

FELLSMERE WATER CONTROL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 13, 2026, at 5:30 P.M.
LOCATION: 22 S. ORANGE STREET, FELLSMERE, FLORIDA

Agenda Item No. L.1: District Management Considerations - Supplement

Background: SDS is willing to perform district management services on a short-term basis but is not able to provide a local office presence. Tradesmen, however, is able to provide an office staff that would be responsible for maintenance oversight. Together, these vendors are able to provide all management services; however, a District Engineer would need selected. Scope of each vendor would be as follows.

SDS

Prepare agendas, legal advertisements, and minutes; maintain website; intergovernmental coordination, vendor selection and management; attend board meetings; provide general management of the district including required reporting; perform all finance activities, and prepare annual assessment roll and budget. Management of the maintenance of the district facilities is specifically excluded.

Tradesmen

Provide a staff person to provide local presence at the district office; inspect sublaterals and canals on a regular basis; direct and supervise the operation of the machine operator; provide monthly reports on sublateral status and operator activities; oversee the work products of any maintenance related vendors (mowing, spraying, etc.) with SDS providing vendor selection and contract management; answer district phones and public questions or direct to appropriate personnel; coordinate with SDS and District Engineer on permit applications; perform inspections of permitted work and report findings to Applicant and District Engineer.

Under this arrangement, the cost for SDS is \$45,500 annually. The cost for Tradesmen will not exceed \$50/hour. The required hours can be determined jointly by tradesmen, SDS and the Board of Supervisors. Current staff spends about 30 hours per week on maintenance oversight and management. Each vendor would also have reimbursable expenses of \$3,250 per year for travel and other expenses. With these figures, the annual cost would be \$130,000 for both vendors. With cost of current staff at approximately \$185,000 annually, savings of \$55,000. This savings would be reduced by the additional work required of the District Engineer. Assuming \$10,000 annual for non-reimbursed work, the savings reduce to \$45,000 per year.

At this point options include maintaining current management or using a SDS/Tradesmen for such services with the designation of a new District Engineer.

Maintain Current Management Structure

Costs are reflected in current budget and no transition period required. Current manager does not currently have the trust of a vocal segment of the Landowners.

Utilize Special District Services/Tradesmen

See proposal attached for specific services to be provided. Costs are lower than the current budgeted amount and may have a meaningful reduction on year end expenses. Current Engineering consultants can continue to be utilized to assist management companies; however, one firm will need to be designated as District Engineer. This will result in an added budget cost. Transition period required but should be manageable given experience of management company. Special District Services seems to be supported by the vocal segment of the Landowners. Cost and scope are summarized below.

COST COMPARISON (YEARLY BASIS)

A cost comparison is provided below. No costs presented for Hire New District Manager as this is not likely to be selected due to the time to implement and added time for transition.

Maintain Current Management Structure

5091	Payroll Processing Fee	\$624
5111	Labor	\$104,000
5121	Payroll Taxes	\$7,977
5122	State Retirement	\$39,021
5123	Workers Comp	\$2,100
5037	Transportation	\$3,600
5124	Group Med/Life Insurance	\$28,632
TOTAL		\$185,954

Utilize Special District Services/Tradesmen

SDS	\$45,500
REIMBURSEABLES	\$6,500
DISTRICT ENGINEER	\$10,000
TRADESMEN @ 30hrs/week	\$78,000
TOTAL	\$140,000

Request: At the discretion of the Board of Supervisors



AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES MANAGEMENT AND VALIDATION

This Agreement made and entered this ____ day of _____, 2026 between Fellsmere Water Control District (hereinafter called the **District**) located in Indian River County, Florida (hereinafter called the **County**) and Special District Services, Inc. (hereinafter called **SDS**).

WHEREAS, the primary objective of this Agreement is for **SDS** to provide management, consulting and bond validation services to the **District** acting as an agent of the District as mandated by Chapter 190.007 Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, **District** proposes to engage **SDS** to perform the tasks identified herein; and,

WHEREAS, **District** and **SDS** desire to reduce their Agreement to writing, setting forth the services to be rendered by **SDS** to **District** and the compensation to be paid by **District** to **SDS** for services rendered under this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, it is agreed as follows:

SECTION I — RECITALS

The recitals set forth hereinabove are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION II — MANAGEMENT SERVICES

A. WORK PROGRAM — Management

Task 1. **SDS** will serve as general manager to the **District** and an officer of the **District** and will provide those services necessary for the management and operation of the **District** including, but not limited to, preparation of agendas, legal advertisements, minutes of meetings, preparation and maintenance of mandated **District** website (in accordance with section 189.069, Florida Statutes), including ADA compliance monitoring, communications and coordination with other governmental agencies and **District** professionals, general supervision, and day to day management of the operations of the **District** in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 119, 189, 190 and 298, Florida Statutes. Management of the maintenance of **District** facilities or property is not included in this Agreement and is subject to negotiation if required. (see optional **Task 7.**) **District** Board meetings shall be limited to twelve (12) meetings per year, with additional meetings subject to fees mutually agreed to by both parties.

Task 2. SDS will maintain the **District** books, accounts, records, purchasing procedures and financial reporting procedures, write all checks and prepare financial reports in accordance with District policies and rules and Florida law.

Task 3. SDS will assist the **District** in the selection of professionals, including district counsel, bond counsel, financial advisor and underwriter, or, if directed by the **District**, SDS, as an officer and general manager of the **District** will retain such professionals for the **District** in accordance with terms mutually agreed to by the parties.

Task 4. SDS, as general manager of the **District**, will provide general consulting services to **District** on a continuing basis. Consulting services include, but are not limited to, budgeting, public bidding and competitive negotiation requirements for public works projects, governmental accounting and chart of account requirements, policies and procedures, staffing and personnel requirements, and such other special district services that will need to be addressed in the immediate and long term future.

Task 5. SDS will prepare the annual assessment roll for the submittal to the **County** following adoption by the **District**.

Task 6. SDS will assist the **District** in the structuring or restructuring of bond issue(s) as necessary and agreed to by the **District**. Services include, but are not limited to, assistance in the preparation of the Schedule of Events, the financing plan, the Official Statement and other financing documents. A representative of SDS will be available to testify as an expert witness at any bond validation or other legal proceedings.

Task 7. SDS, if requested, will provide an onsite SDS employee to manage the maintenance of **District** facilities and property.

Task 8. SDS will provide such other services as mutually agreed to by the parties.

B. WORK PROGRAM - VALIDATION

Task 1. SDS will assist **District's** counsel, bond counsel, financial advisor and underwriter in reviewing the Engineers Report that is required for Validation.

Task 2. SDS, upon the request of the **District**, will prepare the Special Assessment Methodology Report that is required for Validation.

Task 3. SDS, upon the request of the **District**, will assist Bond Counsel and District Counsel in preparing for Validation.

Task 4. SDS, if requested, will serve as an expert witness for the Validation hearing.

Upon the completion of the Special Assessment Methodology Report and delivery to the Board of Supervisors of the **District**, payment to SDS for Section III is due and payable. SDS will perform Tasks 3 and 4 of Section III at no additional cost.

SECTION III — COMPENSATION

A. MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Task 1-4. \$42,000 per year, payable in twelve (12) equal monthly payments of \$3,500. Said fee will be increased annually after the first year based on any increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) capped at 3% in any one year. The fee for establishing and maintaining the **District** website shall be \$3,000 annually, payable monthly.

Task 5. \$500 per year payable upon the submittal of the final Annual Assessment Roll to the County.

Task 6. The fee for assisting the **District** in preparing and consummating a bond issue shall be a flat fee of \$20,000 per bond issue.

Task 7. The fee for providing an onsite **SDS** employee to manage the maintenance of **District** facilities and property shall be \$140,000 annually, payable in twelve (12) equal monthly payments of \$11,667. Said fee will be increased annually after the first year based on any increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) capped at 3% in any one year.

Task 8. This fee will be mutually agreed to by the parties prior to commencement.

B. VALIDATION SERVICES

Task 1. There is no charge for Task 1.

Task 2. Upon the completion of the Master Special Assessment Methodology Report and delivery to the Board of Supervisors **SDS** shall be paid the amount of \$15,000. For each Supplemental Special Assessment Methodology Report, the **SDS** fee shall be \$10,000.

Task 3. There is no charge for Task 3.

Task 4. There is no charge for Task 4.

In addition, for its services as general manager to the **District**, **SDS** shall be reimbursed for **out-of-pocket expenses** incurred in the performance of the services defined herein (i.e., photocopies, postage, long distance telephone calls, mileage, etc.). **SDS** will submit monthly invoices to **District** for work performed under the terms of this Agreement. Payment shall become due and payable within fifteen (15) days of receipt. Compensation for additional services covered under Section II, Task 8, shall be in accordance with the terms mutually agreed to by the parties.

NOTE: There will likely be other costs associated with the management of the **District** such as the Engineer's report, financial advisory fees, legal fees and legal advertising. These functions will be performed by others and are not a part of this agreement.

SECTION V — DOCUMENTS

All documents, maps, drawings, data and worksheets prepared by **SDS** under this Agreement shall be the property of the **District**, upon payment in full of all fees and costs set forth above.

SECTION VI - TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall be continuous beginning with the date the Agreement is signed. Termination of the Agreement shall be available to each party with written notice given sixty (60) days in advance of the intent to cancel. If termination is by the District and not for cause, District will pay SDS through the end of the sixty (60) day termination notice period, plus an additional thirty (30) days, for management fees as stated for Tasks 1-4 of Section IV, in addition to any other fees or costs due hereunder.

If termination is by the District and for cause, this Agreement will terminate immediately without advance written notice. "For cause" termination shall be defined, for purposes of this Agreement, as the breach of any material term of this Agreement.

SECTION VII —AMENDMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS

This Agreement represents the entire understanding between the parties.

This Agreement is non-transferable and non-assignable without the express written consent of both parties.

This Agreement may be amended only by a written addendum, addenda or amendment agreed to by both parties.

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, all of which together shall constitute one Agreement,

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the Laws of the State of Florida.

SECTION VIII – INDEMNIFICATION

SDS will defend, indemnify, hold harmless the District and its supervisors, officers, staff and employees from and against any and all liability, claims, actions, suits, demands, assessments or judgments asserted and any and all losses, liabilities, damages, costs, court costs, and expenses, including attorneys' fees, that the District may hereafter incur, become responsible for, or be caused to pay out, arising out of or relating to, in whole or in part by, SDS's failure to perform under this Agreement or at law, or negligent, reckless, and/or intentionally wrongful acts or omissions of SDS. SDS's payment obligations under this provision is limited to SDS's apportionment of liability. The indemnification provided for herein shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which the District may be entitled and shall continue after SDS has ceased to be engaged under this Agreement.

SECTION IX – COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNMENTAL REGULATIONS

In performing its obligations under this Agreement, SDS shall keep, observe, and perform all requirements of applicable local, State, and Federal laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances. If SDS fails to notify the District in writing within five (5) days of the receipt of any notice, order, required to comply notice, or a report of a violation or an alleged violation, made by a local, State, or Federal governmental body or agency or subdivision thereof with respect to the services being rendered under this Agreement or any action of SDS or any of its agents, servants, employees, or materialmen, or with respect to terms, wages, hours, conditions of employment, safety appliances, or any other requirement applicable to provision of services, or fails to comply with any requirement of such agency within five (5) days after receipt of any such notice, order, request to comply notice, or report of a violation of an alleged violation, the District may terminate this Agreement, such termination to be effective upon the giving of notice of termination.

SECTION X – COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC RECORDS LAWS

SDS understands and agrees that all documents of any kind provided to the District in connection with this Agreement may be public records, and, accordingly, SDS agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of Florida law in handling such records, including but not limited to Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes. SDS acknowledges that the designated public records custodian for the District is Todd Wodraska (“Public Records Custodian”). Among other requirements and to the extent applicable by law, the SDS shall 1) keep and maintain public records required by the District to perform the service; 2) upon request by the Public Records Custodian, provide the District with the requested public records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time period at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, Florida Statutes; 3) ensure that public records which are exempt or confidential, and exempt from public records disclosure requirements, are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the contract term and following the contract term if the SDS does not transfer the records to the Public Records Custodian of the District; and 4) upon completion of the contract, transfer to the District, at no cost, all public records in SDS’ s possession or, alternatively, keep, maintain and meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records pursuant to Florida laws. When such public records are transferred by the SDS, the SDS shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. All records stored electronically must be provided to the District in a format that is compatible with Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF formats.

IF SDS HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO CONTRACTOR’S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THIS CONTRACT, CONTACT THE CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT (561) 630-4922, TWODRASKA@SDSINC.ORG, AND 2501 BURNS ROAD, SUITE A, PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA 33410.

SECTION XI- LIMITS OF LIABILITY

Nothing contained herein shall be deemed as a waiver of immunity or limits of liability of the District beyond any statutory limited waiver of immunity or limits of liability contained in section 768.28, Florida Statutes, or other statute, and nothing in this Agreement shall inure to the benefit

of any third party for the purpose of allowing any claim which would otherwise be barred under the Doctrine of Sovereign Immunity or by operation of law.

SECTION XII - SEVERABILITY

In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall be determined to be unenforceable or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such unenforceability or invalidity of the particular provision shall not affect the enforceability or validity of the remaining provisions of the Agreement, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION XIII - MISCELLANEOUS

If either party to this Agreement shall institute any suit or legal action to enforce any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement, the substantially prevailing party shall be entitled to recover all costs incurred, including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees, paralegal fees and expert witness fees and cost for all matters related to such litigation, and any appeal thereto. Venue for any action arising out of this Agreement shall lie in St. Lucie County, Florida.

The **District** acknowledges that **SDS** is an officer and general manager of the **District** and is not an attorney and may not render legal advice or opinions, or a financial advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, and is not engaged to give advice with respect to the issuance of bonds or municipal financial products.

Time is of the essence as to this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed the day and year first above written.

**FELLSMERE WATER CONTROL
DISTRICT**

**SPECIAL DISTRICT SERVICES,
INC.**

By: _____

By: _____

Printed Name and Title

Date

Todd Wodraska, President

Printed Name and Title

Date