



WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

Board Meeting Package

May 17, 2023
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 May 2023

Office	Board Members
Chair	The Honorable Jeff Kinnard
Vice Chair	The Honorable Eliza-BETH Narverud
Treasurer	The Honorable Craig Estep

Jurisdiction	Board Members
Citrus County	The Honorable Rebecca Bays
	The Honorable Jeff Kinnard
Hernando County	The Honorable Jerry Campbell
	The Honorable Eliza-BETH Narverud
Marion County	The Honorable Kathy Bryant
	The Honorable Michelle Stone
	The Honorable Carl Zalak
Sumter County	The Honorable Craig Estep
	The Honorable Don Wiley
City of Belleview	The Honorable Robert “Bo” Smith
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 2022-2023 fiscal year are as follows:

November 16, 2022	May 17, 2023
January 18, 2023	July 26, 2023
March 15, 2023 canceled	September 20, 2023



May 8, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Water Supply Authority Board of Directors and Interested Parties

From: Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director

Subject: Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors Meeting

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority will hold a regular business meeting on **Wednesday, May 17, 2023 3:30 p.m., at the Lecanto Government Center Building, Room 166, 3600 Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461.**

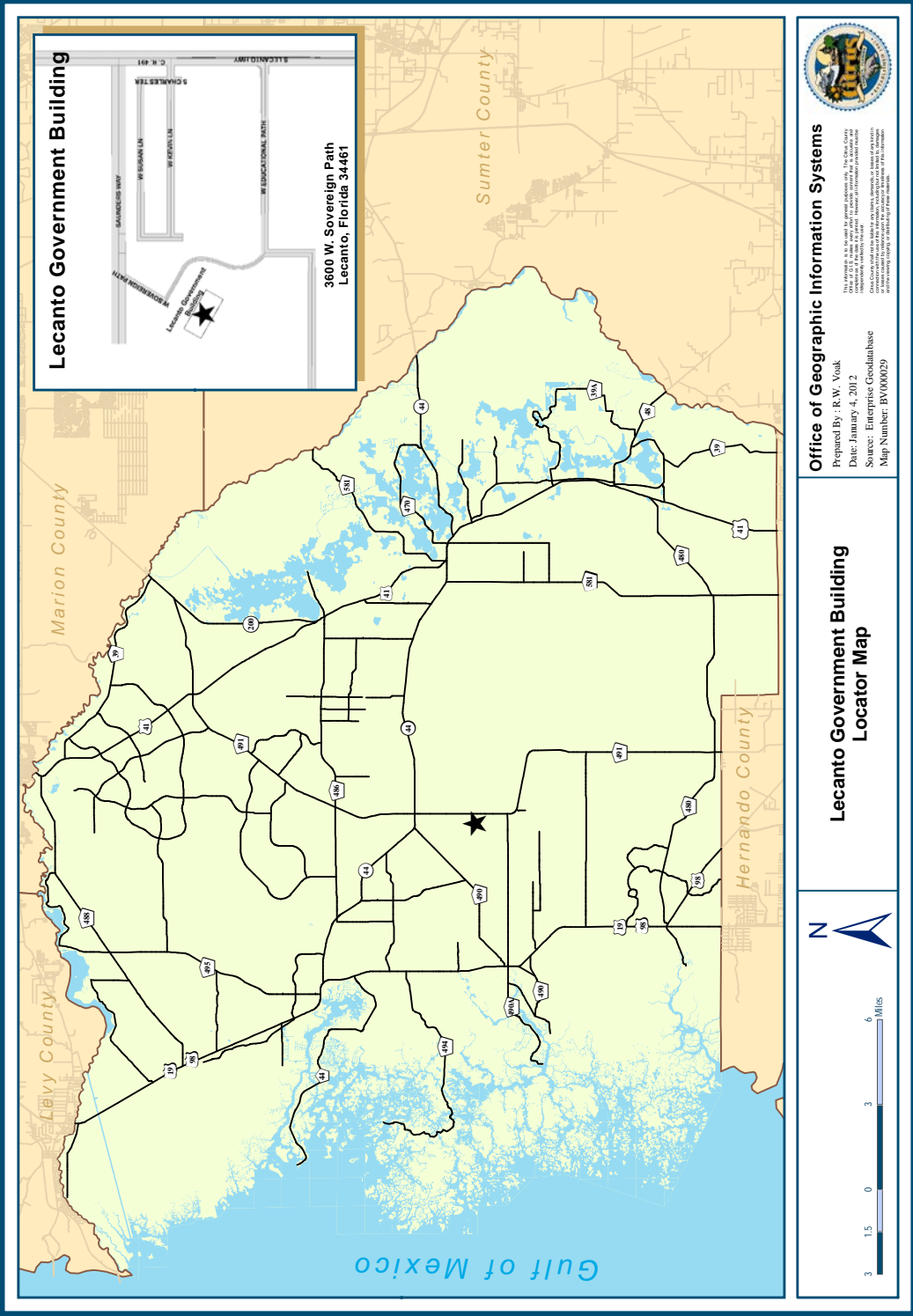
Enclosed for your review are the following items:

- Agenda
- Minutes of January 18, 2023
- Board Package*

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

Enclosures

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



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

From Brooksville:

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

From Ocala

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

From Bushnell

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

From Wildwood

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

LGB



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

A G E N D A

**May 17, 2023 -- 3:30 p.m.
LECANTO GOVERNMENT BUILDING -- ROOM 166
3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, Florida 34461**

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

PAGE

1. **Call to Order** . . . Jeff Kinnard, Chair
2. **Roll Call** . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** . . . Led by the Board
4. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda** . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA
5. **Public Comment**
6. **Consent Agenda** . . . Jeff Kinnard, Chair
 - a. **Approval of Minutes** [January 18, 2023] 9
 - b. **Bills to be Paid** [ratify February, March and April bills; approve May bills provided at the meeting] 15
 - c. **Water Conservation Month Resolution** [ratify approval by Chair-Elect] 19
 - d. **Springs Protection Awareness Month Resolution** [ratify approval by Chair-Elect] 21
 - e. **Staff Travel to the Florida Chamber of Commerce Environmental Permitting Summer School, July 18-21, 2023**..... 23
7. **Fiscal Year 2021-22 Financial Audit** . . . Mark White, Purvis Gray & Company 25
8. **Establishment of Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Components** . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA
 - a. **Grant Funding Amount and Guidelines** 27
 - b. **FY 2023-24 Per Capita Rate** 37
 - c. **Draft Budget** 39
9. **Legislative Report** . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA 47
10. **Attorney's Report** . . . Rob Batsel, WRWSA Attorney 53
11. **Executive Director's Report** . . . Suzy Folsom, WRWSA
 - a. **Charles A. Black Water Use Permit Renewal** 55
 - b. **Water Use Permit Demand Summary** 59
 - c. **Water Management Information System Water Use Permit Notifications** 61
 - d. **Correspondence** 63
 - e. **News Articles** 75
 - f. **Hernando's Clear Vision for Healthy Springs** 81
 - g. **Sumter Water Matters Event** 83
12. **Other Business**
13. **Next Meeting** . . . July 26, 2023; 3:30 p.m.; Lecanto Government Building, Room 166
14. **Adjournment**

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

Item 6.a.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

DRAFT

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of the Meeting January 18, 2023

TIME: 3:33 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

While waiting for Chair Bryant to arrive, Treasurer Narverud called the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and requested a roll call.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, called the roll and a quorum was declared present since three of the four counties were represented.

BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

Kathy Bryant, *Chair*, Marion County Commissioner
Beth Narverud, *Treasurer*, Hernando County Commissioner
David Bailey, Brooksville City Councilor
Rebecca Bays, Citrus County Commissioner
Ken Brown, Crystal River City Councilor
Jerry Campbell, Hernando County Commissioner
Craig Estep, Sumter County Commissioner
Robert “Bo” Smith, Belleview City Commissioner
Dale Swain, Bushnell City Councilor
Don Wiley, Sumter County Commissioner

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT

Jeff Kinnard, *Vice Chair*, Citrus Co Commissioner
Carl Zalak, Marion County Commissioner
Michelle Stone, Marion County Commissioner

BOARD ALTERNATE(S) PRESENT – None

3. Introductions and Announcements

- Ms. Folsom welcomed new Board members to today’s meeting: Rebecca Bays (Citrus County), Jerry Campbell (Hernando County) and Bo Smith (City of Belleview). Mr. Ken Brown is returning as the City of Crystal River representative.

WRWSA STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Alys Brockway, Hernando County Water Cons Mgr
Debra Burden, Citrus Co Water Conservation Mgr
Frank Gargano, SWFWMD Govt Affairs Reg Mgr
Lisa Krentz, Hazen and Sawyer
Michael Jara, Sumter Co Asst Dir, Facilities & Parks
Bob Moresi, Black and Veatch

4. Pledge of Allegiance – Treasurer Narverud led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

6. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes** – The November 16, 2022, draft minutes were provided in the Board’s meeting materials and recommended for approval as presented.
- Bills to be Paid** [ratify December \$55,732.73; approve January \$4,241.14]

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

7. Election of Officers

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, presented this item. The Board of the WRWSA annually elects its Board officers, including a Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer at its January meeting. The Executive Director is the Board Secretary who serves in an ex-officio capacity.

Pursuant to the Election of Officers Policy, included as an exhibit to this item, the Board may entertain nominations for individual officers or a slate of officers. Typically, the current Vice Chair is nominated to become Chair and the current Treasurer is nominated to become Vice Chair. The office of Treasurer is customarily filled by a Board member from the county without a representative as an officer in the current slate of officers. This practice is informal, and circumstances may warrant nominations and elections to deviate from this practice. Also, pursuant to the Board Policy, the current Chair will chair the complete January meeting.

Marion County Commissioner Kathy Bryant is currently the Board Chair. The natural succession would have Commissioner Kinnard move into the Chair position, Commissioner Narverud move to the Vice Chair position, and a Sumter County Commissioner nominated in the in the Treasurer Position. The next officer election will be scheduled in January 2024.

Mr. Swain moved, seconded by Ms. Bays, to nominate Mr. Kinnard as Chair, Ms. Narverud as Vice Chair and Mr. Estep as Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Folsom noted the new officers will take their respective seats 24 hours before the next Board meeting (midnight on March 14, 2023).

8. Regional Irrigation Evaluation Program Phase 7 (Q306) Funding Agreements

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, Executive Director, presented this item. Five utilities have agreed to participate in Phase 7 of the Residential Irrigation Evaluation program including Citrus, Hernando and Marion counties, the North Sumter County Utility Dependent District (NSCUDD), and the Village Center Community Development District (VCCDD). Participation by these utilities helps their customers who participate save water and money, and helps the utilities ensure they continue to meet and surpass the conservation requirements of their water use permits.

Three of the five utilities, including Hernando County, the VCCDD and the NSCUDD require an agreement with the Authority to effectuate their participation. Copies of the proposed agreements are included as exhibits to this item. It should be noted that Citrus and Marion counties continue to participate in the program, however, no contracts are currently necessary to effectuate their participation.

Included in the Board's meeting package are draft copies of the agreement with Hernando County, the Village Center Community Development District, and the North Sumter County Utility Dependent District.

Mr. Swain moved, seconded by Mr. Brown, to approve the Agreements between the WRWSA and Hernando County, the Village Center Community Development District and the North Sumter County Utility Dependent District; and authorize the Chair to sign the Agreements. Motion carried unanimously.

(Chair Bryant entered the meeting.)

9. 2024 Regional Water Supply Plan Update - Consultant Contract

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, Executive Director, presented this item. At the November 2022 Board meeting, the Board approved a shortlist of consultants to negotiate with to undertake the 2024 Regional Water Supply Plan Update project. Hazen and Sawyer was the top ranked consultant. Negotiation of the Agreement is complete for the budgeted amount of \$350,000.00. The Agreement is provided as an exhibit to this item.

Mr. Estep moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, for the Board to approve the Agreement with Hazen and Sawyer for the 2024 Regional Water Supply Plan Update. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Charles A. Black Wellfield Renewal and Replacement Funding Annual Report

Mrs. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, presented this item. Citrus County has submitted to the Authority the annual report for the Charles A. Black (CAB) Wellfield Renewal and Replacement (R&R) Fund, documenting deposits and expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, which was included as an exhibit to this item. This annual report is required by the Water Supply Contract between the WRWSA and Citrus County. Staff has reviewed this report, and has found that the report is consistent with the pertinent Contract requirements, which state in part:

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

The R&R Fund was credited with \$180,000 in deposits from Citrus County and \$15,566.76 in interest revenue. Expenditures for totaled \$139,781.99 for permit renewal, A/C repair, motor starters, 16" emergency waterline repair, well repair, painting, and level transmitters. The R&R Fund balance increased from \$1,980,700.55 to \$2,036,485.32.

Following consideration, **Mr. Estap moved, seconded by Mr. Wiley, for Board acceptance of Citrus County's annual report for the CAB R&R Fund, documenting expenditures and deposits for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.**

11. Sumter County Grant Funding Activities

Mrs. Suzannah Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, introduced Mr. Michael Jara, Sumter County Assistant Director of Facilities and Parks, to present this report on the County's water conservation program. Sumter County participated in the WRWSA Water Supply and Conservation Grant Funding Program in Fiscal Year 2021-22 for \$22,000 and has requested additional \$23,000 of funding for conservation projects this fiscal year.

Discussion by Board members and Mr. Jara ensued regarding water conservation in jail installations such as controllers and electric panels to ensure safety aspects for behavioral and infrastructure impacts. Chair Bryant thanked Mr. Jara for his presentation and said the Board members look forward to future updates regarding the savings on water usage.

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

12. SJRWMD Irrigation Evaluation Funding Cost-Sharing Application FY2024

Ms. Suzannah Folsom, Executive Director, presented this item. WRWSA would like to start a new residential irrigation evaluation program for utilities that are within the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) for fiscal year 2023-24. These utilities include the eastern portion of Marion County, and the City of Belleview. Staff proposes a pilot program of 60 enhanced residential irrigation evaluations that would include improvements and/or repairs to the irrigation systems. The City of Belleview approved a budget of \$11,250 for this project.

An estimate of \$500 per evaluation is based on the existing program that WRWSA has managed with cooperation from Citrus County, Hernando County, Marion County and the Villages; and co-funding from the Southwest Florida Water Management District. This program is in its sixth and seventh phases and has been very successful in promoting water conservation.

At Chair Bryant's request, Ms. Folsom explained the irrigation evaluation program for new Board members' information. Discussion ensued to clarify Board member concerns regarding water usage.

The program would be partially funded by SJRWMD, WRWSA and the cooperating utilities. SJRWMD has a cost-share funding program that could provide funding for 50% of the evaluation repair costs, with WRWSA and the cooperating utilities splitting the remaining cost. An estimate of the cost split is provided below:

		Proposed Costs			Payment Funding Source		
		\$500	50.0%	50.0%	37.5%	37.5%	25.0%
Participating Utilities	No.	Total Cost	Evaluation Cost	Repair Cost	Cooperator	WRWSA	SJRWMD*
City of Belleview	20	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$3,750.00	\$3,750.00	\$2,500.00
Marion Utilities	40	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$5,000.00
Total	60	\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00	\$7,500.00

**SJRWMD pays 50% of repair costs only*

Staff has prepared a SJRWMD cost-share funding application for fiscal year 2024. The application will be completed online and is due January 31, 2023. These costs would also be included in the upcoming WRWSA fiscal year 2023-24 budget.

Discussion ensued regarding irrigation evaluations being provided to homeowner free versus payment for repair, meeting water management districts' targeted per capita water usage, Florida friendly landscaping, drought-resistant grass requirements, and information/communication for homeowner education.

Ms. Narverud moved, seconded by Ms. Bays, to approve staff to file the SJRWMD cost-share funding online application for a pilot residential irrigation evaluation program for up to \$50,000 for fiscal year 2023-24. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Legislative Report

Ms. Suzy Folsom, Executive Director, presented this item. The 2023 Legislative Regular Session will begin March 7, 2023 and end May 5, 2023. Staff will gather information on relevant bills that are related to conservation and water supply from SWFWMD, 1000 Friends of Florida, and the Florida Engineering Society's Conservation and Environmental Quality Committee, and the House and Senate websites.

Ms. Folsom noted that Hernando County had a legislative delegation meeting on January 12, 2023. She requested Board members make her aware of any other legislative delegation meetings prior to the session so she can try to attend.

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

14. Attorney's Report

Mr. Batsel noted he received an email regarding a class action suite about polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). He will be contacting member government attorneys regarding PFAS and ongoing legislation.

15. Executive Director's Report – Ms. Folsom presented the following items.

- a. **Charles A. Black Water Use Permit Renewal** – The Wellfield WUP number 7121.006 continues under review.
- b. **Water Use Permit Demand Summary** - A summary was in the Board's meeting materials. Mr. Brown noted actions being taken by the City of Crystal River about increased water usages.
- c. **Water Management Information System Water Use Permit Notifications** – A list of notifications was included in the Board's meeting materials.
- d. **Correspondence** – Several items were included in meeting materials.
- e. **News Articles** – Several articles were included in meeting materials for the Board's information.
- f. **Save the Date – Springs Workshop** – April 14, 2023 at the Sandhill Scout Reservation – Ms. Alys Brockway, representing Hernando County, provided *Save the Date* cards and reviewed the draft agenda. Ms. Folsom said that the Scout facility is beautiful and suggested if Board members have not been there that this would be a great event to attend. Ms. Brockway noted that SB2080 was introduced to help homeowner associations fight regarding Florida friendly landscaping.
- g. **Citrus County Wins Region IV Best Tasting Drinking Water Contest** – Ms. Folsom noted said special congratulations go to Citrus County for winning the Region IV Florida Section. Citrus County will compete against other utilities from all over North America in the "Best of the Best of the Best" competition in June 2023 at the AWWA Annual Conference and Exposition conference in Toronto. Citrus County and WRWSA will also help to host the Region IV Taste Test next year in October 2023.

16. Other Business – Mr. Brown thanked Ms. Bryant for chairing the Authority these past two years.

17. Next Meeting Time and Location

- Next Regular Board Meeting – March 15, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166. Chair Bryant noted that she will be absent for the March meeting.

18. Adjournment – Chair Bryant adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Jeff Kinnard, Chair

Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director

Item 6.b.

Consent Agenda

Bills to be Paid

**February, March and April bills in the meeting materials;
May bills to be provided at meeting.**

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

Bills For Payment
2/14/2023

<u>Administrative Invoices</u>	<u>Invoice Number(s)</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, Executive Director	1215	2/1/2023	\$7,575.10
Rob Batsel, General Counsel	4062	1/31/2023	\$1,363.00
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Asst (Services)	1-Jan-23	2/1/2023	\$3,315.00
Kathy Bryant (Jan Board Travel)		1/18/2023	\$36.49
Jerry Campbell (Jan Board Travel)		1/18/2023	\$19.58
Craig Estep (Jan Board Travel)		1/18/2023	\$35.16
Beth Narverud (Jan Board Travel)		1/18/2023	\$19.58
Robert "Bo" Smith (Jan Board Travel)		1/18/2023	\$36.49
Dale Swain (Jan Board Travel)		1/18/2023	\$27.59
Don Wiley (Jan Board Travel)		1/18/2023	\$27.59
Karen Allen (Web Maintenance)	156	2/6/2023	\$150.00
Truist Bank Business Card Statement	2.2.2023	2/2/2023	\$691.34
Total Administrative Invoices			\$13,296.92

<u>Water Supply Studies and Facilities</u>	<u>Contract/ Budget</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Current</u>
2022 General Services Contract	\$30,000.00		
Work Order 2022-01 INTERA Incorporated	\$10,000.00	\$2,300.00	\$3,500.00 (1)
2023 General Services Contract	\$20,000.00		
Work Order 2023-01 INTERA Incorporated	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2023-02 Hazen and Sawyer	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
FY22-23 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00		
Citrus County	\$35,075.00	\$35,075.00	
Hernando County	\$49,750.00	\$49,750.00	
Marion County	\$14,081.25	\$14,081.25	
Sumter County	\$23,000.00	\$23,000.00	
Regional Water Supply Plan Update (Q324)	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00	
Phase 7 Irrigation Program (Q306)	\$102,000.00	\$98,925.50	\$3,074.50 (2)
FY22-23 Total Project Invoices	\$612,000.00	\$590,831.75	\$6,574.50

Total Bills to be Paid

State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA2 to SBA1	\$13,296.92
Deposit to Truist	Subtract from SBA1 Transfer	\$0.00
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA1 to Truist Bank	\$19,871.42

Notes:

(1) INTERA Inc - As-Needed Tech and Eng Services	\$3,500.00	Inv 12-22-186
(2) Phase 7 (Q306) - Irrigation Audits - Followups		
Jack Overdorff, ECO Land Design	\$2,774.50	Inv 530
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Services	\$300.00	Inv 1-Jan-Q306-2023
	<u>\$3,074.50</u>	

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

Bills For Payment
3/15/2023

<u>Administrative Invoices</u>	<u>Invoice Number(s)</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, Executive Director	1220	3/1/2023	\$7,548.61
Rob Batsel, General Counsel			\$0.00
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Asst (Admin Services)	2-Feb-23	31/2023	\$3,315.00
Karen Allen (Web Maintenance)	157	3/4/2023	\$150.00
Truist Bank Business Card Statement	3.2.2023	3/2/2023	\$278.68
Total Administrative Invoices			\$11,292.29

<u>Water Supply Studies and Facilities</u>	<u>Contract/ Budget</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Current</u>
2023 General Services Contract	\$20,000.00		
Work Order 2023-01 INTERA Incorporated	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2023-02 Hazen and Sawyer	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
FY22-23 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00		
Citrus County	\$35,075.00	\$35,075.00	
Hernando County	\$49,750.00	\$49,750.00	
Marion County	\$14,081.25	\$14,081.25	
Sumter County	\$23,000.00	\$23,000.00	
Regional Water Supply Plan Update (Q324)	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00	
Phase 7 Irrigation Program (Q306)	\$102,000.00	\$97,365.50	\$1,560.00 (1)
FY22-23 Total Project Invoices	\$612,000.00	\$589,271.75	\$1,560.00

Total Bills to be Paid

State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA2 to SBA1	\$11,292.29
Deposit to Truist (Citrus Co 2nd Quarter Assessment 2/23/2023)	Subtract from SBA1 Transfer	\$7,391.75
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA1 to Truist Bank	\$5,460.54

Notes:

(1) Phase 7 (Q306) - Irrigation Audits

Jack Overdorff, ECO Land Design	\$1,360.00	Invoice 538
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Services	\$200.00	Invoice 2-Feb-Q306-2023
	<u>\$1,560.00</u>	

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

Bills For Payment
4/19/2023

<u>Administrative Invoices</u>	<u>Invoice Number(s)</u>	<u>Invoice Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Suzannah J. Folsom, PE, Executive Director	1228	3/31/2023	\$7,546.52
Rob Batsel, General Counsel	5236	3/31/2023	\$825.50
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Asst (Admin Services)	3-Mar-23	4/3/2023	\$3,315.00
Karen Allen (Web Maintenance)	158	4/15/2023	\$150.00
State of FL FAR (Adv Mtg Cancel Mar 2023)	132526	4/14/2023	\$22.82
Truist Bank Business Card Statement	4.2.2023	4/2/2023	\$172.58
Total Administrative Invoices			\$12,032.42

<u>Water Supply Studies and Facilities</u>	<u>Contract/ Budget</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>	<u>Current</u>
2023 General Services Contract	\$20,000.00		
Work Order 2023-01 INTERA Incorporated	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
Work Order 2023-02 Hazen and Sawyer	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
FY22-23 Water Conservation Grants Program	\$140,000.00		
Citrus County	\$35,075.00	\$35,075.00	
Hernando County	\$49,750.00	\$49,750.00	
Marion County	\$14,081.25	\$14,081.25	
Sumter County	\$23,000.00	\$23,000.00	
Regional Water Supply Plan Update (Q324)	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00	
Phase 7 Irrigation Program (Q306)	\$102,000.00	\$94,117.75	\$3,247.75 (1)
FY22-23 Total Project Invoices	\$612,000.00	\$586,024.00	\$3,247.75

Total Bills to be Paid	
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State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA2 to SBA1	\$12,032.42
Deposit to Truist	Subtract from SBA1 Transfer	\$0.00
State Board of Administration	Transfer from SBA1 to Truist Bank	\$15,280.17

Notes:

(1) Phase 7 (Q306) - Irrigation Audits

Jack Overdorff, ECO Land Design	\$2,947.75	Invoice 546
C. LuAnne Stout, Admin Services	\$300.00	Invoice 3-Mar-Q306-2023
	<u>\$3,247.75</u>	

Item 6.c.

Water Conservation Month Resolution

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

The purpose of this item is to request the Board execute a resolution declaring April 2023 as “Water Conservation Month.” Declaring April as Water Conservation Month has historically been used by the Authority as a means to focus the public’s attention on the need for and benefits of conservation and to highlight the resources available to help them.

Since 1998, the state of Florida, water management districts, local governments and water-related organizations, such as the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association, have declared April as Water Conservation Month. April is typically the time of year when water demands increase due to generally hot and dry conditions. Declaring April as Water Conservation Month will further the Authority’s and its member governments’ water conservation efforts.

The resolution for the Board’s consideration is provided in the meeting materials as an exhibit.

See Exhibit

Staff Recommendation:

Approve and ratify the Chair-elect’s signature for Resolution No. 2023-01 declaring April 2023 as “Water Conservation Month.”

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION 2023-01

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**DESIGNATES APRIL 2023 AS
WATER CONSERVATION MONTH**

WHEREAS, water is a basic and essential need of every living creature; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida, the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority designate April as water conservation month; and

WHEREAS, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority urges every consumer and each citizen and business to become more aware of the need to save water, and to take appropriate measures to conserve and protect this vital natural resource by practicing water-saving measures; and

WHEREAS, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors supports and encourages water conservation measures within the Withlacoochee Region; and

WHEREAS, the support of April 2023 as Florida's Water Conservation Month reinforces conservation messages and efforts put forth by the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority Board of Directors hereby proclaims April 2023 as WATER CONSERVATION MONTH in the Withlacoochee Region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair and Secretary of the Board of Directors are hereby authorized to affix their signatures to the Resolution on behalf of the Board.

PASSED and ADOPTED in Lecanto, Citrus County, Florida on this twentieth day of March 2023.

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

Attest:

BY Jeff Kinnard, Chair-Elect

Suzannah J. Folsom, Secretary

Springs Protection Awareness Month Resolution

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

The purpose of this item is to request the Board execute a resolution declaring April 2023 as “Springs Protection Awareness Month.” Declaring April as Spring Protection Awareness Month will allow the Authority to focus the public’s attention on protecting, maintaining and restoring where necessary the natural springs within the region. These springs are essential to the environment, economy, citizens and visitors of the region. By adopting the proposed Springs Protection Awareness Month Resolution, the Authority will demonstrate its commitment to environmental stewardship, including supporting efforts to conserve and restore the ecological balance of these spring systems.

The Authority encourages its members to continue and enhance where appropriate local efforts to protect our springs and to support the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the St. Johns River Water Management District in their efforts to conserve and protect our local springs.

The resolution for the Board’s consideration is provided as an exhibit in the Board’s meeting materials.

See Exhibit

Staff Recommendation:

Approve and ratify the Chair-elect’s signature for Resolution 2023-02 declaring April 2023 as “Springs Protection Awareness Month.”

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PROCLAIMS APRIL 2023 AS
“SPRINGS PROTECTION AWARENESS MONTH”**

WHEREAS, Florida’s springs are essential to the environment, economy, residents and visitors of the state; and

WHEREAS, there are five first-magnitude spring groups within the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) that collectively discharge more than one billion gallons of water per day; and

WHEREAS, these groups are important not only for their ecological value but also for their economic impact on the communities that call these areas home; and

WHEREAS, the WRWSA, in partnership with the various stakeholders, is committed to helping to conserve and restore the ecological balance of these spring systems, thereby supporting regional economies and quality of life.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority hereby proclaims the month of April 2023 as “SPRINGS PROTECTION AWARENESS MONTH.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority shall continue to contribute to an adaptive management strategy to protect the region’s springs through restoration, planning, communication and education, monitoring, research and development, regulation, conservation, and land acquisition and management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chair and Secretary are hereby authorized to affix their signatures to the Resolution on behalf of the Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED in Lecanto, Citrus County, Florida, on this twentieth day of March 2023.

**WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER
SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

Attest:

By: _____
Jeff Kinnard, Chair-Elect

Suzannah J. Folsom, Secretary

Item 6.e.

Staff Travel to the Florida Chamber of Commerce Environmental Permitting Summer School, July 18-21, 2023

The Florida Chamber of Commerce holds the annual Environmental Permitting Summer School, which is attended by attorneys, consultants, engineers, state and local government officials, developers, landowners and others with a strong interest in environmental issues in Florida. Program features advanced and current instruction on Florida's environmental, energy and growth management laws, rules and programs. Attendees can also earn continuing education credits.

It is recommended that Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Governmental Executive Director, be authorized to attend this year's event. Estimated costs include only Registration: \$625.00. There are adequate funds budgeted for this purpose.

Staff Recommendation:

Board approval for Suzy Folsom, WRWSA Executive Director, to attend this year's Environmental Permitting Summer School at a cost of \$625.00.

Fiscal Year 2021-22 Financial Audit

Mr. Mark White, Partner with Purvis Gray & Company, LLP, will present this item.

Purvis Gray and Company has prepared the annual audit of the Authority's financial statements for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022.

Included as an exhibit in the Board's meeting materials is the Authority's financial position provided to Purvis Gray & Company.

See the following exhibits which will be provided as separate documents:

- A. May 5, 2023 letter from Purvis Gray and Company;
- B. Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

Staff Recommendation:

Board approval of the Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for Fiscal Year 2021-22, dated May 5, 2023, as presented at the meeting and submittal of this report to the Auditor General and to the Florida Department of Financial Services.

Item 8.a.

Establishment of Proposed FY 2023-24 Budget Components

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

a. Grant Funding Amount and Guidelines

Since 2005, the Authority has funded an annual grants program that provides matching funds for water conservation and water supply development projects. Member governments and other utilities in the region have applied for and received cooperative grants for projects of mutual benefit. The 2023-24 grants cycle will begin with an announcement to be sent to utility directors and water conservation coordinators in the region regarding the Authority's Local Government Grant Program. A copy of the proposed announcement is included as an exhibit to this item.

For the current fiscal year 2022-23, the grant funding budget is \$140,000. We have been receiving additional interest on our SBA accounts, due to higher interest rates. We would like increase the grant funding budget amount by \$40,000 to \$180,000. We have and clarified on the forms and website that the grant funds could be available for Water Supply and Conservation Projects. In order to provide for this continuing program in the upcoming 2023-24 fiscal year and to allow staff to prepare the final 2023-24 budget, staff requests the amount of \$180,000 for the Grant Program."

See Exhibits

Staff Recommendation:

The Board set the total allocation of funds in fiscal year 2023-24 budget for the Local Government Grant Program at \$180,000 for water supply and conservation projects.



May 17, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Local Governments and Utility Directors in the Withlacoochee Region

From: Suzannah J. Folsom, Executive Director, WRWSA

Subject: WRWSA Funding for Water Supply and Conservation Projects

The Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) will accept applications for its Fiscal Year 2023-24 Local Government Water Supply and Conservation Grants Program starting on May 17, 2023. Applications must be received no later than June 30, 2023. This grants program is sponsored by the WRWSA to fund local water supply and conservation projects on a matching basis.

Applications and instructions are available on the Authority web page at www.wrwsa.org. Applications will be considered by the Board at its July 26, 2023 Board meeting. Awards are scheduled to be made at the September 20, 2023 Board meeting.

If you have any questions about the grants program, please contact me at (352)527-5796. You may also call LuAnne Stout at the Lecanto Office (352)527-5795. If you desire to contact me by FAX, my FAX number is (352)527-5797 and my e-mail address is "sfolsom@wrwsa.org."

cc: WRWSA Board Members

Distribution List:

Bob Titterington, Belleview	Alys Brockway, Hernando Co. Water Conservation
Charlene Kuhn, Brooksville	Eric C. Williams, Inverness
Steve Macholz, Bushnell	Jody Kirkman, Marion County
Sue Taylor, Center Hill	Trevor Knight, Marion County
Ken Cheek, Citrus County	Town of McIntosh
Debra Burden, Citrus Co. Water Conservation	Rusella Bowes-Johnson, Ocala
Milton Hill, City of Coleman	Town of Reddick
Ken Frink, Crystal River	Bradley Arnold, Sumter County
Troy Slattery, Dunnellon	City of Webster
Gordon Onderdonk, Hernando County	Mark Odell, Wildwood



Local Government Water Supply and Conservation Funding Assistance Program

Program Guidelines:

Since 1999, the Board of Directors of the Authority has provided assistance to local governments for water supply and conservation projects. The criteria for possible funding of a local water supply and conservation project are as follows:

1. The project must be within the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority jurisdiction, which is comprised of Marion, Citrus, Sumter and Hernando Counties.
2. For FY 2023-24, the project must relate to water conservation.
3. The project must be approved by the submitting local government's City Council or County Commission prior to submittal to the WRWSA. A resolution of support of the project and commitment of any co-funding by the local government should accompany the application. The Authority, in its sole discretion, will evaluate and approve/disapprove each project based on its merits.
4. The Authority Board of Directors will establish the amount of money available each year for the grant program. For Fiscal Year 2023-24, the Board has tentatively set a budgeted amount of \$180,000. The number of approved applications and associated costs will determine the amount of funding for each project. Generally, the Authority funds 50% of a project budget up to the maximum set by the Board.
5. The local government applicant must provide a scope of services for the project that describes the objective of the project, the tasks involved in the project, the cost per task and the time frame for completion of the project.
6. If either the approved project tasks or the project time frames are changed, the project applicant must revise the scope of services as soon as they are known and receive approval of these revisions from the Authority. Changes to the internal budget of a project may be approved by the Executive Director up to a 10% change in budget items, as long as the overall cost of the project does not increase. Changes in excess of 10% must be approved by the Authority Board. The Authority Executive Director may also approve changes in the project time schedule as long as the contract completion date is not changed. All requests for changes in budget and schedule must be submitted in

writing to the Executive Director. Any requests requiring Board approval will be scheduled for consideration at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Requests for an extension of the contract completion date must be done prior to the expiration of the contract.

7. The application process will open on May 17 of 2023 and close on the last working day in June. The applications will be considered by the Board beginning at its July Board meeting. The [grant application form](#) and a [draft contract](#) are available on the WRWSA webpage. Grant awards will be made no later than the September Board meeting. Grant contracts will be prepared by the Authority in consultation with the grant recipient.
8. All public supply utilities within the region and member governments are eligible to apply for the WRWSA grants.
9. Applicants with past or ongoing grant projects may apply for a new grant, provided that the past, or ongoing, grant is on schedule, unless extenuating circumstances warrant a special exception. Such exceptions would be entirely at the discretion of the Authority Board.
10. Having had a previous grant from the WRWSA will not diminish standing for ranking applications, but will be only one consideration for ranking applications, including past performance in implementing projects.
11. The WRWSA local grant program is structured whereby invoices may be submitted monthly or bi-monthly for reimbursement of 50% of the costs incurred, consistent with the approved grant contract and scope of services. WRWSA grant contracts will contain a provision stating that the WRWSA grant funds expended to-date must be refunded by the grant recipient if a project is abandoned before it is completed.



WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION GRANT

Application Process

The grant application period opens on May 17, 2023 and closes on the last working day of June (June 30, 2023). The [grant application form](#) and a [draft contract](#) are available on the WRWSA webpage.

The completed application and all attachments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on June 30, 2023. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the grant application is sent to and received by the Authority by the specified deadline. The Authority assumes no responsibility for delays or other problems with the transmittal of the application.

Applications will be considered beginning at the July 26, 2023 Board meeting. Applicants will be expected to have a representative at the Board meeting to explain the request and answer questions.

Once a grant application is approved by the Board, the applicant's resolution, summary of the project and time schedule will be incorporated by reference into a contract between the Authority and the grant recipient.

The completed application should be mailed to:

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

Deadline: 5:00 pm, June 30, 2023



FY 2023-24

WATER SUPPLY AND CONSERVATION GRANT APPLICATION FORM:

Name of applicant:

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

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

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, 2023, 5:00 p.m. EST

**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 _____, 2023, 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, 2024. The final reimbursement request

must be submitted no later than December 31, 2024. Requests submitted after December 31, 2024 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, 2024. 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

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: _____
JEFF KINNARD
Chair

ATTEST:

By: _____
SUZANNAH J. FOLSOM
Executive Director

_____, a political Subdivision of
the State of Florida

By: _____

Chair

ATTEST:

By: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: _____
_____ for the Grantee

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

By: _____
Attorney for Authority

Item 8.b.

Establishment of Proposed FY 2023-24 Budget Components

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

b. FY 2022-23 Per Capita Rate

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 twelve 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 \$169,218, an increase of \$4,312 or approximately 2.6% from the current fiscal year.

County	BEBR Population (April 1, 2022)	FY 2023-2024 Assessment
Citrus	158,009	\$30,022
Hernando	199,207	\$37,849
Marion	391,983	\$74,477
Sumter	141,420	\$26,870
Total	890,619	\$169,218

The assessments are billed quarterly to each County at a rate of 25% of the amount listed above.

Staff Recommendation:

Board approval of no change in the per capita rate of \$0.19 for preparation of the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget.

Item 8.c.

Establishment of Proposed FY 2023-24 Budget Components

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

c. Draft Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget

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

Included as Exhibit A to this item is the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 budget for the Board's review. The budget has been prepared in a conservative manner to keep costs in check and enhance efficiencies for the member governments.

Included as Exhibit B is a description of the Authority's FY2023-24 work program that is supported by the proposed budget.

See Exhibits included in the Board's meeting materials:

- A. Proposed FY2023-24 Budget
- B. WRWSA FY2023-24 Work Program

Staff Recommendation:

This item is provided for review and will be presented, incorporating any comments received at the July 26, 2023 Board meeting, for approval.

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY

Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget

Draft May 3, 2023

	4/1/2022 Population Estimate		Fiscal Year 2023-24	Fiscal Year 2022-23	\$ Change	% Change
Revenues: Administrative						
Assessments:		Official BEBR Population Estimates				
Citrus	158,009	2,394 person increase	\$30,022	\$29,567	\$455	1.5%
Hernando	199,207	2,667 person increase	\$37,850	\$37,343	\$507	1.4%
Marion	391,983	10,807 person increase	\$74,477	\$72,424	\$2,053	2.8%
Sumter	141,420	6,827 person increase	\$26,870	\$25,573	\$1,297	5.1%
Total Population/Assessments @ 19¢/Capita	890,619		\$169,219	\$164,907	\$4,312	2.6%
Administrative Revenue from Citrus Contract		Based on Citrus County contract and Board direction	\$21,241	\$18,999	\$2,242	11.8%
Subtotal			\$190,460	\$183,906	\$6,554	3.6%
Carryover Administration Reserve Funds (FYE 22/23 Estimate) (SBA1)		See Attachment 2	\$804,562	\$748,526	\$56,036	7.5%
Total Administrative Revenue Available			\$995,022	\$932,432	\$62,590	6.7%
Revenues: Water Resource Development (WRD) Projects						
2024 RWSP Update Matching Funds		50% of 75% of Remaining Project Budget	\$131,250	187,500	-\$56,250	-30.0%
SJRWMD Irrigation Audit Program SJRWMD Matching Funds		25% of Total Project Budget	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000	100.0%
SJRWMD Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		37.5% of Total Project Budget	\$22,500	\$0	\$22,500	100.0%
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program SWFWMD Matching Funds		0% of Total Project Budget	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		0% of Total Project Budget	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Phase 7 Irrigation Audit Program SWFWMD Matching Funds		50% of Remaining Project Budget	\$25,500	\$51,000	-\$25,500	-50.0%
Phase 7 Irrigation Audit Program Cooperator Matching Funds		25% of Remaining Project Budget	\$12,750	\$25,500	-\$12,750	-50.0%
Annual Citrus WRD Payments (SBA2)		Based on CAB wellfield monthly average revenues of \$23,000 minus funds allocated to administrative revenue above	\$254,759	\$221,001	\$33,758	15.3%
Subtotal			\$461,759	\$485,001	-\$23,242	-4.8%
Carryover WRD Reserve Funds (FYE 22/23 Estimate) (SBA2)		See Attachment 2	\$1,267,326	\$1,127,470	\$139,856	12.4%
Total Water Resource Development Revenue Available			\$1,729,085	\$1,612,471	\$116,614	7.2%
Total Revenues Available			\$2,724,107	\$2,544,903	\$179,204	7.0%

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY					
Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget					
Draft May 3, 2023					
		Fiscal Year 2023-24	Fiscal Year 2022-23	\$ Change	% Change
Expenditures: General Administration					
Executive Director	3% increase	\$91,956	\$89,280	\$2,676	3.0%
Administrative Assistant	3% increase	\$40,980	\$39,780	\$1,200	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	\$16,920	\$0	0.0%
Advertising	Based on FY 2021-22 actual	\$700	\$800	-\$100	-12.5%
Audit	FY 20-21 plus 3% COLA	\$11,972	\$11,623	\$349	3.0%
Bookkeeping Services	\$500/quarter per Engagement Letter	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.0%
Liability Insurance	FY 21-22 actual plus 5%	\$4,879	\$3,150	\$1,729	54.9%
Office Supplies	Based on FY 2021-22 actual	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$0	0.0%
Postage	Based on FY 2021-22 actual	\$800	\$800	\$0	0.0%
Printing and Reproduction	Based on FY 2021-22 actual	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	0.0%
Publications/Software	Based on FY 2021-22 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 2021-22 actual	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	0.0%
State Fees/Assessments	Based on FY 2021-22 actual	\$175	\$175	\$0	0.0%
Telephone	Based on FY 2021-22 actual	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0	0.0%
Travel (Board Members & Staff)	Based on FY 2021-22 actual	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0	0.0%
Web Page / Computer Maintenance	Based on FY 2021-22 actual	\$3,500	\$2,800	\$700	25.0%
Contingencies	@ 5% of non-contract admin costs	\$1,600	\$1,600	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal - General Administration Expenditures		\$190,460	\$183,906	\$6,554	3.6%
Fund Balance for Admin. Reserves FYE 23/24	FYE22/23 Admin Funds Bal + FY23/24 Admin Rev's - FY23/24 Admin Exp's	\$804,562	\$748,526	\$56,036	7.5%
Expenditures: Water Resource Development Projects					
General Services Contracts	As Needed Eng. & Tech. Firms	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0.0%
Local Government Grant Program	To be approved 5/17/23	\$180,000	\$140,000	\$40,000	28.6%
2024 RWSP Update	75% of Project Budget	\$262,500	\$375,000	-\$112,500	-30.0%
SJRWMD Pilot Irrigation Audit Program	100% of project Budget	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000	100.0%
SWFWMD Phase 7 Irrigation Audit Program	50% of Project Budget	\$51,000	\$102,000	-\$51,000	-50.0%
SWFWMD Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program	0% of Project Budget	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Subtotal - Water Resource Development Projects		\$603,500	\$667,000	-\$63,500	-9.5%
Fund Balance for Water Resource Development Reserves FYE 23/24	FYE22/23 WRD Funds Bal + FY23/24 WRD Rev's - FY23/24 WRD Exp's	\$1,125,585	\$757,971	\$367,614	48.5%
Total Administration and WRD Expenses		\$793,960	\$850,906	-\$56,946	-6.7%
Total Administration and WRD Fund Balances at FYE 22/23	See Attachment 2 for detail	\$1,930,147	\$1,490,497	\$439,650	29.5%
Combined FYE 23/24 Expenditures and Fund Balances		\$2,724,107	\$2,341,403	\$382,704	16.3%

ATTACHMENT 1

CALCULATION OF REVENUE FOR 2023-24 AND CALCULATION OF AMOUNT OF FUNDS NEEDED FROM RESERVES

Draft May 3, 2023

Revenue	4/1/2022 Population	
LOCAL ASSESSMENTS @ 19¢ PER CAPITA		
Citrus	158,009	\$30,022
Hernando	199,207	\$37,850
Marion	391,983	\$74,477
Sumter	141,420	\$26,870
Subtotal	890,619	\$169,219
CHARLES A. BLACK WATER SUPPLY FACILITY		
\$23,000 per month * 12 months		\$276,000
Subtotal		\$276,000
MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR STUDIES		
SWFWMD Match for RWSP Update		\$131,250
SWFWMD Match for Phase 7 Irrigation Audit Program		\$25,500
Local Cooperator Match for Phase 7 Irrigation Audit Program		\$12,750
SWFWMD Match for Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program		\$0
Local Cooperator Match for Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Program		\$0
SJRWMD Match for Irrigation Pilot Evaluation Program		\$15,000
Local Cooperator Match for Irrigation Pilot Evaluation		\$22,500
Subtotal		\$207,000
TOTAL REVENUE FOR FY 2023-24		\$652,219
Less: 2023-24 Administration Expense		-\$190,460
Less: 2023-24 WRD Cost		-\$603,500
Funds to WRWSA Reserves (+to, -from)		-\$141,741

ATTACHMENT 2

ANALYSIS OF BEGINNING FUND BALANCES FY 2023 - 2024 Draft May 3, 2023

ESTIMATE OF WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND BALANCE AT END OF FY 2022-23

04/21/23 WRDF Balance (SBA2)	\$1,346,559
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FY 2022-23 Remaining WRD Fund Revenues

6 Citrus Co. Payments @ \$20,000/month minus administrative component below	\$110,501
2024 RWSP SWFWMD Revenue	\$43,750
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit Local Cooperator Revenue	\$0
Phase 6 Irrigation Audit SWFWMD Revenue	\$7,172
Phase 7 Irrigation Audit Local Cooperator Revenue	\$13,250
Phase 7 Irrigation Audit SWFWMD Revenue	\$26,500

Revenues Subtotal	\$201,173
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Less: FY 2022-23 Remaining Contract Expenditures:

2022-23 Citrus Water Conservation Program	\$35,075
2022-23 Hernando Water Conservation Program	\$49,750
2022-23 Marion Water Conservation Program	\$14,081
2022-23 Sumter County Water Conservation Program	\$23,000
2022-23 General Services Contracts	\$20,000
2024 RWSP	\$87,500
Phase 7 Irrigation Audit Program	\$51,000

Expenditures Subtotal	\$280,406
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Total WRD Funds at end of FY 2022-23	\$1,267,326
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ESTIMATE OF ADMINISTRATIVE FUND BALANCE AT END OF FY 2022-23

04/21/23 Admin Bal (SBA1)	\$804,562
Admin Revenue from CAB WSF	\$9,499
Admin Revenue from Per Capita Contributions	\$82,454
Less remaining FY Admin costs for 6 months	-\$91,953

Total Administrative Funds at end of FY 2022-23	\$804,562
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ESTIMATE OF TOTAL FUND BALANCE AT END OF FY 2022-23

Total WRD Funds at end of FY 2022-23	\$1,267,326
Total Administrative Funds at end of FY 2022-23	\$804,562

Total Fund Balance at end of FY 2022-23	\$2,071,888
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PROJECTED FUND BALANCES AT END OF FY 2023-24

Total Fund Balances beginning of FY 2023-24:	\$2,071,888
Add: 2023-24 Revenues	\$652,219
Deduct 2023-24 Expenses:	-\$793,960

Projected Fund Balances at end of FY 2023-24:	\$1,930,147
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Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Work Program

1. 2024 Regional Water Supply Plan Update

Work will continue on the 2024 Regional Water Supply Plan update. This will include population and demand projections, evaluation of water supply sources, conservation and reuse alternatives, and an evaluation of alternative water supply options. This work is co-funded by SWFWMD, and will be incorporated into their 2025 Northern Region Regional Water Supply Plan, and SJRWMD 2026 Central Springs/East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan update.

2. Joint Funding of Water Conservation Projects with Member Local Governments

The Authority will continue its grant program to assist local governments in improving water supply and 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. The 2023-24 proposed budget includes \$180,000 toward local government water supply and 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. The water conservation activities co-funded by this grant program help participating utilities meet and surpass the maximum 150 gallons per person per day that is required by the SWFWMD and to meet the SJRWMD conservation requirements.

3. 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. Phase 6 is ongoing, and Phase 7 started in January 2023. 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.

In Fiscal Year 2023-24 we will begin a new program cofounded by SJRWMD that will include Marion County and the City of Belleview as cooperating utilities. This pilot program will include 60 enhanced evaluations.

4. 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 new Water Supply Contract governing the operation and maintenance of the CABWSF. The new 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.

WRWSA is coordinating with Citrus County as a co-applicant for the Water Use Permit No. 7121 renewal. Citrus County has increased its annual contribution to the Renewal and Replacement Fund from \$180,000 to

\$270,000 to account for inflation, and additional planned activities, and to maintain a balance the required balance of between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000.

5. Participation in Maintenance and Enhancement of the Central Springs Groundwater Model

The Authority will continue to participate in discussions with SJRWMD and SWFWMD on the implementation of the Central Springs Groundwater model. 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. This model will be used for the 2024 Regional Water Supply Plan update.

6. Springs Protection and Restoration

The Authority continues to work with the SWFWMD on its springs coast initiative. 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.

7. 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.

Legislative Report

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

The 2023 Legislative Regular Session began March 7, 2023 and was scheduled to end May 5, 2023. Staff gathered information on relevant bills that are related to conservation and water supply from SWFWMD, 1000 Friends of Florida, and the Florida Engineering Society's Conservation and Environmental Quality Committee, and the House and Senate websites.

The attached exhibit summarizes the status of the bills as of the publishing of this agenda packet. This information will be updated in a presentation at the board meeting, along with additional information on SB 1632 / HB 1379 Environmental Protection

Staff Recommendation:

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

Bill Title	Significance	Bill	Sponsors	Status
Land Use Development Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redefines definitions for urban sprawl and agricultural enclaves Prohibits the denial of a development order for not meeting LOS standards Removes local government discretion to reject a decision under FLUEDRA 	HB 439	Rep McClain	Second reading scheduled 5/3/2023
		SB 1604	Sen Ingoglia	Passed Senate on 5/4/2023
Local Comprehensive Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows prevailing party in challenges to comprehensive plan amendments to recover reasonable attorney's fees 	HB 359	Rep Duggan	Passed in the House on 5/2/23
		SB 540	Sen DiCeglie	Passed Senate on 4/19/2023
Local Ordinances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires local governments to submit business impact estimates before enacting ordinances Allows courts to award attorney's fees and damages in civil actions filed against local governments related to ordinances 	HB 1515	Rep Brackett	Passed in the House on 5/3/23
		SB 170	Sen Trumbull Sen Perry	Passed Senate on 5/3/2023
Public Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows local governments to conduct private meetings with attorneys that have made a Bert Harris Private Property Rights Act claim 	HB 397	Rep Tuck	First reading on 3/7/202 – no companion bill
Land Development and Referendum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibits local initiative or referendum processes on land development regulations 	HB 41	Rep Garcia	Laid on Table 5/1/23
		SB 856	Sen Rodriguez	Temporarily postponed 3/24/2023
Public Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires a 180 day limit to resolve disputes between vendors and local government Revises conditions that require a public entity to pay for certain disputes or claims Revises provisions relating to payments for purchases of construction services by local government 	HB 383	Rep Griffiths	Passed in the House on 5/3/23
		SB 346	Sen DiCeglie	Passed Senate on 4/27/2023
Public Financing of Potential At-Risk Structure and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expands SLIP to all areas at risk of sea level rise 	HB 111	Rep Hunschofsky	Passed House on 4/19/2023
		SB 1170	Sen Calatayud	Passed in the Senate 5/1/2023

Bill Title	Significance	Bill	Sponsors	Status
Implementation of the Recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires 5-year septic system inspection program in critical springsheds BMAP strengthening 	HB 423	Rep Cross	First reading on 3/7/2023
		SB 1538	Sen Stewart	In Senate Fiscal Policy Committee as of 4/19/2023
Safe Waterways Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthy Beaches Testing and Beach Closure guidelines Requires public beach owners to notify the county health department within 24 hours of a failed water quality test and requires closure if DOH deems necessary Requires DOH to establish signage requirements for health advisories and establish a database for fecal indicator bacteria data for public beaches 	HB 177	Rep Gossett-Seidman Rep Caruso Rep Gonzalez Pittman Rep Lopez V.	In House Healthcare Appropriations Subcommittee as of 4/3/2023
		SB 172	Sen Berman	Introduced on 3/7/2023
Biosolids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expands FDEP wastewater grant program for class A and AA biosolids projects Restricts land application of Class B biosolids within the watersheds of nutrient impaired waterbodies 	HB 1405	Rep Tuck Rep Basabe Rep Mooney	Passed House on 4/28/2023
		SB 880	Sen Brodeur	Passed in the Senate on 5/4/23
Excise Tax on Water Extracted for Commerce and industrial Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imposes excise tax on water withdrawals for commercial and industrial use, excluding public water supplies, agricultural producers, and sanitation facilities Requires taxed entities to maintain taxable withdrawal records for FDEP inspection 	SB 930	Sen Stewart	Introduced on 3/7/2023 No companion bill
Management and Storage of Surface Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exempts environmental habitat creation, restoration, and enhancement activities and water quality improvements on agricultural and government-owned lands from surface water management and storage regulations 	HB 371	Rep Killebrew	First reading on 3/7/2023
		SB 910	Sen Burton	In Senate Community Affairs Committee as of 3/14/2023

Bill Title	Significance	Bill	Sponsors	Status
Wastewater Grant Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expands FDEP wastewater grant program for projects to restore impaired waterbodies 	HB 827	Rep Basabe Rep Lopez V. Rep Garcia	In House Infrastructure Strategies Committee as of 3/15/2023
		SB 458	Sen Rodriguez	In Senate Appropriations Committee as of 3/8/2023
Water and Wastewater Facility Operators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires FDEP to issue water and wastewater operator licenses by reciprocity to applicants holding a federal or out-of-state license Allows FDEP to issue temporary operator licenses with waived application fees during a declared state of emergency 	HB 23	Rep Bell Rep Barnaby	Passed House on 4/20/2023
		SB 162	Sen Collins	Passed Senate on 4/19/2023
Environmental Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires sewage disposal facilities to provide advanced wastewater treatment before discharging into certain impaired waters by 1/1/2033 Requires sewage disposal facilities to provide advanced wastewater treatment before discharging into waters designated as impaired after 7/1/2023 Prohibits new onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDS) within a BMAP where sewer is available Requires new OSTDS to achieve 50% nutrient reduction for sites less than 1 acre where sewer is not available Expands OSTDS remediation plans within BMAPs including an Outstanding Florida Spring Requires local governments to provide sanitary sewer services for developments of more than 50 lots that have more than one OSTDS per acre within 10 years Strengthens BMAPs Expands wastewater grant program Establishes the Indian River Lagoon Protection Program Raises value thresholds for the acquisition of state lands 	HB 1379	Rep Steele Rep Overdorf Rep Bankson Rep Bartleman Rep Basebe Rep Buchanan Rep Cassel Rep Chaney Rep Garcia Rep Gossett-Seidman Rep Gottlieb Rep Lopez, J. Rep Lopez, V. Rep Massullo Rep Mooney Rep Porras Rep Woodson Rep Yarkosky	Passed House on 5/3/2023
		SB 1632	Sen Brodeur Sen Avila	Passed Senate on 5/2/2023

Bill Title	Significance	Bill	Sponsors	Status
Utility System Rate Base Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes alternative procedure by which PSC may establish rate base value for certain acquired utility systems. requires that approved rate base value be reflected in acquiring utility's next general rate case for ratemaking purposes. establishes procedure for appraisal of acquired utility system. provides contents required for petition to PSC for approval of rate base value of acquired utility system. provides duties of PSC regarding petitions. authorizes PSC to set rates for & classify certain acquired utility systems. requires PSC to take certain factors into consideration for certain rate base value petitions. requires PSC to adopt rules. 	HB 125	Rep McClain	Passed House on 4/27/2023
		SB 194	Sen Hooper	Passed in the Senate on 4/27/2023

Item 10

Attorney's Report

To be provided at meeting

Item 11

Executive Director's Report

Item 11.a.

Charles A Black Wellfield Water Use Permit Renewal

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

The Charles A. Black Wellfield Water Use Permit number 7121.006 expired on March 13, 2022. Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority is a co-applicant with Citrus County. The wellfield consists of seven public supply drinking water wells. The current permit has an average supply of 4,597,000 gallons per day (GPD) and a peak flow of 6,574,000 GPD.

Citrus County hired Jones Edmunds and Associates to assist in preparing the permit renewal application. WRWSA staff reviewed the permit application and provided comments prior to submittal. The following actions have been taken in the renewal process:

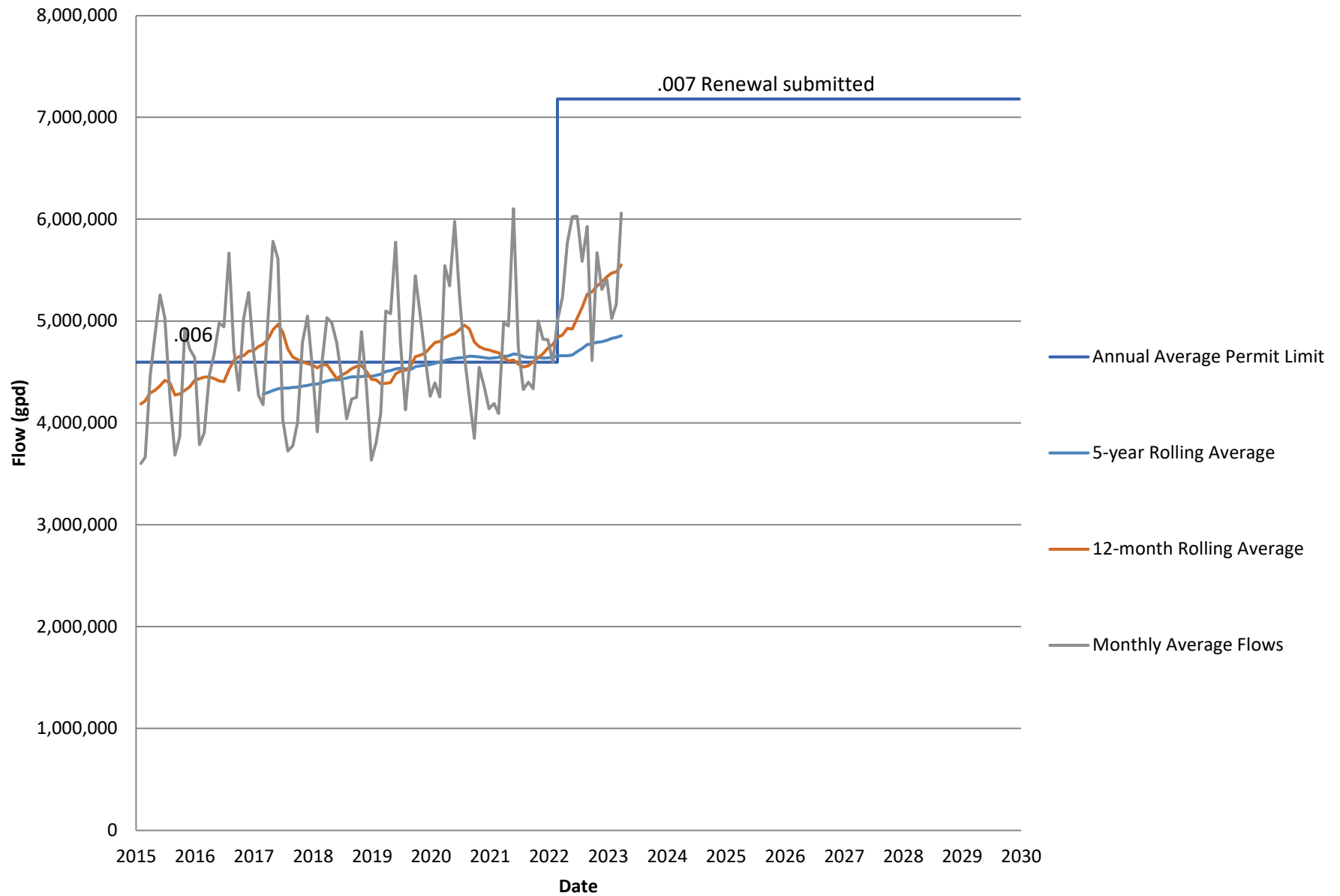
January 31, 2022	Application submitted
March 1, 2022	SWFWMD Request for Additional Information
May 27, 2022	Additional information sent
August 11, 2022	Time Extension Request Approval
August 17, 2022	Clarification of Received Information sent by SWFWMD
November 15, 2022	Response sent to SWFWMD
December 15, 2022	Clarification Letter sent by SWFWMD
April 14, 2023	Time Extension Request Approval

The requested term is 20 years, with an average permitted supply of 7,181,900 GPD and a peak supply of 9,121,013 GPD. This increase in capacity is based on population projections. The population served is expected to increase 39,630 by 2042. This includes the existing service area, service area expansion, and new proposed developments.

Staff Recommendation:

This item is for information and no action is required.

Citrus County - Charles A Black WUP 7121



Item 11.b.

Executive Director's Report

Water Use Permit Demand Summary

Summary of Major Water Use Permits in WRWSA Service Area

Updated 4/21/2023

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 2022 GPD	RWSP Accuracy for 2020 +/- %
Citrus County								
207.007	City of Crystal River	3/27/2032	919,000	1,224,495	825,111	133.2%	744,000	-39.2%
419.013	City of Inverness	5/18/1931	1,535,000	1,225,392	1,099,670	79.8%	1,136,000	-7.3%
1118.008	Floral City Water Association, Inc.	2/28/2038	395,000	408,536	351,664	103.4%	304,000	-25.6%
2842.011	Citrus County	8/25/2035	4,780,000	2,902,439	2,602,034	60.7%	2,616,000	-9.9%
4153.014	Rolling Oaks Utilities, Inc.	8/20/2038	1,573,000	1,595,227	1,564,698	101.4%	1,510,000	-5.3%
4406.009	Homosassa Special Water District	8/25/1932	951,000	800,967	820,281	84.2%	764,000	-4.6%
7121.007	Citrus County - Charles A Black***	3/13/2022	7,181,900	5,552,755	4,856,089	77.3%	3,762,000	-32.2%
9791.011	Citrus County - Sugarmill Woods	11/17/2025	2,435,300	2,407,118	2,147,162	98.8%	2,346,000	-2.5%
11839.008	GCP Walden Wds. One & Two, LLC, c/o Sun Communities, Inc.	4/23/2039	187,900	163,264	164,522	86.9%	140,000	-14.2%
Hernando County								
5789.013	Hernando Co. BOCC, Wiscon Maintenance Compound/Attn: Landis Legg	8/26/2035	23,299,000	20,550,367	18,666,339	88.2%	19,214,000	-6.5%
7627.005	City of Brooksville	2/25/2024	2,448,000	1,481,315	1,379,300	60.5%	1,136,000	-23.3%
Marion County - SWFWMD								
1156.013	Bay Laurel Community Development District	2/23/2041	7,560,900	4,249,197	3,607,088	56.2%	2,698,000	-36.5%
5643.008	Utilities, Inc. of Florida - Golden Hills	2/23/2036	188,400	124,860	136,784	66.3%	160,000	28.1%
6151.014	Marion County Utilities Consolidated WUP	1/22/2043	9,323,500	7,548,600	5,769,324	81.0%	5,278,000	-30.1%
8020.008	Association of Marion Landing Owners, Inc.	9/9/2040	179,400	128,487	132,129	71.6%	160,000	24.5%
8339.008	Florida Governmental Utility Authority- Dunellon	3/21/2035	1,117,100	1,208,915	1,233,596	108.2%	938,000	-22.4%
Marion County - SJRWMD								
2993-12	CSWR-Florida Utility Operating Company - South Marion Regional Water System	5/27/2042	231,000	244,174	179,838	105.7%	234,000	-4.2%
2995-7	Tradewinds Utilities Inc	2/27/2035	227,000	97,107	93,947	42.8%	100,000	3.0%
3016-4	Ocala East Villas Inc	8/27/2031	107,000	86,051	91,382	80.4%	100,000	16.2%
3021-5	Rolling Greens Communities	9/13/2025	610,000	473,912	424,585	77.7%	350,000	-26.1%
3043-7	Florida Governmental Utility Authority - Ocala Oaks	1/6/2040	194,000	162,504	136,961	83.8%	178,000	9.5%
3137-5	City of Belleview	10/11/2036	1,022,000	1,081,370	964,494	105.8%	876,000	-19.0%
4578-8	Marion County Utilities Consolidated CUP	9/10/2023	7,090,000	6,516,956	6,026,574	91.9%	6,728,000	3.2%
50324-9	City of Ocala	8/7/2027	17,540,000	12,618,090	11,855,806	71.9%	11,524,000	-8.7%
Sumter County								
1368.008	Lake Panasoffkee Water Assoc Inc	8/22/2024	410,000	346,581	287,063	84.5%	326,000	-5.9%
6519.01	City of Bushnell	3/29/2031	1,366,800	481,449	460,418	35.2%	670,000	39.2%
7185.007	City of Webster****	8/29/2022	102,900	93,832	89,060	91.2%	180,000	91.8%
8135.013	City of Wildwood	3/31/2035	4,344,800	2,019,942	2,084,245	46.5%	4,594,000	127.4%
8193.006	City of Center Hill	11/18/2042	150,000	69,532	68,079	46.4%	174,000	150.2%
13005.012	Village Center Community Development District	1/23/2038	19,345,900	12,598,712	12,153,179	65.1%	24,564,000	95.0%
20597.000	Club**	6/17/2026	238,400	126,314	133,241	53.0%	214,000	69.4%
12-month Rolling Average for most recent available data								
5-year Rolling Average for most recent available data								
Combined with City of Wildwood for Reporting as of Dec 2022 *WUP No longer active - Combined to Marion Consolidated Utilities								
****Renewal submitted; Permitted GPD represents WUP request; no new expiration date confirmed; revision number updated to reflect submittal								

Item 11.c.

Executive Director's Report

WMIS WUP Notifications

Summary of Recent Water Use Permit Activity in WRWSA Service Area

Updated May 1, 2023

Water Use Permit #	Applicant/Permittee Name	Activity Type	Date	Avg GPD	Peak GPD	Use Type	Status
Citrus County							
7121.007	Charles A Black Water Supply System	Renewal	1/31/2022	7,181,900	9,121,013	Public Supply	In Review
12390.002	Greenbriar Two Condominium Assoc	Renewal	12/15/2022	26,900	77,400	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 1/10/2023
10404.0060	Southern Woods at Sugarmill Woods Golf Course	Ownership Transfer	12/27/2022	262,400	639,200	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 1/5/2023
3673.0080	Sugarmill Woods Country Club	Ownership Transfer	12/27/2022	64,600	786,500	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 4/11/2023
4153.015	Rolling Oaks Utilities	Ownership Transfer	12/27/2022	1,573,000	2,029,100	Public Supply	Issued 1/27/2023
11281.009	GDP Prop, LLC (Metal Industries)	Modification	2/7/2023	200,000	200,000	Industrial/ Commercial	Issued 2/14/2023
21110.000	Hillside Villas Property Owners Association, Inc.	New	2/17/2023	68,800	198,000	Landscape/ Recreation	Withdrawn 4/26/2023
Hernando County							
5789.015	Hernando County Water System	Modification	8/10/2022	24,360,000	31,911,600	Public Supply	In Review
10797.003	Lee Kelso Pedone (T K Hatten Dairy)	Renewal	11/7/2022	101,080	122,000	Agricultural	Withdrawn 3/20/2023
2677.005	Carole L Mendelsohn (Hernando Groves)	Renewal	12/5/2022	39,200	209,000	Agricultural	Issued 1/18/2023
12427.002	Joseph M and Valerie DiVenti	Renewal	1/18/2023	15,000	80,000	Agricultural	In Review
215.015	Cemex Construction Materials Florida, LLC (Brooksville Quarry)	Modification	2/15/2023	271,300	545,800	Mining/ Dewatering	Issued 3/1/2023
351.007	Hernando County Airport	Modification	2/21/2023	11,200	25,600	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 4/3/2023
8453.004	Lead Foot City	Modification	3/13/2023	11,000	13,000	Industrial/ Commercial	Issued 3/22/2023
8453.005	Lead Foot City	Modification	3/28/2023	11,000	13,000	Industrial/ Commercial	Issued 4/4/2023
Marion County - SWFWMD							
13123.005	Florida Grande Motor Coach Resort	Modification	8/22/2022	114,000	290,000	Public Supply	In Review
20319.004	Sleepy Creek Lands	Renewal	9/23/2022	887,800	2,387,100	Agricultural	Issued 1/6/2023
7178.007	Oak Run Development	Renewal	10/27/2022	614,300	1,904,400	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
5122.011	Whitehurst Cattle Company	Renewal	11/16/2022	2,198,300	6,005,400	Agricultural	Issued 1/18/2023
9497.002	Marion Oaks Country Club	Ownership Transfer	3/17/2023	133,600	307,600	Landscape/ Recreation	Withdrawn 3/21/2023
10861.004	Huntington Golf Course	Ownership Transfer	3/17/2023	159,600	360,400	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 4/11/2023
21117.000	Rainbow River Ranch	New	3/22/2023	92,200	366,900	Agricultural	In Review
9497.003	Marion Oaks Country Club	Renewal	3/23/2023	133,600	307,600	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
Sumter County							
21031.000	Blue Goose Utility Company, LLC	New	4/4/2022	6,000,000	8,600,000	Public Supply	In Review
21039.000	Blue Goose Water Conservation Authority	New	5/9/2022	5,372,500	35,578,396	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
7185.007	City of Webster	Renewal	8/25/2022	102,900	123,200	Public Supply	In Review
1491.006	Toms Ranch, LLC	Renewal	9/7/2022	95,200	764,400	Agricultural	Issued 10/13/2022
20687.008	Southeast Wildwood Water Conservation Authority	Modification	10/5/2022	2,632,700	16,578,400	Landscape/ Recreation	Issued 3/29/2023
12385.004	SST VI 11203 N US Hwy 301 LLC	Renewal	12/13/2022	1,200	1,700	Industrial/ Commercial	Issued 1/26/2023
12336.002	Doug Lancaster Farms, Inc.	Renewal	1/11/2023	34,400	96,400	Agricultural	Issued 1/26/2023
20949.002	Gibson Place Water Conservation Authority	Modification	1/18/2023	4,103,700	21,538,283	Landscape/ Recreation	In Review
11259.003	Sumter County BOCC	Ownership Transfer	3/2/2023	48,600	110,100	Industrial/ Commercial	Issued 3/7/2023
21114.000	Marnie's Farm	New	3/10/2023	58,600	648,000	Agricultural	In Review

Item 11.d.

Executive Director's Report

Correspondence

Thank you! For Being So Great - Water Matters

Tomscak, Beth <Beth.Tomscak@districtgov.org>

Tue 4/25/2023 8:23 AM

To: Rushing, Joshua <Joshua.rushing@jacobs.com>; Jennifer Wheeler <jwmarvin@ufl.edu>; Isanderson@ufl.edu <Isanderson@ufl.edu>; adam.dennis@solitudelake.com <adam.dennis@solitudelake.com>; Bruce.Werner@hunterindustries.com <Bruce.Werner@hunterindustries.com>; Katherine.Munson@swfwmd.state.fl.us <Katherine.Munson@swfwmd.state.fl.us>; frank.gargano@swfwmd.state.fl.us <frank.gargano@swfwmd.state.fl.us>; Kevin Montalvo <Kmontalvo@cepralandscape.com>; rlusher@ufl.edu <rlusher@ufl.edu>; Susanlleague@outlook.com <Susanlleague@outlook.com>; Suzannah Folsom <sfolsom@wrwsa.org>; plaluzerne@rainbird.com <plaluzerne@rainbird.com>; Chandler.B.Keenan@FloridaDEP.gov <Chandler.B.Keenan@FloridaDEP.gov>; sueegloff@gmail.com <sueegloff@gmail.com>; logan@walkertechnicalservices.net <logan@walkertechnicalservices.net>; tkelley@wildwood-fl.gov <tkelley@wildwood-fl.gov>; chris@walkertechnicalservices.com <chris@walkertechnicalservices.com>; Holly.Firoozi@thevillagesgrown.com <Holly.Firoozi@thevillagesgrown.com>; Tracey.Herrera@thevillagesgrown.com <Tracey.Herrera@thevillagesgrown.com>

Cc: Morris, James <James.Morris@districtgov.org>

Good Morning,

Thank you so much for participating in the First Annual Water Matters Event!

You made it a huge success!

It has been so rewarding to receive so much great feedback.

Please let me know if you have any additional feedback to share to make next year's event even better.



Beth KM Tomscak, Asset Management System Coordinator

District Property Management

1026 Canal Street, The Villages, Florida 32162

Direct: 352.753.4022 | Fax: 352.753.4296

Beth.Tomscak@DistrictGov.org | www.DistrictGov.org

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ANGELA VICK

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Clerk of the County Court
Recorder of Deeds
Clerk and Accountant of the Board of County Commissioners
Custodian of County Funds
County Auditor

110 North Apopka Avenue
Inverness, Florida 34450
Telephone: (352) 341-6449
www.citrusclerk.org
ssullivan@citrusclerk.org

RECEIVED APR 05 2022

WITHLACOOCHEE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY
3600 W SOVEREIGN PATH STE 228
LECANTO, FL 34461

March 28, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter serves to notify you that the Citrus County Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022, is now available on the Clerk's website. The web address is www.citrusclerk.org and the ACFR can be found under the Finance Services tab.

If you require a hard copy, please contact Senior Financial Analyst, Susan Sullivan, either by e-mail at ssullivan@citrusclerk.org or by phone at 352-341-6464.

Sincerely,

Angela Vick,
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

FW: PFAS Litigation - Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority

Robert Batsel <RBatsel@lawyersocala.com>

Thu 3/2/2023 1:22 PM

To: Suzannah Folsom <sfolsom@wrwsa.org>; Istout wrwsa.org <Istout@wrwsa.org>

Cc: Heidi Carlman <HCarlman@lawyersocala.com>

Suzy and Luanne,

Good afternoon! Please see below...I intended to copy you and failed to do so. Please note that I don't have contact information for the cities referenced below and am asking that you forward to their Board representative and City Manager. I sent the email to their City Attorneys, but couldn't locate the other contact information. Thanks in advance!

Best,

Rob

Robert W. Batsel, Jr.

Gooding & Batsel, PLLC

1531 Southeast 36th Avenue

Ocala, Florida 34471

T: (352) 579-1290

D: (352) 579-6845

F: (352) 579-1289

Email: rbatsel@lawyersocala.com

Due to the overwhelming frequency of fraudulent cashier's checks presented in Florida, our underwriter requires all cash to close to be tendered in the form of a wire transfer. OUR WIRE INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE PROVIDED PRIOR TO CLOSING AND MUST BE CONFIRMED BY TELEPHONE CALL TO OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER STATED ABOVE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT OUR TRUST ACCOUNT IS HELD BY FIRST FEDERAL BANK. IF YOU RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO SEND YOUR WIRE TO ANY OTHER BANK OR INSTRUCTIONS THAT ARE DIFFERENT THAN INSTRUCTIONS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED, THEN THAT INSTRUCTION IS THE RESULT OF A COMPUTER HACKING CRIME. IN SUCH CASE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE BY TELEPHONE IMMEDIATELY.

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Please note: Due to Florida's very broad public records law, most written communications regarding the business of a public entity are considered to be public records, available to the public and media upon request. Therefore, this email may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Robert Batsel <RBatsel@lawyersocala.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2023 1:00 PM

To: Robert Batsel <RBatsel@lawyersocala.com>

Cc: James Hartley <jhartley@lawyersocala.com>; Heidi Carlman <HCarlman@lawyersocala.com>

Subject: PFAS Litigation - Withlacoochee River Water Supply Authority

County and City Attorneys,

Good morning. I represent the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority ("WRWSA"), which includes a representative from each of your respective cities and counties. Attached, you will find an email from Attorney Matthew Foreman, which includes a letter from his co-counsel, Christina Cossich. As you will glean from your review, they (along with other firms listed in the letter) represent public entities in connection with the pending PFAS litigation.

At the WRWSA Governing Board's last meeting, I provided this letter to the Board with a brief report. Before requesting any action from the Board, I suggested that we first notify each of you and provide an opportunity for you to review and share any thoughts on whether the WRWSA should pursue a claim. First and foremost, I am interested in whether a claim brought by WRWSA would duplicate or conflict with efforts of your city or county on its own behalf. If so, then any objection of a member city or county will probably lead me to advise against the WRWSA's direct involvement. If there are no valid objections from our member cities and counties, then we will proceed with evaluating whether the WRWSA has been damaged as a result of drinking water contamination, site contamination, or otherwise.

I have blind copied each of our member County and City Attorneys, and, if accessible in my contacts or online, each WRWSA Board member, City Manager and County Administrator. Please note that I am unable to locate contact information for Board members or staff with the City of Brooksville, City of Belleview, and City of Bushnell, but have copied WRWSA staff and am requesting that this email be forwarded to Councilman Bailey, Commissioner Smith, and Commissioner Swain, together with their respective City Managers.

Upon your review, please reply or call me to discuss any thoughts. Our March meeting has been cancelled, but I would like to gather any relevant feedback before the end of the month in order to properly prepare for our May meeting, which may include working with outside counsel to identify potential damages and arrange a presentation.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration and feedback. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best regards,

Rob

Robert W. Batsel, Jr.
Gooding & Batsel, PLLC
1531 Southeast 36th Avenue
Ocala, Florida 34471
T: (352) 579-1290
D: (352) 579-6845
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Email: rbatsel@lawyersocala.com

Due to the overwhelming frequency of fraudulent cashier's checks presented in Florida, our underwriter requires all cash to close to be tendered in the form of a wire transfer. OUR WIRE INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE PROVIDED PRIOR TO CLOSING AND MUST BE CONFIRMED BY TELEPHONE CALL TO OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER STATED ABOVE. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT OUR TRUST ACCOUNT IS HELD BY FIRST FEDERAL BANK. IF YOU RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO SEND YOUR WIRE TO ANY OTHER BANK OR INSTRUCTIONS THAT ARE DIFFERENT THAN INSTRUCTIONS PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED, THEN THAT INSTRUCTION IS THE RESULT OF A COMPUTER HACKING CRIME. IN SUCH CASE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE BY TELEPHONE IMMEDIATELY.

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PFAS - Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority

Matthew Foreman <mforeman@carterforeman.com>

Wed 1/18/2023 12:12 PM

To: rbatsel@lawyersocala.com <rbatsel@lawyersocala.com>

Dear Mr. Batsel:

I appreciate you speaking with me previously. Please find a memorandum from my co-counsel regarding the PFAS litigation for review by you and your client.

We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this further with you or your client as may be most appropriate.

Best Regards,

Matthew A. Foreman, Esquire
Carter Foreman, PLLC
5308 Spring Hill Drive
Spring Hill, FL 34606
mforeman@carterforeman.com
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www.carterforeman.com

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Philip F. Cossich, Jr.
Darren D. Sumich
David A. Parsiola
Brandon J. Taylor
Christina M. Cossich
Andrew J. Cvitanovic

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Suite 100
Belle Chasse, Louisiana 70037
WWW.COSSICHLAW.COM
Office: (504) 394-9000
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Louise R. Caro
Of Counsel (Licensed in Florida)
Jody J. Fortunato
Luana N. Smith
Thomas H. Barnett, Jr.

January 16, 2023

Robert W. Batsel, Jr., General Counsel
Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority
3600 W. Sovereign Path
Suite 228
Lecanto, FL 34461

Dear Mr. Batsel,

We appreciate the opportunity to present this letter to your client, the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority.

I. Introduction

This letter addresses the viability of the claims of the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority against 3M Company (3M) and multiple other defendants for contamination caused by per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), including perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). For decades, these chemicals were designed, manufactured, and/or sold by defendants for use in many different consumer, commercial, and industrial products, such as aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF). These potential claims revolve around the allegation that, as a result of the use and disposal of defendants' PFAS-products, the groundwater, surface water, soil, and/or property has been contaminated with PFAS.

Our firms are currently working as co-counsel to represent a number of public entities against 3M and other defendants for drinking water and site contamination caused by PFAS and AFFF. Additionally, Baron & Budd and Cossich, Sumich, Parsiola & Taylor also play a prominent role in the nationwide PFAS litigation. Judge Richard M. Gergel has appointed Scott Summy of Baron & Budd as Co-Lead Counsel for the multi-district litigation (MDL). The Judge has also appointed Christina Cossich of Cossich, Sumich, Parsiola & Taylor as a member of the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee (PEC). Members of both firms are also on Plaintiffs' committees for science, experts, law and briefing, state cases, settlement, and bellwether trials. As such, the firms have a detailed knowledge of this litigation from all aspects and the leadership roles will keep the firms at the forefront of litigation.

II. PFAS Background

In the 1940s, 3M began manufacturing PFOS, PFOA, and other PFAS chemicals. 3M learned that these chemicals have a unique ability to reduce surface tension between a liquid and another liquid or solid allowing them to create products like Scotchgard, that resist heat, stains, oil and water. Because of these novel properties, 3M developed AFFF containing PFOS and PFOA in the 1960s to suppress Class B fuel fires, which were of significant concern at military bases, fire training facilities, airports, and petroleum terminals. While 3M was the sole manufacturer of PFOS, PFOA was produced by other major U.S. companies including Arkema, Asahi, Ciba-Geigy, Clariant, Dynax, and DuPont.

PFOS and PFOA are particularly dangerous when released into the environment through an exposure pathway such as AFFF. These chemicals easily dissolve in water, increasing the rate at which they can spread through the environment while contaminating soil, groundwater, and surface water. This mobility is made more dangerous by the fact that PFOS and PFOA are remarkably persistent and do not degrade over time. Furthermore, both chemicals bioaccumulate, and have half-lives in humans ranging from 3 to 5 years. Because of these chemical properties, PFOS and PFOA are called the “forever chemicals.”

As early as the 1970s, 3M conducted and sponsored studies that showed adverse effects from exposure to PFOS and PFOA and that PFOS and PFOA were widely present in the blood of the U.S. population. These 3M studies and anecdotal findings continued for decades and eventually resulted in 3M voluntarily removing these chemicals from the U.S. market.

In light of the thousands of recent scientific studies and journal publications focusing on PFOS and PFOA, on June 15, 2022, the EPA published new interim health advisory levels of 0.02 parts per trillion for PFOS and 0.004 ppt for PFOA. These newest health advisory levels are a significant reduction from the previous health advisory levels of 70 ppt for PFOS and PFOA.

III. Current Litigation

A number of lawsuits have been filed by both public and private entities for water and site contamination. Given the broad coverage of this issue, an MDL was applied for and granted before Judge Richard M. Gergel in the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina. Upon formation of the MDL, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation limited consolidation to cases only involving AFFF and excluded those cases relating to other products containing PFOS and PFOA.

There are numerous Defendant Manufacturers named in the MDL, including 3M Company, E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Company, The Chemours Company, The Chemours Company FC, LLC, DuPont de Nemours, Inc., Corteva, Inc., Tyco Fire Products, LP, Chemguard, Inc., Buckeye Fire Equipment Company, National Foam, Inc., Kidde-Fenwal, Inc., Kidde PLC, Inc., UTC Fire & Security Americas Corporation, Inc., Chubb Fire, Ltd., Carrier Global Corporation, Raytheon Technologies Corporation, Arkema, Inc., BASF Corporation, Chemdesign Products, Inc., Clariant Corporation, Chemicals Incorporated, Nation Ford Chemical Company, Dynax Corporation, AGC Chemicals Americas, Inc., AGC, Inc., Deepwater

Chemicals, Inc., Archroma Management, LLC, and Archroma U.S., Inc. The primary causes of action alleged by plaintiffs against the Defendant Manufacturers are products liability, negligence, public and/or private nuisance, and trespass.

The Defendant Manufacturers were engaged in the business of designing, manufacturing, testing, distributing, marketing and/or selling PFOS, PFOA, and/or AFFF containing PFOS or PFOA. As such, the Defendant Manufacturers had a duty to not market a product that is unreasonably dangerous for its intended and foreseeable uses. Furthermore, the Defendant Manufacturers failed to provide warnings or instructions that were sufficient to notify the users of the dangers inherent in their products or of the methods of use that could reduce or eliminate those dangers. The Defendant Manufacturers also had a duty to exercise reasonable care in their design and manufacturing of these products as to avoid harm to those who would be foreseeably injured by PFOS and/or PFOA contamination. As a result of the Defendant Manufacturers' acts and omissions, their products have directly and proximately caused water and soil contamination as well as health hazards that have unreasonably interfered with, and continue to interfere with, Plaintiffs' use and enjoyment of their property. Lastly, plaintiffs did not grant permission to the defendants to allow PFOS and/or PFOA to enter into plaintiffs' property, such as soil, groundwater, water supply wells, and drinking water systems.

Despite the substantial number of plaintiffs and defendants, Judge Gergel has moved the MDL forward very efficiently. On August 19, 2022, Judge Gergel held oral arguments in Charleston regarding the Defendant Manufacturers' "government contractor defense." Members of our firms have been heavily involved in discovery and legal research specific to this defense, and many of our lawyers were involved in preparing for, and arguing, at this hearing. On September 16, 2022, plaintiffs received a favorable ruling from the Court denying the defendants' motion.

While addressing this and other issues on a regular basis, the Court and the party leadership have also been preparing water provider plaintiffs for the Bellwether process. Ten water provider cases were originally chosen as Bellwether Plaintiffs and Baron & Budd along with Cossich, Sumich, Parsiola & Taylor represent five of those ten plaintiffs. The bellwether candidates were reduced to three, of which our firms represent two. Judge Gergel selected the City of Stuart as the first public water provider bellwether case to go to trial in June of 2023. This process has greatly expedited those particular cases and has helped to frame critical legal and factual issues that will potentially impact all cases. In late October 2022, Judge Gergel appointed retired federal Judge Layn Phillips as a mediator in order to facilitate settlement discussions.

Outside of the Bellwether plaintiffs, the only discovery required of plaintiffs at this time is completion of a brief Plaintiff Fact Sheet, which is due to defendants within 98 days of filing suit.

IV. Potential Legal Actions

While you will always have the option to file in state or federal court, if there is any connection between the PFAS contamination and AFFF, the case will be removed to federal

court and/or transferred to the MDL. Accordingly, early participation in the MDL is recommended, as it provides the advantages of limited short-term discovery, cost sharing on liability aspects of the case, and a seat at the table for any potential settlement discussions. If the case does not resolve within the confines of the MDL, then it will likely be returned to your home state for litigation in state or federal court. In any case, there is no financial risk in taking such an action. This litigation will be handled on a contingent basis. If unsuccessful, the litigation will cost you nothing in fees or advanced expenses.

This is one of the most pressing environmental issues currently facing our country and the impact of these chemicals on the natural resources are essentially unavoidable. Accordingly, once contamination is confirmed, a proactive approach of filing suit, joining the MDL, and further evaluating potential claims is recommended.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christina M. Cossich

Item 11.e.

Executive Director's Report

News Articles

Citrus County Chronicle -- April 5, 2023

Citrus experiencing driest start to the year since 1917

By Michael D. Bates Chronicle Reporter

Lake Levels -- Citrus County is experiencing extremely dry weather causing lake levels, such as those in Lake Henderson in Inverness, to be lower.

Rainfall in Citrus County has been practically non-existent this year and area lakes are showing the effects.

Citrus has received just 2.7 inches of rain from January to March, about a quarter of the historical average amount (9.6 inches) for that period, according to the latest report from the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD).

Last month alone, Citrus County got 0.46 inches of rain, a fraction of the March historical average (3.9 inches). Get more from the Citrus County Chronicle

“To say it’s been dry would be an understatement,” according to SWFWMD chief professional engineer Mark Fulkerson.

Fulkerson said residents would have to go back to 1917 to find a drier start to the year.

County-wide aquifer (groundwater) levels have continued to drop and are currently in the 44th percentile, slightly below average, and much lower than they were a year ago (96th percentile).

“River levels and flows are now several feet lower than they were this time last year, and we can expect further declines unless our area receives significant rainfall soon,” Fulkerson said.

Lake and canal levels on the Tsala Apopka Chain of Lakes have fallen 1.5 feet since mid-November – including a 7-inch drop last month alone.

“Historically, the lakes drop the quickest in April and May, so unless we see substantial rainfall, lake levels could be very low by summer,” Fulkerson said.

All three pools within the lake chain are about 16 inches lower than they were a year ago.

Just last month, the Withlacoochee River dropped another foot.

Dry season in Florida is from October through May, so residents still have a bit longer to go before they see steady rain.

The next significant chance of rain for Citrus County is 40 percent on Sunday, according to the National Weather Service (NWS).

Michael D. Bates is a staff writer with the Citrus County Chronicle and can be reached at mbates@chronicleonline.com.

Florida, with the most lead pipes in the U.S., gets \$376M for drinking water infrastructure

Orlando Business Journal

By Henry Queen

April 7, 2023

Florida will receive over \$376 million in fiscal 2023 for drinking water upgrades, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced this week.

Almost \$255 million of that federal allotment is intended to replace lead pipes throughout the state. About half of that funding was sourced from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, also called the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The law gave Florida more subsidy dollars for pipe replacement than any other state in the wake of an updated survey formula.

The EPA determined in the survey that Florida has 1.16 million lead pipes — more than any other state and about 13% of the entire country's total. The Associated Press reported that the figure surprised the National Resources Defense Council, a nonprofit that had previously estimated only 200,000 lead pipes to exist here. Lead pipes are most commonly found in homes built before 1986.

An influx of government dollars to Florida could lead to new opportunities for civil engineering firms. Allocations to municipalities weren't part of this week's announcement, and it's unclear how much money will be funneled into the Tampa Bay area.

The subsidy dollars from the infrastructure law can only be realized if states sign assistance agreements — such as loans or grants — with eligible recipients within one year of receiving payments from the EPA. Optional set-aside funding opportunities also exist.

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund “can provide financial assistance to publicly owned and privately owned community water systems, as well as nonprofit, noncommunity water systems, for drinking water infrastructure projects,” according to a fact sheet. “Projects must either facilitate the system's compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or significantly further the health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act.”

In a statement, EPA Administrator Michael Regan said that funding will support President Joe Biden's goal of removing 100% of the country's lead pipes. Regan made the announcement from Illinois, which trails only Florida in its number of lead pipes.

Wildwood approves deal for water services in southern end of The Villages

Villages-News.com

April 10, 2023

By Marv Balousek

It might seem that providing potable water, waste water and irrigation services to the rapidly developing Villages of Southern Oaks would be mundane and straight forward.

Instead, providers include a group of Villages shell companies with colorful names and a public entity – Wildwood Utility Dependent District.

Wildwood commissioners Monday approved an amended ordinance extending 30-year contracts to these companies and authorizing the public entity to provide irrigation water in addition to potable water and waste water services.

Companies include Southeast Wildwood Water Conservation Authority, South Sumter Electric Co., South Sumter Gas Company, Middleton Utility Co., Middleton Water Conservation Authority, Gibson Place Utility Co., Gibson Place Water Conservation Authority, Blue Goose Utility Co., Blue Goose Water Conservation Authority, Okeehumkee Utility Co. and Okeehumkee Water Conservation Authority.

All list Villages Development Co. (VDC) attorney Brian Hudson as registered agent and VDC is listed as the manager and only officer. Founded during the past two years, all are located at 3629 Kiessel Drive near Brownwood.

Wildwood City Manager Jason McHugh said these private utility companies formed by the Developer help the city to keep up with growth.

“It’s definitely a win for the city,” he wrote in an email. “The city would not be able to keep up with the pace of development if the city were responsible for providing these services. The Developer has decades of experience in positioning these companies (size, territory, operations, etc.) and has demonstrated the ability to keep up with their demand.”

Established in 2021, Wildwood Utility Dependent District is governed by a five-member board of supervisors serving staggered terms. The first supervisors were appointed by the city, but will be elected as their terms expire.

In October 2021, the district purchased the South Sumter Utility Co., another Villages-related entity that provides water and waste water services to 7,825 homes.

The district is expected to complete a 181-mile system of water mains by next year.

Defending Against the Drought

April 27, 2023

By KEITH PEARLMAN,

Villages Daily Sun



Future Farmers of America members and students at The Villages High School Rubi Torres Camacho, left, and Ryker Morgan demonstrate ways to save water during the Water Matters event at Lake Sumter Landing Market Square.

Earth Day provided the perfect backdrop for The Villages Community Development District to hold an event to educate residents about water conservation practices.

Residents heard from experts from several organizations and were able to visit with representatives from various government organizations and community partners at the District's Water Matters event on Saturday at Lake Sumter Landing Market Square.

"Our environmental practices are outstanding, and putting together an event like this gives us a chance to thank so many of our community partners who help make it all possible," said Beth Tomscak, asset management system coordinator for District Property Management and the organizer of the event. "I wanted us to be able to show there's so much magic that happens behind the scenes and really kind of pull the curtain back and let residents get a glimpse of our phenomenal community partners."

Among the presenters and vendors at the event were: Vikus Water, the District's utilities engineer; Jacobs, which operates and maintains the District's utilities systems; the City of Wildwood; University of

Florida's Institute of Food, Agriculture and Science; the Withlatchoochee Regional Water Supply Authority; The Villages High School's Future Farmers of America chapter; and The Villages Grown.

Talking about water conservation is particularly timely because rain has been sparse through the first quarter of 2023, said Bruce Brown, assistant district manager.

Recent data from the Southwest Florida Water Management District shows about 2.9 inches of rain in Central Florida through April 12, well below the historical average of 11.1 inches by that date.

"Today is a great opportunity to learn about water conservation, water use and how you can save water," he said. "We haven't had a whole lot of rain the last four months so the subject of water is near and dear right now. You see our basins are at low levels throughout The Villages. But the rains should start to return soon so you will see those basins return to normal levels."

Frank Gargano, government affairs regional manager with the Southwest Florida Water Management District, applauded the District's initiative in hosting the event.

"It's always good to be able to meet with people and remind them of the importance to conserve water and be efficient with water when they when they use it at home," he said. "That's really the main message we're trying to share here. The water management district is involved with things like flood protection and natural systems. But water use goes hand in hand with those natural systems, things like wetlands and springs. So it's far reaching. Your water use is far reaching on the environment."

Gargano said The Villages acts as an outstanding steward of water resources.

"The Villages is forward thinking," he said. "They implement multiple conservation programs to ensure they are not negatively impacting the aquifer or natural systems. As they move forward and as they grow, obviously the demands for water will go up, but they always continue to evolve and use alternative water supplies."

Jim Legg, of the Village of Collier at Alden Bungalows, was a former wastewater operator in Massachusetts and is impressed by The Villages stormwater management system.

"This is a great thing the District is doing," he said. "A lot of people don't understand all that they do. The water here isn't used just once, it's continually used and reused because of the way they manage it."

The system is effective in promoting water conservation, Legg said.

"It's a wonderful system," he said. "It encourages people to conserve with their irrigation. The water they are using is coming from the ponds, it's recovered stormwater. And then they use the reclaimed wastewater for the golf courses and roadways. When I was in New England, it goes out a pipe into a river and it's gone for good. Here everything is reused which is great."

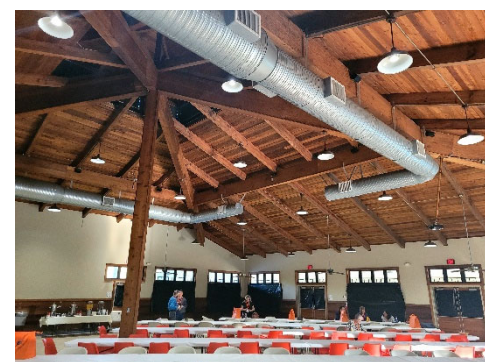
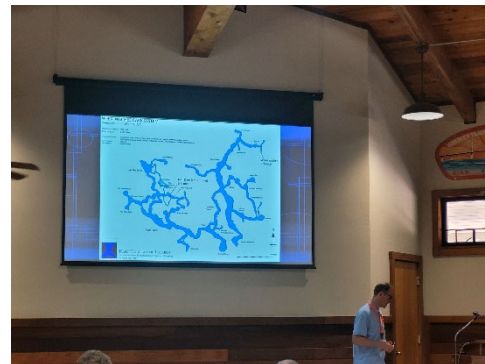
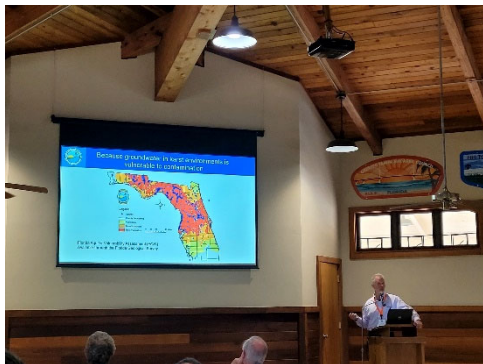
Alex Pierschella, of the Village of Tall Trees, said the messages being shared were welcome on Earth Day.

"I care a lot about environmental issues," she said. "I came here because I wanted to support this and I made sure to tell them how much I appreciate it. It's super exciting to see an event like this to educate people on the importance of the environment. It's something I love to see."

Hernando's Clear Vision for Healthy Springs

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

On Friday, April 14, 2023 Hernando County hosted the 2023 Clear Vision for Healthy Springs event at the Sandhill Reservation Scout Center. This educational outreach event promoted the health of the springs in Hernando County. WRWSA provided grant funding for this event.



Sumter Water Matters Event

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

On Saturday, April 22, 2023 we manned a booth at the first Sumter Water Matters event in the Lake Sumter Landing Park. This event promoted water conservation and water quality and was well attended by residents of the Villages.



