

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Matthew Cantrell, Project Manager, Office of Agriculture and Environmental Projects

THRU: Steve Minnis, Deputy Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: October 30, 2020

RE: Contract to Provide Cost-Share Funding to Full Circle Dairy, LLC, Madison County

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize Executive Director to enter into contract with Full Circle Dairy, LLC in the amount not to exceed \$366,075.

BACKGROUND

At the October 2015 Governing Board meeting, the Board authorized the Executive Director to execute an agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for installation of screen separators and retrofit irrigation systems to reduce nutrient impacts and/or conserve water for an amount totaling \$2,120,000.

This cost-share project is with Full Circle Dairy, LLC. This project is located in Madison County, the Western Water Supply Planning Area, and the Suwannee Basin Management Action Plan. The District has previously cost-shared on a sand settling lane, screens, and pivot retrofits to improve wastewater management. Full Circle Dairy currently houses 100% of their milking cows inside free stall barns which were designed to flush with recycled wastewater. The flush water for three of the existing barns currently flows through the barns, into the main travel lane and eventually travels to the existing sand settling lane. The dairy discovered the quality of recycled sand decreased due to the wastewater/sand accumulation along the main travel lane and switched to flushing with freshwater.

To solve this problem, the dairy is proposing constructing a new concrete waste transfer channel for these three barns and add a finishing screen in the wastewater system. With the addition of this concrete channel and screen, it is estimated the dairy will reduce their freshwater usage by approximately 0.8200 million gallons per day at a cost of \$0.06 per thousand gallons. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$488,100. The FDEP Springs Funding will contribute \$366,075 or 75% of the project's cost, with the producer contributing \$122,025 or 25% of the total project cost. See attachment for a project cost breakdown.

Funding for this project is included in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Final Budget under account code 06-2586-7-2400-06-06 and 51-2586-7-2400-06-07.

MC/tm
Attachments