

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Doug Bergstrom, Director, Administrative Services Division

DATE: October 11, 2012

SUBJECT: Approve a Resolution Advising the Department of Environmental Protection of the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2013

Background: Section 373.472, F.S. created the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund (the "Trust Fund") within the Department of Environmental Protection (the "Department"). Funds in the Trust Fund shall be expended to implement the comprehensive plan as defined in s. 373.470(2)(b) F.S., and additional protection plans defined in ss. 373.4595, 380.05 and 380.0552, F.S. Funds may also be expended to pay debt service for Everglades restoration bonds issued pursuant to s. 215.619, F.S. The Trust Fund shall serve as the repository for state, local and federal project contributions in accordance with s. 373.470(4) F.S. The South Florida Water Management District (the "District") has an active program under way to use Save Our Everglades Trust Funds under s. 373.472, F.S. Distributions from the Trust Fund shall be made in accordance with ss. 373.470(6) and 373.026(8)(b) and (c) F.S. which requires all requests for an appropriation of state funds to implement a project component to be submitted to the Department. The attached Exhibit "A" presents the planned project component expenditures for FY13. The Executive Director, or designee, of the District will request reimbursement from the Department of the funds based on actual expenditures incurred through September 30, 2013.

How this helps meet the District's Mission? This action will secure reimbursement funds for the District that support water restoration activities and activities consistent with the laws and regulations governing the use of the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund, as described above.

Funding Source: The funding source is the state's Save Our Everglades Trust Fund.

This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography: Funds received from the state's Save Our Everglades Trust Fund will support OM&C projects for Restoration, Lake Okeechobee and Coastal Watersheds program areas.

What concerns could this Board item raise? This item is required by ss. 373.470(6) and 373.026(8)(b) and (c), F.S. in order to seek reimbursement for FY2013 budgeted activities from the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund. However, prioritization and use of this funding source in subsequent years is subject to future Governing Board policy.

Why should the Governing Board approve this item? Approval of this item will allow the Board to utilize funds from the Save Our Everglades Trust Fund to support District budgeted activities as outlined above.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at ext. 6214.

DB/mq
Attachment - Resolution