



WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

Board Meeting Package

January 15, 2020
3:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

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

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

Board of Directors

Effective January 2020

Office	Board Members
Chair	The Honorable Michelle Stone
Vice Chair	The Honorable Stephen Printz
Treasurer	The Honorable Jeff Holcomb

Jurisdiction	Board Members
Citrus County	The Honorable Scott Carnahan
	The Honorable Jeff Kinnard
Hernando County	The Honorable Steve Champion
	The Honorable Jeff Holcomb
Marion County	The Honorable Kathy Bryant
	The Honorable Michelle Stone
	The Honorable Jeff Gold
Sumter County	The Honorable Al Butler
	The Honorable Stephen Printz
City of Belleview	The Honorable Gary Ernst
City of Brooksville	The Honorable William Kemerer
City of Bushnell	The Honorable Dale Swain
City of Inverness	The Honorable Ken Hinkle

Meeting Dates

The schedule of meetings for the 2019-2020 fiscal year are as follows:

November 13, 2019
January 15, 2020
March 18, 2020

May 20, 2020
July 15, 2020
September 16, 2020



January 3, 2020

MEMORANDUM

To: Water Supply Authority Board of Directors and Interested Parties

From: Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director

Subject: Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors Meeting

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority will hold a regular business meeting on **Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 3:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Center Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461.**

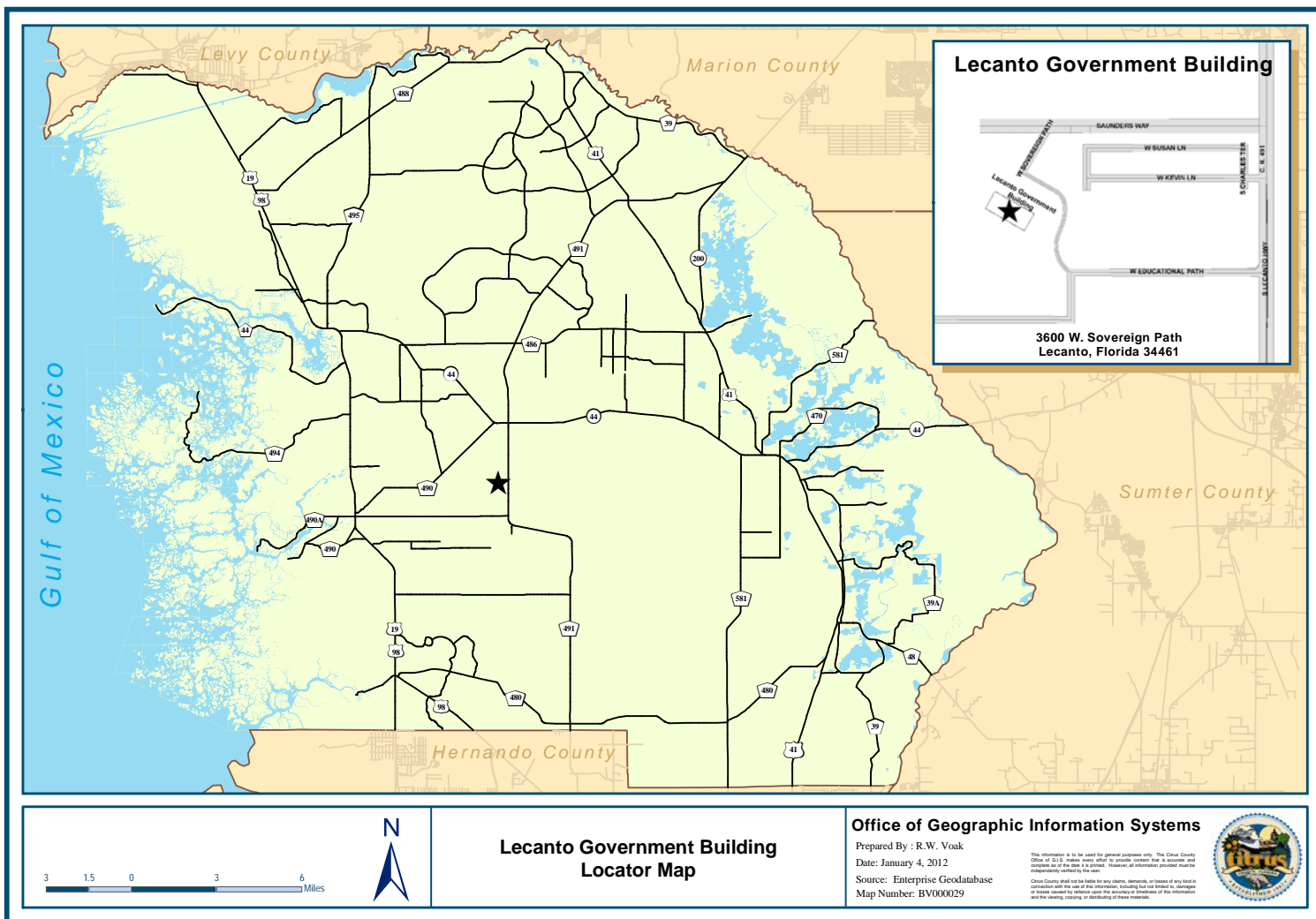
Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of the November 13, 2019
- Board Package*

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

Enclosures

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



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

From Brooksville:

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

From Ocala

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

From Bushnell

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

From Wildwood

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

LGB



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

A G E N D A

**January 15, 2020 -- 3:30 p.m.
LECANTO GOVERNMENT BUILDING -- ROOM 166
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461**

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

PAGE

1. Call to Order . . . Steve Printz, Vice-Chair	
2. Roll Call . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director	
3. Pledge of Allegiance . . . Led by the Board	
4. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA	
5. Public Comment	
6. Consent Agenda . . . Steve Printz, Vice-Chair	
a. Approval of Minutes [November 13, 2019]	9
b. Bills to be Paid [December bills in the Board materials; January bills to be provided at the meeting]	15
c. Staff Travel to the Professional Engineer Legislative Days	17
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7. Election of Board Officers . . . Board Members	21
8. Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget Amendment . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA	25
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10. Phase 5 Irrigation System Evaluation Program Status Report . . . Richard Owen, WRWSA	31
11. Charles A. Black Wellfield – Renewal and Replacement Fund Annual Report . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA	33
12. City of Crystal River Water Conservation Grant . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA	37
13. Legislative Report . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA	41
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15. Executive Director’s Report . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA	
a. Correspondence	45
b. News Articles	55
c. Other	
16. Other Business	
17. Next Meeting . . . March 18, 2020; 3:30 p.m.; Lecanto Government Building, Room 166	
18. Adjournment	

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

Item 6.a.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

DRAFT

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of the Meeting November 13, 2019

TIME: 3:30 p.m.
PLACE: Lecanto Government Building
ADDRESS: 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Room 280, Lecanto, Florida 34461

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

1. Call to Order

Chair Stone called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and requested a roll call.

2. Roll Call

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESIDING

Michelle Stone, *Chair*, Marion County Commissioner
Stephen Printz, *Vice-Chair*, Sumter County
Commissioner
Ken Brown, Crystal River City Councilor
Al Butler, Sumter County Commissioner
William Kemerer, Brooksville City Councilor
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilor

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Kathy Bryant, Marion County Commissioner
Scott Carnahan, Citrus County Commissioner
Steve Champion, Hernando Co Commissioner
Gary Ernst, Belleview City Commissioner
Jeff Holcomb, *Treasurer*, Hernando Co
Commissioner
Jeff Kinnard, Citrus County Commissioner
Carl Zalak, Marion County Commissioner

ALTERNATE(S) PRESIDING

Brian Coleman, Citrus County Commissioner
Alys Brockway, Hernando County Water Res Mgr
Jody Kirkman, Marion Co Environmental Services

3. Introductions and Announcements

- Mr. Owen said there are no additions or deletions to the agenda.

WRWSA STAFF PRESENT

Richard Owen, Executive Director
Rob Batsel, General Counsel (Gilligan,
Gooding, Franjola & Batsel, P.A.)
LuAnne Stout, Administrative Asst.

OTHERS PRESENT

Debra Burden, Citrus Co Water Conservation
Suzannah Folsom, PE, PMP, Juturna Consulting
Gregg Jones, Brown and Caldwell
Joseph Quinn, SWFWMD Water Supply Project Mgr

4. Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Brown led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Public Comment – Chair Stone opened public comment. No audience members requested to address the Board.

6. Consent Agenda

- a. **Approval of Minutes** – The September 18, 2019 draft minutes were provided in the Board's meeting materials and recommended for approval as presented.
- b. **Bills to be Paid** Staff recommended approval of bills for October (\$20,606.30) and November (\$90,383.73).

Mr. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to approve Consent Agenda Items 6.a. and 6.b., as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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7. Executive Director Recruitment – Approval of Contract

Mr. Owen provided introductory remarks regarding negotiations held with Ms. Folsom, Mr. Batsel, Chair Stone and himself. At its September 18, 2019 meeting, the Board approved staff and the Chair to negotiate a contract for Consulting Executive Director Services with Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP with Juturna Consulting, LLC. The contract is largely based upon the existing Executive Director contract. Mr. Owen noted that, since negotiations continued into this week, a copy of the proposed contract was provided the Board at each member's seat.

Mr. Batsel presented this item and reviewed the proposed contract noting scrivener's items corrected. He noted that the key provisions include:

- Ms. Folsom will start December 1, 2019.
- Compensation for the Fiscal Year 2020-21, the first full year under the contract, is \$84,200.
- Compensation for the period December 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020, the remainder of the current fiscal year, is \$70,166.67.
- Either party may terminate the Agreement upon 90 days written notice.

Mr. Batsel reviewed contract paragraphs regarding days in office, communication with Authority member governments, and compensation (Board-approved cost-of-living increase based on performance review done an annual basis). Discussion ensued regarding cost of living index and legislative activities (contact with member governments and attendance at two water forums held each year).

Mr. Batsel reviewed contract paragraphs regarding commercial auto liability insurance, conflict of interest, and term and termination.

Mr. Owen noted the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget should be amended to reflect this contract and potentially the following item.

Following consideration, **Mr. Printz moved to approve the Agreement between the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority and Juturna Consulting, LLC for Executive Director Services as presented, and authorized the Chair to sign the Agreement. Mr. Kemerer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.**

Chair Stone welcomed Ms. Folsom as the Authority's Executive Director.

Ms. Folsom accepted the position of Executive Director and addressed the Board to say she is looking forward to working with the Board.

8. Extension of Present Executive Director Contract and Associated Budget Amendment

Mr. Batsel presented this item. At its September 18, 2019 meeting, as a part of approving negotiations for a contract with Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP with Juturna Consulting, LLC, for Executive Director Services, the Board also approved extending Mr. Owen's contract for a six-month period to provide assistance to the new executive director and ensure a smooth transition. A copy of the proposed contract was provided the Board at each member's seat.

Mr. Printz noted that he was not present at the last meeting for the discussion which occurred regarding the extension of Mr. Owen's contract. He said he felt the time period of six months seems too long. Chair Stone said there is a great deal of Authority history and recognizing that the Executive Director is the most constant going forward. She said the Board wanted to ensure Ms. Folsom has the support and resources needed to move forward strongly. Mr. Printz suggested an hourly would be appropriate.

Following further discussion, Mr. Printz moved for a one-month extension with Mr. Owen available at an hourly rate thereafter.

Mr. Brown noted that he too was absent at the last meeting and six months is excessive. He then suggested a transition period of 90 days. Discussion ensued about the Board's previous action. In response to Chair Stone's inquiry, Mr. Owen noted that he would accept a shorter time extension but not an hourly rate. Mr. Batsel said it the Board's prerogative to modify the terms of the proposed contract. Discussion ensued regarding a transition period.

Mr. Printz withdrew his motion. He suggested a 30-day overlap plus 30 days.

Mr. Swain made a motion for a 90-day transition period. Mr. Brown seconded the motion.

Mr. Batsel reiterated he understood the Board to move for 30-day overlap and 60-day transition period; therefore, the contract will expire on February 28, 2020. Ms. Brockway noted that this overlap covers only one Board meeting. Mr. Kemerer expressed his concern about an upcoming new utility personnel and Mr. Owen's knowledge base for these staff.

Chair Stone called the question and the Board approved the Amendment to the Agreement between the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority and Owen Consulting Services, Inc. for Executive Director Services, as amended to expire on February 28, 2020; and authorized the Chair to sign the Amendment. Three dissenting votes to the motion: Chair Stone, Mr. Kemerer and Ms. Brockway.

Mr. Owen accepted the amended contract.

Mr. Owen noted the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget should be amended to reflect the additional cost of these two contracts. The associated budget amendment and resolution will be presented to the Board at its January meeting.

9. Regional Water Supply Plan

Mr. Gregg Jones, Brown and Caldwell, presented this item. The Authority entered into a cooperative funding agreement with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) in March 2018 for Regional Water Supply Plan Update project. The Authority entered into a contract with Cardno, Inc. in April 2018 to undertake the project. With the assistance of the SWFWMD, St. Johns River Water Management District, and a Technical Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from member governments and public supply utilities in the four-county region, the Plan Update has been completed. A copy of the Final Draft Regional Water Supply Plan Update was provided to each Board member.

Mr. Jones provided an overview of the final draft report using a powerpoint presentation (available on the Authority's website). The report compares water resource demand for the year 2015 compared to 2040. Mr. Owen noted that the Alliance for Water Efficiency provides a critical tool which required Cardno, Inc. to become a member (\$10,000) for access. He suggested the Authority continue its membership (\$500).

Discussion ensued with Mr. Jones answering Board inquiries and providing clarification. In response to an inquiry regarding coordination, Mr. Joseph Quinn, SWFWMD Water Supply Project Manager, noted that the water management district and Department of Environmental Protection meet regularly regarding permitting, regulation and data collection which feeds into long-range planning efforts.

In response to Chair Stone's questions, Mr. Quinn noted the cooperative funding initiative efforts spearhead regional solutions for issues over localized areas. He said there is more collaboration in the northern area (Levy and Marion counties) and noted there was a coordination meeting today with Suwannee River and St. Johns River Water Management Districts. Mr. Owen said this is driven by MFLs for the SRWMD river systems due to impacts from withdrawals in the Jacksonville area

(SJRWMD). Mr. Quinn said the SWFWMD is partnering with the SJRWMD to do more collaboration for issues crossing jurisdictional boundaries to do more distinct modeling.

In response to Mr. Printz's inquiry regarding planning for 2020 to 2030, Mr. Owen said that the SWFWMD Executive Director has reached out to the Authority, Marion County, The Villages and City of Wildwood to discuss opportunities since that area is where limits are occurring and causing costs to increase. He noted that each entity has its own plan and is aware of this plan.

Chair Stone said the Board appreciates Mr. Jones' work. Mr. Owen recognized Mr. David Kelly with Cardno, Inc., that, although not present, he thanked him for his contributions.

Mr. Printz moved to accept the Final Draft Regional Water Supply Plan Update and authorize submittal to the SWFWMD. Ms. Brockway seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

10. Charles A. Black Wellfield Fiscal Year 2018-19 Revenues

Mr. Owen said the end of Fiscal Year 2018-19 represented the third full year operating under the revised Water Supply Contract with Citrus County. The purpose of this agenda item is to report to the Board the status of water sales to Citrus County and revenues for the fiscal year. The table summarizing quantities of water sold and revenues for FY 2018-19 was provided in the Board's meeting materials. Mr. Owen noted there is a slight cost-of-living adjustment to the rate and it is consistent with Citrus County's own adjustments. He reviewed the permitted quantities compared to actual amount pumped and, due to conservation, this permit is expected to stay within permitted quantities.

This was an information item only and no Board action was required.

11. Minimum Flows and Levels – Priority Lists and Schedules

Mr. Owen said the purpose of this item is to provide a status report to the Board of the establishment of minimum flows and levels (MFLs) in the Authority's four-county area. Chapter 373, Florida Statutes, requires each of the water management districts to have a Priority List and Schedule for the establishment of MFLs. The Priority List and Schedule identifies water bodies for which the District plans to establish minimum flows and levels and also identifies planned water reservations. Minimum flows and levels are limits set by the District Governing Board for surface waters and groundwater systems that are intended to prevent significant harm to the water resources or ecology of the area that may be caused by water withdrawals. Reservations set aside water from withdrawals for the protection of fish and wildlife or public health and safety. The Districts are required to update this List and Schedule each year and provide the updated List to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) by November 15th.

Included in the Board's meeting materials are the MFLs established to-date and the proposed Priority Lists and Schedules for waterbodies within the WRWSA four-county area that are to be approved by the water management district governing boards for submittal to the DEP in November.

Mr. Owen noted that he attended the SWFWMD Governing Board meeting and the only one who spoke in favor of staff's recommendation on adoption of MFLs for the Chassahowitzka and Homosassa Rivers. He said degradation is not due to drawdown but to sea level rise, physical alterations, water quality and other issues.

This was an information item only and no Board action was required.

12. Legislative Report – Annual Legislative Priorities

Mr. Owen reviewed the draft 2020 Legislative Issues matrix for the Board's consideration and direction. He noted updates to the matrix regarding new governing board members. A copy of the legislative calendar was placed at each member's seat.

Mr. Brown moved, seconded by Mr. Printz, to accept the 2020 Legislative Issues as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

13. Attorney's Report

Mr. Batsel reported that, following review of the Authority's insurance as discussed at the last meeting, he recommends the Board maintain current insurance levels at this time. He noted that the City of Crystal River and Inverness have approved an interlocal agreement as to participation on the WRWSA Board. The City of Inverness begins participation in January and the two entities will rotate thereafter.

14. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Owen informed the Board of the item's provided in the Board's meeting materials.

- a. **Correspondence**
- b. **News Articles**
- c. **Other** – None

15. Other Business

- As this is Mr. Brown's last meeting, the Board thanked him for his seven years of service representing the City of Crystal River. Mr. Brown said addressing water needs for the coming years is important and the Authority has the responsibility of this asset.
- As this is Mr. Owen's last meeting as Executive Director, the Board thanked him for his service and leadership. Mr. Printz noted that Mr. Owen led the Authority through some tumultuous time and now things have calmed. Mr. Owen thanked the Board for its support.

16. Next Meeting Time and Location

- Next Regular Board Meeting – January 15, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166. Chair Stone said she will be absent and therefore this meeting is her last one as chair. She noted that election of officers will be held.

17. Adjournment – Chair Stone adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

Michelle Stone, Chair

Richard S. Owen, Executive Director

Item 6.b.

Consent Agenda

Bills to be Paid

**December bills in the meeting materials;
January bills to be provided at meeting.**

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228, Lecanto, Florida 34461

Bills For Payment
12/19/2019

<u>Administrative Invoices</u>	<u>Invoice Number(s)</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Richard S. Owen, AICP, Executive Director	2019-11	12/5/2019	\$6,738.79
Rob Batsel, General Counsel	51371 51419	12/6/2019	\$3,055.00
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Asst (Services)	11-Nov-19	12/2/2019	\$3,125.00
Karen Allen (Web Maintenance)	118	12/5/2019	\$100.00
Sun Trust Business Card Statement	12.2.2018	12/2/2019	\$347.38
Total Administrative Invoices			\$13,366.17

<u>Water Supply Studies and Facilities</u>	<u>Contract/ Budget</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Current Invoice(s)</u>
General Services Contract	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	
Work Order 2020-02 Weber & Associates	\$10,000.00	\$9,682.50	\$125.00 (1)
Regional Water Supply Plan Update	\$299,940.00	\$4,031.96	
FY2018-19 Water Conservation Grants Program			
Citrus County	\$36,875.00	\$2,214.33	
Hernando County	\$48,350.00	\$8,039.35	\$40,310.65 (2)
Marion County	\$42,595.00	\$41,981.50	
FY19-20 Water Conservation Grants Program			
Citrus County	\$45,998.50	\$45,998.50	
Hernando County	\$48,350.00	\$48,350.00	
Marion County	\$33,095.00	\$33,095.00	
Crystal River	\$9,090.00	\$9,090.00	
Phase 4 Irrigation Program	\$200,000.00	\$60,439.78	
Phase 5 Irrigation Program	\$145,000.00	\$59,161.13	\$5,505.52 (3)
Total Project Invoices	\$994,293.50	\$397,084.05	\$45,941.17
Total Bills to be Paid			\$59,307.34

State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA2 to SBA1	\$45,941.17
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA1 to SunTrust Bank	\$59,307.34

Notes:

(1) General Services

Weber & Associates Project 1910 \$125.00 Invoice 2

(2) Water Conservation Grant Program

Hernando County \$40,310.65 UTY19-073

(3) Phase 5 (Q040) - Irrigation Audits

Jack Overdorff, ECO Land Design \$4,905.52 Invoice 386
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Services \$600.00 Invoice 11-Nov-Q040 2019
\$5,505.52

Transfer funds from SunTrust to SBA Acct 311172

SWFWMD Reimbursement

N822 Phase 4 Audit Reinspections \$4,100.00

Item 6.c.

Staff Travel to the Professional Engineer Legislative Days, January 28-29, 2020

Suzy Folsom, Executive Director, will present this item.

The Florida Engineering Society holds Legislative Days in Tallahassee where engineers can interact with state legislators. After an introductory tour of the Capital building, and opening speaker, the attendees are split into groups and paired up with Legislators by region. The delegation for Region 2 Group 3 will include: Representatives Massullo, Clemons, Stone and Stevenson, and Senators Perry and Hutson. Staff attendance allows interaction directly with members of the legislative delegation that participate in this event.

It is recommended that Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Governmental Executive Director, be authorized to attend this year's forum. Estimated costs include Lodging (with parking): \$135; Registration: \$150; Mileage: 176 miles X 2= 352 miles X .445 = \$156.64; and Meals: \$72 for a total estimated cost of \$513.64. There are adequate funds budgeted for this purpose.

Staff Recommendation:

Board approval for Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, to attend this year's Professional Engineer Legislative Days for an estimated cost of \$513.64.

Item 6.d.

Staff Travel to the 2020 Winter Water Seminar, February 18-19, 2020

Suzy Folsom, Executive Director, will present this item.

The Florida Engineering Society holds an annual Winter Water Seminar where leaders in the water industry convene to discuss the varied water issues confronting Florida. This year's Winter Water Seminar is being held February 18-19 in Orlando. The 2020 Winter Water Seminar website states: *"This advanced seminar is designed primarily for technical staff, within and outside of government, including Public and Private sector Professional Engineers, Geologists, Scientists and Consultants whose practice areas involve water resources"* Suzy Folsom has been invited to participate on a panel of speakers representing WRWSA that will discuss the benefits of regional water supply authorities, including Peace River Manasota Water Supply Authority, Tampa Bay Water, Clay County Utility Authority and Toho Water Supply Authority. The event is well attended by regulators from FDEP and the Water Management Districts. Staff attendance allows us to interact with various stakeholders and to represent our region in these discussions.

It is recommended that Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Governmental Executive Director, be authorized to attend this year's forum. Estimated costs include Lodging (with parking): \$173; Registration: \$149; Mileage: 90 miles X 2= 180 miles X .445 = \$80.10; and Meals: \$78 for a total estimated cost of \$480.10. There are adequate funds budgeted for this purpose.

Staff Recommendation:

Board approval for Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, to attend this year's FES 2020 Winter Water Seminar for an estimated cost of \$480.10.

Election of Board Officers

The Board of the WRWSA annually elects its Board officers, including a Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer at its January meeting. The Executive Director is the Board Secretary who serves in an ex-officio capacity. Pursuant to the Election of Officers Policy, included as an exhibit to this item, the Board may entertain nominations for individual officers or a slate of officers. Typically, the current Vice Chair is nominated to become Chair and the current Treasurer is nominated to become Vice Chair. The office of Treasurer is customarily filled by a Board member from the county without a representative as an officer in the current slate of officers. This practice is informal, and circumstances may warrant nominations and elections to deviate from this practice. Also, pursuant to the Board Policy, the current Chair will chair the complete January meeting. The new officers will take their respective seats 24 hours before the next Board meeting.

Current Board officers include Marion County Commissioner Michelle Stone, Chair; Sumter County Commissioner Steve Printz, Vice-Chair; and Hernando County Commissioner Holcomb, Treasure. Citrus County currently does not have a Board representative as an officer. As additional background information, the following is excerpted from the Authority's Revised and Restated Interlocal Agreement:

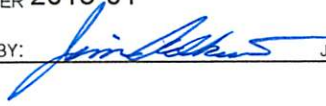
SECTION VIII. – Officers: The officers of the Governing Board shall be as follows:

1. A Chairman, who shall preside at meetings of the Governing Board; sign, as authorized by the Governing Board, any contracts or other instruments which are deemed to be in the best interest of the Authority; and perform such other duties incident to the office as may be prescribed by the Governing Board.
2. A Vice Chairman, who shall act in the Chairman's absence. The Vice Chairman shall perform such other functions as the Governing Board may from time to time assign.
3. A Treasurer, who shall be entrusted with the receipt, care and disbursement of Authority funds in accordance with fiscal policies and regulations adopted by the Governing Board.
4. If none of the above officers are present at a Board meeting where there is otherwise a quorum, the Authority Board may elect a chairman pro-tem for the duration of the meeting.

See Exhibit.

Staff Recommendation:

Board election of officers.

BOARD POLICY			
WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY			
TITLE: ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS		PAGE: 1 OF 2	
NUMBER 2015-01			
APPROVED BY: 	JIM ADKINS, CHAIR	EFFECTIVE DATE: 01-21-2015	SUPERSEDES: N.A.

The purpose of this Policy is to clarify and facilitate the election process for Board of Directors Officers.

1. Officer Elections

The Board of Directors shall elect officers from its members in the following order:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Treasurer

The Executive Director shall serve as the non-voting Secretary for the Board.

2. Schedule for Elections

Election of officers shall occur annually in January. Elections will take place during the beginning of the Board meeting. New officers will assume offices twenty-four (24) hours prior to the next Board meeting.

3. Procedure for Election of Officers

- a. Separate elections shall be held for each office. The Board shall complete all voting on each individual office before proceeding to vote on the next office. Notwithstanding, a nomination for a slate of officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer) may be made prior to the Chair accepting nominations for the office of Chair.
- b. Nominations for new officers shall be made orally.
- c. When everyone has had a reasonable opportunity to nominate, the Chair will accept a motion to close nominations.
- d. The Chair shall then proceed to put the nomination(s) to vote. If there is only one nomination for an individual office, or a slate of officers (Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer) is nominated, the Chair shall call for a vote orally. If there is more than one nomination for an office, the Chair shall call for a vote by ballot. Ballots must be signed by each member when voting.
- e. The Executive Director, with the assistance of the General Counsel, shall count the ballots, and the Chair will announce the results.
- f. Elections shall be determined by a majority.
- g. Should no candidate receive a majority on the first ballot, voting will continue with subsequent ballots until one candidate is elected. In the event three or more candidates are on the ballot, the names of all candidates will remain on subsequent ballots.
- h. If a candidate is present and does not decline, or if a candidate is absent but has consented to the candidacy, the candidate is elected. If the candidate is absent, has not consented to be a candidate and does not immediately decline upon being notified, the

BOARD POLICY WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY			
TITLE: ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS NUMBER 2015-01		PAGE: 2 OF 2	
APPROVED BY:	JIM ADKINS, CHAIR	EFFECTIVE DATE: 01-21-2015	SUPERSEDES: N.A.

candidate is elected. If a person declines election, there is a failure to elect, and the Board may proceed to continue the election.

- i. Elections will be held in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*, except as otherwise specified above.

4. Terms of Office

Board members elected to office will hold office until the next election of officers is held, unless the office is vacated. Officers serve one-year terms. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

5. Filling Vacancies

A vacancy in any office shall be filled at the meeting of the Board of Directors at which the vacancy occurs or the next meeting after the vacancy occurs unless delayed to a date certain by action of the Board. In case of disability, resignation, non-reappointment or death of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall become the chair for the remainder of the Chair's term.

6. Practice of Rotating Offices

It is the practice of the Board to rotate offices among the Board representatives from each county, such that three of the four counties comprising the Authority have a representative as an officer (Chair, Vice Chair or Treasurer) of the Board. Typically, the current Vice Chair is nominated to become Chair and the current Treasurer is nominated to become Vice Chair. The office of Treasurer is customarily filled by a Board member from the county without a representative as an officer in the current slate of officers. This practice is informal and circumstances may warrant nominations and elections to deviate from this practice.

AUTHORITY: Chapter 373, Florida Statutes

REFERENCE: Section 286.011, Florida Statutes (Government in the Sunshine Law)
Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, Eleventh Edition (2011)

Item 8

Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget Amendment

Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, will present this item.

The Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (FY 2019-20) budget should be amended to reflect the agreed upon compensation for the new executive director and the cost of having Mr. Owen continue for an additional two-month period. The total FY 2019-20 budget for the Executive Director is \$80,000. Mr. Owen, under his existing contract, has or will bill the Authority for services from 10/2019 through 12/2019 in the amount of \$20,000. The total cost for the new executive director for the current fiscal year (12/2019 through 09/2020), is \$70,166.67. The cost of Mr. Owen's two-month extension (01/2020 through 02/2020), is \$13,333.33. The net additional amount necessary for the executive director budget is \$23,500.00.

Current Annual Budget	\$80,000.00
Projected Expenses	
Owen Consulting Services 10/2019 - 12/2019	\$20,000.00
Juturna Consulting 12/2019 - 09/2020	\$70,166.67
Owen Consulting Services 01/2020 - 02/2020	\$13,333.33
Total Projected Executive Director Expenses	\$103,500.00
Net Budget Increase	\$23,500.00

Funds are available in Administrative Reserves for this purpose. A Board Resolution amending the budget is included as an exhibit.

See Exhibit – Resolution 2020-01 Amending the FY 2019-20 Budget to Increase Executive Director Services from \$80,000.00 to \$103,500.00.

Staff Recommendation:

Board approval of Resolution 2020-01 amending the FY 2019-20 budget to increase the amount budgeted for Executive Director Services from \$80,000.00 to \$103,500.00.

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY						
Amended Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget						
Approved May 16, 2019 / Amended July 17, 2019 / Amended January 15, 2020						
	4/1/2018 Population Estimate	Comments	Fiscal Year 2019-20	Fiscal Year 2018-19	\$ Change	% Change
Revenues: Administrative						
Assessments:		Official BEBR Population Estimates				
Citrus	145,721	1,920 person increase	\$27,687	\$27,322	\$365	1.3%
Hernando	185,604	3,722 person increase	\$35,265	\$34,558	\$707	2.0%
Marion	353,898	4,631 person increase	\$67,241	\$66,361	\$880	1.3%
Sumter	124,935	4,235 person increase	\$23,738	\$22,933	\$805	3.5%
Total Population/Assessments @ 19¢/Capita	810,158		\$153,930	\$151,174	\$2,757	1.8%
Administrative Revenue from Citrus Contract		Based on Citrus County contract and Board direction	\$21,718	\$56,591	-\$34,873	-61.6%
Subtotal			\$175,648	\$207,765	-\$32,116	-15.5%
Carryover Administration Reserve Funds (FYE 18/19 Estimate) (SBA1)		See Attachment 2	\$553,358	\$575,100	-\$21,742	-3.8%
Total Administrative Revenue Available			\$729,006	\$782,865	-\$53,858	-6.9%
Revenues: Water Resource Development (WRD) Projects						
Phase 4 Irrigation Audit Program SWFWMD Matching Funds		Billings will be completed this FY	\$0	\$31,835	-\$31,835	-100.0%
Phase 4 Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		Billings will be completed this FY	\$0	\$15,917	-\$15,917	-100.0%
Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Program SWFWMD Matching Funds		Based on Project Schedule	\$29,000	\$72,500	-\$43,500	NA
Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		Based on Project Schedule	\$14,500	\$36,250	-\$21,750	NA
Regional Water Supply Plan Update SWFWMD Matching Funds		Billings will be completed this FY	\$0	\$106,245	-\$106,245	NA
Annual Citrus WRD Payments (SBA2)		Based on CAB wellfield contract minimum production charge of \$224,000 minus funds allocated to administrative revenue above	\$202,282	\$167,409	\$34,873	20.8%
Subtotal			\$245,782	\$430,156	-\$184,374	-42.9%
Carryover WRD Reserve Funds (FYE 18/19 Estimate) (SBA2)		See Attachment 2	\$808,271	\$952,989	-\$144,719	-15.2%
Total Water Resource Development Revenue Available			\$1,054,053	\$1,383,146	-\$513,467	-37.1%
Total Revenues Available			\$1,783,059	\$2,166,010	-\$567,325	-26.2%
Expenditures: General Administration						
Executive Director		Based on annual contract	\$103,500	\$80,000	\$23,500	29.4%
Administrative Assistant		Based on annual contract	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$0	0.0%
Legal Services		Based on annual contract:				
Monthly Meetings @ \$235/hr		6 meetings/year, 3 hrs/meeting = 18 hrs	\$4,230	\$3,000	\$1,230	41.0%
Other Services @ \$235/hr.		8 hrs/month = 96 hrs	\$22,560	\$10,000	\$12,560	125.6%
Special Counsel		No longer necessary	\$0	\$20,000	-\$20,000	-100.0%
Legislative Consultant		Leg / Staff Support Removed	\$0	\$42,000	-\$42,000	-100.0%
Advertising		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$800	\$1,000	-\$200	-20.0%
Audit		FY 2018 Actual plus 3% COLA	\$10,635	\$10,325	\$310	3.0%
Bookkeeping Services		\$500/quarter per Engagement Letter	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Liability Insurance		FY 18-19 actual plus 5% rounded up	\$2,650	\$2,530	\$120	4.7%
Office Supplies		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$1,200	\$1,400	-\$200	-14.3%
Postage		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$700	\$800	-\$100	-12.5%
Printing and Reproduction		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
Publications/Software		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$150	\$200	-\$50	-25.0%
Rent (Lecanto Gov't Bldg)		Based on Lease Agreement	\$2,048	\$2,048	\$0	0.0%
Registrations/Dues		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$1,500	\$1,900	-\$400	-21.1%
State Fees/Assessments		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$175	\$175	\$0	0.0%
Telephone		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$1,000	\$1,400	-\$400	-28.6%
Travel (Board Members & Staff)		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$5,000	\$6,500	-\$1,500	-23.1%
Web Page / Computer Maintenance		Based on FY 2017-18 actual	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Contingencies		Removed from budget	\$0	\$1,487	-\$1,487	-100.0%
Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures			\$199,148	\$227,765	-\$28,617	-12.6%
Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves FYE 19/20			\$529,858	\$575,100	-\$45,242	-7.9%
Expenditures: Water Resource Development Projects						
General Services Contracts		As Needed Eng. & Tech. Firms	\$50,000	\$75,000	-\$25,000	-33.3%
Local Government Grant Program		Based on Board Direction	\$137,530	\$130,000	\$7,530	5.8%
Phase 4 Enhanced Irrigation Audit Program		Contractor work completed FY 2018/19	\$0	\$65,000	-\$65,000	-100.0%
Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Program		40% of Project Budget	\$58,000	\$145,000	-\$87,000	NA
Regional Water Supply Plan Update SWFWMD		Projected Project Expenditures	\$29,000	\$212,490	-\$183,490	NA
Subtotal - Water Resource Development Projects			\$274,530	\$627,490	-\$352,960	-56.2%
Fund Balance for Water Resource Development Reserves FYE 19/20			\$779,522	\$755,656	\$23,867	3.2%
Total Administration and WRD Expenses			\$473,678	\$855,255	-\$381,576	-44.6%
Total Administration and WRD Fund Balances at FYE 19/20			\$1,309,380	\$1,330,756	-\$21,375	-1.6%
Combined FYE 19/20 Expenditures and Fund Balances			\$1,783,059	\$2,186,010	-\$402,951	-18.4%

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION 2020-01

**AMENDMENT OF THE ADOPTED BUDGET
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-20**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, the Board of Directors of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority held a public meeting on May 15, 2019, at which the final budget and assessment rate for general administrative, operating and project expenses for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020 was adopted; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to amend its adopted 2019-20 budget to include additional funds for Executive Director Services so that the outgoing Executive Director may provide support to the incoming Executive Director; and

WHEREAS, the previously approved FY 2019-20 budget included a total of \$80,000 for Executive Director Services; and

WHEREAS, the Authority Board desires to add \$23,500.00 in additional funds for Executive Director support services; and

WHEREAS, funds for these services will come from the Authority's Administrative Reserves account.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY:

Section 1. The Board of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority hereby amends its Fiscal Year 2019-20 adopted budget, to include additional funds in the amount of \$23,500.00 for Executive Director Services, and to transfer \$23,500.00 from the Administrative Reserves account to the Executive Director account, with said amended budget shown on the attached Exhibit, attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit A.

Section 2. This Resolution and a copy of the amended budget as adopted shall be posted on the official website of the Authority within 5 days after adoption and will remain on the website for at least 2 years.

Section 3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED in regular session this fifteenth day of January 2020.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WITHLACOOCHEE
REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

Attest:

BY Michelle Stone, Chair

Rob Batsel, WRWSA General Counsel

Pilot Water Sense Labeled Irrigation Controller Install Project Results

Debra Burden, Citrus County Department of Water Resources, will present this item.

The pilot phase of Citrus County's Water Sense Labeled Irrigation Controller Install project was completed between January and August 2018 as part of the utility's ongoing conservation initiative.

The project was funded in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District and Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority. The project has been completed on time and within budget. Staff will provide a summary of the major findings of the Pilot effort.

Staff Recommendation:

This item is for information only and no action is required.

Phase 5 Irrigation System Evaluation Program Status Report

Richard Owen, WRWSA, will present this item.

Phase V of the Authority's Regional Irrigation System Evaluation Program began in September 2018 as part of the Authority's ongoing water conservation initiative. The project continues through June 1, 2022. Phase IV of the Irrigation Audit Program is funded by and completed in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), Citrus, Hernando, and Marion counties, the North Sumter County Utility Dependent District (NSCUDD) and the Villages Community Center Development District (VCCDD). The total project budget is \$145,000, with the SWFWMD contributing 50%, the Authority matching this with 50%, with the Authority's match shared on a 50/50 basis with participating utilities. In September 2018 the Authority entered into a contract with Eco Land Design to implement key components of the project. The contractor is responsible for conducting irrigation system audits for customers who have been identified by the utilities as their highest use single-family residential customers and who have applied to participate in the program. Phase V is ongoing, and staff will provide a summary of the progress to-date.

Staff Recommendation:

This item is for information only and no action is required.

Charles A. Black Wellfield – Renewal and Replacement Fund Annual Report

Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, will present this item.

Citrus County has submitted to the Authority the annual report for the Charles A. Black (CAB) Wellfield Renewal and Replacement (R&R) Fund, documenting deposits and expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, the first two pages of which are included as an exhibit to this item.

This annual report is required by the Water Supply Contract between the WRWSA and Citrus County. Staff has reviewed this report, and has found that the report is consistent with the pertinent Contract requirements, which state in part:

R&R Reserve Fund Reporting – The County shall provide to the Authority an annual report on contributions to and utilization of the R&R Reserve Fund, describing the date and amount of contributions to the Fund, interest earnings in the Fund; and the date, amount, and description of expenditures from the fund, including the purpose of the capital facility replacement, renewal or major repair. This annual report shall be for the prior Contract Year and shall be provided no later than January 31st in the following Contract Year.

Expenditures included payment for planned replacement of emergency power generators as recommended in the 2016 Engineering Evaluation of the Charles A. Black Wellfield Report.

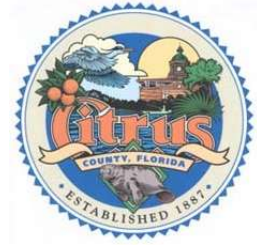
See Exhibit.

Staff Recommendation:

Board acceptance of Citrus County's annual report for the CAB R&R Fund, documenting expenditures and deposits for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019.



ANGELA VICK
EX-OFFICIO CLERK
TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Citrus County, Florida



110 North Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450
(352) 341-6424 • Fax (352) 341-6458
ssullivan@citrusclerk.org

December 11, 2019

Mr. Richard Owen
Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority
3600 West Sovereign Path – Suite 228
Lecanto, Florida 34461

Dear Mr. Owen:

Enclosed is a listing of the interest revenue and transfers to as well as expenditures Citrus County made from the renewal and replacement fund for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019. These expenditures were allowed by the Water Supply Contract between Withlacoochee Water Supply Authority and Citrus County, Florida, dated October 12, 2016. This information is provided so that your records may accurately reflect the change in the amount of this fund. The following is a summary of the transactions in the renewal and replacement fund:

Beginning Balance 10/1/2018	\$2,239,763.50
Deposit	180,000.00
Interest Revenue	34,372.67
Less: Expenses	<u>(801,292.89)</u>
Ending Balance 9/30/2019	<u>\$1,652,843.28</u>

A detailed report of the above activity is attached along with copies of the individual invoices. If you have any questions regarding these transactions, please call me at 352-341-6464.

Sincerely,

Susan Sullivan, CPA
Financial Analyst

Enclosures

Cc via e-mail: Randy Oliver, County Administrator
Ken Cheek, Water Resources Director

Detail of Transactions

Beginning Balance			\$ 2,239,763.50
Transfers In			
10/9/2018	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
11/8/2018	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
12/6/2018	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
1/7/2019	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
2/6/2019	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
3/8/2019	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
4/8/2019	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
5/8/2019	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
6/7/2019	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
7/8/2019	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
8/8/2019	Contractual transfers	15,000.00	
9/9/2019	Contractual transfers	<u>15,000.00</u>	180,000.00
Interest Earnings			
11/1/2018	Monthly interest earnings	2,434.80	
12/1/2018	Monthly interest earnings	2,201.83	
1/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	2,121.48	
2/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	3,188.63	
3/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	2,747.92	
4/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	2,862.26	
5/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	2,740.33	
6/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	3,091.38	
7/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	2,999.05	
8/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	3,339.47	
9/1/2019	Monthly interest earnings	3,068.63	
9/30/2019	Monthly interest earnings	<u>3,576.89</u>	34,372.67
Repair & Maintenance			
11/8/2018	EXPERT CONSTRUCTION - Emergency Generators	384,608.20	
11/8/2018	2193 BAKER DISTRIBUTION - Wallmount AC	2,693.87	
12/18/2018	EXPERT CONSTRUCTION - Emergency Generators	252,594.95	
1/17/2019	EXPERT CONSTRUCTION - Emergency Generators	52,247.49	
2/14/2019	EXPERT CONSTRUCTION - Emergency Generators	11,203.11	
3/14/2019	24558 RADWELL INTERNAT - VFD Booster Pump	3,122.69	
9/10/2019	0388 CITRUS WELL DRILLING - Well Repair	41,391.00	
10/9/2019	0388 CITRUS WELL DRILLING - Well Repair	18,365.00	
8/8/2019	11027 CORE & MAIN - Well Repair	5,524.03	
10/24/2019	1434 PAVE-RITE INC - 30" Watermain Repair	<u>29,542.55</u>	(801,292.89)
Ending Balance			<u><u>\$ 1,652,843.28</u></u>

City of Crystal River Conservation Grant Agreement

Mrs. Suzannah Folsom, Executive Director, will present this item.

The City of Crystal River and WRWSA entered into a Project Grant Agreement for 50% funding for the Crystal River Waterfronts Water Conservation Program on August 21, 2019. The project total cost is \$18,180.00 and the WRWSA portion is \$9,090.00. Crystal River also applied for funding through the SWFWMD Water Wise Funding Program and has been approved for that funding as well. SWFWMD and Crystal River recommend splitting the cost of the project 3 ways, or \$6,060.00 each. This would reduce the WRWSA portion of the funding by \$3,030.00. The Agreement requires board approval for budget changes greater than 10%. The proposed Amendment is provided as an Exhibit to this Item.

See Exhibit.

Staff Recommendation:

Board approval of an Amendment reducing the reimbursement amount from 1/2 to 1/3 of the project cost, or a reduction in funding from \$9,090.00 to \$6,060.00 respectively.

FY 2019-20
PROJECT GRANT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT WATER CONSERVATION
FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

PROJECT GRANT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

This Agreement Amendment is made and entered into this ____ day of _____, 2020, by and between the **WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**, (hereinafter called the "AUTHORITY"), and **CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA**, (hereinafter called the "GRANTEE"), in furtherance of funding assistance in the development of the "CRYSTAL RIVER WATERFRONTS WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM" (hereinafter called the "PROJECT"), to reduce the AUTHORITY's funding percentage and amount, due to the addition of a third PROJECT funding partner.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the FY 2019-20 Project Grant Agreement was executed on August 21, 2019, and

WHEREAS, the original PROJECT budget was \$18,180, and

WHEREAS, the original funding percentage was fifty percent (50%); and

WHEREAS, the GRANTEE has secured additional funding from the Southwest Florida Water Management District through the WISE program; and

WHEREAS, the GRANTEE, AUTHORITY and the Southwest Florida Water Management District have agreed to each fund One-Third (1/3) of the PROJECT costs; and

WHEREAS, the GRANTEE has confirmed that this will not affect the project completion date of September 30, 2020,

NOW THEREFORE, this amendment will replace the text in paragraph 3. A and B of the FY 2019-20 Project Grant Agreement with the following text:

3. PROJECT FUNDING:

A. The AUTHORITY agrees to pay, on a reimbursement basis, to the GRANTEE, the sum of \$6,060.00 of the proposed \$18,180.00 total budget cost for the PROJECT.

B. The GRANTEE shall pay PROJECT costs prior to requesting reimbursement from the AUTHORITY. The AUTHORITY shall reimburse the GRANTEE for One-Third (1/3) of all allowable costs in each approved invoice based upon the listed tasks contained in Exhibit "A", not to exceed the sum of \$6,060.00 as identified in paragraph 3.A. above. Reimbursement requests must include all documentation required by the AUTHORITY for proper audit review and the GRANTEE shall certify that the request for payment is appropriate and that said task or portion thereof has been completed.

FY 2019-20
PROJECT GRANT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be duly executed on the date and year first above written.

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER
SUPPLY AUTHORITY, a Florida special
district

ATTEST:

By: _____
MICHELLE STONE
Chairperson

By: _____
SUZANNAH J. FOLSOM
Executive Director

CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER, a Florida
Municipal corporation

ATTEST:

By: _____

Chairperson

By: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: _____
_____ for the Grantee

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

By: _____
Attorney for Authority

Legislative Report

Suzy Folsom, Executive Director, will present this item.

The 2019-2020 Legislative Regular Session is scheduled to begin in mid-January and end in mid-March. Staff has gathered information on relevant bills that related to conservation and water supply from the 1000 Friends of Florida, and the Florida Engineering Society's Conservation and Environmental Quality Committee. The attached exhibit is a summary of the bills and their status. Staff will continue to track the status of these bills, and report on their status at the March and May Board Meeting.

See Exhibit.

Staff Recommendation:

This item is for information only and no action is required.

Summary of Florida State Legislative Issues for Tracking

December 30, 2019

Bill Title	Significance	Bill	Sponsors	Status
Advanced Well Stimulation Treatment	Broadly bans fracking	SB 200 HB 547	Montford Fitzenhagen	In Committee
Land Acquisition Trust Fund	\$100 Million from Land Acquisition Trust Fund to Florida Forever Trust Fund	SB 332 HB 849	Stewart Altman	In Committees
Land Acquisition Trust Fund	\$50 Million Land Acquisition Trust Fund to Indian River Lagoon	SB 438 HB 489	Harrell Plasencia & Fine	In Committees
Discharge of Domestic Wastewater	Limits deep injection and ocean outfalls, requires reuse systems	SB 454	Rodriguez	In Committees
Stormwater Management Systems	Direct water management districts to adopt rules for standards relating to stormwater management for new development and redevelopment projects	SB 686 HB 405	Gruters Good	In Committees
Water Quality Improvements	Transfers regulatory authority over septic tanks from DOH to DEP	SB 712	Mayfield	Passed Committee
Aquatic Preserves	Create Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve but prevent infringing upon “riparian rights” of upland property owners adjacent to or within the preserve	SB 1042	Albritton	No referral, no House Counterpart
Fees/Bottled Water Companies/Department of Environmental Protection	Assesses a 5 cent per gallon fee to bottled water companies to benefit the Water Protection and Sustainability Program Trust Fund	SB 1098	Cruz	In Committee
Bottled Water Excise Tax	Imposes an excise tax of 12.5 cents per gallon water extracted for bottled water, deposit the fees into Wastewater Treatment and Stormwater Management Revolving Loan Trust Fund	SB 1112 HB 861	Taddeo Willhite	No referrals
Public Financing of Construction Projects	Requires a sea level impact projection study for public finances construction projects in coastal areas	SB 178 HB 579	Rodriguez Aloupis	Passed Senate Committee
Water Resources	Requires FDEP to conduct 5-year overview of state’s water resources	SB 690 HB 147	Albritton Jacobs	In Committees

Item 13

Attorney's Report

To be provided at meeting

Item 14.a.

Executive Director's Report

Correspondence

ATTN: AGENCY REAL PROPERTY CUSTODIAN/MANAGER

The Florida Resources and Environmental Analysis Center (FREAC), under contract with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, has prepared the Florida Public Lands Inventory for 2019-2020. This publication is in partial compliance with Sections 253.03 and 195.073, Florida Statutes, relating to accounting and documentation of public land ownership.

This year the data pertaining to the public land ownership(s) are available through the Public Lands Research Program's website at:

<http://floridapli.net>

On the website, select the button, *PLI Code Look-Up* and type in the name of your agency. Select the four-digit PLI code that corresponds to your agency's name to view the results. Your agency's four-digit code can **also** be found in parenthesis on the address label of the envelope that enclosed this letter. To use this code to look up your agency's ownership data on the website, select the second button, *Agency Data by PLI Code*, then enter your four-digit code on the screen.

The ownership data are derived from Florida Department of Revenue's tax roll data. These data are provided to facilitate compliance with the statutory requirement. Each public agency is asked to provide county property appraisers with corrective data relating to their real property ownership annually (Section 193.085, Florida Statutes, and Ad Valorem Tax Administration Rule 12D-1.04). Please note that the parcel data provided are taken directly from tax roll information supplied to the Department of Revenue by each county property appraiser's office.

Each public owner should review the ownership data and communicate any changes to the appropriate property appraiser's office so that the tax roll records will accurately reflect your agency's real property ownership.

Should you require a printed copy of your agency's public land ownership data, our office will make arrangements to provide you with a hard copy.

If you have any questions relating to the Florida Public Lands Inventory data, please contact:

The Public Lands Research Program
(850) 644-9292

or write to:

The Public Lands Research Program
Florida State University
Room C6140 UCC
296 Champions Way
P. O. Box 3062640
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2640

Sincerely,

Anthony K. (Tony) Roberts
Research Scientist, Public Lands Research Program
aroberts@admin.fsu.edu

2020-064 State Board of Administration - Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund (Florida PRIME) - (An External Investment Pool) - Financial Audit

FLAUDGEN_AUDRPT <FLAUDGEN_AUDRPT@aud.state.fl.us>

Mon 12/2/2019 4:02 PM

To: LBOLLENBACK@R2CTPO.ORG <LBOLLENBACK@R2CTPO.ORG>; LBOSWELL@TEMPLETERRACE.COM <LBOSWELL@TEMPLETERRACE.COM>; LBRISTOL@TAMPAPORT.COM <LBRISTOL@TAMPAPORT.COM>; LBURCH@SEWALLSPOINT.ORG <LBURCH@SEWALLSPOINT.ORG>; LCARISEO@LAKEPARKFLORIDA.GOV <LCARISEO@LAKEPARKFLORIDA.GOV>; LCHONG@PPINES.COM <LCHONG@PPINES.COM>; LDAVIDSON@MYBOCA.US <LDAVIDSON@MYBOCA.US>; ldelatorre@jwbpinellas.org <ldelatorre@jwbpinellas.org>; LDENNING@SEMINOLECLERK.ORG <LDENNING@SEMINOLECLERK.ORG>; LDOGGETT@LEECLERK.ORG <LDOGGETT@LEECLERK.ORG>; LEANNE.EVANS@PALMBEACHSCHOOLS.ORG <LEANNE.EVANS@PALMBEACHSCHOOLS.ORG>; leemanager@leeflorida.org <leemanager@leeflorida.org>; LEEMATHES@CITYOFAPALACHICOLA.COM <LEEMATHES@CITYOFAPALACHICOLA.COM>; LEIF@MYBOCA.US <LEIF@MYBOCA.US>; LEROY635@EMBARQMAIL.COM <LEROY635@EMBARQMAIL.COM>; LESTER.COGGINS@DISTRICTGOV.ORG <LESTER.COGGINS@DISTRICTGOV.ORG>; LEUTHNEP@OSCEOLA.K12.FL.US <LEUTHNEP@OSCEOLA.K12.FL.US>; LFANSTILL@CITYOFPUNTAGORDAFL.COM <LFANSTILL@CITYOFPUNTAGORDAFL.COM>; LGALEANO@KEYBISCAYNE.FL.GOV <LGALEANO@KEYBISCAYNE.FL.GOV>; LHAPNER@GULFCOAST.EDU <LHAPNER@GULFCOAST.EDU>

The following report has been released by the Auditor General and may be viewed and printed by accessing our Web site (FLAuditor.gov):

State Board of Administration - Local Government Surplus Funds Trust Fund (An External Investment Pool) – Financial Audit (Report No. 2020-064)

In an effort to promote efficiency in government, we hope that you find that the provided Web site access meets your needs. However, should you desire a hard copy of this or any Auditor General report, please contact us by e-mail at flaudgen@aud.state.fl.us; by telephone at (850) 412-2722; or by mail at G74 Claude Pepper Building, 111 West Madison Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1450.



December 9, 2019

Mr. Brian Armstrong, Executive Director
Southwest Florida Water Management District
2379 Broad Street
Brooksville, Florida 34609-6899

Dear Brian:

It is my pleasure to provide one electronic and hardcopy of the recently completed WRWSA Regional Water Supply Plan Update, co-funded by the District pursuant to our Cooperative Funding Agreement No: 17CF1111100 for Project N945. I would like to recognize all the assistance provided by the District staff during this project, particularly including District Project Manager Joseph Quinn.

The WRWSA continues to look forward to working with the SWFWMD in future water resource and water supply development projects. Again, thanks to you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Owen, AICP
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: WRWSA Board of Directors
Suzannah J. Folsom
Joseph Quinn



December 6, 2019

RECEIVED DEC 23 2019

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

Dear Richard:

Thank you for your membership and active participation in the Alliance for Water Efficiency.

Our 2030 Vision describes a world in which water is managed proactively, efficiently, and sustainably from the water provider to the tap and back into our waterways. In 2019, we worked towards this vision by promoting indoor and outdoor water efficiency in the commercial and industrial, and residential sectors. We continued to encourage best practices in conservation and efficiency planning, advocated for water efficient policies at the federal and local levels, and released groundbreaking research that explores untapped potential for water savings. Our membership network grew to nearly 500 members, allowing our work to influence even more communities. Your support and partnership allowed AWE to:

- Launch a new website for streamlined access to information and member only resources.
- Educate professionals on a number of topics including landscape transformation research and programs, residential leak detection, water loss, customer communication, and AMI purchasing and management.
- Release a national version of the Practical Plumbing Handbook, designed to help people repair and perform preventative maintenance on the fixtures in their homes.
- Release a two-year Landscape Transformation Study assessing water utility programs and market readiness, and develop a guide for water providers to create effective outdoor programs.
- Initiate a Cooling Technology Study to help utilities build a cooling tower inventory, estimate conservation savings potential in cooling towers, evaluate alternative cooling technologies, and generate resources to create effective water utility cooling tower programs.
- Help professionals from different sectors intersect to find innovative solutions to their water management challenges through meetings, newsletters, and webinars.

In 2020, we encourage you and Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority to participate in ways you haven't before. Attend webinars, reach out for technical assistance, or join a committee to collaborate with peers. Your partnership with AWE will enable us to work on new initiatives, such as:

- Research and programs focusing on commercial and outdoor water use, the water-energy nexus, and affordability to tie into conservation planning.
- A Learning Landscape curriculum and grant program.
- A Water Conservation Quickstart program.
- More member-only educational tools for expert and new water professionals alike.

Enclosed is your membership renewal invoice. If you'd like more information about getting involved, please email us at membership@a4we.org. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you further!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Ann Dickinson".

Mary Ann Dickinson
President and CEO

33 N LaSalle Street
Suite 2275
Chicago, IL 60602

OFFICE (773) 360-5100
TOLL-FREE (866) 730-A4WE
FAX (773) 345-3636

allianceforwaterefficiency.org
home-water-works.org





Alliance
for Water
Efficiency

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GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE REBATES

DEVELOPED 1st 

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DURING SMART IRRIGATION MONTH



RELEASED SUSTAINABLE
LANDSCAPE GUIDE FOR
WATER UTILITIES

LAUNCHED MAJOR
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AllianceForWaterEfficiency.org

2,000

PROFESSIONALS TRAINED THROUGH

9 WEBINARS COVERING
TOPICS INCLUDING:



- THE FUTURE OF INDOOR
WATER EFFICIENCY
- COMMUNICATION
- WATER-ENERGY NEXUS

1 NEW ALLIANCE FOR WATER
EFFICIENCY WEBSITE

INCLUDING:

- RESOURCE LIBRARY
- LEGISLATIVE WATCH PAGE
- COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL CALENDAR
- WATER EFFICIENCY JOBS BOARD



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3,390
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7-39%
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SIGNED

MOU

WITH THE INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING
MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION REGARDING
MULTIPLE SHOWERHEADS

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INVOICE

Date	Invoice #
1/1/2020	6231



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

Description	Amount
Annual Membership Dues Renewal-Water Supplier Membership Period: Calendar Year 2020	500.00
Total \$500.00	

33 N LaSalle Street
Suite 2275
Chicago, IL 60602

OFFICE (773) 360-5100

TOLL-FREE (866) 730-A4WE

FAX (773) 345-3636

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home-water-works.org

Payment Terms:

Net 30 days from receipt of invoice.
All payments to be made in U.S. Dollars.
Include invoice number on check.

Please make checks payable to:

Alliance for Water Efficiency
33 N LaSalle Street, Ste. 2275
Chicago, IL 60602

Thank you

AWE Tax ID #: 30-0416781



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G: P11 T631

Richard Owen
3600 W Sovereign Path Ste 228
Lecanto FL 34461-7718

Two legacies. One future.
Introducing Truist.



Dear Richard Owen,

Great news! SunTrust and BB&T have joined forces to become Truist, a company built on strong values and dedicated to delivering what you want from a financial institution. With our shared purpose and mission-driven culture, Truist represents the best in banking and even more ways to grow your financial confidence.

For now, you don't need to do a thing, just keep banking and doing business with us as usual. It will take some time to merge our operating systems. Until then, we'll continue to serve you as SunTrust, with the same great products and services delivered by the same SunTrust teammates you know and trust.

We've also got some exciting changes ahead, including one that will add more convenience to your life today. **Your SunTrust Debit or ATM Card can now be used at any BB&T ATM to make cash withdrawals, with no ATM fees!**

And more to come:

- Enhanced digital innovations for an even better banking experience
- More convenience and more branches to choose from
- Increased community-focused support and involvement

We're working hard behind the scenes to ensure a smooth, transparent transition. Watch for more communications as we'll keep you informed every step of the way. **Please take a few moments to read the important information on the back of this letter and in the enclosed brochure.** If you still have questions, please contact your local SunTrust branch or call us at 800.SUNTRUST (800.786.8787), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., ET. You can also visit suntrust.com/truist.

We greatly appreciate your business and look forward to serving all your financial needs as Truist.

Sincerely,

Kelly S. King
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Truist Financial Corporation
Former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
BB&T Corporation

William H. Rogers, Jr.
President and Chief Operating Officer
Truist Financial Corporation
Former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
SunTrust Banks, Inc.

TRUIST DISCLOSURE

Keeping you informed

Our goal is to keep you fully informed as SunTrust and BB&T move forward as Truist. In the coming months, you will receive additional information regarding how any changes will impact you. For now, please read the following information concerning your accounts.

As you are aware, SunTrust Bank ("SunTrust") merged with Branch Banking and Trust Company, a North Carolina banking corporation ("BB&T") and the combined bank is now known as Truist Bank ("Truist"). Although now Truist, we will continue to operate under the SunTrust name for some period of time until our operating systems convert to Truist systems. While we continue to operate under the SunTrust name, you will receive correspondence and notices from SunTrust regarding your SunTrust accounts.

AMENDMENT TO DOCUMENTS

Effective on the date of the merger, any agreement, disclosure, form or instrument naming SunTrust as a party, constitutes a valid and binding obligation with Truist even though the documents reference SunTrust as the party in interest. The documents shall be read with Truist in place of SunTrust.

The terms and conditions of any agreement, disclosure, form or instrument shall remain in effect unless modified or amended in accordance with any such provision contained therein.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING FDIC INSURANCE

Your deposits at Truist will continue to be insured by the FDIC up to the maximum amount allowed by law. Any deposits you held separately at SunTrust and BB&T prior to the date of the merger will continue to be insured separately for a period of six months from the merger date. Any deposit made to an account you open on or after the date of the merger at SunTrust is a Truist deposit for FDIC insurance purposes.

Certificates of Deposit (CDs) are insured separately for six months from the merger date or until maturity, whichever is later. In addition, if you have a CD that is renewed for the same term and amount during this six-month transition period, the CD will continue to be insured separately until the next renewal date.

After the six-month transition period, your deposits at the former SunTrust and the former BB&T will be added together for the purpose of determining the amount of your FDIC coverage at Truist. Your total deposits at Truist that are in the same ownership rights and capacity will be insured up to \$250,000.00. If you have more than \$250,000.00 in total deposits at the combined banks, you may call the FDIC directly at **877.275.3342** for more information about how your funds may be insured at Truist.

Consumer Privacy

Your privacy is important at Truist and we are committed to maintaining and protecting your personal information. After the merger date, accounts opened at SunTrust will continue to be governed by the SunTrust privacy policy up to the date of conversion of the operating systems to Truist. We will keep you informed as to any changes to the privacy policy that may occur upon conversion to Truist.

For any account opened after the merger date, you will still be able to manage your privacy choices for Truist to fit your particular needs.

Fraud Protection

Protecting your information and identity is our priority. SunTrust will never send unsolicited emails, phone calls or texts asking you to provide, update or verify your personal or account information, such as passwords, Social Security numbers, personal identification numbers (PINs), credit or debit card numbers. If you receive a suspicious call or if you believe your account security has been compromised, call us immediately at 800.447.8994.

Discover what you can do to avoid scams with the help of our security tools, tips, and resources on suntrust.com/security.

Item 14.b.

Executive Director's Report

News Articles

Florida Politics (FLAPOL)

Toilet to tap, part two: Recycled water proposal back to House

Will the Governor back this?

By A.G. Gancarski / November 201, 2019

Florida is known for its freshwater springs, yet a House bill would bring water of a different type to taps.

HB 715, filed Tuesday by Zephyrhills Rep. Randy Maggard, creates statute for “water recycling for public water supply.”

The bill would compel the Department of Environmental Protection, with technical working groups, to adopt specified rules for using reclaimed water, contemplated as a statewide source for potable water.

“Developing water sources as an alternative to continued reliance on the Floridan Aquifer and surface waters will benefit existing and future water users and natural systems within the state,” the bill contends.

Given that half of “reclaimed water” is used efficiently, Maggard’s bill sees room for and necessity for improvement given Florida’s “current and future water needs.”

“Water recycling projects require significantly more planning and financial investment than nonpotable water supply projects and these projects need incentives to be implemented,” the bill asserts.

What incentives those are remain to be determined.

Recycled water, including wastewater, would be treated and rendered drinkable. That would include treatment for pathogens.

“The use of recycled water may not be excluded from regional water planning,” the bill asserts.

Gov. Rick Scott vetoed a bill in 2018 that would have expanded uses for wastewater.

That bill contemplated chemically treated, recycled water pumped into the state’s underground aquifer, to boost aggregate supply.

“I do not believe that approving HB 1149 is worth risking Floridians’ confidence in our existing water quality regulatory system ... Florida has stringent water quality standards, and we are going to keep it that way,” Scott said last year.

Gov. Ron DeSantis, conscious of his environmental bona fides, could face the same dilemma next Spring if this bill lands on his desk.

A.G. Gancarski has been a working journalist for over two decades. Gancarski has been a correspondent for FloridaPolitics.com since 2014. In 2018, he was a finalist for an Association of Alternative Newsweeklies "best political column." He can be reached at a.g.gancarski@gmail.com.

Sumter County residents oppose Villages expansion over fears about water supply

By Marv Balousek / December 9, 2019

Several south Sumter County residents opposed annexation of nearly 10,000 acres at a meeting Monday of the Wildwood City Commission.

Commissioners approved the annexation after hearing concerns that development of the property by The Villages would deplete the state's fresh water supply.

The annexation, which includes an area known as Stuart Ranch, extends Wildwood's southern city limits to the edge of Center Hill, which is about seven miles east of Bushnell.

Although development could be years away, The Villages Land Co. is authorized to build 14,455 homes, 1.8 million square feet of commercial/office space and 110,000 square feet of office/government space south of County Road 470 under an agreement with Wildwood.

More than 2,500 people opposing the annexation signed petitions circulated by a group called Save Rural Sumter.

"Continued expansion of The Villages will cause our water supply to be compromised," Lourdes Toro-Rosas told commissioners. "When drought occurs, what will the result be? Water will no longer be flowing to homes."

She said commissioners have a duty to protect existing residents from the hazards of too much development.

Resident Bill Pownall said the area, which includes cropland, pasture, wildlife habitat and storm water recharge areas, was targeted for preservation by the state before funds were cut by Gov. Rick Scott.

He said more development will deplete the Florida aquifer, an underground river that supplies most of the state's fresh water.

"It's all about the aquifer," he said. "What's going to happen when we add the rest of these homes?"

City Manager Jason McHugh said more city review will occur before the land is developed.

"What we're talking about is just bringing the land into the city limits of Wildwood," he said.

McHugh also said The Villages is a better steward of water than other developers. Villagers use an average of 80 gallons of water daily compared to about 250 gallons used by residents of other developments, he said.

The former owners of the property approached Wildwood about annexation several years ago, but the city limits had not reached a point where it could be done.

Mayor Ed Wolf said if The Villages doesn't develop the property, another owner likely would.

If the state wants to preserve the area, then it should acquire the land, he said.

Too many boats, too many people have damaged Weeki Wachee River, study confirms

Study recommends limiting visitors and where they are allowed to help prevent future damage.

By Barbara Behrendt / Published Dec. 11

WEEKI WACHEE — Increased recreational use of the Weeki Wachee River has hurt the water quality and the health of the waterway, especially along the river banks and sandbars where increasing public activity has stripped vegetation and the soil that would support it.

Those are among the findings of a draft carrying-capacity study of the river released last week by the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The district and Hernando County funded the study in hopes of determining how much use of the river is too much.

Local officials are hoping for a \$6 million allocation by the state Legislature next year to restore the river by dredging silt and making other environmental improvements. Residents have raised the alarm for years that overloading the Weeki Wachee with boats and people was speeding up the decline of the river, which is designated as an Outstanding Florida Water and has as its source an Outstanding Florida Spring.

The long-awaited results of the study were welcomed by Shannon Turbeville, one of the leading river advocates who has worked to raise awareness of the crowding issues and the need for changes to protect the river.

"The data from the study would seem to confirm that our natural resources will eventually succumb to the effects of overuse," Turbeville said. "With the same amount of resources serving an ever-growing Florida population, the way we enjoy our resources must change so that future generations may experience what has been available to us."

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions of Tampa conducted the study, which examined the river from July 2018 to June 2019. The consultant used observations, water quality samples, public surveys, cameras and other scientific methods to examine the impact of human activity on the river and the state of the river and adjacent lands.

"The Weeki Wachee River is a popular recreation destination. Its growing popularity and increased visitor traffic have led to concerns about potential degradation of the river and its ecosystems," according to the study. "Preliminary site investigation suggested that exposed sandy beaches on river bends (point bars) have resulted, in part, from vegetation and soil losses due to recreational use."

Erosion builds on itself as trees and plants are lost along the riverbanks over time, the study found. Aerial photos taken over the years show that the river has grown wider at points. The study also showed that as watercraft and public activity numbers increase, so does the turbidity, or lack of clarity of the water, which is one of the river's most important features.

"Results from the social surveys found that the majority of visitors claimed to enjoy the river and recommended it as a place to view wildlife and crystal-clear water, and about 80 percent of them docked and recreated on point bars," according to the study. "However, many visitors

found the river to be over-crowded, and several long-time visitors noticed changes in submerged aquatic vegetation and an increase in the number of visitors over the years."

"It is evident from the result of this study that managing the kinds of activities that can occur on the river and limiting where certain activities can occur may be at least, if not more, important as capping the total number of daily users," the report concludes.

Adding recreational guidance signs and educational outreach about the ecological impacts of recreational activities were among the short-term recommendations. Another was replanting and reinforcing sandbars and shorelines, and limiting public access to allow plants to be reestablished.

Removing rope swings, allowing visitors to tie boats in shallow water away from damaged sand bars, and reinforcing river banks and trees were among the other suggestions.

The next phase of management options could include changes to operations, regulations and enforcement of recreational guidelines.

One idea could be to enforce the same rules downstream that exist in the Weeki Wachee Springs State Park, the river's headwaters. One of those rules — the ban on disposable bottles, cans and other products — "appears to have been effective at the state park," the study noted.

Another suggestion is to follow the lead of other protected areas throughout the state, which do not allow landing points along the river except by private property owners. A variation of that might limit docking to areas improved to handle that activity.

Replenishing sand on beaches at the state park's Buccaneer Bay water park and the county's Rogers Park also might be limited to protect the river.

Limiting some types of boats may help, the study found. They may be regulated based on size or whether they are powered by a motor. And limiting the overall number of boats is possible.

"After recreational activities such as docking and exiting vessels have been addressed," the study states, "then additional restrictions on the number of vessels can be further regulated."

The study also suggests creating a multi-agency working group to review the study results and management options.

Stakeholders are meeting next week to discuss the draft with hopes for a final report next month, said Susanna Martinez Tarokh, spokeswoman for the water management district. A public meeting about the study is expected in February.

"We fully expect for the public to be engaged, and there will continue to be a process throughout this effort to solicit feedback from the public," she said. "The focus will be to balance recreational needs and to protect the natural systems and functions of the river.

"As mentioned in the report, it is not just the number of users on the river. It is the cumulative effect of the activities of the users. The district believes both need to be considered together."

