

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Darlene Velez, Chief, Office of Water Resources

THRU: Tom Mirti, Deputy Executive Director, Water and Land Resources

DATE: July 31, 2020

RE: Amendment of Florida Department of Environmental Protections Monitoring Grant Agreement AT002

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to amend Florida Department of Environmental Protection agreement AT002 (SRWMD 19/20-170) to receive additional funding up to \$1,150,000 to expand and enhance the Suwannee River Water Management District's surface and groundwater monitoring programs and to execute all documents necessary to implement the selected projects including contract documents for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,450,000.

BACKGROUND

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) requested a proposal from the District identifying projects in support of the Governor's Executive Order 2019-12. The District's proposal includes funds for the enhancement of the District's water quality and hydrologic monitoring networks, increased capabilities of data collection, and projects in support of improving surface and ground water models for the determination of minimum flows and minimum water levels and water supply planning efforts. This monitoring will directly enhance FDEP's ongoing Total Maximum Daily Load and Basin Management Action Plan efforts to continue improving water quality.

On April 14, 2020, the Governing Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into Agreement AT002 with FDEP for funding up to \$300,000 and execute all documents to implement selected monitoring projects in support of Executive Order 2019-12. FDEP has set aside funding for an additional \$1,150,000 to continue these efforts through June 30, 2021. Due to the short time frame for expending these funds, staff is requesting that the Governing Board authorize the Executive Director to execute all documents necessary to implement the selected projects specified in the scope of work including contract documents.

Projects selected for this additional funding include the following:

1. Coastal Monitoring Expansion which includes three additional coastal conductivity stations, lower Suwannee monitoring assistance, coastal salinity sampling assistance, and inventory of coastal springs.
2. Springs Monitoring Expansion which includes supplemental spring flow measurements, analysis of springshed real-time data, dye trace studies, and vertical velocity study at Troy spring.
3. Water Resource Value Expansion which includes focused Outstanding Florida Springs water resource value study, recreation and aesthetics study, rapid biological assessment of MFL priority springs, bathymetry, and surveys at SEFA locations.