

CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
DISTRICT OFFICE · 12750 CITRUS PARK LANE, SUITE 115 TAMPA, FL 33625
www.connertonwestcdd.org

Board of Supervisors
Connerton West Community
Development District

June 29, 2020

AGENDA

Dear Board Members:

The Connerton West Community Development District regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on **Monday, July 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.**, by means of communications media technology via telephonic pursuant to Governor DeSantis' Executive Order 20-69, as extended by Executive Order 20-150, as such Orders may be supplemented, pursuant to Section 120.54(5)(b)2., Florida Statutes. The following is the agenda for this meeting:

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**
- 2. AUDIENCE COMMENTS**
- 3. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**
 - A.** Consideration of Minutes of the Board of Supervisors' Meeting held on June 1, 2020 Tab 1
 - B.** Consideration of Operation and Maintenance Expenditures for May 2020 Tab 2
- 4. BUSINESS ITEMS**
 - A.** Field Inspection Report Tab 3
 - B.** Discussion of Mowing Issues
 - C.** Irrigation Report Tab 4
 - D.** Discussion of Fishing Policies & Enforcement
 - E.** Public Hearing on Amended Rules of Procedure
 1. Consideration of Resolution 2020-03; Amended Rules of Procedure Tab 5
 - F.** Ratification of Wildlife Trapper Agreement 2020 Tab 6
 - G.** Consideration of District Engineer Agreement Tab 7
- 5. STAFF REPORTS**
 - A.** District Counsel
 - B.** District Engineer
 - C.** District Manager
 1. Financial Status Update
 2. Action Item List Tab 8
- 6. AUDIENCE COMMENTS**
- 7. SUPERVISOR REQUESTS**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us at (813) 933-5571.

Sincerely,

Greg Cox

Greg Cox
District Manager

cc: Roy Van Wyk, Hopping Green & Sams, P.A.

Tab 1

MINUTES OF MEETING

Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting is advised that the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

**CONNERTON WEST
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

The regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Connerton West Community Development District was held on **Monday, June 1, 2020 at 6:05 p.m.** and was conducted by means of communications media technology telephone pursuant to Executive Orders issued by Governor DeSantis and pursuant to Section 120.54(5)(b)2., Florida Statutes.

Present and constituting a quorum:

Richard Dombrowski	Board Supervisor, Chairman
Roy Gilmore	Board Supervisor, Vice Chairman
James Jackson	Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary
Paul Dorzweiler	Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary
Daniel Novak	Board Supervisor, Assistant Secretary

Also present were:

Greg Cox	District Manager, Rizzetta & Company
Matthew Huber	District Manager, Rizzetta & Company
Roy Van Wyk	District Counsel, Hopping Green & Sams, P.A.
Jordan Schrader	District Engineer, Clearview Land Design

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Mr. Cox called the meeting to order and read the roll call.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS

Audience Comments on Agenda Items

An audience member addressed the Board concerning issues of parking in the Verona Gardens.

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS

Irrigation Update

The Board received an irrigation maintenance update from Ms. Gail Huff, with Ballenger Irrigation. Mr. Jackson inquired about the status of the annuals irrigation and if the contractor was performing wet checks as required. Mr. Jackson also noted that the rotor heads were apparently being knocked off by the landscape mowers as well as drip lines being cut on Pleasant Plains Parkway. Ms. Huff informed the Board of seal bearing noise coming from EP lake pump #2 and Mr. Jackson requested a proposal to have a test performed on that pump.

CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
June 1, 2020 - Minutes of Meeting
Page 2

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Filed Inspection Report

The Board reviewed the Field Inspection Report prepared and submitted by Mr. John Toborg, with Rizzetta. Mr. Toborg reviewed the inspection results and addressed questions from the Board.

FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of RFQ for District Engineer

The Board reviewed Request for Qualification (RFQ) submissions for District Engineering Services submitted by Cardno and JMT. Mr. Greg Woodcock with Cardno and Mr. Stephen Brletic with JMT informed the Board of their qualifications and experience working with Community Development Districts. During the Board's consideration of the two submissions, they informed both that the service selected would be expected to attend the CDD monthly meetings. The Board discussed the two submissions and ranked Cardno as the number one submission and JMT as the number two. The Board instructed that Mr. Roy Van Wyk would prepare an agreement with Cardno following acceptance of their presented rates to be presented at the July 6, 2020 CDD Board meeting for consideration.

On a motion from Mr. Dombrowski, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, with three in favor and Mr. Jackson and Mr. Novak opposed, the Board ranked Cardno as the number one submission and JMT as number two for District Engineer Services, for the Connerton West Community Development District.

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of Minutes of the Board of Supervisors' Meeting held on May 4, 2020

Mr. Cox presented the minutes of the Board of Supervisors' meeting held on May 4, 2020.

On a Motion by Mr. Dombrowski, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, with all in favor, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the minutes of the Board of Supervisors' Meeting held on May 4, 2020, as presented, for the Connerton West Community Development District.

SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Consideration of Operation and Maintenance Expenditures for April 2020

Mr. Cox presented the Operations and Maintenance expenditures report for April 2020. Mr. Van Wyk responded to invoicing questions regarding his firm's services.

On a Motion by Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Mr. Novak, with all in favor, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved to ratify the Operations and Maintenance expenditures payment of the invoices for April 2020 (\$135,791.97) for the Connerton West Community Development District.

CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
June 1, 2020 - Minutes of Meeting
Page 3

EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Discussion of Repairing Bridges

This topic was postponed by the Board members to a later meeting.

NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ratification of 2019 District Audit

On a motion from Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Mr. Dorzweiler, the Board approved to ratified the Chairman's approval of the District Audit Report for 2019, for the Connerton West Community Development District.

TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Consideration of Resolution 2020-10;
Connerton Final Plats 208 and 209**

Mr. Roy Van Wyk presented Resolution 2020-10 regarding the Connerton Final Plats for 208 and 209 explained their purpose to the Board.

On a motion from Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Mr. Novak, the Board approved to adopt Resolution 2020-10; Connerton Final Plats 208 and 209, for the Connerton West Community Development District.

ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Presentation of Fiscal Year 2020-2021
Proposed Budget**

Mr. Cox presented the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 proposed District budget to the Board for their consideration. The Board members discussed and made changes to the budget which resulted in an overall increase in the CDD assessments for the residents should the budget be adopted at the August meeting. Mr. Cox explained that a letter is required to be mailed to each of the property owners to explain the increase in the assessments.

TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

**Consideration of Resolution 2020-09;
Approving Fiscal Year 2020-2021
Proposed Budget & Set Public Hearing
for August 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.**

On a motion from Mr. Dombrowski, seconded by Mr. Dorzweiler, the Board approved to adopt 2020-09; Approving Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed Budget and Setting a Final Budget Adoption Public Hearing for August 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., for the Connerton West Community Development District.

THRTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

STAFF REPORTS

A. District Counsel

District Counsel had no additional report for the Board.

CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
June 1, 2020 - Minutes of Meeting
Page 4

B. District Engineer

District Engineer had no additional report for the Board.

C. District Manager

Mr. Cox reminded the Board the next regular meeting scheduled for July 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Cox provided the Board with an update of the financials from the April 2020 District financials report. Mr. Cox reviewed the action item list with the Board.

FOURTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Audience Comments

The Board received additional audience comments and one audience member addressed the Board about the maintenance of the park area in the Gardens community.

FIFTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Supervisor Requests

Mr. Dombrowski requested that staff ask the developer, in the future, to construct the mailbox kiosks in durable materials since the CDD is responsible for their future upkeep. He also requested that another Board member take up the effort towards holiday lighting project and Mr. Novak volunteered.

Mr. Jackson noted that most of the annuals were dead or dying and that they needed to be replaced.

On a motion from Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Novak, the Board authorized the Chairman to approve a proposal for the annual replacements, for the Connerton West Community Development District.
--

SIXTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS

Adjournment

On a motion from Mr. Dombrowski, seconded by Mr. Jackson, the Board approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m. for the Connerton West Community Development District.

Assistant Secretary

Chairman / Vice-Chairman

Tab 2

CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE · 5844 OLD PASCO ROAD · SUITE 100 · WESLEY CHAPEL, FLORIDA 33544

Operation and Maintenance Expenditures May 2020 For Board Approval

Attached please find the check register listing the Operation and Maintenance expenditures paid from May 1, 2020 through May 31, 2020. This does not include expenditures previously approved by the Board.

The total items being presented: **\$143,588.02**

Approval of Expenditures:

_____ Chairperson

_____ Vice Chairperson

_____ Assistant Secretary

Connerton West Community Development District

Paid Operation & Maintenance Expenditures

May 1, 2020 Through May 31, 2020

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Invoice Number</u>	<u>Invoice Description</u>	<u>Invoice Amount</u>
Ballenger & Company, Inc.	002800	20126	Irrigation Maintenance 04/20	\$ 8,170.00
Ballenger & Company, Inc.	002800	20136	SWFWMD Meter Reading/Irrigation Pump Station 04/20	\$ 1,300.00
Ballenger & Company, Inc.	002800	20140	Repair Irrigation System 04/20	\$ 150.00
Capital Land Management Corporation	002796	208079	Landscape Maintenance 04/20	\$ 45,000.00
Capital Land Management Corporation	002811	208161	Landscape Maintenance 05/20	\$ 30,100.00
Capital Land Management Corporation	002811	208190	Proposal #300185 Installed New Annuals 05/20	\$ 200.00
Capital Land Management Corporation	002818	208215	Fertilization 05/20	\$ 7,900.00
Cardno, Inc.	002812	291813	Monthly Mitigation Maintenance Village 2 Phase A 04/20	\$ 1,550.00
Cardno, Inc.	002812	291836	Monthly Lake Management 04/20	\$ 3,530.00
Clearview Land Design, P. L.	002819	20-00945	Engineering Services 04/20	\$ 3,479.33
Connerton Community Association, Inc.	002801	202004	Salary Reimbursement 04/20	\$ 3,458.00

Connerton West Community Development District

Paid Operation & Maintenance Expenditures

May 1, 2020 Through May 31, 2020

Vendor Name	Check Number	Invoice Number	Invoice Description	Invoice Amount
James Jackson	002808	JJ050420	Board of Supervisors Meeting 05/04/20	\$ 200.00
Jeremy R. Cohen	002802	JC040120	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 350.00
Jeremy R. Cohen	002802	JC042320	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Jeremy R. Cohen	002802	JC042720	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Jerry Richardson	002820	1358	Monthly Hog Removal Service 05/20	\$ 800.00
K. Johnson's Lawn & Landscaping, Inc.	002813	17078	Mowing Bike Trail 05/20	\$ 700.00
Kevin Eric Hamilton	002807	KH040720	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Kevin Eric Hamilton	002807	KH041520	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Kevin Eric Hamilton	002807	KH041820	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Kevin Eric Hamilton	002807	KH042520	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Mobile Mini, Inc.	002814	9008388044	Mobile Storage Rental Acct #10023746 05/20	\$ 213.11
Pasco County	002809	Pasco Water Summary 04/20	Water Summary 04/20	\$ 195.08

Connerton West Community Development District

Paid Operation & Maintenance Expenditures

May 1, 2020 Through May 31, 2020

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Invoice Number</u>	<u>Invoice Description</u>	<u>Invoice Amount</u>
Pasco County Property Appraiser	002810	Annual Fee 20/21	Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Annual Fee 20/21	\$ 150.00
Patrick J. Elmore	002805	PE040820	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Patrick J. Elmore	002805	PE042020	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Patrick J. Elmore	002805	PE042820	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Patrick J. Elmore	002805	PE043020	Off Duty Patrols 04/20	\$ 200.00
Paul Dorzweiler	002804	PD050420	Board of Supervisors Meeting 05/04/20	\$ 200.00
Richard A. Dombrowski	002803	RD050420	Board of Supervisors Meeting 05/04/20	\$ 200.00
Rizzetta & Company, Inc	002798	INV0000049269	District Management Fees 05/20	\$ 6,430.41
Rizzetta Technology Services, LLC	002799	INV0000005800	Email & Website Hosting Services 05/20	\$ 175.00
Roy Gilmore III	002806	RG050420	Board of Supervisors Meeting 05/04/20	\$ 200.00
Site Masters of Florida, LLC	002815	050820-1	Replace Broken Sidewalk Connerton Blvd 05/20	\$ 1,400.00
Suncoast Pool Service	002816	6202	Fountain Service 05/20	\$ 250.00

Connerton West Community Development District

Paid Operation & Maintenance Expenditures

May 1, 2020 Through May 31, 2020

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Invoice Number</u>	<u>Invoice Description</u>	<u>Invoice Amount</u>
Times Publishing Company	002797	0000077720 04/19/20	Acct #119853 Legal Advertising 04/20	\$ 259.50
Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative Inc.	002817	2101307 04/20	2101307 21739 Emory Oak PL 04/20	\$ 35.83
Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative Inc.	002817	2101312 04/20	2101312 8949 Pleasant Woods Dr 04/20	\$ 35.04
Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative Inc.	002817	Electric Summary Bill-04/20	Electric Summary Bill 04/20	<u>\$ 24,956.72</u>
Report Total				<u>\$ 143,588.02</u>

Tab 5

RESOLUTION 2020-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ADOPTING AMENDED AND RESTATED RULES OF PROCEDURE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Connerton West Community Development District (“**District**”) is a local unit of special purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, being situated entirely within Pasco County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, authorizes the District to adopt rules to govern the administration of the District and to adopt resolutions as may be necessary for the conduct of District business; and

WHEREAS, the District has previously adopted Rules of Procedure to govern the administration of the District; and

WHEREAS, to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to maintain compliance with recent changes to Florida law, the Board of Supervisors finds that it is in the best interests of the District to adopt by resolution the Amended and Restated Rules of Procedure attached hereto as **Exhibit A** for immediate use and application; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has complied with applicable Florida law concerning rule development and adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

SECTION 1. The attached Amended and Restated Rules of Procedure are hereby adopted pursuant to this resolution as necessary for the conduct of District business. These Amended and Restated Rules of Procedure replace all prior versions of the Rules of Procedure, and shall stay in full force and effect until such time as the Board of Supervisors may amend these rules in accordance with Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*.

SECTION 2. If any provision of this resolution is held to be illegal or invalid, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. This resolution shall become effective upon its passage and shall remain in effect unless rescinded or repealed.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of July 2020.

ATTEST:

**CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Secretary

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Exhibit A: Amended and Restated Rules of Procedure

EXHIBIT A:
AMENDED AND RESTATED RULES OF PROCEDURE

**AMENDED AND RESTATED
RULES OF PROCEDURE
CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

EFFECTIVE AS OF JULY 6, 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Rule 1.0	General.....	2
Rule 1.1	Board of Supervisors; Officers and Voting.	3
Rule 1.2	District Offices; Public Information and Inspection of Records; Policies; Service Contract Requirements; Financial Disclosure Coordination.	8
Rule 1.3	Public Meetings, Hearings, and Workshops.	11
Rule 1.4	Internal Controls to Prevent Fraud, Waste and Abuse.....	16
Rule 2.0	Rulemaking Proceedings.	17
Rule 3.0	Competitive Purchase.	23
Rule 3.1	Procedure Under the Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act.....	28
Rule 3.2	Procedure Regarding Auditor Selection.	32
Rule 3.3	Purchase of Insurance.	37
Rule 3.4	Pre-qualification.....	39
Rule 3.5	Construction Contracts, Not Design-Build.	44
Rule 3.6	Construction Contracts, Design-Build.	48
Rule 3.7	Payment and Performance Bonds.	53
Rule 3.8	Goods, Supplies, and Materials.	54
Rule 3.9	Maintenance Services.	58
Rule 3.10	Contractual Services.	61
Rule 3.11	Protests with Respect to Proceedings under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, and 3.9.....	62
Rule 4.0	Effective Date.	65

Rule 1.0 General.

- (1) The Connerton West Community Development District (the “District”) was created pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes, and was established to provide for the ownership, operation, maintenance, and provision of various capital facilities and services within its jurisdiction. The purpose of these rules (the “Rules”) is to describe the general operations of the District.
- (2) Definitions located within any section of these Rules shall be applicable within all other sections, unless specifically stated to the contrary.
- (3) Unless specifically permitted by a written agreement with the District, the District does not accept documents filed by electronic mail or facsimile transmission. Filings are only accepted during normal business hours.
- (4) A Rule of the District shall be effective upon adoption by affirmative vote of the District Board. After a Rule becomes effective, it may be repealed or amended only through the rulemaking procedures specified in these Rules. Notwithstanding, the District may immediately suspend the application of a Rule if the District determines that the Rule conflicts with Florida law. In the event that a Rule conflicts with Florida law and its application has not been suspended by the District, such Rule should be interpreted in the manner that best effectuates the intent of the Rule while also complying with Florida law. If the intent of the Rule absolutely cannot be effectuated while complying with Florida law, the Rule shall be automatically suspended.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Rule 1.1 Board of Supervisors; Officers and Voting.

- (1) Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors of the District (the “Board”) shall consist of five (5) members. Members of the Board (“Supervisors”) appointed by ordinance or rule or elected by landowners must be citizens of the United States of America and residents of the State of Florida. Supervisors elected or appointed by the Board to elector seats must be citizens of the United States of America, residents of the State of Florida and of the District and registered to vote with the Supervisor of Elections of the county in which the District is located and for those elected, shall also be qualified to run by the Supervisor of Elections. The Board shall exercise the powers granted to the District under Florida law.
 - (a) Supervisors shall hold office for the term specified by Section 190.006 of the Florida Statutes. If, during the term of office, any Board member(s) vacates their office, the remaining member(s) of the Board shall fill the vacancies by appointment for the remainder of the term(s). If three or more vacancies exist at the same time, a quorum, as defined herein, shall not be required to appoint replacement Board members.
 - (b) Three (3) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting business, exercising powers and all other purposes. A Board member shall be counted toward the quorum if physically present at the meeting, regardless of whether such Board member is prohibited from, or abstains from, participating in discussion or voting on a particular item.
 - (c) Action taken by the Board shall be upon a majority vote of the members present, unless otherwise provided in the Rules or required by law. Subject to Rule 1.3(10), a Board member participating in the Board meeting by teleconference or videoconference shall be entitled to vote and take all other action as though physically present.
 - (d) Unless otherwise provided for by an act of the Board, any one Board member may attend a mediation session on behalf of the Board. Any agreement resulting from such mediation session must be approved pursuant to subsection (1)(c) of this Rule.
- (2) Officers. At the first Board meeting held after each election where the newly elected members take office, the Board shall select a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Treasurer.
 - (a) The Chairperson must be a member of the Board. If the Chairperson resigns from that office or ceases to be a member of the Board, the Board shall select a Chairperson. The Chairperson serves at the pleasure of the Board. The Chairperson shall be authorized to execute resolutions and contracts on the District’s behalf. The Chairperson shall convene and conduct all meetings of the Board. In the event the Chairperson is unable

to attend a meeting, the Vice-Chairperson shall convene and conduct the meeting. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson may delegate the responsibility of conducting the meeting to the District's manager ("District Manager") or District Counsel, in whole or in part.

- (b) The Vice-Chairperson shall be a member of the Board and shall have such duties and responsibilities as specifically designated by the Board from time to time. The Vice-Chairperson has the authority to execute resolutions and contracts on the District's behalf in the absence of the Chairperson. If the Vice-Chairperson resigns from office or ceases to be a member of the Board, the Board shall select a Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson serves at the pleasure of the Board.
- (c) The Secretary of the Board serves at the pleasure of the Board and need not be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining the minutes of Board meetings and may have other duties assigned by the Board from time to time. An employee of the District Manager may serve as Secretary. The Secretary shall be bonded by a reputable and qualified bonding company in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or have in place a fidelity bond, employee theft insurance policy, or a comparable product in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) that names the District as an additional insured.
- (d) The Treasurer need not be a member of the Board but must be a resident of the State of Florida. The Treasurer shall perform duties described in Section 190.007(2) and (3) of the Florida Statutes, as well as those assigned by the Board from time to time. The Treasurer shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Treasurer shall either be bonded by a reputable and qualified bonding company in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or have in place a fidelity bond, employee theft insurance policy, or a comparable product in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) that names the District as an additional insured.
- (e) In the event that both the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are absent from a Board meeting and a quorum is present, the Board may designate one of its members or a member of District staff to convene and conduct the meeting. In such circumstances, any of the Board members present are authorized to execute agreements, resolutions, and other documents approved by the Board at such meeting. In the event that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are both unavailable to execute a document previously approved by the Board, the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary may execute such document.

- (f) At the time and place for which a properly noticed meeting of the Board is scheduled and such meeting has not been cancelled by the Chairman at least twenty four (24) hours in advance of such meeting, the Chairman or such other person described in subsection 1.1(2)(e) above, shall call such meeting to order. If no quorum of the Board is present, District staff shall attempt to obtain a quorum prior to continuation of the meeting. If quorum of the Board cannot be obtained, the Board members who are physically in attendance may open the floor for discussion of agenda items or may terminate the meeting. Unless a quorum of the Board is present at the meeting, no official action may be taken by the Board. The provisions of subsection 1.3(10) shall not be permitted at any time a meeting is held under the provisions of this subsection 1.1(2)(f).
 - (g) The Board may assign additional duties to District officers from time to time, which include, but are not limited to, executing documents on behalf of the District.
 - (h) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and any other person authorized by District Resolution may sign checks and warrants for the District, countersigned by the Treasurer or other persons authorized by the Board.
- (3) Committees. The Board may establish committees of the Board, either on a permanent or temporary basis, to perform specifically designated functions. Committees may include individuals who are not members of the Board. Such functions may include, but are not limited to, review of bids, proposals, and qualifications, contract negotiations, personnel matters, and budget preparation.
 - (4) Record Book. The Board shall keep a permanent record book entitled "Record of Proceedings," in which shall be recorded minutes of all meetings, resolutions, proceedings, certificates, and corporate acts. The Records of Proceedings shall be located at a District office and shall be available for inspection by the public.
 - (5) Meetings. For each fiscal year, the Board shall establish a schedule of regular meetings, which shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located and filed with the local general-purpose governments within whose boundaries the District is located. All meetings of the Board and Committees serving an advisory function shall be open to the public in accord with the provisions of Chapter 286 of the Florida Statutes.
 - (6) Voting Conflict of Interest. The Board shall comply with Section 112.3143 of the Florida Statutes, so as to ensure the proper disclosure of conflicts of interest on matters coming before the Board for a vote. For the purposes of this section, "voting conflict of interest" shall be governed by the Florida Constitution and Chapters 112 and 190 of the Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time. Generally, a voting conflict exists when a Board member is called upon to vote on an item which would inure to the Board member's special private gain or loss or

the Board member knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of a principal by whom the Board member is retained, the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal, a business associate, or a relative including only a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law.

- (a) When a Board member knows the member has a conflict of interest on a matter coming before the Board, the member should notify the Board's Secretary prior to participating in any discussion with the Board on the matter. The member shall publicly announce the conflict of interest at the meeting. This announcement shall appear in the minutes.

If the Board member was elected at a landowner's election or appointed to fill a vacancy of a seat last filled at a landowner's election, the Board member may vote or abstain from voting on the matter at issue. If the Board member was elected by electors residing within the District, the Board member is prohibited from voting on the matter at issue. In the event that the Board member intends to abstain or is prohibited from voting, such Board member shall not participate in the discussion on the item subject to the vote.

The Board's Secretary shall prepare a Memorandum of Voting Conflict (Form 8B) which shall then be signed by the Board member, filed with the Board's Secretary, and provided for attachment to the minutes of the meeting within fifteen (15) days of the meeting.

- (b) If a Board member inadvertently votes on a matter and later learns he or she has a conflict on the matter, the member shall immediately notify the Board's Secretary. Within fifteen (15) days of the notification, the member shall file the appropriate Memorandum of Voting Conflict, which will be attached to the minutes of the Board meeting during which the vote on the matter occurred. The Memorandum of Voting Conflict shall immediately be provided to other Board members and shall be read publicly at the next meeting held subsequent to the filing of the Memorandum of Voting Conflict. The Board member's vote is unaffected by this filing.
- (c) It is not a conflict of interest for a Board member, the District Manager, or an employee of the District to be a stockholder, officer or employee of a landowner or of an entity affiliated with a landowner.
- (d) In the event that a Board member elected at a landowner's election or appointed to fill a vacancy of a seat last filled at a landowner's election, has a continuing conflict of interest, such Board member is permitted to file a Memorandum of Voting Conflict at any time in which it shall state the nature of the continuing conflict. Only one such continuing

Memorandum of Voting Conflict shall be required to be filed for each term the Board member is in office.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 112.3143, 190.006, 190.007, Fla. Stat.

Rule 1.2 District Offices; Public Information and Inspection of Records; Policies; Service Contract Requirements; Financial Disclosure Coordination.

- (1) District Offices. Unless otherwise designated by the Board, the official District office shall be the District Manager's office identified by the District Manager. If the District Manager's office is not located within the county in which the District is located, the Board shall designate a local records office within such county which shall at a minimum contain, but not be limited to, the following documents:
- (a) Agenda packages for prior 24 months and next meeting;
 - (b) Official minutes of meetings, including adopted resolutions of the Board;
 - (c) Names and addresses of current Board members and District Manager, unless such addresses are protected from disclosure by law;
 - (d) Adopted engineer's reports;
 - (e) Adopted assessment methodologies/reports;
 - (f) Adopted disclosure of public financing;
 - (g) Limited Offering Memorandum for each financing undertaken by the District;
 - (h) Proceedings, certificates, bonds given by all employees, and any and all corporate acts;
 - (i) District policies and rules;
 - (j) Fiscal year end audits; and
 - (k) Adopted budget for the current fiscal year.

The District Manager shall ensure that each District records office contains the documents required by Florida law.

- (2) Public Records. District public records include all documents, papers, letters, maps, books, tapes, photographs, films, sound recordings, data processing software, or other material, regardless of the physical form, characteristics, or means of transmission, made or received in connection with the transaction of official business of the District. All District public records not otherwise restricted by law may be copied or inspected at the District Manager's office during regular business hours. Certain District records can also be inspected and copied at the District's local records office during regular business hours. All written public records requests shall be directed to the Secretary who by these rules is appointed

as the District's records custodian. Regardless of the form of the request, any Board member or staff member who receives a public records request shall immediately forward or communicate such request to the Secretary for coordination of a prompt response. The Secretary, after consulting with District Counsel as to the applicability of any exceptions under the public records laws, shall be responsible for responding to the public records request. At no time can the District be required to create records or summaries of records, or prepare opinions regarding District policies, in response to a public records request.

- (3) Service Contracts. Any contract for services, regardless of cost, shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws. The District Manager shall be responsible for initially enforcing all contract provisions related to a contractor's duty to comply with public records laws.
- (4) Fees; Copies. Copies of public records shall be made available to the requesting person at a charge of \$0.15 per page for one-sided copies and \$0.20 per page for two-sided copies if not more than 8 ½ by 14 inches. For copies of public records in excess of the sizes listed in this section and for outside duplication services, the charge shall be equal to the actual cost of reproduction. Certified copies of public records shall be made available at a charge of one dollar (\$1.00) per page. If the nature or volume of records requested requires extensive use of information technology resources or extensive clerical or supervisory assistance, the District may charge, in addition to the duplication charge, a special service charge that is based on the cost the District incurs to produce the records requested. This charge may include, but is not limited to, the cost of information technology resource, employee labor, and fees charged to the District by consultants employed in fulfilling the request. In cases where the special service charge is based in whole or in part on the costs incurred by the District due to employee labor, consultant fees, or other forms of labor, those portions of the charge shall be calculated based on the lowest labor cost of the individual(s) who is/are qualified to perform the labor, taking into account the nature or volume of the public records to be inspected or copied. The charge may include the labor costs of supervisory and/or clerical staff whose assistance is required to complete the records request, in accordance with Florida law. For purposes of this Rule, the word "extensive" shall mean that it will take more than 15 minutes to locate, review for confidential information, copy and re-file the requested material. In cases where extensive personnel time is determined by the District to be necessary to safeguard original records being inspected, the special service charge provided for in this section shall apply. If the total fees, including but not limited to special service charges, are anticipated to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), then, prior to commencing work on the request, the District will inform the person making the public records request of the estimated cost, with the understanding that the final cost may vary from that estimate. If the person making the public records request decides to proceed with the request, payment of the estimated cost is required in advance. Should the person fail to pay the estimate, the District is under no duty to produce

the requested records. After the request has been fulfilled, additional payments or credits may be due. The District is under no duty to produce records in response to future records requests if the person making the request owes the District for past unpaid duplication charges, special service charges, or other required payments or credits.

- (5) Records Retention. The Secretary of the District shall be responsible for retaining the District's records in accordance with applicable Florida law.
- (6) Policies. The Board may adopt policies related to the conduct of its business and the provision of services either by resolution or motion.
- (7) Financial Disclosure Coordination. Unless specifically designated by Board resolution otherwise, the Secretary shall serve as the Financial Disclosure Coordinator ("Coordinator") for the District as required by the Florida Commission on Ethics ("Commission"). The Coordinator shall create, maintain and update a list of the names, e-mail addresses, physical addresses, and names of the agency of, and the office or position held by, all Supervisors and other persons required by Florida law to file a statement of financial interest due to his or her affiliation with the District ("Reporting Individual"). The Coordinator shall provide this list to the Commission by February 1 of each year, which list shall be current as of December 31 of the prior year. Each Supervisor and Reporting Individual shall promptly notify the Coordinator in writing if there are any changes to such person's name, e-mail address, or physical address. Each Supervisor and Reporting Individual shall promptly notify the Commission in the manner prescribed by the Commission if there are any changes to such person's e-mail address.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 112.31446(3), 112.3145(8)(a)1., 119.07, 119.0701, 190.006, Fla. Stat.

Rule 1.3 Public Meetings, Hearings, and Workshops.

- (1) Notice. Except in emergencies, or as otherwise required by statute or these Rules, at least seven (7) days, but no more than thirty (30) days public notice shall be given of any public meeting, hearing or workshop of the Board. Public notice shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and in the county in which the District is located. "General circulation" means a publication that is printed and published at least once a week for the preceding year, offering at least 25% of its words in the English language, qualifies as a periodicals material for postal purposes in the county in which the District is located, is for sale to the public generally, is available to the public generally for the publication of official or other notices, and is customarily containing information of a public character or of interest or of value to the residents or owners of property in the county where published, or of interest or of value to the general public. The annual meeting notice required to be published by Section 189.015 of the Florida Statutes, shall be published in a newspaper not of limited subject matter, which is published at least five days a week, unless the only newspaper in the county is published less than five days a week. Each Notice shall state, as applicable:
 - (a) The date, time and place of the meeting, hearing or workshop;
 - (b) A brief description of the nature, subjects, and purposes of the meeting, hearing, or workshop;
 - (c) The District office address for the submission of requests for copies of the agenda, as well as a contact name and telephone number for verbal requests for copies of the agenda; and
 - (d) The following or substantially similar language: "Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting/hearing/workshop is asked to advise the District Office at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting/hearing/workshop by contacting the District Manager at (813) 933-5571. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1 (800) 955-8770 or 1 (800) 955-8771, who can aid you in contacting the District Office."
 - (e) The following or substantially similar language: "A person who decides to appeal any decision made at the meeting/hearing/workshop with respect to any matter considered at the meeting/hearing/workshop is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based."

- (f) The following or substantially similar language: “The meeting [or hearing or workshop] may be continued in progress without additional notice to a time, date, and location stated on the record.”
- (2) Mistake. In the event that a meeting is held under the incorrect assumption that notice required by law and these Rules has been given, the Board at its next properly noticed meeting shall cure such defect by considering the agenda items from the prior meeting individually and anew.
- (3) Agenda. The District Manager, under the guidance of District Counsel and the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson, shall prepare an agenda of the meeting/hearing/workshop. The agenda and any meeting materials available in an electronic format, excluding any confidential and any confidential and exempt information, shall be available to the public at least seven days before the meeting/hearing/workshop, except in an emergency. Meeting materials shall be defined as, and limited to, the agenda, meeting minutes, resolutions, and agreements of the District that District staff deems necessary for Board approval. Inclusion of additional materials for Board consideration other than those defined herein as “meeting materials” shall not convert such materials into “meeting materials.” For good cause, the agenda may be changed after it is first made available for distribution, and additional materials may be added or provided under separate cover at the meeting. The requirement of good cause shall be liberally construed to allow the District to efficiently conduct business and to avoid the expenses associated with special meetings.

The District may, but is not required to, use the following format in preparing its agenda for its regular meetings:

- Call to order
- Roll call
- Public comment
- Organizational matters
- Review of minutes
- Specific items of old business
- Specific items of new business
- Staff reports
 - (a) District Counsel
 - (b) District Engineer
 - (c) District Manager
 - 1. Financial Report
 - 2. Approval of Expenditures
- Supervisor’s requests and comments
- Public comment
- Adjournment

- (4) Minutes. The Secretary shall be responsible for preparing and keeping the minutes of each meeting of the Board. Minutes shall be corrected and approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting. The Secretary may work with other staff members in preparing draft minutes for the Board's consideration.
- (5) Special Requests. Persons wishing to receive, by mail, notices or agendas of meetings, may so advise the District Manager or Secretary at the District Office. Such persons shall furnish a mailing address in writing and shall be required to pre-pay the cost of the copying and postage.
- (6) Emergency Meetings. The Chairperson, or Vice-Chairperson if the Chairperson is unavailable, upon consultation with the District Manager and District Counsel, if available, may convene an emergency meeting of the Board without first having complied with sections (1) and (3) of this Rule, to act on emergency matters that may affect the public health, safety, or welfare. Whenever possible, the District Manager shall make reasonable efforts to provide public notice and notify all Board members of an emergency meeting twenty-four (24) hours in advance. Reasonable efforts may include telephone notification. Notice of the emergency meeting must be provided both before and after the meeting on the District's website, if it has one. Whenever an emergency meeting is called, the District Manager shall be responsible for notifying at least one newspaper of general circulation in the District. After an emergency meeting, the Board shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the District, the time, date and place of the emergency meeting, the reasons why an emergency meeting was necessary, and a description of the action taken. Actions taken at an emergency meeting may be ratified by the Board at a regularly noticed meeting subsequently held.
- (7) Public Comment. The Board shall set aside a reasonable amount of time at each meeting for public comment and members of the public shall be permitted to provide comment on any proposition before the Board. The portion of the meeting generally reserved for public comment shall be identified in the agenda. Policies governing public comment may be adopted by the Board in accordance with Florida law.
- (8) Budget Hearing. Notice of hearing on the annual budget(s) shall be in accord with Section 190.008 of the Florida Statutes. Once adopted in accord with Section 190.008 of the Florida Statutes, the annual budget(s) may be amended from time to time by action of the Board. Approval of invoices by the Board in excess of the funds allocated to a particular budgeted line item shall serve to amend the budgeted line item.
- (9) Public Hearings. Notice of required public hearings shall contain the information required by applicable Florida law and by these Rules applicable to meeting notices and shall be mailed and published as required by Florida law. The District Manager shall ensure that all such notices, whether mailed or published, contain the information required by Florida law and these Rules and are mailed and

published as required by Florida law. Public hearings may be held during Board meetings when the agenda includes such public hearing.

- (10) Participation by Teleconference/Videoconference. District staff may participate in Board meetings by teleconference or videoconference. Board members may also participate in Board meetings by teleconference or videoconference if in the good judgment of the Board extraordinary circumstances exist; provided however, at least three Board members must be physically present at the meeting location to establish a quorum. Such extraordinary circumstances shall be presumed when a Board member participates by teleconference or videoconference, unless a majority of the Board members physically present determines that extraordinary circumstances do not exist.
- (11) Board Authorization. The District has not adopted Robert's Rules of Order. For each agenda item, there shall be discussion permitted among the Board members during the meeting. Unless such procedure is waived by the Board, approval or disapproval of resolutions and other proposed Board actions shall be in the form of a motion by one Board member, a second by another Board member, and an affirmative vote by the majority of the Board members present. Any Board member, including the Chairperson, can make or second a motion.
- (12) Continuances. Any meeting or public hearing of the Board may be continued without re-notice or re-advertising provided that:
 - (a) The Board identifies on the record at the original meeting a reasonable need for a continuance;
 - (b) The continuance is to a specified date, time, and location publicly announced at the original meeting; and
 - (c) The public notice for the original meeting states that the meeting may be continued to a date and time and states that the date, time, and location of any continuance shall be publicly announced at the original meeting and posted at the District Office immediately following the original meeting.
- (13) Attorney-Client Sessions. An Attorney-Client Session is permitted when the District's attorneys deem it necessary to meet in private with the Board to discuss pending litigation to which the District is a party before a court or administrative agency or as may be authorized by law. The District's attorney must request such session at a public meeting. Prior to holding the Attorney-Client Session, the District must give reasonable public notice of the time and date of the session and the names of the persons anticipated to attend the session. The session must commence at an open meeting in which the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson announces the commencement of the session, the estimated length of the session, and the names of the persons who will be attending the session. The discussion during the session is confined to settlement negotiations or strategy related to

litigation expenses or as may be authorized by law. Only the Board, the District's attorneys (including outside counsel), the District Manager, and the court reporter may attend an Attorney-Client Session. During the session, no votes may be taken and no final decisions concerning settlement can be made. Upon the conclusion of the session, the public meeting is reopened, and the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson must announce that the session has concluded. The session must be transcribed by a court-reporter and the transcript of the session filed with the District Secretary within a reasonable time after the session. The transcript shall not be available for public inspection until after the conclusion of the litigation.

- (14) Security and Firesafety Board Discussions. Portions of a meeting which relate to or would reveal a security or firesafety system plan or portion thereof made confidential and exempt by section 119.071(3)(a), Florida Statutes, are exempt from the public meeting requirements and other requirements of section 286.011, Florida Statutes, and section 24(b), Article 1 of the State Constitution. Should the Board wish to discuss such matters, members of the public shall be required to leave the meeting room during such discussion. Any records of the Board's discussion of such matters, including recordings or minutes, shall be maintained as confidential and exempt records in accordance with Florida law.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, Fla. Stat.

Rule 1.4 Internal Controls to Prevent Fraud, Waste and Abuse

- (1) Internal Controls. The District shall establish and maintain internal controls designed to:
- (a) Prevent and detect “fraud,” “waste” and “abuse” as those terms are defined in section 11.45(1), Florida Statutes; and
 - (b) Promote and encourage compliance with applicable laws, rules contracts, grant agreements, and best practices; and
 - (c) Support economical and efficient operations; and
 - (d) Ensure reliability of financial records and reports; and
 - (e) Safeguard assets.
- (2) Adoption. The internal controls to prevent fraud, waste and abuse shall be adopted and amended by the District in the same manner as District policies.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.
Law Implemented: § 218.33(3), Fla. Stat.

Rule 2.0 Rulemaking Proceedings.

- (1) Commencement of Proceedings. Proceedings held for adoption, amendment, or repeal of a District rule shall be conducted according to these Rules. Rulemaking proceedings shall be deemed to have been initiated upon publication of notice by the District. A “rule” is a District statement of general applicability that implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy, or describes the procedure or practice requirements of the District (“Rule”). Nothing herein shall be construed as requiring the District to consider or adopt rules unless required by Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes. Policies adopted by the District which do not consist of rates, fees, rentals or other monetary charges may be, but are not required to be, implemented through rulemaking proceedings.
- (2) Notice of Rule Development.
 - (a) Except when the intended action is the repeal of a Rule, the District shall provide notice of the development of a proposed rule by publication of a Notice of Rule Development in a newspaper of general circulation in the District before providing notice of a proposed rule as required by section (3) of this Rule. Consequently, the Notice of Rule Development shall be published at least twenty-nine (29) days prior to the public hearing on the proposed Rule. The Notice of Rule Development shall indicate the subject area to be addressed by rule development, provide a short, plain explanation of the purpose and effect of the proposed rule, cite the specific legal authority for the proposed rule, and include a statement of how a person may promptly obtain, without cost, a copy of any preliminary draft, if available.
 - (b) All rules as drafted shall be consistent with Sections 120.54(1)(g) and 120.54(2)(b) of the Florida Statutes.
- (3) Notice of Proceedings and Proposed Rules.
 - (a) Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule other than an emergency rule, the District shall give notice of its intended action, setting forth a short, plain explanation of the purpose and effect of the proposed action, a reference to the specific rulemaking authority pursuant to which the rule is adopted, and a reference to the section or subsection of the Florida Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific. The notice shall include a summary of the District’s statement of the estimated regulatory costs, if one has been prepared, based on the factors set forth in Section 120.541(2) of the Florida Statutes, and a statement that any person who wishes to provide the District with a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), must do so in writing within twenty-one (21) days after publication of the notice. The notice shall additionally include a statement that any affected person may request a public hearing

by submitting a written request within twenty-one (21) days after the date of publication of the notice. Except when intended action is the repeal of a rule, the notice shall include a reference to both the date on which and the place where the Notice of Rule Development required by section (2) of this Rule appeared.

- (b) The notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and each county in which the District is located not less than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the intended action. The proposed rule shall be available for inspection and copying by the public at the time of the publication of notice.
 - (c) The notice shall be mailed to all persons named in the proposed rule and to all persons who, at least fourteen (14) days prior to such mailing, have made requests of the District for advance notice of its rulemaking proceedings. Any person may file a written request with the District Manager to receive notice by mail of District proceedings to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule. Such persons must furnish a mailing address and may be required to pay the cost of copying and mailing.
- (4) Rule Development Workshops. Whenever requested in writing by any affected person, the District must either conduct a rule development workshop prior to proposing rules for adoption or the Chairperson must explain in writing why a workshop is unnecessary. The District may initiate a rule development workshop but is not required to do so.
- (5) Petitions to Initiate Rulemaking. All Petitions to Initiate Rulemaking proceedings must contain the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner, the specific action requested, the specific reason for adoption, amendment, or repeal, the date submitted, the text of the proposed rule, and the facts showing that the petitioner is regulated by the District or has a substantial interest in the rulemaking. Not later than sixty (60) calendar days following the date of filing a petition, the Board shall initiate rulemaking proceedings or deny the petition with a written statement of its reasons for the denial. If the petition is directed to an existing policy that the District has not formally adopted as a rule, the District may, in its discretion, notice and hold a public hearing on the petition to consider the comments of the public directed to the policy, its scope and application, and to consider whether the public interest is served adequately by the application of the policy on a case-by-case basis, as contrasted with its formal adoption as a rule. However, this section shall not be construed as requiring the District to adopt a rule to replace a policy.
- (6) Rulemaking Materials. After the publication of the notice referenced in section (3) of this Rule, the Board shall make available for public inspection and shall provide, upon request and payment of the cost of copies, the following materials:

- (a) The text of the proposed rule, or any amendment or repeal of any existing rules;
 - (b) A detailed written statement of the facts and circumstances justifying the proposed rule;
 - (c) A copy of the statement of estimated regulatory costs if required by Section 120.541 of the Florida Statutes; and
 - (d) The published notice.
- (7) Hearing. The District may, or, upon the written request of any affected person received within twenty-one (21) days after the date of publication of the notice described in section (3) of this Rule, shall, provide a public hearing for the presentation of evidence, argument, and oral statements, within the reasonable conditions and limitations imposed by the District to avoid duplication, irrelevant comments, unnecessary delay, or disruption of the proceedings. The District shall publish notice of the public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the District either in the text of the notice described in section (3) of this Rule or in a separate publication at least seven (7) days before the scheduled public hearing. The notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the public hearing, and the name, address, and telephone number of the District contact person who can provide information about the public hearing. Written statements may be submitted by any person prior to or at the public hearing. All timely submitted written statements shall be considered by the District and made part of the rulemaking record.
- (8) Emergency Rule Adoption. The Board may adopt an emergency rule if it finds that immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare exists which requires immediate action. Prior to the adoption of an emergency rule, the District Manager shall make reasonable efforts to notify a newspaper of general circulation in the District. Notice of emergency rules shall be published as soon as possible in a newspaper of general circulation in the District. The District may use any procedure which is fair under the circumstances in the adoption of an emergency rule as long as it protects the public interest as determined by the District and otherwise complies with these provisions.
- (9) Negotiated Rulemaking. The District may use negotiated rulemaking in developing and adopting rules pursuant to Section 120.54(2)(d) of the Florida Statutes, except that any notices required under Section 120.54(2)(d) of the Florida Statutes, may be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located.
- (10) Rulemaking Record. In all rulemaking proceedings, the District shall compile and maintain a rulemaking record. The record shall include, if applicable:

- (a) The texts of the proposed rule and the adopted rule;
- (b) All notices given for a proposed rule;
- (c) Any statement of estimated regulatory costs for the rule;
- (d) A written summary of hearings, if any, on the proposed rule;
- (e) All written comments received by the District and responses to those written comments; and
- (f) All notices and findings pertaining to an emergency rule.

(11) Petitions to Challenge Existing Rules.

- (a) Any person substantially affected by a rule may seek an administrative determination of the invalidity of the rule on the ground that the rule is an invalid exercise of the District's authority.
- (b) The petition seeking an administrative determination must state with particularity the provisions alleged to be invalid with sufficient explanation of the facts or grounds for the alleged invalidity and facts sufficient to show that the person challenging a rule is substantially affected by it.
- (c) The petition shall be filed with the District. Within 10 days after receiving the petition, the Chairperson shall, if the petition complies with the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, designate any member of the Board (including the Chairperson), District Manager, District Counsel, or other person as a hearing officer who shall conduct a hearing within 30 days thereafter, unless the petition is withdrawn or a continuance is granted by agreement of the parties. The failure of the District to follow the applicable rulemaking procedures or requirements in this Rule shall be presumed to be material; however, the District may rebut this presumption by showing that the substantial interests of the petitioner and the fairness of the proceedings have not been impaired.
- (d) Within 30 days after the hearing, the hearing officer shall render a decision and state the reasons therefor in writing.
- (e) Hearings held under this section shall be de novo in nature. The petitioner has a burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the existing rule is an invalid exercise of District authority as to the objections raised. The hearing officer may:
 - (i) Administer oaths and affirmations;

- (ii) Rule upon offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;
 - (iii) Regulate the course of the hearing, including any pre-hearing matters;
 - (iv) Enter orders; and
 - (v) Make or receive offers of settlement, stipulation, and adjustment.
 - (f) The petitioner and the District shall be adverse parties. Other substantially affected persons may join the proceedings as intervenors on appropriate terms which shall not unduly delay the proceedings.
- (12) Variances and Waivers. A “variance” means a decision by the District to grant a modification to all or part of the literal requirements of a rule to a person who is subject to the rule. A “waiver” means a decision by the District not to apply all or part of a rule to a person who is subject to the rule. Variances and waivers from District rules may be granted subject to the following:
- (a) Variances and waivers shall be granted when the person subject to the rule demonstrates that the purpose of the underlying statute will be or has been achieved by other means by the person, and when application of the rule would create a substantial hardship or would violate principles of fairness. For purposes of this section, "substantial hardship" means a demonstrated economic, technological, legal, or other type of hardship to the person requesting the variance or waiver. For purposes of this section, "principles of fairness" are violated when the literal application of a rule affects a particular person in a manner significantly different from the way it affects other similarly situated persons who are subject to the rule.
 - (b) A person who is subject to regulation by a District Rule may file a petition with the District, requesting a variance or waiver from the District's Rule. Each petition shall specify:
 - (i) The rule from which a variance or waiver is requested;
 - (ii) The type of action requested;
 - (iii) The specific facts that would justify a waiver or variance for the petitioner; and
 - (iv) The reason why the variance or the waiver requested would serve the purposes of the underlying statute.
 - (c) The District shall review the petition and may request only that information needed to clarify the petition or to answer new questions

raised by or directly related to the petition. If the petitioner asserts that any request for additional information is not authorized by law or by Rule of the District, the District shall proceed, at the petitioner's written request, to process the petition.

- (d) The Board shall grant or deny a petition for variance or waiver and shall announce such disposition at a publicly held meeting of the Board, within ninety (90) days after receipt of the original petition, the last item of timely requested additional material, or the petitioner's written request to finish processing the petition. The District's statement granting or denying the petition shall contain a statement of the relevant facts and reasons supporting the District's action.

- (13) Rates, Fees, Rentals and Other Charges. All rates, fees, rentals, or other charges shall be subject to rulemaking proceedings. Policies adopted by the District which do not consist of rates, fees, rentals or other charges may be, but are not required to be, implemented through rulemaking proceedings.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.035, Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 190.011(5), 190.035(2), Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.0 Competitive Purchase.

- (1) Purpose and Scope. In order to comply with Sections 190.033(1) through (3), 287.055 and 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, the following provisions shall apply to the purchase of Professional Services, insurance, construction contracts, design-build services, goods, supplies, and materials, Contractual Services, and maintenance services.
- (2) Board Authorization. Except in cases of an Emergency Purchase, a competitive purchase governed by these Rules shall only be undertaken after authorization by the Board.
- (3) Definitions.
 - (a) “Competitive Solicitation” means a formal, advertised procurement process, other than an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, or Invitation to Negotiate, approved by the Board to purchase commodities and/or services which affords vendors fair treatment in the competition for award of a District purchase contract.
 - (b) “Continuing Contract” means a contract for Professional Services entered into in accordance with Section 287.055 of the Florida Statutes, between the District and a firm, whereby the firm provides Professional Services to the District for projects in which the costs do not exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000), for a study activity when the fee for such Professional Services to the District does not exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), or for work of a specified nature as outlined in the contract with the District, with no time limitation except that the contract must provide a termination clause (for example, a contract for general District engineering services). Firms providing Professional Services under Continuing Contracts shall not be required to bid against one another.
 - (c) “Contractual Service” means the rendering by a contractor of its time and effort rather than the furnishing of specific commodities. The term applies only to those services rendered by individuals and firms who are independent contractors. Contractual Services do not include auditing services, Maintenance Services, or Professional Services as defined in Section 287.055(2)(a) of the Florida Statutes, and these Rules. Contractual Services also do not include any contract for the furnishing of labor or materials for the construction, renovation, repair, modification, or demolition of any facility, building, portion of building, utility, park, parking lot, or structure or other improvement to real property entered into pursuant to Chapter 255 of the Florida Statutes, and Rules 3.5 or 3.6.

- (d) “Design-Build Contract” means a single contract with a Design-Build Firm for the design and construction of a public construction project.
- (e) “Design-Build Firm” means a partnership, corporation or other legal entity that:
 - (i) Is certified under Section 489.119 of the Florida Statutes, to engage in contracting through a certified or registered general contractor or a certified or registered building contractor as the qualifying agent; or
 - (ii) Is certified under Section 471.023 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice engineering; certified under Section 481.219 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice architecture; or certified under Section 481.319 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice landscape architecture.
- (f) “Design Criteria Package” means concise, performance-oriented drawings or specifications for a public construction project. The purpose of the Design Criteria Package is to furnish sufficient information to permit Design-Build Firms to prepare a bid or a response to the District’s Request for Proposals, or to permit the District to enter into a negotiated Design-Build Contract. The Design Criteria Package must specify performance-based criteria for the public construction project, including the legal description of the site, survey information concerning the site, interior space requirements, material quality standards, schematic layouts and conceptual design criteria of the project, cost or budget estimates, design and construction schedules, site development requirements, provisions for utilities, stormwater retention and disposal, and parking requirements applicable to the project. Design Criteria Packages shall require firms to submit information regarding the qualifications, availability, and past work of the firms, including the partners and members thereof.
- (g) “Design Criteria Professional” means a firm who holds a current certificate of registration under Chapter 481 of the Florida Statutes, to practice architecture or landscape architecture, or a firm who holds a current certificate as a registered engineer under Chapter 471 of the Florida Statutes, to practice engineering, and who is employed by or under contract to the District to provide professional architect services, landscape architect services, or engineering services in connection with the preparation of the Design Criteria Package.
- (h) “Emergency Purchase” means a purchase necessitated by a sudden unexpected turn of events (for example, acts of God, riot, fires, floods, hurricanes, accidents, or any circumstances or cause beyond the control of the Board in the normal conduct of its business), where the Board finds

that the delay incident to competitive purchase would be detrimental to the interests of the District. This includes, but is not limited to, instances where the time to competitively award the project will jeopardize the funding for the project, will materially increase the cost of the project, or will create an undue hardship on the public health, safety, or welfare.

- (i) “Invitation to Bid” is a written solicitation for sealed bids with the title, date, and hour of the public bid opening designated specifically and defining the commodity or service involved. It includes printed instructions prescribing conditions for bidding, qualification, evaluation criteria, and provides for a manual signature of an authorized representative. It may include one or more bid alternates.
- (j) “Invitation to Negotiate” means a written solicitation for competitive sealed replies to select one or more vendors with which to commence negotiations for the procurement of commodities or services.
- (k) “Negotiate” means to conduct legitimate, arm’s length discussions and conferences to reach an agreement on a term or price.
- (l) “Professional Services” means those services within the scope of the practice of architecture, professional engineering, landscape architecture, or registered surveying and mapping, as defined by the laws of Florida, or those services performed by any architect, professional engineer, landscape architect, or registered surveyor and mapper, in connection with the firm's or individual's professional employment or practice.
- (m) “Proposal (or Reply or Response) Most Advantageous to the District” means, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board, the proposal, reply, or response that is:
 - (i) Submitted by a person or firm capable and qualified in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements, who has the integrity and reliability to assure good faith performance;
 - (ii) The most responsive to the Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation as determined by the Board; and
 - (iii) For a cost to the District deemed by the Board to be reasonable.
- (n) “Purchase” means acquisition by sale, rent, lease, lease/purchase, or installment sale. It does not include transfer, sale, or exchange of goods, supplies, or materials between the District and any federal, state, regional or local governmental entity or political subdivision of the State of Florida.

- (o) “Request for Proposals” or “RFP” is a written solicitation for sealed proposals with the title, date, and hour of the public opening designated and requiring the manual signature of an authorized representative. It may provide general information, applicable laws and rules, statement of work, functional or general specifications, qualifications, proposal instructions, work detail analysis, and evaluation criteria as necessary.
- (p) “Responsive and Responsible Bidder” means an entity or individual that has submitted a bid that conforms in all material respects to the Invitation to Bid and has the capability in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability that will assure good faith performance. “Responsive and Responsible Vendor” means an entity or individual that has submitted a proposal, reply, or response that conforms in all material respects to the Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation and has the capability in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability that will assure good faith performance. In determining whether an entity or individual is a Responsive and Responsible Bidder (or Vendor), the District may consider, in addition to factors described in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, the following:
 - (i) The ability and adequacy of the professional personnel employed by the entity/individual;
 - (ii) The past performance of the entity/individual for the District and in other professional employment;
 - (iii) The willingness of the entity/individual to meet time and budget requirements;
 - (iv) The geographic location of the entity’s/individual’s headquarters or office in relation to the project;
 - (v) The recent, current, and projected workloads of the entity/individual;
 - (vi) The volume of work previously awarded to the entity/individual;
 - (vii) Whether the cost components of the bid or proposal are appropriately balanced; and
 - (viii) Whether the entity/individual is a certified minority business enterprise.

- (q) “Responsive Bid,” “Responsive Proposal,” “Responsive Reply,” and “Responsive Response” all mean a bid, proposal, reply, or response which conforms in all material respects to the specifications and conditions in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation document and these Rules, and the cost components of which, if any, are appropriately balanced. A bid, proposal, reply or response is not responsive if the person or firm submitting it fails to meet any material requirement relating to the qualifications, financial stability, or licensing of the bidder.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 190.033, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.1 Procedure Under the Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act.

- (1) Scope. The following procedures are adopted for the selection of firms or individuals to provide Professional Services exceeding the thresholds herein described, for the negotiation of such contracts, and to provide for protest of actions of the Board under this Rule. As used in this Rule, "Project" means that fixed capital outlay study or planning activity when basic construction cost is estimated by the District to exceed the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FIVE, or for a planning study activity when the fee for Professional Services is estimated by the District to exceed the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO, as such categories may be amended or adjusted from time to time.
- (2) Qualifying Procedures. In order to be eligible to provide Professional Services to the District, a consultant must, at the time of receipt of the firm's qualification submittal:
 - (a) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (b) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
 - (c) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the consultant is a corporation; and
 - (d) Meet any qualification requirements set forth in the District's Request for Qualifications.

Evidence of compliance with this Rule may be submitted with the qualifications, if requested by the District. In addition, evidence of compliance must be submitted any time requested by the District.

- (3) Public Announcement. Except in cases of valid public emergencies as certified by the Board, the District shall announce each occasion when Professional Services are required for a Project or a Continuing Contract by publishing a notice providing a general description of the Project, or the nature of the Continuing Contract, and the method for interested consultants to apply for consideration. The notice shall appear in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the District and in such other places as the District deems appropriate. The notice must allow at least fourteen (14) days for submittal of qualifications from the date of publication. The District may maintain lists of consultants interested in receiving such notices. These consultants are encouraged to submit annually statements of qualifications and performance data. The District shall make reasonable efforts to provide copies of any notices to such consultants, but the failure to do so shall not give such consultants any bid protest or other rights or otherwise disqualify any otherwise valid procurement process. The Board has the

right to reject any and all qualifications, and such reservation shall be included in the published notice. Consultants not receiving a contract award shall not be entitled to recover from the District any costs of qualification package preparation or submittal.

(4) Competitive Selection.

- (a) The Board shall review and evaluate the data submitted in response to the notice described in section (3) of this Rule regarding qualifications and performance ability, as well as any statements of qualifications on file. The Board shall conduct discussions with, and may require public presentation by consultants regarding their qualifications, approach to the Project, and ability to furnish the required services. The Board shall then select and list the consultants, in order of preference, deemed to be the most highly capable and qualified to perform the required Professional Services, after considering these and other appropriate criteria:
 - (i) The ability and adequacy of the professional personnel employed by each consultant;
 - (ii) Whether a consultant is a certified minority business enterprise;
 - (iii) Each consultant's past performance;
 - (iv) The willingness of each consultant to meet time and budget requirements;
 - (v) The geographic location of each consultant's headquarters, office and personnel in relation to the project;
 - (vi) The recent, current, and projected workloads of each consultant; and
 - (vii) The volume of work previously awarded to each consultant by the District.
- (b) Nothing in these Rules shall prevent the District from evaluating and eventually selecting a consultant if less than three (3) Responsive qualification packages, including packages indicating a desire not to provide Professional Services on a given Project, are received.
- (c) If the selection process is administered by any person or committee other than the full Board, the selection made will be presented to the full Board with a recommendation that competitive negotiations be instituted with the selected firms in order of preference listed.

- (d) Notice of the rankings adopted by the Board, including the rejection of some or all qualification packages, shall be provided in writing to all consultants by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's ranking decisions under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

(5) Competitive Negotiation.

- (a) After the Board has authorized the beginning of competitive negotiations, the District may begin such negotiations with the firm listed as most qualified to perform the required Professional Services at a rate or amount of compensation which the Board determines is fair, competitive, and reasonable.
- (b) In negotiating a lump-sum or cost-plus-a-fixed-fee professional contract for more than the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR, the firm receiving the award shall be required to execute a truth-in-negotiation certificate stating that "wage rates and other factual unit costs supporting the compensation are accurate, complete and current at the time of contracting." In addition, any professional service contract under which such a certificate is required, shall contain a provision that "the original contract price and any additions thereto, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which the Board determines the contract price was increased due to inaccurate, incomplete, or noncurrent wage rates and other factual unit costs."
- (c) Should the District be unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the firm determined to be the most qualified at a price deemed by the District to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, then negotiations with that firm shall be terminated and the District shall immediately begin negotiations with the second most qualified firm. If a satisfactory agreement with the second firm cannot be reached, those negotiations shall be terminated and negotiations with the third most qualified firm shall be undertaken.
- (d) Should the District be unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with one of the top three (3) ranked consultants, additional firms shall be selected by the District, in order of their competence and qualifications. Negotiations shall continue, beginning with the first-named firm on the list, until an agreement is reached, or the list of firms is exhausted.

- (6) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
- (7) Continuing Contract. Nothing in this Rule shall prohibit a Continuing Contract between a consultant and the District.
- (8) Emergency Purchase. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these Rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 190.011(3), 190.033, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.2 Procedure Regarding Auditor Selection.

In order to comply with the requirements of Section 218.391 of the Florida Statutes, the following procedures are outlined for selection of firms or individuals to provide Auditing Services and for the negotiation of such contracts. For audits required under Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes but not meeting the thresholds of Chapter 218 of the Florida Statutes, the District need not follow these procedures but may proceed with the selection of a firm or individual to provide Auditing Services and for the negotiation of such contracts in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District.

(1) Definitions.

- (a) "Auditing Services" means those services within the scope of the practice of a certified public accounting firm licensed under Chapter 473 of the Florida Statutes, and qualified to conduct audits in accordance with government auditing standards as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy.
- (b) "Committee" means the auditor selection committee appointed by the Board as described in section (2) of this Rule.

(2) Establishment of Auditor Selection Committee. Prior to a public announcement under section (4) of this Rule that Auditing Services are required, the Board shall establish an auditor selection committee ("Committee"), the primary purpose of which is to assist the Board in selecting an auditor to conduct the annual financial audit required by Section 218.39 of the Florida Statutes. The Committee shall include at least three individuals, at least one of which must also be a member of the Board. The establishment and selection of the Committee must be conducted at a publicly noticed and held meeting of the Board. The Chairperson of the Committee must be a member of the Board. An employee, a chief executive officer, or a chief financial officer of the District may not serve as a member of the Committee; provided however such individual may serve the Committee in an advisory capacity.

(3) Establishment of Minimum Qualifications and Evaluation Criteria. Prior to a public announcement under section (4) of this Rule that Auditing Services are required, the Committee shall meet at a publicly noticed meeting to establish minimum qualifications and factors to use for the evaluation of Auditing Services to be provided by a certified public accounting firm licensed under Chapter 473 of the Florida Statutes, and qualified to conduct audits in accordance with government auditing standards as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy.

- (a) Minimum Qualifications. In order to be eligible to submit a proposal, a firm must, at all relevant times including the time of receipt of the proposal by the District:

- (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
- (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the proposer is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any pre-qualification requirements established by the Committee and set forth in the RFP or other specifications.

If requested in the RFP or other specifications, evidence of compliance with the minimum qualifications as established by the Committee must be submitted with the proposal.

- (b) **Evaluation Criteria.** The factors established for the evaluation of Auditing Services by the Committee shall include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) Ability of personnel;
 - (ii) Experience;
 - (iii) Ability to furnish the required services; and
 - (iv) Such other factors as may be determined by the Committee to be applicable to its particular requirements.

The Committee may also choose to consider compensation as a factor. If the Committee establishes compensation as one of the factors, compensation shall not be the sole or predominant factor used to evaluate proposals.

- (4) **Public Announcement.** After identifying the factors to be used in evaluating the proposals for Auditing Services as set forth in section (3) of this Rule, the Committee shall publicly announce the opportunity to provide Auditing Services. Such public announcement shall include a brief description of the audit and how interested firms can apply for consideration and obtain the RFP. The notice shall appear in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the District and the county in which the District is located. The public announcement shall allow for at least seven (7) days for the submission of proposals.
- (5) **Request for Proposals.** The Committee shall provide interested firms with a Request for Proposals (“RFP”). The RFP shall provide information on how proposals are to be evaluated and such other information the Committee

determines is necessary for the firm to prepare a proposal. The RFP shall state the time and place for submitting proposals.

- (6) Committee's Evaluation of Proposals and Recommendation. The Committee shall meet at a publicly held meeting that is publicly noticed for a reasonable time in advance of the meeting to evaluate all qualified proposals and may, as part of the evaluation, require that each interested firm provide a public presentation where the Committee may conduct discussions with the firm, and where the firm may present information, regarding the firm's qualifications. At the public meeting, the Committee shall rank and recommend in order of preference no fewer than three firms deemed to be the most highly qualified to perform the required services after considering the factors established pursuant to subsection (3)(b) of this Rule. If fewer than three firms respond to the RFP or if no firms respond to the RFP, the Committee shall recommend such firm as it deems to be the most highly qualified. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may recommend that any and all proposals be rejected.
- (7) Board Selection of Auditor.
 - (a) Where compensation was not selected as a factor used in evaluating the proposals, the Board shall negotiate with the firm ranked first and inquire of that firm as to the basis of compensation. If the Board is unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the first ranked firm at a price deemed by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, then negotiations with that firm shall be terminated and the Board shall immediately begin negotiations with the second ranked firm. If a satisfactory agreement with the second ranked firm cannot be reached, those negotiations shall be terminated and negotiations with the third ranked firm shall be undertaken. The Board may reopen formal negotiations with any one of the three top-ranked firms, but it may not negotiate with more than one firm at a time. If the Board is unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with any of the selected firms, the Committee shall recommend additional firms in order of the firms' respective competence and qualifications. Negotiations shall continue, beginning with the first-named firm on the list, until an agreement is reached, or the list of firms is exhausted.
 - (b) Where compensation was selected as a factor used in evaluating the proposals, the Board shall select the highest-ranked qualified firm or document in its public records the reason for not selecting the highest-ranked qualified firm.
 - (c) In negotiations with firms under this Rule, the Board may allow the District Manager, District Counsel, or other designee to conduct negotiations on its behalf.

- (d) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board may reject any or all proposals. The Board shall not consider any proposal, or enter into any contract for Auditing Services, unless the proposed agreed-upon compensation is reasonable to satisfy the requirements of Section 218.39 of the Florida Statutes, and the needs of the District.
- (8) Contract. Any agreement reached under this Rule shall be evidenced by a written contract, which may take the form of an engagement letter signed and executed by both parties. The written contract shall include all provisions and conditions of the procurement of such services and shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - (a) A provision specifying the services to be provided and fees or other compensation for such services;
 - (b) A provision requiring that invoices for fees or other compensation be submitted in sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with the terms of the contract;
 - (c) A provision setting forth deadlines for the auditor to submit a preliminary draft audit report to the District for review and to submit a final audit report no later than June 30 of the fiscal year that follows the fiscal year for which the audit is being conducted;
 - (d) A provision specifying the contract period, including renewals, and conditions under which the contract may be terminated or renewed. The maximum contract period including renewals shall be five (5) years. A renewal may be done without the use of the auditor selection procedures provided in this Rule but must be in writing.
 - (e) Provisions required by law that require the auditor to comply with public records laws.
- (9) Notice of Award. Once a negotiated agreement with a firm or individual is reached, or the Board authorizes the execution of an agreement with a firm where compensation was a factor in the evaluation of proposals, notice of the intent to award, including the rejection of some or all proposals, shall be provided in writing to all proposers by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests regarding the award of contracts under this Rule shall be as provided for in Rule 3.11. No proposer shall be entitled to recover any costs of proposal preparation or submittal from the District.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.
Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 218.33, 218.391, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.3 Purchase of Insurance.

- (1) Scope. The purchases of life, health, accident, hospitalization, legal expense, or annuity insurance, or all of any kinds of such insurance for the officers and employees of the District, and for health, accident, hospitalization, and legal expenses upon a group insurance plan by the District, shall be governed by this Rule. This Rule does not apply to the purchase of any other type of insurance by the District, including but not limited to liability insurance, property insurance, and directors and officers insurance. Nothing in this Rule shall require the District to purchase insurance.
- (2) Procedure. For a purchase of insurance within the scope of these Rules, the following procedure shall be followed:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared a Notice of Invitation to Bid.
 - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District. The notice shall allow at least fourteen (14) days for submittal of bids.
 - (c) The District may maintain a list of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid. The District shall make reasonable efforts to provide copies of any notices to such persons, but the failure to do so shall not give such consultants any bid protest or other rights or otherwise disqualify any otherwise valid procurement process.
 - (d) Bids shall be opened at the time and place noted in the Invitation to Bid.
 - (e) If only one (1) response to an Invitation is received, the District may proceed with the purchase. If no response to an Invitation to Bid is received, the District may take whatever steps are reasonably necessary in order to proceed with the purchase.
 - (f) The Board has the right to reject any and all bids and such reservations shall be included in all solicitations and advertisements.
 - (g) Simultaneously with the review of the submitted bids, the District may undertake negotiations with those companies that have submitted reasonable and timely bids and, in the opinion of the District, are fully qualified and capable of meeting all services and requirements. Bid responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the specifications and criteria contained in the Invitation to Bid; in addition, the total cost to the District, the cost, if any, to the District officers, employees, or their dependents, the geographic location of the company's headquarters and offices in relation to the District, and the ability of the company to guarantee premium stability may be considered. A contract to purchase

insurance shall be awarded to that company whose response to the Invitation to Bid best meets the overall needs of the District, its officers, employees, and/or dependents.

- (h) Notice of the intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, shall be provided in writing to all bidders by United States Mail, by hand delivery, or by overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's procurement of insurance under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: § 112.08, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.4 Pre-qualification

- (1) Scope. In its discretion, the District may undertake a pre-qualification process in accordance with this Rule for vendors to provide construction services, goods, supplies, and materials, Contractual Services, and maintenance services.
- (2) Procedure. When the District seeks to pre-qualify vendors, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared a Request for Qualifications.
 - (b) For construction services exceeding the thresholds described in Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, the Board must advertise the proposed pre-qualification criteria and procedures and allow at least seven (7) days notice of the public hearing for comments on such pre-qualification criteria and procedures. At such public hearing, potential vendors may object to such pre-qualification criteria and procedures. Following such public hearing, the Board shall formally adopt pre-qualification criteria and procedures prior to the advertisement of the Request for Qualifications for construction services.
 - (c) The Request for Qualifications shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of qualifications for goods, supplies and materials, Contractual Services, maintenance services, and construction services under two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of qualifications for construction services estimated to cost over two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) and thirty (30) days for construction services estimated to cost over five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
 - (d) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Requests for Qualifications. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any pre-qualification determination or contract awarded in accordance with these Rules and shall not be a basis for a protest of any pre-qualification determination or contract award.
 - (e) If the District has pre-qualified vendors for a particular category of purchase, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies or

responses in response to the applicable Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

- (f) In order to be eligible to submit qualifications, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the qualifications:
 - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
 - (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
 - (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Request for Qualifications.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the qualifications if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the qualifications.

- (g) Qualifications shall be presented to the Board, or a committee appointed by the Board, for evaluation in accordance with the Request for Qualifications and this Rule. Minor variations in the qualifications may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature.
- (h) All vendors determined by the District to meet the pre-qualification requirements shall be pre-qualified. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the requirements contained in a Request for Qualifications, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of qualifications. For construction services, any contractor pre-qualified and considered eligible by the Department of Transportation to bid to perform the type of work the project entails shall be presumed to be qualified to perform the project.
- (i) The Board shall have the right to reject all qualifications if there are not enough to be competitive or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of qualification preparation or submittal from the District.

(j) Notice of intent to pre-qualify, including rejection of some or all qualifications, shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, electronic mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's pre-qualification decisions under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11; provided however, protests related to the pre-qualification criteria and procedures for construction services shall be resolved in accordance with section (2)(b) of this Rule and Section 255.20(1)(b) of the Florida Statutes.

(3) Suspension, Revocation, or Denial of Qualification

(a) The District, for good cause, may deny, suspend, or revoke a prequalified vendor's pre-qualified status. A suspension, revocation, or denial for good cause shall prohibit the vendor from bidding on any District construction contract for which qualification is required, shall constitute a determination of non-responsibility to bid on any other District construction or maintenance contract, and shall prohibit the vendor from acting as a material supplier or subcontractor on any District contract or project during the period of suspension, revocation, or denial. Good cause shall include the following:

- i. One of the circumstances specified under Section 337.16(2), Fla. Stat., has occurred.
- ii. Affiliated contractors submitted more than one proposal for the same work. In this event the pre-qualified status of all of the affiliated bidders will be revoked, suspended, or denied. All bids of affiliated bidders will be rejected.
- iii. The vendor made or submitted false, deceptive, or fraudulent statements, certifications, or materials in any claim for payment or any information required by any District contract.
- iv. The vendor or its affiliate defaulted on any contract or a contract surety assumed control of financial responsibility for any contract of the vendor.
- v. The vendor's qualification to bid is suspended, revoked, or denied by any other public or semi-public entity, or the vendor has been the subject of a civil enforcement proceeding or settlement involving a public or semi-public entity.
- vi. The vendor failed to comply with contract or warranty requirements or failed to follow District direction in the performance of a contract.

- vii. The vendor failed to timely furnish all contract documents required by the contract specifications, special provisions, or by any state or federal statutes or regulations. If the vendor fails to furnish any of the subject contract documents by the expiration of the period of suspension, revocation, or denial set forth above, the vendor's pre-qualified status shall remain suspended, revoked, or denied until the documents are furnished.
 - viii. The vendor failed to notify the District within 10 days of the vendor, or any of its affiliates, being declared in default or otherwise not completing work on a contract or being suspended from qualification to bid or denied qualification to bid by any other public or semi-public agency.
 - ix. The vendor did not pay its subcontractors or suppliers in a timely manner or in compliance with contract documents.
 - x. The vendor has demonstrated instances of poor or unsatisfactory performance, deficient management resulting in project delay, poor quality workmanship, a history of payment of liquidated damages, untimely completion of projects, uncooperative attitude, contract litigation, inflated claims or defaults.
 - xi. An affiliate of the vendor has previously been determined by the District to be non-responsible, and the specified period of suspension, revocation, denial, or non-responsibility remains in effect.
 - xii. The vendor or affiliate(s) has been convicted of a contract crime.
 - 1. The term "contract crime" means any violation of state or federal antitrust laws with respect to a public contract or any violation of any state or federal law involving fraud, bribery, collusion, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation with respect to a public contract.
 - 2. The term "convicted" or "conviction" means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a contract crime, with or without an adjudication of guilt, in any federal or state trial court of record as a result of a jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.
- (b) A denial, suspension, or revocation shall prohibit the vendor from being a subcontractor on District work during the period of denial, suspension, or revocation, except when a prime contractor's bid has used prices of a subcontractor who becomes disqualified after the bid, but before the request for authorization to sublet is presented.

- (c) The District shall inform the vendor in writing of its intent to deny, suspend, or revoke its pre-qualified status and inform the vendor of its right to a hearing, the procedure which must be followed, and the applicable time limits. If a hearing is requested within 10 days after the receipt of the notice of intent, the hearing shall be held within 30 days after receipt by the District of the request for the hearing. The decision shall be issued within 15 days after the hearing.
- (d) Such suspension or revocation shall not affect the vendor's obligations under any preexisting contract.
- (e) In the case of contract crimes, the vendor's pre-qualified status under this Rule shall be revoked indefinitely. For all violations of Rule 3.4(3)(a) other than for the vendor's conviction for contract crimes, the revocation, denial, or suspension of a vendor's pre-qualified status under this Rule shall be for a specific period of time based on the seriousness of the deficiency.

Examples of factors affecting the seriousness of a deficiency are:

- i. Impacts on project schedule, cost, or quality of work;
- ii. Unsafe conditions allowed to exist;
- iii. Complaints from the public;
- iv. Delay or interference with the bidding process;
- v. The potential for repetition;
- vi. Integrity of the public contracting process;
- vii. Effect on the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.
Law Implemented: §§ 190.033, 255.0525, 255.20, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.5 Construction Contracts, Not Design-Build.

- (1) Scope. All contracts for the construction or improvement of any building, structure, or other public construction works authorized by Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes, the costs of which are estimated by the District in accordance with generally accepted cost accounting principles to be in excess of the threshold amount for applicability of Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, as that amount may be indexed or amended from time to time, shall be let under the terms of these Rules and the procedures of Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, as the same may be amended from time to time. A project shall not be divided solely to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of construction services is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
 - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and in the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of sealed bids, proposals, replies, or responses, unless the Board, for good cause, determines a shorter period of time is appropriate. Any project projected to cost more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) must be noticed at least thirty (30) days prior to the date for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses. If the Board has previously pre-qualified contractors pursuant to Rule 3.4 and determined that only the contractors that have been pre-qualified will be permitted to submit bids, proposals, replies, and responses, the Notice of Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation need not be published. Instead, the Notice of Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be sent to the pre-qualified contractors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service.
 - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.

- (d) If the District has pre-qualified providers of construction services, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, or responses to Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations.
- (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
 - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
 - (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the bidder is a corporation; and
 - (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Any contractor that has been found guilty by a court of any violation of federal labor or employment tax laws regarding subjects including but not limited to, reemployment assistance, safety, tax withholding, worker's compensation, unemployment tax, social security and Medicare tax, wage or hour, or prevailing rate laws within the past 5 years may be considered ineligible by the District to submit a bid, response, or proposal for a District project.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply, or response, if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses, or the portions of which that include the price, shall be publicly opened at a meeting noticed in accordance with Rule 1.3, and at which at least one district representative is present. The name of each bidder and the price submitted in the bid shall be announced at such meeting and shall be made available upon request. Minutes should be taken at the meeting and maintained by the District. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in

accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation and these Rules. Minor variations in the bids, proposals, replies, or responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.

- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder in response to an Invitation to Bid shall be accepted. In relation to a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, the Board shall select the Responsive Proposal, Reply, or Response submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Vendor which is most advantageous to the District. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, and responses.
- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No contractor shall be entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, response, or reply preparation or submittal from the District.
- (i) The Board may require potential contractors to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
- (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses, shall be provided in writing to all contractors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's purchase of construction services under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

- (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase construction services or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may proceed with the procurement of construction services, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the construction services without further competitive selection processes.
- (3) Sole Source; Government. Construction services that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Construction services provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. This Rule shall not apply to the purchase of construction services, which may include goods, supplies, or materials, that are purchased under a federal, state, or local government contract that has been competitively procured by such federal, state, or local government in a manner consistent with the material procurement requirements of these Rules. A contract for construction services is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process.
- (4) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
- (5) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board Meeting.
- (6) Exceptions. This Rule is inapplicable when:
 - (a) The project is undertaken as repair or maintenance of an existing public facility;
 - (b) The funding source of the project will be diminished or lost because the time required to competitively award the project after the funds become available exceeds the time within which the funding source must be spent;
 - (c) The District has competitively awarded a project and the contractor has abandoned the project or the District has terminated the contract; or
 - (d) The District, after public notice, conducts a public meeting under Section 286.011 of the Florida Statutes, and finds by a majority vote of the Board that it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using its own services, employees, and equipment.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 189.053, 190.033, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.6 Construction Contracts, Design-Build.

- (1) Scope. The District may utilize Design-Build Contracts for any public construction project for which the Board determines that use of such contract is in the best interest of the District. When letting a Design-Build Contract, the District shall use the following procedure:
- (2) Procedure.
 - (a) The District shall utilize a Design Criteria Professional meeting the requirements of Section 287.055(2)(k) of the Florida Statutes, when developing a Design Criteria Package, evaluating the proposals and qualifications submitted by Design-Build Firms, and determining compliance of the project construction with the Design Criteria Package. The Design Criteria Professional may be an employee of the District, may be the District Engineer selected by the District pursuant to Section 287.055 of the Florida Statutes, or may be retained pursuant to Rule 3.1. The Design Criteria Professional is not eligible to render services under a Design-Build Contract executed pursuant to the Design Criteria Package.
 - (b) A Design Criteria Package for the construction project shall be prepared and sealed by the Design Criteria Professional. If the project utilizes existing plans, the Design Criteria Professional shall create a Design Criteria Package by supplementing the plans with project specific requirements, if any.
 - (c) The Board may either choose to award the Design-Build Contract pursuant to the competitive proposal selection process set forth in Section 287.055(9) of the Florida Statutes, or pursuant to the qualifications-based selection process pursuant to Rule 3.1.
 - (i) Qualifications-Based Selection. If the process set forth in Rule 3.1 is utilized, subsequent to competitive negotiations, a guaranteed maximum price and guaranteed completion date shall be established.
 - (ii) Competitive Proposal-Based Selection. If the competitive proposal selection process is utilized, the Board, in consultation with the Design Criteria Professional, shall establish the criteria, standards and procedures for the evaluation of Design-Build Proposals based on price, technical, and design aspects of the project, weighted for the project. After a Design Criteria Package and the standards and procedures for evaluation of proposals have been developed, competitive proposals from qualified firms shall be solicited pursuant to the design criteria by the following procedure:

1. A Request for Proposals shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located. The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of sealed proposals, unless the Board, for good cause, determines a shorter period of time is appropriate. Any project projected to cost more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) must be noticed at least thirty (30) days prior to the date for submittal of proposals.
2. The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Requests for Proposals. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
3. In order to be eligible to submit a proposal, a firm must, at the time of receipt of the proposals:
 - a. Hold the required applicable state professional licenses in good standing, as defined by Section 287.055(2)(h) of the Florida Statutes;
 - b. Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
 - c. Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the proposer is a corporation;
 - d. Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Request for Proposals and Design Criteria Package.

Any contractor that has been found guilty by a court of any violation of federal labor or employment tax laws regarding subjects including but not limited to reemployment assistance, safety, tax withholding, worker's compensation, unemployment tax, social security and Medicare tax, wage or hour, or prevailing rate laws within the past 5 years may

be considered ineligible by the District to submit a bid, response, or proposal for a District project.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the proposal if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the proposal.

4. The proposals, or the portions of which that include the price, shall be publicly opened at a meeting noticed in accordance with Rule 1.3, and at which at least one district representative is present. The name of each bidder and the price submitted in the bid shall be announced at such meeting and shall be made available upon request. Minutes should be taken at the meeting and maintained by the District. In consultation with the Design Criteria Professional, the Board shall evaluate the proposals received based on evaluation criteria and procedures established prior to the solicitation of proposals, including but not limited to qualifications, availability, and past work of the firms and the partners and members thereof. The Board shall then select no fewer than three (3) Design-Build Firms as the most qualified.
5. The Board shall have the right to reject all proposals if [the proposals are too high](#), or rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of proposal preparation or submittal from the District.
6. If less than three (3) Responsive Proposals are received, the District may purchase design-build services or may reject the proposals for lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Proposals are received, the District may proceed with the procurement of design-build services in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the design-build services without further competitive selection processes.
7. Notice of the rankings adopted by the Board, including the rejection of some or all proposals, shall be provided in writing to all consultants by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the

Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's rankings under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

8. The Board shall negotiate a contract with the firm ranking the highest based on the evaluation standards and shall establish a price which the Board determines is fair, competitive and reasonable. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. The Board shall then undertake negotiations with the second most qualified firm, based on the ranking by the evaluation standards. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the second most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. The Board shall then undertake negotiations with the third most qualified firm. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the third most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with any of the selected firms, the Board shall select additional firms in order of their rankings based on the evaluation standards and continue negotiations until an agreement is reached, or the list of firms is exhausted.
 9. After the Board contracts with a firm, the firm shall bring to the Board for approval, detailed working drawings of the project.
 10. The Design Criteria Professional shall evaluate the compliance of the detailed working drawings and project construction with the Design Criteria Package and shall provide the Board with a report of the same.
- (3) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
 - (4) Emergency Purchase. The Board may, in case of public emergency, declare an emergency and immediately proceed with negotiations with the best qualified

Design-Build Firm available at the time. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

(5) Exceptions. This Rule is inapplicable when:

- (a) The project is undertaken as repair or maintenance of an existing public facility;
- (b) The funding source of the project will be diminished or lost because the time required to competitively award the project after the funds become available exceeds the time within which the funding source must be spent;
- (c) The District has competitively awarded a project and the contractor has abandoned the project or the District has terminated the contractor; or
- (d) The District, after public notice, conducts a public meeting under Section 286.011 of the Florida Statutes, and finds by a majority vote of the Board that it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using its own services, employees, and equipment.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 189.053, 190.033, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.7 Payment and Performance Bonds.

- (1) Scope. This Rule shall apply to contracts for the construction of a public building, for the prosecution and completion of a public work, or for repairs upon a public building or public work and shall be construed in addition to terms prescribed by any other Rule that may also apply to such contracts.
- (2) Required Bond. Upon entering into a contract for any of the services described in section (1) of this Rule in excess of \$200,000, the Board should require that the contractor, before commencing the work, execute and record a payment and performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price. Notwithstanding the terms of the contract or any other law, the District may not make payment to the contractor until the contractor has provided to the District a certified copy of the recorded bond.
- (3) Discretionary Bond. At the discretion of the Board, upon entering into a contract for any of the services described in section (1) of this Rule for an amount not exceeding \$200,000, the contractor may be exempted from executing a payment and performance bond.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: § 255.05, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.8 Goods, Supplies, and Materials.

- (1) Purpose and Scope. All purchases of goods, supplies, or materials exceeding the amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR, shall be purchased under the terms of this Rule. Contracts for purchases of “goods, supplies, and materials” do not include printing, insurance, advertising, or legal notices. A contract involving goods, supplies, or materials plus maintenance services may, in the discretion of the Board, be treated as a contract for maintenance services. However, a purchase shall not be divided solely in order to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of goods, supplies, or materials is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
 - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
 - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
 - (d) If the District has pre-qualified suppliers of goods, supplies, and materials, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
 - (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
 - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;

- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply or response if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

Any firm or individual whose principal place of business is outside the State of Florida must also submit a written opinion of an attorney at law licensed to practice law in that foreign state, as to the preferences, if any or none, granted by the law of that foreign state to business entities whose principal places of business are in that foreign state, in the letting of any or all public contracts. Failure to submit such a written opinion or submission of a false or misleading written opinion may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be publicly opened at the time and place noted on the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, and this Rule. Minor variations in the bids, proposals, replies, or responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.
- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid, after taking into account the preferences provided for in this subsection, submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder in response to an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be accepted. If the lowest Responsive Bid is submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder whose principal place of business is located in a foreign state which does not grant a preference in competitive purchase to businesses whose principal place of business are in that foreign state, the

lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder whose principal place of business is in the State of Florida shall be awarded a preference of five (5) percent. If the lowest Responsive Bid is submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder whose principal place of business is located in a foreign state which grants a preference in competitive purchase to businesses whose principal place of business are in that foreign state, the lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder whose principal place of business is in the State of Florida shall be awarded a preference equal to the preference granted by such foreign state.

To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, and responses.

- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, reply, or response preparation or submittal from the District.
- (i) The Board may require bidders and proposers to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
- (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's purchase of goods, supplies, and materials under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.
- (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase goods, supplies, or materials, or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may proceed with the procurement of goods, supplies, and materials, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct

purchase of the goods, supplies, and materials without further competitive selection processes.

- (3) Goods, Supplies, and Materials included in a Construction Contract Awarded Pursuant to Rule 3.5 or 3.6. There may be occasions where the District has undergone the competitive purchase of construction services which contract may include the provision of goods, supplies, or materials. In that instance, the District may approve a change order to the contract and directly purchase the goods, supplies, and materials. Such purchase of goods, supplies, and materials deducted from a competitively purchased construction contract shall be exempt from this Rule.
- (4) Exemption. Goods, supplies, and materials that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Goods, supplies, and materials provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. A contract for goods, supplies, or materials is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process. This Rule shall not apply to the purchase of goods, supplies or materials that are purchased under a federal, state, or local government contract that has been competitively procured by such federal, state, or local government in a manner consistent with the material procurement requirements of these Rules.
- (5) Renewal. Contracts for the purchase of goods, supplies, and/or materials subject to this Rule may be renewed for a maximum period of five (5) years.
- (6) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 189.053, 190.033, 287.017, 287.084, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.9 Maintenance Services.

- (1) Scope. All contracts for maintenance of any District facility or project shall be set under the terms of this Rule if the cost exceeds the amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR. A contract involving goods, supplies, and materials plus maintenance services may, in the discretion of the Board, be treated as a contract for maintenance services. However, a purchase shall not be divided solely in order to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of maintenance services is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
 - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
 - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
 - (d) If the District has pre-qualified suppliers of maintenance services, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, and responses.
 - (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
 - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
 - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;

- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply, or response if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be publicly opened at the time and place noted on the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, and these Rules. Minor variations in the bids, proposals, replies, and responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.
- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid submitted in response to an Invitation to Bid by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder shall be accepted. In relation to a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate or Competitive Solicitation the Board shall select the Responsive Proposal, Reply, or Response submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Vendor which is most advantageous to the District. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No Vendor shall be

entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, reply, or response preparation or submittal from the District.

- (i) The Board may require bidders and proposers to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
 - (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's procurement of maintenance services under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.
 - (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase the maintenance services or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may proceed with the procurement of maintenance services, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the maintenance services without further competitive selection processes.
- (3) Exemptions. Maintenance services that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Maintenance services provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. A contract for maintenance services is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process.
 - (4) Renewal. Contracts for the purchase of maintenance services subject to this Rule may be renewed for a maximum period of five (5) years.
 - (5) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
 - (6) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, Fla. Stat.
Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 190.033, 287.017, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.10 Contractual Services.

- (1) Exemption from Competitive Purchase. Pursuant to Section 190.033(3) of the Florida Statutes, Contractual Services shall not be subject to competitive purchasing requirements. If an agreement is predominantly for Contractual Services, but also includes maintenance services or the purchase of goods and services, the contract shall not be subject to competitive purchasing requirements. Regardless of whether an advertisement or solicitation for Contractual Services is identified as an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, no rights or remedies under these Rules, including but not limited to protest rights, are conferred on persons, firms, or vendors proposing to provide Contractual Services to the District.
- (2) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract for Contractual Services shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 190.011(3), 190.033, Fla. Stat.

Rule 3.11 Protests with Respect to Proceedings under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, and 3.9.

The resolution of any protests with respect to proceedings under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, and 3.9 shall be in accordance with this Rule.

(1) Filing.

- (a) With respect to a protest regarding qualifications, specifications, documentation, or other requirements contained in a Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Bid, or Competitive Solicitation issued by the District, the notice of protest shall be filed in writing within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the first advertisement of the Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Bid, or Competitive Solicitation. A formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. For purposes of this Rule, wherever applicable, filing will be perfected and deemed to have occurred upon receipt by the District. Failure to file a notice of protest shall constitute a waiver of all rights to protest the District's intended decision. Failure to file a formal written protest shall constitute an abandonment of the protest proceedings and shall automatically terminate the protest proceedings.
- (b) Except for those situations covered by subsection (1)(a) of this Rule, any firm or person who is affected adversely by a District's ranking or intended award under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, or 3.9 and desires to contest the District's ranking or intended award, shall file with the District a written notice of protest within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after receipt of the notice of the District's ranking or intended award. A formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. For purposes of this Rule, wherever applicable, filing will be perfected and deemed to have occurred upon receipt by the District. Failure to file a notice of protest shall constitute a waiver of all rights to protest the District's ranking or intended award. Failure to file a formal written protest shall constitute an abandonment of the protest proceedings and shall automatically terminate the protest proceedings.
- (c) If the requirement for the posting of a protest bond and the amount of the protest bond, which may be expressed by a percentage of the contract to be awarded or a set amount, is disclosed in the District's competitive solicitation documents for a particular purchase under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3,

3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, or 3.9, any person who files a notice of protest must post the protest bond. The amount of the protest bond shall be determined by District staff after consultation with the Board and within the limits, if any, imposed by Florida law. In the event the protest is successful, the protest bond shall be refunded to the protestor. In the event the protest is unsuccessful, the protest bond shall be applied towards the District's costs, expenses, and attorney's fees associated with hearing and defending the protest. In the event the protest is settled by mutual agreement of the parties, the protest bond shall be distributed as agreed to by the District and protestor.

- (d) The District does not accept documents filed by electronic mail or facsimile transmission. Filings are only accepted during normal business hours.
- (2) Contract Execution. Upon receipt of a notice of protest which has been timely filed, the District shall not execute the contract under protest until the subject of the protest is resolved. However, if the District sets forth in writing particular facts and circumstances showing that delay incident to protest proceedings will jeopardize the funding for the project, will materially increase the cost of the project, or will create an immediate and serious danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, the contract may be executed.
- (3) Informal Proceeding. If the Board determines a protest does not involve a disputed issue of material fact, the Board may, but is not obligated to, schedule an informal proceeding to consider the protest. Such informal proceeding shall be at a time and place determined by the Board. Notice of such proceeding shall be sent via facsimile, United States Mail, or hand delivery to the protestor and any substantially affected persons or parties not less than three (3) calendar days prior to such informal proceeding. Within thirty (30) calendar days following the informal proceeding, the Board shall issue a written decision setting forth the factual, legal, and policy grounds for its decision.
- (4) Formal Proceeding. If the Board determines a protest involves disputed issues of material fact or if the Board elects not to use the informal proceeding process provided for in section (3) of this Rule, the District shall schedule a formal hearing to resolve the protest. The Chairperson shall designate any member of the Board (including the Chairperson), District Manager, District Counsel, or other person as a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer may:
 - (a) Administer oaths and affirmations;
 - (b) Rule upon offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;
 - (c) Regulate the course of the hearing, including any pre-hearing matters;

(d) Enter orders; and

(e) Make or receive offers of settlement, stipulation, and adjustment.

The hearing officer shall, within thirty (30) days after the hearing or receipt of the hearing transcript, whichever is later, file a recommended order which shall include a caption, time and place of hearing, appearances entered at the hearing, statement of the issues, findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated, and a recommendation for final District action. The District shall allow each party fifteen (15) days in which to submit written exceptions to the recommended order. The District shall issue a final order within sixty (60) days after the filing of the recommended order.

(5) Intervenors. Other substantially affected persons may join the proceedings as intervenors on appropriate terms which shall not unduly delay the proceedings.

(6) Rejection of all Qualifications, Bids, Proposals, Replies and Responses after Receipt of Notice of Protest. If the Board determines there was a violation of law, defect, or an irregularity in the competitive solicitation process, the Bids, Proposals, Replies, and Responses are too high, or if the Board determines it is otherwise in the District's best interest, the Board may reject all qualifications, bids, proposals, replies, and responses and start the competitive solicitation process anew. If the Board decides to reject all qualifications, bids, proposals, replies, and responses and start the competitive solicitation process anew, any pending protests shall automatically terminate.

(7) Settlement. Nothing herein shall preclude the settlement of any protest under this Rule at any time.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: § 190.033, Fla. Stat.

Rule 4.0 Effective Date.

These Rules shall be effective July 6, 2020, except that no election of officers required by these Rules shall be required until after the next regular election for the Board.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Tab 6

**CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT (“**Agreement**”) is made and entered into this 1s day of June, 2020, by and between:

Connerton West Community Development District, a local unit of special-purpose government established pursuant to Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, being situated in Pasco County, Florida, and having offices at 5844 Old Pasco Road, Suite 100, Wesley Chapel, Florida 33544 (“**District**”); and

Jerry State Wildlife Trapper, whose address is 2103 W. Rio Vista Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33603 (“**Contractor**,” and collectively with the District, “**Parties**”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the District was established for the purpose of planning, financing, constructing, operating and/or maintaining certain infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the District has a need to retain an independent contractor to provide certain wildlife management services; and

WHEREAS, the District intends to retain the services of the Contractor to perform wildlife management services pursuant to this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Contractor desires to provide such services, and represents that it is qualified to do so.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained in this Agreement, it is agreed that the Contractor is hereby retained, authorized, and instructed by the District to perform in accordance with the following covenants and conditions, which both the District and the Contractor have agreed upon:

1. INCORPORATION OF RECITALS. The recitals stated above are true and correct and are incorporated by reference as a material part of this Agreement.

2. SCOPE OF SERVICES. The Contractor shall provide the services described in the Scope of Services attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A** (“**Work**”). The Contractor shall perform the Work consistent with the presently established, high quality standards of the District, and shall assign such staff as may be required for coordinating, expediting, and controlling all aspects of the Work. Contractor shall solely be responsible for the means, manner and methods by which its duties, obligations and responsibilities are met to the satisfaction of the District.

3. MANNER OF CONTRACTOR'S PERFORMANCE. Contractor shall be responsible for the means, manner and methods by which its duties, obligations and responsibilities are met to the satisfaction of the District. Contractor agrees, as an independent contractor, to undertake work and/or perform such services as specified in this Agreement or any Work Authorization executed by the Parties in connection with this Agreement and accepted by the Contractor. All work shall be performed in a neat and professional manner reasonably acceptable to the District. The performance of the services by the Contractor under this Agreement shall conform to **Exhibit A** and any written instructions issued by the District.

- A. Should any work and/or services be required which are not specified in this Agreement or Exhibit A, but which are nevertheless necessary for the proper provision of services to the District, such work or services shall be fully performed by the Contractor as if described and delineated in this Agreement, pursuant to the terms of the executed Work Authorization.
- B. The District shall designate in writing a person to act as the District's representative with respect to the services to be performed under this Agreement. The District's representative shall have complete authority to transmit instructions, receive information, interpret and define the District's policies and decisions with respect to materials, equipment, elements, and systems pertinent to the Contractor's services.
 - 1. The District hereby designates its District Manager to act as its representative.
 - 2. Upon request by the District Manager, or the District's representative identified above, the Contractor agrees to meet with the District's representative to walk the property to discuss conditions, schedules, and items of concern regarding this Agreement.
- C. Work shall include: monitoring and observation of wild hog population and movement; identification of isolated locations on District property for conducting certain wild hog trapping exercises; setup of temporary materials or equipment necessary for wild hog trapping exercises; and removal of wild hog and other materials as necessary to return the District property to its original condition prior to the wild hog trapping exercises. No firearms shall be used in the Work under this Agreement.
- D. Contractor shall use all due care to minimize visibility of the wild hog trapping exercises to residents and visitors of District. The Contractor shall at all times use all due care to foresee and minimize risk of property damage or injury to persons while conducting wild hog trapping exercises on District property.
- E. Contractor shall not cut or damage trees, crops, roads, dwellings, fences, buildings, or other personal property when conducting Work. The Contractor

shall make no additional entrances onto the District property other than those already in existence without the prior approval of District. Contractor shall use all due care to protect the property of the District, its residents, and landowners from damage. The Contractor agrees to repair any damage resulting from Contractor's activities and work within twenty-four (24) hours.

- F. This Agreement grants to Contractor the right to enter the lands that are subject to this Agreement, for those purposes described in this Agreement, and Contractor hereby agrees to comply with all applicable laws, rules, ordinances and regulations affecting the provision of the services.

4. WARRANTIES. Contractor hereby covenants to the District that it shall perform the Work: (i) using its best skill and judgment and in accordance with generally accepted professional standards and (ii) in compliance with all applicable federal, state, county, land use, environmental, public safety, non-discrimination and disability accessibility laws, codes, ordinances, rules and regulations, including, without limitation, all professional registration (both corporate and individual) for all required basic disciplines that it shall perform.

5. SUBCONTRACTORS. The Contractor shall not award any of the Work to any subcontractor without prior written approval of the District. The Contractor shall be as fully responsible to the District for the acts and omissions of its subcontractors, and of persons either directly or indirectly employed by them, as the Contractor is for the acts and omissions of persons directly employed by the Contractor. Nothing contained herein shall create contractual relations between any subcontractor and the District.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Agreement shall be binding and effective as of the date that the Agreement is signed by the last of the Parties hereto, and shall remain in effect as set forth in Section 7, unless terminated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

7. COMPENSATION; TERM.

- A. As compensation for the Services described in this Agreement and **Exhibit A**, the District shall pay Contractor monthly payments of Eight Hundred Dollars (\$800.00). In the event this Agreement is terminated pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, payment will be prorated for the payment period during which termination becomes effective.
- B. As soon as may be practicable at the beginning of each month, the Contractor shall invoice the District for all services performed in the prior month and any other sums due to the Contractor. The District shall pay the invoice amount within forty-five (45) days after the invoice date or earlier as may be required by the Prompt Payment Act. Each monthly invoice will include such supporting information as the District may reasonably require the Contractor to provide.
- C. Work shall commence on June 1, 2020 and end May 31, 2021, unless terminated pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. Contractor acknowledges

that the price contained within Section 7A is firm through the original term.

8. INSURANCE.

A.

(1) Commercial General Liability Insurance covering the legal liability of Contractor for bodily injuries, with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit bodily injury and property damage liability, and covering at least the following hazards:

(i) Independent Contractors Coverage for bodily injury and property damage in connection with the Contractor's operations and activities.

(2) Automobile Liability Insurance for bodily injuries in limits of not less than \$20,000/accident, \$10,000/person bodily injury and \$10,000/accident for property damage, providing coverage for any accident arising out of or resulting from the operation, maintenance, or use by the Contractor of any owned, non-owned, or hired automobiles, trailers, or other equipment required to be licensed.

B. District and District's staff, consultants, agents and supervisors shall be named as an additional insured and certificate holders. Contractor shall furnish District with the Certificate of Insurance, with endorsement, evidencing compliance with this requirement by Contractor. No certificate shall be acceptable to Contractor unless it provides that any change or termination within the policy periods of the insurance coverage, as certified, shall not be effective within thirty (30) days of prior written notice to District. Insurance coverage shall be from a reputable insurance carrier, licensed to conduct business in the State of Florida, and such carrier shall have a Best's Insurance Reports rating of at least A-VII. Contractor hereby waives any and all future claims that may otherwise be brought against the District as a result of Contractor's lack of Worker's Compensation Insurance coverage.

C. If Contractor fails to have secured and maintained the required insurance, District have the right (without any obligation to do so, however), to secure such required insurance in which event, Contractor shall pay the cost for that required insurance and shall furnish, upon demand, all information that may be required in connection with District's obtaining the required insurance.

9. INDEMNIFICATION.

A. Contractor acknowledges that this Agreement authorizes access to District property that exists in "as is" condition and further understand that trapping of wild hogs is an inherently hazardous activity. There may be hidden hazards such as holes, fence wire, snakes, wells, swamps, unauthorized

careless persons, or other risks that may cause injury or death. Contractor waives District from any and all liability associated with the Contractor's access, occupation, or use of the District property. The Contractor assumes all risks associated with the access, occupation, or use of the District property as its own responsibility. District hereby disclaims all representations as to any and all hazardous condition(s) of the District property subject to this Agreement.

- B.** Contractor agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless District and its officers, agents and employees from any and all liability, claims, actions, suits or demands by any person, including Contractor's employees, any corporation or other entity for injuries, death, or property damage of any nature, arising out of, or in connection with: (i) the work performed by the Contractor; and (ii) the use of the District property for any purpose by the Contractor, its employees, members, guests, agents, successors, assigns, tenants, subtenants, or their respective employees, contractors or agents under this Agreement.
- C.** Contractor agrees that nothing herein shall constitute or be construed as a waiver of District's limitations on liability contained in section 768.28, Florida Statutes, or other statute.
- D.** Obligations under this section shall include the payment of all settlements, judgments, damages, liquidated damages, penalties, forfeitures, back pay awards, court costs, arbitration and/or mediation costs, litigation expenses, attorney fees, and paralegal fees (incurred in court, out of court, on appeal, or in bankruptcy proceedings) as ordered.

10. COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION. The Contractor shall keep, observe, and perform all requirements of applicable local, State, and Federal laws, rules, regulations, or ordinances. Contractor agrees to abide by all laws, rules, covenants and regulations governing the District property and all nuisance wildlife laws and regulations established by the State of Florida, or any other governing entity with authority to establish and enforce such laws and regulations. Contractor's failure to abide by such laws and regulations is justification for the District to terminate this Agreement. Moreover, Contractor acknowledges that it is Contractor's responsibility to confirm that trapping and removal of wild hogs from the District property is not in violation of any laws, rules, covenants and regulations and hereby agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless District, and District's agents and representatives, from and against any loss, damage, injury, claim, demand, cost and expense (including legal expense) arising from the Contractor's use of the District property in violation of any law, rule, covenant or regulation prohibiting such use.

11. DEFAULT AND PROTECTION AGAINST THIRD PARTY INTERFERENCE. A default by either Party under this Agreement shall entitle the other to all remedies available at law or in equity for breach of this Agreement, which may include, but not be limited to, the right of damages, injunctive relief, and/or specific performance. The District shall

be solely responsible for enforcing its rights under this Agreement against any interfering third party. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall limit or impair the District's right to protect its rights from interference by a third party to this Agreement.

12. CUSTOM AND USAGE. It is hereby agreed, any law, custom, or usage to the contrary notwithstanding, that the District shall have the right at all times to enforce the conditions and agreements contained in this Agreement in strict accordance with the terms of this Agreement, notwithstanding any conduct or custom on the part of the District in refraining from so doing; and further, that the failure of the District at any time or times to strictly enforce its rights under this Agreement shall not be construed as having created a custom in any way or manner contrary to the specific conditions and agreements of this Agreement, or as having in any way modified or waived the same.

13. SUCCESSORS. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of the Parties to this Agreement, except as expressly limited in this Agreement.

14. TERMINATION. The District agrees that the Contractor may terminate this Agreement with cause by providing thirty (30) days written notice of termination to the District; provided, however, that the District shall be provided a reasonable opportunity to cure any failure under this Agreement. The Contractor agrees that, notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the District may terminate this Agreement immediately with or without cause by providing written notice of termination to the Contractor. Any termination by the District shall not result in liability to the District for consequential damages, lost profits, or any other damages or liability. However, upon any termination of this Agreement by the District, the Contractor shall be entitled to payment for all Work and/or services rendered up until the effective termination of this Agreement, subject to whatever claims or off-sets the District may have against the Contractor.

15. PERMITS AND LICENSES. All permits or licenses necessary for the Contractor to perform under this Agreement shall be obtained and paid for by the Contractor, as may be required by applicable state or local law or regulation.

16. ASSIGNMENT. Neither the District nor the Contractor may assign this Agreement without the prior written approval of the other, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. Any purported assignment of this Agreement without such prior written approval shall be void.

17. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS. In all matters relating to this Agreement, the Contractor shall be acting as an independent Contractor. Neither the Contractor nor employees of the Contractor, if there are any, are employees of the District under the meaning or application of any Federal or State Unemployment or Insurance Laws or Old Age Laws or otherwise. The Contractor agrees to assume all liabilities or obligations imposed by any one or more of such laws with respect to employees of the Contractor, if there are any, in the performance of this Agreement. The Contractor shall not have any authority to assume or create any obligation, express or implied, on behalf of the District and the Contractor shall have no authority to represent the District as an agent, employee, or in any other capacity, unless otherwise set forth in this

Agreement.

18. HEADINGS FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY. The descriptive headings in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall neither control nor affect the meaning or construction of any of the provisions of this Agreement.

19. AGREEMENT. This instrument, together with its attachments which are hereby incorporated herein, shall constitute the final and complete expression of this Agreement between the District and Contractor relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. To the extent of any inconsistency between this document, and the Scope of Services (Exhibit A), this document shall control.

20. ENFORCEMENT OF AGREEMENT. In the event that either the District or the Contractor is required to enforce this Agreement by court proceedings or otherwise, then the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover all fees and costs incurred, including reasonable attorneys' fees, paralegal fees and costs for trial, mediation, or appellate proceedings.

21. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to and waivers of the provisions contained in this Agreement may be made only by an instrument in writing which is executed by both the District and the Contractor.

22. AUTHORIZATION. The execution of this Agreement has been duly authorized by the appropriate body or official of the District and the Contractor, both the District and the Contractor have complied with all the requirements of law, and both the District and the Contractor have full power and authority to comply with the terms and provisions of this instrument.

23. NOTICES. Any notice, demand, request or communication required or permitted hereunder ("Notice") shall be in writing and sent by hand delivery, United States certified mail, or by recognized overnight delivery service, addressed as follows:

- A. If to the District:** Connerton West Community
Development District
5844 Old Pasco Road, Suite 100
Wesley Chapel, Florida 33544
Attn: District Manager
- With a copy to:** Hopping Green & Sams, PA
119 South Monroe Street, Suite 300
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Attn: Roy Van Wyk
- B. If to Contractor:** Jerry State Wildlife Trapper
2103 W. Rio Vista Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33603
Attn: Jerry Richardson

Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, any Notice shall be deemed received only upon actual delivery at the address set forth above. Notices delivered after 5:00 p.m. (at the place of delivery) or on a non-business day, shall be deemed received on the next business day. If any time for giving Notice contained in this Agreement would otherwise expire on a non-business day, the Notice period shall be extended to the next succeeding business day. Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays recognized by the United States government shall not be regarded as business days. Counsel for the District and counsel for the Contractor may deliver Notice on behalf of the District and the Contractor. Any party or other person to whom Notices are to be sent or copied may notify the other parties and addressees of any change in name or address to which Notices shall be sent by providing the same on five (5) days written notice to the Parties and addressees set forth herein.

24. THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES. This Agreement is solely for the benefit of the District and the Contractor and no right or cause of action shall accrue upon or by reason, to or for the benefit of any third party not a formal party to this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement expressed or implied is intended or shall be construed to confer upon any person or corporation other than the District and the Contractor any right, remedy, or claim under or by reason of this Agreement or any of the provisions or conditions of this Agreement; and all of the provisions, representations, covenants, and conditions contained in this Agreement shall inure to the sole benefit of and shall be binding upon the District and the Contractor and their respective representatives, successors, and assigns.

25. CONTROLLING LAW AND VENUE. This Agreement and the provisions contained in this Agreement shall be construed, interpreted, and controlled according to the laws of the State of Florida. Venue for any legal actions regarding this Agreement shall be Pasco County, Florida.

30. PUBLIC RECORDS. The Contractor agrees and understands that Chapter 119, *Florida Statutes*, may be applicable to documents prepared in connection with the services provided hereunder and agrees to cooperate with public record requests made thereunder. In connection with this Agreement, Contractor agrees to comply with all provisions of Florida's public records laws, including but not limited to Section 119.0701, *Florida Statutes*, the terms of which are incorporated herein. Among other requirements, Contractor must:

- a. Keep and maintain public records required by the District to perform the service.
- b. Upon request from the District's custodian of public records, provide the District with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, *Florida Statutes* or as otherwise provided by law.
- c. Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the contract term and following completion of the Agreement if the Contractor does not transfer the records to the District.
- d. Upon completion of this Agreement, transfer, at no cost, to the District all public records in possession of the Contractor or keep and maintain public records required by the District to perform the service. If the Contractor transfers all public records to the District upon completion of this Agreement, the Contractor shall destroy any

duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. If the Contractor keeps and maintains public records upon completion of the Agreement, the Contractor shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to the District, upon request from the District's custodian of public records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of the District.

IF THE CONTRACTOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, *FLORIDA STATUTES*, TO THE CONTRACTOR'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS, MATT HUBER, C/O RIZZETTA & COMPANY, 5844 OLD PASCO ROAD, SUITE 100, WESLEY CHAPEL, FLORIDA 33544, (813) 994-1001 INFO@RIZZETTA.COM.

31. SEVERABILITY. The invalidity or unenforceability of any one or more provisions of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining portions of this Agreement, or any part of this Agreement not held to be invalid or unenforceable.

32. ARM'S LENGTH TRANSACTION. This Agreement has been negotiated fully between the District and the Contractor as an arm's length transaction. The District and the Contractor participated fully in the preparation of this Agreement with the assistance of their respective counsel. In the case of a dispute concerning the interpretation of any provision of this Agreement, the Parties are each deemed to have drafted, chosen, and selected the language, and any doubtful language will not be interpreted or construed against any party.

33. COUNTERPARTS. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered shall be an original; however, all such counterparts together shall constitute, but one and the same instrument.

[THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties execute this Agreement as set forth below.

ATTEST:

**CONNERTON WEST
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT**

By: _____
☐ Secretary
☐ Assistant Secretary

By: _____
☐ Chairperson
☐ Vice Chairperson

Date: _____

ATTEST:

**JERRY STATE WILDLIFE
TRAPPER**

By: _____
Its: _____

By: _____
Its: _____

Date: _____

Exhibit A: Scope of Services

Proposal

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO, Connerton CDD

I propose to furnish all materials and perform all labor necessary to complete the following:

We are actively monitoring several properties throughout Hillsborough, Pasco, and Lee Counties. Which include the following sub-divisions: Connerton CDD, Ballantrae CDD, Concord station, Channing Park, Fish Hawk CDD, Panther Trace 1 – 2, and LEE County wildlife Preserve, Bexley community CDD, River reach CDD, Tanglewood CDD, South fork CDD, Tampa Palms CDD, Cross Creek CDD, Triple creek CDD, Tampa Fire rescue, Wilderness lakes Preserve CDD, Water leaf CDD, Waters Edge, Cress creek CDD, Meadow point 3-4 CDD, Country walk CDD, Watergrass CDD.

We specialize in hog removal with 15 years of experience. We set the standards high in controlling the feral hog population. The purpose of this agreement is to assist CDD / HOA in controlling Wildlife, especially feral Hogs which cause property damage and human health and safety concerns.

If the CDD request us to assist with other wildlife that is causing damage such as raccoons, armadillos or other nuisance animals other than our traps are designs for we have other control methods and shall be discussed with the CDD controlling different species require different trap designs and methods. We will continue to work efficiently and effectively using an integrated approach to remove feral swine from CDD or HOA property.

Our monthly service fee \$ 800.00 per month or \$ 9,600 annually or (12) months to include multiple traps and camera setups including bait and all necessities to attract and contain wild hogs to limit and prevent property damage endured by feral hogs. Monthly Invoices will be due the 1st of each month.

Any and all illegal activity that we notice will be reported to the appropriate authorities along with the property manager.

We are fully licensed and insured in the State of Florida to trap and remove all nuisance Wildlife. There is a ~~set-up &~~ removal fee of \$ 375.00 per trap location. WAVE SETUP AS AREADY IN USE BUT WILL APPLY FOR REMOVAL.

Please note that there will be \$185 Bio-Hazardous fee for the removal of any roadside animals removed within the CDD boundaries if called upon.

All of the work is to be completed in a substantial and workmanlike manner for the sum of \$800.00. ~~The entire amount of the contract \$800.00 or per month is to be paid within 10 days after completion or a 15% fee will be added. All payments are due first day of the month. Under no circumstance shall this contract be superseded by any other terms or conditions other than stated agreement.~~ *gl*

Any alterations or deviation from the above specifications involving extra cost of material or labor will be executed, and will become an extra cost.

~~By signing this contract, you acknowledge the term to be 2 year. If you choose to terminate this contract prior to the 30-month term, you will still be billed for the remaining months there are no prorated fees. Upon termination of contract a 30-day written notice needs to be sent. All One-year or other contracts will continue unless a notice to end Service is submitted by signing this contract, you are agreeing to all terms and conditions.~~ *gl*

By signing this contract, you provide authorization for Trapper Jerry Richardson license number NWT-14255 to set traps and Hunt feral Hogs that are causing landscape damage in the common areas as well as the private Land, and or lots of the community. *gl*
Mr. Richardson and his agents are authorized to set traps as he sees fit on the areas throughout the Land within Boundaries of said propriety where hog damage may occur.

Always striving to provide quality professional service at a reasonable price. Thank you for your business Jerry Richardson State Wildlife Trapper NWT - 14255

Authorized Signature _____

ACCEPTANCE

You are hereby authorized to furnish all materials and labor required to complete the work mentioned in the above proposal for _____. _____ agrees to pay the amount mentioned in said proposal and according to the terms thereof.

Jerry Richardson
Signature

7-12-19
Date

Tab 7

AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”) is made and entered into this 6th day of July, 2020, by and between:

Connerton West Community Development District, a local unit of special-purpose government established pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, and located in Pasco County, Florida (the “District”); and

Cardno, Inc., a Florida limited liability company whose address is 380 Park Place Boulevard, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33759 (the “Engineer”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the District is a local unit of special-purpose government established pursuant to the Uniform Community Development District Act of 1980, as codified in Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes* (“Uniform Act”), by ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners in and for Polk County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to plan, finance, construct, install, acquire and/or maintain improvements, facilities and services in conjunction with the development of the lands within the District; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 190.033 and 287.055, *Florida Statutes*, the District had solicited statements of qualification from qualified firms to provide professional engineering services on a continuing basis; and

WHEREAS, Engineer submitted a statement of qualification to serve in this capacity; and

WHEREAS, the District's Board of Supervisors ranked Engineer as the most qualified firm to provide professional engineering services for the District on a continuing basis and authorized the negotiation of a contract pursuant to Section 287.055, *Florida Statutes*; and

WHEREAS, the District intends to employ Engineer to perform engineering, construction administration, environmental management and permitting, financial and economic studies, as defined by a separate work authorization or work authorizations; and

WHEREAS, the Engineer shall serve as the District’s professional representative in each service or project to which this Agreement applies and will give consultation and advice to the District during performance of these services.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, the acts and deeds to be performed by the parties and the payments by the District to the Engineer of the sums of money herein specified, it is mutually covenanted and agreed as follows:

Article 1. Recitals. The recitals stated above are true and correct and by this reference are incorporated herein and form a material part of this Agreement.

Article 2. Scope of Services

- A. The Engineer will provide general engineering services, including:
1. Preparation of any necessary reports and attendance at meetings of the District's Board of Supervisors.
 2. Providing professional engineering services including but not limited to review and execution of documents under the District's Trust Indentures and monitoring of District projects. Performance of any other duties related to the provision of infrastructure and services as requested by the Board, District Manager, or District Counsel.
 3. Any other items requested by the Board of Supervisors.
- B. Engineer shall, when authorized by the Board, provide general services related to construction of any District projects including, but not limited to:
1. Periodic visits to the site, or full-time construction management of District projects, as directed by the District.
 2. Processing of contractor's pay estimates.
 3. Preparation of, and/or assistance with the preparation of, work authorizations, requisitions, change orders and acquisitions for review by the District Manager, District Counsel and the Board.
 4. Final inspection and requested certificates for construction including the final certificate of construction.
 5. Consultation and advice during construction, including performing all roles and actions required of any construction contract between District and any contractor(s) in which Engineer is named as owner's representative or "Engineer."
 6. Any other activity related to construction as authorized by the Board.
- C. With respect to maintenance of the facilities, Engineer shall render such services as authorized by the Board.

Article 3. Method of Authorization. Each service or project shall be authorized in writing by the District. The written authorization shall be incorporated in a work authorization which shall include the scope of work, compensation, project schedule, and special provisions or conditions specific to the service or project being authorized ("Work Authorization"). Authorization of services or projects under the contract shall be at the sole option of the District.

Article 4. Compensation. It is understood and agreed that the payment of compensation for services under this Agreement shall be stipulated in each Work Authorization. One of the following methods will be utilized:

A. Lump Sum Amount - The District and Engineer shall mutually agree to a lump sum amount for the services to be rendered payable monthly in direct proportion to the work accomplished. For any lump-sum or cost-plus-a-fixed-fee professional service contract over the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017, *Florida Statutes*, for CATEGORY FOUR, the District shall require the Engineer to execute a truth-in-negotiation certificate stating that wage rates and other factual unit costs supporting the compensation are accurate, complete, and current at the time of contracting. The price for any lump sum Work Authorization, and any additions thereto, will be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which the District determines the Work Authorization was increased due to inaccurate, incomplete, or noncurrent wage rates and other factual unit costs. All such adjustments must be made within one (1) year following the completion of the work contemplated by the lump sum Work Authorization.

B. Hourly Personnel Rates - For services or projects where scope of services is not clearly defined, or recurring services or other projects where the District desires to use the hourly compensation rates outlined in **Schedule A** attached hereto. The District and Engineer may agree to a “not to exceed” amount when utilizing hourly personnel rates for a specific work authorization.

Article 5. Reimbursable Expenses. Reimbursable expenses consist of actual expenditures made by Engineer, its employees, or its consultants in the interest of the project for the incidental expenses as listed as follows:

A. Expenses of transportation and living when traveling in connection with a project, for long distance phone calls and telegrams, and fees paid for securing approval of authorities having jurisdiction over the project. All expenditures shall be made in accordance with Chapter 112, *Florida Statutes*, and with the District’s travel policy.

B. Expense of reproduction, postage and handling of drawings and specifications.

Article 6. Term of Contract. It is understood and agreed that this Agreement is for engineering services. It is further understood and agreed that the term of this Agreement will be from the time of execution of this Agreement until terminated pursuant to Article 22.

Article 7. Special Consultants. When authorized in writing by the District, additional special consulting services may be utilized by Engineer and paid for on a cost basis.

Article 8. Books and Records. Engineer shall maintain comprehensive books and records relating to any services performed under this Agreement, which shall be retained by Engineer for a period of at least four (4) years from and after completion of any services hereunder, or such further time as required under Florida’s public records law. The District, or its authorized representative, shall have the right to audit such books and records at all reasonable times upon prior notice to Engineer.

Article 9. Ownership of Documents.

A. All rights in and title to all plans, drawings, specifications, ideas, concepts, designs, sketches, models, programs, software, creation, inventions, reports, or other tangible work product originally developed by Engineer pursuant to this Agreement (the “Work Product”) shall be and remain the sole and exclusive property of the District when developed and shall be considered work for hire.

B. The Engineer shall deliver all Work Product to the District upon completion thereof unless it is necessary for Engineer in the District’s sole discretion, to retain possession for a longer period of time. Upon early termination of Engineer’s services hereunder, Engineer shall deliver all such Work Product whether complete or not. The District shall have all rights to use any and all Work Product. Engineer shall retain copies of the Work Product for its permanent records, provided the Work Product is not used without the District’s prior express written consent. Engineer agrees not to recreate any Work Product contemplated by this Agreement, or portions thereof, which if constructed or otherwise materialized, would be reasonably identifiable with the Project. If said Work Product is used by the District for any purpose other than that purpose which is intended by this Agreement, the District shall indemnify Engineer from any and all claims and liabilities which may result from such re-use, in the event Engineer does not consent to such use.

C. The District exclusively retains all manufacturing rights to all materials or designs developed under this Agreement. To the extent the services performed under this Agreement produce or include copyrightable or patentable materials or designs, such materials or designs are work made for hire for the District as the author, creator, or inventor thereof upon creation, and the District shall have all rights therein including, without limitation, the right of reproduction, with respect to such work. Engineer hereby assigns to the District any and all rights Engineer may have including, without limitation, the copyright, with respect to such work. The Engineer acknowledges that the District is the motivating factor for, and for the purpose of copyright or patent, has the right to direct and supervise the preparation of such copyrightable or patentable materials or designs.

Article 10. Accounting Records. Records of Engineer pertaining to the services provided hereunder shall be kept on a basis of generally accepted accounting principles and shall be available to the District or its authorized representative for observation or audit at mutually agreeable times.

Article 11. Independent Contractor. Engineer and District agree that Engineer is and shall remain at all times an independent contractor and shall not in any way claim or be considered an employee of the District. Engineer shall not have authority to hire persons as employees of the District.

Article 12. Reuse of Documents. All documents including drawings and specifications furnished by Engineer pursuant to this Agreement are instruments of service. They are not intended or represented to be suitable for reuse by District or others on extensions of the work for which they were provided or on any other project. Any reuse without specific

written consent by Engineer will be at the District's sole risk and without liability or legal exposure to Engineer. All documents including drawings, plans and specifications furnished by Engineer to the District are subject to reuse in accordance with Section 287.055(10), *Florida Statutes*.

Article 13. Estimate of Cost. Since Engineer has no control over the cost of labor, materials or equipment or over a contractor's(s') methods of determining prices, or over competitive bidding or market conditions, his opinions of probable cost provided as a service hereunder are to be made on the basis of his experience and qualifications and represent his best judgment as a design professional familiar with the construction industry, but Engineer cannot and does not guarantee that proposals, bids, or the construction costs will not vary from opinions of probable cost prepared by him. If the District wishes greater assurance as to the construction costs, it shall employ an independent cost estimator at its own expense. Services to modify approved documents to bring the construction cost within any limitation established by the District will be considered additional services and justify additional fees.

Article 14. Insurance. Engineer shall, at its own expense, maintain insurance during the performance of its services under this Agreement, with limits of liability not less than the following:

Workers' Compensation	Statutory
General Liability	
Bodily Injury (including Contractual)	\$1,000,000/\$2,000,000
Property Damage (including Contractual)	\$1,000,000/\$2,000,000
Automobile Liability	Combined Single Limit \$500,000
Bodily Injury / Property Damage	
Professional Liability for Errors and Omissions	\$1,000,000

The District, its officers, supervisors, agents, staff, and representatives shall be named as additional insured parties (except on Professional Liability for Errors and Omissions). The Engineer shall furnish the District with the Certificate of Insurance evidencing compliance with the requirements of this Article. No certificate shall be acceptable to the District unless it provides that any change or termination within the policy periods of the insurance coverage, as certified, shall not be effective within thirty (30) days of prior written notice of cancellation to the District. Insurance coverage shall be from a reputable insurance carrier, licensed to conduct business in the state of Florida.

Article 15. Contingent Fee. Engineer warrants that it has not employed or retained any company or person, other than a bona fide employee working solely for the Engineer, to solicit or secure this Agreement and that it has not paid or agreed to pay any person, company,

corporation, individual, or firm, other than a bona fide employee working solely for the Engineer, any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or other consideration contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Agreement.

Article 16. Audit. Engineer agrees that the District or any of its duly authorized representatives shall, until the expiration of three years after expenditure of funds under this Agreement, have access to and the right to examine any books, documents, papers, and records of the Engineer involving transactions related to the Agreement. The Engineer agrees that payment made under the Agreement shall be subject to reduction for amounts charged thereto that are found on the basis of audit examination not to constitute allowable costs. All required records shall be maintained until an audit is completed and all questions arising therefrom are resolved, or three years after completion of all work under the Agreement.

Article 17. Indemnification. Engineer shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the District, and the District's officers, employees and staff, wholly from liabilities, damages, losses, and costs of any kind, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees, which may come against the District and the District's officers, employees, and staff to the extent caused by negligent, reckless, or intentionally wrongful acts or omissions by the Engineer or persons employed or utilized by Engineer in the course of any work done in connection with any of the matters set out in this Agreement. Engineer agrees and covenants that nothing herein shall constitute or be construed as a waiver of the District's sovereign immunity pursuant to Section 768.28, *Florida Statutes*, or any other statute or law.

Article 18. Compliance with Public Records Laws. Engineer understands and agrees that all documents of any kind provided to the District in connection with this Agreement may be public records, and, accordingly, Engineer agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of Florida law in handling such records, including but not limited to Section 119.0701, *Florida Statutes*. Engineer acknowledges that the designated public records custodian for the District is **Matthew Huber** ("Public Records Custodian"). Among other requirements and to the extent applicable by law, the Engineer shall 1) keep and maintain public records required by the District to perform the service; 2) upon request by the Public Records Custodian, provide the District with the requested public records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time period at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, *Florida Statutes*; 3) ensure that public records which are exempt or confidential, and exempt from public records disclosure requirements, are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the contract term and following the contract term if the Engineer does not transfer the records to the Public Records Custodian of the District; and 4) upon completion of the contract, transfer to the District, at no cost, all public records in Engineer's possession or, alternatively, keep, maintain and meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records pursuant to Florida laws. When such public records are transferred by the Engineer, the Engineer shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. All records stored electronically must be provided to the District in a format that is compatible with Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF formats.

IF ENGINEER HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, *FLORIDA STATUTES*, TO

**ENGINEER'S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS
RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT, CONTACT THE
PUBLIC RECORDS CUSTODIAN AT 1-813-933-5571,
MHUBER@RZZETTA.COM, OR 12750 CITRUS PARK
LANE, TAMPA, FLORIDA 32801.**

Article 19. Employment Verification. Engineer agrees that it shall bear the responsibility for verifying the employment status, under the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, of all persons it employs in the performance of this Agreement.

Article 20. Controlling Law; Jurisdiction and Venue. Engineer and the District agree that this Agreement shall be controlled and governed by the laws of the State of Florida. Jurisdiction and venue for any proceeding with respect to this Agreement shall be in Polk County, Florida.

Article 21. Assignment. Neither the District nor the Engineer shall assign, sublet, or transfer any rights under or interest in this Agreement without the express written consent of the other. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the Engineer from employing such independent professional associates and consultants as Engineer deems appropriate, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

Article 22. Termination. The District may terminate this Agreement for cause immediately upon notice to Engineer. The District or the Engineer may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice. At such time as the Engineer receives notification of the intent of the District to terminate the contract, the Engineer shall not perform any further services unless directed to do so in writing by the District. In the event of any termination or breach of any kind, the Engineer shall not be entitled to consequential or other damages of any kind (including but not limited to lost profits), but instead the Engineer's sole remedy will be to recover payment for services rendered to the date of the notice of termination, subject to any offsets.

Article 23. Notices. All notices, requests, consents and other communications under this Agreement ("Notices") shall be in writing and shall be delivered, transmitted by electronic mail (e-mail) and mailed by First Class Mail, postage prepaid, or overnight delivery service, to the parties, as follows:

If to the District:

Connerton West
Community Development District
c/o Rizzetta & Company, Inc. –
12750 Citrus Park Lane, Suite 115
Tampa, Florida 33625
Attn: District Manager

With a copy to:

Hopping Green & Sams, P.A.
119 South Monroe Street, Suite 300 (32301)
Post Office Box 6526

Tallahassee, Florida 32314
Attn: Roy Van Wyk

If to Engineer:

Cardno, Inc
380 Park Place Boulevard, Suite 300
Clearwater, Florida 33759
Attn: Doug Stoker, P.E.

Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, any Notice shall be deemed received only upon actual delivery at the address set forth above. Notices delivered after 5:00 p.m. (at the place of delivery) or on a non-business day, shall be deemed received on the next business day. If any time for giving Notice contained in this Agreement would otherwise expire on a non-business day, the Notice period shall be extended to the next succeeding business day. Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays recognized by the United States government shall not be regarded as business days. Counsel for the District and counsel for Engineer may deliver Notice on behalf of District and Engineer, respectively. Any party or other person to whom Notices are to be sent or copied may notify the other parties and addressees of any change in name or address to which Notices shall be sent by providing the same on five (5) days written notice to the parties and addressees set forth herein.

Article 24. Recovery of Costs and Fees. In the event either party is required to enforce this Agreement by court proceedings or otherwise, then the substantially prevailing party shall be entitled to recover from the other party all costs incurred, including reasonable attorneys' fees.

Article 25. Compliance with Professional Standards. In performing its obligations under this Agreement, the Engineer and each of its agents, servants, employees or anyone directly or indirectly employed by Engineer, shall maintain the highest standard of care, skill, diligence and professional competency for such work and/or services. Any designs, drawings, reports or specifications prepared or furnished by the Engineer that contain errors, conflicts or omissions will be promptly corrected by Engineer at no cost to the District.

Article 26. Acceptance. Acceptance of this Agreement is indicated by the signature of the authorized representative of the District and the Engineer in the spaces provided below.

[Remainder of this page left intentionally blank]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these present to be executed the day and year first above written.

**CONNERTON WEST COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Secretary

Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

CARDNO, INC.

Witness

By: _____
Its: _____

SCHEDULE "A"



Job Class	Rate
CADD/Computer Technician	\$90
Chief Engineer	\$235
Designer	\$110
Engineer 1	\$110
Engineer 2	\$159
Engineering Intern	\$90
Planner	\$95
Project Manager 1	\$175
Project Manager 2	\$200
Assistant Project Manager	\$145
Secretary/Clerical	\$85
Senior Designer	\$135
Senior Engineer 1	\$190
Senior Planner	\$190
Archaeologist	\$65
Chief Archaeologist	\$130
Chief Scientist	\$205
Environmental Specialist	\$100
GIS Specialist	\$140
Landscape Architect	\$130
Landscape Architect Intern	\$70
Landscape Designer	\$75
Scientist	\$90
Senior Archaeologist	\$90
Senior Environmental Specialist	\$145
Senior Landscape Architect	\$175
Senior Scientist	\$140
CEI Project Manager	\$220
CEI Senior Project Engineer	\$220
CEI Project Administrator	\$190
CEI Contract Support Specialist	\$125
CEI Senior Inspector	\$105
CEI Inspector	\$85
CEI Resident Compliance Specialist	\$60
CEI Environmental Specialist	\$100

Work Authorization Number 1

July 6, 2020

Connerton West Community Development District
c/o Rizzetta & Company, Inc.
Tampa, Florida

Subject: **Work Authorization Number 1**
 Connerton West Community Development District

Dear Chairman, Board of Supervisors:

Cardno, Inc., is pleased to submit this work authorization to provide engineering services for the Connerton West Community Development District. We will provide these services pursuant to our current agreement dated July 6, 2020 (“Engineering Agreement”) as follows:

I. Scope of Work

Connerton West Community Development District will engage the services of Cardno, Inc., as District Engineer to perform those services as necessary pursuant to the Engineering Agreement including the preparation of a District Improvement Plan, attendance at meetings and proceedings regarding the District’s issuance of bonds.

II. Fees

Connerton West Community Development District will compensate Cardno, Inc., pursuant to the hourly rate schedule contained in the Engineering Agreement. The District will reimburse Cardno, Inc., all direct costs which include items such as printing, drawings, travel, deliveries, et cetera, pursuant to the Agreement.

This proposal, together with the Engineering Agreement, represents the entire understanding between the Connerton West Community Development District and Cardno, Inc. with regard to the referenced work authorization. If you wish to accept this work authorization, please sign

both copies where indicated, and return one complete copy to our office. Upon receipt, we will promptly schedule our services.

Thank you for considering Cardno, Inc.. We look forward to helping you create a quality project.

Sincerely,

_____, P.E.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED

By: _____
Authorized Representative of
Connerton West Community Development District

Date: _____