## **Board of County Commissioners**

Office of the County Administrator

304 NW Second Street - Room 123 • Okeechobee, Florida 34972 Telephone 863-763-6441 Ext. 1 • Facsimile 863-763-0118



June 26, 2023 via email transmission only

Mr. Drew Bartlett, Executive Director South Florida Water Management 3301 Gun Club Road West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Re: Lower Kissimmee Basin Stormwater Treatment Area (LKBSTA) Lazy 7 Area

Dear Mr. Bartlett:

Regarding the above SFWMD project, and at the request of the Okeechobee County Board of County Commissioners, please accept this letter as our request to have a SFWMD representative come to an upcoming BOCC Meeting to explain the process of this stormwater treatment area. Our upcoming meetings are July 13, July 27, and August 10, 2023 all beginning at 9:00 a.m. Kindly contact the Administrator's office at 863-763-6441 Ext. 1 to be placed on an upcoming agenda.

Additionally, it is our Board's request that SFWM conduct and hold a public meeting to afford the citizens of Okeechobee an opportunity to hear about the project and ask questions. Okeechobee County would be glad to host the location at our Civic Center located on Highway 98. We would just need to coordinate and date/time with you.

Our understanding is that this is an EIP project for a water treatment, which will be built on privately-owned land and operated under a contract with SFWMD. SFWMD will pay the property owner to remove phosphorus from the water before it goes into Lake Okeechobee

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

David Hazemer, Cha

cc: South Florida Water Management Board Members

[1016-00033216.1ADMIN]

David Hazellief District 1 Frank DeCarlo District 2

Bradley G. Goodbread District 3

Terry Burroughs District 4 Kelly Owens District 5