

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Terrie Bates, Water Resources Division Director

DATE: September 13, 2012

SUBJECT: Contract with Collier County Board of County Commissioners Pollution Control and Prevention Department for Surface Water Quality Monitoring Services, Contract Number 4600002607

Background: The purpose of this three-year contract with Collier County's Pollution Control and Prevention Department is to continue long-term monitoring of surface water quality within Collier County. This effort, ongoing since 1989, has established a substantial period of record that serves as a baseline to evaluate estuarine restoration efforts as well as to identify potential impacts on this resource from upstream water management activities. The monitoring program also provides data for the development of water management strategies in the Big Cypress Basin watershed and adjacent coastal waters of Collier County.

How this helps meet the District's 10-Year Strategic Plan: This project supports regional model development and provides data for the development of water management strategies in the Big Cypress Basin watershed and adjacent coastal waters of Collier County. Data may also be used by the County and the FDEP for TMDL development and identification of impacted waters.

Funding Source: This is a three-year contract in the total amount of \$240,000; \$80,000 per year of Big Cypress Basin and ad valorem funds is subject to Governing Board approval of the FY2013-2015 budgets.

This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography: The contract will be managed by the Water Quality Bureau with data collection done by the Collier County Pollution Control and Prevention Department. Thirty-one (31) sites will be sampled monthly. All samples, with the exception of the five (5) from Lake Trafford, will be shipped to the District laboratory for analysis; the County will be responsible for analyzing the Lake Trafford samples.

What concerns could this Board item raise? An ongoing concern has been the amount of monitoring the District conducts. To address this issue, Water Quality Monitoring Section staff and Big Cypress Service Center staff completed a re-engineering of the region's surface water quality network in 2010, which resulted in the elimination of 34 stations and 22 parameters. The network was re-evaluated in this year's Monitoring Reduction exercise.

Why should the Governing Board approve this item? Monitoring funded through this agreement will provide mission critical information for assessing conditions of the region's inland and estuarine surface waters, including changes that may be attributed to upstream District and CERP (e.g., Picayune Strand Restoration) projects. An earlier version of the contract, which did not include the Lake Trafford sites for the amount of \$210,000 (\$70,000 per year over a 3-year period) was reviewed and signed by the Collier County Board of County Commissioners in April 10, 2012. After approval, this contract will need to be returned to the Collier County Board of County Commissioners for their approval.

TB/kh

Attachment-Map, Resolution



