

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Leroy Marshall, Division Director, Resource Management/Projects

THRU: Tim Alexander, Assistant Executive Director, Business and Community Services

DATE: March 28, 2025

RE: Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Agreements with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Local Cooperative Entities to Receive Springs Grant Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to convey the funds awarded by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for Springs Grant Funds to the local cooperative entities to implement the projects.

BACKGROUND

During the final months of calendar year 2023, District staff collaborated with local governments and interested stakeholders throughout the 15-county area, inviting them to submit Springs and watershed restoration projects.

In May 2024, the Governing Board authorized the Executive Director to submit thirteen project applications to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for consideration for the Springs Funding and multi-year commitments. In June 2024, FDEP opened an application portal for entities to submit additional projects. Twelve additional projects within the District were submitted through FDEP portal and reviewed by FDEP and District staff.

FDEP has awarded funding to ten projects and seven multi-year projects. Of the twenty-five submitted projects, two were funded under the Springs program, one was funded in the AWS program and twenty-two were not funded. Within the District, \$5,416,000 in projects were funded. The Springs Grant Funding includes one project for \$1,616,000 and one project for \$3,800,000 that will be directly funded from FDEP to the local cooperative entities.

Attached is a list of the projects approved for Springs Grant Funding.

LM/tm
Attachments