

LAKE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
(352) 324-6141
REGULAR MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AND AGENDA

<p>September 28, 2016 3:30 pm Lake County Administration Building 2nd Floor - County Commission Chambers 315 West Main Street, Tavares, FL 32778</p>
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- 1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**
- Tab 1 **2. Approval of Minutes** - August 24, 2016 - Regular Meeting
- September 14, 2016 - Tentative Budget Hearing
- 3. Executive Director Report**
- 4. Consent Items**
 - Tab 2 a. Approval to Renew Contract with the Lake County Sheriff
For Marine Patrol Deputies Michael Perry
 - Tab 3 b. Approval of Site Resident Leases and Hickory Point
Resident Lease Patricia Burgos
 - Tab 4 c. Approval to Renew Agreement with Lake County
For Citizens Lake Monitoring Ron Hart
 - Tab 5 d. Approval of Agreement with USGS for Water Level Monitoring Ron Hart
 - Tab 6 e. Approval of Purchase Orders for Alum and Polymer Ron Hart
 - Tab 7 f. Approval of Blanket Purchase Orders Linda Marino
 - Tab 8 g. Approval of Contract with USF for Lake Atlas Ben Garcia
 - Tab 9 h. Approval to Use Prescribed Fire Burn Contractors Patricia Burgos
 - Tab 10 i. Approval of Agreement with the USDA for Nuisance
Wildlife Removal Patricia Burgos
 - Tab 11 j. Approval to Renew Contracts with Naturalist and
Education Contractors Michael Perry
 - Tab 12 k. Approval to Renew Contract with Kree Inc. for Pavilion
Rental Services at Hickory Point Michael Perry
- 5. Discussion Items**
 - Tab 13 a. Disc Golf Trail - Hidden Waters Preserve Patricia Burgos
 - Tab 14 b. Benthic Invertebrate Report and Approval to Renew Contract Ron Hart
 - Tab 15 c. Status of Sawgrass Island Preserve Road Patricia Burgos
 - Tab 16 d. Lake Norris Acres Update Patricia Burgos
 - Tab 17 e. Replacement Electrical Cable for Dredges at NuRF Ron Hart
 - Tab 18 f. Award Bid for Replacement Floating Docks at Hickory Point Sergio Duarte
- 6. Public Comment (5:00 pm or as soon thereafter as possible)**
- 7. Legal Staff Report** Carole Barice
- 8. Board Member Comments**

9. Board Member Items for Future Agenda

10. Information Items

Tab 19

a. Staff Report

Tab 20

b. Monthly Financial Reports - August 2016

11. Announcement of Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Hidden Waters Preserve, Nature Hike, Oct. 1, 2016 (9 am – Noon)
- Wings and Wildlife Festival, Oct. 14-16, 2016, Venetian Gardens
- **Board Meeting - Wednesday, October 26, 2016 (3:30 pm)**
BCC Chambers/Admin. Building
- Flat Island Preserve, Long 4-5 mile Hike, Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016 (9 am – Noon)
- Sawgrass Island Preserve, Long 4-5 mile Hike, Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 (9 am – Noon)
- Lake Norris Conservation Area, Dog & Owner Hike, Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017 (9am – Noon)
- Wolf Branch Sink Preserve Open House, Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017 (8:30 am to 3:00 pm)
- Flat Island Preserve, Firefly & Bats, Friday, March 10, 2017 (6:30 pm to 8:30 pm)

12. Adjournment



TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Burgos, Land Resources Director
Ron Hart, Water Resources Director
Brian Nagy, Field Services Manager
DATE: September 13, 2016
SUBJECT: Site Resident Leases and Hickory Point Resident Lease

Consent Item

Approval of Site Resident Leases and Hickory Point Resident Lease

Preserves & Hickory Point Site Leases

The Water Authority maintains annual leases with all site residents living on agency properties. The leases are renewed each year in conjunction with the start of the Water Authority's fiscal year. Staff will be conducting annual inspections for each site prior to executing the leases to make sure that the homes are kept in a livable condition and that repairs have been kept up. The four sites below are recommended for a 12-month lease for Water Authority-owned homes:

- 1. Crooked River Preserve - Sgt. Michael Bond, Lake County Sheriff's Office
2. Flat Island Preserve - Deputy Dylan Thomas, Lake County Sheriff's Office
3. Sawgrass Island Preserve - Deputy Weston Paul, Lake County Sheriff's Office
4. Hickory Point Park - Staff member Mark Wiley, LCWA

All residents are required to submit a monthly report listing activities that have been performed on the Preserves and at Hickory Point in exchange for living at the site. Each resident must perform from 15 - 40 hours per month depending upon the site residence. Activities that are approved under the leases include, but are not limited to, patrolling the property, providing information to the public, trash pick-up, trail maintenance, citing illegal activity, invasive exotic control, and maintaining the residences and grounds.

Water Resource Structure Site Lease

The Authority also maintains annual leases with site residents at the water structures. Staff is recommending renewal of the M-5 lease with LCSO Deputy Mark Day.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

Authorize the Executive Director to execute lease agreements with the Water Authority site residents at the Crooked River Preserve, Flat Island Preserve, Sawgrass Island Preserve, the M-5 Water Control Structure and Hickory Point.

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TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Ron Hart, Water Resources Program Manager
DATE: August 17, 2016
SUBJECT: Approval of Agreement with Lake County for Citizens Lake Monitoring

Consent Item

Approval of Agreement with Lake County for Citizens Lake Monitoring

In January 2011, the Board authorized an agreement with the Lake County Lab for the volunteer monitoring program. Staff has attached the Interlocal Agreement for the Board's consideration. The agreement states that the County will coordinate the program on our behalf in conjunction with the existing Adopt-a-Lake Program. They will train and coordinate volunteers, analyze monthly samples for color, alkalinity, total phosphorus, total nitrogen (nitrate and total kjeldahl) and chlorophyll-a, provide monthly data reports, and record data in the State's database.

The Water Authority has the right to approve any sample sites prior to acceptance into the program and agrees to pay the County \$70 per sample for the total phosphorus, total nitrogen, and chlorophyll-a portion of the analysis. The Water Authority would be obligated to fund a maximum of 12 samples per site and the total program cost cannot exceed \$35,000. Because the Water Authority has the ability to approve any sites accepted into the program, the board has the ability to cap the expenses at any dollar amount by not approving any additional sites.

The agreement automatically renews each year unless one of the parties provides notice of termination. The Board has included \$35,000 in its FY 2016-17 draft budget to support this program. Prior to the execution of the contract with Lake County, the Florida Lakewatch Program was costing on average \$110,000 per year. To date, the switch to the Adopt-a-Lake Program on March 2011 has saved the Water Authority approximately \$474,931.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

Pending the Final FY 2016-17 Budget approval, authorize the Executive Director to continue the funding agreement with Lake County for the Lake Monitoring Program in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

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TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Ron Hart, Water Resources Program Manager
DATE: August 17, 2016
SUBJECT: United States Geological Survey (USGS) FY 2016/17 Agreement

Consent Item

Approval of Agreement with USGS for Water Level Monitoring

At the beginning of each budget year, the Water Authority has traditionally entered into a joint funding agreement with the USGS. The purpose of this agreement is to fund the basic surface water data collection needs of the Authority. The primary area of data collection is the Palatlahaha River Basin where the Authority is responsible for the operation of its dams. Other data collection areas include seven lake level measurement sites and an inflow measurement site to Wolf Branch Sink (see following map).

This year, USGS informed us that the sampling cost was going to increase from \$138,900 to \$141,200. This represents an increase of 1.7 percent. Last year, staff switched the gage sites from monthly to bi-monthly, resulting in a savings of \$5,750.

With the savings, the surface water data collection program has an associated total cost of \$156,400. The USGS has agreed to provide \$15,200 in matching funds. This leaves the Authority with a remaining balance for the program of \$141,200 (attached spreadsheet). The Board included funding in its FY 2016-2017 for this program.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

Pending the final FY 2016-17 budget approval, authorize the Executive Director to execute a Joint Funding Agreement between the Lake County Water Authority and the USGS for an amount not to exceed \$141,200.

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TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Ron Hart, Water Resources Director
DATE: August 17, 2016
SUBJECT: Alum & Polymer Purchase Order

Consent Item

Approval of Purchase Orders for Alum and Polymer

Two years ago, the Board approved piggybacking the Lee County Bid for alum with Chemtrade for a price of \$173.49 per dry ton. The Board also had the option to purchase Aluminum Trihydrate (ATH) with Thatcher Chemical for a price of \$181.68 per dry ton. Thatcher Chemical's ATH is preferable to typical alum because it is a more refined, cleaner product than the alum from bauxite that we had been using.

This year, the Lee County Bid expired and a new contract was negotiated with a price increase. The new price for Chemtrade aluminum sulfate is \$180.49 per dry ton, a \$7 increase. The Thatcher Contract expires with the new bid opening on September 8th. Because the Board's memos are due before this date, staff will inform the Board of the new price at our meeting. In addition, staff will continue to search new contracts to find additional savings and incorporate those savings into any purchases as they are discovered. Staff's recommendation is to again issue two purchase orders; one to Thatcher Chemical for \$1,000,000 and one to Chemtrade for \$1,000,000.

Last year, the Board also authorized a purchase order for polymer with Fort Bend Services. The Board included \$100,000 in its FY 2016-2017 budget for polymer. Staff requests authorization to issue a purchase order for polymer to Fort Bend Services for \$100,000.

These purchase orders only encumber the money and authorize staff to purchase these products, if needed. It does not guarantee that the money will be spent. The purchase orders would expire at the end of FY 2016-17.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

- 1) Pending final approval of the FY 2016-2017 budget, authorize the Executive Director to issue a purchase order for ATH to Thatcher Chemical for \$1,000,000 and a purchase order for alum to Chemtrade for \$1,000,000.
2) Pending final approval of the FY 2016-2017 budget, authorize the Executive Director to issue a purchase order for polymer to Fort Bend Services for \$100,000.

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Lake County WATER AUTHORITY

Michael J. Perry, Executive Director • Neil Kelly, Secretary-Treasurer

27351 SR 19 • Tavares, Florida 32778-4251 • (352) 324-6141 • Fax (352) 324-6364 • email: info@lcwa.org • www.lcwa.org

TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Linda Marino, Administrative Assistant
DATE: September 14, 2016
SUBJECT: Approval of Blanket Purchase Orders

Consent Item

Approval of Blanket Purchase Orders

Staff is requesting the Board approve the following FY 2016-2017 blanket purchase orders:

- Sumter Electric
New Office Electricity (100-430) \$ 8,676
Hickory Point Electricity (400-430) \$ 22,000
NuRF Electricity (710-430) \$ 50,000
TOTAL: \$ 80,676
City of Tavares
Old Office Utilities (100-430) \$ 1,500
New Office Utilities (100-430) \$ 4,560
Hickory Point Water (400-430) \$ 60,000
TOTAL: \$ 66,060
WEX
Fuel (730-520) \$ 30,000
Lake County Board of County Commissioners
Admin Employee Insurance Benefits (100-230) \$ 45,975
Water Resources Employee Insurance Benefits (710-230) \$ 27,285
Land Resources Employee Insurance Benefits (720-230) \$ 27,285
Field Services Employee Insurance Benefits (730-230) \$ 36,380
TOTAL: \$ 136,925
Florida League of Cities (amounts include new bldg. & workers comp deductible)
Admin Workers Comp (100-240) \$ 5,885
Water Resources Workers Comp (710-240) \$ 9,096
Land Resources Workers Comp (720-240) \$ 8,911
Field Services Workers Comp (730-240) \$ 9,552
Auto, Property & Liability (100-450) \$ 29,400
TOTAL: \$ 62,844

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• Lake County Sheriff		
Marine Patrol Unit – Education (500-340)		\$ 17,171
Marine Patrol Unit (710-340)		<u>\$ 211,779</u>
	TOTAL:	\$ 228,950

Executive Director’s Recommendation:

Pending the Final FY 2016-17 Budget approval, authorize the Executive Director to process blanket purchase orders for FY 2016-17 for the following entities up to the following amounts:

Sumter Electric.....	\$80,676
City of Tavares.....	\$66,060
WEX	\$30,000
Lake County Board of County Commissioners	\$136,925
Florida League of Cities	\$62,844
Lake County Sheriff.....	\$228,950



TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Ben Garcia, GIS Manager
DATE: September 12, 2016
SUBJECT: Lake County Water Atlas Maintenance

Consent Item

Approval of Contract with USF for Lake Atlas Maintenance

The Water Resource Atlas has been up and operating since April 2003. This Web site (http://wateratlas.co.lake.fl.us/) consolidates information on the water bodies within Lake County. It is a web-based atlas designed to provide citizens, environmental professionals, planners, and anyone else interested in water resources with current and historical water resource data and information in Lake County. The Atlas provides a one-stop location to find comprehensive and current water quality, hydrologic, ecological and recreational information. The concept was developed by the University of South Florida's (USF) Center for Community Design and Research.

The Water Atlas was upgraded recently with a new front page (see Figure 1) including the new in front water levels and flows functionality. This information is provided on the front page for easy access for people looking for it of most popular water bodies.

The Board included \$25,000 in its FY 2016-17 budget to provide annual (Standard) maintenance of the atlas instead of the basic maintenance. Since the front page was updated and the spring's page added, Staff did not see the need to keep the standard maintenance at the higher fee. The only concern was the frequency of data updates. The university agreed to keep the updates frequency the same and to help Water Authority staff with improving the bathymetry data and maps. The maintenance fee has been negotiated down to \$25,000 from \$50,000 while keeping the same functionality and data updates included in the standard maintenance, plus some future upgrades to the advance mapping section and also, bathymetry maps assistance.

The Scope of Services for the agreement is attached for the Board's review.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

Pending the Final FY 2016-17 Budget approval, authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the University of South Florida's Florida Center for Community Design and Research (USF-FCCDR) for the Basic maintenance and functionality of the Lake County Water Atlas program, for an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for Fiscal Year 2016-17.

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TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Burgos, Land Resources Director
DATE: September 9, 2016
SUBJECT: Approval to Use Prescribed Fire Burn Contractors

Consent Item

Approval to Use Prescribed Fire Burn Contractors

In 2012, the Board authorized staff to release a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Prescribed Fire Services, which includes site reconnaissance, the burn plan preparation, prepping the property's burn units and then the actual burn and mop-up after burn. Staff will be bidding prescribed fire and land management services again in Sept. 2017. Currently, the companies available for staff to use include:

- Atkins (Orlando, Orange County)
Habitat Restoration & Wildlife Protection Services, LLC. (Eustis, Lake County)
MEL-CON, Inc. (Eustis, Lake County)
Promise Habitat Services, LLC (Umatilla, Lake County)

Every year around this time, board and staff discuss the budget for the following year. Costs that are allotted to different accounts in the budget are educated guesses for what resource activities or projects may cost in the coming year.

The following are the properties, the units and the costs that has been included in its FY 2016-17 budget under Account 700-460 Repair & Maintenance:

Contract Burning

Table with 3 columns: Preserves, Burn Units/Acreage, Proposed Costs. Rows include Fern Prairie, Flowing Waters, Sawgrass Island, Scrub Point, Wolf Branch Sink, and a Total row.

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Mowing, Fireline & Unit Preparation

<u>Preserves</u>	<u>Proposed Costs</u>
Bear Track	\$ 10,000
Flowing Waters	\$ 7,000
Scrub Point	\$ 5,000
	<hr/>
	\$ 22,000

The objective for this program is to coordinate the burns so that eventually staff in 3-5 years can perform the burns “in-house” as opposed to having contractors lead the burns. Currently staff still needs to rely on contractors to assist due to the complexity of some burns, the level of equipment needed (e.g., forestry grade bulldozer) and the amount of crew needed.

A complex prescribed burn is defined by staff as a burn that is conducted on a property that has been fire suppressed for over 20 years, the burn units are in proximity to homes and/or major roads and the density of volatile vegetation or ladder fuels (i.e., dense vines on trees) is high.

These contractors have been pre-selected through the bid process and the issuance of purchase orders reflect the understanding that staff does not know at the beginning of the budget year how much will be spent on each contractor. Although unlikely, there is a possibility that the agency could spend the entire amount with one contractor. Staff will open purchase orders with each contractor and then the Executive Director can move funds between the contractors via change orders as needed. This process is similar to how Lake County handles their term agreements.

Executive Director’s Recommendation:

Pending the Final FY 2016-17 Budget approval, authorize the Executive Director to open purchase orders with Atkins, Habitat Restoration & Wildlife Protection Services, Promise Habitat Services and MEL-CON for prescribed fire services for an amount not to exceed \$75,000 with no cap per vendor as long as the total approved amount is not exceeded and authorize the Executive Director to move funds between the purchase orders as needed.



TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Burgos, Land Resources Director
DATE: September 15, 2016
SUBJECT: Approval of Agreement with the USDA for Nuisance Wildlife Removal

Consent Item

Approval of Agreement with the USDA for Nuisance Wildlife Removal

For over 16 years the Water Authority has been working on reducing the feral hog damage at the Preserves and Hickory Point Park. Over the past Five (5) years, the Water Authority has entered into a contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s team for hog and coyote removal. Nuisance wildlife such as hogs can displace native wildlife, kill native vegetation, affect the hydrology and more importantly create an opening for invasive plant species to get a foothold on the Water Authority’s properties. Hogs compete with native species such as gopher tortoise, quail, turkey and deer for resources.



Figure 1, Piglets within the Okahumpka

The Water Authority has entered into agreements in the past with private individuals to remove the hogs for free. While this has been a low cost solution, it has not been always been effective. Since it is voluntary and they are using their personal resources, hog trappers work on their own schedule and often there is no incentive to provide a consistent presence to eradicate the hogs. More importantly these free hog trappers are working in off-trail conditions under somewhat dangerous situations, which can expose the Water Authority to potential liability.

Staff had spoken to the Lake County Parks and Trails Department about their hog issues. The County has found success with the U.S. Department of Agriculture team for hog and coyote removal, as well as nuisance species surveys. The USDA Wildlife Services has a trained professional staff that can remove nuisance wildlife including feral hogs, coyote, feral cats, feral dogs, armadillos, nutria, exotics snakes, lizards and more. Employees are in uniform and all traps have signs stating who they are and why they are there. In addition to the removal, they perform disease sampling when they remove animals from the property adding to the scientific information used by the department. They are a department of the Federal Government and are self-insured and have liability coverage.

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The USDA charges a flat rate of \$57.00 per hour. This is an all-inclusive price including personnel, vehicles, gas, traps, bait, etc. Since they are already working in the County, they can coordinate visits to our properties with other properties in the area to be more cost efficient. The agreement can be terminated with 30 days written notice by either party. Coyotes are included because of their predation on gopher tortoises, which has been evidenced at Hidden Waters Preserve and ground nesting birds (e.g., bobwhite, turkey), which are present at Sawgrass Island Preserve and Wolf Branch Sink Preserve. With reports of exotic nutria rodents damaging wetlands in the Central Florida area staff would like to expand the services.

Staff has included the APHIS/USDA agreement for the Board's review. The trapper has been hitting the Flat Island Preserve hard as the area has always been a hotspot for hog activity. The trapper this past year had deployed a new trap with cameras that will increase the efficiency of the traps and time the closings to contain the largest amount of hogs as possible.

The Board has included \$10,000 in its FY 2016-2017 budget for feral hog, coyote and other nuisance wildlife removal should the need arise. Staff has in the past included Flat Island Preserve, Hidden Waters Preserve, Crooked River Preserve, Treasure Island Preserve, Tanner Preserve and Hickory Point Park. Staff would also like the latitude to add additional properties to the agreement should the need arise.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

Authorize staff to enter into an agreement with the APHIS/USDA Wildlife Services for hog, coyote and nuisance wildlife removal at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 2016-17.



TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Michael J. Perry, Executive Director
DATE: September 14, 2016
SUBJECT: Approval to Renew Contracts with Naturalist and Education Contractors

Consent Item

Approval to Renew Contracts with Naturalist and Education Contractors

The Water Authority has contracted with an Education Contractor and a Naturalist for several years to assist in preparing and implementing educational activities for the agency. The Education Contractor and Naturalist have assisted with Student Field Trips and School Events by hosting high school students from public schools including Eustis, Leesburg, Mount Dora, South Lake, Tavares and Umatilla at the Nutrient Reduction Facility, middle school students and Environmental Science students from Lake Sumner State College.

The Education Contractor and Naturalist also assisting with Community and Adult Education Events such as the Wolf Branch Sink open house that attracts an estimated 700 community members, Wings and Wild Flowers Festival, leading hikes at the preserves including Hidden Waters, Hickory Point, Bourlay and Flat Island and leading kayak and canoe trips often in partnership with Lake County Parks. They organize and participate in Lake and Stream Clean-up Programs, Earth Day, Drop-by-Drop teacher and community mini-grants and the Water Authority sponsored Lakes Academy.

The Water Authority has contracted with the Trout Lake Nature Center over the past several years to promote and support the study of Lake County's freshwater resources and the Floridan Aquifer by offering school and public programs, to promote whenever possible the LCWA's Preserves, programs and objectives and to have TLNC staff work with LCWA staff and the Education Contractor to deliver water resource education to students from Pre-school to High School without duplicating services.

Last year, staff evaluated the Mini Grant program and has determined that many of the Education Grants to teachers were for the cost to attend programs at the Trout Lake Nature Center and/or for transportation to the Trout Lake Nature Center. As such, staff discussed with the Board that since a significant portion of the grant funds are requested and awarded for schools to travel to and attend programs at the Trout Lake Nature Center, a more efficient way to handle the administration of these funds would be to provide the funds directly to the Trout Lake Nature Center and for TLNC staff to work with the schools that would like to attend and work out the transportation needs with the school personnel, rather than Water Authority staff administering

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TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Michael Perry, Executive Director
DATE: September 14, 2016
SUBJECT: Approval Contract with Kree Inc. for Pavilion Rental Services at Hickory Point

Consent Item

Approval Contract with Kree Inc. for Pavilion Rental Services at Hickory Point

At its March 2015 meeting, the Board Authorized the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Kree Inc. to provide preparation, cleaning and presence at the pavilion during the pavilion rentals at Hickory Point Recreational Facility.

The pavilion at the Hickory Point Recreational Facility is available for rent 7 days a week. The pavilion can be rented either by one half or all of the upstairs or downstairs floors alone, or the entire pavilion. There are two half day rates available also, either 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Kree Inc. staff's responsibilities are to ensure that the pavilion is clean, presentable and tables and chairs arranged based on the renter's request prior to the rental and to ensure the pavilion is clean after the rental is completed. Kree Inc. staff will be available during the rental to assist as necessary. The pavilion is most often rented during the weekends and Kree Inc. staff would be scheduled to accommodate the rentals. Rentals during the week would be staffed by Water Authority personnel.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

Pending the Final FY 2016-17 Budget approval, authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Kree Inc. to provide preparation, cleaning and presence at the pavilion during the pavilion rentals at Hickory Point Recreational Facility for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

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TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Ron Hart, Water Resources Director
DATE: August 16, 2016
SUBJECT: Benthic Invertebrate Report and Approval to Renew Contract

Discussion Item

Benthic Invertebrate Report and Approval to Renew Contract

The Lake County Water Authority began a macroinvertebrate sampling program in 2005. The program provides staff with a means of assessing biological condition within the lakes. A specific indicator known as the Lake Condition Index (LCI) is a methodology that has been accepted by state and federal agencies as a tool to quantify ecosystem health and identify impairment in Florida lakes.

The following lakes are included in the sampling:

- Lake Beauclair (2 LCI sites)
Lake Dora (3 LCI sites)
Lake Griffin (2 LCI sites)
Lake Eustis (2 LCI sites)
Lake Harris (3 sites)
Lake Yale (2 LCI sites)
Lake Minneola (2 LCI sites)
Lake Minnehaha (2 LCI sites)
Lake Louisa (2 LCI sites)

To ensure that the collection of data is consistent, each lake has a scheduled time of the year for its sampling date. This allows comparison of not only the final LCI scores (for statistical significance) but also changes in the population of macroinvertebrates within these individual waterbodies as they respond to environmental influences (degradation or improvements).

Historically, staff was sampling each lake every year. However due to a change in staff in 2009 and the cost of utilizing outside services, the Board authorized staff to change the sampling in each lake, except Lake Beauclair, to every three years. Lake Beauclair is still sampled annually because it is a key indicator of NuRF performance.

The proposed contract for 2016-2017 includes the annual sampling of Lake Beauclair and the triennial sampling of lakes Dora, Harris and Little Harris. The following table shows the cost for each analysis:

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Lake Name	LCI Sample Date Range	Cost
Beauclair East	October 2016	\$1625
Beauclair West	November 2016	\$1625
Dora East	November 2016	\$1625
Dora West	November 2016	\$1625
Dora Center	December 2016	\$1625
Little Harris	March 2017	\$1625
Harris West	April 2017	\$1625
Harris East	April 2017	\$1625
		\$13,000

This past year, the Board contracted with Ms. Hanlon-Breuer to sample lakes Beauclair, Louisa, Minnehaha, and Minneola. Ms. Hanlon-Breuer will be presenting her annual report to the Board at this month's meeting. Staff is requesting authorization for the Executive Director to execute this year's contract. The board has included \$13,000 in its FY 2016-2017 budget for benthic invertebrate sampling. Staff recommends approval of the contract.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

Pending final approval of the FY 2016-2017 budget, authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract with Ms. Hanlon-Breuer for the collection and analysis of benthic invertebrates on the Harris Chain for an amount not to exceed \$13,000.



TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Burgos, Land Resources Director
DATE: September 15, 2016
SUBJECT: Disc Golf Trail – Hidden Waters Preserve

Discussion Item

Disc Golf Trail – Hidden Waters Preserve

Staff was approached back in winter 2014 by a newly formed group with the idea of setting up a disc golf course at one of the properties. The Florida Disc Golf Foundation (d/b/a Lake County Disc Golf Club) group made a request to build a nine-hole disc golf course on the western side of Hidden Waters Preserve.

Concerns at that time included compatibility of the active sport with the resident gopher tortoises, the agency’s 15+ year restoration efforts, the ongoing prescribed burn program, the erosion problems and the liability of participants going into areas not normally used by the public.

Table 1 below sets out some Pros and Cons of the disc golf activity on the Preserve during the first year of operation.

Table 1

Table with 2 columns: PROS and CONS. PROS list includes increased visitation, vigilance, age range, invasive species removal, trash pick-up, advertising, and exposing visitors. CONS list includes increased foot traffic, evidence of footprints, impacts to tortoise habits, trash on property, erosion, opening up areas, and no financial gain.

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In April 2016 the disc golf group requested a renewal of the annual agreement. Changes made to the new agreement included moving Goal #1's fairway to decrease erosional impact and impact to the restoration planted areas and gopher tortoises. Also an increase from 9 holes to 18 holes with an increase in acreage. The agreement for one year was executed in May and would terminate in April 2017.

Robert Chandler, Lake County Economic Growth recently approached staff about Hidden Waters Preserve being included in the newly created "Lake County Disc Golf Trail" that would involve 5-6 courses around the County. This newly created sports trail would be funded and promoted by the Economic and Development Department of the County. Currently the Cities of Eustis, Leesburg, Mount Dora and Clermont have committed to having courses, as well as Lake-Sumter State College and Lake County Parks and Trails.

Additionally, the disc golf group has requested that a new course be added to the northern portion of Flat Island Preserve in Leesburg. A tentative map showing the fairways is included with this board memo. This new course would primarily be on City of Leesburg property, but have at least two full fairways on the Preserve with parts of three fairways. The current agreement would be terminated and the Water Authority would then enter into an agreement with Lake County and the City of Leesburg.

For Hidden Waters Preserve, the last year and a half was an experiment to see if this more active sport would mesh with the current passive use activities and the land management goals for the property. In staff's opinion the potential inclusion of Hidden Waters into this County-led disc golf trail will lead to an unsustainable increase in usage through increased advertising exposure and tournaments. The cost of installing permanent infrastructure (concrete pads) needed for disc golf at the preserve would create a "slippery slope" potentially allowing other permanent structures inconsistent with the preservation aspect of the property. Staff feels permanently turning Hidden Waters Preserve into a disc golf course is not compatible with the purposes for which the property was purchased in 1996 nor mesh with the future preservation goals of the property.

Regarding Flat Island Preserve, staff feels that the area that has been identified by the disc golf group for fairways and goals (see map) is also not compatible with inclusion into the disc golf trail. In staff's opinion the subject property is as close to pristine as possible considering it is adjacent to a landfill full of invasive plants and a pasture. The reason it has stayed pristine for the past 20 years is because it has not been cut into or disturbed. The disc golf group proposes to cut into the property, which would open it up to invasive species coming in from the adjacent city property. Not only would invasive plants be a problem, but there would be an increase of damage due to feral hogs. With over 11 species of invasive plants identified on the city's property, staff can anticipate with certainty that there will be an increase in cost and maintenance once the course is installed on Water Authority property. Currently that section of the Preserve does not cost the agency anything to maintain. Staff also considers that the 19-hole course can be reworked and fit exclusively on the City's property without the Water Authority's property being involved.

Staff has evaluated the request to expand the disc golf course at Hidden Waters Preserve and to put a new course at Flat Island Preserve against the environmental value of the Preserves, the historic decisions to purchase the Preserves and the statement by Mr. Chandler that the County has sufficient courses and did not need the Preserves to make the trail successful.

The staff has appreciated the disc golf volunteers that have helped keep Hidden Waters Preserve a unique property and the opportunity to experience a new venture, but feel that this is the appropriate time to end the license agreement.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

1. Deny the request to include Hidden Waters Preserve in the Lake County Disc Golf Trail.
2. Deny the request to include Flat Island Preserve in the Lake County Disc Golf Trail.
3. Revoke the Disc Golf License Agreement with the Florida Disc Golf Foundation, Inc. to use Hidden Waters Preserve for an 18-hole course. By this action giving the group 30 days from September 28th to remove any evidence of the course including signs, goals and tee areas.



TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Burgos, Land Resources Director
DATE: September 16, 2016
SUBJECT: Status of Sawgrass Island Preserve Road

Discussion Item

Status of Sawgrass Island Preserve Road

In March 2015 the Board approved staff entering into an agreement with Flatwood Products, Inc. to harvest timber from portions of Sawgrass Island Preserve. A stipulation of the agreement was that Flatwood Products would repair any damage to the roads that they caused when moving truck, equipment and materials in and out the property. After the timber operation was complete, they brought in three truckloads (17.5 cubic yards/truck) of clay repairing the road and grading it. Most of the neighbors were okay with the road repairs, but one in particular complained about the clay material. When the clay got wet, it was sticky and the neighbor complained that it made his truck dirty. With a relatively wet summer, the road is already showing signs of disrepair and there are some large pot holes and puddles.

The issues with Sawgrass Island Road began before the timber operation and throughout the years staff has brought in truckloads of materials and tried to repair the potholes and level the road as best as possible with the tractor we have in-house. In September 2014 staff spent \$3,999.80 to have one of the land management contractors bring in lime rock/coquina mix and grade the road. Since the property allows horseback riding many visitors bring horse trailers and complain when the road gets difficult to maneuver.

Staff has been working for the last two months to find a long-term solution for the 1,300-foot road. Staff met with Adam Sherk, a Special Projects Supervisor with the Lake County Public Works Department to get some recommendations. Mr. Sherk recommended using either crushed concrete or asphalt millings instead of clay or limerock. He said it would hold up to wet conditions better and would create less dust and not stick to vehicles as bad as clay. He recommended two contractors, Paquette and Estep, which could do the work and were on the County's Term and Supply Contracts. Staff asked if he was familiar with Willie's Iron Works, and he said he was and that Willie's could do the job. Willie's was the company who delivered the clay for the timber company and staff had already begun talking to Wille's about further repairs to the road.

Staff had a quote for limerock from Willie's so additional quotes from three contractors for crushed concrete and asphalt millings were requested. Willie's was the lowest quote and staff

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went back to Willie’s to also ask for a quote just to do the worst section, approximately 650 feet of the entrance road closest to the Preserve gate. Below is a table with the prices.

Entire Sawgrass Island Road from the Preserve Gate to Thomas Boat Landing Road (1,300 feet x 12 feet x 4-6 inches)		
1 Willie's Iron Works, Inc.	Crushed Concrete	\$11,945.00
	Asphalt Millings	\$13,730.00
	TECO Limerock	\$11,945.00
2 Paquette Company	Crushed Concrete	\$31,350.00
	Asphalt Millings	\$27,525.00
3 Estep Construction, Inc.	Crushed Concrete	\$37,420.71
	Asphalt Millings	\$37,420.71
Half of Sawgrass Island Road from the Preserve Gate to 650 Feet West (650 feet x 12 feet x 4-6 inches)		
4 Willie's Iron Works, Inc.	Crushed Concrete	\$8,007.50
	Asphalt Millings	\$9,112.50
	TECO Limerock	\$8,007.50

All quotes included materials and equipment costs to deliver, spread and grade the road. Specifically, we requested that the contractors crown the road to allow for better drainage.

Staff had included \$20,000 in the FY 2016-2017 Budget, Account 720-460 Repair & Maintenance. Upon Board approval of the budget, work would not commence until after October 1st.

Executive Director’s Recommendation:

Authorize staff to contract with Willie’s Iron Works to repair the entire Sawgrass Island Road (1,300 feet) with crushed concrete for a cost not to exceed \$11,945.00.



TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Patricia Burgos, Land Resources Director
DATE: September 15, 2016
SUBJECT: Status of Lake Norris Property Options

Discussion Item

Lake Norris Property Update

Staff presented six (6) options to the Board for consideration and following are updates of the remaining options as of September 16, 2016:

- Option 1 - Consideration of a land trust as a partner such as The Trust for Public Lands or The Nature Conservancy. The option is no longer being considered as of July since the land trusts have indicated they have no interest in the project due to its monetary value.
Option 2 - Researching state grants. Staff had received notification from Florida Communities Trust/FDEP in late June that the Water Authority was not eligible to apply for the FCT grant. This option no longer applies.
Option 2a - Working with another section of FDEP. Update - Staff was notified that the FDEP Division of State Lands was potentially interested in partnering with the Water Authority on this property due to the inclusion of the property in the FDEP's Wekiva-Ocala Corridor. Staff has been in almost weekly contact with Marjorie Karter, Program Consultant, Bureau of Real Estate Services, FDEP to find out if the State will partner. FDEP staff had one meeting in August to discuss this property. Ms. Karter said that they were going to have a second meeting on September 2nd after some questions regarding future management had been answered, but the meeting was cancelled due to Hurricane Hermine affecting Tallahassee. The meeting was rescheduled for Friday, September 9th and staff has been trying to find out since then what the State's position will be. As of the writing of this memo staff has not gotten a response. I will provide the Board with any update at the September 28th meeting.
Option 3 - Researching grant funding through the Federal Government. Update - Staff received information from the US National Park Service employee stating that if the acquisition project has some flexibility, the Land and Water Conservation Fund can provide up to \$750,000 for land acquisition and parkland development. We do not have dates for the stateside application cycle for 2017 as of yet for Florida, but this is

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something we need to consider if the parcel can be negotiated and held on to for a little while longer.”

- **Option 4** - Working with a conservation buyer. **Update** – In addition to investigating a conservation buyer in the past month or so, staff had contacted an environmental group, specifically the Friends of the Wekiva River. After communicating with the group’s conservation representative before he went on vacation for 10 days in mid-August, staff has since made contact via email again to setup a time to talk. As of September 16th staff has not heard back, but will provide an update at the Sept. 28th meeting.
- **Option 5** - Working with a foundation. **Update** - Staff has concentrated more on follow-up with the First Green Bank Foundation. After the July 14th presentation by staff, staff has been in communication with representatives of the foundation. They initially had asked for a letter proposal from the Water Authority requesting funds for this partnership; however, upon learning that the State may be another potential partner the Foundation asked to hold off on the letter proposal waiting to see if the State will participate and at what level. Staff will provide an update at the Sept. 28th meeting.
- **Option 6** - No longer consider this property for acquisition.

Staff has also included a letter that was written to Mr. Richards at his behest so that he could submit it to his mortgage company.

Executive Director’s Recommendation:

Provide direction to staff regarding current status of Lake Norris Acres.



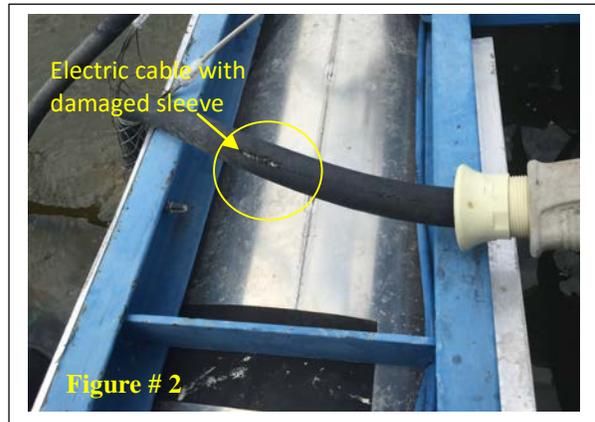
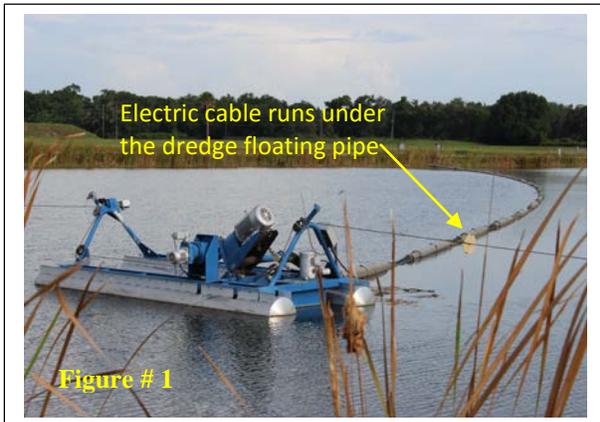
TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Sergio Duarte, Water Resources Project Manager
DATE: September 12, 2016
SUBJECT: Electric Cable Replacements for Two (2) Dredges at NuRF

Discussion Item

Electric Cable Replacements for Two (2) Dredges

The electric cable of the two floating dredges at the Nutrient Reduction Facility (NuRF) is in need of replacement. The electric cable of the two dredges has been patched numerous times during the past seven (7) years and the cable sleeve is now breaking after a long exposure to the water/sun and the constant bending of the cable while dredging the alum settling ponds.

Staff proposes to replace the electric cable of each dredge (that is actually composed of three (3) cables wrapped under a sleeve) and to cover the cables with a new protective "fabric sleeve" to protect the cables from bending and abrasion. Please see Figure 1 & 2 side showing the floating dredge and the electric cable.



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The following quotes were obtained for the electric cables replacement:

Name of Company	Cable Cost	Delivery Cost*	Total Cost
CES	\$ 11,472.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 11,472.00
AWC	\$ 11,488.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 11,488.00
BESCO	\$ 20,380.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 20,380.00

*Note: The three companies agree to include a free delivery to the NuRF.

The following quotes were obtained for the cable protective hose sleeve:

Name of Company	Cable Cost	Delivery Cost	Total Cost
Hose and Fittings Supply	\$ 3,384.00	\$ 142.12	\$ 3,526.12
Tompkins Industries	\$ 4,824.00	\$ 160.00	\$ 4,984.00
Trausch Dynamics	\$ 7,913.25	\$ 158.85	\$ 7,913.25
Discount Hydraulic Hose	\$ 7,668.00	Included	\$ 7,668.00

<p>Note: The LCWA purchase policy for items under \$25K requires three (3) written quotes for the LCWA Board review/approval.</p>
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Executive Director Recommendation:

Authorize staff to proceed with the purchase of the electric cable replacement and the cable protective hose sleeve in an amount not to exceed \$14,998.12.



**Lake County
WATER AUTHORITY**

Michael J. Perry, Executive Director • Neil Kelly, Secretary-Treasurer

27351 SR 19 • Tavares, Florida 32778-4251 • (352) 324-6141 • Fax (352) 324-6364 • email: info@lcwa.org • www.lcwa.org

TO: Lake County Water Authority Board of Trustees
FROM: Sergio Duarte, Water Resources Project Manager
DATE: September 12, 2016
SUBJECT: Authorization to Award Bid 2016-05 for the Floating Dock Replacements

Discussion Item

Authorization to Award Bid 2016-05 for the Floating Docks Replacements

At the August 24, 2016 Board meeting, authorization was given to advertise the Floating Dock Replacements bid for Hickory Point Park. On September 6, 2016 a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting was conducted at the Park and the bid is due on September 21, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

Staff will email the bid results (Bid Tabulation) to the Board on September 22, 2016 and will present a recommendation to the Board at the September 28th meeting.

Executive Director's Recommendation:

Recommendation will be provided to the Board with the emailed bid results.

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