

SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board

FROM: Susie Hetrick, Chief, Office of Water Resources

THRU: Amy Brown, Deputy Executive Director, Office of Water Resources

DATE: May 15, 2026

RE: Task Work Assignment with Water & Air Research, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Director to execute a Task Work Assignment and any associated no-cost amendments with Water & Air Research, Inc. to provide groundwater chemistry sample collection, analysis, and reporting for an amount not to exceed \$134,936.60 beginning on July 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2027.

BACKGROUND

The District supports the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in their evaluation of Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) progress and water quality improvement as existing and new management strategies are implemented.

Springs in the Suwannee River and Wacissa Springs are impaired for nitrogen. FDEP and SRWMD began this grant-funded sampling project in 2023, to evaluate pollutant loading in the basins and track nitrogen concentrations for existing and new management strategies implemented across these springsheds. The project was designed to sample water quality from several groundwater monitoring wells installed by FDEP within the Suwannee River and Wacissa Springs basins. In April 2026, FDEP requested to extend the project through June 2027. This task work assignment (TWA) will provide continued quarterly sampling through that time.

Project services for this TWA will include sampling and laboratory analysis of groundwater for up to eighteen wells in the Suwannee River springs Basin and up to eight wells in the Wacissa Springs Basin.

At the April 2024 Governing Board meeting, the Board authorized the Executive Director to enter contracts with qualified firms to conduct environmental and engineering services for the District. Water & Air Research, Inc. is a pre-qualified firm under Chapter E - Environmental Data Collection and Assessments of the Engineering and Environmental Services contract and has provided excellent service to the District in the first three years of this project.

This is an FDEP grant-funded project (MN032, SRWMD contract #22/23-167), and execution of this TWA is contingent upon execution of a supporting grant agreement for FY26-27 with FDEP.

Funding for this TWA is included in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY 2026) Final Budget, and the FY 2027 tentative budget, and is contingent upon approval of the FY 2027 Final Budget.

SH/ak