

**March 21, 2023 Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting**  
**Agenda Item #**

**SUBJECT**

Approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Water Cooperative of Central Florida relating to the Governance of the Cypress Lake Alternative Water Supply Project (No fiscal impact)

**DESCRIPTION**

On March 8, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners approved the Interlocal Agreement Relating to the Establishment of the Water Cooperative of Central Florida (the Cooperative) by and among the City of St. Cloud, Florida, Tohopekaliga Water Authority (TWA), Orange County, Florida, and Polk County, Florida, for innovative regional cooperation among local governments, and created the charter for a separate legal entity to serve these regional purposes. Along with the approval of the Cooperative Agreement in March 2011, the Board approved the initial candidate project list and authorized the Cooperative to assess and evaluate the Cypress Lake Wellfield for potential implementation as an approved project. Subsequently, Amendments 1 through 5 to the Interlocal Agreement defined each party's financial and administrative roles/obligations related to preliminary design, final design, permitting and bidding of the alternative water supply project known as the Cypress Lake Alternative Water Supply Project (Project).

The purpose of the Governance Agreement is to implement the construction, operation, maintenance and funding of the Project, addressing matters such as Project administration, Project ownership, planning and budgeting, rates and charges, capacity management, metering systems and water quality. When operational, the Project will produce and deliver project water to the Parties at individual connection points through a network of existing and proposed segments of water wheeling infrastructure. The Project is owned by the Cooperative and particular segments of the water wheeling infrastructure are owned by the Parties individually. Phase 1 of the Project is expected to produce 15 million gallons per day (MGD) of finished water with Polk County's share at 10 percent, or 1.5 MGD. The ultimate Project capacity is expected to be approximately 30 MGD.

The Governance Agreement has been submitted for approval by each of the member government governing boards. The Governance Agreement does not become effective unless and until all of the parties have approved and executed the agreement.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Request Board approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Water Cooperative of Central Florida relating to the Governance of the Cypress Lake Alternative Water Supply Project.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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