



**WITHLACOOCHEE
REGIONAL
WATER
SUPPLY
AUTHORITY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jack Sullivan

850.591.7422

WITHLACOOCHEE WATER AUTHORITY WELCOMES FIVE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Slate of New Officers Elected and Past Chairman honored

BROOKSVILLE, FL, January 19, 2011 -- Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority representing Citrus, Hernando, Marion and Sumter counties welcomed five new board members, including Citrus County Commissioner Rebecca Bays, Hernando County Commissioner Wayne Dukes, Marion County Commissioner Carl Zalack, City of Crystal River Councilwoman Maureen McNiff and City of Belleview Councilman Gary Ernst. A slate of 2011 Officers were elected: Marion County Commissioner Stan McClain elected Chairman, Citrus County Commissioner Dennis Damato elected Vice-Chairman, and Hernando County Commissioner John Druzbeck elected Treasurer. Sumter County Commissioner Richard Hoffman was honored for his service as past chairman of the board. For the benefit of new members, briefings were made on key components of the 2011 Work Program, including a new Regional Residential Irrigation Audit and Education Pilot Program funded in part by Southwest Florida Water Management District, the Coastal Rivers Basin Board and the Withlacoochee River Basin Board, matched by the Authority and participating members. Although statistics for the region indicate a much larger market for residential irrigation audits, the new pilot program will undertake 250 site-specific evaluations of inefficient landscaping practices and irrigation devices. Residential water users with monthly usage in excess of 30,000 gallons will be eligible to participate as early as June of this year, according to Mr. Jack Sullivan, Executive Director for the Authority. "There's a great deal of enthusiasm for the new water conservation pilot program which may serve as a model for other areas of the water management district and the state."

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