be within the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority jurisdiction and must be for a member local government.
2. The project must relate to water conservation.
3. The project must be approved by the submitting local government's City Council or County Commission prior to submittal to the WRWSA. A resolution of support for the project and commitment of funding by the local government should accompany the application. The Authority, in its sole discretion, will evaluate and approve / disapprove each project based on its merits.
4. The Authority Board of Directors will establish the amount of money available each year for inclusion in the funding program. The maximum funding level has been established as \$100,000 per year. The number of approved applicants will determine the amount of funding for each project. However, the Authority established a general guideline in 2004 of funding up to 1/2 of a project budget up to an amount not to exceed \$50,000 per project.
5. The local government applicant must provide a scope of services for the project that describes the objective of the project, the tasks involved in the project, the cost per task and the time frame for completion of the project. Generally, the Authority requests that the local government expend its pro rata portion of the project budget before the Authority begins paying its pro rata portion.
6. Local governments that have received approval for a grant from the Authority shall not be eligible for another project grant until the previous grant project has been completed:
  - a. Completion of a project shall mean that the total project or the phase of a project for which the grant was used must have been completed. Completion shall also mean that payment for services funded by the grant has been made by the local government and a request for final reimbursement of the two-thirds contribution by the Authority has been sent by the local government and received by the Authority. An exception to this procedure may occur when the local government has shown evidence that the money to be expended has been encumbered, but for scheduling purposes, has not yet been expended. However, the monies must be spent within a specified timeframe proposed by the local government and approved by the Authority. The Authority shall only reimburse the local government for monies actually expended. [Approved July 16, 2003]

- b. Projects for which Authority funding constituted only a part of the total project must have a formal resolution from the member local government that the balance of the project will be completed.
  - c. In setting funding priorities during a grant funding cycle, projects for which Authority funding constituted only a part of the total project will defer priority first to projects for member governments that have never been funded and second to previously funded projects that have completed their total project.
- 7. If either the approved project tasks or the project time frames are changed, the project applicant must revise the scope of services as soon as they are known and receive approval of these revisions from the Authority at a regularly scheduled meeting. Approved changes will be incorporated into the local government contract.
  - 8. The application process will open on May 1 of each year and close on the last working day in June. The applications will be considered by the Board during its July and August Board meetings as necessary. Awards will be made after the September Board meeting. Local Government contracts will be prepared by the Authority's Attorney and Executive Director and approved by the Authority Board and submitted to Local Governments for review and approval by January of the following year.

### **Application Process:**

- 1. The grant application period opens on May 1 of each calendar year and closes on the last working day of June. The completed application and all attachments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on the last working day of the month of June. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the grant application is sent to and received by the Executive Director by the required date. The Authority assumes no responsibility for delays or other problems with the transmittal of the application.
- 2. Applications will be considered at the July Board meeting following receipt of applications. Member governments applying for a grant will be expected to have a representative at the Board meeting to explain the request and answer questions.
- 3. Once a grant request is approved by the Board, the applicant's resolution, summary of the project and time schedule will be incorporated into a contract between the Authority and the local government. The contract (in three copies) will be sent to the local government for review, approval and signature by the local government and then sent back to the Executive Director for presentation to the Authority Board for final approval and signatures at the September or next appropriate Board meeting. Once signed an original signed copy of the contract will be sent to the local government.
- 4. Changes to the internal budget of the project, if applicable, may be approved by the Executive Director up to a 10% change in budget items. The Authority Board at a regular Board meeting must approve changes in excess of that amount. Requests for changes in the date of completion of the contract must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director for placement on the agenda at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Authority. Requests for an extension of the contract date must be done prior to the expiration of the contract.

### **The completed application should be mailed to:**

Jack Sullivan, Executive Director  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
1107 Shalimar Drive  
Tallahassee, Florida 32312

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
Local Government Water Supply  
Funding Assistance Program**

**Grant Application Form:**

Name of member local government:

Hernando County

List previous grants received from WRWSA and date completed:

2002 through 2011 completed by September 30 of each year.

Short description of proposed water supply project:

Water Conservation and Water Resource Protection Program for Hernando County

Is this a water conservation project? Yes ☒ No ☐

**Attachments to application:**

1. Resolution of support that includes the following commitments:
  - a. The local government will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program.
  - b. The local government will expend its required matching funds first prior to requesting reimbursement from the Authority for its 50% match for the project.
2. A summary of the project tasks (scope of services) with estimated costs by task, if applicable.
3. A time schedule for the project and expected completion date that will be inserted in the local government contract.

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority**  
1107 Shalimar Dr.  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
(850) 385-0220  
wrwsa@wrwsa.org



**FY 2013 Conservation Project Budget  
Hernando County Utilities Department  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
Funding Assistance Program**

<b>Springs Coast Environmental Learning Center</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>		
<b>Gulf Coast Academy</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>		
Water conservation/Quality Curriculum, texts, equipment		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7000</b>
<b>Promotional Items &amp; Workshops</b>			
Pencils, pens, magnets (giveaways)	\$ 5,000		
Flyers, brochures, (educational information)	\$ 8,500		
Florida Friendly Landscape Workshop, Water	\$ 3,000		
Quality Workshop (tote bags, water meters, Speaker stipends, materials)			
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,500</b>
<b>Conservation Advertising Campaign</b>			
Commercial media spots (television, radio, print)	\$ 2,500		
Hernando County Government Broadcast	\$ 8,000		
(broadcast of water conservation workshops, educational video and broadcast media commercial (with SWFWMD)			
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,500</b>
<b>Water Conservation (Customer) Incentives Program:</b>			
Regional Irrigation Evaluation Program	\$25,000		
Rain Sensor Rebate Program ' 2013	\$7,000		
Toilet Rebate Program	\$22,000		
FYN program participation	\$800		
Florida Friendly Landscaping, Rain barrel workshops	\$1,500		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,300</b>
<b>Equipment</b>			
Software/Accessories/camera/leak detection	\$ 2,000	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Spring's Protection Programs</b>			
(training manuals, books, materials, field trips, shirts, displays, stipend for instructors, travel)		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Water Awareness Program-Citizen's Workshops</b>			
(materials, field trips, stipend for speakers, travel)		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>
<b>Groundwater Guardians</b>			
(training, materials, field trips, web site upkeep, display Awards, travel)		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>
<b>Florida Friendly Landscape Demonstration Supplies</b>			
(maintenance items for existing FYN demonstration)		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>
<b>TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 96,800</b>
<b>Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority share</b>	<b>(50%)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$48,400</b>

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT WATER SUPPLY FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013**

**HERNANDO COUNTY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT  
WATER CONSERVATION AND WATER RESOURCE PROTECTION PROGRAM**

**Overview**

The Hernando County Utilities Department (HCUD) is one of the first local governments in the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) to establish a conservation water rate structure and since 2007 a "drought rate" structure. The drought rates are applied when the SWFWMD declares water shortages and customers use over 20,000 gallons of water a month. Average water use in the residential sector (single-family homes) is approximately 7800 a month. Hernando County Utilities Department supplies safe potable water and waste water services to nearly 85% of Hernando County. HCUD's customer accounts including, residential, commercial and industrial totals nearly 60,000 accounts. Hernando County was also one of the first local governments to implement a rain sensor rebate program for customers. We have continued these incentive-based water conservation programs including, low flow toilets, irrigation evaluation and audit programs, Florida Friendly certified landscapes, participation in Florida Yards and Neighborhoods programs. These programs, along with many others, show the deep commitment this utility has to the protection and conservation of Hernando County's water supply.

We survey and collected information from citizen's and other water conservation program participants to on types of programs that they believe is the most important. Using that information we put together a monthly series of water related programs. The Water Conservation Division of Hernando County Utilities Department held eight (8) educational seminars. The 2011/2012 programs collectively titled Hernando County Water Awareness Series 2012. This year's program covered a wide variety of water related presentations including, Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL), MFL for the Springs Coast, Micro-Irrigation workshop, Rain Barrel workshop, Understanding our Water Agencies, SWFWMD and WRWSA, Stormwater Management, Getting the Most from Your Irrigation System, Karst Geology and how it affects our Springs, Hurricanes and you! Speakers came from Tallahassee, Orlando, Sumter County and several from the area. 530 people attended these programs and each seminar was recorded and shown on Hernando County Government Broadcast channel 622. The series is being broadcast on our local government cable channel 622, which currently has a subscription rate of 33,000 and each program is shown once a week. Through the WRWSA Local Government Grant Program we support this division. The WRWSA provided support to this group and helped facilitate this important set of educational lectures.

Our most proactive and impact oriented program was with another volunteer group, Hernando County's Groundwater Guardian Team, which has been instrumental bringing the importance of the protection of Peck Sink to local officials and residents. As a requirement for this team to stay affiliated with the National Groundwater Guardian Foundation we have a series of Result Oriented Activities that are accomplished each

year. The organization is responsible for organizing and promoting a workshop every two years that targets local government leaders and community leaders on a variety of water related issues, best management practices and new regulations. The next workshop will be May 2012. These workshops were supported by the WRWSA, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Community Education Grant and private partners. Promotional and educational items have been and are being used to educate the residents of Hernando County.

The assistance of the WRWSA Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance Program, all residents of Hernando County may benefit by the water conservation and water quality programs.

## **PURPOSE & PROPOSED INITIATIVES**

Major elements of the program consist of:

1. Outreach groups (Citizens Programs/Water Awareness. and Springs Protections
2. County-wide user advisory committee (Groundwater Guardian Team);
3. In-school education program (Hernando County Environmental Education Center, Gulf Coast Academy)
4. Conservation Messaging Campaign (partnership with SWFWMD);
5. Customer and Residents Incentive Programs including regional irrigation audit and education pilot project.

In order to better serve all of the citizens of Hernando County, those served by the county's utility system as well as those who use private wells or customers of the City of Brooksville, the county is applying to the WRWSA for funding assistance in the continued development and expansion of its water conservation and quality protection program. With this funding, the programs will include all water users of the county.

### **1. Outreach and Citizens Groups**

Citizens for W.A.T.E.R. are a citizen awareness and education group that was first organized in the late 1990's. Water Awareness Through Education and Research (W.A.T.E.R.) is the component that initiated a series of public forums in 1997, with speakers from various agencies. The facilitators held classroom style presentations with audiovisual support and interaction with the audience. The presentations were videotaped for viewing on Channel 622, Hernando County's Government Channel, and are available for borrowing from the HCUD. The Spring Stewards will reach out into their communities and educate others about the importance and protection of our area springs. (Budget items: -educational materials, field trips, meeting costs, travel, postage, shirts and stipends for speakers.)

### **2. Groundwater Guardian Team**

This group is authorized by the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners and is organized under the auspices of the National Groundwater Foundation. Members represent the major water users of Hernando County. The user groups represented are

power industry, agriculture, development, manufacturing, and recreational industries as well as representatives from the school system, city and county governments, and the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) and citizens. This group has developed, in accordance with the national foundation requirements, a "Result Oriented Plan" and implemented activities to communicate the importance of ground water protection in the community. The Team received its designation as a Groundwater Guardian Community in 2002 through 2012. The extraordinary efforts of this committee have received attention by the National Groundwater Foundation and the coordinator has been appointed to a national office. Additionally, the coordinator has been elected to the National Executive Groundwater Foundation Committee. And this year was voted by the National Team to be the Vice President of the organization. In order to retain its designation, the Team and the community must apply its plan and submit an annual report on the progress of implementation. The Hernando County Groundwater Guardians also bring groundwater protection issues to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of County Commissioners. (Budget items: educational materials, travel, field trips/seminars, award ceremonies, web site upkeep, postage, meeting costs and other materials necessary to complete their Result Oriented Activities.)

### **3. Springs Coast Environmental Education Center (SCEEC)**

The SWFWMD purchased Weeki Wachee Springs and the attraction property to be part of the Weeki Wachee Preserve. The District has committed approximately \$750,000 to construct an environmental education center on the property, under the condition that the Hernando County School District supply teachers, curriculum and equipment. The Hernando County Water and Sewer District (HCW&SD) Board and the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners have pledged to support this endeavor and have authorized a contribution to the Education Center. The doors of the unique learning center opened in April 2005. Initially it will serve fourth grade students of Hernando County, with plans to increase participation to 8th grade students, and will be use for specialized workshops. This past year the (SCEEC) hosted over 6,000 Hernando County students. The Hernando County Utilities Department has specifically provided support for the development of a water resource/quality protection and water conservation module of the curriculum. By providing support to the center, the Utilities Department is allocating its resources to those skilled in working with students - teachers. In addition, creation of the curriculum module ensures that a consistent and continuing message will be embedded in the educational process. In FY 2008 we added the Gulf Coast Academy of Science and Technology to our student educational efforts. GCA is committed to providing a unique education through weekly field experiences integrated with a hands-on advanced middle school curriculum. (Budget item: Springs Coast Environmental Education Center, Gulf Coast Academy)

### **4. Water Conservation media messaging campaign:**

This campaign includes radio and televised educational programming through Hernando County Government Broadcast. SWFWMD has partnered with us in the past and they continue to assist by preparing radio spots and local media campaigns. The innovative and instructional media messages broadens public awareness and heightened the acceptance of water conservation was a way of life. As a partner in the campaign we have the opportunity to "tag" each message with our own contact information. Our "tag" has both the Hernando



County Utilities Department and Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority. (Budget items: commercial airtime, radio and print media)

#### **5. Water Conservation (Customer only) Incentive Programs:**

Through innovative conservation programs, the Hernando County Utilities Department will encourage residents to conserve our valuable water supply. Incentive programs include participation in a regional irrigation audit and education pilot project. Partners will include, Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, Southwest Florida Water Management District, and other member government with the WRWSA. The Cooperative Funding Initiative (to the SWFWMD) is attached. Other water conservation customer incentive programs include a Rain Sensor Rebate Program (\$50.00), Low-Flow Toilet Replacement Program (\$100.00), and promotion of Florida Friendly Landscaping workshop, where customer attendees receive a "tuition" reimbursement on their water bill. Incentives also help further the promotion of Hernando County's Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) program. Customer rebates include a \$25 rebate for participating in the FYN rain barrel workshops and another \$25 rebate is available for certifying their landscape as a Florida Friendly Landscape. (Budget items: water conservation incentive program features, such as low flow toilets, rain sensors, irrigation audits, Et/soil moisture sensors)

### **CONCLUSION**

The above elements of the Hernando County Utilities Department's Water Conservation/Water Resource Program are diverse and purposefully set up that way. An effective water conservation program for a public supply utility must reach all of its customers and must strive to change behavior and attitudes towards conservation of water in order to affect reliable, long-term results. This must be accomplished through a multi-functional approach including education, outreach, and financial incentives.

### **IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE**

All of the above projects and initiatives will be ongoing throughout this fiscal year (2011/2012). Funds from the current (FY2012) WRWSA assistance program will be encumbered by the September 30, 2012. This meets the requirement in order to submit funding request for 2012/2013 fiscal year. The water conservation initiatives for 2013 will begin October 1, 2012 and conclude with all grant assistance funds being encumbered by September 30, 2013.

\*These descriptions are in lieu of the required "Scope of Services" and task list. The cost of the projects correlate to the items as identified in the attached Proposed Budget.

RECEIVED JUN 27 2012

"Dinkins, Kim" <Kim.Dinkins@marioncountyfl.org>  
Marion County Grant Application 2012  
June 27, 2012 11:12 AM

Please accept this application for funding assistance on behalf of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners, Water Resources Program. Note that Attachment 1 is a draft resolution, which will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for signature on July 17. It is currently in Legal Review. The County has historically approved this resolution, as evidenced by prior funding agreements from 2008-2011 and we expect that there will be no issue with this year's resolution. A signed copy of the adopted resolution will be provided prior to the July WRWSA Board Meeting. Should the Marion County Board decline to sign, I understand that we will need to withdraw our application.

Sincerely,

**Kimberleigh C. Dinkins**  
Water Resources Coordinator  
Marion County Board of County Commissioners  
Office of the County Engineer  
412 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Ave, Ocala, FL 34471  
Tele (352)671-8686 Fax (352)671-8687

Be Safety Realistic-Not an Injury Statistic  
Submitted by Wendy Walters

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.



[GrantAppSu...pdf \(133 KB\)](#)

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
Local Government Water Supply  
Funding Assistance Program**

RECEIVED JUN 27 2012

**Grant Application Form:**

Name of member local government: Marion County Board of County Commissioners

List previous grants received from WRWSA and date completed:

2012- \$ 39,000 to be completed September 30, 2012

2011- \$ 37,500 September 30, 2011

2009- \$ 23,005 September 30, 2010

2008- \$ 28,250 September 30, 2009

Short description of proposed water supply project:

N/A – This is a request for funding to support a water conservation program.

Is this a water conservation project? Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_

**Attachments to application:**

1. Resolution of support that includes the following commitments:
  - a. The local government will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program.
  - b. The local government will expend its required matching funds first prior to requesting reimbursement from the Authority for its 50% match for the project.
2. A summary of the project tasks (scope of services) with estimated costs by task, if applicable.
3. A time schedule for the project and expected completion date that will be inserted in the local government contract.

---

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority**  
3600 W. Sovereign Path  
Suite 228  
Lecanto, FL 34461  
[wrwsa@wrwsa.org](mailto:wrwsa@wrwsa.org)



**WITHLACOOCHEE  
REGIONAL  
WATER  
SUPPLY  
AUTHORITY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 12 R-\_\_\_\_\_**

A RESOLUTION OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA SUPPORTING THE MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' APPLICATION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT WATER SUPPLY FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM THE WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY FOR LOCAL WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM EFFORTS.

**WHEREAS**, the Marion County Board of County Commissioners (Board) recognizes the importance of efficient water use to protect and sustain its local water supply and related natural resources: and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is required by permit to promote water conservation initiatives, which include but are not limited to conservation rate structures, a countywide landscape irrigation ordinance, homeowner workshops, and irrigation evaluation and education services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority), through its own recognition of the importance of water use efficiency, has created a local government water supply assistance program which provides funding to member governments specifically for water conservation projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is seeking a grant through the Authority's funding assistance program for the landscape irrigation retrofit and homeowner-education elements of its overall water conservation programming in Fiscal Year 2012/2013; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board is required, according to the terms of the Authority's funding assistance program, to budget and expend matching funds equal to or greater than fifty percent (50%) of the amount of the requested grant;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:**

1. Marion County Board of County Commissioners supports the application to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for local program funding for the 2012/2013 fiscal year.
2. Marion County Board of County Commissioners agrees to budget \$72,200 as part of its on-going Water Use Efficiency Program.
3. Marion County Board of County Commissioners agrees to expend 50% of the budgeted amount (\$ 36,100) prior to requesting reimbursement from the Authority.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption of the final budget for Fiscal Year 2012/2013 by the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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**CHARLIE STONE, CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

---

**DAVID R. ELLSPERMANN, CLERK**

## Program Description

Marion County Water Resources and Marion County Utilities work cooperatively to plan, manage, and provide educational services for a comprehensive, goal-based water conservation program for the Marion County Board of County Commissioners. The program aims to educate Marion County residents about efforts to protect and preserve the water resources of this area and provide opportunities to improve water use efficiency through indoor fixture retrofits and landscape improvements.

The program is conducted through public outreach, indirect public education, and water conservation incentives. The public outreach portion of the program includes participation in community events, exhibits in trade-shows, at schools, and with civic groups. It also includes water conservation workshops facilitated for civic groups, homeowner associations, libraries and other community groups. Indirect public outreach includes direct mailers; distribution of educational materials during workshops and events, and maintaining the visibility of the Water Resource Coordinator as a resource for conservation education. Additionally, conservation initiatives include a program offering free low flow devices and toilet rebates to Marion County Utilities customers which are anticipated to directly affect water use among citizens of Marion County.

The following is a breakdown of the costs of the various projects that Marion County requests grant funding for during the 2012-2013 FY:

<b>Irrigation and Landscape Retrofit Program (continuation)</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>
<b>Regional Irrigation Evaluation (continuation)</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>
<b>Bi-monthly Utility Bill Inserts Direct Mail to High Water Users</b>	<b><u>\$ 7,200</u></b>
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$ 72,200</b>
<b>50% Project Costs</b>	<b>\$ 36,100</b>

These projects represent only a portion of the County's on-going Water Use Efficiency Program. A cost-share of \$ 36,100 will help to offset the cost of performing landscape and irrigation evaluations and retrofits and conducting public outreach. The remainder of the program costs will be funded by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners and other cooperative partners.

## Grant Timeline

### Irrigation and Landscape Retrofits

Enroll Participants	10/1/2012
Perform irrigation and landscape retrofits/issue rebates	11/1/2012 – 9/30/2013
Irrigation Retrofit Summary Report	2/28/2014

### Irrigation Evaluations

Distribute RFQ and contract with Auditor(s)	4/1/2013
Perform irrigation audits	7/1/2013-8/1/2014
Follow-up Audits Conducted	7/1/2014-2/1/2015
Final Irrigation Audit Report	To be completed by WRWSA

### Bi-Monthly Utility Bill Inserts and Postcards

Develop and print materials	10/1/2012 – 11/30/2012
Send inserts and postcards	10/1/2012-9/30/2013



6.a. Bills  
to be Paid

6b. Sinkhole  
Remediation

## 6.B. Sinkhole Remediation, Follow-up to June Board Discussion

At the June 20, 2012 Board meeting, Ms. Rose Rocco addressed the Board regarding sinkhole remediation in the area and the types of materials that are being injected into the ground to stabilize homes and other structures. In response to these and Board comments, the Chair requested staff investigate this issue and report back to the Board. The following summarizes staff's investigation.

No permit is needed to fill a new dry sinkhole and there is currently no agency with responsibility and authority for sinkhole inspections. Sinkholes occurring in wetland areas or sinkholes whose filling would alter surface water flows or contribute to water pollution may require an Environmental Resources Permit (ERP) before filling, issued by the appropriate water management district. Since many sinkholes are direct conduits to drinking water aquifers, some care in selection of fill material is advisable. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Florida Geological Survey (FGS), on its website: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/geology/geologictopics/sinkhole.htm>, advises that a sinkhole should "not be filled with trash, chemicals, or other materials that could contaminate groundwater. Natural earth materials such as clean limestone rock, sand, and clayey sand are suitable."

FGS Director and State Geologist, Jonathan D. Arthur, Ph.D., P.G. reported that he is "unaware of any regulation focused on materials used to remediate sinkholes in this or any other state." Dr. Arthur does not believe that the type of material used to remediate sinkholes has been an issue. In Florida, the use of grout and bentonite (trade name for certain clays that expand significantly when in contact with water) are commonly used, or clean clay fill which may have a component of sand based upon the geological source of the fill material, according to the FGS. FGS Geologist David James suggested that someone from the FGS could discuss Best Management Practices (BMPs) for sinkhole remediation with the WRWSA Board of Directors at a future Board meeting. Additionally, Brian Balmberg of the Hernando County Engineers Office was coordinated with on this topic, and is not aware of anyone conducting a related investigation under the direction of the Hernando County BOCC.

Staff also spoke with representatives of the Southwest Florida Water Management District. District staff confirmed that there are no regulations or requirements for the materials used in the remediation of sinkholes. The District and DEP do regulate the materials used in the construction and abandonment of wells. These regulations incorporate by reference various standards promulgated by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), American Petroleum Institute (API), American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and others. These standards are, in part, intended to protect water resources from possible contamination.

Finally, staff spoke with representatives of the Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative (WREC). At the June Board meeting, it was mentioned that the WREC has had electric meters damaged by the expanding materials used in sinkhole remediation. The WREC staff confirmed one such case, where the expanding material traveled up the electric conduit and pushed the electric meter out of the meter box. This occurred in the Timber Pines subdivision in Hernando County. They were unaware of any other similar situations.

**Staff Recommendation:** This is an information item and no action is required.



## 6.c. Amendment to the General Services Contract with Water Resource Associates

### Overview:

As you are aware, the WRWSA contracted with Water Resource Associates, Inc. (WRA) for General Services for fiscal year 2011-2012. This scope of work is for as-needed technical support services including general engineering, hydrogeologic and other services to support the WRWSA Board and Executive Director. Essentially WRA is on-call to provide technical assistance to the Authority in lieu of hiring permanent professional staff. This contract is on a time and materials basis with the consultant responding to either written or verbal requests for services from the Board or Executive Director. The contract not-to-exceed amount is \$25,000 for the fiscal year.

Although this contract amount was adequate in the prior fiscal year, the need to utilize WRA's services grew this year and it is anticipated that this need will continue throughout the remainder of the contract period (September 30, 2012). Some of the work requested of WRA from the Board and/or the Executive Director has and continues to include:

1. Charles A. Black Wellfield Rate Analysis;
2. Five-Year WRWSA Project Budgeting;
3. SWFWMD Cooperative Funding Initiative Application Process;
4. Assistance with the WRWSA Irrigation Audit Program;
5. Proposed Adena Springs Ranch CUP;
6. Chassahowitzka/Homosassa/Crystal River Proposed MFLs;
7. Assistance with Floral City Water Supply Issues;
8. Regional Framework Coordination with Members;
9. WMD Interagency Agreement Reviews and Coordination; and
10. Coordination and Assistance with New ED.

I am requesting additional funding to cover anticipated costs from June – September 2012. This is based on utilizing approximately 10-hours per month of WRA time and allowable expenses for an increase of \$6,400. The new not-to-exceed amount will be \$31,400. As you may recall the budget discussion at our June meeting, we are recommending that the General Services budget be increased to \$75,000 for fiscal year 2012-2013 but will include several consultants who will be able to handle a wider representation of the types of support and issues that the Authority

may confront and require assistance. This approach will enable the Board and the Executive Director to more effectively and efficiently target those activities.

There are sufficient funds available in the Reserve account for this contract amendment.

**Staff Recommendation:** The staff requests authorization from the Board to amend this year's General Services Contract with WRA by \$6,400 for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$31,400, and to transfer funds from Reserves for this purpose. All other provisions of the WRA contract remain unchanged.

6 d.

Correspondence





July 3, 2012

Brad Thorpe, Citrus County Administrator  
110 N. Apopka Avenue  
Inverness, FL 34450

Re: Adopted WRWSA Budget for FY 2012-13

Dear Mr. Thorpe:

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA or Authority) adopted its final budget for FY 2012-13 at the Authority's June 20, 2012 Board meeting. Attached is a copy of the budget and the Authority's Work Program for the 2012-13 Fiscal Year. The Authority continues to move forward with development of its regional work program to position this region to meet its long-range water supply needs. Further, we have maintained our local government grants program to assist our member governments in water conservation and we continue to monitor the Legislature to stay abreast of water legislation that may affect this region.

As you may be aware, the Authority's executive leadership has changed this year. Mr. Sullivan has retired from active service after 30 years and the Authority selected me as the new Executive Director beginning July 1, 2012. I look forward to meeting and working with you and the other staff and officials in Citrus County in the near future.

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

Attachment

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Cathy Taylor, Director, Office of Management and Budget  
Ken Cheek, Water Resources Director

**FY 2012/2013 Budget Letters List of Copies:**

**WRWSA Board Members**

**Citrus County:**

Brad Thorpe, Citrus County Administrator  
Cathy Taylor, Office of Management and Budget Director  
Ken Cheek, Citrus County Water Resources Director

**Hernando County:**

Leonard B. Sossamon, Hernando County Administrator  
Susan Goebel-Canning, P.E., Hernando County Utilities Director  
George W. Zoettlein, Budget Services Manager

**Sumter County:**

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

**Marion County:**

Lee A. Niblock, Marion County Administrator  
John Garri, Finance Director  
Kim Dinkins, Water Resources Coordinator

**City of Ocala:**

Matt Brower, Ocala City Manager  
Don Corley, Finance Director  
Jeff Halcomb, Utilities Director

**Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
2012-13 Work Program**

**1. Transitioning Executive Director Responsibilities**

A new Executive Director was selected at the May 2012 Board meeting of the Authority. The new Executive Director, Richard Owen, is a former Deputy Executive Director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District. Mr. Owen started his duties July 1, 2012 and will spend the following three months being briefed by the out-going Executive Director, Jack Sullivan on the administrative, legal and executive responsibilities of the Authority. During the 2012-13 FY Mr. Owen will assume full responsibility for leading the Authority.

**2. Joint Funding of Water Supply Projects with Member Local Governments.**

The Authority Board 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. Since the inception of the grants program in FY 1999-2000, the Authority has appropriated \$1,324,531 to local government projects in the region. During the 2012-13 FY, the proposed budget anticipates appropriating as additional ±\$130,000 toward local government water conservation projects. Proposals will be considered from any member local government 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).

**3. Tracking Water Resource Legislation During the 2013 Legislative Session that is of Interest to the Withlacoochee Region.**

The Authority has contracted with Diane Salz, Legislative Consultant, to track legislation on water supply, water management districts and other water resource issues. The Authority has focused its attention on tracking any attempts to weaken or abolish the "Local Sources First" permitting requirements adopted by the 1997 Legislature. The Authority approved the continuation of its contract with the Legislative Consultant for additional work during the 2013 legislative session.

**4. Continue the Regional Residential Irrigation Audit Program to Promote Water Conservation within the Region**

This project is to provide an opportunity for residents within Citrus, Hernando, Marion, and Sumter counties (the Withlacoochee region), 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 will be professionals certified by Florida Irrigation Society (FIS) or other recognized certifying agency in the targeted region. The initiative will include program information/education, reporting and analysis, code modification and program administration by a consultant. This project will target existing inefficient landscape and irrigation water use, and should result in increased water savings and water quality protection.

The Authority initiated this program in 2011 with joint funding through the Southwest Florida Water Management District's Cooperative Funding Initiative (CFI) program. The 2011 program will continue through 2012 and will be followed by another CFI program with the Authority beginning in 2012 and running through 2013.

**5. Update of the 2010 Regional Water Supply Master Plan**

A recommendation of the 2010 Regional Water Supply Master Plan is to update the Master Plan data and recommendations every five years. This would include updating information in the plan related to determining existing and future water demands, developing an updated water resources assessment and preparing an inventory and evaluation of traditional and alternative water supply sources. The Southwest Florida Water Management District was interested in the Authority moving forward with updating its Plan data during FY 2013 so they could then use the data in the update of the District Water Supply Plan in 2014. The District has indicated it will approve the Plan update through its Cooperative Funding Initiative program.

**6. Finalize the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility Rate Analysis**

During the 2011-12 FY, 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 Authority engaged Purvis Gray & Company, CPAs to prepare a rate analysis and recommend changes to the current contract between the Authority and Citrus County. This study is ongoing and projected to be completed in the 2012-13 FY.

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

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

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY			
Adopted 2012-13 FY Budget			
Date of Adoption - 6/20/12			
	4/1/11 Population BEER Est.	Comments on Budget Change	Annual Amounts (\$)
<b>Revenues: Administrative</b>			
			FYE 13 (\$/19/cap)
Assessments:			
1 Citrus	140,956	per capita rate	\$26,782
2 Hernando	173,078	per capita rate	\$32,885
3 Sumter	96,615	per capita rate	\$18,357
4 Marion (Less City of Ocala)	275,200	per capita rate	\$52,288
5 City of Ocala	56,545	per capita rate	\$10,744
6 Total Population/Assessments @			
7 19¢/Capita	742,394	See Attachment 2 for detail	\$141,055
8 Carry-over Administration Reserve Funds (Est.)		See Attachment 1 for detail	\$397,105
9 Overhead from Citrus Contract		Based on Citrus County contract	\$60,000
10 Total Administrative Revenue Available			\$598,160
<b>Revenues: Water Supply Facility Development</b>			
13 SWFWMD Matching Funds for 2010-12 Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$18,900
14 SWFWMD Matching Funds for 2012-14 Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$21,030
15 LG Match for 2012-14 Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$36,038
16 Villages Matching Funds for 2010-12 Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$1,550
17 Villages Matching Funds for 2012-14 Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$2,628
18 SWFWMD Matching Funds for 2012 Master Plan Update		SWFWMD CFI Initiative	\$125,000
19 (SBA2) Carryover WRDF Reserve Funds (Est.)		See Attachment 1 for detail	\$919,431
20 (SBA2) Annual Citrus Amortization Pmts		See Attachment 2 for detail	\$163,587
21 Total Water Supply Development Revenue Available			\$1,288,164
22			
23 Total Revenues Available			\$1,886,324
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
<b>General Administration</b>			
27 Executive Director		Based on Annual contract	\$80,000
Overlap fund for Continuing Executive/Administrative Resource			\$5,000
28 Administrative Assistant		Based on Annual contract	\$37,500
29 Legal Services		Based on Annual contract	\$20,000
30 Monthly Meetings @ \$500/meeting	\$6,000	No change	
31 Other Services @ \$150/hr.	\$14,000	No change	
32 Legislative Consultant		Based on Annual contract	\$42,000
33 Advertising		Based on current usage	\$1,500
34 Audit		Based on CPI	\$8,500
35 Bank Charges		Based on current usage	\$600
36 Bookkeeping Services		Based on current usage	\$1,350
37 Office Supplies		Based on current usage	\$3,600
38 Postage		Based on current usage	\$1,000
39 Printing and Reproduction		Based on current usage	\$2,000
40 Publications/Software		Based on current usage	\$200
41 Rent (Lecanto Gov't Bldg)		Based on Lease Agreement	\$2,048
42 Registrations/Dues		Based on current usage	\$2,000
43 State Fees/Assessments		Based on current usage	\$175
44 Telephone		Based on current usage	\$2,500
45 Travel		Based on current usage	\$14,000
46 Web Page Maintenance		Based on current usage	\$1,850
47			
48 Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures			\$225,823
49			
50 Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves			\$372,337
51			
52 TOTAL ADMIN. EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE			\$598,160
<b>Water Supply Studies and Facilities</b>			
55 General Services Contract		RFO's - Firms on Call	\$75,000
56 Update of Regional Water Supply Plan		SWFWMD CFI Contract	\$250,000
57 Local Government Water Supply Projects (12-13 FYE)		Based on action of BoD	\$130,000
58 North Sumter Data Collection Program		Based on Contract w/ SWFWMD	\$5,000
59 FY 2010-12 Irrigation Audit Program Completion		SWFWMD CFI Contract	\$37,800
60 FY 2012-14 Irrigation Audit Program		SWFWMD CFI Contract	\$42,060
61 Purvis Gray Rate Analysis (CAB WSF)		Contract with Purvis Gray	\$8,588
62			
63 Subtotal - Water Supply Studies and Facilities Expenditures			\$548,448
64			
65 Fund Balance for Water Supply Development Reserves			\$739,716
66			
67 TOTAL WRDF EXPENDITURES and FUND BALANCE			\$1,288,164
68			
69 Total Administration and WRDP Fund Balances at FYE 2012		See Attachment 1 for detail	\$1,112,053

## ATTACHMENT 1

### ANALYSIS OF BEGINNING FUND BALANCES FY 2012 - 2013

#### ANALYSIS OF WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND BALANCE

4/30/12 WRDF Bal (SBA2 & SBA2B)	\$1,080,509
Citrus Payments 5/12 - 9/12 @ \$13,632.25/month	\$68,161
Subtotal	\$1,148,670
Less: 11-12 FY Remaining Contract Balances:	
2011-12 Citrus Water Conservation program	\$41,500
2011-12 Hernando Water Conservation program	\$43,500
2011-12 Marion Water Conservation Program	\$39,000
2011-12 City of Belleview Water Reuse Program	\$6,000
2011-12 General Services Contract	\$10,378
2011-12 Irrigation Audit Evaluation, Admin and Mktg	\$75,273
North Sumter Data Collection	\$5,000
Subtotal	\$220,651
<b>Total WRD Funds</b>	<b>\$928,019</b>

#### ANALYSIS OF ADMINISTRATIVE FUND BALANCE

4/30/12 Admin Bal (SBA1 & SBA1B)	\$467,050
Admin from CAB WSF @ \$5,000/month	\$25,000
Less: May - Sept Avg. Admin Cost @ \$18,989/mo.	-\$94,945
<b>Total Administrative Funds</b>	<b>\$397,105</b>

#### PROJECTED FUND BALANCES AT END OF FY

Total Fund Balances beginning of FY 2012-13:	\$1,325,124
Add: 2012-13 Revenues	\$569,788
Deduct 2012-13 Expenses:	<u>-\$774,271</u>
Projected Fund Balances at end of FY 2012-13:	<u><u>\$1,120,641</u></u>

Prepared 5/29/12

## ATTACHMENT 2

**CALCULATION OF REVENUE FOR 2012-13  
 AND  
 CALCULATION OF AMOUNT OF FUNDS NEEDED FROM RESERVES**

<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>4/1/11 POPULATION</u>	<u>Annual Amount</u>	<u>Sub-Totals</u>
<b>LOCAL ASSESSMENTS @ 19¢ PER CAPITA</b>			
Citrus	140,956	\$26,782	
Hernando	173,078	\$32,885	
Marion (Less Ocala)	275,200	\$52,288	
Ocala	56,545	\$10,744	
Sumter	96,615	\$18,357	\$141,055
<b>CHARLES A. BLACK WATER SUPPLY FACILITY</b>			
Amortization of Wellfield Cost		\$163,587	
Administrative Contribution		\$60,000	\$223,587
<b>MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR STUDIES</b>			
SWFWMD Match for 2010-12 Irrigation Audits		\$18,900	
SWFWMD Match for 2012-14 Irrigation Audits		\$21,030	
SWFWMD Match for RWSP Update		\$125,000	
LG Match for 2012-14 Irrigation Audit Program		\$36,038	
Villages Match UD 2010-12 Irrigation Audit Program		\$1,550	
Villages Match UD 2012-14 Irrigation Audit Program		\$2,628	\$205,146
<b>TOTAL REVENUE FOR FY 2012-13</b>			<b>\$569,788</b>
Less: 2012-13 Administration Expense			-\$225,823
Less: 2012-13 WRDF Cost			-\$548,448
<b>Funds Required from WRWSA Reserves</b>			<b>-\$204,483</b>

Prepared 5/29/12





July 1, 2012

Joint Administrative Procedures Committee  
Attn.: Kenneth J. Plante, Coordinator  
Room 680, Pepper Building  
111 W. Madison Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Re: Compliance with Economic Review of Rules and Required Report/Public Comment  
Certification, Section 120.745(4)(g)

Dear Mr. Plante:

Following publication of the Economic Review of Rules and Required Report the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority did not receive any objection or comments with respect to said Review of Rules and Report. Since all of the Rules adopted by the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority are purely for its internal organization and operation and no proposed Rules are contemplated by the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, no further Rulemaking action is contemplated or necessary.

In accordance with the above Section, this Certification shall be published on the Agency's website.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Cordially,

Richard S. Owen, AICP  
Executive Director



# Growth and sprawl on the march

Published Friday, June 29, 2012

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Gov. Rick Scott's vision of Florida's economic future looks a lot like its past: heavily dependent on grand-scale development that creates sprawl and environmental damage but comes with no money to pay for the consequences. The Department of Transportation's revival of a six-year-old "Future Corridors" plan for major roads crossing interior Florida — along with the hiring of two prominent development executives to help make it happen — will tax water supplies, alter the character of rural Florida, and strip resources from urban transit needs.

DOT is spending \$106,000 to have two consultants interview owners of large tracts of land about their development plans and how they might dovetail with Future Corridors, the plan championed under Gov. Jeb Bush but shelved by his successor, Gov. Charlie Crist. The consultants are Billy Buzzett, the last secretary of the Department of Community Affairs, who helped Scott and the Legislature disband the agency and undo decades of growth management laws; and Chris Corr, an executive vice president for development support company AECOM. Both are former executives with the St. Joe Co., the largest private landowner in the Panhandle, where the company has scaled back its plans for development because of the real estate collapse.

Buzzett and Corr are assigned this task under the DOT contract: Conduct up to 20 interviews with major landowners to determine their development plans and what, if any, changes are needed in state laws or regulations that would lead to agreements between the state and landowners in preparation for building the new roads.

Never mind that DOT should have plenty of resources to accomplish this goal without hiring a pair of political insiders. Never mind that DOT already says the only way it can expand highways or build bridges is to slap tolls on them. The message is clear. DOT may have signed the contract, but Buzzett and Corr are really working Scott's jobs agenda. One "Future Corridors" route, between Naples and Orlando, for example, has been pitched as being able to sustain 10 more towns. And while such growth will add construction jobs in the short term, it is being pursued with even less consideration than in the past as to the environmental and quality-of-life consequences for those communities and the entire state.

This isn't wholly a surprise. As Scott's DCA secretary, Buzzett helped pass legislation in 2011 gutting what remained of Florida's growth management laws, including changing water and transportation concurrency law to make it easier and less expensive for rural landowners to develop their land.

Now it's mostly up to local communities and their elected officials to apply any modicum of restraint on developers' ambitions — the same improbable scenario that sparked the approval of the state's growth management laws in 1985. Scott no longer wanted the state to have that authority, even though it certainly didn't squelch astronomical growth during its 26 years of existence. Yet the governor isn't above deploying well-financed Tallahassee insiders into those same communities with a mission biased toward unbridled growth. Just whose interests is the governor representing?

**From:** Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>

**Subject:** water democracy: even as supply threatens to run out, public shows little interest

**Date:** July 4, 2012 10:02:32 AM EDT

**To:** Richard Owen <RichardOwen@OwenConsultingServices.co>

**Cc:** Nancy Smith <nsmithnhs@aol.com>

## Water democracy: Even as supply threatens to run out, public shows little interest

By [Kevin Spear](#), Orlando Sentinel

6:14 p.m. EST, July 3, 2012

ST. CLOUD — The keepers of Central Florida's water supply, mostly technocrats and utility bosses, have labored for more than a year to identify and divide among themselves the region's last precious drops.

Last week, they put their work on public display during an open house that, according to a sign-in sheet, was attended by several dozen people representing various businesses, government agencies and environmental-advocacy groups. Only about a half dozen of those present were simply interested members of the general public.

Such is democracy when it comes to water in Florida, even as the supply threatens to run dry.

Various public-affairs experts and advocates say they worry that people's participation in local or statewide water-policy debates is often muted by complex science, specialized regulations and lack of involvement by elected officials.

"Water will never catch the public eye until it stops running out of the faucet," said [Bill Segal](#), a former Orange County commissioner and a former St. Johns River Water Management District board member.

Some water watchers think a tipping point might have been reached a little more than a week ago, however, when nearly 1,750 people turned out for a rally at Silver River State Park in [Marion County](#).

The event had been organized in response to a ranch owner's quest to pump 13 million gallons of water a day from the state's heavily stressed Floridan Aquifer. Most of that water — as much as the nearby city of Ocala uses each day



— would irrigate pastures for high-intensity cattle production at Adena Springs Ranch.

The unusually strong backlash to the ranch's water-permit request stems largely from fears that it would reduce and pollute the water flowing from the area's already-ailing Silver Springs, a well-known and popular natural attraction and tourist destination since the 1800s. Backers of the cattle ranch deny that any harm would occur to the springs or the river they create.

Where a tipping point might lead is unclear in a state where the options for public involvement in water issues are limited or daunting.

A speaker at the June 23 rally — [Lee Constantine](#), a former Republican state senator from [Altamonte Springs](#) who's now a candidate for [Seminole County](#) commissioner — said he encourages individuals and groups to join the Florida Conservation Coalition, one of the rally's organizers, as a way to have their voices heard.

Constantine, who as a state lawmaker was among only a few in the Legislature to concentrate on water issues, said turning to a local elected official to talk about water — as routinely happens when people have concerns about schools, taxes or crime — "isn't going to do any good. They can't look at the big picture of water."

In this part of the state, most of the people capable of seeing the big picture are part of the Central Florida Water Initiative.

CFWI members are drawn from the three state agencies, known as water-management districts, that control the region's water supply, and from the city and county utilities that must share the dwindling amount of water left to meet the demands of population growth.

The invitation-only group's inaugural open house Thursday was in St. Cloud, on the edge of the [Orlando](#) metropolitan area, overlooking the [Osceola County](#) city's scenic waterfront park on East Lake Tohopekaliga. Having done most of their work so far in obscurity, its members enthusiastically described tasks that, they admitted, involve cutting-edge science that often defies easy explanation.

They said they are attempting to: determine how much harm has already been caused to the region's wetlands and waterways by heavy pumping from the Floridan Aquifer; establish whether that harm is of an acceptable degree; and set a limit for how much more water, if any, can be pumped from the aquifer.

Deirdre Macnab, president of the League of Women Voters of Florida, said it's difficult for the average citizen to understand such a discussion, much less respond to it.

"This is one of our most precious resources. and we don't really know what's

happening below the surface," said Macnab, who didn't attend the open house. "We need an annual, reliable and understandable report on our water."

Robert Knight shares her frustration. Knight, a springs scientist in [Gainesville](#) and an opponent of the Adena Springs Ranch proposal, said the state's water-management districts seem intent on blunting public involvement.

"They are usually talking down to people. They give presentations that are frequently unintelligible. They go over things too fast and try to cover too much," Knight said of the districts' regular meetings. "I don't care to go to them myself."

Florida's five water-management districts are each run by a board whose members are appointed by the governor. The board responsible for east Central and North Florida, the St. Johns district, meets in Palatka, a two-hour drive from Orlando. Its staff has been honing regulations and permit procedures in relative isolation for almost four decades, mostly through times when water was still plentiful and drew little public attention.

"It's become very sophisticated — even an average lawyer wouldn't know the process," said Mary Jane Angelo, a water-law professor at the University of Florida and a former staff lawyer for the St. Johns district.

"It's also become very sophisticated scientifically," she said. "The water district has these Ph.D. scientists running these complicated models, and the permit applicants have their own experts with their own modeling and complex scientific information. So I think it is hard for the public to have meaningful input or access."

The district's procedures could also cut off public involvement in the Adena Springs Ranch application: Depending on how the agency schedules its staff recommendation and subsequent public hearing, any lawsuit filed to block the ranch's application could leave the fate of Adena Springs Ranch largely in the hands of a state judge instead.

[kspear@tribune.com](mailto:kspear@tribune.com) or 407-420-5062

**From:** Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** water quality war wages on  
**Date:** July 4, 2012 9:53:16 AM EDT  
**To:** Nancy Smith <nsmithnhs@aol.com>

# Water quality war rages on

## Lawsuit could come soon

By [Fred Hiers](#)

Staff writer

*Published: Tuesday, July 3, 2012 at 2:55 p.m.*

The latest administrative ruling — that Florida environmental regulators acted properly when they enacted water quality standards less stringent than those of the federal government — isn't the end of the long battle over Florida water quality.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) soon will announce whether it accepts the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) water nutrient standards instead of its own tougher standards for regulating nitrogen and phosphorus.

If the EPA acquiesces, "we would challenge it in the federal courts. We're not just going to go away. The trend for our water bodies continue to be negative," said Florida Wildlife Federation President Manley Fuller.

"We're not just suing for the heck of it. We're going to use all the federal remedies at our disposal," Fuller said. "They (FDEP) won the last inning and now we're going into a new inning."

The "innings" in this game have been played since 1998, when the EPA ordered Florida and other states to come up with more stringent freshwater standards. Florida didn't comply, so Florida environmentalists sued the EPA to force it to develop its own water nutrient standards.

When EPA put forth such a set of rules, Florida lawmakers, utilities and businesses complained. Last year FDEP developed its own set of rules, less stringent than EPA's, and the Florida Legislature voted to approve them as the state's own guidelines.

In December, a group led by the Florida Wildlife Federation and the Sierra Club filed a petition with the state Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH) challenging the new state rules. Florida Administrative Law Judge Bram Canter ruled that FDEP acted within its authority.



Many Florida utilities and Florida water bodies wouldn't have passed EPA's standards. As far as area waterways go, pollutant levels for the Silver and Rainbow springs are three times higher than EPA's proposed limits. Troy Springs in Branford also would fail to pass muster. Popular Lake Weir routinely fails to meet the EPA's proposed total nitrogen standard, with levels sometimes reaching double what the EPA would allow.

The county's rivers don't fare much better: The Ocklawaha, Withlacoochee and Rainbow consistently surpass EPA's proposed river standards.

Fuller said FDEP's proposed rules allow for too many exceptions that would result in the standards never being adequately enforced.

FDEP Secretary Herschel Vinyard said in a statement that the judge's ruling validates his agency's effort to develop effective water quality standards that take into account Florida's unique hydrology and diversity when it comes to its fresh water bodies.

"Our rules provide a clear process for identifying waters impaired by nutrients, preventing harmful discharges, and establishing necessary reductions," Vinyard said.

But Fuller said FDEP's rules won't work.

"The problem (of nutrient pollution) is not going to go away. Even if we lose in court," he said.

*Contact Fred Hiers at 867-4157 or [fred.hiers@starbanner.com](mailto:fred.hiers@starbanner.com).*

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## 7. Legislative Update

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Board of Directors,  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

**FROM:** Diane Salz, Governmental & Legislative Affairs Consultant

**SUBJECT:** Summary of Tracking Activities

**DATE:** July 6, 2012

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the summary (below) of current tracking activities listed in alphabetical/numerical order. Tracking activities provide an opportunity for exchanging ideas related to emerging legislative issues, policy direction, and funding for water resources and water supply. These activities create a venue for sharing the values of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority when appropriate, and for building professional relationships with key executive agencies, water management districts, Legislators, and special interests. Working groups associated with these activities often begin vetting concepts, drafting legislation, forming coalitions, and finding sponsors during this interim period in preparation for the next legislative session. Water management district annual conferences which ended several years ago had in part served this important function. Tracking activities change as interest groups and statewide officials transition, particularly during 2012-2013, when redistricting has occurred and nearly every political office in the state is open for the August primary and November general elections. Staff will continue to monitor and report when appropriate on the following:

Agricultural Commissioner Adam Putnam's Water Policy Advisory Council: met on June 8, 2012, in Gainesville; next meeting not yet scheduled;

Central Florida Water Initiative: met on May 18, 2012, in Kissimmee; the next meeting is tentatively set for August 10, 2012, in Kissimmee;

Florida Conservation Coalition: recently held a rally on June 23, 2012, in Silver River State Park; the next event not yet announced or scheduled;

Key Executive Agency, Water Management District, and Legislative Policy and Staffing Changes: on-going monitoring and reporting;

Nature Coast Regional Water Authority: met on June 27, 2012, in City of Fanning Springs; next meeting is tentatively set for July 18, 2012;

North Florida Regional Water Supply Partnership: met on June 25, 2012, in Palatka; the next meeting is tentatively set for July 31 or August 8, 2012, in Palatka;

Numeric Nutrient Criteria Coalition: a conference call is scheduled for 10:30 am on each Monday;

Water management districts (SJRWMD & SWFWMD): attend or monitor televised meetings as needed;

Rep. Dana Young's Water Work Group: met on June 19, 2012, in Tampa; a follow-up meeting is not yet scheduled;

3rd Annual Florida Water Forum: scheduled for September 6, 2012 at the Renaissance SeaWorld Orlando; and

26th Annual Environmental Permitting Summer School: scheduled for July 17-20, 2012 at the Marco Island Marriott.