



CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FL

1600 NELA AVENUE, BELLE ISLE, FL 32809 * TEL 407-851-7730

MEMORANDUM

From the Desk of Bob Francis, City Manager

To: Mayor and Council
Date: January 10, 2022
Re: Lake Conway Navigation Board Meeting

NOTE: This memo is to provide information only and is NOT an official record of the Lake Conway Navigation Board Meeting. Please refer to the Lake Conway Navigation Board adopted minutes for the official record.

Synopsis of the January 10, 2023 Lake Conway Navigation Board Meeting

- Public Comment:
 - a. Allan Horn, Edgewood resident spoke in opposition of raising the MSTU tax because he said that it should not be used to pay for police services to patrol the lake. He said it should come from the County's General Fund and the Belle Isle General Fund
- Lake Conway MSTU Discussion: To start, it was very difficult to follow all of the discussion and points being made because there was no control to recognize individuals as per Roberts Rules of Order.

Tara Urbanik, Secretary to the Nav Board, showed a Power Point presentation on the Lake Conway MSTU. A copy of the presentation is attached to this memorandum. Approximately 30 residents made comments regarding the proposal to raise the Lake Conway MSTU; most comments were not to raise the rate. Much of the discussion, not necessarily related to the MSTU, was about the problem with weeds in the lake. After much discussion there was no resolution to this problem.

The discussion then focused on a few line items. The audience asked why some budget lines increased so much (page 10 of the presentation). For example Routine Projects increased from \$190,445 to \$1,277,909 and MSTU Admin increased from \$35,623 to \$191,022. Ms. Urbanik stated that this is done so if there is funding needed for something throughout the year, then it can be paid for in these lines and they do not need to go back to the County Commissioners to ask for additional funds. Board Member Guthrie asked how these numbers were determined. Ms. Urbanik could not explain how these inflated numbers were determined. She said if the funds are not used, then they go to the reserves or added to the balance. Resident Ryan Holihan asked why an increase was needed because

in the 5 years presented, there was a negative fund balance in only 2 of the 5 years. Combined with the reserve, there is over \$3 million in the Nav Board fund.

City Manager Francis asked why the Nav Board pays for the Fern Creek Gatekeeper if the ramps are under the control of the Parks & Rec Department. Ms. Urbanik stated that neighbors complained about excessive noise and other issues at the ramp, so the Nav Board decided to pay to have it manned. Mr. Francis then asked why they don't pay to have the Randolph Ramp closed. Ms. Urbanik stated that there was no gate there. It was also explained and confirmed by Commissioner Uribe that Randolph Ramp had to stay open so duck hunters could get out on the lake prior to dawn. Mr. Francis also asked to extend the comment period from January 13, 2023 to January 20, 2023. The Nav Board stated that the extension was fine.

The Nav Board stated that this increase was necessary to pay for the projects that are listed in the lake study and that there was not enough revenue in the budget to fund all the projects. Bobby Lance stated that other revenue streams should be research first, such as partnering more with Belle Isle. He said the Belle Isle does projects quicker and for less money than Orange County does. The Board continued to discuss the expense of the projects citing inflation and the cost of labor and materials going up. They also stated the if they did not raise the rate, it was just "kicking the can down the road" and the projects will never get done. Commissioner Carugno asked why so much money was being spent on studies for these projects and that it should have been done as part of the original lake study. The Board also discussed a sunset date to the increased MSTU tax and that the new rate would sunset in 5 years.

Commissioner Uribe stated that she would fully support any decision made by the Board and she would not "backstab" the Board by going against what the Board decided. Mr. Francis asked if this increase could then be put in a restricted fund to pay for only the projects listed in the study so taxpayers could see exactly how the increased funds were spent. The Board said it would not be put the funds in a restricted fund. After much more uncontrolled discussion, a motion was made by Bobby Lance, second by Frances Guthrie, to not raise the MSTU. The Motion failed on a 3-2 vote (Evertsen, Blackton, and Nelson – Nay; Lance and Guthrie – Aye). A motion was made by Evertsen, second by Blackton, to increase the MSTU from its current rate of 0.4107 to 0.6571. Motion passed 3-2 (Evertsen, Blackton, and Nelson – Aye; Lance and Guthrie – Nay). According to the presentation, this raise would net an additional \$402,090 in revenue. The discussion ended.

- Advisory Member Reports:
 - a. Bobby Lance stated that he is being contacted by residents regarding the lake level and the operation of the weir. He stated that the weir should have one board taken out to reduce the level of the lake to reclaim some of the shoreline that residents lost during the storms. No decision was made.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Attachments

- Nav Board Agenda
- Minutes of December 13, 2022 Meeting
- Presentation on MSTU Millage Rate Discussion

LAKE CONWAY WATER AND NAVIGATION CONTROL DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA

**January 10, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.,
Orange County Facilities Management Training Room**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- I. Call Meeting to Order
- II. Approval of the Minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) Millage Discussion
- V. Meeting Adjourned

WHEN SPEAKING, PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS

Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes states that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by a board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at a meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if any person with a disability as defined by the ADA needs special accommodation to participate in this proceeding, then not later than two business days prior to the proceeding, he or she should contact the Orange County Communications Division at (407) 836-3111.

Para mayor información en español, por favor llame al (407) 836-3111.

**Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District
Advisory Board Regular Meeting
December 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
Orange County Facilities Management Training Room**

Board Members Present: Dr. Elizabeth Nelson (Chair), John Evertsen (Vice Chair), and Micky Blackton

Board Members Absent: Bobby Lance and Frances Guthrie

Staff & Guests: Tara Urbanik, Orange County Environmental Protection Division (EPD); Corporal Bim Lowers, Orange County Sheriff's Office (OCSO); City Manager Bob Francis, City of Belle Isle (City); Sergeant Jeremy Millis, Belle Isle Police Department (BIPD)

Residents: Randy Holihan, Alan Horn, David Woods, Raquel Lorenzo

I. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Dr. Elizabeth Nelson called the meeting of the Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board (Advisory Board) to order at 6:32 p.m.

II. Approval of the November 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Micky Blackton, seconded by John Eversten, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, with Bobby Lance and Frances Guthrie being absent; the Advisory Board approved the November 8, 2022 meeting minutes.

III. Public Comment on Propositions before the Advisory Board

Chair Dr. Nelson received two requests for public comment. Bob Francis, Manager of the City of Belle Isle (City), requested an update on the vegetation complaint near the Wallace Street outfall canal near Gary Meloon's property. The City received an estimate at \$4,300.00 to remove the weeds from the shoreline, and if the County would consider splitting the cost to remove the weeds. The City also reported that they applied for a permit from the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), to mechanically harvest weeds from the shoreline to 300 feet to 500 feet out into the lake, on the middle and south lobes of the Conway Chain. Mr. Francis inquired if the Nav Board would consider assisting in funding the project. Mr. Francis stated he does not have a cost estimate for the project since there is no permit yet. Mr. Evertsen stated he would not be opposed to consider splitting the initial cost with the City. Ms. Urbanik provided a map and showed Wallace Street vegetation concern in question. She reported that she inspected the area of concern near Mr. Meloon's property, the area in question is not on Mr. Meloon's property, but is located along the shoreline of the County easement property. Upon inspection, the concrete headwall extends out past the woody vegetation, and it appears there are no restrictions of flow from the stormwater pipe out into the lake. Discussion ensued, Ms. Urbanik stated they will not treat vegetation along the shoreline and that is not impacting stormwater flow,

but will conduct a one-time herbicide treatment of the area from the pipe out into the lake to see if there are any accumulated areas of sediment. Mr. Alan Horn, a resident of the City of Edgewood, reported there is a truck washing facility at the old Correct Craft property and it is draining untreated water to the stormwater system. Ms. Urbanik will forward the complaint to the correct department.

IV. Comments of the Chair

Chair Dr. Nelson does not have any comments.

V. Marine Patrol Report

Off-Duty Patrol Reports

Corporal Bim Lowers presented the Orange County off-duty marine patrol report. For the month of November 2022, the following activities were reported:

- 24 off-duty patrol hours
- 33 vessels observed on the lake
- 8 vessel stops
- 0 vessel citations
- 6 vessel warnings
- 6 vessel inspections
- 2 ramp checks

Sergeant Jeremy Millis stated the Belle Isle Police Department (BIPD) did not conduct off-duty marine patrol for November 2022.

The dates are scheduled for the 2022 Lake Conway Boat Parade:

- Friday, December 16, 2022 on the South Lake
- Saturday, December 17, 2022 on the Middle Lake
- Sunday, December 18, 2022 on the North Lakes (Little Lake Conway)

VI. Sandbar Concerns

The BIPD received three complaints for the Sandbar area. The complaints are mostly regarding unsafe jet-ski vessel activity.

VII. Lake Conway Water Elevation Report

David Woods presented his water elevation report. The Conway Chain received 12 inches of rainfall during Hurricane Ian, and the lake elevation increased by 24 inches following the storm. Mr. Woods believes there is a concern with the condition and elevation of the outfall weir, the skimmer boards, and the weir boards.

VIII. Orange County EPD Report

Lake Conway Stormwater Study Feasibility Studies

No update provided.

Street Sweeping Proposal

The draft versions of the street sweeping Interlocal Agreements have been sent to the City of Belle Isle and the two representatives of the interested HOAs. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

Barby Lane Construction Project and Partnership Discussion

Orange County EPD Water Sciences Engineering has outstanding questions on the finished elevation of the proposed baffle box.

Canal Dredging Discussion

The Orange County Attorney's Office and Orange County Risk Management are reviewing past versions of Hold Harmless Agreements to see if we can send these to the affected property owners before they proceed with a formal scope for construction. Ms. Urbanik will provide an update at the next meeting.

Ms. Urbanik followed up on the two motions from the November 8, 2022 Advisory Board meeting:

- Ms. Urbanik approached Orange County Public Works and discussed the idea of having a joint meeting with the various advisory boards to discuss County wide drainage concerns. Ms. Urbanik will then reach out to the District 3 Office for discussion.
- Ms. Urbanik followed back up on the Conway taxing district millage increase. A Community Meeting will need to be held in January in order to meet the requirements for the County budget timeframes.

Upon a motion by John Eversten, seconded by Micky Blackton, and carried with all present members voting AYE by voice vote, with Bobby Lance and Frances Guthrie being absent; the Advisory Board approved holding a Community Meeting during the January 10, 2023 regularly scheduled meeting to discuss an increase in the taxing district millage.

IX. Advisory Board Member Report

- Chair Dr. Elizabeth Nelson: No comments.
- Vice Chair John Evertsen: Mr. Evertsen inquired which entity enforces the proper cleanup of vehicle related crashes. Ms. Urbanik will follow up with the Advisory Board.
- Micky Blackton: No comments.

X. Non-Agenda Items

No items discussed.

XI. Meeting Adjourned

Chair Dr. Nelson adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Elizabeth Nelson, Chair

Date

Minutes prepared by Tara Urbanik

Date

DRAFT

Lake Conway Water & Navigation Control District Advisory Board

**Community Meeting
Lake Conway Taxing District
Millage Rate Discussion**

January 10, 2023



Panelists

- Orange County (OC) District 3 Commissioner: Mayra Uribe
- OC Environmental Protection Division (EPD): Tara Urbanik
- Lake Conway Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board: Dr. Elizabeth Nelson (Chair), John Evertsen (Vice Chair), Bobby Lance, Micky Blackton, and Frances Guthrie



Agenda

- Taxing District Background
- Current Millage Rate & History
- Lake Conway Expenditures
- Annual Revenue & Expenditures
- Stormwater Study Recommendations
- Other Project Considerations
- Projected Revenue
- Open Discussion





Taxing District Background

- Taxing District created in 1957 by Special Act
- Board of County Commissioners oversees the District
- Community volunteer advisory board
 - Approve annual budget
 - Provide recommendations to Board of County Commissioners
 - Approve funding for water quality improvement projects



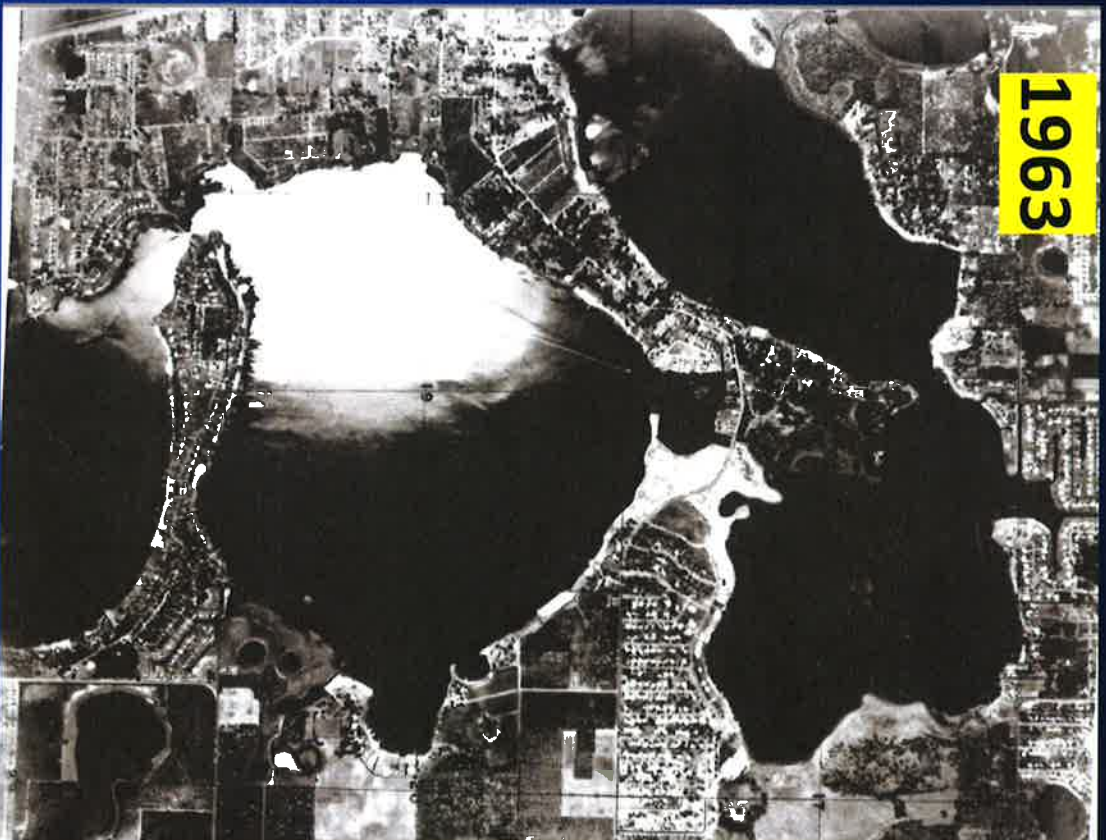


Taxing District Background





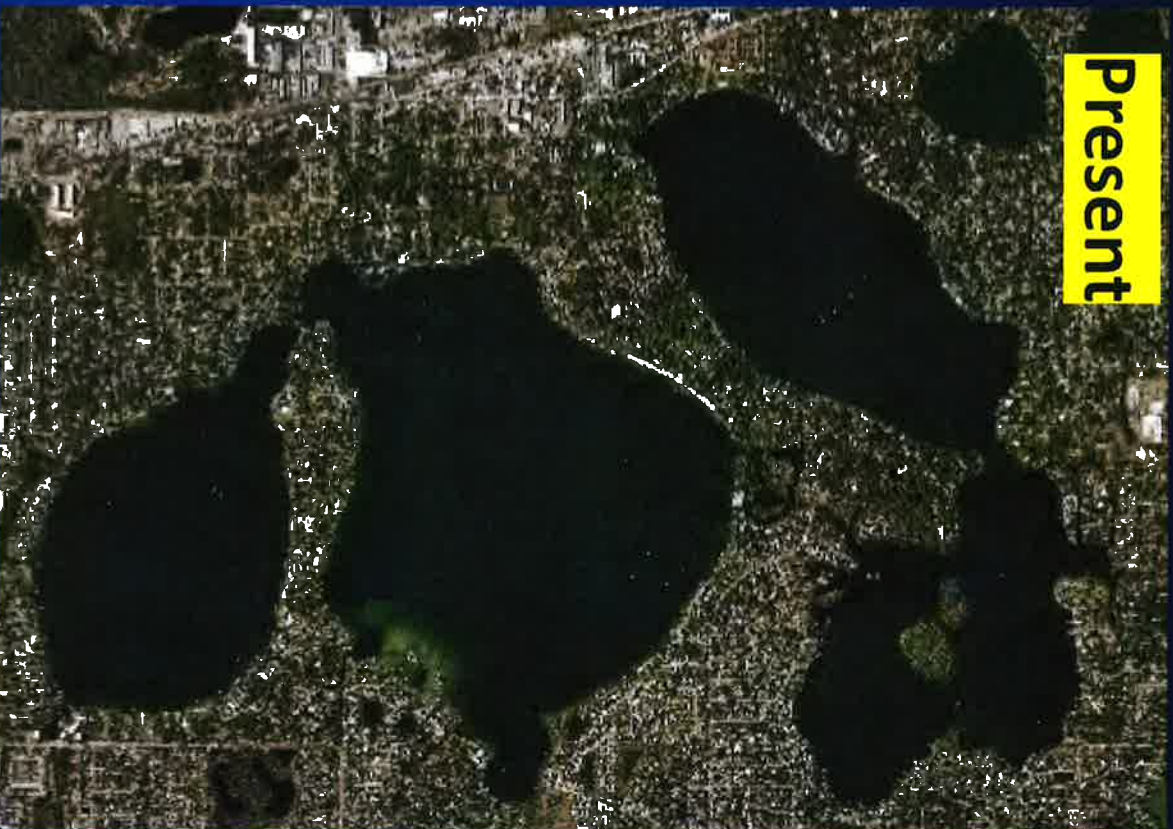
Taxing District Background





Taxing District Background

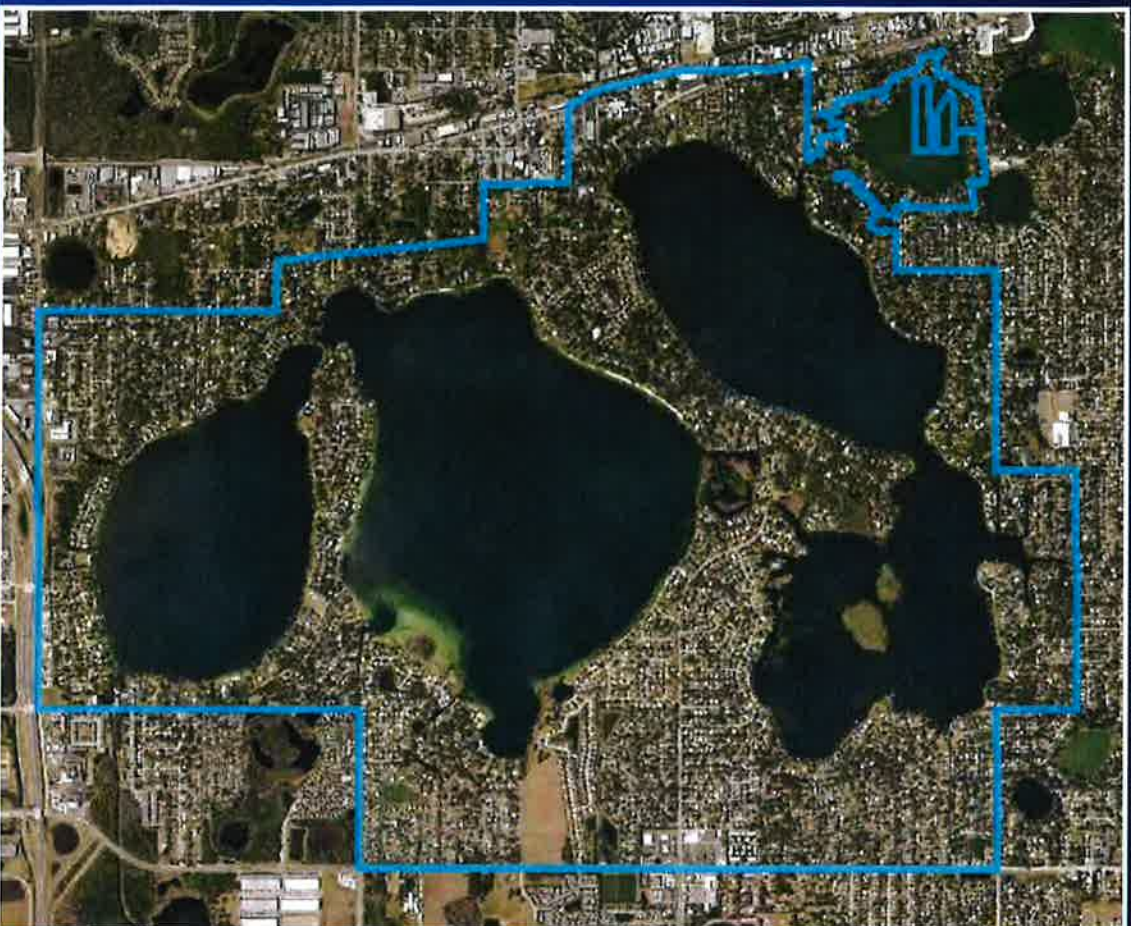
Present



- **Increased urban population**
 - Excess nutrients entering lakes via fertilizer and stormwater runoff
 - Extra nutrients in the lake will accelerate the growth of aquatic plants, and may lead to more frequent algal blooms



Current Millage Rate & History



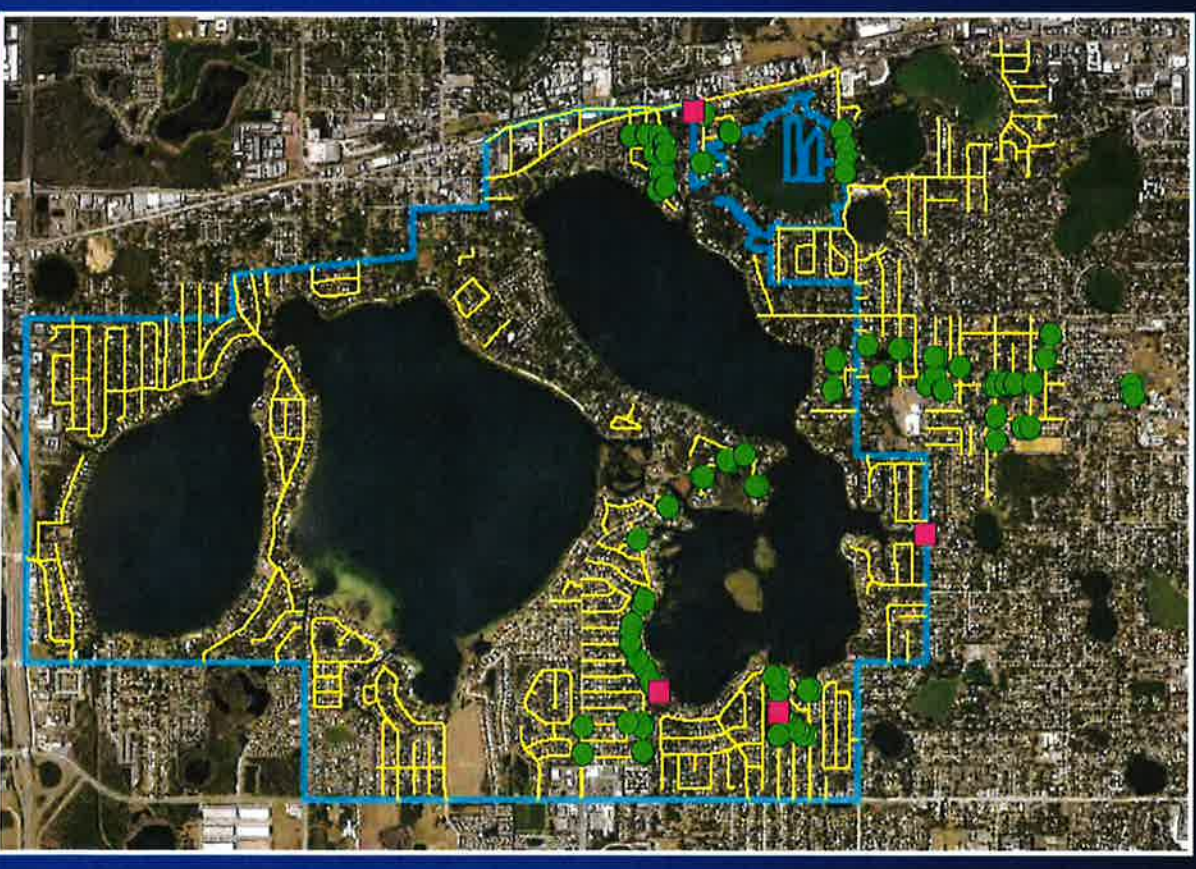
- Taxing District created in 1957 by Special Act
- 4,490 parcels
- 1996 - 2006: 0.4729
- 2007 - Present: 0.4107*

*Maximum millage rate is 2.0, per Special Act



Lake Conway Expenditures

- Expenditures:
 - 116 curb inlet baskets, monthly maintenance
 - 4 baffle boxes, quarterly maintenance
 - Ferncreek gatekeeper, daily
 - 90 curb miles swept, weekly and/or bi-weekly
 - Off duty lake patrol, weekly
 - Navigation marker installation & maintenance
 - MSTU administration & labor





Annual Revenue & Expenditures

Current MSTU Balance: \$2,286,983.97

(Reserves: \$742,803)

Service	FY 2018-2019	FY 2019-2020	FY 2020-2021	FY 2021-2022	Budgeted for FY 2022-2023
Annual Revenue	\$394,399.80	\$420,140.68	\$448,756.01	\$470,787.86	~\$533,596
Off duty patrol	\$74,718.09	\$68,654.76	\$79,647.63	\$82,300.88	\$108,978
Gatekeeper	\$2,920.00	\$2,920.00	\$3,650.00	\$3,650.00	\$3,700
Routine Projects	\$259,993.70	\$192,149.81	\$343,744.26	\$190,445.42	\$1,277,909
Herbicide	\$31,417.86	\$10,506.70	\$26,375.27	\$13,356.01	\$50,000
MSTU Admin & Labor	\$36,389.45	\$48,404.73	\$53,855.52	\$35,623.77	\$191,022
Total Expenses	\$405,439.10	\$322,636.00	\$507,272.68	\$325,376.08	\$1,631,559
Delta	-\$11,039.30	\$97,504.68	-\$58,516.67	\$145,411.78	



Stormwater Study Recommendations

Rank	Recommendation	Capital Cost	Expenses	TN \$/lb	TP \$/lb
1	CON0040 Bioswales Perkins Rd	~\$909,688		\$253	\$1,587
2	*CON0290 Baffle box Trentwood Blvd	~\$502,458	\$175,142.86	\$430	\$3,491
3	CON0370 Baffle box with BAM filter Barby Ln	~\$328,644		\$1,017	\$6,807
4	*CON0460 Up-flow filter East Wallace St	~\$536,344	\$161,011.61	\$1,136	\$7,106
5	CON0430 Delia Beach Improvements	~\$157,344	\$94,020	\$1,504	\$9,290
6	*CON0270 Baffle box Alsace Ct and Montmart Dr	~\$314,175	\$132,230.92	\$3,383	\$9,605
7	CON0170 Floating wetlands & up-flow filter Rothbury Dr	~\$934,666		\$1,388	\$14,433
8	CON0130 Up-flow filter Franconia Dr	~\$1,125,976		\$2,203	\$24,543
9	CON0080 Baffle box St. Partin Pl	~\$313,612		\$5,912	\$37,531

* Feasibility Study



Stormwater Study Recommendations

Item	Additional Recommendations
A	Fertilizer Ordinance Public Education: Send out postcards/fliers to middle & south lobe residents
B	Pet Waste Program: Provide public outreach/education & training, additional bag and disposal stations at public parks. DNA marker analysis study is suggested
C	Street Sweeping Program: Perform street debris characterization study, and an optimization analysis of street sweeping program is suggested
D	Lake Inflow Study: Propose detailed H&H model of entire Chain of Lakes
E	Shallow Groundwater Seepage Best Management Practices: Utilities may be interested in converting from septic to sanitary, cost benefit analysis should be conducted
F	Sediment Management Alternatives: In-lake alum treatment, dredging to remove phosphorus-rich sediments, capping lake sediments with clean sand, and aeration/hypolimnetic oxygenation. Additional studies with cost benefit analysis are suggested.



Other Project Considerations

Average annual revenue	\$433,521
Average annual expenditures	\$390,180
Average delta of savings	\$43,340
Range of capital costs for recommended water quality projects*	\$1,125,976 to \$157,344 (avg. \$569,211)

*Costs are for construction only; design/engineering and operation/maintenance costs are not included.





Other Project Considerations

Current MSTU Balance: \$2,286,983.97

Total MSTU Revenue anticipated: ~\$533,596.00

CURRENT LAKE CONWAY PROJECTS

Project	Cost	Notes
1. Off-duty lake patrol	\$108,978.00	Annual cost
2. Ferncreek Ramp gatekeeper	\$3,365.00	Annual cost
3. Routine Services of Water Quality BMPs	\$260,000.00	Annual cost
4. Additional Street Sweeping Route	\$9,790.93	Annual cost
5. Alsace Ct Feasibility & Design Study	\$132,230.92	One-time
6. Trentwood Blvd Feasibility & Design Study	\$175,142.86	One-time
7. Wallace St Feasibility & Design Study	\$165,011.61	One-time

TOTAL APPROVED 10/1/22 – 9/30/23

\$854,519.32

PROPOSED LAKE CONWAY PROJECTS

8. Conway Chain of Lake Canal Dredging	\$500,000.00	Estimated cost
9. New Navigation Marker Locations	\$40,000.00	Estimated cost
10. Alsace Ct baffle box with BAM	\$314,175.00	Proposed cost
11. Trentwood Blvd baffle box with BAM	\$502,458.00	Proposed cost
12. Wallace St Underground Up-flow with BAM	\$536,281.00	Proposed cost
13. Barbby Lane NSB with BAM (COBI Project)	\$351,000.00	COBI partnership request

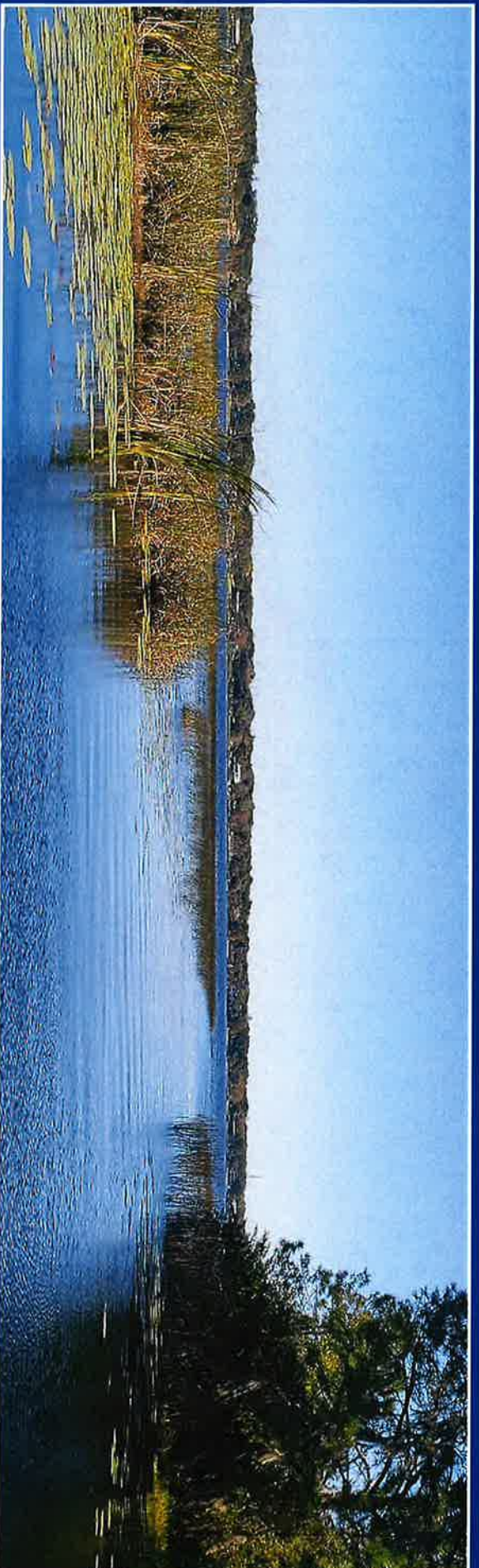
PROPOSED PROJECTS TOTAL

\$2,243,914.00



Projected Revenue

	FY 2022-2023	Additional Revenue Accrued
Current Annual Revenue at Millage Rate: 0.4107	~\$533,596	
Millage rate at 0.4928	\$701,729	\$168,133
Millage rate at 0.5750	\$818,778	\$285,182
Millage rate at 0.6571	\$935,686	\$402,090
Millage rate at 0.8107	\$1,154,406	\$620,810
Millage rate at 0.9107	\$1,296,802	\$763,206





Open Discussion

- Public comment will be accepted through Friday, January 13, 2023. Send public comment to Tara Urbanik at tara.urbanik@ocfl.net

