

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Tommy Strowd, Director, Operations, Maintenance & Construction

**DATE:** July 25, 2011

**SUBJECT:** 4600002473 – Okeechobee Field Station Flat Mowing Services

### **Background:**

Maintenance of the Right of Ways is required to ensure that vegetation is controlled at a manageable height and will uphold the operational integrity of the District's flood control system. This project for the Okeechobee Field Station will contract approximately **21,550** acres to be mowed on an annual basis. The low responsive / responsible bidder is James L. King and Assoc at \$12.98 / acre. The current contracts which expire on September 30, 2011, have a per acre rate of \$13.33 and \$16.74. Since this is a work order contract, the amount of acres to be mowed will fluctuate, based on the weather, budget, and construction projects in these areas.

### **How this helps meet the 10- year Strategic Plan?**

Mowing the District's Right of ways will reduce and control vegetative growth along canal banks which can impede operations, inspections and access to the District's water control facility.

### **Funding Source:**

This is a 3 year work order contract in the amount of \$839,157 of which, \$279,719 is subject to Governing Board approval of the FY12 budget, using ad valorem funds within Operations, Maintenance & Construction with the remainder subject to Governing Board approval of the FY13-FY14 budgets.

### **This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography:**

This Board item will impact the Operations and Maintenance of canal and right of ways in the Okeechobee Field Station area of responsibility.

### **What concerns could this Board item raise?**

If not mowed and maintained, these areas would become a potential hazard to the public as well as District employees.

### **Why should the Governing Board approve this item?**

This item supports continual operations and maintenance of the District canal system.

TS/sn