



# **WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

## **Board Meeting Package**

July 21, 2021  
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 March 2021*

<b>Office</b>	<b>Board Members</b>
Acting Chair	The Honorable Kathy Bryant
Vice Chair	The Honorable Jeff Holcomb
Treasurer	The Honorable Jeff Kinnard

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Board Members</b>
Citrus County	The Honorable Holly Davis
	The Honorable Jeff Kinnard
Hernando County	The Honorable Jeff Holcomb
	The Honorable Eliza-BETH Narverud
Marion County	The Honorable Kathy Bryant
	The Honorable Michelle Stone
	The Honorable Craig Curry
Sumter County	The Honorable Oren Miller
	The Honorable Gary Search
City of Belleview	The Honorable Gary Ernst
City of Brooksville	The Honorable David Bailey
City of Bushnell	The Honorable Dale Swain
City of Crystal River	The Honorable Ken Brown

### Meeting Dates

The schedule of meetings for the 2020-2021 fiscal year are as follows:

November 18, 2020  
January 20, 2021  
March 17, 2021

May 19, 2021  
July 21, 2021  
September 15, 2021



July 9, 2021

## 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

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The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority will hold a regular business meeting on **Wednesday, July 21, 2021 3:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Center Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461.**

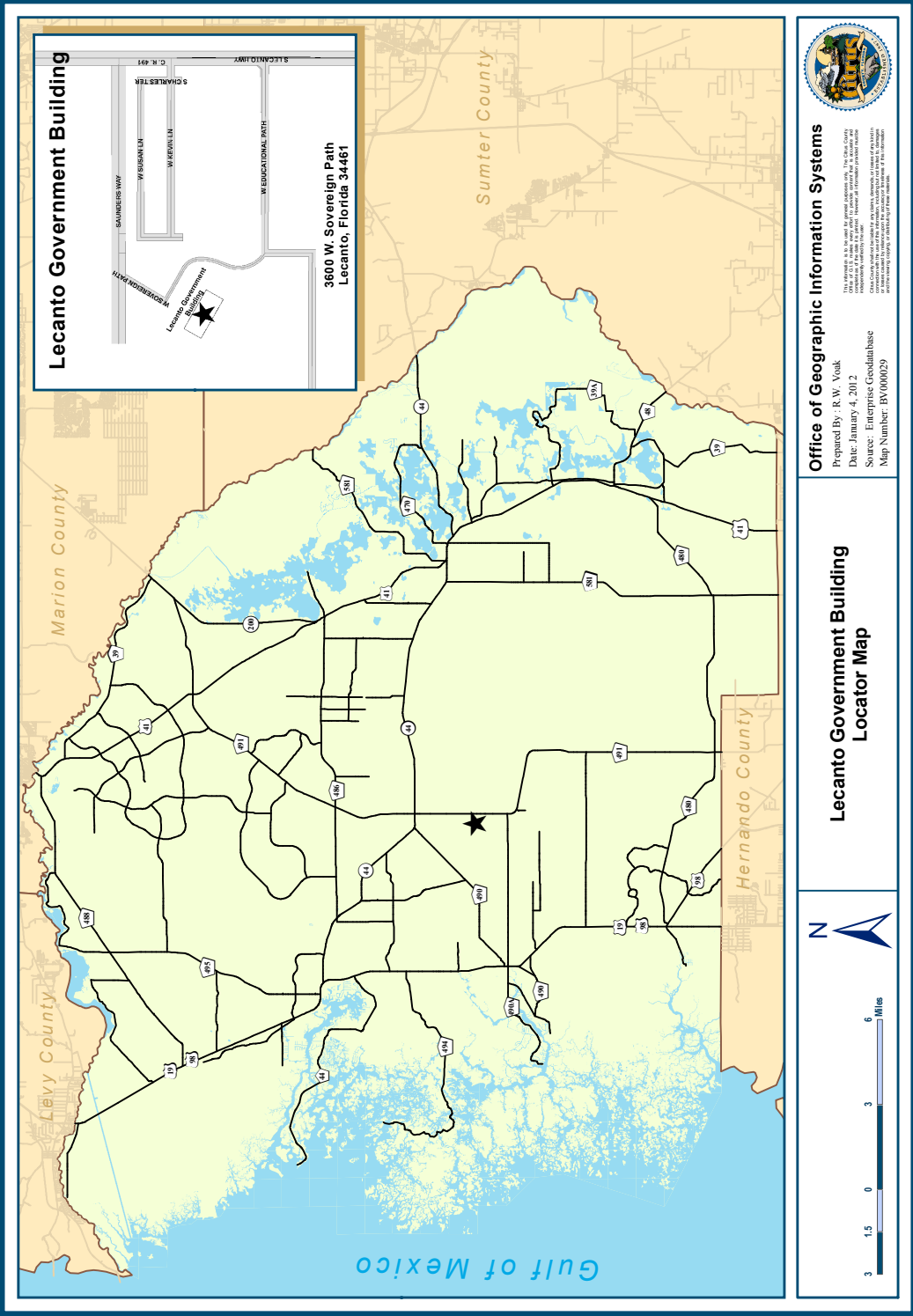
Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of May 19, 2021
- Board Package\*

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

### Enclosures

- \* Copies of the Board Package are available through the Internet. Log on to [www.wrwsa.org](http://www.wrwsa.org).
- On the Authority's Home Page go to the left side of the page and click on "Meetings."
  - On the slide out menu is a button for the current Board Package.
  - Click on the Board Package to download and/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 1<sup>st</sup> Left onto S. Broad St./W. Jefferson St.
- Turn Right onto US 98/Ponce De Leon Blvd.
- Turn Right onto CR 491 toward Lecanto (about 13.5 miles)
- Turn Left on W. Educational Path (traffic signal)
- Turn right at the Park onto W. Sovereign Path; continue to the right to the Lecanto Government Building

### **From Ocala**

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

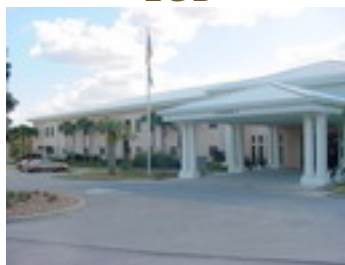
### **From Bushnell**

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

### **From Wildwood**

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

**LGB**





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

**A G E N D A**

**July 21, 2021 -- 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.*

	<u>PAGE</u>
1. <b>Call to Order</b> . . . Kathy Bryant, Chair	
2. <b>Roll Call</b> . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director	
3. <b>Introductions and Announcements</b> . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA	
4. <b>Pledge of Allegiance</b> . . . Led by the Board	
5. <b>Public Comment</b>	
6. <b>Consent Agenda</b> . . . Kathy Bryant, Chair	
a. <b>Approval of Minutes</b> [May 19, 2021] .....	9
b. <b>Bills to be Paid</b> [June bills included; July bills provided at the meeting] .....	15
c. <b>2021-2022 Regulatory Plan</b> .....	17
7. <b>Resolution 2021-03, Adoption of Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22</b> . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA .....	21
8. <b>Water Supply and Conservation Grants Program – Approval of Awards</b> . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA .....	29
9. <b>Legislative Report</b> . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA .....	63
a. <b>Bill Status Summary</b>	
b. <b>Senate Bill 64 Reclaimed Water</b>	
10. <b>Attorney’s Report</b> . . . Rob Batsel, WRWSA Attorney .....	71
a. <b>Executive Assistant Contract Amendment</b>	
b. <b>Other</b>	
11. <b>Executive Director’s Report</b> . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA .....	
a. <b>Water Use Permit Demand Summary</b> .....	75
b. <b>Water Management Information System Water Use Permit Notifications</b> .....	79
c. <b>Correspondence</b> .....	81
d. <b>News Articles</b> .....	93
12. <b>Other Business</b>	
13. <b>Next Meeting</b> . . . September 15, 2021; 3:30 p.m.; Lecanto Government Building, Room 166	
14. <b>Adjournment</b>	

*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 May 19, 2021

**TIME:** 3:31 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 Bryant called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. and requested a roll call.

#### 2. Roll Call

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, called the roll and a quorum was declared present.

##### **BOARD MEMBER PRESENT**

Kathy Bryant, *Chair*, Marion County  
Commissioner  
Jeff Holcomb, *Vice Chair*, Hernando County  
Commissioner  
Jeff Kinnard, *Treasurer*, Citrus County  
Commissioner  
Craig Curry, Marion County Commissioner  
Holly Davis, Citrus County Commissioner  
Oren Miller, Sumter County Commissioner  
Gary Search, Sumter County Commissioner  
Michelle Stone, Marion County Commissioner  
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilor

##### **BOARD ALTERNATE(S) PRESENT**

Ken Frink, City of Crystal River

##### **BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT**

David Bailey, Brooksville City Councilor  
Ken Brown, Crystal River City Councilor  
Gary Ernst, Belleview City Commissioner  
Beth Narverud, Hernando County Commissioner

#### 3. Introductions and Announcements

##### **WRWSA STAFF PRESENT**

Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP, Executive  
Director  
Robert W. Batsel, Jr., General Counsel  
LuAnne Stout, Administrative Asst.

##### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Frank Gargano, SWFWMD Govt Affairs Reg Mgr  
Jody Kirkman, Marion Co Environmental Svcs Mgr

#### 4. Pledge of Allegiance – Chair Bryant led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 5. Public Comment – There being no other members of the audience to address the Board, Chair Bryant closed public comment.

#### 6. Consent Agenda

- a. **Approval of Minutes** – The March 17, 2021 draft minutes were provided in the Board's meeting materials and recommended for approval as presented.
- b. **Bills to be Paid** – Staff recommended ratification of bills for April (\$39,915.27) and approval of May (\$26,453.71).
- c. **First Quarter Financial Report** – Staff recommended acceptance of report.
- d. **Second Quarter Financial Report** – Staff recommended acceptance of report.

- e. **Staff Travel to the Florida Chamber of Commerce Environmental Permitting Summer School, July 20 23, 2021** – Staff recommended approval for Ms. Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, to attend this year's Professional Engineer Legislative Days at a cost of \$600.00.

**Ms. Stone moved, seconded by Mr. Holcomb, to approve Consent Agenda Items 6.a., 6.b., 6.c., 6.d. and 6.e. as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**7. Citrus County Office Lease Agreement**

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

The current lease with Citrus County for office space at their Lecanto Government Center expires on October 31, 2021. Included in the Board's meeting materials was the proposed new lease with the County. The terms and conditions remain the same, including the annual lease fee of \$2,047.68. The lease is for a five- year period, expiring on October 31, 2026.

**Mr. Curry moved, seconded by Mr. Frink, to approve the Lease Agreement with Citrus County in the amount of \$2,047.68 and authorize the Executive Director to execute the Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.**

**8. Establishment of Proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget**

**a. FY 2021-22 Per Capita Rate**

Ms. Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, presented this item. Each year the Authority Board must approve a per capita rate for each of the member counties. The current rate of \$0.19 per capita has been in effect for eleven years, since the 2009-10 fiscal year. The per capita rate is applied to the latest county population estimates prepared by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, which prepare the State's official population estimates.

In the coming fiscal year, a per capita rate of \$0.19 will generate a total revenue of \$161,716, an increase of \$4,934 or approximately 3.1% from the current fiscal year. Ms. Folsom said she meet with the Board's officers as directed at the March meeting.

**Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Davis, to approve no change in the per capita rate of \$0.19 for preparation of the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget.**

**b. Proposed FY 2021-22 Budget**

Ms. Folsom noted that the Board approved the per capita rate of \$0.19 and staff recommended to approve the proposed FY 2021-22 budget as presented. Resolution 2021-03 will be presented at the July 2021 Board meeting to formally adopt the final budget, for general administrative, operating and project expenses for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022.

Ms. Folsom noted that each county will be sent a letter notifying them of the budget amount for inclusion in their budgets. Mr. Batsel will review staff contracts regarding salaries and report to the Board in July.

**Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Davis, to approve the proposed FY 2021-22 budget including budgeted expenditures in the amount of \$429,134, budgeted reserves in the amount of \$1,759,459, and a combined total amount of \$2,188,593, as presented; and three percent increase in salary for the Executive Director. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Folsom noted that staff will recommend approval of final budget and resolution at the Board's July meeting.

**9. Legislative Report**

Ms. Folsom, Executive Director said the 2020-2021 Legislative Regular Session began March 2 and ended April 30. 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 and the SWFWMD Board and Executive Services Manager. The exhibit included in the Board's meeting materials is a summary of the bills and their status.

Ms. Folsom noted bills which passed and did not pass, and will report on their status and implementation at the July Board Meeting.

In reponse to Ms. Stone's inquiry regarding legislation about surface discharge and the ability of utilities to use reclaimed water for water bodies that have fallen below their MFLs, Mr. Frank Gargano, SWFMWD Governmental Affairs Regional Manager, said he will research the bill and report back to the Board. Mr. Kinnard requested a report be provided on this legislation at the July meeting.

This item was provided for information only and no Board action was required.

**10. Attorney's Report**

Ms. Gwen Williams represented Mr. Batsel, General Counsel, at the meeting. No report was provided.

**11. Executive Director's Report**

a. **Irrigation Evaluation Program Status Report** – Ms. Folsom noted that the irrigation evaluation program provides evaluations for residential properties by a professionally certified contractor. Cooperating utilities provide contact information for residential users that have sustained high water use. WRWSA mails applications to the high water use customers offering the free irrigation evaluations. The evaluations result in an average of 28% reduction in water use, which helps both the utility and the residential customers. More than 1,000 audits have been conducted as part of Phases 1 to 4. This program is co-funded by the SWFWMD. Participating utilities incur only 25% of the cost for their respective portion of the project, with WRWSA providing 25% and SWFWMD providing 50%. This water conservation initiative helps participating utilities meet and surpass the maximum 150 gallons per person per day that is required by the SWFWMD.

(1) Phase 5 – 283 evaluations were completed for the Phase 5 Program by the end of September 2020. The next step will be to gather billing data for the 12 months prior to and the 12 months following the irrigation evaluations to determine the change in water use and the program effectiveness. Staff will share a draft report with the WRWSA Board in November and finalize the report in December 2021. SWFWMD is holding final reimbursement payment (co-funding Agreement Q040) until final report is received.

(2) Phase 6 – Began in November 2020. As of March 31, 2021, 94 evaluations have been completed. The project is on schedule to complete a minimum of 216 evaluations and follow-ups by February 2022. The cooperating utilities are Citrus County, Hernando County, Marion County, Villages Water Conservation Authority (VWCA), and Villages Little Sumter Service Area (LSSA).

Mr. Holcomb said Hernando County is banning St. Augustine/Floritam grass due to amount of watering required. Chair Bryant noted that Florida Friendly should be encouraged.

b. **Water Use Permit Demand Summary** – Ms. Folsom said that a summary and two graphs were included in the Board's meeting materials regarding Charles A. Black Wellfield pumpage showing the permit has been exceeded, comparing the last 12 months to the prior 12 months, and comparing the 12-month rolling average to the permit capacity. The graphs show that each month the pumpage is coming closer to being back in compliance. The reduction is most likely due to the change that Citrus County implemented in June 2020 to once per week watering restrictions.



- c. **Water Management Information System Water Use Permit Notifications** – Ms. Folsom reviewed the graph provided in the meeting materials.
- d. **H2OSAV Program** – Ms. Folsom said there was not enough interest at this time so consideration of this program will be deferred until more utilities desire participation.
- e. **Correspondence** – Items provided in the meeting materials.
- f. **News Article(s)** – Items provided in the meeting materials.
- g. **Other** – None

12. **Other Business** – None

13. **Next Meeting Time and Location**

- Next Regular Board Meeting – July 21, 2021 at 3:30 p.m. at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166.

14. **Adjournment** – Chair Bryant adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

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Kathy Bryant, Chair

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Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director



## **Item 6.b.**

**Consent Agenda**

### **Bills to be Paid**

**June bills in the meeting materials;  
July bills to be provided at meeting.**

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

**Bills For Payment**  
**6/9/2021**

<u>Administrative Invoices</u>	<u>Invoice Number(s)</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, Executive Director	1115	6/1/2021	\$7,317.10
Rob Batsel, General Counsel	62764	5/31/2021	\$399.50
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Asst (Services)	5-May-21	6/1/2021	\$3,125.00
Kathy Bryant (May Board Travel)		5/19/2021	\$36.49
Dale Swain (May Board Travel)		5/19/2021	\$27.59
Karen Allen (Web Maintenance/Create Page)	136	6/1/2021	\$125.00
Purvis Gray (1st & 2nd Qtr Financial Reports)	47042	5/21/2021	\$1,000.00
Sun Trust Business Card Statement	6.2.2021	6/2/2021	\$416.00
<b>Total Administrative Invoices</b>			<b>\$12,446.68</b>

<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 2021-01 INTERA Incorporated	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2021-01 WRA	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2021-01 Reiss - CAB Wellfield	\$25,000.00	\$12,610.00	\$5,942.60 (1)
FY20-21 Water Conservation Grants Program			
Citrus County	\$45,650.00	\$45,650.00	
Hernando County	\$48,350.00	\$48,350.00	
Marion County	\$25,847.00	\$25,847.00	
Crystal River	\$9,090.00	\$9,090.00	
Phase 5 Irrigation Program	\$145,000.00	\$30,981.27	
Phase 6 Irrigation Program	\$121,200.00	\$61,427.83	\$2,511.29 (2)
<b>Total Project Invoices</b>	<b>\$515,137.00</b>		<b>\$8,453.89</b>

<b>Total Bills to be Paid</b>	<b>\$20,900.57</b>
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State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA2 to SBA1	\$8,453.89
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA1 to SunTrust Bank	\$20,900.57

Notes:

(1) CAB Wellfield and WTF Evaluations

CHA Consulting, inc (Reiss Engineering) \$5,942.60 Invoice 192001-03

(2) Phase 6 (Q138) - Irrigation Audits

Jack Overdorff, ECO Land Design	\$2,211.29	Invoice 446
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Services	\$300.00	Invoice 5-May-Q138-2021
	<u>\$2,511.29</u>	

## **Item 6.c.**

**Consent Agenda**

### **2021-2022 Regulatory Plan**

### **2021-2022 Regulatory Plan**

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

Pursuant to Chapter 120.74, the WRWSA is required to file a regulatory plan annually by October first of each year. The regulatory plan must identify laws enacted or amended during the previous 12 months that affect the duties or authority of the agency, and for each such law, the agency must state whether it must adopt rules to implement the law and provide details about the proposed rulemaking schedule. If rulemaking is not necessary to implement the identified laws, the agency must provide a concise written explanation of why that is so. Regulatory plans must also include a listing of other laws the agency expects to implement by rulemaking in the coming year and it may include an update or supplement to prior regulatory plans. Finally, the regulatory plan must include certifications by the presiding officer and principal legal advisor to the agency.

As shown in proposed 2021-2022 Regulatory Plan contained in the Exhibit, no new laws were enacted during the pertinent time period that affect the duties or authority of the WRWSA. In addition, no rulemaking activities are planned for the 2021-2022 timeframe. Upon approval by the Board, the WRWSA will submit the Authority's 2021-2022 Regulatory Plan and publish it on the Authority's website.

See Exhibit – WRWSA 2021-2022 Regulatory Plan

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

Board approval of the WRWSA's proposed 2021-2022 Regulatory Plan and authorization for the Chair and General Counsel to sign the appropriate certifications.

**2021-2022 Regulatory Plan of the  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA)**

**A. RULEMAKING TO IMPLEMENT NEW LAWS**

List laws enacted or amended during the previous 12 months which create or modify the duties or authority of the WRWSA:

None

**B. OTHER RULEMAKING**

List each law not otherwise listed under A., which the WRWSA expects to implement by rulemaking before July 1, 2021, except emergency rulemaking:

None

**C. UPDATE OF PRIOR YEAR'S REGULATORY PLAN OF SUPPLEMENT**

No update or supplement of any prior year's regulatory plan is needed.

**D. CERTIFICATIONS**

**Certification of Chairman of WRWSA Board of Directors:**

As Chair of the Board of Directors, I certify that I have reviewed the WRWSA's 2021-2022 Regulatory Plan, that the WRWSA repealed all of its rules effective June 29, 2014, that no rulemaking has been conducted by the WRWSA subsequent to that repeal and further, as of July 21, 2021, that the WRWSA has no plans for rulemaking in the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

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Kathy Bryant  
Chair

Date: July 21, 2021

**Certification of the WRWSA General Counsel**

As General Counsel to the WRWSA, I certify that I have reviewed the WRWSA's 2021-2022 Regulatory Plan, that the WRWSA repealed all of its rules effective June 29, 2014, that no rulemaking has been conducted by the WRWSA subsequent to that repeal and further, as of July 21, 2021, that the WRWSA has no plans for rulemaking in the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

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Robert W. Batsel, Jr.  
General Counsel

Date: July 21, 2021





### **Resolution 2021-03, Adoption of Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22**

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

Included as Exhibit A to this item is the draft FY 2021-22 budget for the Board's review. The budget has been prepared in a conservative manner to keep costs in check and enhance efficiencies for member governments. Included as Exhibit B is a description of the Authority's FY 2021-22 work program that is supported by the proposed budget.

See Exhibits included in the Board's meeting materials:

- A. Proposed FY 2021-22 Budget
- B. WRWSA FY 2021-22 Work Program
- C. Resolution 2021-03, Adoption of Final Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

Board ratification of action taken by the Board at its May 19, 2021 meeting to approve Resolution 2021-03 adopting the FY 2021-22 budget including budgeted expenditures in the amount of \$429,134, budgeted reserves in the amount of \$1,759,459, and a combined total amount of \$2,188,593, as presented in Exhibit A, for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022.

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

**Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget**

*Final July 8, 2021*

	4/1/2020 Population Estimate	Comments	Fiscal Year 2021-22	Fiscal Year 2020-21	\$ Change	% Change
<b>Revenues: Administrative</b>						
Assessments:		Official BEBR Population Estimates				
Citrus	149,383	1,639 person increase	\$28,383	\$28,072	\$311	1.1%
Hernando	192,186	3,828 person increase	\$36,516	\$35,789	\$727	2.0%
Marion	368,135	7,714 person increase	\$69,946	\$68,480	\$1,466	2.1%
Sumter	141,422	12,789 person increase	\$26,871	\$24,441	\$2,430	9.9%
Total Population/Assessments @ 19¢/Capita	851,126		\$161,716	\$156,782	\$4,934	3.1%
Administrative Revenue from Citrus Contract		Based on Citrus County contract and Board direction	\$19,318	\$25,238	-\$5,920	-23.5%
Subtotal			\$181,034	\$182,020	-\$986	-0.5%
Carryover Administration Reserve Funds (FYE 20/21 Estimate) (SBA1)		See Attachment 2	\$692,676	\$604,380	\$88,296	14.6%
<b>Total Administrative Revenue Available</b>			<b>\$873,710</b>	<b>\$786,400</b>	<b>\$87,310</b>	<b>11.1%</b>
<b>Revenues: Water Resource Development (WRD) Projects</b>						
Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Program SWFWMD Matching Funds		Based on Project Schedule	\$0	\$0	\$0	NA
Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		Based on Project Schedule	\$0	\$0	\$0	NA
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program SWFWMD Matching Funds		50% of Total Project Budget	\$30,300	\$60,600	-\$30,300	-50.0%
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		25% of Total Project Budget	\$15,150	\$30,300	-\$15,150	-50.0%
Annual Citrus WRD Payments (SBA2)		Based on CAB wellfield contract minimum production charge of \$224,000 minus funds allocated to administrative revenue above	\$204,682	\$198,762	\$5,920	3.0%
Subtotal			\$250,132	\$289,662	-\$39,530	-13.6%
Carryover WRD Reserve Funds (FYE 20/21 Estimate) (SBA2)		See Attachment 2	\$1,019,301	\$917,825	\$101,476	11.1%
<b>Total Water Resource Development Revenue Available</b>			<b>\$1,269,433</b>	<b>\$1,207,487</b>	<b>\$22,416</b>	<b>1.9%</b>
<b>Total Revenues Available</b>						
			<b>\$2,143,143</b>	<b>\$1,993,887</b>	<b>\$109,726</b>	<b>5.5%</b>

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY					
Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget					
Final July 8, 2021					
		Fiscal Year 2021-22	Fiscal Year 2020-21	\$ Change	% Change
<b>Expenditures: General Administration</b>					
Executive Director	Based on annual contract	\$86,700	\$84,200	\$2,500	3.0%
Administrative Assistant	Based on annual contract	\$38,625	\$37,500	\$1,125	3.0%
Legal Services	Based on annual contract:				
Monthly Meetings @ \$235/hr	6 meetings/year, 3 hrs/meeting = 18 hrs	\$4,230	\$4,230	\$0	0.0%
Other Services @ \$235/hr.	6 hrs/month = 72 hrs	\$16,920	\$22,560	-\$5,640	-25.0%
Advertising	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.0%
Audit	FY 20-21 plus 3% COLA	\$11,284	\$10,955	\$329	3.0%
Bookkeeping Services	\$500/quarter per Engagement Letter	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Liability Insurance	FY 20-21 actual plus 5%	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%
Office Supplies	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	0.0%
Postage	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.0%
Printing and Reproduction	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	0.0%
Publications/Software	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$150	\$150	\$0	0.0%
Rent (Lecanto Gov't Bldg)	Based on Lease Agreement	\$2,048	\$2,048	\$0	0.0%
Registrations/Dues	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
State Fees/Assessments	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$175	\$175	\$0	0.0%
Telephone	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$1,200	\$1,000	\$200	20.0%
Travel (Board Members & Staff)	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	0.0%
Web Page / Computer Maintenance	Based on FY 2019-20 actual	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$500	25.0%
Contingencies	@ 5% of non-contract admin costs	\$1,502	\$1,502	\$0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures</b>		<b>\$181,034</b>	<b>\$182,020</b>	<b>-\$986</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>
Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves FYE 21/22	FYE20/21 Admin Funds Bal + FY21/22 Admin Rev's - FY21/22 Admin Exp's	\$692,676	\$604,380	\$88,296	14.6%
<b>Expenditures: Water Resource Development Projects</b>					
General Services Contracts	As Needed Eng. & Tech. Firms	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%
Local Government Grant Program	Approved 3/17/21	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$0	0.0%
Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Program	0% of Project Budget	\$0	\$0	\$0	NA
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program	50% of Project Budget	\$60,600	\$121,200	-\$60,600	-50.0%
<b>Subtotal - Water Resource Development Projects</b>		<b>\$250,600</b>	<b>\$311,200</b>	<b>-\$60,600</b>	<b>-19.5%</b>
Fund Balance for Water Resource Development Reserves FYE 21/22	FYE20/21 WRD Funds Bal + FY21/22 WRD Rev's - FY21/22 WRD Exp's	\$1,018,833	\$896,287	\$122,546	13.7%
<b>Total Administration and WRD Expenses</b>		<b>\$431,634</b>	<b>\$493,220</b>	<b>-\$61,586</b>	<b>-12.5%</b>
<b>Total Administration and WRD Fund Balances at F</b>	See Attachment 2 for detail	<b>\$1,756,959</b>	<b>\$1,500,667</b>	<b>\$256,292</b>	<b>17.1%</b>
<b>Combined FYE 21/22 Expenditures and Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$2,188,593</b>	<b>\$1,993,887</b>	<b>\$194,706</b>	<b>9.8%</b>

# ATTACHMENT 1

## CALCULATION OF REVENUE FOR 2021-22 AND CALCULATION OF AMOUNT OF FUNDS NEEDED FROM RESERVES

Final July 8, 2021

Revenue	4/1/2020 Population	
LOCAL ASSESSMENTS @ 19¢ PER CAPITA		
Citrus	149,383	\$28,383
Hernando	192,186	\$36,516
Marion	368,135	\$69,946
Sumter	141,422	\$26,871
Subtotal	851,126	\$161,716
CHARLES A. BLACK WATER SUPPLY FACILITY		
Minimum Production Charge		\$224,000
Subtotal		\$224,000
MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR STUDIES		
SWFWMD Match for Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Program		\$0
Local Cooperator Match for Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Program		\$0
SWFWMD Match for Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program		\$60,600
Local Cooperator Match for Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program		\$30,300
Subtotal		\$90,900
TOTAL REVENUE FOR FY 2021-22		\$476,616
Less: 2021-22 Administration Expense		-\$181,034
Less: 2021-22 WRD Cost		-\$250,600
<b>Funds Deposited to WRWSA Reserves</b>		<b>\$44,982</b>

## ATTACHMENT 2

### ANALYSIS OF BEGINNING FUND BALANCES

FY 2020 - 2021

Final July 8, 2021

#### ESTIMATE OF WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND BALANCE AT END OF FY 2020-21

03/31/21 WRDF Balance (SBA2)	\$1,099,325
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**FY 2020-21 Remaining WRD Fund Revenues**

6 Citrus Co. Payments @ \$18,666.67/month minus administrative component below	\$99,381
Phase 5 Irrigation Audit Local Cooperator Revenue	\$0
Phase 5 Irrigation Audit SWFWMD Revenue	\$1,652
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Local Cooperator Revenue	\$12,120
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit SWFWMD Revenue	\$24,240

Revenues Subtotal	\$137,393
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**Less: FY 2020-21 Remaining Contract Expenditures:**

2020-21 Citrus Water Conservation Program	\$45,650
2020-21 Hernando Water Conservation Program	\$48,350
2020-21 Marion Water Conservation Program	\$25,847
2020-21 Crystal River Water Conservation Program	\$9,090
2020-21 General Services Contracts	\$40,000
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program	\$48,480

Expenditures Subtotal	\$217,417
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Total WRD Funds at end of FY 2020-21	<b>\$1,019,301</b>
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#### ESTIMATE OF ADMINISTRATIVE FUND BALANCE AT END OF FY 2020-21

03/31/21 Admin Bal (SBA1)	\$692,676
Admin Revenue from CAB WSF	\$12,619
Admin Revenue from Per Capita Contributions	\$78,391
Less remaining FY Admin costs for 6 months	-\$91,010

Total Administrative Funds at end of FY 2020-21	<b>\$692,676</b>
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#### ESTIMATE OF TOTAL FUND BALANCE AT END OF FY 2020-21

Total WRD Funds at end of FY 2020-21	\$1,019,301
Total Administrative Funds at end of FY 2020-21	\$692,676

Total Fund Balance at end of FY 2020-21	<b>\$1,711,977</b>
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#### PROJECTED FUND BALANCES AT END OF FY 2021-22

Total Fund Balances beginning of FY 2021-22:	\$1,711,977
Add: 2021-22 Revenues	\$476,616
Deduct 2021-22 Expenses:	-\$431,634

Projected Fund Balances at end of FY 2021-22:	<b>\$1,756,959</b>
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# **Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority**

## **Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Work Program**

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

The Authority will continue its grant program to assist local governments in improving water conservation within the region in order to extend the use of groundwater as long as possible. Fresh groundwater is the least expensive source available to meet growing demands, however there is a limit to this source due to environmental impacts and impacts on other existing legal users caused by withdrawals. As the limit to fresh groundwater resources is reached, alternative, more expensive water sources will need to be developed. At the present time, water conservation programs are the most appropriate way for the Authority to help local governments extend the use of lower cost groundwater supplies. During Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22, the proposed budget anticipates appropriating an additional \$140,000 toward local government water conservation projects. Proposals will be considered from local governments and public supply utilities in the Authority's jurisdiction. The grant program guidelines and application package may be found on the Authority's web page at [www.wrwsa.org](http://www.wrwsa.org). The water conservation activities co-funded by this grant program help participating utilities meet the maximum 150 gallons per person per day that is required by the SWFWMD and to meet the SJRWMD conservation requirements.

### **2. Regional Residential Irrigation Audit Program to Promote Water Conservation within the Region**

This ongoing program provides an opportunity for residential water utility customers to obtain site-specific evaluations for optimizing the use of water through landscaping techniques and efficient irrigation systems, and to implement recommendations provided by a professionally certified contractor. Contractors used for the site-specific evaluations are professionals certified by the Florida Irrigation Society (FIS) or another recognized certifying agency in the targeted region. The initiative includes program information, water conservation education, reporting and analysis by a consultant. This continuing project targets existing inefficient landscape and irrigation water use and results in significant water savings and can lead to water quality protection through reduced leaching of fertilizers and lawn chemicals. More than 1300 audits have been conducted as part of Phases 1 to 5. In Phase 4, we began offering enhanced audits that have a more intense implementation of improvements, and have an improved benefit to reduce water usage. An average reduction in total water use of 28% has been achieved for the locations that have been audited. Phases 5 and 6 are ongoing. This program is co-funded by the SWFWMD. Participating utilities incur only 25% of their respective portion of the project, leveraging local dollars with regional funds. This water conservation initiative helps participating utilities meet and surpass the maximum 150 gallons per person per day that is required by the SWFWMD.

### **3. Continued Cooperation with Citrus County in Operation and Management of the Authority's Charles A. Black Water Supply Facilities**

The Authority and Citrus County completed negotiations at the end of FY 2015-16 of the Water Supply Contract governing the operation and maintenance of the CABWSF. The Contract allows for the continued operation of the facilities by Citrus County in a cost-effective manner ensuring a long-term water supply for the County and its customers while also providing for long-term financial stability for the Authority.

### **4. Participation in Maintenance and Enhancement of the North-Central Florida Groundwater Model**

The Authority will continue to participate in discussions with SJRWMD and SWFWMD on the implementation of the North-Central Florida Groundwater model. The project was initiated in fiscal year 2012-13. Phase 1 of the project entailed updating and expanding the SWFWMD's Northern District Groundwater Model to encompass all of Marion County and to incorporate the most recent hydrologic data. Phase 1 of the project was successfully completed. The intent is for both water management

districts to utilize this common model for determining the availability of groundwater in the region, particularly in Marion County which is split by the districts' boundaries. The SJRWMD and SWFWMD continue to improve upon the model and seek the engagement of various stakeholders. The model has significant implications for groundwater availability in the region and the Authority's continued participation and coordination with member governments is essential to ensure water supply implications are considered as the model is updated. The Authority also engages with both Districts to ensure continued use and support of the model.

## **5. Springs Protection and Restoration**

The Authority continues to work with the SWFWMD on its springs coast initiative. The SWFWMD recently completed Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Plans for the five first magnitude springs in the northern District. These SWIM plans call for action by not only the District but local governments and other stakeholders in the region to protect and restore these first magnitude springs. The Authority staff continue to actively participate in the Springs Coast Management Committee as the public Supply Representative, and monitor activities of the District and the Steering Committee for implications on water supply in the region. WRWSA is also providing a representative on the Technical Advisory Committee via one of our As-Needed Consultants.

## **6. Program Development and Technical Assistance**

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

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

**RESOLUTION 2021-03**

**ADOPTION OF FINAL BUDGET  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22**

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 July 21, 2021, on the final budget and assessment rate for general administrative, operating and project expenses for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Board has complied with all requirements of said section and desires to adopt its final budget.

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 adopts its final budget, for general administrative, operating and project expenses for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022, as shown on the attached Exhibit, attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit A.

Section 2. This Resolution and a copy of the final budget as adopted shall be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners of each member County.

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

ADOPTED in regular session this twenty-first day of July 2021.

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER  
SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
BY: Kathy Bryant, Chair

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director



**Water Supply and Conservation Grants Program – Approval of Awards**

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

At the Authority's May 19, 2021 meeting, the Board set the total allocation of funds in Fiscal Year 2021-22 for the Local Government Water Supply and Conservation Grant Program at \$140,000. The Authority has received four grant applications, one each from Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties. A summary of the applications is presented below while copies of the applications are included as exhibits to this item.

The applications received reflect continuations of member government proven effective water conservation programs. Staff analysis of the applications indicates all of the proposed water conservation programs meet the Authority's grant program requirements.

Representatives of each of the applicants have been invited to attend the meeting and answer any Board questions regarding their respective water conservation grant applications.

Staff recommends the Board approve the FY 2021-22 budget for the grant applications as noted below.

See Exhibits:

- Citrus County Water Conservation Grant Application - page 30
- Hernando County Water Conservation Grant Application - page 34
- Marion County Water Conservation Grant Application - page 47
- Sumter County Water Conservation Grant Application - page 56

**Staff Recommendation:**

Board approval of the grants in the amounts shown below and authorization for the Chair to sign the grant Agreements.

**FY 2021-22 WRWSA Grant Applications**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Recommended</b>
<b>Citrus County</b>	\$ 44,250.00	\$ 44,250.00
<b>Hernando County</b>	48,750.00	48,750.00
<b>Marion County</b>	21,847.00	21,847.00
<b>Sumter County</b>	22,000.00	22,000.00
<b>Total</b>	\$136,847.00	\$136,847.00



FY 2021-22

## **WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION GRANT APPLICATION FORM:**

### **Name of applicant:**

Citrus County, Florida

### **Provide a short description of the proposed water conservation project in the text box below:**

The Citrus County water conservation program will offer its annual rebate incentive program to Citrus County Utilities customers. Rebates include WaterSense® (WS) labeled toilets through the District CFI initiative, WS labeled irrigation controllers, and rain sensors. Additionally, the county will carry out its Phase 5 Cooperative Funding Initiative project with the Southwest Florida Water Management District to install WS labeled irrigation controllers at high-water use residential sites. Additionally, the CFI will include outdoor, and indoor when possible, evaluations of commercial properties. The county will supply free indoor retrofit items to customers, such as WS labeled showerheads and faucet aerators. Grant funding will also allow water conservation bill inserts, educational workshops, promotional items and other programs geared toward increasing water-saving behaviors throughout the community.

### **List previous grants received from WRWSA in the previous 3 fiscal years and date completed:**

Resolution 2020-032, \$45,650 to be completed September 2021

Resolution 2019-045, \$45,998.50 completed September 2020

Resolution 2018-028, \$36,875.00 completed September 2019

### **Attachments to application:**

1. A resolution of support that includes a commitment that the grant recipient will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program.
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.

### **Return Application to:**

Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director  
WRWSA, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228, Lecanto, Florida 34461

**Deadline: June 30, 2021, 5:00 p.m. EST**

**Exhibit 'A'**  
**FY21-22 Scope of Service**

**Project: Monetary Incentives**

**Objective:** Reduce water consumption by providing monetary incentive for installation of water-efficient fixtures / systems.

**Tasks:** Provide three rebate opportunities to Citrus County Utilities customers: irrigation controllers, toilets and rain sensors. The rebates are publicized via three applications sent to the utility's customers as a bill insert. Customers wishing to participate in the account credit program, install the applicable water-saving fixture (toilets require a pre-verification inspection), and return the application with an itemized receipt. A credit is then applied to the customers bill. The Cooperative Funding Initiative project aims to install 120 WaterSense labeled irrigation controller at high-water use residential sites.

	Estimated QTY	COST PER	County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
WaterSense® labeled irrigation controller account credit	80	\$100.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	n/a	\$8,000.00
SWFWMD CFI - WaterSense® labeled toilet account credit	140	\$100.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$14,000.00
SWFWMD CFI - WaterSense® labeled toilet account credit - Rebate application printing	2	\$1,500.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
SWFWMD CFI - WaterSense® labeled irrigation controller installation	120	\$500.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$60,000.00
SWFWMD CFI - WaterSense® labeled irrigation controller installation: Mailing & Printing	1	\$1,200.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$600.00	\$1,200.00
SWFWMD CFI - Non-residential Water Use Evaluation with possible WS Controller install	15	\$1,000.00	\$3,750.00	\$3,750.00	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00
Rain sensor replacement account credit	66	\$50.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	n/a	\$3,300.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>			<b>\$28,950.00</b>	<b>\$28,950.00</b>	<b>\$46,600.00</b>	<b>\$104,500.00</b>

**Project: Free Faucet Aerator & Low-flow Showerhead Distribution**

**Objective:** Reduce water consumption by providing free WaterSense labeled aerators and showerheads to customers.

**Tasks:** Distribute faucet aerators and showerheads to customers. Customers are able to pick up fixtures directly from the conservation office. The fixtures are also available at homeowner association offices and are distributed at events geared toward CCU customers.

	County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
WaterSense® labeled faucet aerators & showerheads	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	n/a	\$2,600.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$1,300.00</b>	<b>\$1,300.00</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>\$2,600.00</b>

**Project: Water Conservation Education**

**Objective:** Reduce water consumption by providing water conservation education to community youth and adults.

**Task:** Create and print eight newsletter bill inserts promoting water-saving behaviors.

**Task:** Print and distribute water conservation related educational materials.

**Task:** Coordinate student poster contest, toilet leak detection challenge and other youth education initiatives.

**Task:** Purchase and distribute promotional items such as 5-minute shower timers, pens, pencils and rain gauges.

**Task:** Promote water conservation awareness through community workshops and other educational opportunities.

	Estimated QTY	COST PER	County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
Utility bill inserts	9	\$2,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	n/a	\$18,000.00
Educational printing			\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$2,000.00
Youth conservation education			\$500.00	\$500.00	n/a	\$1,000.00
Promotional water conservation items			\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	n/a	\$6,000.00
Water conservation workshops			\$500.00	\$500.00	n/a	\$1,000.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>			<b>\$14,000.00</b>	<b>\$14,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$28,000.00</b>

	County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$44,250.00</b>	<b>\$44,250.00</b>	<b>\$46,600.00</b>	<b>\$135,100.00</b>

Programming will begin October 1, 2021. Citrus County will expend all grant funding by September 30, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 042

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT WATER SUPPLY FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY AND, 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 the County's efforts to educate its customers and the general public on the importance of water conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the County's Consumptive Use Permits Nos. 7121, 9791 and 2842, the County must continue to develop, improve upon, and expand water conservation programs to reduce demands on water resources within its service areas and increase efficiency of use; and

**WHEREAS**, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority) provides funding assistance to local governments for projects and programs with an emphasis on water conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the County's water conservation program meets the grant funding eligibility requirements of the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the County will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program;

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

Citrus County Board of County Commissioners supports the application to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for the FY 2021-22 Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance program and agrees to budget funds as identified in Exhibit "A".

ATTEST:

  
ANGELA VICK, CLERK



CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA, A POLITICAL  
SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

BY:

  
SCOTT CARNAHAN, CHAIRMAN

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

  
DENISE A. DYMOND LYN  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

APPROVED

MAY 25 2021

BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS



**Exhibit 'A'**  
**FY21-22 Scope of Service**

**Project: Monetary Incentives**

**Objective:** Reduce water consumption by providing monetary incentive for installation of water-efficient fixtures / systems.

**Tasks:** Provide three rebate opportunities to Citrus County Utilities customers: irrigation controllers, toilets and rain sensors. The rebates are publicized via three applications sent to the utility's customers as a bill insert. Customers wishing to participate in the account credit program, install the applicable water-saving fixture (toilets require a pre-verification inspection), and return the application with an itemized receipt. A credit is then applied to the customers bill. The Cooperative Funding Initiative project aims to install 120 WaterSense labeled irrigation controller at high-water use residential sites.

	Estimated QTY	COST PER	County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
WaterSense® labeled irrigation controller account credit	80	\$100.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	n/a	\$8,000.00
SWFWMD CFI - WaterSense® labeled toilet account credit	140	\$100.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$7,000.00	\$14,000.00
SWFWMD CFI - WaterSense® labeled toilet account credit - Rebate application printing	2	\$1,500.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00
SWFWMD CFI - WaterSense® labeled irrigation controller installation	120	\$500.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$60,000.00
SWFWMD CFI - WaterSense® labeled irrigation controller installation: Mailing & Printing	1	\$1,200.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$600.00	\$1,200.00
SWFWMD CFI - Non-residential Water Use Evaluation with possible WS Controller install	15	\$1,000.00	\$3,750.00	\$3,750.00	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00
Rain sensor replacement account credit	66	\$50.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	n/a	\$3,300.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>			<b>\$28,950.00</b>	<b>\$28,950.00</b>	<b>\$46,600.00</b>	<b>\$104,500.00</b>

**Project: Free Faucet Aerator & Low-flow Showerhead Distribution**

**Objective:** Reduce water consumption by providing free WaterSense labeled aerators and showerheads to customers.

**Tasks:** Distribute faucet aerators and showerheads to customers. Customers are able to pick up fixtures directly from the conservation office. The fixtures are also available at homeowner association offices and are distributed at events geared toward CCU customers.

	County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
WaterSense® labeled faucet aerators & showerheads	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	n/a	\$2,600.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>\$1,300.00</b>	<b>\$1,300.00</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>\$2,600.00</b>

**Project: Water Conservation Education**

**Objective:** Reduce water consumption by providing water conservation education to community youth and adults.

**Task:** Create and print eight newsletter bill inserts promoting water-saving behaviors.

**Task:** Print and distribute water conservation related educational materials.

**Task:** Coordinate student poster contest, toilet leak detection challenge and other youth education initiatives.

**Task:** Purchase and distribute promotional items such as 5-minute shower timers, pens, pencils and rain gauges.

**Task:** Promote water conservation awareness through community workshops and other educational opportunities.

	Estimated QTY	COST PER	County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
Utility bill inserts	9	\$2,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	n/a	\$18,000.00
Educational printing			\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$2,000.00
Youth conservation education			\$500.00	\$500.00	n/a	\$1,000.00
Promotional water conservation items			\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	n/a	\$6,000.00
Water conservation workshops			\$500.00	\$500.00	n/a	\$1,000.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>			<b>\$14,000.00</b>	<b>\$14,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$28,000.00</b>

	County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$44,250.00</b>	<b>\$44,250.00</b>	<b>\$46,600.00</b>	<b>\$135,100.00</b>

Programming will begin October 1, 2021. Citrus County will expend all grant funding by September 30, 2022.



FY 2021-22

## **WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION GRANT APPLICATION FORM:**

### **Name of applicant:**

Hernando County Utilities Department

### **Provide a short description of the proposed water conservation project in the text box below:**

Hernando County Utilities Department (HCUD) promotes and produces dynamic, innovative, effective water conservation, water resource protection programs. These have led Hernando County to lower the per capita water use requirements below the 150 gallons per person per day regulation of Southwest Florida Water Management District.

#### **Projects:**

In-School education programs,  
Conservation messaging campaign and promotions  
Water conservation incentive programs for HCUD customers

### **List previous grants received from WRWSA in the previous 3 fiscal years and date completed:**

FY 2018 Closed September 30, 2018  
FY 2019 Closed September 30, 2019  
FY 2020 Closed September 30, 2020

### **Attachments to application:**

1. A resolution of support that includes a commitment that the grant recipient will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program.
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.

### **Return Application to:**

Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director  
WRWSA, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228, Lecanto, Florida 34461

**Deadline: June 30, 2021, 5:00 p.m. EST**

# **FY 2022 Conservation Project Budget**

## **Hernando County Utilities Department Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Local Government Water Conservation Grant Program**

<b>Springs Coast Environmental Learning Center</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>		
<b>Gulf Coast Academy</b>	<b>\$4,500</b>		
Water resource and conservation education Curriculum assistance.		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$9,500</b>
<b>Water Conservation &amp; Resource Protection Promotional Items &amp; Workshops</b>			
Pencils, pens, magnets (giveaways), calendars	\$7,500		
Flyers, brochures, banners (educational information)	\$7,000		
Florida Friendly Landscape Workshop, Springs Workshop and accessories			
Speaker stipends, venue rental, rain barrels	\$9,500		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>
<b>Conservation Advertising Campaign</b>			
Commercial media spots (television, radio, print)	\$15,000		
Hernando County Government Broadcast, Spectrum, Water conservation vehicle Wrap and water conservation magnetic signs for HCUD vehicles			
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
<b>HCUD Customer (only) Resource Protection Programs</b>			
Rebates include HE Washing Machine,	\$24,500		
Rain Sensor Replacement,			
Low Flow Toilets, Rain Barrels,			
FFL Yard Certification			
Sprinkler Check-up Program	\$9,000		
High Efficiency Sprinkler Replacement Pilot Project	\$14,500		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$48,000</b>
<b>Presentation/Workshop Equipment</b>			
A/V equipment and other accessories	\$1,000	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$97,500</b>
<b>WRWSA portion/share (50%)</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$48,750</b>

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

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022**

**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 an inverted or conservation water rate structure. Hernando County continues to endorse Ordinance 2010-15 which is a one day per week watering schedule. Average water use in the residential sector (single-family homes) ranges between 8000-10,000 gallons a month. Hernando County Utilities Department supplies safe potable water and wastewater services to over 80% of Hernando County. HCUD's customer accounts include residential, commercial, and industrial and total over 65,000 accounts and growing. 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, rain sensor rebates, HE washing machine rebates, irrigation evaluation and audit programs, Florida Friendly certified landscapes, participation in Florida Friendly Landscaping programs and participate regionally in an irrigation evaluation and audit program with WRWSA member government partners. These programs, along with many others, show the deep commitment this utility has to the protection and conservation of Hernando County's water supply.

Information is collected from Hernando County residents and other water conservation program participants on types of programs that they believe are the most vital and important. We use this information to produce materials, presentations, workshops, and seminars. This past year (FY 2020), we transitioned to providing our educational programming to virtual platforms. Our plan is to bring in-person educational presentations and workshops back to the public arena in 2022. We have begun rain barrel workshops outside for in-person education. And our Florida Friendly Landscaping program has weekly Facebook live and Zoom presentations that are posted to Hernando County's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvW76oulWUK2sZpCFk5BB3A>

Through the WRWSA Local Government Water Supply and Conservation Funding Assistance Program we support these educational efforts.



The current plan is to hold our Springs Workshop in the spring of 2022. The Hernando County Groundwater Guardians have an important impact in the organization and promotion of the Springs Workshops. The Springs Workshop is normally held every two years, which brings local government leaders, community leaders and interested citizen together for an in-depth, training in water related issues, best management practices and groundwater protection. This is an extraordinarily popular event and always has over 100 participants from all regions of Florida. This workshop is sponsored by the WRWSA, Southwest Florida Water Management District, and private corporate partners. Promotional and educational items have been and are being used to educate the residents of Hernando County.

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

## **PURPOSE & PROPOSED INITIATIVES**

Major elements of the program consist of:

- In-school education program (Springs Coast Environmental Education Center, Gulf Coast Academy of Science and Technology)
- Conservation Messaging Campaign
- Customer and Residents Incentive Programs
- Community educational presentations, workshops, and events.

In order to 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.

## **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 served only fourth grade students of Hernando County. SCEEC has expanded its reach to nearly all grade levels and regularly

hosts over 6000 Hernando County students (but not in 2020). As with other Hernando County Schools, SCEEC was shut-down due to Covid for a portion of FY 2020. They are open now for student to participate in this exceptional learning environment. The Hernando County Utilities Department has specifically provided support for the development of a water resource/quality protection and water conservation module of the curriculum. By providing support to the center, the Utilities Department is allocating its resources to those skilled in working with students - teachers. In addition, creation of the curriculum module ensures that a consistent and continuing message will be embedded in the educational process. In FY 2008 we added the Gulf Coast Academy of Science and Technology to our student educational efforts. GCA is committed to providing an exceptional education through weekly field experiences integrated with a hands-on advanced middle school curriculum. (Budget item: Springs Coast Environmental Education Center, Gulf Coast Academy)

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

This campaign includes radio and televised educational programming through Hernando County Government Broadcast and broadening our viewership by adding information to Spectrum TV. Additionally, we provided water conservation messages through radio spots and other media sources including Facebook. The innovative and instructional media messages broaden public awareness and heightened the acceptance of water conservation was a way of life. Both the Hernando County Utilities Department and Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority are listed in the media spots. (Budget items: commercial airtime, radio, and print media)

#### **Water Conservation and Resource Protection Promotion and Workshops**

This quote, "It is because of people that groundwater must be protected, but it is only through the efforts of people that it can be accomplished" describes the importance of bringing education to the public. This is accomplished through promotions, events such a rain barrels workshops, information stations and direct conservation/groundwater protection communication through customer bills. Both the Spring Workshop and the Florida Friendly Workshop are highlights of the effort to bring water conservation and water resource protection education to the public. (Budget Item: Rain barrels, informational guides, workshops, signs)

## **Water Conservation (HCUD customers only) Incentive Programs:**

Hernando County Utilities Department encourages our customers to conserve our valuable water supply through water bill rebates (and other incentives). Incentive programs include: Sprinkler Check Up program for high water users, continued participation with the regional irrigation evaluation and audit program. Our partners with the Regional Irrigation Program, are WRWSA, SWFWMD, Citrus, Sumter, and Marion Counties. For FY 2022 we are planning a High Efficiency Spray retrofit project. We will be working with the University of Florida's IFAS staff in Gainesville and our local UF/IFAS Extension Staff. The goal is to quantify water savings by changing conventional spray nozzles for High Efficiency Spray (HES) nozzles. Other water conservation customer incentive programs include an HE Washing Machine Rebate (\$100), 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 Friendly Landscaping (FFL) program. Customer rebates include a \$25 rebate for participating in the FFL rain barrel workshops and another \$25 rebate is available for certifying their landscape as a Florida Friendly Landscape. (Budget items: water conservation incentive program features, such as low flow toilets, rain sensors, irrigation audits, HE Washing Machine rebates.)

## **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 its customers and must strive to change behavior and attitudes towards conservation and protection of water resources 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 the above projects and initiatives will be ongoing throughout Fiscal Year 2022. Funds from the current (FY2021) WRWSA assistance program will be encumbered by September 30, 2021. This meets the requirement to submit funding request for 2021 fiscal year. The water conservation initiatives for FY 2022 will begin October 1, 2021 and conclude with all grant assistance funds being encumbered by September 30, 2022.

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

PROJECT GRANT AGREEMENT

This Agreement is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, by and between the WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY, (hereinafter called the "AUTHORITY"), and \_\_\_\_\_, (hereinafter called the "GRANTEE"), in furtherance of funding assistance in the development of the "\_\_\_\_\_ WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION PROGRAM". In consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein and pursuant to Chapter 163, Laws of Florida, Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1969, as subsequently amended, and Section 373.713(2)(i), Florida Statutes, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The AUTHORITY has found that the implementation of water conservation programs by a member government is the primary purpose of the project known as the "\_\_\_\_\_ WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION PROGRAM" (hereinafter called the "PROJECT"), and enters into this Agreement with the GRANTEE for assisting in the funding of water conservation programs more particularly described in its Application. The PROJECT application is attached hereto marked Exhibit "A" and made a part hereof.

2. The GRANTEE shall provide the AUTHORITY with a copy of the GRANTEE's contract documents executed for the PROJECT and the third party vendor providing said services in order to confirm the total project costs.

3. PROJECT FUNDING:

A. The AUTHORITY agrees to pay, on a reimbursement basis, to the GRANTEE, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ of the proposed \$\_\_\_\_\_ 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 fifty percent (50%) of all allowable costs in each approved invoice based upon the listed tasks contained in Exhibit "A", not to exceed the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ 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.

C. The GRANTEE shall provide the AUTHORITY with a schedule and description of "tasks" for the PROJECT with the cost associated with each task set forth.

D. The Grantee shall submit a final PROJECT reimbursement request after completion of the project, which shall be no later than September 30, 2022. The final reimbursement request

must be submitted no later than December 31, 2022. Requests submitted after December 31, 2022 shall not be considered for reimbursement.

E. The AUTHORITY shall, within sixty (60) days after receipt of a payment request, review the work accomplished to date under this Agreement and, if the work and payment request are in accordance with all applicable requirements, approve the request for payment.

4. GRANTEE shall ensure that all services procured and all purchases of goods obtained for the accomplishment of the PROJECT shall be secured in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws and in accordance with the GRANTEE's adopted procurement procedures.

5. GRANTEE shall follow all State and Federal laws relating to its established audit and accounting procedures and as they relate to said PROJECT and cost reimbursements.

6. The GRANTEE shall retain all records supporting PROJECT costs for three (3) years after the fiscal year in which the final PROJECT payment was released by the AUTHORITY or until final resolution of matters resulting from any litigation, claim or audit that started prior to the expiration of the three-year retention period. The AUTHORITY, State Auditor General, State Comptroller, and other agencies or entities with jurisdiction shall have the right to inspect and audit the GRANTEE's records for said PROJECT within the retention period.

7. This Agreement shall become effective upon execution and the GRANTEE shall complete preparation and/or construction of all PROJECT elements on or before September 30, 2021. The completion date may be extended by the AUTHORITY for good cause at the written request of the GRANTEE and must be made prior to PROJECT completion date.

8. The AUTHORITY's Executive Director for the purposes of this Agreement shall be responsible for ensuring performance of its terms and conditions and shall be responsible for recommending approval of all reimbursement requests to the AUTHORITY prior to payment. The GRANTEE's Liaison Agent, as identified in the PROJECT application, or successor, shall act on behalf of the GRANTEE relative to the provisions of this Agreement.

9. The Executive Director shall have the authority to approve budget changes within individual tasks up to a total amount not to exceed TEN PERCENT (10%) of total project costs without Board approval.

10. All monies expended by the GRANTEE for the purpose contained herein at the option of the AUTHORITY shall be subject to audit review.

11. Each party hereto agrees that it shall be solely responsible for the wrongful acts of its employees and agents. However, nothing contained herein shall constitute a waiver by either party of its sovereign immunity or the provisions of §768.28, Florida Statutes.



12. The GRANTEE shall comply with all federal, state, and local rules and regulations in developing this PROJECT. The GRANTEE acknowledges that this requirement includes compliance with all federal, state, and local health and safety rules and regulations. The GRANTEE further agrees to ensure that the GRANTEE's contract will include this provision in all subcontracts issued as a result of this Agreement.

13. The AUTHORITY reserves the right to inspect said PROJECT and any and all records related thereto at any reasonable time.

14. This Agreement may be unilaterally canceled by the AUTHORITY in the event the GRANTEE refuses to allow public access to all documents, papers, letters or other material made or received in conjunction with this Agreement pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes.

15. The AUTHORITY shall also have the right to demand a refund, either in whole or in part, of the funds provided to the GRANTEE for non-compliance with the terms of this Agreement if not cured within thirty (30) days of written notice thereof from the AUTHORITY. The GRANTEE, upon notification from the AUTHORITY, agrees to refund and will forthwith pay to the AUTHORITY, the amount of money demanded by the AUTHORITY. Such refund shall include interest calculated at two percent (2%) over the prevailing prime rate as reported by the Federal Reserve on the date the AUTHORITY calculates the amount of refund due. Interest shall be calculated from the date(s) of payment(s) to the GRANTEE by the AUTHORITY.

16. The employment of unauthorized aliens by a GRANTEE is considered a violation of Section 274A(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. If the GRANTEE knowingly employs unauthorized aliens, such violation shall be cause for unilateral cancellation of this Agreement. The GRANTEE shall be responsible for including this provision in all subcontracts with private organizations issued as a result of this Agreement.

17. No person on the grounds of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or marital status shall be excluded from participation in; be denied the proceeds or benefits of; or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in performance of this Agreement.

18. This Agreement strictly prohibits expenditure of these funds for the purpose of lobbying the Florida Legislature, the judicial branch, or a state agency.

19. The GRANTEE shall have an audit performed in accordance with the Rules of the Auditor General promulgated pursuant to §11.45, Florida Statutes, and have a statement prepared by an independent certified public accountant which attests that the GRANTEE has complied with the provisions of this Agreement and whether the audit results in an unqualified opinion.

20. A person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for public entity crime may not perform work as a grantee, contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity

FY 2021-22  
PROJECT GRANT AGREEMENT

DRAFT  
05-01-2021

in excess of the threshold amount provided in §287.017, Florida Statutes, or Category Two, for a period of thirty-six (36) months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

21. A copy of the audit and attestation as required in Paragraph 19 shall be submitted to the AUTHORITY within one (1) year from the PROJECT completion date as set forth in Paragraph 7 or as extended by the AUTHORITY.

22. This Agreement is not intended nor shall it be construed as granting any rights, privileges or interest in any third party without mutual written agreement of the parties hereto.

23. This Agreement represents the entire agreement of the parties. Any alterations, variations, changes, modification or waivers of provisions of this Agreement shall only be valid when they have been reduced to writing, duly executed by each of the parties hereto, and attached to the original of this Agreement.

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
KATHY BRYANT  
Chair

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
SUZANNAH J. FOLSOM  
Executive Director

\_\_\_\_\_, a political Subdivision of  
the State of Florida  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for the Grantee

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Authority

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-93

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

**WHEREAS,** the HCUD has submitted an application to the Authority's funding assistance program to seek financial assistance in the development of a countywide water conservation program (the "Project") in order to provide

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**ADOPTED IN REGULAR SESSION THIS 22 DAY OF JUNE 2021 IN BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA.**

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

Attest: Susan Burns, Deputy  
Douglas A. Chorvat, JR.  
Clerk of Court &  
Comptroller

By: [Signature]  
John Allocco  
Chairman

(SEAL)



Approved for Form and  
Legal Sufficiency

By: [Signature]



**Marion County  
Board of County Commissioners**

Office of the County Engineer

412 SE 25th Ave.  
Ocala, FL 34471  
Phone: 352-671-8686  
Fax: 352-671-8687

June 17, 2021

Suzannah Folsom, PE, PMP  
Executive Director  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228  
Lecanto, Florida 34461

RE: Marion County Board of County Commissioners  
FY2021/22 Water Conservation Grant Application

Mrs. Folsom:

Enclosed for your consideration is Marion County's Water Conservation Grant Application, along with an attachment of project tasks and their time schedules. A resolution of support of our commitment to budget and expend matching funds will be presented to the Marion County Board of County Commissioners during their next regularly scheduled Board meeting on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. As this is an ongoing program that our Board has previously supported, it is anticipated that you will have a signed resolution prior to your July meeting for your use and full consideration of our grant application.

Marion County appreciates our ongoing relationship with the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority and the opportunity to partner with you in our efforts to protect our water resources. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (352) 671-8672.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michon Fabio".

Michon Fabio  
Water Resources Liaison

Enclosures



FY 2021-22

## **WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION GRANT APPLICATION FORM:**

**Name of applicant:**

Marion County

**Provide a short description of the proposed water conservation project in the text box below:**

Marion County Water Resources and Marion County Utilities work cooperatively to plan, implement, and manage a comprehensive, goal based water conservation program for the Marion County Board of County Commissioners. The program is conducted through public outreach, indirect public education, and direct water conservation incentives. The County requests funding for water use efficiency initiatives including landscape and irrigation retrofits, low flow toilet rebates, low flow retrofit kits and educational outreach and materials.

**List previous grants received from WRWSA in the previous 3 fiscal years and date completed:**

2020 - \$25,847 to be completed September 30, 2021  
2019 - \$33,095 completed September 30, 2020  
2018 - \$42,595 completed September 30, 2019  
2017 - \$44,245 completed September 30, 2018

**Attachments to application:**

1. A resolution of support that includes a commitment that the grant recipient will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program.
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.

**Return Application to:**

Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director  
WRWSA, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228, Lecanto, Florida 34461

**Deadline: June 30, 2021, 5:00 p.m. EST**



### Program Description

Marion County Water Resources and Marion County Utilities work cooperatively to plan, implement, and manage a comprehensive, goal-based water conservation program for the Marion County Board of County Commissioners. The program is conducted through public outreach, indirect public education, and direct water conservation incentives. The County requests funding for water use efficiency initiatives including efficient irrigation rebates, low-flow toilet rebates, low-flow retrofit kits and educational outreach materials.

The following is a breakdown of the costs of the various projects that Marion County requests grant funding for during fiscal year 2021/22:

Program	Total Cost	County cost share	WRWSA cost share
Educational Outreach	\$2,500	1,250	\$1,250
Utility Bill Inserts on Water Use Efficiency	\$1,645	\$822	\$822
Educational Print Media	\$1,850	\$925	\$925
Landscape & Irrigation Rebate Program	\$21,000	\$10,500	\$10,500
Low-Flow Toilet Rebates (MCU Customers East of I-75 only)	\$8,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Low-Flow Toilet Rebates (Non-MCU Customers West of I-75 only)	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Water Conservation Kits (MCU Customers)	\$3,500	\$1,750	\$1,750
Water Conservation Kits (Non-MCU Customers)	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Water Conservation Billboards	\$1,200	\$600	\$600
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$43,695</b>	<b>\$21,847</b>	<b>\$21,847</b>

These projects represent only a portion of the County's on-going Water Use Efficiency Program. A cost-share of \$21,847 will help to offset the cost of performing indoor and outdoor retrofits and conducting public outreach. The remainder of the program costs will be funded by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners and other cooperative partners.

**Educational Outreach:** The purpose of this program is to encourage residents to make changes to their daily water use habits to increase efficiency. The program focuses on education and water use efficiency. The target audience is county wide. The program will give students a hands

on experience in the summer months as a follow up from other education initiatives and incorporate how the implementation of simple water efficient practices have an impact on water resources. It also highlights the ability to collectively save up to 3,000 gallons of water a month per household by implementing these practices. Students will be shown how to replace non-efficient faucet aerators, showerheads, and nozzles with efficient ones; check for leaky toilets and learn how to use rain gauges effectively and apply water efficient practices in and around the home.

With the onset of COVID-19 outreach in the FY 2020-21 was difficult, with the lockdown there were many obstacles in terms of gatherings and social distancing. For FY 2021/22, Marion County will offer summer presentations that students can take advantage of individually or in combination with other partnering organizations. In all cases, the program will consist of presentations, handouts, hands on application of water conservation items and promo items for participants.

**Utility Bill Inserts on Water Use Efficiency:** Billing inserts are distributed on a bimonthly basis by Marion County Utilities. These inserts are used to educate citizens on water use efficiency and to promote the County's incentive based programs. Message topics in FY 2021/22 will include: informing citizens of the change back to the once a week watering schedule, how to conduct a routine check on an irrigation system, how to identify common household leaks, and other topics related to water use. These inserts are a big driver for participation in the County's water use efficiency initiatives.

**Educational Print Media:** Along with billing inserts for Utility customers, tip cards and brochures on water use efficiency, incentive programs and resource protection are made available at five County libraries and the MCU lobby for customers free of charge.

**Landscape and Irrigation Rebate Program:** The purpose of this program is to encourage residents to make changes to their landscape and irrigation system to increase water use efficiency. Since FY 2012/13, the County has had in place a program that offers up to \$5,000 for residents to make substantial changes to their landscape and irrigation system to meet Florida Water Star® Silver Level criteria. For many residents, completing a full retrofit to their landscape and irrigation system to meet these criteria is expensive and does not result in a significant financial return on investment. There are, however, many changes that residents can often make to use water more efficiently that require less time, money and effort to install.

For FY 2021/22, Marion County will offer different retrofit options that residents can take advantage of individually or in combination with each other. In all cases, the rebate offered will not exceed the actual price paid for the purchase and installation. Depending on results, the

program can be refined in future years to take advantage of concepts or retrofit options that provide the greatest benefit for the cost.

**Smart Irrigation Controller and Sensors:** Smart irrigation controllers utilize local weather and landscape conditions to tailor watering schedules to actual conditions on site. Studies have found that these devices reduce outdoor water use by an average of 15-30%. When used in conjunction with a soil moisture sensor (SMS) or evapotranspiration (ET) based sensor, the potential savings is as high as 90% during the rainy season. With smart controllers and sensors residents will be eligible for a rebate of up to \$500 towards the purchase and installation of a smart irrigation controller and a SMS or ET based sensor. This may only be applied for once every five years at a residence.

**Efficient Irrigation:** The sprinkler heads typically used on irrigations systems (rotors and sprays) have an efficiency of only 60-75%. This means that 25-40% of the water being applied is wasted. High efficiency sprinkler nozzles (rotating nozzles) save water by applying it more uniformly and efficiently (90-95%) than traditional sprinklers. Rotating nozzles typically cost between \$2 and \$10 each, and result in an average water savings of 1,000 gallons per nozzle per year. Because rotating nozzles apply water at a slower rate than traditional nozzles, it is necessary to ensure that entire irrigation zones are retrofitted to prevent too much or too little water from being applied in areas of the zone. With efficient irrigation residents will be eligible for a rebate of up to \$200 per zone converted to rotating nozzles.

**Micro-Irrigation:** Micro-irrigation, sometimes referred to as “drip” or “low volume” irrigation, improves irrigation efficiency through the precise application of water to the root area of the plant. Micro-irrigation reduces the amount of water lost to wind, evaporation and runoff, and minimizes the growth of weeds. An added benefit is that it is highly customizable for oddly shaped areas and those with a variety of different plant types. Depending on a number of different factors, water savings from converting a single landscape zone to micro-irrigation can range from 5-20% or more. With micro-irrigation residents will be eligible for a rebate of up to \$200 per high-volume irrigation zone converted to micro-irrigation.

**Florida-Friendly Landscape:** Landscape plant selection and water efficiency go hand in hand. Installing drought tolerant plants can greatly reduce or eliminate the need for supplemental irrigation. The Florida-Friendly Landscape will incentivize the installation of drought tolerant plants in a previously high-volume irrigation zone. In order to take advantage of this, the zone where plants are being installed must concurrently be converted to low-volume or micro-irrigation, or irrigation must be removed. This will offer residents a rebate of up to \$200 per zone and can be used in conjunction with the Efficient Irrigation or Micro-Irrigation.

**Rain Sensor Repair and Replacement Kits:** Rain sensors and repair kits are distributed for free at the Marion County Utilities office and the office of the County Engineer to customers. These kits contain the replacement discs used in the operation of the sensor to ensure the rain sensors are functioning properly. If the sensor cannot be repaired a replacement sensor will be issued to the customer. Each rain sensor installed has the potential to save 3,000 gallons of water a month.

**Low-Flow Toilet Rebates (East of I-75 only):** The toilet rebate program offers Marion County Utilities customers up to \$100 (or \$180 if two toilets are replaced) to replace a conventional high-volume toilet (3.5 gallons per flush or greater) with a dual flush or high-efficiency toilet (1.28 gallons per flush or less). This is an ongoing program that has been in place since October, 2011. As of April 1, 2020; this program has incentivized the replacement of 2,367 toilets.

This grant would provide for approximately 150 toilet rebates in the Marion County Utilities service areas east of I-75. It is estimated that the replacement of these toilets will save an estimated 25.1 million gallons total over their 20 year lifespan at a cost of approximated \$1.01 per thousand gallons saved. The County is expected to have a grant with the Southwest Florida Water Management District to cooperatively fund rebates west of I-75.

**Low-Flow Toilet Rebates (Non-MCU customers):** This grant would provide for approximately 50 toilet rebates in Marion County where residents are not customers of Marion County Utilities. As mentioned previously, it is estimated that the replacement of these toilets will save an estimated 25.1 million gallons total over their 20 year lifespan at a cost of approximated \$1.01 per thousand gallons saved. The County is expected to have a grant with the Southwest Florida Water Management District to cooperatively fund rebates county wide. This will be the second phase of this program.

**Water Conservation Kits:** Low flow retrofit kits are distributed for free at the Marion County Utilities office to customers. These kits contain low-flow fixtures and devices to reduce both indoor and outdoor water use. Each kit fully installed has the potential to save 25,000 gallons of water a year. They will be distributed to both non utilities and utility customers.

**Water Conservation Billboards:** A billboard campaign is utilized each year to promote smart water conservation practices. These billboards promote the use of rain sensors, discourage overwatering of lawns and inform citizens of the shift to once a week watering. Billboards in FY 2018/19 achieved just over an estimated 1 million impressions at a cost of less than \$0.01 per impression.



## Grant Timeline

### **Educational Materials**

Develop, print, and distribute materials 10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022

### **Efficient Irrigation Rebates**

Enroll participants 10/1/2021 – 9/1/2022

Complete retrofits and issue rebates 10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022

Distribute and track rain sensor repair kits 4/1/2021 – 6/10/2022

### **Low-Flow Toilet Rebates**

Enroll participants 10/1/2021 – 9/1/2022

Perform inspections and issue rebates 10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022

### **Water Conservation Kits**

Order conservation kits 10/1/2021 – 11/1/2022

Distribute and track conservation kits 12/1/2021 – 9/30/2022

### **Utility Bill Inserts on Water Use Efficiency**

Develop, print, and distribute materials 10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022

### **Water Conservation Billboards**

Develop and run by billboard campaigns 11/1/2021 – 9/30/2022

**RESOLUTION NO. 21 R-\_\_\_\_\_**

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

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

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

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

**WHEREAS**, the Board is seeking a grant through the Authority's funding assistance program for landscape and irrigation retrofits, toilet rebates, low-flow retrofit kits and homeowner-education elements of its overall water conservation programming in Fiscal Year 2021/2022; and

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

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

- 1. Marion County Board of County Commissioners supports the application to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for local program funding for the 2021/2022 fiscal year.**
- 2. Marion County Board of County Commissioners agrees to budget \$43,695 as part of its on-going Water Use Efficiency Program.**

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption of the final budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 by the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

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

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**JEFF GOLD, CHAIRMAN**

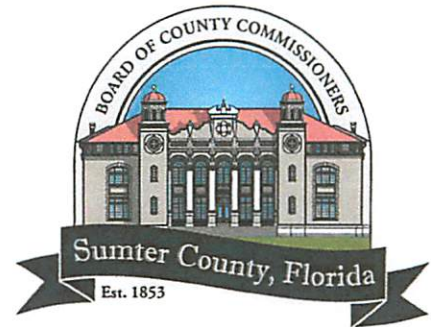
**ATTEST:**

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**GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK**

# ***Board of County Commissioners Sumter County, Florida***

7375 Powell Road, Suite 200 • Wildwood, FL 34785 • Phone (352) 689-4400 • FAX: (352) 689-4401  
Website: <http://sumtercountyfl.gov>



June 25, 2021

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, P.E., PMP  
Executive Director  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
3600 W Sovereign Path, Suite 228  
Lecanto, Florida 34461

RE: Sumter County Board of County Commissioners  
FY 2021/22 Water Conservation Grant Application

Dear Ms. Folsom:

Enclosed for your consideration is Sumter County's Water Conservation Grant Application, along with an attachment of project tasks and schedules. A resolution of support of our commitment to budget and expend matching funds has been signed by the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Sumter County appreciates our ongoing relationship with the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority and the opportunity to collaborate with you in our efforts to protect our water resources. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mr. Michael F. Jara, Assistant Public Works Director – Facilities and Parks, or me at (352) 689-4400

Sincerely,

Deborah L. Snyder, P.E., PTOE  
Public Works Director/County Engineer

Enclosures

Gary Search, District 1  
(352) 689-4400  
7375 Powell Road  
Wildwood, FL 34785

Doug Gilpin, District 2  
(352) 689-4400  
7375 Powell Road  
Wildwood, FL 34785

Craig Estep, District 3  
Vice Chairman  
(352) 689-4400  
7375 Powell Road  
Wildwood, FL 34785

Garry Breeden, District 4  
Chairman  
(352) 689-4400  
7375 Powell Road  
Wildwood, FL 34785

Oren Miller, District 5  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman  
(352) 689-4400  
7375 Powell Road  
Wildwood, FL 34785

Bradley S. Arnold,  
County Administrator  
(352) 689-4400  
7375 Powell Road  
Wildwood, FL 34785

Gloria R. Hayward, Clerk & Auditor  
(352) 569-6600  
215 East McCollum Avenue  
Bushnell, FL 33513

County Attorney  
The Hogan Law Firm  
Post Office Box 485  
Brooksville, Florida 34605

**WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION GRANT APPLICATION FORM:**

Sumter County, Florida

**Name of applicant:**

**Provide a short description of the proposed water conservation project in the text box below:**

The Sumter County Board of County Commissioners and the Sumter County Sheriff's office work cooperatively to plan and install water conservation measures in the existing jail. Our plan consists of replacing the Metcraft water control system in Bravo Building with an I-CON system. One holding cell and six administrative holding cells will be updated to I-CON controls. I-CON's plumbing system puts the control of the plumbing fixtures in the hands of those operating the facility and out of the hands of the inmates. The system replaces existing, "static" plumbing components with "controllable" components. By activating lavatories and toilets with electronic devices, rather than "standard" devices, the plumbing fixtures can be easily controlled. This will save water that is currently wasted by the inmates

**List previous grants received from WRWSA in the previous 3 fiscal years and date completed:**

No previous grants have been received in the past three years

**Attachments to application:**

1. A resolution of support that includes a commitment that the grant recipient will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program.
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.

**Return Application to:**

Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director  
WRWSA, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 228, Lecanto, Florida 34461

**Deadline: June 30, 2021, 5:00 p.m. EST**

**Exhibit "A"****FY 21-22 Scope of Work****Project: Monetary Incentives**

Objective Reduce water consumption  
by installing water efficient I-Con  
controls Sumter County Detention  
Center Bravo-Building.

Components	Estimated Quantity	Cost Per/cell County	WRWSA	SWFWMD	Total Cost
I-Con Nexus controller w/manifold, flush valve and low voltage wiring	11	\$ 4,000.00 \$ 22,000.00	\$ 22,000.00	\$ -	\$ 44,000.00

Tasks: Reduce water consumption by  
installing I-CON water controls in the  
existing Bravo Building

**Schedule**

Procurement timeframe includes six  
weeks for solicitation

Two-three weeks for approval and  
added to the Boards' regular meeting  
agenda

Construction timeframe includes lead  
time and construction 6-8 weeks



SUMTER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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**SUBJECT:** A Resolution to Approve a Grant Application with Match to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) for a Water Conservation Project

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Staff Recommends Approval

**Meeting Type:** Regular Meeting

**DATE OF MEETING:** 6/8/2021

**CONTRACT:** ☒ N/A

**Vendor/Entity:** WRWSA

**Effective Date:** 10/1/2021

**Termination Date:** N/A

**Managing Division / Dept:** Facilities & Parks

**BUDGET IMPACT:** \$22,000.00

**FUNDING SOURCE:** General Fund

**Type:** N/A

**EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT:** 001-100-523-4600

**HISTORY/FACTS/ISSUES:**

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) requests grant applications for water conservation projects. These applications must be supported by a Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners. If funded, the total cost is estimated to be \$44,000.00, and the WRWSA Grant will pay \$22,000.00, and Sumter County will pay \$22,000.00. The grant applications are due June 30, 2021.

**Prepared by:** Deborah Snyder

**Grammarly Check**



**APPROVED**

**June 8, 2021**

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 20

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SUMTER COUNTY, FLORIDA, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA. FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY AND, COMMITTING FUNDS TO MATCH GRANT FUNDING FOR A WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM.**

**WHEREAS**, the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners recognizes and support the County's efforts in water conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sumter County Public Works Department, Facilities and Parks Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of facilities of the county; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority) provides funding assistance to local governments for projects and programs with an emphasis on water conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, the County's water conservation project meets the grant funding eligibility requirements of the Authority; and

**WHEREAS**, the County will budget and expend its matching funds as required by the grant program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Sumter County, Florida:

Sumter County Board of County Commissioners supports the application to the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority for the FY 2021-2022 Local Government Water Supply Funding Assistance program and agrees to budget funds as identified in Exhibit "A".



ATTEST:

*Caroline Alvestinaur*

DEPUTY CLERK

SUMTER COUNTY, FLORIDA, A  
POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE  
STATE OF FLORIDA

BY:

*[Signature]*

CHAIRMAN



## **Exhibit A**

The Grant application replaces the Metcraft water control system in the Bravo Building of the Sumter County Jail with an I-CON system. One holding cell and six administrative holding cells will be I-CON controls. I-CON's plumbing system puts the control of the plumbing fixtures in the hands of those operating the facility and out of the hands of the inmates. The system replaces existing, "static" plumbing components with "controllable" components. By activating lavatories and toilets with electronic devices rather than "standard" devices, the plumbing fixtures can be easily controlled. This new system will conserve water at the Bravo Building. Installation of the System is \$44,000.00, with the Grant paying \$22,000.00 and Sumter County's match being \$22,000.00.



## Items 9.a. and 9.b.

### **Legislative Report**

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

#### a. **Bill Status Summary**

The 2020-2021 Legislative Regular Session began March 2 and ended April 30. 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 and the SWFWMD Board and Executive Services Manager. The attached exhibit is a summary of the bills that passed during the session and when the Governor approved them. Staff will continue to track the implementation of the bills that have been approved, and give an update on their implementation at the September Board Meeting.

See Exhibit

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

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

#### b. **Senate Bill 64 Legislation – Surface Discharge and Ability of Utilities to Use Reclaimed Water for Water Bodies Below their MFLs**

Senate Bill 64 Reclaimed Water was one of the bills that passed during the 2020-2022 Legislative Session. The intent of this legislation is to eliminate non-beneficial discharges of reclaimed water to surface waters and to encourage beneficial reuse of treated wastewater. Staff will present more details on the legislation and the applicability to the WRWSA four county region.

See Exhibit

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

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

Summary of Florida State Legislative Bills WRWSA Tracked that ***Passed and have been Approved by the Governor***  
 July 5, 2021

Bill Title	Significance	Bill	Status
WMDs Purchase of Commodities	Authorized the Water Management Districts to use contracts of other specified entities to purchase commodities and contractual services i.e. piggybacking of contracts	SB 952 - Burgess HB 169 - Maggard	HB 169 Passed on 4/22/21 and approved by the Governor on 6/4/21
Reclaimed Water	Classification of potable reuse as Alternative Water Supply for Funding. Requirement for utilities to submit a plan to FDEP to eliminate non-beneficial surface water discharge within 5 years.	SB 64 - Albritton HB 263 - Maggard	SB 64 passed 4/21/21 and approved by the Governor on 6/29/21
Impact Fees	Requires local governments & special districts to limit impact fee increases retroactive to January 1, 2021, requires specified entities to submit affidavit attesting that the impact fees were appropriately collected & expanded.	SB 337 DiCeglie HB 750 Gruters	HB 337 passed 4/26/21 and approved by the Governor on 6/4/21
MCORES	Various Bills related to MCORES Highway Projects Funding and Scheduling	SB100 – Harrell	SB 100 passed 4/27/21 and approved by the Governor on 6/24/21
	Department of Transportation	SB1126 - Harrell HB1385-LaMarca	SB 11126 passed 4/28/21 and approved by the Governor on 6/29/21

LEGISLATIVE  
SUMMARY FOR  
WRWSA BOARD  
MEETING  
JULY 21, 2021

# ***Senate Bill 64 Reclaimed Water***

1

## **SB 64**

Reclaimed Water

- ▶ Eliminate non-Beneficial discharge to surface water
- ▶ Encourage use of reclaimed supply
- ▶ Funding and streamlined permitting for “potable reuse” projects
- ▶ Encourage grey water technology

7/8/2021

2

## Beneficial reuse vs. non-beneficial discharge

### Non-beneficial discharge

- ▶ Ocean Outfall
- ▶ Most River/Lake Discharges

### Allowable reuse / beneficial discharge

- ▶ Direct Potable Reuse
- ▶ Reclaimed Water Distribution
  - ▶ Irrigation
  - ▶ Industrial/Commercial
  - ▶ Agricultural
- ▶ Spray fields and rapid infiltration basins
- ▶ Aquifer recharge/saltwater intrusion barrier
- ▶ Wetland rehydration
- ▶ Discharge that helps to an MFL
- ▶ Discharge used for indirect potable reuse
- ▶ Some wet weather seasonal discharge allowed

7/8/2021

3

## Other Exclusions

- ▶ Fiscally constrained County
- ▶ Rural area of opportunity
- ▶ Municipality <\$10M revenue
- ▶ Capacity of <0.3 mgd

7/8/2021

4

## Funding

- ▶ Designated “potable reuse” as an alternative water supply
- ▶ Incentivizes potable reuse project

7/8/2021

5

## Discharge Elimination Requirements

- ▶ Discharge Elimination Plan to FDEP by November 1, 2021
- ▶ Annual Reporting
- ▶ Eliminate Discharge by January 1, 2032

7/8/2021

6





## Hernando County Facilities

Location	Capacity (MGD)
Brooksville Smith Water Reclamation Facility	1.600
Ridge Manor WWTP	0.750
Spring Hill WRF	2.500
Hernando Airport WRF	0.750

- 32 permitted wastewater facilities

7/8/2021

9

## Marion County Facilities

Location	Capacity (MGD)
Ocala #2	6.500
Ocala #3	4.000
Solver Springs Shores	0.998
Oak Run WWTP	0.800
On top of the World WWTP	0.750
Marion Correction Institute	0.650
Bellevue WWTP	0.580

- 118 Permitted wastewater facilities

7/8/2021

10

## Sumter County Facilities

Location	Capacity (MGD)
Wildwood WWTP	3.550
Little Sumter Utilite Co WWTP	3.000
Central Sumter Utility Co WWTP	1.600
GPU WWTP	1.600
North Sumter Utility Company WWTP	1.500

- ▶ 35 permitted wastewater facilities

7/8/2021

11

## Questions

12

## Item 10.a.

### **Executive Assistant Contract Amendment**

Mr. Robert Batsel, General Counsel, will present this item.

General Counsel has reviewed the Executive Assistant Contract and drafted a contract amendment to accommodate a 3% raise for FY 2021-2022. This will increase the base compensation from \$37,500 to \$38,625. The amendment also allows the board to increase the base compensation in future fiscal years for cost of living, not to exceed 3%. A copy of the drafted contract amendment is included in the Board's meeting materials.

See Exhibit

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Approve contract amendment for Executive Assistant Contract to increase base compensation to \$38,625 for FY 2021-2022, and allow the Board to authorize cost of living increases in future budget years.

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND  
PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

**THIS FIRST AMENDMENT** to Agreement for Administrative Assistant and Project Management Services (“Amendment”) is executed by and between:

- The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, a Florida special district (“Authority”); and
- Carolyn LuAnne Stout (“Administrative Assistant”).

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On July 10, 2015, the Agreement for Administrative Assistant and Project Management (the “Original Agreement”) was entered into between Authority and Administrative Assistant.
- B. Paragraph 2 of the Original Agreement entitled “Compensation” provided that Authority agreed to pay Administrative Assistant certain sums for the periods including July 13, 2015 through July 31, 2015, August 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015, and October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016.
- C. Paragraph 2 did not provide for increases in compensation following the aforementioned periods. Thus, the Administrative Assistant’s compensation has not changed since September 20, 2016.
- D. The Authority desires to increase the compensation of the Administrative Assistant in accordance with the annual cost of living, not to exceed three percent (3%) annually.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the promises contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, and intending to be legally bound hereby, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. **Amended Compensation Paragraph.** The Original Agreement is hereby amended at Paragraph 2, entitled “Compensation”, subsection A, to state as follows:

Authority herein agrees to pay the Administrative Assistant a sum of Thirty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$38,625) for the 2021-2022 fiscal year (“Annual Compensation”). Annual Compensation shall be payable in equal monthly installments of Three Thousand Two Hundred Eighteen and 17/100 Dollars (\$3,218.75). Administrative Assistant shall submit a monthly billing for the above amount to Authority for payment. Such monthly amount shall be considered approved each month pursuant to this Agreement and Authority is authorized to pay such monthly amounts without independent approval of same at each Governing Board meeting. Subject to annual approval by the Authority’s Governing Board based upon its evaluation of Administrative Assistant’s performance, commencing on October 1, 2022, and on each October 1 thereafter, the then-effective Annual Compensation may be increased (but not decreased) by an amount reflecting the increase, if any, in the cost of living during the previous twelve months by adding to the Annual Compensation by the percentage by which the level of the Employment Cost Index for Total Compensation for State and Local Government Workers (“All Workers”), as most recently reported prior to October 1 of each renewal year by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, has increased over its level as of the same reporting date of the prior year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any such increase in Annual Compensation shall not exceed three percent (3%) in a single year.

2. **Effect on Original Agreement.** Except as expressly set forth herein, the Original Agreement is not amended or modified. All references herein or in the Original Agreement to “this Agreement”, “the Agreement” or similar terms shall be deemed to refer to the Original Agreement as amended hereby.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Amendment effective on the date(s) set forth below.

**AUTHORITY**

Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply  
Authority

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Bryant, Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Carolyn LuAnne Stout

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carolyn LuAnne Stout

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert W. Batsel, Jr.



## **Item 11.a.**

**Executive Director's Report**

### **Water Use Permit Demand Summary**

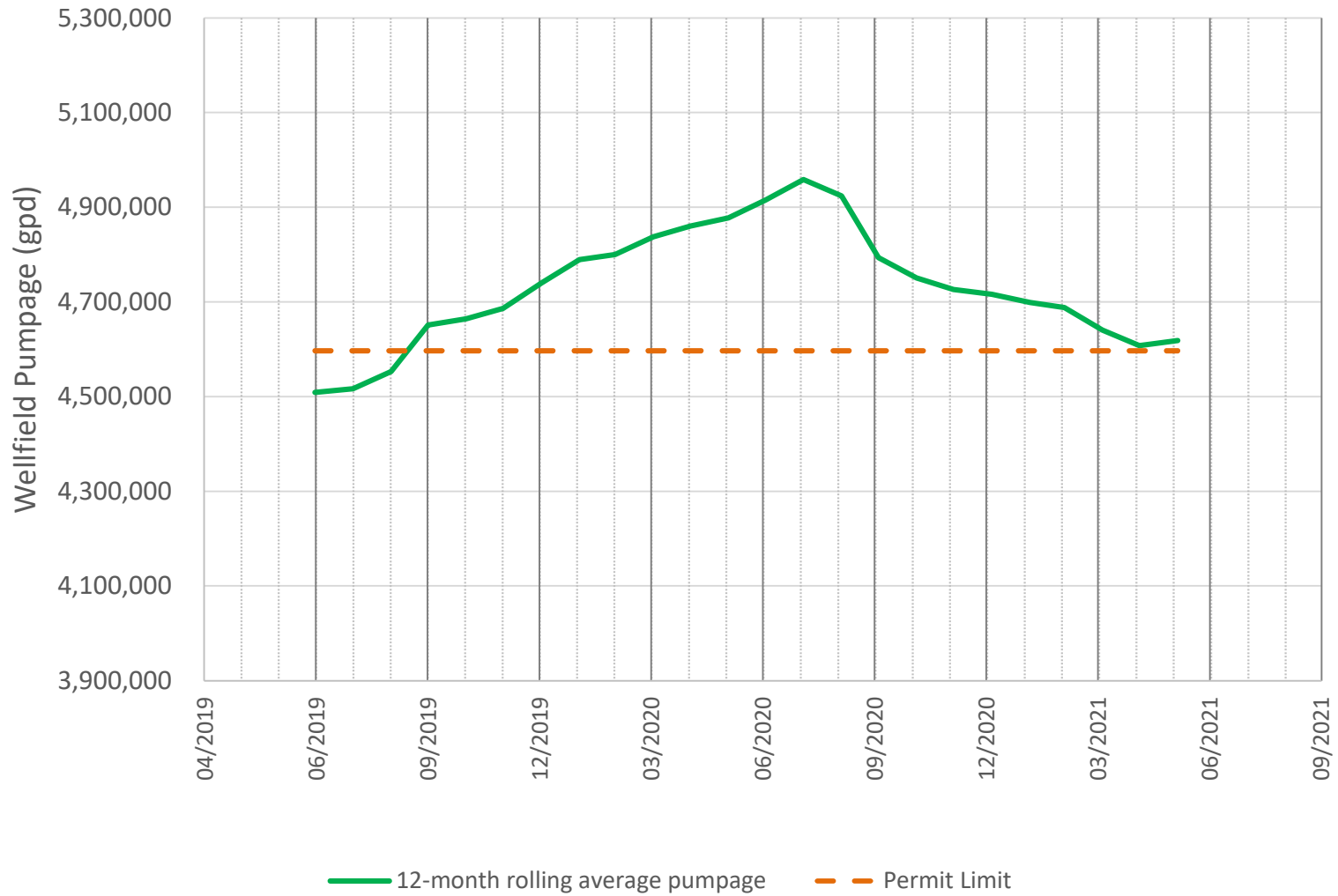
## Summary of Major Water Use Permits in WRWSA Service Area

Water Use Permit #	Applicant/Permittee Name	Permit Expiration Date	Permitted Average GPD	Actual 12-Month Rolling Average GPD*	Actual 5-Year Rolling Average GPD**	Actual Use / Permit Capacity	WRWSA RWSP Projection for 2020 GPD	RWSP Accuracy for 2020 +/-
<b>Citrus County</b>								
<a href="#">207.007</a>	City of Crystal River	3/27/2032	919,000	714,887.67	781,090.05	77.8%	740,000	3.5%
<a href="#">419.013</a>	City of Inverness	5/18/1931	1,535,000	1,141,003	1,046,073	74.3%	1,120,000	-1.8%
<a href="#">1118.008</a>	Floral City Water Association, Inc.	2/28/2038	395,000	324,823	341,196	82.2%	300,000	-7.6%
<a href="#">2842.011</a>	Citrus County	8/25/2035	4,780,000	2,504,723	2,533,218	52.4%	2,540,000	1.4%
<a href="#">4153.014</a>	Rolling Oaks Utilities, Inc.	8/20/2038	1,573,000	1,583,159	1,584,587	<b>100.6%</b>	1,510,000	-4.6%
<a href="#">4406.008</a>	Homosassa Special Water District	2/13/2022	960,000	860,184	808,922	89.6%	760,000	-11.6%
<a href="#">7121.006</a>	Citrus County - Charles A Black	3/13/2022	4,597,000	4,618,359	4,675,221	<b>100.5%</b>	3,710,000	-19.7%
<a href="#">9791.011</a>	Citrus County - Sugarmill Woods	11/17/2025	2,435,300	2,174,594	2,172,685	89.3%	2,290,000	5.3%
<a href="#">11839.008</a>	GCP Walden Wds. One & Two, LLC, c/o Sun Communities, Inc.	4/23/2039	187,900	174,588	155,429	92.9%	140,000	-19.8%
<a href="#">20230.000</a>	Ozello Water Association, Inc.	1/12/2022	509,000	N/A**	N/A	N/A	450,000	N/A
<b>Hernando County</b>								
<a href="#">5789.013</a>	Hernando Co. BOCC, Wiscon Maintenance Compound/Attn: Landis Legg	8/26/2035	23,299,000	19,435,452	18,007,065	83.4%	18,850,000	-3.0%
<a href="#">7627.005</a>	City of Brooksville	2/25/2024	2,448,000	1,289,587	1,309,856	52.7%	1,120,000	-13.2%
<b>Marion County - SWFWMD</b>								
<a href="#">1156.013</a>	Bay Laurel Community Development District	2/23/2041	7,560,900	3,562,373	3,285,680	47.1%	2,650,000	<b>-25.6%</b>
<a href="#">2999.005</a>	Marion Utilities, Inc. Rainbow Lakes Estates	2/27/2035	126,000	92,408	97,513	73.3%	100,000	8.2%
<a href="#">5643.008</a>	Utilities, Inc. of Florida - Golden Hills	2/23/2036	188,400	137,414	148,812	72.9%	160,000	16.4%
<a href="#">6151.013</a>	Marion County Utilities Consolidated WUP	9/7/2021	6,661,000	5,363,011	5,151,157	80.5%	5,130,000	-4.3%
<a href="#">7849.005</a>	Marion Utilities, Inc.- Woods & Meadows	4/20/2037	149,000	127,591	126,291	85.6%	140,000	9.7%
<a href="#">8020.008</a>	Association of Marion Landing Owners, Inc.	9/9/2040	179,400	127,053	136,489	70.8%	160,000	<b>25.9%</b>
<a href="#">8339.008</a>	Florida Governmental Utility Authority-Dunellon	3/21/2035	1,117,100	1,622,636	1,114,403	145.3%	910,000	<b>-43.9%</b>
<a href="#">8481.006</a>	Marion Utilities, Inc.- Spruce Creek	6/24/2039	834,400	821,247	708,647	98.4%	690,000	-16.0%
<b>Marion County - SJRWMD</b>								
2993-10	Sunshine Utilities of Central Fla Inc - South Marion Regional Water System	12/17/2021	151,000	152,092	158,859	<b>100.7%</b>	230,000	<b>51.2%</b>
2995-6	Tradewinds Utilities Inc	2/27/2035	132,000	101,937	93,578	77.2%	100,000	-1.9%
3016-3	Ocala East Villas Inc	9/4/2021	126,491	94,437	94,626	74.7%	100,000	5.9%
3021-5	Rolling Greens Communities	9/13/2025	610,000	486,251	358,131	79.7%	350,000	<b>-28.0%</b>
3043-7	Florida Governmental Utility Authority - Ocala Oaks	1/6/2040	194,000	157,230	128,387	81.0%	170,000	8.1%
3094-4	Marion Utilities Inc - Fore Acres	3/1/2021	145,000	106,137	102,308	73.2%	110,000	3.6%
3101-5	Marion Utilities Inc - Greenfields/Indian Pines	8/13/2021	194,000	128,404	126,966	66.2%	130,000	1.2%
3130-2	Sunshine Utilities - Sunray Estates	8/23/2020	229,000	118,377	140,268	51.7%	150,000	<b>26.7%</b>
3137-5	City of Belleview	10/11/2036	1,022,000	903,751	888,975	88.4%	860,000	-4.8%
4578-7	Marion County Utilities Consolidated CUP	9/10/2023	6,440,000	5,812,378	5,623,689	90.3%	6,620,000	13.9%
50324-9	City of Ocala	8/7/2027	15,260,000	11,659,111	11,474,403	76.4%	11,460,000	-1.7%
<b>Sumter County</b>								
<a href="#">1368.008</a>	Lake Panasoffkee Water Assoc Inc	8/22/2024	410,000	280,770	272,389	68.5%	290,000	3.3%
<a href="#">6519.01</a>	City of Bushnell	3/29/2031	1,366,800	429,910	464,567	31.5%	555,000	<b>29.1%</b>
<a href="#">7185.006</a>	City of Webster	8/29/2022	102,900	92,181	85,245	89.6%	160,000	<b>73.6%</b>
<a href="#">8135.013</a>	City of Wildwood	3/31/2035	4,344,800	2,297,762	2,178,986	52.9%	3,950,000	<b>71.9%</b>
<a href="#">8193.005</a>	City of Center Hill	9/10/2022	170,500	70,477	69,190	41.3%	150,000	<b>112.8%</b>
<a href="#">13005.011</a>	Village Center Community Development District	1/23/2038	19,345,900	12,470,975	13,938,254	64.5%	24,400,000	<b>95.7%</b>
<a href="#">20597.000</a>	City of Wildwood-Continental Country Club	6/17/2026	238,400	142,115	N/A****	59.6%	210,000	<b>47.8%</b>
*12-month Rolling Average from June 2020 - May 2021								
** 5-year Rolling Average from June 2016 - May 2021								
***No flow data was available for Ozello Water Association								

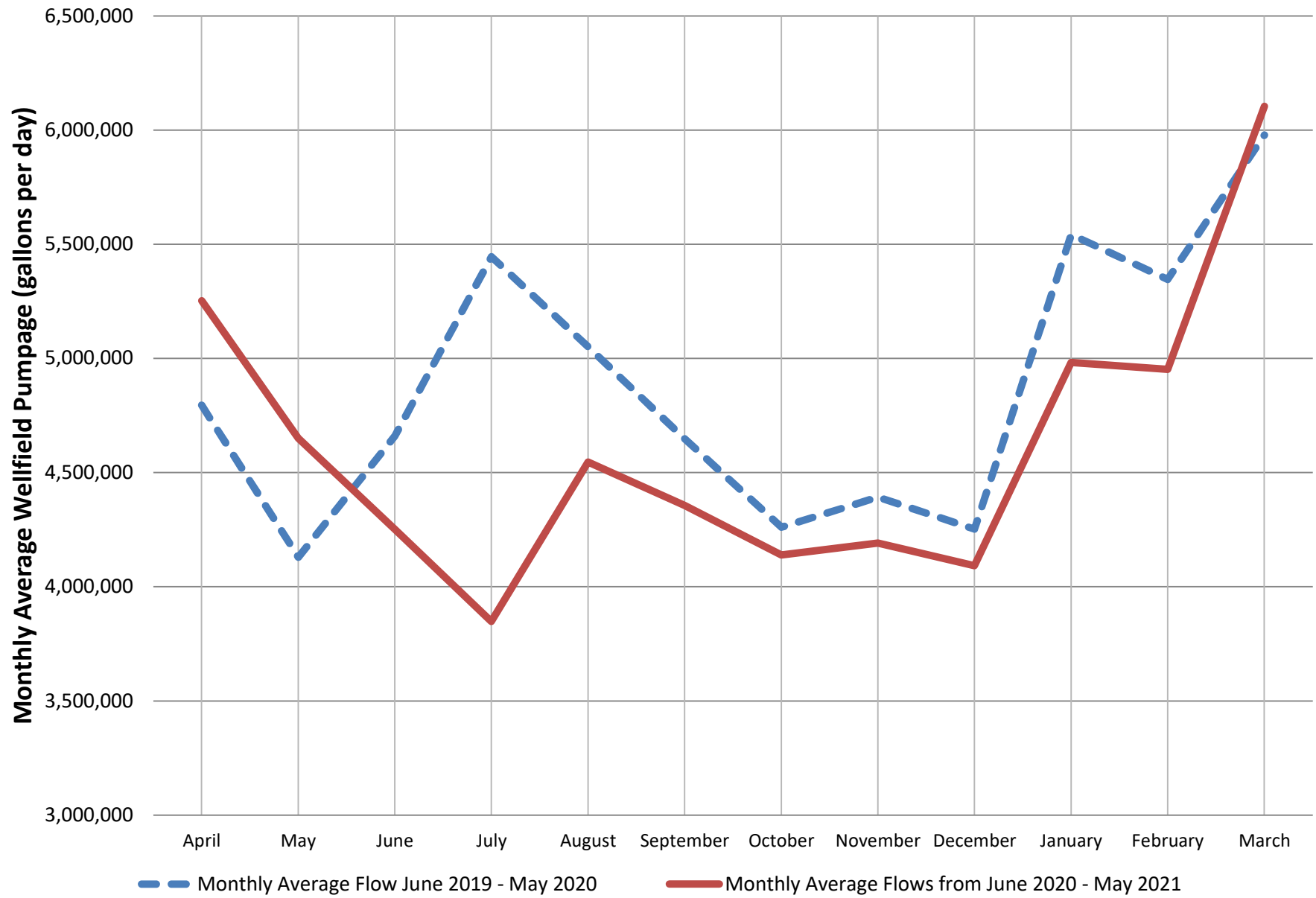


# Charles A. Black Wellfield

## 12-Month Rolling Average Wellfield Pumpage



## Total Charles A. Black Wellfield Pumpage



## **Item 11.b.**

**Executive Director's Report**

### **WMIS WUP Notifications**

# Summary of Recent Water Use Permit Activity in WRWSA Service Area

Updated 7/5/21

Water Use Permit #	Applicant/Permittee Name	Activity Type	Date	Avg GPD	Peak GPD	Use Type	Status
<b>Citrus County</b>							
<a href="#">7784.004</a>	Citrus County BOCC - Water Oaks	Renewal	4/13/2021	19,802	27,552	Public Supply	Issued 7/2/21
<a href="#">10544.003</a>	DPH Holding LLC - Hooper Funeral home	Renewal	5/5/2021	4,600	12,800	Landscape/ Recreation	Withdrawn
<a href="#">2226.004</a>	M & B Products, Inc./Attn: Andrea McClellan	Renewal	5/13/2021	27,450	73,900	Agricultural	In Review
<a href="#">10544.004</a>	DPH Holding LLC - Hooper Funeral home	Renewal	5/21/2021	2,300	6,400	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 6/29/21
<a href="#">7687.011</a>	Crystal River Quarries - Lecanto Mine	Letter Modification	6/9/2021	73,900	77,300	Industrial/ Commercial/ Agricultural/ Mining/ Dewatering	Issued 6/22/21
<a href="#">11281.008</a>	Metal industries	Renewal	7/2/2021	200,000	200,000	Industrial/ Commercial	In Review
<b>Hernando County</b>							
<a href="#">6797.004</a>	SA Williams Trust	Renewal	2/25/2021	325,900	1,290,200	Agricultural	In Review
<a href="#">20177.001</a>	Dipti and Himanshu Patel	Renewal	3/16/2021	12,300	65,300	Agricultural	Issued 5/10/21
<a href="#">20216.001</a>	Hickory Hills Land Company/ Attn: Robert Thomas - Two Rivers Ranch	Renewal	4/21/2021	85,100	374,000	Agricultural	Issued 5/19/21
<a href="#">3374.005</a>	301 Prop. Holdings, LLC/Attn: Larry Brown	Ownership Transfer	5/3/2021	476,400	927,400	Agricultural	Issued 5/10/21
<a href="#">12203.002</a>	Finest Farms, Inc./Attn: Blake Hunnicutt	Renewal	5/19/2021	155,100	517,400	Agricultural	In Review
<a href="#">20223.001</a>	Hunnicutt Farms, LLC / Attn: Blake Hunnicutt	Renewal	5/19/2021	67,200	173,000	Agricultural	Issued 6/1/21
<a href="#">20971.000</a>	Bantam Realty, LLC	New	5/24/2021	500,000	40,000	Agricultural	Withdrawn
<a href="#">13205.002</a>	Bantam Realty, LLC - Bloo Angel Groves	Ownership Transfer	6/3/2021	1,000	2,000	Agricultural	Issued 6/8/21
<b>Marion County - SWFWMD</b>							
<a href="#">20147.002</a>	Farrior Investments Ltd/Attn: Preston Farrior	Renewal	3/16/2021	99,300	280,300	Agricultural	Issued 5/20/21
<a href="#">20176.001</a>	Horticultural Arts and Park Institute, Inc	Renewal	5/5/2021	12,800	38,800	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 5/17/21
<a href="#">20210.001</a>	R.L. Roberts Properties LLC/Attn: R. L. Roberts	Letter Modification	5/18/2021	426,380	1,340,630	Agricultural	Issued 6/2/21
<a href="#">20712.002</a>	Equestrian Operations, L.L.C./Attn: Ralph L Roberts, Sr., C.O.B.	Letter Modification	5/18/2021	382,000	893,900	Landscape/ Recreation / Agricultural	Issued 6/2/21
<a href="#">20175.001</a>	Circle Square Ranch Master Assoc., Inc./Attn: Gerald R. Colen	Renewal	5/19/2021	21,700	62,500	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
<a href="#">20152.001</a>	HT Ranch, LLC	Renewal	5/24/2021	217,800	806,900	Agricultural	In Review
<a href="#">20210.002</a>	Roberts Quarter Horse Farm	Renewal	6/8/2021	426,380	1,340,630	Agricultural	In Review
<a href="#">4390.007</a>	Barber Peanut Farm	Renewal	6/23/2021	381,400	1,378,700	Agricultural	In Review
<b>Sumter County</b>							
<a href="#">11856.003</a>	Brassboys Enterprises (c/o Clark H Smith) Miona Lake Golf Course	Renewal	2/25/2021	22,900	257,900	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
<a href="#">10385.003</a>	Long Hammock Ranch III, LLC/ Attn: Chad Hughes	Renewal	3/25/2021	90,400	498,600	Agricultural	In Review
<a href="#">20959.000</a>	Jesse Hurst-Hurst Farms '21 Peanuts	New	4/8/2021	26,301	99,999	Agricultural	Issued 5/26/21
<a href="#">4429.002</a>	Jesse Hurst-Watermelons	New - Expired	4/6/2021	93,000	615,000	Agricultural	Issued 5/24/21
<a href="#">3374.005</a>	13441 N. US Hwy. 301 Prop. Holdings, LLC/Attn: Larry Brown	Ownership Transfer	5/3/2021	476,400	927,400	Agricultural	Issued 5/10/21
<a href="#">213.016</a>	Cemex Construction Materials Florida LLC/Attn: James P. Morris	Letter Modification	5/10/2021	227,050	340,160	Mining and Dewatering	Issued 5/13/21
<a href="#">7746.004</a>	Cal-Maine Foods, Inc./ Attn: Adolphus Baker	Renewal	5/11/2021	61,000	92,000	Agricultural	In Review
<a href="#">12208.003</a>	Div. of Forestry, Dept. of Ag. and Cons. Serv/Attn: Keith Mouse	Renewal	5/13/2021	40,600	157,700	Agricultural	In Review
<a href="#">8675.008</a>	U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs / Attn: Bryan Bodner	Letter Modification	5/13/2021	817,400	2,336,100	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
<a href="#">20901.001</a>	Gibson Place Utility Company, LLC/Attn: Marty Dzuro	Letter Modification	5/18/2021	3,543,000	5,500,000	Public Supply	Issued 5/27/21
<a href="#">20105.003</a>	trueBlue Growers	Ownership	6/22/2021	89,500	281,000	Agricultural	In Review

## **Item 11.c.**

**Executive Director's Report**

### **Correspondence**



May 25, 2021

Mr. Randy Oliver  
Citrus County Administrator  
110 North Apopka Avenue  
Inverness, Florida 344501

Subject: WRWSA Budget for FY 2021-22

Dear Mr. Oliver:

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority or WRWSA) Board tentatively approved its budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 at its May 19, 2021 meeting. Enclosed is a copy of the budget and the Authority's FY 2021-22 Work Program. The budget is based upon, in part, maintaining the current \$0.19 per capita contribution from each County, resulting in Citrus County contributing \$28,383 in per capita revenues. The other counties will contribute a total of \$133,333 in per capita contributions and Citrus County will contribute an additional minimum amount of \$224,000 for the purchase of water from the Authority's Charles A. Black wellfield.

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

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

Sincerely,

Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP  
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Steven Lachnicht, Assistant County Administrator  
Colleen Scott, Management and Budget Director  
Ken Cheek, Water Resources Director  
Gary Loggins, Operations Division Director  
Debra Burden, Water Conservation Manager





May 25, 2021

Mr. Jeff Rogers  
Hernando County Administrator  
20 N. Main Street, Rm 263  
Brooksville, Florida 34601

Subject: WRWSA Budget for FY 2021-22

Dear Mr. Rogers:

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority or WRWSA) Board tentatively approved its budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 at its May 19, 2021 meeting. Enclosed is a copy of the budget and the Authority's FY 2021-22 Work Program. The budget is based upon, in part, maintaining the current \$0.19 per capita contribution from each County, resulting in Hernando County contributing \$36,516 in per capita revenues. The other counties will contribute a total of \$125,200 in per capita contributions and Citrus County will contribute an additional minimum amount of \$224,000 for the purchase of water from the Authority's Charles A. Black wellfield.

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

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

Sincerely,

Suzannah J. Forsom, PE, PMP  
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Tobey Phillips, Deputy County Administrator  
Toni Brady, Office of Management and Budget Director  
Gordon Onderdonk, PE, Utilities Director  
Grace Sheppard, Finance Manager, HCUD  
Alys Brockway, Water Resource Manager



May 25, 2021

Mr. Mounir Bouyounes  
Marion County Administrator  
601 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Ocala, Florida 34471

Subject: WRWSA Budget for FY 2021-22

Dear Mr. Bouyounes:

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority or WRWSA) Board tentatively approved its budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 at its May 19, 2021 meeting. Enclosed is a copy of the budget and the Authority's FY 2021-22 Work Program. The budget is based upon, in part, maintaining the current \$0.19 per capita contribution from each County, resulting in Marion County contributing \$69,946 in per capita revenues. The other counties will contribute a total of \$91,770 in per capita contributions and Citrus County will contribute an additional minimum amount of \$224,000 for the purchase of water from the Authority's Charles A. Black wellfield.

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

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

Sincerely,

Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP  
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk of Court and Comptroller  
Jennifer Cole, Finance Director  
Jody Kirkman, Utilities Director  
Tracy Straub, County Engineer  
Kim Dinkins, Senior Planner  
Michon Fabio, Water Resources Liaison





May 25, 2021

Mr. Bradley Arnold  
Sumter County Administrator  
7375 Powell Road  
Wildwood, Florida 34785

Subject: WRWSA Budget for FY 2021-22

Dear Mr. Arnold:

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (Authority or WRWSA) Board tentatively approved its budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 at its May 19, 2021 meeting. Enclosed is a copy of the budget and the Authority's FY 2021-22 Work Program. The budget is based upon, in part, maintaining the current \$0.19 per capita contribution from each County, resulting in Sumter County contributing \$26,871 in per capita revenues. The other counties will contribute a total of \$134,845 in per capita contributions and Citrus County will contribute an additional minimum amount of \$224,000 for the purchase of water from the Authority's Charles A. Black wellfield.

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

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

Sincerely,

Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP  
Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: WRWSA Board Members  
Stephen Kennedy, Assistant County Administrator  
Gloria Hayward, Clerk of Courts  
Bill Kleinsorge, Finance Director

# **Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority**

## **Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Work Program**

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

The Authority will continue its grant program to assist local governments in improving water conservation within the region in order to extend the use of groundwater as long as possible. Fresh groundwater is the least expensive source available to meet growing demands, however there is a limit to this source due to environmental impacts and impacts on other existing legal users caused by withdrawals. As the limit to fresh groundwater resources is reached, alternative, more expensive water sources will need to be developed. At the present time, water conservation programs are the most appropriate way for the Authority to help local governments extend the use of lower cost groundwater supplies. During Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22, the proposed budget anticipates appropriating an additional \$140,000 toward local government water conservation projects. Proposals will be considered from local governments and public supply utilities in the Authority's jurisdiction. The grant program guidelines and application package may be found on the Authority's web page at [www.wrwsa.org](http://www.wrwsa.org). The water conservation activities co-funded by this grant program help participating utilities meet the maximum 150 gallons per person per day that is required by the SWFWMD and to meet the SJRWMD conservation requirements.

### **2. Regional Residential Irrigation Audit Program to Promote Water Conservation within the Region**

This ongoing program provides an opportunity for residential water utility customers to obtain site-specific evaluations for optimizing the use of water through landscaping techniques and efficient irrigation systems, and to implement recommendations provided by a professionally certified contractor. Contractors used for the site-specific evaluations are professionals certified by the Florida Irrigation Society (FIS) or another recognized certifying agency in the targeted region. The initiative includes program information, water conservation education, reporting and analysis by a consultant. This continuing project targets existing inefficient landscape and irrigation water use and results in significant water savings and can lead to water quality protection through reduced leaching of fertilizers and lawn chemicals. More than 1300 audits have been conducted as part of Phases 1 to 5. In Phase 4, we began offering enhanced audits that have a more intense implementation of improvements, and have an improved benefit to reduce water usage. An average reduction in total water use of 28% has been achieved for the locations that have been audited. Phases 5 and 6 are ongoing. This program is co-funded by the SWFWMD. Participating utilities incur only 25% of their respective portion of the project, leveraging local dollars with regional funds. This water conservation initiative helps participating utilities meet and surpass the maximum 150 gallons per person per day that is required by the SWFWMD.

### **3. Continued Cooperation with Citrus County in Operation and Management of the Authority's Charles A. Black Water Supply Facilities**

The Authority and Citrus County completed negotiations at the end of FY 2015-16 of the Water Supply Contract governing the operation and maintenance of the CABWSF. The Contract allows for the continued operation of the facilities by Citrus County in a cost-effective manner ensuring a long-term water supply for the County and its customers while also providing for long-term financial stability for the Authority.

### **4. Participation in Maintenance and Enhancement of the North-Central Florida Groundwater Model**

The Authority will continue to participate in discussions with SJRWMD and SWFWMD on the implementation of the North-Central Florida Groundwater model. The project was initiated in fiscal year 2012-13. Phase 1 of the project entailed updating and expanding the SWFWMD's Northern District Groundwater Model to encompass all of Marion County and to incorporate the most recent hydrologic data. Phase 1 of the project was successfully completed. The intent is for both water management

districts to utilize this common model for determining the availability of groundwater in the region, particularly in Marion County which is split by the districts' boundaries. The SJRWMD and SWFWMD continue to improve upon the model and seek the engagement of various stakeholders. The model has significant implications for groundwater availability in the region and the Authority's continued participation and coordination with member governments is essential to ensure water supply implications are considered as the model is updated. The Authority also engages with both Districts to ensure continued use and support of the model.

## **5. Springs Protection and Restoration**

The Authority continues to work with the SWFWMD on its springs coast initiative. The SWFWMD recently completed Surface Water Improvement and Management (SWIM) Plans for the five first magnitude springs in the northern District. These SWIM plans call for action by not only the District but local governments and other stakeholders in the region to protect and restore these first magnitude springs. The Authority staff continue to actively participate in the Springs Coast Management Committee as the public Supply Representative, and monitor activities of the District and the Steering Committee for implications on water supply in the region. WRWSA is also providing a representative on the Technical Advisory Committee via one of our As-Needed Consultants.

## **6. Program Development and Technical Assistance**

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



June 1, 2021

Auditor General  
Local Government Audits/342  
Claude Pepper Building, Room 401  
111 West Madison Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1450

*Subject: Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority FYE 2020 Audit*

Auditor General:

Enclosed per instructions is one copy of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority's FYE 2020 Audit Report as well as a Submittal Checklist. The Authority has submitted an electronic copy of the FYE 2020 Audit to the Auditor General email address as requested.

Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, PMP  
Executive Director

Enclosures  
cc: WRWSA Board





An Equal  
Opportunity  
Employer

# Southwest Florida Water Management District

2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899

(352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476 (FL only)

WaterMatters.org

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## Bartow Office

170 Century Boulevard  
Bartow, Florida 33830-7700  
(863) 534-1448 or  
1-800-492-7862 (FL only)

## Sarasota Office

78 Sarasota Center Boulevard  
Sarasota, Florida 34240-9770  
(941) 377-3722 or  
1-800-320-3503 (FL only)

## Tampa Office

7601 U.S. 301 North (Fort King Highway)  
Tampa, Florida 33637-6759  
(813) 985-7481 or  
1-800-836-0797 (FL only)

### Kelly S. Rice

Chair, Citrus, Lake, Levy, Sumter

### Joel Schleicher

Vice Chair, Charlotte, Sarasota

### Rebecca Smith

Secretary, Hillsborough, Pinellas

### James G. Murphy

Treasurer, Polk

### Ed Armstrong

Pinellas

### Ashley Bell Barnett

Polk

### Jack Bispham

Manatee

### Roger Germann

Hillsborough

### John Mitten

Hernando, Marion

### Seth Weightman

Pasco

### Michelle Williamson

Hillsborough

### Brian J. Armstrong, P.G.

Executive Director

May 13, 2021

Ms. Suzannah J. Folsom, P.E., PMP  
Executive Director  
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority  
3600 Sovereign Path, Suite 228  
Lecanto, FL 34461

Subject: 2020 Regional Water Supply Plan Notice

Dear Ms. Folsom:

In November 2020, the governing board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) approved the 2020 Regional Water Supply Plan (RWSP). The RWSP area encompasses sixteen counties and is divided into four major planning regions (Northern, Heartland, Southern, and Tampa Bay). The RWSP contains an assessment of projected water demands and potential sources of water to meet those demands through 2040.

This letter is being sent pursuant to section 373.709(8)(a), Florida Statutes (F.S.), which requires water management districts to notify by certified mail those water supply entities identified in the RWSP as the parties responsible for implementing various project options listed in the four regional volumes. While it is not required that your entity implement any of the options from the RWSP, there are statutory provisions that require actions on your part.

Section 373.709(8)(b), F.S., requires water supply entities to consider the information in the RWSP and provide the District, in writing, the following information no later than one year after receipt of this letter:

- 1) The alternative water supply projects or options identified in the RWSP, which you have developed or intend to develop, if any. If you do not intend to develop one or more of the alternative water supply project options identified in the RWSP you must propose one or more alternative water supply project options sufficient to address your future water needs as identified in the RWSP.
- 2) A status report of alternative water supply project implementation, including:
  - a) the quantity of water to be produced;
  - b) development of a financial plan;
  - c) facilities master planning; and
  - d) permitting and efforts in coordinating multijurisdictional projects, if applicable.

As a reminder, annual progress reports from water supply entities regarding the status of project implementation must be submitted to the District by November 15 of each year (subsection 373.709(8)(b), F.S.).

In addition, each local government is required to update its water supply facilities work plan within 18 months after governing board approval of a regional water supply plan pursuant to subsection 163.3177(6)(c)3., F.S. The water supply facilities work plan must cover at least a 10-year planning period and identify alternative and traditional water supply development projects, conservation activities, and reuse activities needed to meet the projected future water demands. For local governments that are wholly or partially in the SWFWMD RWSP Area, work plans must be updated by May 2022.

Please visit <http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/resources/plans-reports/rwsp> to access the 2020 RWSP and associated regional plans for information regarding the alternative water supply projects or options. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter, please contact Joseph Quinn at (352) 796-7211, extension 4421.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J.P. Marchand', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

J.P. Marchand, P.E.  
Bureau Chief  
Water Resources Bureau





**GREGORY C. HARRELL**  
CLERK OF COURT AND COMPTROLLER - MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA  
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

CLERK OF COURT  
RECORDER OF OFFICIAL RECORDS  
CLERK AND ACCOUNTANT OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CUSTODIAN OF COUNTY FUNDS AND COUNTY AUDITOR

POST OFFICE BOX 1030  
OCALA, FLORIDA 34478-1030  
TELEPHONE (352) 671-5520  
WWW.MARIONCOUNTYCLERK.ORG

June 9, 2021

Mr. Richard Owen  
WRWSA  
3600 West Sovereign Path  
Suite 228  
Lecanto, F 34461

RE: Submission of Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020

Dear Mr. Owen:

Enclosed is a copy of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of Marion County, Florida for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. This document contains the report of our independent auditors, Purvis Gray & Company, CPA's, on federal awards and state financial assistance received by Marion County during the reporting period.

The Single Audit portion of the report, located on pages 227-237, of the Compliance Section, was prepared by our auditors in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance); and Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General*. As required, it includes the Independent Auditors' Reports on Compliance and Internal Control, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards and State Financial Assistance, and a Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

I trust this information will fulfill your requirements. Should you have any questions or require any additional information concerning the report, please contact me at the address listed above or by telephone at (352) 671-5520.

Sincerely,

Gregory C. Harrell  
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller  
Marion County, Florida

*Tina Novinger*

Tina Novinger  
Controller  
Enclosures



The Gainesville Sun | The Ledger  
Daily Commercial | Ocala StarBanner  
News Chief | Herald-Tribune | News Herald  
Northwest Florida Daily News

June 17, 2021

0001044 59362 P01/0/6/5

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER S  
3600 W SOVEREIGN PATH STE 228  
LECANTO, FL 34461-7718



Re: **New Monthly Invoice**

Dear Advertiser:

We would like to thank you for your advertising business with LOCALiQ, The Gainesville Sun, The Ledger, Daily Commercial, Ocala StarBanner, News Chief, Herald-Tribune News Herald, and Northwest Florida Daily News. As part of the family of Gannett's USA Today Network, you're included in a company-wide initiative to improve advertising billing process and presentation. Starting with your June 2021 invoice, we are pleased to announce the following changes:

- **New account number.** Your old account number and your new account number will both be printed on your invoice. Please reference your new account number starting with your next payment. Your account history follows to your new account number.
- **Prepay and Unapplied Money.** You will see prepay and unapplied money broken out on the new invoice. This information is presented for your benefit. The unapplied amounts are included in your total balance due.
- **A single format to suit your advertising needs.** Gannett will display media type categories (print, insert, and digital) as well as package advertising, with relevant details for each type of advertising. We are also incorporating an updated logo (same as above) into the new invoice presentation.
- **Please note the following changes to invoicing of certain Digital Ads.** Campaigns running on the USA Today Network of websites and apps will be invoiced based on the amount of actual impressions delivered during the month. Digital Marketing Services (Social, Search, etc.), Audience Extension (digital display ads on non-USA Today Network websites and apps), and Sponsorships will invoice on a prorated basis based on the number of days in the month the ad is serving.

## **WE HAVE A NEW REMIT TO ADDRESS!!!**

### **\*\*\*PLEASE UPDATE YOUR PAYMENT RECORDS TO REFLECT:**

CA Florida Holdings, LLC  
PO Box 631244  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45263-1244

- **New Electronic Invoice/Online Payment Options.** Upon receiving your first invoice, you may contact [abgspecial@gannett.com](mailto:abgspecial@gannett.com) to enroll in electronic invoicing, where your invoice will be e-mailed to you. Once enrolled, you will also be able to make your payments online and retrieve electronic tearsheets.

Please reference your June 30, 2021 invoice which will include this updated information, including remittance address, logo, terms and conditions, and payment center contact information.

We are always striving to improve our customer experience and are confident you will enjoy these improvements. Your patience through this transition is greatly appreciated and we ask that you please contact the payment center if you have any questions now or after you receive your new monthly statement. We value your business and look forward to continuing our successful relationship in the future.

Best Regards,

Lisa Wisniewski – Director, Billing Operations  
LOCALiQ, The Gainesville Sun, The Ledger, Daily Commercial, Ocala StarBanner, News Chief, Herald-Tribune News Herald, and Northwest Florida Daily News



## **Item 11.d.**

**Executive Director's Report**

### **News Articles**

# Reduction of city's daily allocation short sighted

Citrus Chronicle

May 19, 2021

Editorial

*Editor's note: Incorrect information appeared on Page A9 of the Wednesday, May 19, edition of the Chronicle. The Southwest Florida Water Management District on Tuesday, May 18, approved the city of Inverness' permit for 1.53 million gallons per day. The Chronicle apologizes for the error.*

## UNNECESSARY OVERREACH

THE ISSUE: Inverness water permitting reduction.

OUR OPINION: A solution for a nonexistent problem.

Already the third largest state in the Union, Florida's current population of 21.6 million residents is projected to grow to 26 million in five short years. Add to that number the 100 million plus visitors to our state each year, Floridians need do their part to conserve water since our water supply is a finite resource.

Accordingly, a core mission of Florida's five regional water management districts is to assure existing water sources are adequate to supply water for all existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses, as well as the sustainment of water-dependent ecosystems.

With water conservation the principal means by which the water management districts accomplish their water supply mission, an important tool that they use is the daily gallons per capita per day permitted for counties and municipalities.

In 2008, the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board voted to reduce the daily per capita allocation of all water utilities in the District's northern counties from 211 gallons to 150 gallons or less per capita per day by 2019.

In this regard, the City of Inverness and its residents have certainly done their part.

The city has spent millions of dollars to increase its water utility's efficiency and residents have generally taken water conservation to heart. As a result, the city's daily usage of 104 to 110 gallons per capita per day is significantly less than the District's target of 150 gallons per capita per day.

Instead of a pat on the back, however, the District has kicked the city in the shins with a letter signaling its intent to reduce the city's current allotted daily usage from 1.5 million gallons per day to 1.2 million gallons per day for the city's permitted water use renewal that will run through 2030.

Given the city's laudable water conservation stewardship, the reduction is a solution for a nonexistent problem. Furthermore, with the city on the cusp of growth, it is a shortsighted overreach on the part of the District that has not only unnecessarily rankled city officials, but also carries the potential for motivating some city residents to put in unmonitored wells for irrigation.

With the District permitting hundreds of unmonitored private and agricultural wells, as well as water withdrawals by water bottling companies, the District's expressed intent to require a growing Inverness to do more with less than it's currently permitted appears hypocritical.

Inverness officials and residents have shown that they value our finite water resources and accept their collective responsibility for being water conservation stewards. As such, the District is encouraged not to pick a fight with a community that merely wants a little breathing room to accommodate growth.

# Funds should be used for sewer

Citrus Chronicle

May 27, 2021

Editorial

## GUIDING THE FUTURE

THE ISSUE: Citrus County in good shape after this year's legislative session.

OUR OPINION: Great leadership and perseverance from our state delegation.

Citrus County was positioned to do well in this year's legislative session, with the respected Dr. Ralph Massullo as our state representative and influential chamber president Wilton Simpson as our senator. They represented the county well, and helped move legislation that will keep the county on the right path.

As Massullo told business leaders at a recent Citrus County Chamber of Commerce luncheon, a number of new laws from this year's session will benefit locals. Among the most important are several wide-ranging statewide programs relating to sea level rise and flooding. For the first time, state lawmakers have squarely and proactively addressed avoiding and mitigating the effects of climate change on millions of dollars in property and countless lives and livelihoods in Florida.

Water issues are important to Citrus County, and to our legislators as well. Legislators approved \$3.9 million for Phase 5 of the Homosassa septic-to-sewer project, which will decrease nutrient loading from septic systems into the Homosassa River. It's an Outstanding Florida Water that has already been deemed impaired.

Also in Homosassa, the Homosassa River Restoration project, modeled after the successful efforts in Crystal River, will receive a portion of the funding earmarked for the Springs Coast and Peace River watersheds. The goal is to restore water quality by vacuum removal of Lyngbya, then planting and maintaining healthy submerged vegetation favored by manatees.

Legislators approved \$4 million for continued Kings Bay restoration, which has become a model for urban-area waterway cleanup statewide. This is an excellent example of community-local government-state government collaboration on an issue so important locally and to our state, from both economic and environmental viewpoints.

For years, community health needs assessments have identified mental health and substance abuse as areas needing attention. This year, things are finally moving together in the right direction. Legislators approved \$1.5 million for LifeStream to build a mental health and addiction treatment campus to serve Citrus County residents.

On the economic development front, the legislature approved \$5 million for infrastructure for a business/industrial park at the Inverness airport. Funding is to cover design and engineering work in readying the location for development and leasing, including utilities, telecommunication/fiber, roadway, taxiway and storm water management.

The budget is awaiting Gov. Ron DeSantis' signature.

We appreciate our legislative leaders, Rep. Massullo and Sen. Simpson, for helping guide Citrus County into a better future.

## Perfect score for Citrus projects in state budget

Citrus Chronicle  
June 2, 2021  
By Mike Wright



In this file photo, visitors returning from scalloping in the Gulf of Mexico make a trip to the headwaters of the Homosassa River to douse themselves and their equipment with fresh water before heading home

Gov. Ron DeSantis on Wednesday vetoed \$1.5 billion in projects and not one of them is in Citrus County.

DeSantis signed a state budget that includes \$14.4 million in local projects, plus funding for a third county judge position.



State Rep. Ralph Massullo.

"We got everything. Absolutely everything," state Rep. Ralph Massullo, R-Lecanto, said.

Highlighting the local projects is \$3.9 million for sewers to remove septic tanks from about 200 homes along the Homosassa River head spring just outside the state wildlife park.



State Sen. Wilton Simpson, R-Trilby

Senate President Wilton Simpson, R-Trilby, gave direct praise to Commissioner Ruthie Schlabach, who sought the Homosassa sewer funds before taking office.

"Our new commissioner made it a priority of hers," Simpson, who formerly had a vacation home on the Homosassa River, said. "She mentioned it to me and we got it put in the budget."

During the 2020 campaign, Schlabach met with Homosassa residents including Alonda McCarty, who lives in Spring Cove, one of the neighborhoods near the head spring, known locally as Blue Water.

McCarty said she has worked four years to get funding for a sewer project to support the ongoing Homosassa River restoration.

"We were not on the priority list to have that area on sewer for another 10 years," she said Wednesday.

Meeting with Schlabach changed that. Schlabach said in September, as a commissioner-elect, she spoke with Simpson at a Tampa event and mentioned the sewer idea for the springs neighborhoods.



Citrus County Commissioner Ruthie Davis Schlabach

"I asked him for the money and he said, 'this is exactly what we're looking for,'" Schlabach said. "Nobody thought we could get it. I went an unconventional route. Being a newbie kind of helped me."

Along with the Homosassa septic-to-sewer, other Citrus projects in the state budget:

- \$5 million for Inverness Airport Business Park.
- \$4 million for King's Bay restoration.
- \$1.5 million for LifeStream Behavioral Centers for mental-health and addiction treatment in Citrus County.

Plus, the Homosassa River restoration is expected to receive a portion of \$10 million in watershed funding.

And, Simpson said, the state added \$500 million for shovel-ready septic-to-sewer projects.

"Citrus County," he said, "should be at the front of that line."



# Funds should be used for sewer

Citrus Chronicle

June 14, 2021

Letter to the Editor

The American Rescue Plan Act just awarded \$29 million to Citrus County with a narrow mandate that it is to be used for “households, small business and nonprofits” for “water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure” projects set to begin after March 2021 and to be completed by December 2024. Bingo, this describes the Cambridge Greens Sewer Project — projects such as ours are the intended beneficiaries of the American Rescue Plan award — we are “households” with a “sewer project” within the required time frame and, thus, qualify for this financial assistance. I believe we may be one of the few county projects that fit all required mandates.

However, some of our commissioners have thus far stated that the Cambridge Greens sewer project should not receive Rescue Plan funds as it would be unfair to residents of past and future sewer projects. This reasoning would be valid if we were asking for assistance from the county general fund and if past and future sewer projects were eligible. But the American Rescue Plan is a “special fund” and past and future projects are, in fact, ineligible. What would be unfair is to disqualify an eligible project for funding based on a false equivalency.

The sewer project, with costs estimated at nearly \$15,000 per homeowner, is a financial hardship to residents, many of whom are on a fixed income, at a time when we are still recovering from one of the worst economic crises this country has ever experienced — a pandemic. Commissioners have tried to appease Cambridge Greens’ residents by saying the sewer project is an opportunity for us to help the environment for the good of all Citrus County residents. I am all in for the good of the County and the environment. But I would call on the commissioners to, in turn, help its constituents help the county by “doing the right thing” and using some of the American Rescue Plan funding for the Cambridge Greens sewer project to provide relief, aka “rescue” to residents, as is the intended mandate.

# Official worries about The Villages leaving Lady Lake high and dry

Villages-News

June 16, 2021

By Meta Minton

An official has publicly voiced concern that The Villages could one day decide to leave Lady Lake high and dry.

Lady Lake Planning and Zoning Board member Robert Nyce raised the possibility Monday night during consideration of the construction of a large apartment complex, to be located on U.S. Hwy. 27/441 across from Oakwood Smokehouse. The apartment complex would need 78,000 gallons of water per day. The proposed development was the subject of a conceptual presentation last year before the Lady Lake Commission.

The Village of El Cortez resident said he has "ongoing concerns" about the Town of Lady Lake's water and service reserves. Eyebrows were raised last year when a massive apartment complex at the intersection of County Road 466 and Cherry Lake Road was allowed to hook up to Lady Lake's water and sewer. The hundreds of apartment dwellers are living just across the line in Sumter County. The Villages had refused to run a water line to the development.



The Town of Lady Lake is providing water and sewer service to Lake Sumter Apartment Homes which are located in Sumter County.

His concerns prompted Nyce to pose an intriguing question.

“What if The Villages abandons water and sewer provided to the three wards in Lady Lake?” Nyce asked.

Two of those wards are located on the Historic Side of The Villages, and the other includes the Village of La Reynalda where Mayor Ruth Kussard lives. The Villages provides water and sewer to the homes and businesses in Lady Lake that are within the boundaries of Florida’s Friendliest Hometown. The Town of Lady Lake provides water and sewer to the non-Villages residents.



A

water tower on Clay Avenue in Lady Lake.

Nyce said the notion is not as unthinkable as some Lady Lake residents might prefer to believe.

“They have, in the past, abandoned things they do not find profitable,” Nyce said.

The Villages is suing the Town of Lady Lake over a 3-2 commission vote earlier this year that blocked The Villages' intent to convert second-floor office space at Spanish Springs Town Square to apartments. The Villages has targeted the former home of Katie Belle's for its first desired set of apartments. Residents have been incensed since The Villages last year opted to close the beloved Villagers-only club once famed for dining, drinking and dancing. Katie Belle's was closed because it wasn't turning a profit.



An orange notice of a rezoning hearing was placed last year on the front door of the former home of Katie Belle's in Spanish Springs.

Lady Lake officials say the town's water supply and sewer capacity are more than adequate. The consumptive use permit granted to the town by the St. John's Water Management District allocates 1.188 million gallons per day. Last year's average consumption was 739,169 gallons per day.

The Villages began with a mobile home park in Lady Lake operated by Harold Schwartz, grandfather of siblings Mark Morse, Tracy Morse and Jennifer Parr, who today run Florida's Friendliest Hometown. But Lady Lake residents of The

Villages have long felt forgotten as The Villages focuses the lion's share of its enthusiasm on new construction. In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, residents of the Historic Side, many of them elderly, felt abandoned as they struggled with flooding and loss of power.



Paradise Lake flooded on the Historic Side of The Villages in the wake of 2017's Hurricane Irma.

The golf cart bridge across U.S. Hwy. 27/441 was flooded, cutting off access to the rest of The Villages.

## Water customers in The Villages will see 1 percent rate increase

Villages-News

June 17, 2021

Many water customers in The Villages will be seeing a 1 percent rate increase each year through 2031.

The North Sumter County Utility Dependent District Board on Thursday morning reviewed a rate sufficiency study that recommended the 1 percent increase.

The modest annual hike will mean a 45 to 50 cent increase on the monthly bill of a water customer typically using 3,000 gallons of water per day.

The North Sumter Utility and The Villages Water Conservation Authority currently services 23,900 homes in Community Development Districts 5 through 8 and Sumter Landing.

A consultant advising the NSCUDD board on the rate study, indicated the best practice is to bump up the rates a little at a time, rather than hitting water customers with "rate shock."

It's an approach that pleased the board of directors.

"We don't want up down, up down rate changes," said Villager Tom Hosken, who holds Seat 3 on the NSCUDD Board of Directors.

In fact, a slightly higher rate hike had been envisioned.

"It's actually a reduction from the 2.5 to 1 percent," said Deputy District Manager Kenny Blocker.

The next step in the process will be advertising a hearing on the proposed rate hike to allow for public comment.



## Be a responsible water steward – Editorial

Citrus Chronicle

June 19, 2021

### WATER CONSERVATION

**THE ISSUE:** *May drought reminds of dry season impacts.*

**OUR OPINION:** *Drought cycles are Florida norm, but population growth could make them more severe.*

With rain in the past few days, it is easy to forget that just last month, the area was in a severe drought, with dropping lake and river levels and increased fire hazard.

During May, which typically sees about 3.5 inches of rain, we got just over a quarter of an inch of rain. As a result of the hot and dry days, river and lake levels dropped several inches and river flows declined significantly.

While lake and river levels and river flow will recover with summer rains, the impact of the May dry spell should serve as a reminder of the impact drought conditions can have, and how quickly they can be felt.

And, compounding the long-term threat to Florida's water supply, the state is growing by over 900 people a day. For reference, on an annual basis, we are adding more people than currently live in Orlando.

Each of these individuals will require 134 gallons of water per day, if they use the amount of the state average per capita water consumption.

The growing population will put additional stress on Florida's water supply, and will exacerbate the impact of dry spells, which we know will come.

The good news is that while water use increased steadily from 1975 to 2000, since 2000 conservation measures have slowed increases in the use of water so that in 2010 freshwater withdrawals for all uses in the state were at about the same level as in 1975, according to the Florida Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

But conservation efforts have not prevented continuing withdrawals from the aquifer that provides most of the freshwater in Florida. With the reduction of aquifer levels there is a continuing threat of saltwater intrusion in parts of the state, particularly in south Florida, and springs in some areas are showing signs of stress.

This has led to concerns about policies like the state continuing to allow million gallon withdrawals for bottled water plants.

Florida is blessed with a mild climate and an excellent supply of fresh water, but with the continuing growth in population, each of us needs to be responsible stewards of our water resources. In this case, the motto is not use it or lose it. It is protect it or lose it.