

MEMO

Date: November 14, 2023

To: Francine Ramaglia, Town Manager, Loxahatchee Groves

From: Keith Jackson, P.E.

Re: Water Use meeting with SFWMD on November 13, 2023

In attendance: Alberto Naya, P.G. and Alecja Wojnar, P.E., SFWMD Water Use Bureau; Keith Jackson, P.E., Engenuity Group; Randy Wertepny P.E., Keshavarz; Larry Peters, P.E, Lox Groves; Richard Gallant, Lox Groves.

The following is a recap to memorialize our meeting discussion regarding water use permitting.

- Reviewed Loxahatchee Groves (LG) SFWMD Water Use permit (Individual) # 50-05285-W. This is a diversion and impoundment type permit with an allocation of 1,850.2 MG per year or 5.07 MGD or 333.45 MG per month. LG canals maintained at El. 16.5' NGVD. Quarterly monitoring and reporting ongoing. Expiration date is September 25, 2038.
- SFWMD has "Independent" and "Dependent" user permits, defined by system withdrawal locations, etc.
- Permits within LG are "dependent secondary users" and are defined in the LG permit as users of surface water within LG, not withdrawing from SFWMD regional canal facilities, namely the C-51 Canal.
- These dependent secondary users need to be permitted by LG only. No SFWMD permit is necessary.
- ALL commercial secondary users will need both a SFWMD and LG water use permit. It was noted that the Green Pepper and Boyd

nursery permits (with SFWMD) have expired and should be renewed. SFWMD has sent notification letters.

- The Duck Pond project was noted as having several outfall culverts into LG canals and one outfall directly into the SFWMD C-51 Canal.
- SFWMD and LG employ the Blaney-Criddle equation methodology for calculation of required water use in their permits. Discussion on other methods were dismissed, as this is the standard in the industry. LG should continue to use this methodology in the water use permit applications. The overall LG water use permit with SFWMD used this calculation method, therefore secondary permits should as well for consistency and accuracy.
- SFWMD noted purpose of LG permit is for “irrigation of agricultural crops, fire protection, residential irrigation, road stabilization, and maintenance of groundwater levels”.
- SFWMD has several fee categories for water use permitting ranging from \$100 for a general permit for withdrawals under 100k gpd; to Individual permits at \$1000.