



**WITHLACOOCHEE  
REGIONAL  
WATER  
SUPPLY  
AUTHORITY**

## **Board Meeting Package**

July 21, 2010  
4:30 p.m.

### **Meeting Location:**

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



# WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

## MEMORANDUM

To: Water Supply Authority Board of Directors and Interested Parties  
From: Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director  
Date: July 6, 2010  
  
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 21, 2010, 4:30 p.m.**, at the **SWFWMD Headquarters Governing Board Meeting Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899.**

Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of the June 16, 2010 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 top of the page and click on "Minutes&Notices." On the right side of the "Minutes&Notices" page 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

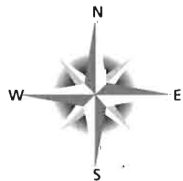
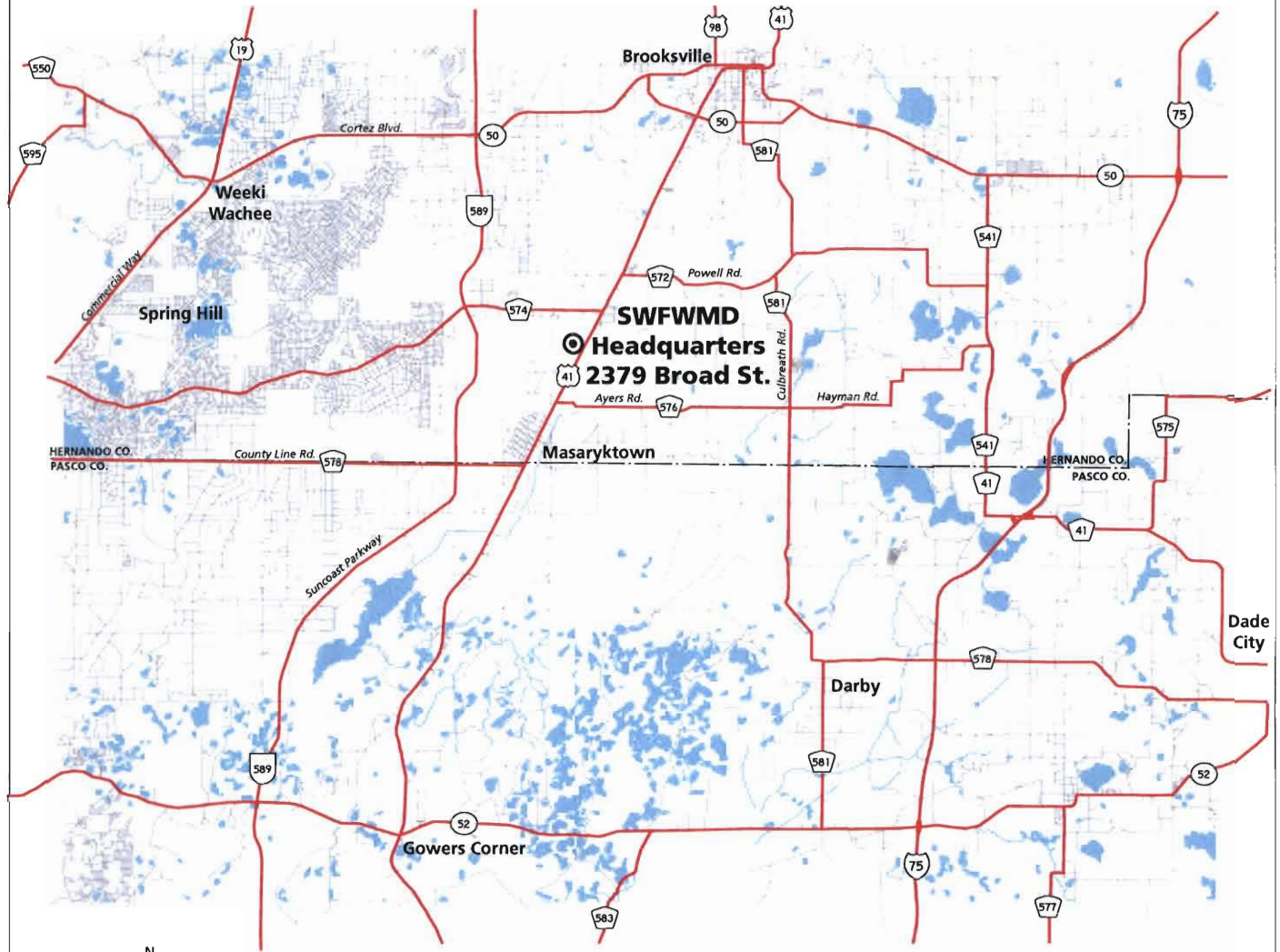
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(850) 385-0220 – FAX (850) 385-0223  
[jesull@comcast.net](mailto:jesull@comcast.net)

P.O. Box 15369 – Brooksville, FL 34604  
(352) 796-4970 – FAX (352) 754-6874  
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# Brooksville Service Office

of the Southwest Florida Water Management District



Brooksville Service Office  
2379 Broad Street  
Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899  
Phone (352) 796-7211  
SUNCOM 628-4150

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

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

**July 21, 2010  
4:30 p.m.**

- Item #1 Call to Order**
- Item #2 Roll Call**
- Item #3 Introductions and Announcements**
- Item #4 Approval of Minutes of June 16, 2010 Meeting**
- Item #5 Water Conservation Grants to Local Governments ... Local applicants**
  - a. Citrus County**
  - b. Hernando County**
  - c. Marion County**
  - d. City of Wildwood**
- Item #6 Northern District Utility Outreach Program ... Brent White/Cara Martin, SWFWMD**
- Item #7 Update on response to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission re: Inglis Hydropower project ... Pete Hubbell, Water Resource Associates**
- Item #8 Executive Director's Report ... Jack Sullivan, WRWSA**
  - a. Bills to be Paid**
  - b. Mission Statement**
  - c. Memo to Ocala Star Banner re: public records**
  - d. Correspondence**
  - e. News Articles**
- Item #9 Legislative Update ... Diane Salz, Legislative Consultant**
- Item #10 Attorney's Report ... Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney**
- Item #11 Other Business**
- Item #12 Public Comment**
- Item #13 Next Meeting Time and Location ... August 18, 2010, 4:30 p.m., Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council Headquarters Conference Room, 1241 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street (SR 200), Ocala, Florida 34474-0323**
- Item #14 Adjournment**

#### **4. 6/16/10 Minutes**

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
June 16, 2010**

**TIME:** 4:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council  
1241 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street (SR 200)  
Ocala, Florida 34471-0323

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

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Richard Hoffman called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) meeting to order at 4:35 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**

Richard Hoffman, Chairman, Sumter County Commissioner  
Barbara Fitos, Vice-Chairman, Marion County Commissioner  
Rose Rocco, Treasurer, Hernando County Commissioner  
Jim Adkins, Hernando County Commissioner  
Gary Bartell, Citrus County Commissioner  
Dennis Damato, Citrus County Commissioner  
Christine Dobkowski, Belleview City Commissioner  
John Priester, Ocala City Councilman  
Mary S. Rich, Ocala City Councilwoman  
Winn Webb, Citrus County Commissioner

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mike Amsden, Marion County Commissioner  
Joe Bernardini, Brooksville City Councilman  
John Druzbeck, Hernando County Commissioner  
Ken Hinkle, Inverness City Councilman  
Randy Mask, Sumter County Commissioner  
Stan McClain, Marion County Commissioner  
David Russell, Hernando County Commissioner  
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilman

**3. Introductions and Announcements**

Mr. Sullivan introduced others in the audience.



**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jack Sullivan, WRWSA Executive Director  
Johnnye Friedrich, WRWSA Attorney  
Diane Salz, WRWSA Legislative Liaison  
Jim Bitter, Homosassa River Alliance  
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Utilities  
Kim Dinkins, Marion County  
John Ferguson, SWFWMD  
Al Grubman, TOO FAR  
Jan Grubman, TOO FAR  
Fred Hiers, Star Banner  
Norman Hopkins, Amy H Remley Foundation  
Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates  
Whitey Markle, Suwannee St. Johns Sierra Club  
Cara Martin, SWFWMD  
Joseph Quinn, SWFWMD  
David Rathke, SWFWMD  
Peter Rocco, Hernando County Citizen  
T.C. Rusnak, Citrus County Council  
Josh Schmitz, Water Resource Associates  
Greg Schmukal, TOO FAR  
June Schmukal, TOO FAR  
John Wade, of Inverness  
Pat Wade, of Inverness  
Tahla Paige, Recording Secretary

**4. Approval of Minutes of May 19, 2010 Meeting**

Following consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve the minutes for the May 19, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rocco and carried unanimously.

**6. Executive Director's Report**

**d. News Articles**

Mr. Sullivan stated that before he reviewed the budget, he would like to respond to news articles in the Star Banner and the Citrus County Chronicle. Mr. Sullivan stated the Star Banner article indicated the WRWSA wished to transfer well water outside of Marion County. He stated that was an incorrect assumption and nowhere in the Regional Water Plan is ground water proposed for transfer to another county. The corridors indicated would be used to transfer alternative water supplies when needed in the future. Mr. Sullivan stated the Star Banner article said the WRWSA did not spend much on conservation. He advised the WRWSA board that he had informed Mr. Brad Rogers, Star Banner, that \$150,000 invested was a large amount as it represented approximately 50 percent of the WRWSA's projects budget. Mr. Sullivan referenced the Citrus County Chronicle's article about a presentation given to the county by Mr. Grubman using a Regional Water Plan map identifying wells to transfer water. He stated this map was part of a conceptual plan to create a network for alternative water

supplies 20 to 30 years in the future and none of the well fields in the conceptual plan were designated to transport ground water between counties.

Mr. Damato read into the record the following statement given by Mr. David Moore, Director, SWFWMD, at the WRWSA Workshop on April 21, 2010. "Legally water that travels within a water supply authority area is not considered water transfer under local sources first. A water supply authority also has priority funding from SWFWMD in development of new water sources." Mr. Moore also informed those attending the workshop that, "Tampa Bay Water has used the above mentioned facts to provide water to a multicounty area by combining groundwater, surface water (reservoir and rivers) and desalination. This workshop is about adopting a similar model, a plan and concept for future study." He finally stated, "Why would that much money ever be spent, invested, if Tampa Bay could simply steal someone's water? Obviously, it was less expensive because the cost of transportation would have been prohibitive." Alternative water supplies and transfer of water continued to be discussed.

Mr. Webb asked what was the procedure for a county to join the WRWSA as a new member and did every current member have to agree to the new membership or could it be done with majority vote? Ms. Friedrich replied she would have to research it with Mr. Haag and return with an answer at the next meeting. Ms. Fitos stated education to the public about the goals and evolution of the WRWSA was important. Ms. Rocco agreed with Ms. Fitos and stated the WRWSA needed a mission statement. Mr. Bartell stated the original purpose of the WRWSA was to prevent water transfers.

Mr. Grubman indicated the water plan showed transfer of groundwater and showed water transfers between counties. Mr. Sullivan disputed his interpretation, stating it was a conceptual plan for 20 to 30 years in the future to create an infrastructure for alternative water supplies.

Mr. Hopkins, asked the board at what level groundwater become an alternative supply. Mr. Sullivan stated the lower Floridan aquifer is considered an alternative water supply as it does not affect the environment of the upper Floridan aquifer. Mr. Hopkins expressed concerns about minimum flows and levels (MFLs) and the water quality in Kings Bay.

Mr. Wade said the Citrus County Plan states 98 percent of the water supply is ground water, and he expressed the importance of conservation.

## **5. Proposed 2010-11 Fiscal Year Budget**

Mr. Sullivan gave an overview of the budget.

Following consideration, a motion was made by Ms. Rocco to approve the Fiscal Year 2010-11 budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Damato and carried unanimously.



## **6. Executive Director's Report**

### **a. Bills to be Paid**

Mr. Sullivan provided a handout to the Board detailing June 2010 bills which totaled \$31,209.95. Mr. Sullivan requested the Board approve the payment of those bills.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Ms. Fitos to approve payment of the June 2010 bills totaling \$31,209.95. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bartell and carried unanimously.**

### **b. Second Quarter Financial Report**

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the Second Quarter Financial Report.

Following consideration, **a motion was made by Mr. Damato to approve the Second Quarter Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rich and carried unanimously.**

### **c. Correspondence**

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the remaining correspondence. Ms. Martin, SWFWMD, explained the enclosed utility survey was in the process of being mailed out and currently only the northern region of the district had received the survey. She said currently there was a 29 percent return rate on the survey. Ms. Martin stated a presentation would be given to the WRWSA after the data had been collected. Mr. Sullivan stated there was a letter from the City of Crystal River requesting a presentation of the Master Water Plan and Mr. Hubbell was creating a 10 to 15 minute presentation. Mr. Bartell requested a presentation to the Citrus County Commission. Ms. Rocco asked to include giving a presentation to the Hernando County Commission, Ms. Fitos asked to include the Marion County Commission, and Ms. Rich asked to include the City of Ocala.

### **d. News Articles**

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

## **7. Legislative Update**

Dianne Salz stated Senate Bills 550 and 1752 had been passed. She stated the Governor had vetoed Senate Bill 1565. Ms. Salz reported the Coastal Rivers Basin Board approved the purchase of the Three Sisters Springs property and it would go before the SWFWMD Governing Board for final approval at its the June Meeting. Ms. Salz stated she attended the 2010 Florida Water Forum which allowed various candidates to voice their opinions of water issues. She stated there seemed to be a trend towards creating a State Water Board and felt it was issue that should be monitored.

## **8. Attorney's Report**

Ms. Friedrich stated she did not have any additional items to report to the WRWSA.

## **9. Other Business**

Mr. Damato and Mr. Webb stated they went to the Lake Rousseau spillway dam. Mr. Damato took pictures and will give them to Mr. Sullivan, if anyone wanted to look at them. Ms. Rocco said she had constituents asking about the oil spill and its economic impact. She wanted to know if a hurricane could cause oil contamination of Florida's springs because of the spill. Ms. Rocco requested a letter be written to the President, the Governor and BP to address reimbursement of funds for any necessary cleanup. Mr. Rathke, SWFWMD, informed the WRWSA that Department of Environmental Protection was the lead for cleanup along with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The SWFWMD Emergency Operations Center has enhanced its normal monitoring program for a quicker response time. Mr. Rathke stated Tampa Bay Water would have to shut down the desalination plant. However, they have alternative water supplies to utilize.

## **10. Public Comment**

Norman Hopkins, Amy H Remley Foundation, stated during the end of April, SWFWMD checked the springs for oil contamination in Kings Bay and Crystal River. Also, he was concerned about fractures in the seabed which released spring water being contaminated by the oil spill.

Jim Bitter, Homosassa River Alliance, informed the WRWSA the citizens off Springs Cove Road were complaining the Homosassa River can no longer be used as drinking water due to pollution. It has been determined ground water is sufficient for the next 20 to 25 years. He asked if the river was considered part of the ground water supply. Mr. Hubbell stated that MFLs were due to be set for the river, however, the Homosassa River was not included as part of the future ground water supply to be used as potable water.

Whitey Markle, Suwannee St. Johns Sierra Club, stated the SJRWMD had MFLs that were last updated in 2005 and wanted to know how current the MFLs were for SWFWMD. Mr. Rathke stated SWFWMD was working on establishing current MFLs and that MFLs for the major springs had been adopted. Mr. Hubbell stated MFLs periodically need to be updated.

## **11. Next Meeting Time and Location**

Next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2010 at 4:30 p.m., at the Southwest Florida Water Management District Headquarters, Governing Board Room, 2379 Broad Street (US 41 South), Brooksville, FL 34604.

## **12. Adjournment**

Chairman Hoffman announced there was no further business or discussion to come before the Board and adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

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Richard Hoffman, Chairman

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Jackson E. Sullivan, Executive Director

## **5. Local Government Grants**

**GRANT APPLICATIONS FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**  
**FY 2010-11**

<b>Member Government</b>	<b>Program Proposed for Funding</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Recommended Reduction in Request</b>	<b>Amount Recommended</b>	<b>% of Request Funded</b>
Citrus County	Water Conservation Audits, Rebates/Incentives and Education	\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000	100.00%
Hernando County	Water conservation, incentives and water resource protection and education programs	\$47,400	\$0	\$47,400	100.00%
Marion County	Media campaign, incentive programs, staff training and certifications	\$37,500	\$0	\$37,500	100.00%
City of Wildwood <sup>1</sup>	Upgrade well capacity and add second well for redundancy and Perform aquifer testing in lower Floridan to use as an alternative facility	\$50,000	-\$50,000	\$0	0.00%
		\$179,900	-\$50,000	\$129,900	72.21%
Amount Appropriated in 2010-11 Budget .....				\$130,000	

Note 1: The Wildwood project is not a water conservation project. In addition, the Authority currently provides additional funding (\$33,333) jointly with the SWFWMD and The Villages to investigate the hydro-geologic characteristics of the north area of Sumter County.

**Recommendation: Fund projects in amounts as recommended.**





## Board of County Commissioners DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

DIVISION OF UTILITIES

1300 S. Lecanto Highway

Lecanto, Florida 34461-9014

(352) 527-7650

FAX (352) 527-5429

Citrus Springs/Dunnellon/Inglis/Yankeetown area - Toll Free (352) 489-2120

TTY Telephone: (352) 527-5312

[www.bocc.citrus.fl.us](http://www.bocc.citrus.fl.us)

May 20, 2010

Mr. Jack Sullivan, AICP  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
1107 Shalimar Dr.  
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. 2010-075, a project scope and the budget for the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) grant program for fiscal year 2011. Citrus County plans to expend all of the grant funds for this fiscal year before September 30, 2011.

With a dedicated Water Conservation and Outreach Coordinator, various partnerships and the Boards ongoing support we continue to enhance water conservation endeavors. The WRWSA grant greatly supports our efforts.

If you have any questions or require any additional information please advise me.

Your ongoing assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Knight, Director  
Citrus County Department of Water Resources

Cc: Bernadine Flood-Nichols, Water Conservation and Outreach Coordinator



Item No.:	D4
Date:	05/11/10
Approved for Agenda:	

## **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

<b>THROUGH:</b>	Robert Knight, Director Water Resources <i>RKS</i>
<b>FROM:</b>	Bernadine Flood-Nichols, Water Conservation Coordinator <i>B7N</i>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Grant funding agreement for a water conservation program
<b>AGENDA DATE:</b>	May 11, 2010

### **BRIEF OVERVIEW:**

Citrus County Utilities desires to continue to develop, improve upon and expand the water conservation program to reduce demands on the water resources of the service area and increase efficiency, in compliance with current consumptive use permits and the 150 gallons per day per capita goal set by Southwest Florida Water Management District. The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) participates with local governments in providing assistance for water supply projects with emphasis on water conservation projects. It is the County's goal to utilize this grant to leverage the existing Water Resources conservation budget and reach a target audience with water conservation education. This will enhance the currently active conservation program. WRWSA will reimburse expenses on a 50% basis, up to a maximum amount of \$45,000.

### **BUDGET IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:**

In FY 2010/11 promotional activities budget request.

Account No.	Account Title	Current Budget	YTD Expenditures	Encumbrances	Available Balance

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. Adopt and authorize the Chairman to execute a Resolution for grant funding proposal with the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) to be submitted for final approval by WRWSA board.

Reviewed & Approved by:	
Management & Budget	<i>CT</i>

RESOLUTION NO. 2010- 075

**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 Permit No. 20007121.005 and 20009791.007 and 20002842.008, 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 water supply projects with emphasis on water conservation projects; 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:



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

*for* Tiffany L. White  
BETTY STRIFLER, CLERK

BY Gary Bartell  
GARY BARTELL, CHAIRMAN

Approved as to form for the reliance of Citrus County only

Robert B. Battista  
ROBERT B. BATTISTA, COUNTY ATTORNEY

Exhibit "A"

The following projects will be designed to help property owners/tenants reduce unnecessary water usage:

PROJECT	COUNTY BUDGET	WAWSA REIMBURSEMENT	DESCRIPTION	Tasks
2011 Water Smart Rebate and Incentive Programs	\$50,000	\$25,000	Continue successful incentive programs to encourage and support owners/tenants who replace existing inefficient water consuming appliances, devices and practices.	Expand on the 2010 Water Smart Rebate Program based on: lessons learned, customer feedback and current needs/demands. Offer incentives to encourage/reward customers who demonstrate significant water savings.
Water Conservation Audits	\$20,000	\$10,000	Educate users of irrigation systems on better management practices to optimize performance to control water usage.	Certified irrigation contractors and education to provide audits to determine irrigation efficiency of residential and commercial usage.
Water Conservation Education Programs	\$20,000	\$10,000	Utilize media and training resources to promote seasonal indoor, outdoor, residential and commercial water conservation message.	Advertisements, surveys and bill inserts to determine educate residents on the need to conserve water. Landscape classes, rain barrel classes, bmp classes and water conservation workshops.



# 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 3, 2010

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

Subject: Hernando County Utilities Funding Assistance Program Application

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Hernando County is seeking funding assistance through the Water Supply Authority's Funding Assistance Program for Fiscal Year 2011. 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, 2010, 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: Joe Stapf, Utilities Director  
Tina Martinson, Hernando County Deputy Clerk of Circuit Court  
Grace Sheppard, Finance Coordinator



**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT APPLICATION  
2010-2011 FISCAL YEAR**

**Name of member local government: Hernando County Utilities Department**

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

**2002/03-Completed: 9/2003  
2003/04-Completed: 9/2004  
2004/05 Completed: 12/2005  
2005/06 Completed: 9/2006  
2006/07 Completed: 9/2007  
2007/08-Completed: 9/2008  
2008/09-Completed: 9/2009  
2009/10-to be completed by 9/2010.**

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

**This project brings water conservation and water resource protection education to all citizens of Hernando County. The Hernando County Utilities Department-Water Conservation Division's Water Conservation program includes a wide variety of educational avenues to assist citizen's with water conservation/water resource protection initiatives, These include (but are limited to), education programs and workshops, school(s) programming, media campaigns, water conservation/resource protection informational packets, bill inserts and other materials. A large portion of the water conservation program includes water conservation incentive programs (such as rain sensors, low-flow toilets, Florida Yards & Neighborhoods and more).**

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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.**

3. A time schedule for the project and expected completion date that will be inserted in the local government contract.
- 

The completed application and all attachments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on the last working day of the month of June. The application should be sent to:

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

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.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

1. The grant application period opens on May 1 of each calendar year and closes on the last working day of June.
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.
5. A copy of the guidelines for the Local Government Grants Program may be found at the Authority's web page. Go to [www.wrwsa.org](http://www.wrwsa.org). On the Home Page click "About Us" and select the "Local Gov't Grant Program" from the right hand side selection menu.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HERNANDO COUNTY  
RESOLUTION 2010- 78**

**A Resolution of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners as the ex officio Governing Board of the Hernando Water and Sewer District in support of the Hernando County Utilities Department's Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance Program application to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for the development of a countywide water conservation and quality protection program.**

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

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

**WHEREAS**, The Hernando County Utilities Department 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 the 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 (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 (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 Hernando County Utilities Department has submitted an application to the Authority's funding assistance program to seek financial assistance in the development of a countywide water conservation program (Project) in order to provide water conservation education throughout the entire county.

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

**SECTION 1.** The Hernando County Board of Commissioners as ex officio Governing Body of the Hernando Water & Sewer District supports the application of the Hernando County Utilities Department to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for cooperative funding in the development of the County's water conservation program.

**SECTION 2.** The Board of County Commissioners, 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 3.** The Board of County Commissioners further understands and agrees that it shall expend its required matching funds prior to the Authority expending its fifty percent (50%) match for the Project.

**ADOPTED BY THE HERNANDO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, in Regular Session this 25 day of May, 2010.**

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

**(SEAL)**

Attest:

*Karen Nicolai*  
Karen Nicolai  
Clerk



By: *John Druzick*  
John Druzick  
Chairperson



**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT WATER SUPPLY FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT FOR 2011 FISCAL YEAR**

**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. Hernando County Utilities Department supplies safe potable water and waste water services to nearly 85% of Hernando County. Our customer base, residential, commercial and industrial total over 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.

Through the WRWSA Local Government Funding Assistance Program from the Hernando County Utilities Department has become an annual partner with the Southwest Florida Water Management District's water conservation advertising campaign. This years water conservation advertising ran on local cable (throughout Hernando and Citrus counties) and on radio. We plan to continue this partnership throughout the next several years.

With input from our citizens group (Citizens for W.A.T.E.R) the Water Conservation Division of Hernando County Utilities Department held seven educational seminars. The 2009/2010 programs collectively titled Hernando County Water Awareness Series. This year's program covered a wide variety of water related presentations including, Hernando County's Drought Conditions, Forecasts, Watering Restrictions and More! Presented by Lois Sorensen, Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), and Robert Stone, Hernando County Code Enforcement. Why Sinkholes? Why Here? What you Need to Know? presented by Ann Tihansky, USGS, Tampa, FL, Florida Friendly Landscaping in Deed-Restricted Communities, presented by John Korycki, Hernando County Extension Service, and Michael Molligan, SWFWMD, Home Vegetable Gardens Growing the "green-Way"! presented by Jim Moll, Hernando County Extension Service, Hernando County Springs; Protections, Investigations, Restorations, presented by Dave DeWitt, SWFWMD and Toby Brewer, Weeki Wachee Springs State Park, Manager, DEP. Hurricane Preparedness, presented by Cecilia Patella Emergency Management Director, Hernando County and Michael Holtkamp, SWFWMD. Over 500 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. One of these ROA's is to hold a workshop for local community leaders, community organizations and civic leaders. Last spring (May 2009) the Hernando County Groundwater Guardian team held this important educational workshop titled: Living on Karst, Springs, Caves & Sinkholes. This workshop helped to educate local community leaders about these the importance of the protection of karst features and its relationship with/to groundwater. These workshops were supported by the WRWSA, Southwest Florida Water Management District, Community Education Grant and private partners. In spring of 2011 this team will present another water-related workshop for local leaders. 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 for W.A.T.E.R. and Spring Stewards);
2. County-wide user advisory committee (Groundwater Guardian Team);
3. In-school education program (Hernando County Environmental Education Center, Gulf Coast Academy)
4. Statewide Water Conservation 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. is 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 2010. 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, 2007/08 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. Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) water conservation/drought marketing campaign:**

This campaign includes radio and television advertisements. By partnering with the SWFWMD we have an opportunity to speak with one voice in furthering our educational efforts in the best management practices for our Florida landscapes. 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. The Hernando County Utilities Department, by working with the same media buyer as the SWFWMD, purchased airtime for broadcast of the water conservation message throughout Hernando County at discounted rates. (Budget items: commercial airtime, through local cable provider, radio and print media)

## **5. 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 \$30 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 (2010/2011). Funds from the current WRWSA assistance program will be encumbered by the September 30, 2009. This meets the requirement in order to submit funding request for 2009/2010 fiscal year. The water conservation initiatives for 2011 will begin October 1, 2010 and conclude with all grant assistance funds being encumbered by September 30, 2011.

\*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.

**FY 2011 Conservation Project Budget  
Hernando County Utilities Department  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
Funding Assistance Program**

<b>Springs Coast Environmental Learning Center</b>	\$5,000		
<b>Gulf Coast Academy</b>	\$3,000		
Water conservation/Quality Curriculum, texts, equipment		Total:	<b>\$8000</b>
<b>Promotional Items</b>			
Pencils, pens, magnets (giveaways)	\$ 5,000		
Flyers, brochures, (educational information)	\$ 7,500		
Florida Friendly Landscape Workshop	\$ 2,500		
(tote bags, water meters, rain gauges, video broadcast)			
		Total	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>Statewide Advertising Campaign</b>			
Commercial media spots (television, radio, print)	\$ 3,000		
Hernando County Government Broadcast	\$ 7,000		
(broadcast of water conservation workshops, educational video and broadcast media commercial (with SWFWMD)			
		Total	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Incentives Program:</b>			
Regional Irrigation Evaluation Program	\$25,000		
Rain Sensor Rebate Program '10/11	\$5,000		
Toilet Rebate Program	\$20,000		
FYN program participation	\$800		
Florida Friendly Landscaping, Rain barrel workshops	\$1,000		
ET pilot irrigation project	\$4,000		
		Total	<b>\$56,300</b>
<b>Equipment</b>			
Software/Accessories	\$ 500	Total	<b>\$ 500</b>
<b>Spring's Stewards</b>			
(training manuals, books, materials, field trips, shirts, displays, stipend for instructors, travel)		Total	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Citizen's for W.A.T.E.R</b>			
(materials, field trips, stipend for speakers, travel)		Total	<b>\$ 1,500</b>
<b>Groundwater Guardians</b>			
(training, materials, field trips, web site upkeep, display Awards, travel)		Total	<b>\$ 2,500</b>
<b>Florida Friendly Landscape Demonstration Supplies</b>			
(maintenance items for existing FYN demonstration)		Total	<b>\$ 500</b>
<b>TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 94,800</b>
<b>Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority share</b>	<b>(50%)</b>	Total	<b>\$47,400</b>

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT APPLICATION  
2010-11 FISCAL YEAR**

**Name of member local government:** \_\_Marion County\_\_

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

2009- Water Conservation Coordinator: \$23,005

2009- Landscape Irrigation Evaluation: \$28,250

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

Marion County Utilities seeks matching funds of \$37,500 to support our water conservation public education plan. (see attachments 1-3)

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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.**
  3.     **A time schedule for the project and expected completion date that will be inserted in the local government contract.**
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## **RESOLUTION NO. 10-R-228**

A RESOLUTION OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA  
SUPPORTING THE MARION COUNTY BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S 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 conserving water to protect and sustain its local water supply and related natural resources: and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has initiated numerous water conservation initiatives, including but not limited to conservation rate structures, a countywide landscape irrigation ordinance, homeowner workshops, and irrigation evaluation and education services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board will continue to support these and other water conservation program efforts throughout the county, as one of the most cost effective ways to meet its future water needs and for compliance with consumptive use permit requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority), through its own recognition of the importance of water conservation, 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 Water Conservation Public Education Plan in Fiscal Year 2010/2011; 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:**

1. Marion County Board of County Commissioners supports the application to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for funding assistance for the 2010/2011 fiscal year.
2. Marion County Board of County Commissioners agrees to budget \$75,000 for the Water Conservation Public Education Plan.
3. Marion County Board of County Commissioners agrees to expend its required matching funds prior to requesting reimbursement from the Authority for its 50% match.

4. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010**

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



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**BARBARA FITOS, CHAIR**

**ATTEST:**



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**DAVID R. ELLSPERMANN, CLERK**

## Program Description

In June 2009 a Water Conservation Coordinator was hired to provide Marion County Utilities with planning, managerial, and educational services related to implementing a comprehensive, goal-based water conservation program for the Marion County Board of County Commissioners. The subsequent program aims to inform and educate the residents of Marion County about water conservation in an effort to protect and preserve the water resources of this area.

The mission of this program is being completed through the use of 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 a media campaign which promotes the St. Johns Water Management District's irrigation restrictions that were adopted by the county in May 2009, distribution of educational materials during workshops and events, and maintaining the visibility of the Water Conservation Coordinator as a resource for conservation education. Additionally, conservation initiatives include a program offering free low flow devices to Marion County Utilities customers and other programs that are anticipated to directly affect water use among citizens of Marion County.

The following is a breakdown of the costs of the various programs that were implemented in FY 2009-2010:

<b>2010 "Water Less" Media Campaign **</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>
<b>Print Media (Brochures, Fliers, Postcards, etc) and Promotional Items</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>Water Saving Devices for incentive programs and promotional initiatives</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
<b>Staff Trainings and Certifications</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>

These programs are anticipated to continue throughout the FY 2010-2011 and the foreseeable future. A cost-share of \$37,500 will help to offset the cost of purchasing promotional and water saving devices for the continuation of these programs. The remainder of the program costs will be funded by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners.

\*\* See attachment #2 for 2010 media campaign details

## Grant Timeline

### Low-Flow Device Program

Purchase low-flow devices	11/1/2010
Implement low-flow device program	12/1/2010 – 9/30/2011
Low-flow program evaluation	11/1/2011

### 2011 Water Less Media Campaign

Contact vendors for quotes	1/1/2011
Submit campaign plan to Board of County Commissioners for approval	2/15/2011
Begin PO requests for vendors	3/1/2011
Implement media campaign	4/1/2011 – 6/1/2011

### Public Outreach

Conduct workshops, presentations etc. throughout Marion County	11/1/2010 - 9/30/2011
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## Marion County "Water Less" Campaign 2010

### Print

#### *Ocala Star Banner*

**Overview:** The Ocala Star Banner is a publication that covers all of Marion County. Ads are run every Sunday from April 4- May 30.

**Total # of PSAs:** 9

**Total Cost:** \$ 9,068.76

#### *South Marion Citizen*

**Overview:** The South Marion Citizen is a publication which covers communities along the SR 200 corridor in Southwest Marion County. Ads are run Fridays from April 2- May 28.

**Total # of PSAs:** 9

**Total Cost:** \$4,013.28

#### *West Marion Messenger*

**Overview:** The West Marion Messenger is a publication which covers communities between SR 200 and US Hwy 27. Ads are run Wednesdays from April 7- May 26.

**Total # of PSAs:** 8

**Total Cost:** \$1,920

#### *Ocala Style Magazine*

**Overview:** Ocala Style Magazine is a monthly publication distributed to businesses across Marion County. Ads run in April and May editions.

**Total # of PSAs:** 2

**Total Cost:** \$1,990

#### *Ocala Magazine*

**Overview:** Ocala Style Magazine is a monthly publication distributed across Marion County. Ads run in April and May editions.

**Total # of PSAs:** 2

**Total Cost:** \$2,000



## Attachment #2

### Internet

#### *Ocala.com*

**Overview:** Leaderboard placement on Ocala.com. Leaderboard sizing is 728x90.

**Total # of PSAs:** 70,000 impressions

**Total Cost:** \$980

#### *Marioncountyfl.org*

**Overview:** Placement on county website.

**Total Cost:** \$0.00

#### *OcalaMagazine.com*

**Overview:** Placement on Ocala Magazine website.

**Total # of PSAs:** 1

**Total Cost:** \$700

### Direct Mail

**Overview:** Marion County Utilities will mail a postcard detailing the irrigation restrictions to all customers. Additional postcards will be available for distribution by private utilities.

**Total # of PSAs:** 28,500

**Total Cost:** \$8,313.46

### Television

#### *Cox Media*

**Overview:** Cox Media offers :30 spots on several cable channels. Cox serves a large population in Marion County.

**Total # of PSAs:** 3,584

**Total Cost:** \$7,280

#### *SAPP Cable Advertising*

**Overview:** SAPP Advertising offers :30 spots on CableVision Decca Cable, as well as local inserts on 16 network cable channels to cover 14 zip codes throughout the county.

**Total # of PSAs:** 1568

**Total Cost:** \$1,568

*WCJB TV20*

**Overview:** WCJB TV 20 is the only local station carried on all Marion County cable systems. They offer :30 spots during morning, afternoon and evening rotations.

**Total # of PSAs:** 96

**Total Cost:** \$5,200

**Radio**

*WOGK-FM*

**Overview:** K-Country serves the Gainesville/Ocala area.

**Total # of PSAs:** 240

**Total Cost:** \$8,000

*WNDD-FM*

**Overview:** Wind-FM serves the Gainesville/ Ocala area.

**Total # of PSAs:** 240

**Total Cost:** \$6,400

**Billboards**

*Lamar*

**Overview:** Lamar offers billboards at many locations around Marion County. In the 2009 campaign, Marion County purchased 8 billboards from Lamar outdoor advertising.

**Total # of PSAs:** 4

**Total Cost:** \$6,660

*Clear Channel*

**Overview:** Clear Channel offers billboards at many locations around Marion County. For the 2010 campaign, both Lamar and Clear Channel locations will be purchased in an effort to best reach the target population.

**Total # of PSAs:** 4

**Total Cost:** \$5,854

**Spanish Language**

*Univision/Telefutura*

**Overview:** Univision and Telefutura reach Spanish speaking audiences across the county.

**Total # of PSAs:** 144

**Total Cost:** \$8,640

**Total Campaign Cost: \$ 78,587.50**

### **2009-2010 Water Conservation Program Successes**

Low Flow Device Program: Offering free low flow showerheads, aerators, and leak detection tabs to MCU customers

- 354 kitchen aerators
- 487 bath aerators
- 460 showerheads
- 368 flow restrictors
- 433 leak detector tabs

HOA/Library Workshops:

- 10 conducted
- 452 people reached

Total Presentations (Events, Schools, Festivals, etc.):

- 13,378 people reached

High Use Mailings: Customers over 30k gallons per month

- Done quarterly
- Initial Mailing was 376 customers.
- January Mailing was 184 customers.
- **Reduction of 192 customers.**

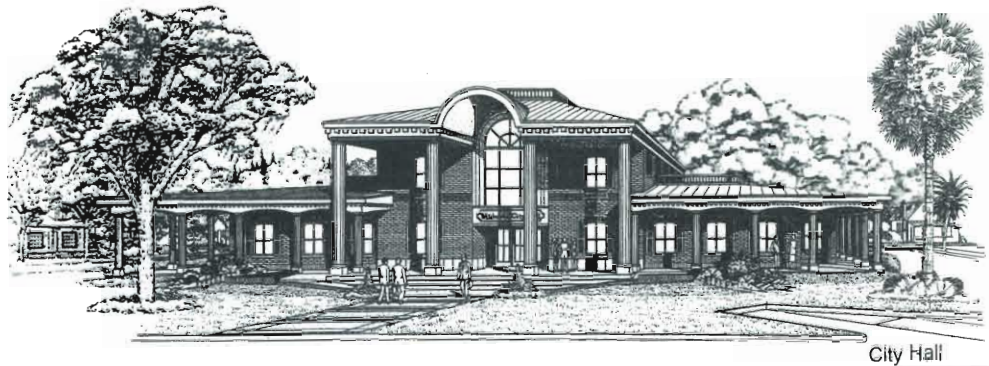
Cooperative Funding:

- Applied for Toilet Rebate Program: Targets 1,400 homes across county.
  - SJRWMD: \$50,000
  - SWFWMD: \$50,000
- Applied for Targeted Conservation through AMR: Uses AMR technology to find peak usage times/types in order to target educational efforts.
  - SJRWMD: \$59,500

Water Production:

- FY 2009
  - 4.91 MGD on SWFWMD systems
  - 5.59 MGD on SJRWMD
- FY 2010 so far
  - 4.18 MGD on SWFWMD systems
  - 4.99 MGD on SJRWMD systems
- **Average daily use has dropped from 10.5 MGD to 9.17 MGD**

City of  
Wildwood,  
Florida



06/09/10

wildwood-fl.gov

Area Code: 352

ZIP Code: 34785

**CITY HALL**

100 N. Main Street

330-1330 Phone

330-1338 Fax

**CITY MANAGER**

Extension 109

**CITY CLERK/FINANCE**

Extension 100

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

Extension 103

330-1339 Fax

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**

(Utility Accounts/TDD)

Extension 130

**BUILDING SERVICES**

Code/Inspections/Permits

Extension 131

330-1334 Fax

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

Planning/Zoning/Concurrency

Extension 118

330-1334 Fax

**LIBRARY**

310 Palmer Drive

748-1158

**COMMUNITY CENTER**

6500 County Road 139

Reservations

330-1330 Ext 108

**POLICE**

100 E. Huey Street

330-1355

330-1358 Fax

**ANIMAL CONTROL**

**WOOD WASTE**

601 W. Gulf-Atlantic Hwy.

330-1345

**REFUSE / STREETS**

410 Grey Street

330-1343

330-1353 Fax

**WASTEWATER**

1290 Industrial Drive

330-1349

330-1350 Fax

**WATER**

801 E. Huey Street

330-1346

330-1347 Fax

**PARKS & RECREATION**

6500 County Road 139

303-8446

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

Re: Local Government Grant Application

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Enclosed is the application and supporting documents for 2010-2011 Fiscal Year Local Government Grant Application. The City of Wildwood with Southwest Florida Water Management District have been pursuing and acquiring data on the Lower Floridian aquifer. This data is vital for all in the North Sumter area and possibly others for future water needs. This project is expensive in nature but is more viable than desalination with associated transmission lines.

We would appreciate the Authority's support of this project and the benefits it presents for all.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Allen, Jr.,  
Water Director  
City of Wildwood

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT APPLICATION  
2010-11 FISCAL YEAR**

Name of member local government: City of Wildwood

List previous grants received from WRWSA and date completed:  
High Service Pump Station November 17, 2008

Short description of proposed water supply project:

See Attached

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  
Local Government Grant Application  
2010-11 Fiscal Year**

**City of Wildwood**

The City of Wildwood currently maintains and operates a public well site near SR 44 in Sumter County. This facility is one of seven municipal wells permitted by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD). The State Road 44 West Well is located on property that was leased by the City beginning in 1997.

Joint discussions between the City and the property owner have resulted in agreements to cap the existing well head and relocate the facility off of the present property.

The primary goals are listed as follows:

- 1) Upgrade well capacity to 1,200 gpm and add a second well for redundancy.
- 2) Perform aquifer testing in the lower Floridian to determine viability as alternative source.

The City plans to relocate the well site to a property north of the current facility which is owned by the City and adjacent to Champagne Farms. This well field is critical since it will provide water to the State Road 44 and Interstate 75 interchange and the rest of the City of Wildwood. Two wells have already been decommissioned and three others will be decommissioned in order to move our water withdrawals westward away from water bodies with established Minimum Flow Levels and the Villages withdrawal area per our Water Use Permit. In the future, the new wells will also provide for a new residential development at Champagne Farms. The City will, but not limited to, drill two lower Floridian wells, one upper Floridian well, one surficial aquifer well, perform two soil borings, water quality testing, and the associated aquifer performance testing in the lower Floridian aquifer.

Attached are the well locations, itemized budget, current expenditures, and schedule provided by the City's contract engineers, Barnes, Ferland, and Associates, Inc. (BFA). Currently the project is on budget and within two weeks of the projected schedule.

Diversified Drilling Corporation began drilling the wells November 2009 and the project should be completed by August 2010.

RESOLUTION NO. R2010-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD, FLORIDA;  
PROPOSING THE COMMITMENT OF CITY FUNDS TO COINCIDE  
WITH THE ANTICIPATED WATER SUPPLY GRANT FUNDING BY  
THE WITHLACHOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY  
AUTHORITY (WRWSA) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO  
LOWER FLORIDIAN WELLS AT CHAMPAGNE FARMS  
REPLACING THE STATE ROAD 44 WEST WELL SITE

WHEREAS, the City of Wildwood, Florida, hereby agrees to spend, at a minimum, One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00), for the construction of two Lower Floridian Wells at Champagne Farms replacing the State Road 44 West Well site; and,

WHEREAS, said City is the only source of municipal water supply in North Sumter County and is responsible for all maintenance or expansions due to future growth; and,

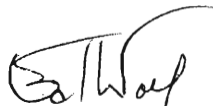
WHEREAS, said City is proposing to submit a grant application to WRWSA for an amount not to exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Commission of the City of Wildwood, Florida, to commit City funds with anticipated grant funding by WRWSA for the construction of two Lower Floridian Wells at Champagne Farms replacing the State Road 44 West Well site.

PASSED AND RESOLVED, this 9th day of May, 2010, by the City Commission of the City of Wildwood, Florida.

CITY COMMISSION  
CITY OF WILDWOOD, FLORIDA

SEAL

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ed Wolf, Mayor

ATTEST:   
Joseph Jacobs, City Clerk

Invoice Period No. 5 Summary (3/1/2010 to 3/31/2010)  
City of Wildwood Champagne Farms WSF  
Test/Production Well and Monitor Well Drilling & Testing Costs

Item ID	Item Description	Unit	Unit Cost	Budgeted Amount		Current Invoice		Completed Amount		Balance
				Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost	Quantity	Cost	
Two Soil Borings and One Surficial Aquifer Monitor Well (SA-1)										
1	General conditions and mobilization/demob.	LS	\$ 1,500.00	1	\$ 1,500			1	\$ 1,500	
2	Two 60 foot SPT soil borings at CF-1 & CF-2	LF	\$ 55.00	120	\$ 6,600			120	\$ 6,600	
3	Drill borehole w/ HSA for monitor well	LF	\$ 50.00	40	\$ 2,000			0	\$ -	
4	Furnish/ install 2" PVC riser pipe & grout	LF	\$ 20.00	20	\$ 400			0	\$ -	
5	Furnish/ install 2" PVC screen & filter pack	LF	\$ 40.00	20	\$ 800			0	\$ -	
6	Well development	HR	\$ 200.00	2	\$ 400			0	\$ -	
7	Well pad, protective cover & lock	LS	\$ 250.00	1	\$ 250			0	\$ -	
Soil Borings and Well SAS-1 Subtotal					\$ 11,950				\$ 8,100	\$ 3,850
One Upper Floridan Aquifer Construction Water Supply / Monitor Well (UF-1)										
1	General conditions and mobilization/demob.	LS	\$ 3,000	1	\$ 3,000			1	\$ 3,000	
2	Drill 12" dia. borehole to 65 ft.	LF	\$ 70	85	\$ 5,950			85	\$ 5,950	
3	Furnish/ install 6" dia. steel casing to 60 ft.	LF	\$ 45	80	\$ 3,600			80	\$ 3,600	
4	Furnish/ install cement grout for 6" dia. casing	SK	\$ 17	55	\$ 935			56	\$ 952	
5	Drill 5" dia. borehole 60 to 200 ft.	LF	\$ 45	120	\$ 5,400			120	\$ 5,400	
6	Furnish/install temporary pump	LS	\$ 4,500	1	\$ 4,500			1	\$ 4,500	
7	Well development	HR	\$ 250	2	\$ 500			2	\$ 500	
8	Well pad, protective cover & lock upon completion	LS	\$ 300	1	\$ 300			0	\$ -	
Well UF-1 Subtotal					\$ 24,185				\$ 23,902	\$ 283
Construction and Testing of Test Production Well CF-1										
1	General conditions and mobilization/demob.	LS	\$ 20,000	1	\$ 20,000			1	\$ 20,000	
2	Fluid containment system and mud disposal	LS	\$ 4,500	1	\$ 4,500			0	\$ -	
3	Ream 29" dia. borehole to 55 ft.	LF	\$ 145	0	\$ -			0	\$ -	
3A	Drive 24" dia. casing w/cable tool rig	LF	\$ 304	50	\$ 15,200			0	\$ -	
4	Furnish/ install 24" steel casing to 50 ft.	LF	\$ 95	50	\$ 4,750			STORED	\$ 2,064	
5	Furnish/ install cement grout for 24" casing	SK	\$ 17	0	\$ -			0	\$ -	
6	Drill 6" dia. pilot hole 50 to 160 ft.	LF	\$ 45	80	\$ 3,600			0	\$ -	
6A	Drill 23" dia. borehole 50 to 80 ft w/ cable tool rig	LF	\$ 304	30	\$ 9,120			0	\$ -	
7	Ream 23" dia. borehole 50 to 155 ft.	LF	\$ 105	75	\$ 7,875			0	\$ -	
8	Furnish/ install 18" dia. steel casing to 150 ft.	LF	\$ 80	150	\$ 12,000			STORED	\$ 5,128	
9	Furnish/ install cement seal for 18" dia. casing	SK	\$ 17	250	\$ 4,250			0	\$ -	
10	Drill 17" dia. borehole 150 to 600 ft.	LF	\$ 15	450	\$ 6,750			0	\$ -	
11	Caliper log to 600 ft for grout plan	LS	\$ 500	1	\$ 500			0	\$ -	
12	Furnish/ install 12" steel casing 125 to 600 ft.	LF	\$ 22	475	\$ 10,450			STORED	\$ 1,788	
13	Furnish/ install cement for 12" dia. casing	SK	\$ 15	500	\$ 7,500			0	\$ -	
14	Furnish/ install limerock gravel for filling cavities	CY	\$ 100	10	\$ 1,000			0	\$ -	
15	Drill 12" dia. borehole from 600 to 1100 ft.	LF	\$ 25	500	\$ 12,500			0	\$ -	
16	Set/ remove 2500 gpm test pump	LS	\$ 5,600	1	\$ 5,600			0	\$ -	
17	Setup/remove discharge pipe	LF	\$ 4	500	\$ 2,000			0	\$ -	
18	Well development	HR	\$ 200	24	\$ 4,800			0	\$ -	
19	Variable rate test	HR	\$ 300	8	\$ 2,400			0	\$ -	
20	Caliper and video log to 1100 ft. for final inspection	LS	\$ 3,500	1	\$ 3,500			0	\$ -	
21	Temporary protective cover	LS	\$ 350	1	\$ 350			0	\$ -	
Well CF-1 Subtotal					\$ 138,645		\$ -		\$ 28,981	\$ 109,664
Construction and Testing of Test Production Well CF-2										
1	General conditions and mobilization/demob.	LS	\$ 30,000	1	\$ 30,000			1	\$ 30,000	
2	Fluid containment system and mud disposal	LS	\$ 4,500	1	\$ 4,500			0.5	\$ 2,250	
3	Ream 29" dia. borehole to 55 ft.	LF	\$ 285	0	\$ -			0	\$ -	
3A	Drive 24" dia. casing w/cable tool rig	LF	\$ 304	50	\$ 15,200			50	\$ 15,200	
4	Furnish/ install 24" steel casing to 50 ft.	LF	\$ 195	50	\$ 9,750			50	\$ 9,750	
5	Furnish/ install cement grout for 24" casing	SK	\$ 17	0	\$ -			0	\$ -	
6	Drill 6" dia. pilot hole 80 to 180 ft.	LF	\$ 45	80	\$ 3,600			100	\$ 4,500	
6A	Drill 23" dia. borehole 50 to 80 ft w/ cable tool rig	LF	\$ 304	30	\$ 9,120			30	\$ 9,120	
7	Ream 23" dia. borehole 50 to 155 ft.	LF	\$ 105	75	\$ 7,875			75	\$ 7,875	
8	Furnish/ install 18" dia. steel casing to 155 ft.	LF	\$ 80	150	\$ 12,000			155	\$ 12,400	
9	Furnish/ install cement seal for 18" dia. casing	SK	\$ 17	250	\$ 4,250			377	\$ 6,409	
10	Drill 12" dia. pilot hole 150 to 600 ft.	LF	\$ 35	450	\$ 15,750			445	\$ 15,575	
11	Set/ remove 2500 gpm test pump	LS	\$ 5,600	1	\$ 5,600			1	\$ 5,600	
12	Setup/remove discharge pipe	LF	\$ 5	2,000	\$ 10,000			300	\$ 1,500	
13	Well development	HR	\$ 200	4	\$ 800			4	\$ 800	
14	Variable rate test	HR	\$ 300	8	\$ 2,400			8	\$ 2,400	
15	Drill 12" dia. borehole from 600 to 1100 ft.	LF	\$ 35	500	\$ 17,500	380	\$ 13,300	500	\$ 17,500	
16	Set/ remove 2500 gpm test pump	LS	\$ 5,600	1	\$ 5,600	1	\$ 5,600	1	\$ 5,600	
17	Well development	HR	\$ 250	4	\$ 1,000	5.5	\$ 1,375	5.5	\$ 1,375	
18	Geophysical logging suite to 1100 ft.	LS	\$ 2,500	1	\$ 2,500	1	\$ 2,500	1	\$ 2,500	
19	Straddle packer tests	EA	\$ 4,800	2	\$ 9,600	2	\$ 9,600	2	\$ 9,600	
20	Single packer tests	EA	\$ 4,200	3	\$ 12,600	2	\$ 8,400	3	\$ 12,600	
21	Ream 17" dia. borehole 150 to 600 ft.	LF	\$ 15	450	\$ 6,750					
22	Caliper log to 600 ft for grout plan	LS	\$ 500	1	\$ 500			1	\$ 500	
23	Furnish/ install 12" steel casing 125 to 600 ft.	LF	\$ 22	475	\$ 10,450			STORED	\$ 1,788	
24	Furnish/ install cement for 12" dia. casing	SK	\$ 15	500	\$ 7,500			0	\$ -	
25	Furnish/ install limerock gravel for filling cavities	CY	\$ 100	20	\$ 2,000			0	\$ -	
26	Ream/cleanout borehole from 600 to 1100 ft.	LF	\$ 25	500	\$ 12,500			0	\$ -	
27	Set/ remove 2500 gpm test pump	LS	\$ 5,600	1	\$ 5,600			0	\$ -	
28	Well development	HR	\$ 200	24	\$ 4,800			0	\$ -	
29	Variable rate test	HR	\$ 300	8	\$ 2,400			0	\$ -	
29A	Constant rate test-maintain pumping equipment	HR	\$ 300	72	\$ 21,600			0	\$ -	
30	Caliper and video log to 1100 ft. for final inspection	LS	\$ 3,500	1	\$ 3,500			0	\$ -	
31	Temporary protective cover	LS	\$ 350	1	\$ 350			0	\$ -	
Well CF-2 Subtotal					\$ 257,595		\$ 40,775		\$ 174,842	\$ 82,753
E	Construction of Monitor Well LF-1				\$ 48,245					
F	Additional work with rig and crew	HR	\$ 180	24	\$ 4,320			0	\$ -	
G	Fencing work	LS	\$ 10,400	1	\$ 10,400			1	\$ 10,400	
Change Order 1 - Delete Well LF-1					\$ (48,245)					
Change Order 2 - Additional Labor and Equipment Costs					\$ 25,000					
Total Well Construction/Testing Costs					Budgeted \$ 472,095	Current \$ 40,775	Completed \$ 246,225		\$ 225,870	





Approximate Task Durations  
Current & Projected Progress

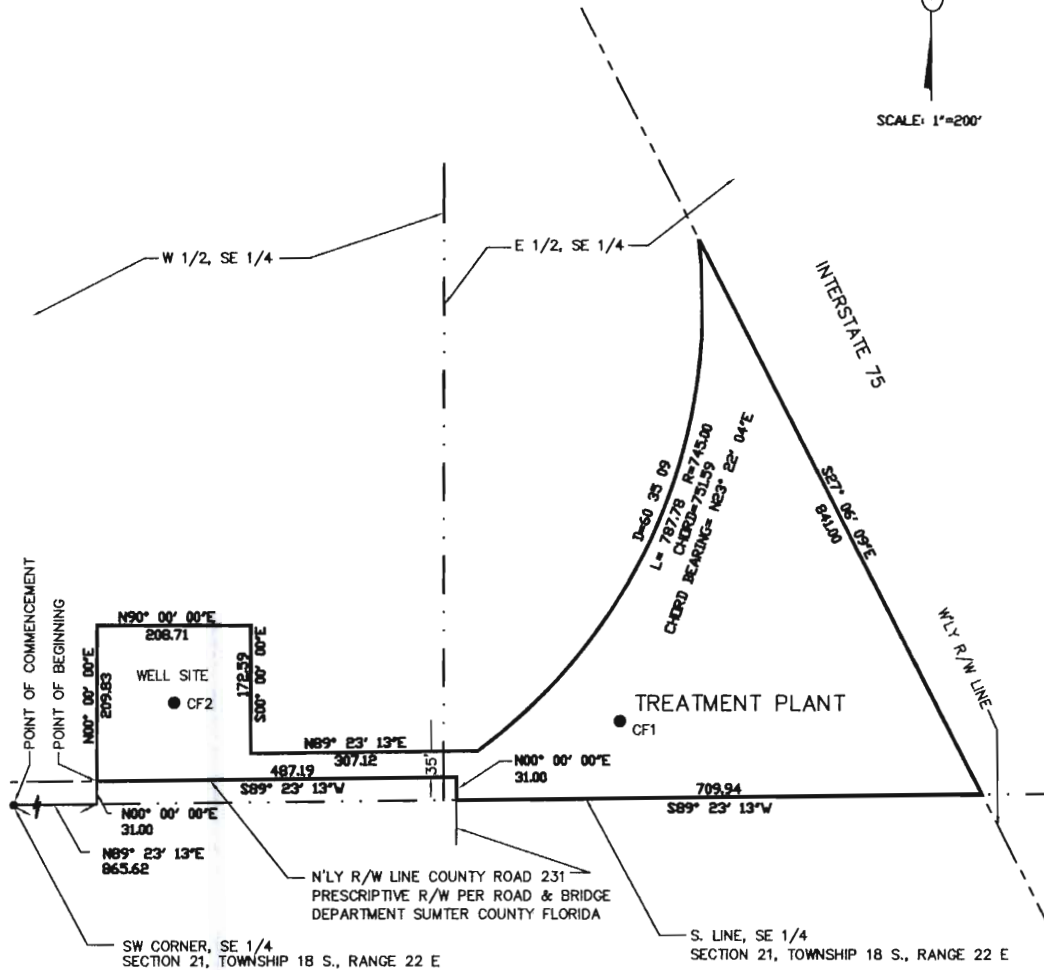
Notes:  
The notice to proceed was issued on the 27th Oct



# LEGAL DESCRIPTION



SCALE: 1"=200'



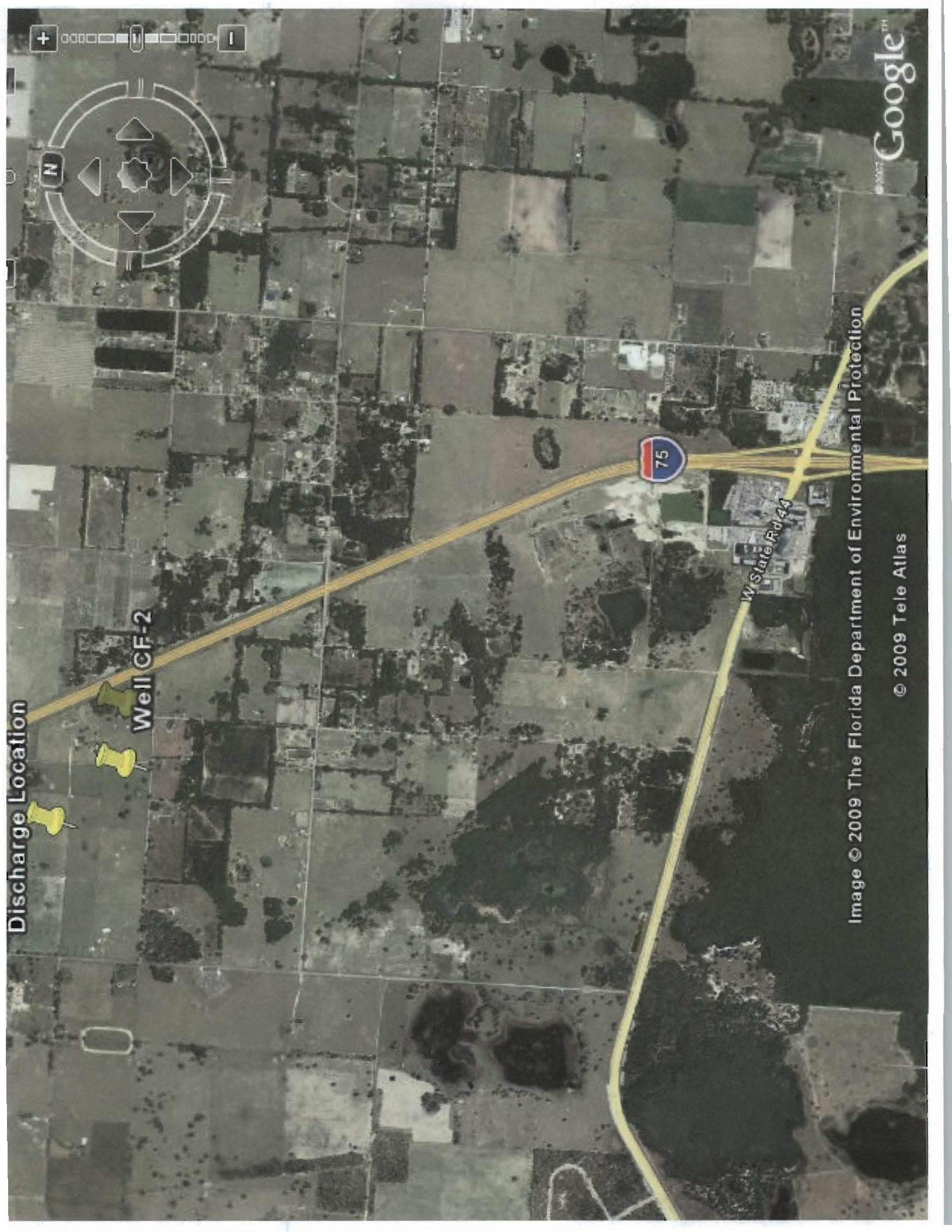
NOTE:  
THIS IS NOT A  
BOUNDARY SURVEY

DWG. NAME

**BFA** Environmental Consultants  
Barnes, Ferland and Associates, Inc.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
CITY OF WILDWOOD/ CHAMPAGNE FARMS

SHEET  
2 OF 2



Discharge Location

Well CF-2

W State Rd 44

75

Image © 2009 The Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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Google™

## **6. SWFWMD Utility Outreach Program**



**MEMORANDUM**

July 6, 2010

To: Board of Directors, WRWSA

From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

Re: SWFWMD Northern Region Utility Outreach Program

The staff of the SWFWMD is scheduled to make a presentation to the Board at its July 21, 2010 Board meeting. I asked Cara Martin, Community Affairs Program Manager to provide me with some information on the program to orient the Board to the staff presentation. The following summary is provided to give the Board that perspective.

*"The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) initiated a Utility Outreach Program (Outreach Program) to help accomplish the goals and objectives of the District's public water supply related strategic initiatives. The Outreach Program involves proactively working with the 193 water supply utilities within the District on water supply planning to assist local governments and utilities in developing and implementing programs to reduce their per capita water use and expand their use of reclaimed water and other alternative sources. Through this collaborative process, the District will inform utilities of key programs and resources, assist in identifying and developing water conservation related programs, and enable the District to better understand specific challenges the utilities face.*

*The Outreach Program is patterned after similar successful efforts conducted during the development of the Polk County Comprehensive Water Supply Plan. The need for a more proactive Outreach Program was reinforced through additional utility coordination with the City of Plant City, east Pasco County Coalition, and several utilities in the northern District. District staff members from Resource Regulation, Planning, Community and Legislative Affairs, and Resource Projects attended meetings with water supply utilities and offered the utilities assistance with water supply planning, water use permit renewals, cooperative funding opportunities, demand projections and water conservation measures.*

*In 2009, staff from departments throughout the District established an internal steering committee to help provide guidance for the program and develop coordination tools. In May 2010, a survey was mailed to 193 utilities to establish a baseline of utility awareness and perspective on these key District programs. The survey will be used annually to help measure the effectiveness of the Outreach Program. A Utility Reference Manual was completed in June 2010 that concisely describes key District programs, the benefits to utilities, and where to obtain more information. Outreach teams for the Northern Region, Heartland Region, Tampa Bay Region, and the Southern Region were developed to be consistent with the updated District's regional water supply planning process. The outreach teams are made up of District staff representatives from Resource Regulation, Planning, Community and Legislative Affairs, and Resource Projects with support from the Communications Department."*



## **7. Inglis Hydro- Power Project**

**MEMORANDUM**

July 6, 2010

To: Board of Directors, WRWSA  
From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director  
RE: Inglis Hydropower Project, FERC Project No. 12783 - Draft License Agreement

Inglis Hydropower, LLC, has submitted a license application for the construction and operation of a hydroelectric power plant to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The permit was originally applied for in December 2008. This facility is proposed to be located at the existing Inglis Bypass Spillway located on Lake Rousseau. The plant will be a "run of the river" facility meaning that it will only generate electricity when excess water is routed down the bypass canal due to high water conditions or when the lower Withlacoochee River is in need of additional fresh water flows.

The project has been in the review process for approximately a year and one-half, but the WRWSA has not been included as one of the commenting agencies. The application and its potential implications to the Authority's water supply planning process have only come to light over the past month.

The WRWSA and its consultants are in the process of reviewing the application and determining any potential impacts to future water supply projects that have been identified for the Withlacoochee River, Lake Rousseau or the Crystal River Desalination Project. This will include a review of the project's anticipated regulation schedule and the implications it may have on water withdrawals and water quality.

At the July 21, 2010 Board meeting, WRA will provide a report to the Board on the design and proposed operation of the facility and any potential issues that possibly could impact the Authority's future water supply plans. A proposed course of action will also be included in this report.

#### **8.a. Bills to be Paid**

**Bills to be Paid will be handed out  
at the July 21, 2010 Board meeting**

## **8.b. Mission Statement**

**MEMORANDUM**

July 6, 2010

To: WRWSA Board of Directors

From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director

Re: Mission Statement

At the June 16, 2010 Board meeting, it was the general consensus of the Board that we should develop a mission statement for the Authority. The purpose would be to inform the public of what the Authority is tasked to do. The statement could become part of the Authority's letterhead and other documents that go out the public. Commissioner Damato provided me with a proposed mission statement, which I then sent to Diane Salz and Pete Hubbell to get their input. Diane sent me a statement that built on Commissioner Damato's effort. I liked Commissioner Damato's statement and Diane's changes. I am providing the final statement to the Board to get your input.

Mission Statement

The WRWSA is a multi-county special district of the State of Florida charged with planning for and developing cost efficient, high quality water supplies for its member governments. The Authority promotes environmental stewardship through its water conservation programs and in the future will develop alternative water sources to augment groundwater supplies to meet the region's long -term needs.



**8.c. Memo to Ocala Star Banner  
Re: public records**



# WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

July 2, 2010

To: Bill Thompson, Reporter, Ocala Star Banner

From: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director, WRWSA

Re: Response to questions regarding public records and other issues

**Question:** I did some subsequent research and found an article from the Hernando paper that noted Swiftmud provided the authority office space in 2008, I believe. But the letterhead of the authority still has a Tallahassee address, which I believe was your home address. Why has the address not been changed to reflect the new office location?

**Response:** *As you may know, I am a consultant to the Authority. My contract is to provide ministerial services to the Authority Board. I work out of my office in my home. Until the SWFWMD offered office space to the Authority beginning in October 2008, the only business conducted by the Authority was out of my home office. You may have some old letterhead that I used prior to receiving new letterhead. It still contained only my home office address and contact information. The new letterhead contains both since I work out of both offices from time to time.*

**Question:** How often is that office at Swiftmud manned, who works there and when is it open? Does Swiftmud charge the authority any rent?

**Response:** *As part of SWFWMD's offer to provide assistance to the Authority, they provide office space free of charge to the Authority as well as clerical assistance to take minutes for the Authority and to assist me in putting the Board Package together and getting it printed and mailed out each month by the SWFWMD staff. SWFWMD's assistance is recorded and the office space, clerical assistance and printing are given a dollar value and reported to the SWFWMD Board and the Authority every six months.*

*Since I am not an employee, but a contracted consultant to the Authority, I do not man the Brooksville office continuously. I do most of my work for the Authority at my home office in Tallahassee. Since my only client is the Authority, I answer the phones in my Tallahassee office as the water supply authority. The phones at the Brooksville office are monitored by the clerical staff, but not always answered because of other duties. I use the Brooksville office if I need to have a meeting with someone in that area. In*

*addition, I go to the Brooksville office usually twice a month for several days to prepare the Board Package for printing and also to attend the Board meetings when they are in the SWFWMD headquarters. The office is always open, but not necessarily manned by someone.*

**Question:** The May minutes show that you told the board the “bulk” of the records are stored in a Hernando County building? Why was that site selected? Why not at the Swiftmud office? What documents constitute the “bulk” of the agency’s records? Why were the authority’s documents stored at your place in Tallahassee to begin with? And what records remain in Tallahassee?

*Response: When I was hired by the Authority in 1983, the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council (WRPC) provided the clerical and bookkeeping duties for the Authority. All of the records were kept at the WRPC offices. In 1991, Citrus and Hernando Counties had some disagreements with the WRPC and wanted to separate ties the Authority had to the Planning Council. At the time, I had my Planning consulting business in Ocala and handled the Authority’s business out of that office. We had separate phone and fax lines for the Authority in my offices. I assumed the clerical duties for the Authority, but asked that another public entity be responsible for the Authority’s public records. Hernando County representatives to the Authority volunteered the Hernando County Public Records Storage for the Authority. Since that time, all of the documents have been sent to the Hernando County Records storage. There were some old historical records, old invoices and other documents that should probably be inventoried and destroyed in boxes that the WRPC had in storage.*

*In 1992, I closed my Ocala planning consulting business and joined the staff of the Carlton Fields Law Firm. The Board asked me to continue consulting with the Authority. The Authority provided for separate phone and fax lines into the Carlton Fields offices and I conducted the Authority’s business out of my Tallahassee office. I continued using the Hernando County Records Storage for all public records, but transferred all of the old records in storage to storage at Carlton Fields – not in my home. In 2008, I retired from Carlton Fields, but continued consulting with the Authority. When the SWFWMD offered to provide office space and other support to the Authority, I transferred the old records in storage to the SWFWMD. The only records that I have in my home office in Tallahassee are those that I work with daily to prepare the monthly agenda and Board Package and to do the Authority’s accounting. After the Board meeting, all public records are sent to the Hernando County records storage unit in Brooksville or in some cases now put into files at the SWFWMD office. The accounting information is provided to the Purvis Gray & Company accounting firm to prepare a quarterly financial report and to prepare the annual audit.*

**Question:** I’ve learned that the authority once had an office here in Ocala. What happened to that site?

*Response: I think I answered that question above. If not, let me know.*

**Question:** What can you tell me about the make-up of the authority insofar as how many employees and where they are located? Also, the proposed 2011 budget shows \$14,000 for travel? What is that for?

**Response:** *For budget reasons, the Authority has chosen to "outsource" all of its functions. The Authority has no employees. My contract with the Authority is pretty encompassing in that I provide the ministerial functions, preparation of the Board meeting information, presentations and minutes, most of the coordinating functions with other agencies/consultants and financial management. Legal, legislative coordination, engineering and technical studies are all contracted out. As part of my contract, I provide my own office space, computers, printers and other items I need on a day-to-day basis. However, because I have no way of knowing in advance what the Authority may become involved in, the Authority maintains a budget for a number of items that are drawn upon monthly. Travel expense is one of those. The \$14,000 is to provide for my travel in support of the Authority's activities as well as for the other consultants who serve the Authority. In addition, the Authority pays the travel expense for Board members to attend meetings when the meeting is held outside their home counties. All of this is done in accordance with Chapter 112, Florida Statute requirements.*

**Question:** I know you all have done considerable work in trying to re-incorporate Marion Co back into the authority and projects are in various stages of engineering, design, etc. But what infrastructure does the authority operate/control other than the Black facility in Citrus?

**Response:** *The Authority has no infrastructure other than the Citrus County wellfields at Hampton Hills and Meadowcrest, a treatment plant and two 4 million gallon ground storage tanks comprising what we call the Charles A. Black Water Supply Facility. We also have an 18" interconnecting pipeline between the Hampton Hills and the Meadowcrest wellfields.*

**Question:** Can I make a public records request for any correspondence you sent to Mr. Andrews or Commissioner Amsden? That would have been from April 20, I believe, to the present.

**Response:** *Attached to my e-mail back to you are all of the e-mails regarding Mr. Andrew's letters and public records request. I am also attaching the letter I sent to Mr. Andrews in response to his request. I copied Commissioner Amsden on this letter.*

**Question:** Also, did the board vote to stop charging the \$3 for postage, as was indicated in the May minutes?

**Response:** *Larry Haag, our attorney did find legal precedents that he believed would allow the Authority to charge postage to send a Board Package to those that requested them. However, the Board voted to remove that policy because we now post our entire Board Package on our web page and it can easily be downloaded. In addition, I*



*informed the Board that we had not received any recent requests to mail someone a Board package.*

**Question:** Finally, Mr. Andrews argues in an April 27 letter to Commissioner Amsden that storing the records in your home in Tallahassee potentially violated Florida's Sunshine Laws. What is your response to that?

*Response: I have not stored public records in my home. If I had a public record in my home, it was a copy, not the original that I was using for my work for the Authority. The Authority's public records have been stored either at the WRPC or at the Hernando County records storage facility in Brooksville. Some records as I have indicated previously are now stored at the SWFWMD headquarters.*

#### **8.d. Correspondence**



June 30, 2010

Barack Obama, President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to you on behalf of the local governments of the Withlacoochee Region in west-central Florida, specifically, the counties and cities of Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter. We are sadly aware of the numerous problems associated with the impact of the British Petroleum oil spill off the Louisiana coast and the millions of gallons of oil that are invading the coastlines of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. The threat of hurricanes and the impact on how the oil may be spread inland greatly concerns our local governments.

This area of Florida, especially Hernando and Citrus counties, have numerous springs and spring runs (rivers) that flow to the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, there are significant numbers of homes and businesses that are only a short distance from the Gulf. Our concern is whether the oil in the Gulf could be spread into these springs and even onto homes near the Gulf should a major storm or hurricane make landfall in this area of Florida. Have any studies been made of these effects from the mixture of an oil spill and major storms spreading oil through a storm surge, rainfall or misting of the oil-filled seawater? If an action plan for these types of impacts has been made, we would like to be made aware of it. If not, we believe some action needs to take place prior to any storm that could have such an effect in our area.

We are also concerned about how the oil in seawater will effect the operation of desalination plants and the intake of seawater for cooling of coal and nuclear power generating plants. Although we do not have a desalination plant in these counties at this time, long-range plans have been adopted to eventually use desalinated water from a proposed plant in Citrus County. However, we do have coal-powered plants and a nuclear power plant in Citrus County and two more nuclear plants in the permitting stage in Levy County immediately north of Citrus County. Are there contingency plans for facilities to operate if oil intrudes on the seawater intake points?

Page 2  
Oil Spill

If plans have not been formulated for the above questions, we respectfully ask that funds be directed toward addressing the issues we have raised before we encounter the problem, not after. Although our Authority Board of Directors deals specifically with water supply, it is composed of local elected officials from throughout our region who address a wide range of water related issues to their constituents. The Board asked that I contact you and others to determine how to deal with these issues in order to answer questions being raised by local residents.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

cc: Craig Fugate, Director, FEMA





June 30, 2010

Governor Charlie Crist  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Crist:

I am writing to you on behalf of the local governments of the Withlacoochee Region in west-central Florida, specifically, the counties and cities of Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter. We are sadly aware of the numerous problems associated with the impact of the British Petroleum oil spill off the Louisiana coast and the millions of gallons of oil that are invading the coastlines of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. The threat of hurricanes and the impact on how the oil may be spread inland greatly concerns our local governments.

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Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jackson E. Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and "S".

Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

cc: David Halstead, Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management



June 30, 2010

Patricia Koch  
6220 W. Tirana Lane  
Dunnellon, Florida 34433

Re: Response to Water Issues Raised in Various Forums

Dear Ms. Koch:

Commissioner Dennis Damato shared your letter with me regarding your opposition to piping groundwater from Citrus County to Hernando County. As I made clear and your County Commissioners on the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority affirmed, the map used by Mr. Grubman in the June 8, 2010 County Commission meeting and as reported by the Citrus County Chronicle was not to indicate the transfer of groundwater from one county to another. Nor was it to indicate a series of wells to be built by the Authority. The map you saw was part of a series of maps showing a concept of how in the long-range future (20-30 years), water supply facilities within the region could be interconnected to provide for the introduction of alternative water supplies such as surface water from the Withlacoochee River and/or desalinated water from a plant located near the Crystal River power plant using sea water from the Gulf. At some point in the future, these alternative water resources would need to be shared within the region, but paid for by the users of the water.

The Authority is charged with ensuring that its member counties (Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter) and cities within those counties have an adequate water supply well into the foreseeable future. Our studies have shown that throughout the region there are groundwater supplies within each county adequate for its own needs for the next twenty (20) years. However, as the need to protect water resources such as springs, lakes and wetlands becomes more evident as additional development occurs, we need to have a long-range plan beyond 20 years that utilizes multiple potable water resources so that none of the resources are overused and harm the environment. The Southwest Florida Water Management District is in the process of establishing minimum flows and levels (MFLs) on all water resources within the region over the next several years to ensure that the health of these resources is not harmed. Our long-range plan is geared toward making sure our local governments can adhere to those MFLs.

The Authority's Technical Review Committee (TRC) made up of utility and planning personnel within our region and the Authority Board of Directors has had multiple presentations of the long-range plan. The TRC as well as the Southwest Florida and the St. Johns River Water Management Districts have reviewed and commented on the plan. We believe we have incorporated all of the concerns of those agencies. The Authority Board adopted the Master Plan unanimously at its March 17, 2010 Board meeting. On April 21, 2010, all of the recommendations of the Plan were considered in a workshop of the Authority. In the subsequent meeting, all of the recommendations were unanimously accepted by the Board with the provision that the Executive Director "flesh out" the recommendations and determine the staffing and cost to implement the recommendations. We are in the process of developing those cost and staffing estimates.

I hope this answers your questions regarding the approach of the Authority toward a long-range plan for ensuring potable water supplies within the region. As always, I welcome your thoughts and input on these important issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack Sullivan".

Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Larry Haag, Attorney  
David Moore, Executive Director, SWFWMD  
Citrus County Commission  
Mike Wright, Citrus County Chronicle  
Al Grubman, TOO FAR  
Norman Hopkins, Amy Remley Foundation





June 30, 2010

Frank Heath  
8655 S. Lakeshore Pt.  
Floral City, Florida 34436

Re: Response to Water Issues Raised in Various Forums

Dear Mr. Heath:

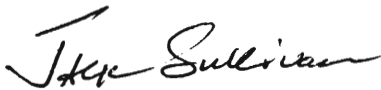
Commissioner Dennis Damato shared your letter with me regarding your opposition to piping groundwater from Citrus County to Hernando County. As I made clear and your County Commissioners on the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority affirmed, the map used by Mr. Grubman in the June 8, 2010 County Commission meeting and as reported by the Citrus County Chronicle was not to indicate the transfer of groundwater from one county to another. Nor was it to indicate a series of wells to be built by the Authority. The map you saw was part of a series of maps showing a concept of how in the long-range future (20-30 years), water supply facilities within the region could be interconnected to provide for the introduction of alternative water supplies such as surface water from the Withlacoochee River and/or desalinated water from a plant located near the Crystal River power plant using sea water from the Gulf. At some point in the future, these alternative water resources would need to be shared within the region, but paid for by the users of the water.

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Sincerely,



Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Larry Haag, Attorney  
David Moore, Executive Director, SWFWMD  
Citrus County Commission  
Mike Wright, Citrus County Chronicle  
Al Grubman, TOO FAR  
Norman Hopkins, Amy Remley Foundation



June 30, 2010

James C. Bitter, President  
Save the Homosassa River Alliance  
P.O. Box 124  
Homosassa, Florida 34487-0124

Re: Response to Water Issues Raised in Various Forums

Dear Mr. Bitter:

Commissioner Dennis Damato shared your letter with me regarding your opposition to piping groundwater from Citrus County to Hernando County. As I made clear and your County Commissioners on the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority affirmed, the map used by Mr. Grubman in the June 8, 2010 County Commission meeting and as reported by the Citrus County Chronicle was not to indicate the transfer of groundwater from one county to another. Nor was it to indicate a series of wells to be built by the Authority. The map you saw was part of a series of maps showing a concept of how in the long-range future (20-30 years), water supply facilities within the region could be interconnected to provide for the introduction of alternative water supplies such as surface water from the Withlacoochee River and/or desalinated water from a plant located near the Crystal River power plant using sea water from the Gulf. At some point in the future, these alternative water resources would need to be shared within the region, but paid for by the users of the water.

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I hope this answers your questions regarding the approach of the Authority toward a long-range plan for ensuring potable water supplies within the region. As always, I welcome your thoughts and input on these important issues.

Sincerely,



Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Larry Haag, Attorney  
David Moore, Executive Director, SWFWMD  
Citrus County Commission  
Mike Wright, Citrus County Chronicle  
Al Grubman, TOO FAR  
Norman Hopkins, Amy Remley Foundation





June 25, 2010

David Hamilton, County Administrator  
Hernando County Government Center, Rm 460  
20 N. Main Street  
Brooksville, FL 34601

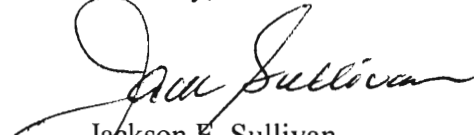
Re: Final WRWSA Budget for FY 2010-11

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

Please find attached, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's final budget for fiscal year 2010-11. The Authority met on June 16 and reviewed the budget and approved it unanimously.

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

Sincerely,



Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

Attachment

cc: Hernando County WRWSA Members  
George Zoettlein, Hernando County Finance Director  
Joe Staph, Hernando County Utilities Manager



June 25, 2010

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

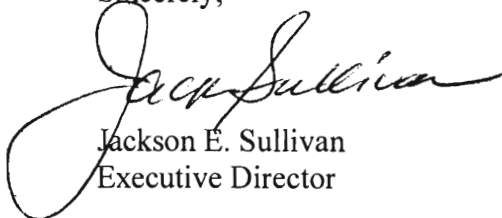
Re: Final WRWSA Budget for FY 2010-11

Dear Mr. Thorpe:

Please find attached, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's final budget for fiscal year 2010-11. The Authority met on June 16 and reviewed the budget and approved it unanimously.

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

Sincerely,



Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

Attachment

cc: Citrus County WRWSA Members  
Cathy Taylor, Director, Office of Management and Budget  
Robert Knight, Citrus County Utilities Manager



June 25, 2010

Dr. Lee Niblock, County Administrator  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Ocala, FL 34471

Re: Final WRWSA Budget for FY 2010-11

Dear Dr. Niblock:

Please find attached, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's final budget for fiscal year 2010-11. The Authority met on June 16 and reviewed the budget and approved it unanimously.

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

Sincerely,

Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

Attachment

cc: Marion County WRWSA Members  
John Garri, Finance Director  
Todd Petrie, Assistant Utilities Manager



June 25, 2010

Ricky A. Horst, City Manager  
City of Ocala  
P.O. Box 1270  
Ocala, FL 34478

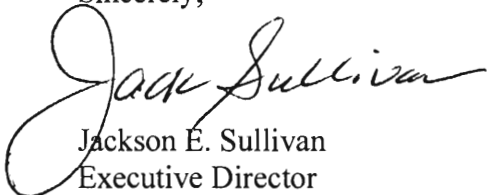
Re: Final WRWSA Budget for FY 2010-11

Dear Mr. Horst:

Please find attached, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's final budget for fiscal year 2010-11. The Authority met on June 16 and reviewed the budget and approved it unanimously.

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

Sincerely,



Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

Attachment

cc: City of Ocala WRWSA Members  
Don Corley, Finance Director  
Jeff Halcomb, Utilities Director





June 25, 2010

Mr. Bradley Arnold, County Administrator  
910 N. Main Street  
Bushnell, FL 33513

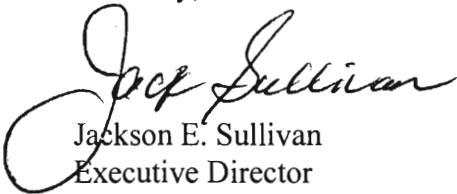
Re: Final WRWSA Budget for FY 2010-11

Dear Mr. Arnold:

Please find attached, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's final budget for fiscal year 2010-11. The Authority met on June 16 and reviewed the budget and approved it unanimously.

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

Sincerely,



Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

Attachment

cc: Sumter County WRWSA Members  
Gloria Hayward, County Clerk



June 25, 2010

John Ferguson, Hydrologist  
Southwest Florida Water Management District  
2379 Broad Street  
Brooksville, FL 34604-6899

Re: Time Extension for Phase VII Northern District Modeling and Revision of  
Technical Support Task Schedule to Include an Additional Task

Dear John:

As we discussed, I need to request that the Phase VII Northern District Modeling Program Agreement be further extended and add another work task to the Agreement. As you and other SWFWMD staff are aware, the WRWSA Board adopted on March 17, 2010 the Phase II Master Regional Water Supply Planning and Implementation Plan that the Authority has been working on for the past several years. In addition, the Authority Board conducted a workshop to consider the recommendations of the Master Plan on April 21, 2010. The recommendations were accepted during the subsequent meeting on April 21 with the provision that I develop a "game plan" for how to staff and pay for the recommendations in the Plan.

After discussions with Ken Herd, you and Cara Martin, I felt that the remaining funds in the Phase VII program being jointly funded by SWFWMD and the Authority could be best used in developing a better plan for guiding future water supply development. The Phase VII work program lends itself to the proposed task I would add. The adoption of the Master Plan by the Authority Board sets the stage for beginning to develop a more refined conceptual long-range plan for infrastructure development within the region.

I would propose that an additional task be inserted into the Phase VII portion of the HO37 Agreement. In addition, to ensure that the monies remaining in the Phase VII Agreement can be efficiently and safely applied to the new task, I would ask that the task time schedule be extended to September 30, 2011. No additional monies from SWFWMD would be required. The Authority will contribute an additional \$23,000 to the effort to allow consultants to develop the plan in those portions of Marion County not in SWFWMD.

The objective of this additional task is to begin the development of the WRWSA Regional Framework, which will assist in guiding future water supply development within the region for member governments. The regional framework concept has been embraced by the WRWSA Board as the planning tool for the development of remaining traditional groundwater supplies in a manner that will allow the efficient introduction of regionally developed alternative water supplies. The task includes the development of conceptual alternatives for utility interconnections, potential routes for pipelines, investigation of rights-of-way and lands required for water supply development.

Another objective of this task is to begin the implementation of recommendations included in the Phase II report regarding short-term water supply development. This includes coordination with members that require groundwater and consideration of developing these projects in a regional manner. In addition, within this task will be coordination with the water management districts to develop incentives for regional cooperation among members in water supply development.

The additional Task 2.2.5 to be added would read as follows:

2.2.5 Design and facilitate a workshop that includes WRWSA TRC members and utility personnel to discuss the process of developing the framework and gather input into its formulation; Develop a conceptual plan for the WRWSA Regional Framework to include the following;

- Determine actual water demand numbers considering demand management and compliance per capita numbers;
- Identify potential partners (short, mid and long-term) based on latest population and demand data;
- Determine land requirements for water supply development and infrastructure;
- Develop alternatives for interconnections between partners;
- Consider potential routes for pipelines and other utility infrastructure;
- Prioritize interconnections based on demands;
- Develop preliminary cost estimates; and
- Develop schedules for implementation.

Hopefully, this letter is all that the District will need to approve this extension and revision of the task schedule. However, if you need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jackson E. Sullivan  
Executive Director

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Larry Haag, WRWSA Attorney  
Pete Hubbell, Principal, Water Resource Associates



## **8.e. News Articles**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Jack Sullivan**

**850.591.7422**

**WITHLACOOCHEE WATER AUTHORITY APPROVES 2011 BUDGET**

*No transfer is proposed of groundwater from wells in any member county to any other county in the Authority's master plan update.*

OCALA, FL, June 16, 2010 -- Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority representing Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties unanimously approved its 2011 budget, including project funding dedicated to water conservation education, outreach and rebate programs. Last month the Authority voted to maintain a per capita assessment of 19 cents. The 2011 budget sets aside \$150,000 for water conservation, representing 52% of the Authority's water supply funding budget. The Authority has been evaluating the most cost-effective means of ensuring potable water supply for the short-term, mid-term and long-term needs of the region's future. **No transfer however, is proposed of groundwater from wells in any member county to any other county, was underscored throughout the well-attended meeting.** Consultants and the water management districts concur that sometime in the distant future, 20 to 30 years from now, expensive alternative water sources will need to be collaboratively developed for affordability. When needed, alternatives to groundwater would likely include a proposed desalination plant at the Crystal River power plant and water safely withdrawn from the Withlacoochee River, as approved and permitted by the water management district and the Department of Environmental Protection. Because alternative water supplies can take as many as 8 years to properly plan for, design, permit and construct, it is prudent for the Authority to begin identifying possible corridors and sites since an interconnecting system with diversified water sources will one day serve this region. In the future, users of the water will pay for the bonding needed to finance the alternative water system, not the general local governments. At the present time however, water conservation programs are the most appropriate way for the Authority to help local governments extend the use of lower cost groundwater supplies.

###

## Water authority lays out future plans

By [Fred Hiers](#)  
Staff writer

Published: Thursday, June 17, 2010 at 5:26 p.m.

Piping groundwater among Marion County and its regional water supply county neighbors is off the table for at least 20 years. But surface waters: that's another story.

Jack Sullivan, executive director of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, said during a water meeting Wednesday in Ocala that each of the four counties that make up the water agency — Marion, Citrus Sumter and Hernando — have enough groundwater to meet their future demands for the next two decades.

The meeting was to discuss current water needs among members and ways they can best plan and communicate their needs in the future.

But the four-county group is going to have to start planning how it's going to share alternative water sources, including surface water, when Florida's water districts stop allowing communities to tap any more groundwater.

Sullivan said that in about 10 years, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority members will have to have a plan outlining where distribution pipes must go and start purchasing land to construct water pipe networks. He said the authority can't postpone the issue past that time frame because land values will only increase and other utilities will use the available land for their own transmission lines, leaving no room for the authority.

"These are the sources of water we're going to have to go to when you need more water," Sullivan said after the meeting. "You need to start now."

Concerns about the authority planning to transport groundwater among counties began several months ago when the authority released a map and diagram including proposed water lines among the four counties and new and existing wells, including two new wells in Marion County, to supply water to areas south.

Sullivan said the map and diagram "was for conceptual" purposes and nothing more than a starting point for discussion.

Sullivan said the proposed water lines on the map included groundwater wells, "because those are the only facilities we have right now," but reiterated there were no plans to transport groundwater between the four counties.

Water districts have already told many of Florida's counties that they won't be able to get new groundwater permits after 2013 and that they'll have to tap alternative sources, namely surface waters such as rivers, and to conserve more to help make up the difference.

Citrus Daily  
June 17, 2010

## **Withlacoochee Water Authority approves 2011 budget**

Submitted by Special on Thu, 06/17/2010 - 2:51pm.

No transfer proposed of groundwater from wells in any member county to any other county

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority has unanimously approved its 2011 budget, including project funding dedicated to water conservation education, outreach and rebate programs.

The authority represents Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties.

Last month, the authority voted to maintain a per capita assessment of 19 cents. The 2011 budget sets aside \$150,000 for water conservation, representing 52% of the Authority's water supply funding budget.

The authority has been evaluating the most cost-effective means of ensuring potable water supply for the short-term, mid-term and long-term needs of the region's future. No transfer however, is proposed of groundwater from wells in any member county to any other county, was underscored throughout the well-attended meeting.

Consultants and the water management districts concur that sometime in the distant future, 20 to 30 years from now, expensive alternative water sources will need to be collaboratively developed for affordability.

When needed, alternatives to groundwater would likely include a proposed desalination plant at the Crystal River power plant and water safely withdrawn from the Withlacoochee River, as approved and permitted by the water management district and the Department of Environmental Protection. Because alternative water supplies can take as many as eight years to properly plan for, design, permit and construct, it is prudent for the Authority to begin identifying possible corridors and sites since an interconnecting system with diversified water sources will one day serve this region.

In the future, users of the water will pay for the bonding needed to finance the alternative water system, not the general local governments. At the present time however, water conservation programs are the most appropriate way for the Authority to help local governments extend the use of lower cost groundwater supplies.



The board unanimously approved its 2011 budget.

Last month, the authority voted to maintain a per capita assessment of 19 cents.

The 2011 budget sets aside \$150,000 for water conservation, representing 52 percent of the authority's water supply funding budget. It has been evaluating the most cost-effective means of ensuring potable water supply for the short-term, mid-term and long-term needs of the region's future. The message that no transfer is proposed of groundwater from wells in any member county to any other county was underscored throughout the meeting.

Consultants and the water management districts concur that sometime in the distant future, 20 to 30 years from now, expensive alternative water sources will need to be collaboratively developed for affordability.

When needed, alternatives to groundwater would likely include a proposed desalination plant at the Crystal River power plant and a reservoir for storing water safely withdrawn from the Withlacoochee River, as approved and permitted by the water management district and the Department of Environmental Protection.

Because alternative water supplies can take as many as eight years to properly plan for, design, permit and construct, Sullivan said it would be prudent for the authority to begin identifying possible corridors and sites, since an interconnecting system with diversified water sources will one day serve this region.

In the future, users of the water will pay for the bonding needed to finance the alternative water system, not the general local governments. At the present time, however, the authority has no actual retail customers and water conservation programs are the most appropriate way of helping local governments achieve water use goals.

#### ON THE NET

Master regional water supply planning and implementation program:

[http://www.wrwsa.org/water\\_supply\\_plan.htm](http://www.wrwsa.org/water_supply_plan.htm).

Copyright [www.chronicleonline.com](http://www.chronicleonline.com). All rights reserved.

## **WRWSA chief: Water will stay in county**

By Chronicle

In a lively, well-attended meeting Wednesday, the regional water authority reassured the public that no transfer is proposed of groundwater from wells in any member county to any other county in its master plan update.

"What if one county is growing at a much faster rate than another county in the same region?" asked Gary Bartell, Citrus County commissioner and board member of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority representing Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties, at the monthly meeting in WRWSA's headquarters conference room in Ocala.

Bartell said Citrus County did not want to be a water supplier to another county because the other county was growing at a faster rate than Citrus.

"Is water conservation the same in one county as in another?" Bartell asked, as he referenced the growth in The Villages area of Sumter County.

"The Villages has installed conservation programs beyond those most cities have done," said Jackson E. Sullivan, executive director of the authority. "They are not going to have a problem."

Bartell also was concerned about other counties trying to become members of the authority because it is water rich.

"If another county wanted to join, the other signatories would have to agree," Sullivan said.

Richard Hoffman, board chairman and Sumter County commissioner, said The Villages was not interested in moving water, but in finding alternative water supplies.

"We have one well in place for the lower aquifer and we found it suitable for potable water," Hoffman said. "I see no need for The Villages or Sumter County to require water from any other county."

Bartell said he brought up the subject for public awareness because the word "transfer" caused worries.

Last week, Al Grubman, president of the water-watching group TOO FAR, raised concerns about the authority's master regional water supply planning and implementation program that is in development because he said it would transfer water from Citrus to Hernando County.

"In the 20-year plan, groundwater will not be transported across county lines," Sullivan said.

At the meeting, Grubman said the plan repeatedly described existing wells, potential wells and pipelines and a path to take water to Brooksville as a backup source, which, he said, was unnecessary as each county has a backup source.

If a pipe were in place, it would be used, Grubman said.

"The worst affront to Citrus County is to put a pipeline in and take it to Hernando County," Grubman said.

Sullivan said it was just a conceptual plan. Peter Hubbell, Water Resource Associates, said the plan is in its early stages for developing a framework for a regional system.

**From:** Diane Salz <[disalz@yahoo.com](mailto:disalz@yahoo.com)>  
**Subject:** Fw: EPA Moves to Tighten Water Safety Regs...  
**Date:** June 18, 2010 10:45:41 AM EDT  
**To:** Jack Sullivan <[jesull@comcast.net](mailto:jesull@comcast.net)>

---

--- On Fri, 6/18/10, Diane Salz <[disalz@yahoo.com](mailto:disalz@yahoo.com)> wrote:

**From:** Diane Salz <[disalz@yahoo.com](mailto:disalz@yahoo.com)>  
**Subject:** EPA Moves to Tighten Water Safety Regs...  
**To:** "Diane Salz" <[disalz@yahoo.com](mailto:disalz@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** Friday, June 18, 2010, 10:45 AM

## **EPA moves to tighten water safety regulations**

The Associated Press  
Thursday, June 17, 2010; 2:25 PM

WASHINGTON -- The Environmental Protection Agency is seeking to tighten rules protecting the safety of water in public systems.

A new rule proposed Thursday would call on water suppliers to make repairs whenever testing indicates the possibility of contamination. For example, that could mean when tests detect even harmless microbes, which could suggest a broken water main or other pathway that also might allow dangerous germs into the system.

Currently, water systems are required to do periodic tests and to make repairs if hazardous microbes are discovered.

No effective date has been set for the new rule, which will be open to public comment for 60 days.

From: Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>  
Subject: **Fw: Charlotte Sun Herald--Dave Moore: "Peace Region in Good Shape"**  
Date: June 18, 2010 10:24:01 AM EDT  
To: Jack Sullivan <jesull@comcast.net>

---

Jack,  
There's an interesting discussion on "regionalism" in this piece.  
Diane

--- On **Fri, 6/18/10**, Diane Salz <[disalz@yahoo.com](mailto:disalz@yahoo.com)> wrote:

From: Diane Salz <disalz@yahoo.com>  
Subject: Charlotte Sun Herald--Dave Moore: "Peace Region in Good Shape"  
To: "Diane Salz" <[disalz@yahoo.com](mailto:disalz@yahoo.com)>  
Date: Friday, June 18, 2010, 10:22 AM

**06/18/10**

### **Water district has region in good shape**

**OUR POSITION:** *Water district policies working, but challenges remain.*

Anyone who thinks Southwest Florida communities are going to refight the water wars that raged in the Tampa Bay area a decade ago should sit down with David Moore for an hour. The executive director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District is a straight-shooter with a deep well of knowledge about water policy and he isn't going to let local disagreements spark a larger conflagration.

We had a chance to chat with Moore and several of his staffers this week and came away confident in the direction the region is headed and encouraged about planning for the next inevitable growth spurt. We're less in tune with Moore and Swiftmud on the topic of numeric standards for water pollution, but see value in a couple suggestions the district has for new Environmental Protection Agency regulations set to be issued in October.

The Tampa Bay water wars led to the creation of a new regional water provider, the state's first desalinization plant and a model for addressing water supply needs for far-flung communities growing at disparate rates. The experience has been one of the driving forces behind a district (and statewide) push for regionalism.

In theory, the policy promotes developing water supplies where they cost taxpayers the least and delivering them to where they are needed through interconnected pipelines and interlocal agreements. In practice, regionalism is a little more complicated. Local governments crave independence, especially when it comes to utilities because they feel the heat when rates roil constituents. Communities that are better situated geographically, better funded or planned better to meet water demand tend to resent district investments in areas where location, tax base and politics are less conducive to infrastructure investment. Votes on regional boards tend to reflect those feelings, as does pressure from state leaders intent on keeping millage rates low regardless of water supply needs. Moore is committed to working through such practical challenges.

The economic downturn of recent years had the fortunate effect of extending the timetable for developing new water supplies. With the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority's new six billion gallon reservoir now filled and the Intermediate aquifer available for new wells to supply limited demand (such as Punta Gorda's planned reverse osmosis plant), the depleted Floridan aquifer is now regaining some of its historic levels. While talk of a second desal plant has been bubbling for nearly a decade, Moore now believes it will be closer to 2050 before another one is needed along Florida's Gulf Coast.

The district recently reached a milestone with the establishment of minimum flows and levels for the entire Peace River. The lengthy process is timely today because of the EPA's push for pollution limits. Echoing the complaints made by many policymakers and lawmakers in both parties at the state and national level, Moore said the agency is letting the policy get ahead of the science. While he supports strict limits on pollutants such as dissolved solids, nutrients and bacteria, he said individual water bodies assimilate pollutants differently and a blanket approach would be costly and unnecessary. He said site-specific criteria should be established to account for plans already in place to improve waterways such as Shell Creek in Charlotte County. We think that's a reasonable approach, but if it means allowing state, regional and local governments

to continue to put off hard decisions to protect our economically and environmentally vital rivers, bays and harbors, we would reluctantly defer to the more heavy-handed approach the impatient EPA seems to be taking.

Water policies should be based on sound science, but we'd rather see higher pollution limits that can be amended after further study than wait longer for the regulations to get watered down by pandering politicians. Moore took pains to dispel the notion that water districts are politically insulated, but he underestimates the credibility the district has at its disposal. That credibility should be tapped to help convince taxpayers the bill for protecting our water has come due.



## **THE ISSUE 07/06: Water management district lifts watering restrictions**

By the Chronicle editorial board

### **Losing ground on message of conservation**

Earlier this month, the Southwest Florida Water Management District lifted its one-day-a-week watering restrictions that had been in place since 2007, replacing them with a two-day-a-week schedule.

According to a water district news release, the agency's governing board voted to lift the restrictions in response to significant improvements in aquifer and river levels as a result of this winter's above-average rainfall and the ability of some of the region's major public water suppliers to capture significant amounts of water.

The new watering schedule limits lawn watering to twice per week, with even-numbered addresses able to water on Thursday and/or Sunday and odd-numbered addresses able to water on Wednesday and/or Saturday. Watering for all addresses is limited to before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.

While the new schedule will come as a relief to homeowners with water-consumptive lawns, and it will allow all homeowners additional flexibility in their watering plans, the decision ultimately sends the wrong message about the need for conservation.

For the past three years, an extended drought has forced conservation measures such as once-a-week watering, and has helped generate a conservation mindset that is perhaps more important for the long term than the specific watering rules.

Unfortunately, lifting restrictions sends a message that stringent conservation measures are only necessary during a drought, and since we have had more rainfall, it is acceptable to use more water. We recognize that the rhetoric of the agency press release urges continued conservation, but as the old adage goes, actions speak louder than words.

With lawn watering accounting for about half of the water used by residences — and much more than half for residents with large lawns — limiting the amount of water used in watering lawns is the easiest conservation measure of all. While the once-a-week watering restriction has been widely violated, having it in place has been a constant reminder of the need for conservation.

Weather patterns are cyclical. This means we could have another drought at any time, groundwater levels could drop, and the agency could reinstate once-a-week restrictions. For this reason, it seems the water management agency could have considered leaving the once-a-week watering limit in place and offering alternatives such as more flexible watering schedules or extended watering hours.

Leaving more stringent restrictions in place would have continued to underscore the message that while more water is currently available, clean fresh water is a limited resource and we all need to conserve to assure an adequate supply of water over the long term.

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Citrus Daily  
July 5, 2010

## Property appraiser provides the numbers that drive county budget

Submitted by Robby Douglas on Mon, 07/05/2010 - 2:38pm.

Citrus County Property Appraiser Geoff Green says the preliminary estimates of taxable value were provided to the Citrus County taxing authorities on July 1, as prescribed by law.

At the same time, as part of the certification of the preliminary tax roll process, this tax roll is submitted to the Florida Department of Revenue (DOR) for its review and approval.

These preliminary estimates of taxable value are used by local taxing authorities to develop their respective budgets. These taxable values are the primary engine of revenue considered in the development of proposed millage rates for 2010, and together determine the ad valorem revenues available to fund government.

The Form 420 Data just released today to taxing authorities is summarized in the table "Gross Taxable Values – July 1, 2010" for all Taxing Authorities on the page following this release. The roll reflected a -4.1% decrease in values for the Board of County Commissioners, Library District, Mosquito Control District, and SWFWMD's general county district.

SWFWMD two basin boards, each of which have their own respective taxable values, the Coastal Rivers Basin saw a 0.7% increase, while the Withlacoochee River Basin saw the single largest decrease -9.7% in taxable values in Citrus County. The School Board saw a -3.9% decrease.

On the other hand, Crystal River this year enjoyed a modest increase of 0.3%, primarily due to annexations valued at approximately \$34 M. dollars. Both the City of Inverness and Homosassa Special Water District experienced a -7.0%.

The biggest factor affecting taxing districts is whether their district was affected by the Progress Energy complex north of Crystal River. Those that did, received a considerable boost this year due to Progress Energy investments.

Greene also said, "New construction for most of the county was not there to help offset dropping values this year. New construction in 2010 was only one-half what it was in 2009, and approximately one-quarter(¼) of what it was in 2008. The only bright spot in values this year was Progress Energy due to their investments during 2009."

Another factor affecting this year's picture was that Citrus County's values were under greater scrutiny by Florida's Department of Revenue (DOR), because 2010 was an "in-depth audit" year. This occurs every two years, and the state's influence is heightened during such audit years.

"Due to low sales activity in the commercial sector, the DOR itself actually conducted approximately 41 independent appraisals of commercial businesses' real property, which drove their opinion of our commercial values. Until our appraisers knew the result of these DOR commercial appraisals, we could have been facing widespread review of all our commercial values. We were only informed this past week that our commercial values were within the acceptable ranges to pass." Greene said.

On June 1, taxing authorities had been advised of the provisional estimates of taxable value for early budget preparation purposes as provided by law. These July 1st figures showed a very slight improvement over the figures provided one month ago to the taxing authorities as the value refinement process continues.

Greene said everyone that value refinement is virtually a year round process and values are not finalized any year until the completion of TRIM and Value Adjustment Board appeal period. "For the third year in a row, the days of

ever increasing taxable values are over. Virtually all of our governments in Citrus County will have no choice but to do more with less." Greene said. He concluded by saying, "My budget certainly reflects and recognizes the reduced revenues coming from values."

[Click here to download a copy of the Summary of Gross Taxable Value \(PDF format\)](#)



**e-Resource** is a monthly electronic communiqué designed to keep you apprised of the community and legislative activities undertaken by the Southwest Florida Water Management District and provide up-to-date information on important water issues.



Issue 51  
June 2010

To subscribe, email us at  
CommunityAffairs@WaterMatters.org

## Peace Creek Drainage District Legislation Signed Into Law

Gov. Charlie Crist signed House Bill 431, Peace Creek Drainage District, Polk County, into law. This local bill sponsored by Representative Wood and Senator Alexander dissolves the Peace Creek Drainage District and transfers all assets and indebtedness, if any, to the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District). The new law will provide the District increased ability to manage the Peace Creek Drainage District basin and thus enhance the oversight of an important natural resource. The jurisdiction of the Peace Creek Drainage District covers approximately 45,000 total acres, which are used primarily for agricultural purposes, and includes the Peace Creek Drainage Canal. The 34-mile long canal was constructed by the Peace Creek Drainage District around 1915 for the purpose of draining land for agricultural use.

"We appreciate all of the efforts by Representative Wood and Senator Alexander to secure passage of this bill," said Dave Moore, District executive director. "The District is committed to continuing the maintenance of the Peace Creek Drainage Canal to ensure continued flood protection for the property owners in the region."

The District's multiyear Peace Creek Canal Watershed project will identify projects that will restore lost basin storage, improve water quality, provide flood protection benefits and improve natural systems to this area. In 2005 the Governing Board and Peace River Basin Board agreed to take on the responsibility to maintain and, where possible, improve the water conveyance/storage capabilities of the Peace Creek Drainage Canal. The District continues to provide

aquatic plant maintenance in the canal and implemented a permanent spraying schedule. The District also continues to remove sediments in strategic reaches of the canal.



□ Peace Creek Drainage District  
— Peace Creek Drainage Canal  
.... Peace Creek Canal Watershed

## Governing Board Elects New Officers

The Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board elected new officers at their May meeting. Ronald E. Oakley was elected to serve as Governing Board chair. Other Governing Board officers selected include Hugh M. Gramling, vice chair; H. Paul Senft, Jr., secretary; and Douglas B. Tharp, treasurer.



Oakley of Zephyrhills was appointed to the Governing Board in June 2007. He is also co-chair of the Withlacoochee River Basin Board. He has served as the Governing Board vice chair and treasurer. His term expires March 1, 2011. Oakley is executive vice president of Oakley Groves, Inc., in Lake Wales. He has spent the majority of his career in the citrus industry and has experience in the caretaking, marketing, processing and transportation of citrus. In addition to his citrus industry experience, Oakley serves as director of Florida Traditions Bank in Dade City, and he is also a licensed real estate broker with experience in both real estate and land development.



Gramling of Plant City was appointed to the Governing Board in April 2008. He is also co-chair of the Hillsborough River Basin Board. He has served as the Governing Board secretary. His term expires March 1, 2012. Gramling is the executive director of Tampa Bay Wholesale Growers. He is also a member of several professional organizations, including the International Plant Propagators Society, the American Nursery & Landscape Association, the Florida Society of Association Executives and the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association. In addition to his nursery and landscape industry experience, Gramling is chair of the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District and has served on the Green Industry Advisory Committee, the Plant City Election Board, the Hillsborough County Utilities Water Technical Advisory Committee and the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association Research Committee.

*Continued on page 2 ...*





### Governing Board Elects New Officers *continued from page 1*



Senft of Haines City was appointed to the Governing Board in March 2008. He is also co-chair of the Peace River Basin Board. His term expires March 1, 2011. Senft is the owner of Townsend-Senft Consulting and Insurance, Inc., and is past president of the Florida Association of Insurance Agents. He has also served in numerous appointed and elected government positions on the Polk County Commission, Polk County Industrial Development Authority, Polk County Zoning Board, Polk Community College Board and the State Board of Independent Colleges and Universities. He is a past chairman of the Central Florida Economic Development Council and is currently the president of the Haines City Economic Development Council.



Tharp of The Villages was appointed to the Governing Board in September 2008. He is also co-chair of the Withlacoochee River Basin Board. His term expires March 1, 2011. Tharp is a retired industrial engineer. He has more than 15 years' experience managing large government contracts. He has more than 10 years' experience as an outreach specialist for the Penn State Department of Engineering, where he advised entrepreneurs and manufacturers on using technology to improve efficiency. Tharp serves on the Sumter County Republican Executive Committee and is the past president of The Villages Homeowners Association, which boasts 17,000 members. He currently serves on the association's board of directors and The Villages Homeowners Charitable Foundation, Inc., which raises money for local charities and disaster relief.

### Federal Update: State Revolving Fund Legislation Moves Forward

By a vote of 45 to 1, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce approved legislation (H.R. 5320) introduced by Chairman Henry Waxman to reauthorize the drinking water state revolving loan fund (SRF). The Assistance, Quality and Affordability (AQUA) Act legislation would reauthorize the state drinking water revolving fund, which serves as one of the main federal sources of funding for local water projects. The bill as introduced would have reauthorized the

program for \$13 billion over five years; however, it was reduced to \$4.8 billion over three years.

The bill also includes a requirement that EPA establish a program to screen drinking water for "endocrine disruptors," chemicals that have been found in drinking water systems. The program is modeled after EPA's existing program to determine which drinking water contaminants it will regulate. The Senate Committee on Environment and

Public Works has passed legislation to reauthorize both the drinking water SRF and the clean water SRF; although that legislation (S. 1005) has not been considered by the full Senate and has been held up over concerns regarding the clean water distribution formula and Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements. The House has already passed legislation by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to reauthorize the clean water SRF (H.R. 1262).

### Community Education Grants Available

Community members who want to make a positive impact on the water resources in their area may apply online for a Community Education Grant from the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

The overall goal of the Community Education Grant Program is to actively engage adults in water-related issues pertaining to conservation, protection and preservation. Funded by the District's Basin Boards, the program is intended to motivate

communities to get involved in watershed protection through various educational activities. These grants offer up to \$5,000 to help fund projects that provide communities an opportunity to learn about water resources. This will be the 14th year the District has awarded Community Education Grants.

To learn more, visit the District's web site at [www.WaterMatters.org/CommunityGrants/](http://www.WaterMatters.org/CommunityGrants/).

The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the District's functions, including access to and participation in the District's programs and activities.

Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the District's Human Resources Director, 2379 Broad St., Brooksville, FL 34604-6899; telephone (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only), ext.

4702; TDD 1-800-231-6103 (FL only); or email [ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org](mailto:ADACoordinator@WaterMatters.org).

**Southwest Florida**  
**Water Management District**

**WATERMATTERS.ORG • 1-800-423-1476**



**From:** Lou Kavouras <Lou.Kavouras@swfwmd.state.fl.us>  
**Subject:** June Governing Board highlights - FYI  
**Date:** July 2, 2010 2:20:18 PM EDT  
**Cc:** Joanne McClellan <Joanne.McClellan@swfwmd.state.fl.us>, Teri Hudson <Teri.Hudson@swfwmd.state.fl.us>  
2 Attachments, 2.5 KB

### **June SWFWMD Governing Board Highlights**

The June 29, 2010 Governing Board meeting was held at the District's headquarters in Brooksville. Here are some of the highlights:

- The Governing Board voted to allow the modified Phase II water shortage restrictions to expire on June 30. The Board's action was in response to significant improvements in aquifer and river levels as a result of this winter's above average rainfall. Also, the region's major public water suppliers have been able to capture and store large supplies of water to meet the needs of residents. The Board action reverted the District to its year-round water conservation measures for the first time since January 2007. Local governments may retain stricter water restrictions and residents are urged to check with their local utilities to determine what their restrictions are. Although many residents will have the ability to water landscaping twice a week, the Board urged residents to continue the water conservation practices they've learned over the last three years. Twice-per-week watering allows residents additional flexibility for determining when to water, and watering should only be done when needed based on recent rainfall and other weather conditions.

In other action, the Board:

- The recommended District budget for fiscal year (FY) 2011 was presented to the Governing Board. The current budget for all Basins and the District is \$275.9 million, which is \$23 million or 7.7 percent below the FY2010 budget. The FY2011 budget is designed to allow the District to live within its means and meet its statutory mandates, on a pay-as-you-go basis, without incurring bonded debt at a time of declining ad valorem revenue and state tax dollars. Ad valorem revenue has returned to the FY2005 level of \$160 million.
- Heard an update on staff actions during the past month in response to the January frost-freeze event in eastern Hillsborough County that resulted in about 750 dry well complaints and numerous sinkholes. The District recently concluded its work sessions with 16 invitees and technical experts. The Board concurred with District direction on multiple items, including: 1. A new allocation procedure for well complaints that will provide enhanced equity among permittees; 2. A series of measure to improve communications with permittees and the general public prior to and after freeze events; 3. Expanded data collection system including automated meter reading requirements for permits with frost-freeze quantities; 4. Increased use of alternative technologies such as tailwater recovery ponds, covers and foam, including use of the District's FARMS program to provide up to 75 percent of the costs. Also discussed were establishing a water use caution area with a minimum level adopted in relation to frost-freeze withdrawals and developing limits on new groundwater withdrawals for frost-freeze protection in the affected area.
- Approved the District's portion of a joint acquisition of the 57-acre Three Sisters Springs parcel in Citrus County with the city of Crystal River. The District will contribute approximately \$1.3 million toward the purchase and share an undivided fee title interest in the property with Crystal River with the District holding 30 percent interest and the city holding a 70 percent interest. The District will construct a stormwater treatment system on a portion of the property to improve water quality within Kings Bay and the Crystal River Spring System. The city and the District will engage the U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service to manage the property.

- Approved a District order that continues to delegate to staff the authority to act on all individual environmental resource permits, petitions for variances and waivers, and permit denials unless referred to the Board for agency action, and which delegates authority to act on all individual water use permits unless the executive director requests referral to the Board for final agency action. This year the Legislature passed a law that makes the delegation of all individual water use permits to staff discretionary, amending a 2009 law that made the delegation mandatory.

Lou Kavouras

Deputy Executive Director

Southwest Florida Water Management District

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## **9. Legislative Update**

**Summary: 2010 Florida Water Forum sponsored by the Associated Industries of Florida (AIF) and the American Water Works Association (AWWA)**  
**Orlando, Florida**  
**June 4, 2010**

Gubernatorial candidate Attorney General (AG) Bill McCollum was the only candidate for Governor to participate. Candidates for Agricultural Commissioner included: U.S. Congressman Adam Putnam (R); Rick Minton (D); and Scott Maddox (D). Senator Lee Constantine (R- Altamonte Springs), sponsor of the recently enacted "omnibus" water bill (SB 550) was luncheon speaker. Gubernatorial candidates Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink (D); Jeff Greene (D); Rick Scott (R) and Bud Chiles (I) were unable to participate due to scheduling conflicts. Approximately 500 people were in attendance.

**AG Bill McCollum** (R) candidate for Governor described a two-pronged water policy initiative -- for keeping groundwater flowing in Florida. He stated that he will sign an order creating a Florida Water Strategy and Action Commission, and will find funding for alternative water sources. With regard to water management districts, he stated that complexities need to be resolved on how we deliver water and long term supply, although he would not alter their existing boundaries. He stated that some water management district responsibilities need to be placed somewhere else.

**Commissioner of Agriculture** candidate **U.S. Congressman Adam Putnam** (R) is a former state legislator in the House of Representatives, with a strong resume in agriculture, energy, and government efficiency. Putnam stated that he has faith in interregional solutions versus piping water, and feels that the state needs to grow the "water pie" through water conservation and alternative water supply development. He supports the Department of Environmental Protection taking the lead on water quality matters vs. the federal EPA, the state taking better advantage of federal funding for water conservation programs, creating uniform measures across the state for water and reuse consumption, funding SB 444, and balanced representation on appointed water management district governing boards.

**Rick Minton** (D) is a former state legislator in the House of Representatives. His resume includes experience as an elected member of the St. Lucie County Soil and Water Conservation District, and has served on the Advisory Council to two Commissioners of Agriculture & Consumer Services. Minton stated that the capture and storage of water in a consistent and coordinated manner is key, that excess water must be shared across water management district boundaries, that agriculture interests can do a better job conserving water, county-wide water restrictions don't always make sense, and that water management district governing board members should be elected.

**Scott Maddox** (D) is a former City of Tallahassee Commissioner and Mayor, and is a strong advocate for new technologies. Maddox believes that water management district governing board members should be screened by a nominating council before appointment, similar to the Public Service Commission.

## **10. Attorney's Report**



**HAAG, HAAG & FRIEDRICH, P.A.**  
**452 PLEASANT GROVE ROAD**  
**INVERNESS, FL 34452**  
**(352) 726-0901- TELEPHONE**  
**(352) 726-3345 – FACSIMILE**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director  
FROM: Larry M. Haag, Esq.  
RE: Public Records Law  
DATE: June 1, 2010

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At the last Water Authority meeting, the Board discussed various issues relating to the public records of the authority and their availability to the public. As a result of that discussion, it would be my recommendation that all records of the Authority, held at the Hernando County Public Records Depository, would be available to the public for inspection and, if copies are desired, the cost of copying would be whatever rate is charged by Hernando County for copies at their Records Depository. The cost funds received from copying would be considered the revenue of Hernando County, and not that of the Authority, since they are providing all of the labor and machinery in order to provide the documents.

A similar policy would apply to records contained at the Authority's office at the Southwest Florida Water Management District since we would be utilizing their copy machines and labor to make the copies involved. It would be appropriate that the Water Management District charge whatever rate that it charges the general public for copies of public records and that all revenues received would be considered reimbursement to the District for the costs of duplication.

I believe that the above method would be the easiest since it would be somewhat problematic for us to set up any special fund to make change or otherwise deal with the handling of money for the cost of duplication even if in fact the Authority is being charged some nominal amount by the District for the use of its duplication services.

I believe the Board should have a policy providing, free of charge, any records within the possession of the Director unless a request exceeds a given number of copies, i.e. 10, in which case the cost would be as provided by Statute, which would be \$0.15 for the first page and \$0.05 for a copy of the back page of a two-sided document.

When a request for public records is made by mail, which involves the expenditure of postage, it would be up to the Board as to whether they wish to charge for that cost. I had previously expressed to the Board there may be a problem in charging for postage; however, I have found a 2<sup>nd</sup> District Court of Appeal Case styled Yanke vs. State of Florida, in which the 2<sup>nd</sup> DCA stated that an indigent prisoner was not entitled to records without copying or postage charges. I would therefore be of the opinion that the Authority could charge postage if that was the Board's desire.

I believe that elected officials of any of the member counties and cities, as well as their managers, administrators and department heads, should receive copies free from the Authority since governmental agencies commonly provide copies to one another without charge.

Once you have had a chance to review the above, please let me know your thoughts and I will put it in the form of a written policy for consideration by the Board as an adopted policy.

**HAAG, HAAG & FRIEDRICH, P.A.**  
**452 PLEASANT GROVE ROAD**  
**INVERNESS, FL 34452**  
**(352) 726-0901- TELEPHONE**  
**(352) 726-3345 – FACSIMILE**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Jack Sullivan, Executive Director  
Governing Board Members

FROM: Larry M. Haag, Esq. *LMH*

RE: Process for Adding a New County or City to the Withlacoochee  
Regional Water Supply Authority

DATE: June 29, 2010

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At the last meeting of the Governing Board, a question was raised as to whether all counties would have to agree to change the Interlocal Agreement in order to allow another county to join the Authority.

The answer to that question is "no", Section 373.1962 (7), Florida Statutes, governing water authorities states "Upon a resolution adopted by the governing body of a city or county, the authority may, subject to a majority vote of its voting members, include such county or municipality in its regional water supply authority upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed."

Since the issue of adding counties and cities to a water authority is prescribed by state law, the above referenced section would govern any additional counties or cities joining the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority. Although the new county or city would not be an original signatory to the Interlocal Agreement, which was utilized in creating the Authority, an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement would not be necessary in order for a new county or city to join.

If there are any questions with respect to the above, please feel free to give our office a call.

LMH/ss