

A STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND UTILITY

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND

THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

DATED: 7-1-16

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WHEREAS, this Agreement is made on this 1st day of July, 2016, by and between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, for the purpose of establishing the terms and conditions of the participation by the Town in a county-wide stormwater utility, which utility shall be operated by the County.

ARTICLE 1 - TITLE AND PURPOSE

1.00 *Title:* This intergovernmental agreement between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, shall be known as the “Stormwater Management and Utility Agreement Between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina.”

1.01 *Purpose:* This Agreement is made for the purpose of defining the roles, responsibilities and financial relationship between the County and the Town with respect to the establishment, administration and operation of the Beaufort County Stormwater Utility, which includes the following:

- (a) Establishment of rates;
- (b) Use of revenue;
- (c) Acquisition of existing stormwater infrastructure;
- (d) Construction of new stormwater infrastructure;
- (e) Maintenance of stormwater infrastructure;
- (f) Operation of stormwater infrastructure;
- (g) Regulation and use of stormwater infrastructure; and,
- (h) Enhancement of water quality.

1.02 *References to County Ordinances:* This Agreement hereby incorporates by reference Beaufort County, South Carolina, Ordinance 2015-24 regarding the establishment of a Stormwater Utility. The Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) will review this Agreement for any needed revisions upon future amendments to *Chapter 99* of the County Ordinance. Amendments to *Chapter 99* shall become binding to this Agreement upon SWIC review and revisions to this Agreement, if deemed necessary. In the case of any conflict between the provisions of the Ordinances and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall control.

ARTICLE 2 - DEFINITIONS

2.00 *Definitions:* When used in this “Stormwater Management and Utility Agreement between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina,” the following words shall have the meanings set forth in this Article 2:

2.01 *Agreement:* This Stormwater Management and Utility Agreement between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina.

2.02 *County:* Beaufort County, South Carolina.

2.03 *County Wide Stormwater Management Study (and Implementation Guide):* The study conducted by the County to determine the drainage infrastructure and maintenance needs within the various watersheds within the County. This became the Beaufort County Stormwater Master Plan dated February 20, 2006. In 2016, the County and Town of Bluffton entered into agreement to update the Master Plan, said document being referred to as the “Beaufort County Stormwater Management Implementation Guide”. Future amendments of the Plan/Guide shall

be incorporated by reference once agreed upon by the Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC).

2.04 *Cost of Service Analysis and Rate Study:* The study was conducted by the County and Town which was adopted by County Council on August 24, 2015 and submitted by the Study consultant to the Town of Bluffton on April 20, 2016 to determine an equitable and appropriate rate structure for Stormwater Utility User Fees within all areas of the County, so that fees charged by the Stormwater Utility will be in compliance with provisions of S. C. Code Ann. 48-14-120(C)(Supp. 2010), and S. C. Regs. 72-310 (Supp. 2010).

2.05 *Stormwater Utility User Fees:* Stormwater Utility User Fees shall mean the service fee imposed pursuant to this article for the purpose of funding costs related to stormwater programs, services, systems, and facilities. These fees will be calculated based upon the residential category for a parcel and/or the nonresidential parcel's impervious area and/or a parcel's gross area and an administrative fee, depending on the applicable Utility Rate Structure, as pursuant to the provisions of the Beaufort County Ordinance listed in Section 1.02.

2.06 *Stormwater Utility User Fee; Single Family Unit Rate (SFU).* Per "Option A" of the 2015 Utility Rate Study, the single-family unit fee rate shall be defined as the impervious area measurements obtained from a statistically representative sample of all detached single-family structures within Beaufort County. The representative value will be 4,906 square feet

2.07 *Stormwater Utility User Fee; Administrative fee.* For "Option A" rate structures, the Administrative fee is a portion of the SFU and determined per Section 4.01 of this Agreement. Per "Option C or E" of the 2015 Utility Rate Study, the Administrative fee is a fixed cost per billable account and includes costs to the Utility not directly applicable to the improvements of

the property, such as administrative costs, public education and outreach, and water quality monitoring. For “Option C or E” rate structures, the Administrative fee is determined per Section 4.01 of this Agreement.

2.08 *Stormwater Utility User Fee; Countywide Infrastructure Fee (CWI).* Per the 2015 Utility Rate Study, the countywide infrastructure fee is based on GIS data obtained per Article 8 herein. It is a fee applicable to each Town for the operation and maintenance cost of the county owned infrastructure defined in Section 5.07, collected and paid directly to the County.

2.09 *Stormwater Utility User Fee; Gross Area fee (GA).* Per “Option C or E” of the 2015 Utility Rate Study, the Gross Area fee is calculated from the area in acres of a parcel of land as measured from GIS data obtained per Article 8 herein.

2.10 *Stormwater Utility User Fee; Impervious Area fee (IA).* Per “Option C or E” of the 2015 Utility Rate Study, the Impervious Area fee is based on impervious area measurements calculated in the same manner as the SFU.

2.11 *NPDES:* The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System stormwater regulatory program established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to address pollutants in stormwater discharged to waters of the United States. Phase II of this regulatory program impacts communities under 100,000 in population, small construction sites between one acre and five acres, and industrial sites owned and operated within communities under 100,000 population.

2.12 *Public Stormwater:* Stormwater runoff which is conveyed through a public drainage easement or public road right of way, and/or which some portion is generated from a public road right of way.

2.13 *Stormwater Infrastructure:* Real property, interests in real property, improvements to real property such as ditches, drains, pipes, culverts, catch basins, pumps, post-construction best management practices (BMPs), or the like, or any combination of them, used or useful in the collection and disbursement of storm and surface water, or the control of flooding. As used herein, Stormwater Infrastructure does not include drainage systems or facilities that are not publicly owned, and which do not carry public stormwater.

2.14 *Stormwater Management:* Control of storm and surface water, erosion, stormwater quality protection and flooding through the use of Stormwater Infrastructure, and the creation and enforcement of development standards related to storm and surface water.

2.15 *Stormwater Management Plan:* The plan(s) developed by the County and Town that addresses planning, design and construction of capital improvements to the Stormwater Infrastructure; acquisition of real property or interests in real property for the purposes of Stormwater Management; maintenance and repair of Stormwater Infrastructure; regulation of the use of Stormwater Infrastructure; acquisition of equipment and other assets; regulation of impacts including any that may be mandated under the NPDES Phase II regulations, contracting with engineering, financial, legal, construction and other professionals for services in support of the Stormwater Utility, emergency preparedness related to storms and hurricanes, acquisition or construction of Stormwater Infrastructure, or any other functions required, useful or prudent for a program of Stormwater Management.

2.16 *Stormwater Utility:* The administrative section of the County's Stormwater Department created for the purposes of planning, designing, overseeing, funding, building, and maintaining Stormwater Infrastructure, either directly or through cooperative arrangements with other

governmental bodies; and for administering and managing Stormwater Management throughout Beaufort County.

2.17 *Town:* Town of Bluffton, South Carolina.

ARTICLE 3 - TERM OF THIS AGREEMENT

3.00 *Term of This Agreement:* The term and duration of this Agreement shall be as follows in this Article 3.

3.01 *Initial Term of this Agreement:* The Initial Term of this Agreement shall be for a period of ten (10) years, commencing on the date the Agreement is signed by both the Town and the County, whichever comes last.

3.02 *Periodic Review of this Agreement:* The Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) shall conduct periodic review of this Agreement to insure that it remains current with the state of the art stormwater management and practices applicable to coastal areas and shall provide recommendations for updates to the agreement if necessary.

3.03 *Extension of this Agreement:* The term of this Agreement may be extended at any time by the mutual agreement of the parties hereto, or upon the expiration of the initial ten (10) year term set forth in Article 3.01 above.

3.04 *Termination of this Agreement:* This Agreement may be terminated by either party hereto, by delivering written notice of the termination to the other party. Termination under this Article shall only be effective on the final day of any given County fiscal year. The written notice of termination shall be provided by the party terminating the Agreement no less than one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the date the termination will be effective.

3.05 *Effect of Termination:* Upon termination of this Agreement under any provision of this Article 3, or otherwise, all rights and obligations of any party hereto, specifically including but not limited to the right of the County to charge Stormwater Utility User Fees to property owners in the Town, shall immediately end.

3.06 *Conveyance of Assets:* Upon termination of this Agreement under any provision of this Article 3, the County shall convey to the Town all of its right, title and interest in any Stormwater Infrastructure, including any stormwater easements, within the municipal limits of the Town. However, this shall not include Stormwater Infrastructure on County owned parcels or County road rights of way (otherwise known as Countywide Infrastructure, CWI, as defined in Section 5.07) within the limits of the Town.

3.07 *Rebate of User Fees:* Upon termination of this Agreement under any provision of this Article 3, the County shall return to the Town any collected but unspent or unobligated Stormwater Utility User Fees collected from within the Town Limits.

ARTICLE 4 – FINANCE AND FUNDING

4.00 *Financial and Funding Relationship:* The Town shall provide the County with its Stormwater Utility User Fee Rate for its upcoming fiscal year prior to June 30 each year of this Agreement. This will be in the form of a letter to the County Administrator from the Town Manager.

In the event the Town fails to submit this letter in accordance with Article 4 of this Agreement, the previous year's rate shall apply. The Town shall also provide to the County an annual report of its stormwater fee expenditures from the previous fiscal year. This report shall be delivered

by September 30, or as soon as the previous fiscal year's financial records are complete, each year this Agreement is in effect.

4.01 *Use of Revenue:* In accordance with the provisions of S. C. Code Ann. 48-14-120(C) (Supp. 2010), and S. C. Regs. 72-310 (Supp. 2010), all Stormwater Utility User Fees collected within the Town, less an administrative fee, shall be returned to the Town. The administrative fee is to be calculated as a fixed dollar amount for each unit billed and collected by the Stormwater Utility. The billable unit shall be either a Per Account charge or a charge per SFU, depending on the applicable Utility Rate Structure. The Utility shall define its administrative costs each year during the annual budget process. The Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) shall conduct annual reviews of the Utility's administrative budget and recommend to the municipalities and County any changes to the amount billed per Account or SFU and the SWIC and Utility shall provide the Town an itemized proposal and a written explanation for adjustments for the administrative services and deliverables to be provided in the coming fiscal year. This proposal shall be submitted to the Town by February 15 of each calendar year. The Town shall provide a written recommendation of acceptance to the Utility by April 1 of the same year. Once agreed upon, this shall serve as the basis for the annual administrative fee to be calculated per Town Account or SFU, and included in each entity's annual budget.

- (a) The administrative fee shall be used by the County to defray the County's administrative costs in managing the Stormwater Utility.
- (b) The Town shall use Stormwater Utility User Fees to provide Stormwater Management within the Town, including, but not limited to:

- (i) The acquisition, design, construction, and maintenance of Stormwater Infrastructure, or repayment of bonded indebtedness issued to fund construction of Stormwater Infrastructure, in so far as the law and covenants of the bonds allow, or for repayment to the Town for general fund or other funds spent by the Town to fund Stormwater Management activities;
- (ii) Acquisition of Stormwater Infrastructure, including any easements or other interests in real property which shall be held in the name of the Town;
- (iii) Maintenance of Stormwater Infrastructure by the Town and its contractor(s,) or by direct services of the Stormwater Utility. Charges for services by the Stormwater Utility; shall be negotiated and approved by the County and the Town, as is provided in Articles 4.03, 4.05(a), 5.05, and 5.07 below; The Town shall have the right of non-exclusive use of direct maintenance services, and there shall be no minimum dollar amount required to be spent annually by the Town on any services provided by the Stormwater Utility;
- (iv) Plan review and site inspections related to compliance with stormwater ordinances and standards for development within the Town as set forth in Articles 4.05, 4.06 and 4.07 below;
- (v) NPDES Phase II permit compliance;
- (vi) Payment of bond indebtedness or repayment of funds borrowed

from the general fund or any other fund for the purpose of funding
Stormwater Management projects or activities; and,

(vii) Any other services related to Stormwater Management.

4.02 *Further Agreements Authorized:* The Town and the County may negotiate and enter into agreements to share costs and responsibilities related to NPDES permit compliance. Such agreements and cost allocations shall be reflected in each entities annual budget and must be authorized by the Town Council and County Council.

4.03 *Cost of Services:* If the Town chooses to utilize the direct services of the Stormwater Utility, however described, they shall be accounted for at the County's actual cost of the equipment, materials, and personnel utilized in the delivery of the services.

4.04 *Setting of Stormwater Utility User Fee Rate (Per Account, IA, GA, and SFU's):* The Town shall be responsible each year for setting the Stormwater Utility User Fee Rate to be assessed on parcels within the Town. The Stormwater Utility User Fee rate shall be set in accordance with S. C. Code Ann. 48-14-120(C) (Supp. 2010), and S. C. Regs. 72-310(G) (Supp. 2010), or any other applicable law or regulation.

4.05 *Plan Review and Site Inspection:* For all activities that constitute development within Town limits, the Town will provide review of plans and site inspections to ensure compliance with applicable laws, ordinances and regulations related to storm and surface water, erosion control and flooding.

4.06 *Coordination of Services:* The Town shall identify a representative of its staff to serve as the contact person and coordinator for Stormwater Management Services, including services

provided by the County within the Town, long range planning and water quality initiatives such as the NPDES Phase II requirements compliance, notification of problems, facilitating access within any planned or future Planned Unit Developments within the Town, and advising the County on site-specific conditions within the Town.

ARTICLE 5 – ADMINISTRATION OF STORMWATER UTILITY

5.00 *Stormwater Utility:* The County has established a Stormwater Utility that administers funds and conducts a Stormwater Management program throughout the County.

5.01 *Stormwater Management Plan:* The County and Town shall have the responsibility to develop and maintain a Stormwater Management Plan to be administered by the Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC).

5.02 *Relationship of Plan to Agreement:* The Stormwater Management Plan developed and maintained by the Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) shall incorporate the obligations of the County and Town under this Agreement. In the case of any conflict between the provisions of the Stormwater Management Plan and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall control.

5.03 *Stormwater Utility User Fees:* The Stormwater Utility shall bill and collect parcel based Stormwater Utility User Fees from property owners, tenants, or other appropriate parties, pursuant to its authority and subject to any intergovernmental agreements, including this Agreement, and may also apply for, acquire and use any other funding from any public or private source in support of the Stormwater Management Plan as allowed by law.

5.04 *County Responsibilities:* The County, through the Stormwater Utility, shall have the following responsibilities:

(a) *Collection and Distribution of Fees:* Stormwater Utility User Fees within the Town limits shall be charged and collected by the County in accordance with the provisions of Article 4.0 of this Agreement; the Stormwater Utility User Fees shall be collected in accordance with S. C. Code Ann. 48-14-120(C) (Supp. 2010), and S. C. Regs. 72-310(G) (Supp. 2010), or any other applicable law or regulation, and shall not include provisions for relief from the payment of the Stormwater Utility User Fees; the County shall distribute the Town's Stormwater Utility User Fees less the County administrative costs as defined in Article 4.01, in the same manner as ad valorem taxes are distributed for each year this Agreement is in effect;

(b) *Provision of Services:* Provision of the services required under this Agreement.

(c) *Budgeting and Expenditure:* Setting the budget for the Stormwater Utility, and spending the revenues in accordance with any applicable ordinances or agreements, including this Agreement;

(d) *Administrative Activities:* Managing all administrative activities of the Stormwater Utility, including but not limited to, fee assessment, collection and distribution, maintenance of accounting records, maintenance of stormwater data, implementation of the master plan, acquisition of easements, coordination with other agencies, reporting to the Stormwater Utility Board;

(e) *Accounting:* Maintaining an accounting of revenues and expenditures on a jurisdictional or geographic basis, as may be set or described under any applicable ordinance or agreement, including this Agreement, the County shall provide the Town with an itemized annual accounting of all Stormwater Utility User Fees within the Town limits in the form of a budget report, including but not limited to: how parcel fees were determined, calculated, and assessed; total fees collected; total Administrative costs retained by the County; total fees in arrears, on which parcels and the status of the collection attempt(s) on such parcels; fee credits applied for; fee credits paid; and fees that required adjustment since the last billing. This budget report shall be parcel based and provided to the Town annually prior to February 1st throughout the term of this agreement as an electronic document compatible with the most current version of Microsoft Office. The County shall also maintain an annual accounting of all administrative costs associated with operating the Utility. Either the Town or County, at the sole expense of the requesting jurisdiction, may request a professional audit of any of the budget reports;

(f) *Operation and Maintenance:* At the direction and approval of the Town, provide for the operation and maintenance of Stormwater Infrastructure within the Town; and,

5.05 *Delivery of Services:* The County shall coordinate the delivery of services hereunder through the Town Manager or his designee, via a Job Order Process as agreed to by the Town and County. All delivery of County services upon parcels within the Town limits shall be

approved in writing by the Town before any work is performed or any funds may be returned to the County, and all delivery of stormwater infrastructure services within County Rights of Ways shall be coordinated with the Town.

5.06 *Coordination with Other Jurisdictions:* From time to time a need for coordination between all incorporated jurisdictions within the County and the County may occur, and it shall be the responsibility of the County to facilitate such coordination. The County will work with designated representatives from all jurisdictions within the County to ensure effective communication regarding issues impacting the Stormwater Infrastructure and the Stormwater Management Plan.

5.07 *Qualifications and Extents of Service:* Stormwater infrastructure in public road Rights of Ways, whether State, County or Municipal, shall be maintained by the road owner, as these areas are exempt from Stormwater Utility User Fees per Section 99-109 (b) of the County Ordinance. The Town shall retain the right to determine the qualifications for, extent of, and level of service required to maintain the Stormwater Infrastructure within the limits of the Town, with the exception of County and State road Rights of Way, which shall be designed and maintained in accordance with their current standards.

5.08 *Fee Credits:* The Town shall have the authority to review and comment on all County stormwater fee credit applications requested upon parcels within the Town limits prior to such adjustments being made.

5.09 *Easements:* The Town and County will allow mutual blanket encroachments upon each other's existing easements, but only to enable the Town and/or County to perform stormwater utility related work within the limits of the Town.

ARTICLE 6: STORMWATER ORDINANCES AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

6.00 *Applicable Standards:* The current hydrologic and hydraulic engineering and design standards of the County and Town shall prevail in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of any portion of the Stormwater Infrastructure within the County and Town, respectively, unless superseded by the hydrologic and hydraulic engineering and design standards of the State, as may be required for specific work performed in State rights of way. In all cases, the County or Town standards shall prevail within the applicable jurisdiction unless determined to be less stringent than State standards.

6.01 *State or Federal Laws or Regulations:* The Town and the County shall at all times comply with any applicable State or Federal Laws or regulations relating to Stormwater Management, Stormwater Infrastructure, erosion control or pollution.

6.02 *Regulatory Obligations of the County and Town:*

The County and Town shall adopt and enforce ordinances and development standards as necessary to comply with State and Federal standards regarding stormwater management, erosion and sedimentation, pollution control, and flooding. Minimum water quality controls in jurisdictions shall be protective enough to reach and maintain state designated water uses.

6.03 *Plan Review and Site Inspection:* The Town and County shall be responsible for the review and approval of all development plans within their respective jurisdictions, to ensure that all applicable regulations pertaining to construction site erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control as well to post-construction stormwater quantity and quality control are met.

The County and Town shall be responsible for providing inspections during construction of all County and Town owned stormwater systems, respectively. The County and Town will continue its practice of inspection and review of privately owned stormwater systems during construction and upon completion to ensure that construction conforms with the approved development stormwater plan.

ARTICLE 7 – NPDES MS4 PHASE II PERMIT COMPLIANCE

7.00 *NPDES Compliance:* In 2015, Beaufort County, the Town of Bluffton, and the Town of Bluffton were designated by the State of South Carolina for compliance with the NPDES Program. the County and Town shall be responsible for the development of the NPDES MS4 Phase II permit application, the development of Best Management Practices required by the permit, and the implementation of the program of Best Management Practices set forth in the permit. Should the Town of Port Royal or the City of Beaufort be designated by the State of South Carolina for compliance with the NPDES program, the provisions of this section shall also apply to the Town.

7.01 *Roles and Responsibilities:* The Town and County shall hold separate NPDES MS4 Phase II permits and shall each be responsible for maintaining compliance with their respective permit requirements. The Town may request to “co-permit” or share MS4 Phase II permitting with the County or another Town or City, as allowed by Article 9 of this Agreement, as allowed by State law, and as encouraged in the State of South Carolina General Permit for MS4 Phase II communities.

7.02 *Coordination of Activities:* It is expected that some aspects of NPDES MS4 Phase II

requirements will lend themselves to coordination and cooperation between the Town and the County. In such instances, coordination between the Town and the County shall be on the basis of a specific Minimum Control Measure (MCM) and shall be established by a separate written agreement that specifies the objectives, product deliverables, schedules, funding distribution, and the roles and responsibilities of each party in addressing these measures.

7.03 *Annual Reporting:* The Town and County will each be responsible for preparing an annual report documenting the activities undertaken in support of NPDES MS4 Phase II permit requirements during the previous year and submitting the report to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

7.04 *Permit Related Costs:* All costs related to the NPDES MS4 Phase II permit shall be borne by the permit holder. In instances where the Town and County coordinate to meet permit requirements, costs may be shared on a basis that is detailed in a separate written agreement.

ARTICLE 8 – DATA ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT

8.00 *Roles and Responsibilities:* The Town and County shall each be responsible for acquiring and maintaining data sets that are relevant to Stormwater Management in their respective jurisdictions.

8.01 *Cost Sharing:* Cost sharing agreements for data acquisition may be made between the Town and County on a project-specific basis. The terms and details of any cost sharing agreement shall be detailed in a separate written agreement between the Town and County.

8.02 *Data Sharing:* The Town and County shall share acquired data at the request of the other. In such instances the Town and County will agree to abide by each entity's current data

distribution policy.

8.03 *Data Types:* Types of data that the Town and County will acquire, maintain, and may share include but are not limited to, GIS data, aerial photography, LIDAR data, water quality monitoring data, stream gage data, financial and accounting data.

ARTICLE 9 – OTHER AGREEMENTS

9.00 *Scope and cost sharing:* From time to time various projects may be shared in scope and/or cost between the County and the Town, or the County and multiple Municipalities within the County via Memos of Agreement, Memos of Understanding, Contracts, and/or Joint Resolutions.

9.01 *Agreement Recommendations:* The Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) shall be the vehicle whereby agreements of project scope and cost sharing between the County and multiple Municipalities within the County are reviewed and recommended to the Municipalities and County. It is understood that the Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee shall have no authority to financially commit the Town or County to any project of any type and only will provide technical recommendations for such projects. For agreements solely between the Town and the County, the Beaufort County Stormwater Implementation Committee (SWIC) review is not required.

9.02 *Agreement approvals:* Other agreements between the County and the Town must be approved by the Town Council and the County Council or their designees.

9.03 *Funds Distribution:* These Agreements will define how funds are distributed, either by invoice or as part of the Per Account Administrative fee collected by the County.

ARTICLE 10 - MISCELLANEOUS

10.00 *Provisions Applicable to This Agreement:* The following general provisions are applicable to this Agreement:

10.01 *Binding Effect:* This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the Town and County and their respective successors and assigns, if any are permitted hereunder.

10.02 *Amendment, Changes and Modifications:* Except as otherwise provided herein, this Agreement may not be effectively amended, changed, modified or altered without the written consent of the Town and the County.

10.03 *Severability:* In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision hereof.

10.04 *Execution in Counterparts:* This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

10.05 *Applicable Law:* This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina.

10.06 *Captions:* The captions or headings herein are for convenience only and in no way define, limit or describe the scope or intent of any provisions or sections of this Agreement.

10.07 *Plural/Singular:* Where appropriate, the use of the singular herein shall include and be deemed to be the plural, and the use of the plural herein shall be deemed to include the singular.

10.08 *No Third Party Beneficiaries:* The Town and the County hereto affirmatively represent that this Agreement is made solely for the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns and not for the benefit of any third party who is not a signature party hereto. No party other than the signature parties and their respective successors and assigns hereto shall have any enforceable rights hereunder, or have any right to the enforcement hereof, or any claim for damages as a result of any alleged breach hereof.

10.09 *Notices:* All notices, applications, requests, certificates or other communications hereunder shall be sufficiently given and shall be deemed given when delivered in person, via electronic mail, or mailed by regular first class mail, postage prepaid (in such case, delivery shall be deemed complete upon mailing), addressed as follows, or to such other place as may be designated in writing by the parties.

To the Town: THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON
Marc Orlando, Manager
20 Bridge St., PO Box 386
Bluffton, SC 29910

To the County: BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
Gary Kubic, Manager
Post Office Box 1128
Beaufort, SC, 29902

10.10 *No Waiver:* No failure of either party hereto to exercise any power or right given to such party hereunder, or to insist on strict compliance by any other party to its obligations hereunder, and no custom or practice of the parties at variance with the terms hereof shall constitute a waiver of any party's right to thereafter demand strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement.

10.11 *Further Assurances and Corrective Documents:* The Town and the County agree to do, execute, acknowledge, deliver or cause to be done all such further acts as may be reasonably determined to be necessary to carry out this Agreement and give effect to the provisions hereof. The Town and the County agree that each shall, upon request, execute and deliver such other or corrective documents as may be reasonably determined to be necessary to carry out this Agreement and each of the provisions hereof.

In Witness Whereof, The Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, and Beaufort County, South Carolina, by and through their duly authorized officers, have set their hands and seals on this 1st day of July, 2016.

WITNESSES:

THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON,
SOUTH CAROLINA

Kim Chapman

By: Lisa Sulka
Lisa Sulka, Mayor

Kim Chapman

Attest: Marc Orlando
Marc Orlando Town Manager

WITNESSES:

BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Patricia Zuhls

By: Paul Somerville
Paul Somerville, Chairman

[Signature]

Attest: Gary Kubic
Gary Kubic, County Administrator

