

MANAGERS UPDATE

July 7, 2021

LEGAL UPDATE: Bill will discuss at the Board meeting.

FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET: Adjustments were made in the capital outlay for parks, and General Fund unreserved account.

PRIORITY PROJECTS: All level One projects are in process and advancing.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE: All departments are in full-service mode and there are no new updates from last month. After meeting with Gene Schriener last week, Clay will be sending Gene a Chart of Work on a weekly basis so that we can all be on the same page relative to the water and utility projects. I have done that with Gene for several years so that we stay focused on CAS scopes of work.

WATER METERS: From January 1st thru June 30th, **33 new water meters** have been sold. This is a great number of new units, especially coming off the 2020 installations that we had.

PUBLICATIONS: The September issue of The Breeze will highlight the October 23rd Festival and the November 11 Anniversary event at the golf resort. The 50th Anniversary special edition is now at the printer and will be ready for distribution by the end of August.

HURRICANE PREPARATION: Staff has reviewed the emergency plans that we have had in place since Irma, and the County EOC updates are sent to us as needed. I sent out an e-mail blast with some basic reminders for people to follow and urged them to register for the Alert Highlands message system. The information is also posted on our web site.

IMPORTANT DATES: I have put together some important dates thru the rest of the calendar year and a copy will be at your seat, 3-hole punched, for your Supervisor Guide notebook.

HOUSE BILL 53 ENACTED: This Bill includes new requirements of all special districts engaged in stormwater management activities. By June 30, 2022, and every five years afterwards, districts must develop a needs analysis for its jurisdiction over the subsequent 20-year period. There are just under a dozen items that must be completed, and then turned in to the County for their review and acceptance. More on this as details are sent to us.

HOUSE BILL 35 ENACTED: Beginning July 1, 2022, government agencies can publish legal notices on approved websites instead of print-based newspapers. This is a huge savings, especially when it comes to posting for SRF projects, and other bid related items.

HIGHLANDS COUNTY SRF: As previously reported, the County is including Spring Lake in their SRF storm water loan application since all roads here are County roads. I have been notified the application has been completed and submitted, and they are on the August agenda for funding. FDEP staff has recommended the RFI and if successful, this would mean a complete review and upgrade of our storm water control structures, as well as any other drainage issues the County determines. The best part is that the County does all the paperwork and pays all expenses.

COUNTY BUDGET: The Road and Bridge Department has included Spring Lake in their budget request in the amount of \$300,000. I am not sure what this entails, probably more paving, but I will stay on top of it and let you know.

FASD: David Ramba, who has been our lobbyist over the years, has been appointed Executive Director of FASD. The Board voted unanimously to accept David's proposal over three other finalists. David has a great plan for the expansion of the organization and the development of new programs.