

Staff Report

Subject: Approval of GEFA Loan GFAPP001A Agreement and Related Documents
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Department: Finance
Meeting Date: 8/18/26
Item Description: Consideration to approve the execution and ratification of loan documents related to Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) Loan GFAPP001A

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the loan documents and authorization for the County Manager to execute all related documentation on behalf of Effingham County.

Executive Summary/Background: Effingham County has been awarded funding under the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority's (GEFA) low-interest loan program for the Effingham Regional Water Supply project. This is the second tranche, while the first GEFA tranche was approved earlier in the year.

The loan is identified as Loan GFAPP001A and includes the following key documents:

- Cover Letter from GEFA: Outlines instructions for completing and returning the loan documents.
- Loan Agreement: Established the binding terms, use of proceeds, project scope, loan forgiveness provisions, and borrower obligations.

These documents require formal approval by the Board of Commissioners to complete the loan acceptance process and initiate disbursement. This is the second tranche from GEFA for the regional water supply project. This tranche is for \$100 million, while the first tranche from earlier this calendar year was for \$10 million. The full GEFA packet consists of the attached loan agreement and other forms, the same as the original tranche packet.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the GEFA Loan GFAPP001A agreement and authorize the County Manager to execute all related documents.
2. Do not approve the agreement.
3. Provide staff with additional direction.

Recommended Alternative: Staff recommends Alternative 1 – Approve the GEFA Loan GFAPP001A and authorize execution of the associated documents.

Other Alternatives: None at this time.

Department Review: County Manager, Finance and Accounting Services, County Attorney

Funding Source: Water & Sewer system

Attachments:

- GEFA Cover Letter
- GEFA Loan Agreement – GFAPP001A