

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DISTRICT**

**March 21, 2022**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND  
REGULAR MEETING  
AGENDA**

**Rustic Oaks Community Development District**  
**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MANAGER**  
**2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W•Boca Raton, Florida 33431**  
**Phone: (561) 571-0010•Toll-free: (877) 276-0889•Fax: (561) 571-0013**

March 14, 2022

Board of Supervisors  
Rustic Oaks Community Development District

Dear Board Members:

The Board of Supervisors of the Rustic Oaks Community Development District will hold Multiple Public Hearings and a Regular Meeting on March 21 2022, at 1:30 P.M., at the Comfort Suites Sarasota - Siesta Key, 5690 Honore Avenue, Sarasota, Florida, 34233. The agenda is as follows:

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comments
3. Public Hearing Confirming the Intent of the District to Use the Uniform Method of Levy, Collection and Enforcement of Non-Ad Valorem Assessments as Authorized and Permitted by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes; Expressing the Need for the Levy of Non-Ad Valorem Assessments and Setting Forth the Legal Description of the Real Property Within the District's Jurisdictional Boundaries that May or Shall Be Subject to the Levy of District Non-Ad Valorem Assessments; Providing for Severability; Providing for Conflict and Providing for an Effective Date
  - A. Affidavit/Proof of Publication
  - B. Consideration of Resolution 2022-11, Expressing its Intent to Utilize the Uniform Method of Levying, Collecting, and Enforcing Non-Ad Valorem Assessments Which May Be Levied by the Rustic Oaks Community Development District in Accordance with Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date
4. Public Hearing to Hear Public Comments and Objections to the Adoption of the Rules of Procedure, Pursuant to Sections 120.54 and 190.035, Florida Statutes
  - A. Affidavits of Publication
  - B. Consideration of Resolution 2022-12, Adopting Rules of Procedure; Providing a Severability Clause; and Providing an Effective Date
5. Consideration of Stormwater Needs Analysis Proposal

**ATTENDEES:**

**Please identify yourself each time you speak to facilitate accurate transcription of meeting minutes.**

6. Public Hearing on Adoption of Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget
  - A. Affidavit of Publication
  - B. Consideration of Resolution 2022-13, Relating to the Annual Appropriations and Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2020, and Ending September 30, 2021; Authorizing Budget Amendments; and Providing an Effective Date
7. Public Hearing on Adoption of Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget
  - A. Affidavit of Publication
  - B. Consideration of Resolution 2022-14, Relating to the Annual Appropriations and Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2021, and Ending September 30, 2022; Authorizing Budget Amendments; and Providing an Effective Date
8. Consideration of Resolution 2022-06, Designating Dates, Times and Locations for Regular Meetings of the Board of Supervisors of the District for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 and Providing for an Effective Date [Location Near UTC Mall or off Fruitville Road]
9. Consideration of Resolution 2022-08, Designating the Primary Administrative Office and Principal Headquarters of the District and Providing an Effective Date
10. Consideration of Responses to Request for Proposals (RFP) for Annual Audit Services
  - A. Affidavit of Publication
  - B. RFP Package
  - C. Respondents
    - I. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank
    - II. Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC
    - III. Grau & Associates
  - D. Auditor Evaluation Matrix/Ranking
  - E. Award of Contract
11. Acceptance of Unaudited Financial Statements as January 31, 2022
12. Approval of February 16, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes
13. Staff Reports

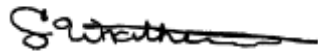
- A. District Counsel: *Straley Robin Vericker*
- B. District Engineer: *Clearview Land Design, P.L.*
- C. District Manager: *Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC*
  - NEXT MEETING DATE: TBD
    - QUORUM CHECK

GARTH NOBLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	IN PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	PHONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
CHRIS TORRES	<input type="checkbox"/>	IN PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	PHONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
JESSICA RESCHKE	<input type="checkbox"/>	IN PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	PHONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
JERRY TOMBERLIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	IN PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	PHONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
JOHN KAKRIDAS	<input type="checkbox"/>	IN PERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	PHONE	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO

- 14. Board Members' Comments/Requests
- 15. Public Comments
- 16. Adjournment

If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (561) 719-8675 or Kristen Suit at (410) 207-1802.

Sincerely,



Craig Wrathell  
 District Manager

**FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF TO ATTEND BY TELEPHONE**  
**CALL-IN NUMBER: 1-888-354-0094**  
**PARTICIPANT PASSCODE: 943 865 3730**

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**3A**

# LOCALiQ

The Gainesville Sun | The Ledger  
Daily Commercial | Ocala StarBanner  
News Chief | Herald-Tribune

PO Box 631244 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1244

## PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Gillyard  
Daphne Gillyard  
Rustic Oaks Community Dev District  
2300 Glades RD # 410W  
Boca Raton FL 33431-8556

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF Sarasota

The Herald-Tribune, a newspaper printed and published in the city of Sarasota, and of general circulation in the Counties of Sarasota, Manatee, and Charlotte, State of Florida and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issues dated or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on:

02/21/2022, 02/28/2022, 03/07/2022, 03/14/2022

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Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

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### RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT NOTICE OF THE DISTRICT'S INTENT TO USE THE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTION OF NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS

Notice is hereby given that the Rustic Oaks Community Development District ("District") intends to use the uniform method of collecting non-ad valorem assessments to be levied by the District pursuant to Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes. The Board of Supervisors of the District will conduct a public hearing on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 1:30 p.m., at the Comfort Suites Sarasota - Siesta Key, 5690 Honore Avenue, Sarasota Florida, 34233. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider the adoption of a resolution authorizing the District to use the uniform method of collecting non-ad valorem assessments to be levied by the District on properties located on land included in, or to be added to, the District.

The District may levy non-ad valorem assessments for the purpose of financing, acquiring, maintaining and/or operating community development facilities, services and improvements within and without the boundaries of the District, to consist of, among other things, stormwater improvements, roadways, water & wastewater utilities, hardscape, landscape & irrigation, amenities, street lights, undergrounding of electric, offsite improvements, and any other lawful projects or services of the District. Owners of the properties to be assessed and other interested parties may appear at the public hearing and be heard regarding the use of the uniform method of collecting such non-ad valorem assessments. This hearing is open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law for community development districts. The public hearing may be continued to a date, time and location to be specified on the record at the hearing. There may be occasions when Supervisors or staff may participate by speaker telephone.

Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in the hearing and/or meeting is asked to contact Wrathell, Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, Ph: (561) 571-0010 ("District Manager's Office"), at least 48 hours before the hearing and/or meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at (800) 955-8770, who can aid you in contacting the District Manager's Office. Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the hearing is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based. Craig Wrathell District Manager 41-221, 228, 377, 311422 (6927614)



# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**3B**

## RESOLUTION 2022-11

### **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT EXPRESSING ITS INTENT TO UTILIZE THE UNIFORM METHOD OF LEVYING, COLLECTING, AND ENFORCING NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS WHICH MAY BE LEVIED BY THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 197.3632, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Rustic Oaks Community Development District (“District”) was established pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, which authorizes the District to levy certain assessments which include benefit and maintenance assessments and further authorizes the District to levy special assessments pursuant to Chapter 170, Florida Statutes, for the acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of assessable improvements authorized by Chapter 190, Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, the above referenced assessments are non-ad valorem in nature and, therefore, may be collected under the provisions of Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, in which the State of Florida has provided a uniform method for the levying, collecting, and enforcing such non-ad valorem assessments; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, the District has caused notice of a public hearing to be advertised weekly in a newspaper of general circulation within Sarasota County, Florida, for four (4) consecutive weeks prior to such hearing.

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:**

**SECTION 1.** The District upon conducting its public hearing as required by Section 197.3632, Florida Statutes, hereby expresses its intent to use the uniform method of collecting assessments imposed by the District as provided in Chapters 170 and 190, Florida Statutes, each of which are non-ad valorem assessments which may be collected annually pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, for the purpose of paying principal and interest on any and all of its indebtedness and for the purpose of paying the cost of operating and maintaining its assessable improvements. The legal description of the boundaries of the real property subject to a levy of assessments is attached and made a part of this Resolution as **Exhibit A**. The non-ad valorem assessments and the District’s use of the uniform method of collecting its non-ad valorem assessment(s) may continue in any given year when the Board of Supervisors determines that use of the uniform method for that year is in the best interests of the District.



**SECTION 2.** The District’s Secretary is authorized to provide the Property Appraiser and Tax Collector of Sarasota County, Florida, and the Department of Revenue of the State of Florida with a copy of this Resolution and enter into any agreements with the Property Appraiser and/or Tax Collector necessary to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.

**SECTION 3.** If any provision of this Resolution is held to be illegal or invalid, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 4.** This Resolution shall become effective upon its passage and shall remain in effect unless rescinded or repealed.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

ATTEST:

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

**Exhibit A:** Legal Description

## **Exhibit A: Legal Description**





## RUSTIC OAKS CDD NORTH PARCEL

DESCRIPTION: A parcel of land lying in Section 20, Township 38 South, Range 19 East, Sarasota County, Florida, and being more particularly described as follows:

**COMMENCE** at the Northeast corner of Section 20, Township 38 South, Range 19 East, and run thence N.86°53'19"W., 363.80 feet along the North boundary of said Section 20 to the **POINT OF BEGINNING**; thence along the centerline of a 190.00 foot wide Cowpen Slough Drainage Canal the following three (3) courses: 1) S.55°53'18"W., 151.49 feet to a point of curvature; 2) Southwesterly, 458.71 feet along the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of 716.78 feet and a central angle of 36°40'00" (chord bearing S.37°33'18"W., 450.92 feet) to a point of tangency; 3) S.19°13'18"W., 3465.23 feet to a point on a curve on the Northeasterly Limited Access Right-of-Way Line of Interstate 75 (State Road 93); thence along said Limited Access Right-of-way line, Northwesterly, 24.17 feet along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 17975.42 feet and a central angle of 00°04'37" (chord bearing N.39°39'22"W., 24.17 feet); thence N.01°26'19"W., 210.60 feet to a point on the Westerly boundary of Cowpen Slough Drainage Canal; thence along said Westerly boundary, N.19°13'18"E., 1089.62 feet; thence S.89°55'13"W., 63.57 feet; thence S.19°13'17"W., 49.69 feet to a point of cusp; thence Northwesterly, 45.53 feet along the arc of a curve to the left having a radius of 30.00 feet and a central angle of 86°57'07" (chord bearing N.24°15'17"W., 41.28 feet) to a point of reverse curvature; thence Northwesterly, 21.80 feet along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 230.00 feet and a central angle of 05°25'52" (chord bearing N.65°00'54"W., 21.79 feet); thence S.89°55'13"W., 1174.23 feet to a point on a curve on said Interstate 75 (State Road 93) Limited Access Right-of-Way Line; thence along said Northeasterly Limited Access Right-of-Way Line, Northwesterly, 502.45 feet along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 17975.40 feet and a central angle of 01°36'05" (chord bearing N.33°52'00"W., 502.43 feet) to a point on the boundary of Department of Transportation Parcel 108, as recorded on Official Record Instrument 2007155382, as recorded in the Public Records of Sarasota County, Florida; thence along said Parcel 108 boundary the following four (4) courses: 1) N.75°14'10"E., 303.36 feet; 2) N.33°38'05"W., 293.63 feet; 3) N.86°52'51"W., 255.98 feet to a point on a curve; 4) Northwesterly, 794.26 feet along the arc of a curve to the right having a radius of 16231.54 feet and a central angle of 02°48'13" (chord bearing N.30°40'51"W., 794.18 feet); thence S.86°53'17"E., 76.08 feet; thence N.03°07'06"E., 355.81 feet; thence S.58°29'06"E., 13.77 feet; thence S.85°20'56"E., 16.86 feet; thence N.24°00'29"E., 24.84 feet; thence N.02°14'26"W., 23.12 feet; thence N.33°37'06"E., 24.04 feet; thence S.85°35'59"E., 28.42 feet; thence N.25°13'10"E., 34.71 feet; thence N.14°43'07"W., 33.21 feet; thence N.60°57'05"W., 44.57 feet; thence S.86°53'19"E., 491.06 feet; thence N.03°06'41"E., 701.81 feet to the North boundary of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 20; thence along said North boundary, S.86°53'24"E., 316.84 feet to the Northwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 20; thence along said North boundary, S.86°53'19"E., 2320.62 feet to the **POINT OF BEGINNING**.

Containing 131.819 acres, more or less.

AND TOGETHER WITH THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PARCEL

RUSTIC OAKS CDD SOUTH PARCEL

DESCRIPTION: A parcel of land lying in Sections 20, 21 and 29, Township 38 South, Range 19 East, Sarasota County, Florida, and being more particularly described as follows:

**BEGINNING** at the Northeast corner of Section 29, Township 38 South, Range 19 East, Sarasota County, Florida and run thence along the East boundary of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 29, S.00°56'46"E., 611.91 feet to the Northeasterly limited access right-of-way line of State Road 93 (Interstate 75); thence along said limited access right-of-way line, N.39°47'41"W., 2848.70 feet to the Easterly boundary of the Cowpen Slough Drainage Canal; thence along said Easterly boundary, N.19°13'18"E., 1424.35 feet, to the North boundary of the South 200 feet of the Westerly 100 feet of the North 1/2 of Section 20, Township 38 South, Range 19 East, lying East of the Cowpen Slough Drainage Canal; thence along said North boundary, S.87°46'27"E., 100.16 feet; thence along the East boundary of said South 200 feet of the Westerly 100 feet of the North 1/2 of Section 20, S.19°13'18"W., 191.70 feet to the North boundary of the South 1/2 of said Section 20; thence along said North boundary, S.87°27'48"E., 1318.99 feet to the Northwest corner of the aforesaid West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 21; thence along the West boundary of the South 30 feet of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 21, N.00°12'40"E., 30.00 feet; thence S.89°36'26"E., 1327.63 feet; thence along the East boundary of the South 30 feet of the West 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of said Section 21, S.00°07'30"E., 30.00 feet to the Northeast corner of the West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 21; thence along the East boundary of the said West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 21, S.00°02'38"W., 2679.02 feet to the Southeast corner thereof; thence along the South boundary of said West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of said Section 21, N.89°35'32"W., 1336.19 feet to the Southwest corner of said Section 21, also being the Northeast corner of the aforesaid Section 29 and the **POINT OF BEGINNING**.

Containing 170.977 acres, more or less.

Altogether containing 302.796 acres, more or less.

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**4A**

# LOCALiQ

The Gainesville Sun | The Ledger  
Daily Commercial | Ocala StarBanner  
News Chief | Herald-Tribune

PO Box 631244 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1244

## **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

Gillyard  
Daphne Gillyard  
Rustic Oaks Community Dev District  
2300 Glades RD # 410W  
Boca Raton FL 33431-8556

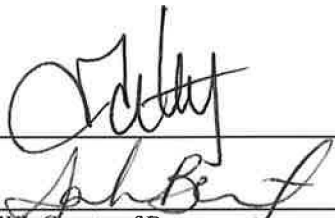
STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF Sarasota

The Herald-Tribune, a newspaper printed and published in the city of Sarasota, and of general circulation in the Counties of Sarasota, Manatee, and Charlotte, State of Florida and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issues dated or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on:

02/18/2022

and that the fees charged are legal.  
Sworn to and subscribed before on 02/18/2022

Legal Clerk



Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

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State of Wisconsin

## **NOTICE OF RULE DEVELOPMENT BY THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

In accord with Chapters 120 and 190, Florida Statutes, the Rustic Oaks Community Development District ("District") hereby gives notice of its intention to develop Rules of Procedure to govern the operations of the District.

The Rules of Procedure will address such areas as the Board of Supervisors, officers and voting, district offices, public information and inspection of records, policies, public meetings, hearings and workshops, rulemaking proceedings and competitive purchase including procedure under the Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act, procedure regarding auditor selection, purchase of insurance, pre-qualification, construction contracts, goods, supplies and materials, maintenance services, contractual services and protests with respect to proceedings, as well as any other area of the general operation of the District.

The purpose and effect of the Rules of Procedure is to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to ensure compliance with recent changes to Florida law. The legal authority for the adoption of the proposed Rules of Procedure includes sections 190.011(5), 190.011(15) and 190.035, Florida Statutes (2019). The specific laws implemented in the Rules of Procedure include, but are not limited to, sections 112.08, 112.3143, 112.31446, 112.3145, 119.07, 119.0701, 189.053, 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 190.011(3), 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, 190.035, 218.33, 218.391, 255.05, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, 287.017, 287.055 and 287.084, Florida Statutes (2019).

A copy of the proposed Rules of Procedure may be obtained by contacting the District Manager, c/o Wrathell, Hunt & Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, (877) 276-0889, or by email to [wrahellc@whhassociates.com](mailto:wrahellc@whhassociates.com).

District Manager

Pub: Feb. 18, 2022; #6927627



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PO Box 631244 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1244

## **PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

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Daphne Gillyard  
Rustic Oaks Community Dev District  
2300 Glades RD # 410W  
Boca Raton FL 33431-8556

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF Sarasota

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02/19/2022

and that the fees charged are legal.  
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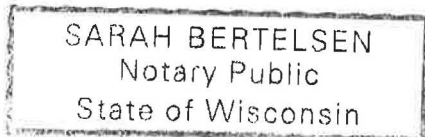
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PO #: Notice of Rulemaking

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NOTICE OF RULEMAKING  
REGARDING THE RULES OF  
PROCEDURE OF THE RUSTIC  
OAKS COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

A public hearing will be conducted by the Board of Supervisors of the Rustic Oaks Community Development District ("District") on March 21, 2022 at 1:30 p.m., at Comfort Suites Sarasota - Siesta Key, 5690 Honore Avenue, Sarasota, Florida, 34233.

In accord with Chapters 120 and 190, Florida Statutes, the District hereby gives the public notice of its intent to adopt its proposed Rules of Procedure. The purpose and effect of the proposed Rules of Procedure is to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to ensure compliance with recent changes to Florida law. Prior notice of rule development was published in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune on September 9, 2021.

The Rules of Procedure may address such areas as the Board of Supervisors, officers and voting, district offices, public information and inspection of records, policies, public meetings, hearings and workshops, rulemaking proceedings and competitive purchase including procedure under the Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act, procedure regarding auditor selection, purchase of insurance, pre-qualification, construction contracts, goods, supplies and materials, maintenance services, contractual services and protests with respect to proceedings, as well as any other area of the general operation of the District.

Specific legal authority for the adoption of the proposed Rules of Procedure includes Sections 190.011(5), 190.011(15) and 190.035, Florida Statutes (2019). The specific laws implemented in the Rules of Procedure include, but are not limited to, Sections 112.08, 112.3143, 112.31446, 112.3145, 119.07, 119.0701, 189.053, 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 190.011(3), 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, 190.035, 218.33, 218.391, 255.05, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, 287.017, 287.055 and 287.084, Florida Statutes (2019).

A copy of the proposed Rules of Procedure may be obtained by contacting the District Manager's Office at 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, (877) 276-0889 ("District Manager's Office") or by email to [wra@hlc@whhassociates.com](mailto:wra@hlc@whhassociates.com).

Any person who wishes to provide the District with a proposal for a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), Florida Statutes, must do so in writing within twenty one (21) days after publication of this notice to the District Manager's Office.

This public hearing may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record at the hearing without additional notice. If anyone chooses to appeal any decision of the Board with respect to any matter considered at a public hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and should accordingly ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which includes the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based. At the hearing, staff or Supervisors may participate in the public hearing by speaker telephone.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8771 or 1 800-955-8770 for aid in contacting the District Office.

District Manager  
Rustic Oaks Community  
Development District

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**4B**

**RESOLUTION 2022-12**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ADOPTING RULES OF PROCEDURE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Rustic Oaks Community Development District (“**District**”) is a local unit of special purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, being situated within the City of Venice, Sarasota County, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, authorizes the District to adopt rules to govern the administration of the District and to adopt resolutions as may be necessary for the conduct of District business; and

**WHEREAS**, to provide for efficient and effective District operations and to maintain compliance with recent changes to Florida law, the Board of Supervisors finds that it is in the best interests of the District to adopt by resolution the Rules of Procedure attached hereto as **Exhibit A** for immediate use and application; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors has complied with applicable Florida law concerning rule development and adoption.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:**

**SECTION 1.** The attached Rules of Procedure are hereby adopted pursuant to this resolution as necessary for the conduct of District business. These Rules of Procedure replace all prior versions of the Rules of Procedure, and shall stay in full force and effect until such time as the Board of Supervisors may amend these rules in accordance with Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*.

**SECTION 2.** If any provision of this resolution is held to be illegal or invalid, the other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3.** This resolution shall become effective upon its passage and shall remain in effect unless rescinded or repealed.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

**ATTEST:**

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

**Exhibit A:** Rules of Procedure

**EXHIBIT A:**  
RULES OF PROCEDURE

**RULES OF PROCEDURE  
RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**EFFECTIVE AS OF MARCH 21, 2022**

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**Rule 1.0      General.**

- (1) The Rustic Oaks Community Development District (“District”) was created pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes, and was established to provide for the ownership, operation, maintenance, and provision of various capital facilities and services within its jurisdiction. The purpose of these rules (“Rules”) is to describe the general operations of the District.
- (2) Definitions located within any section of these Rules shall be applicable within all other sections, unless specifically stated to the contrary.
- (3) Unless specifically permitted by a written agreement with the District, the District does not accept documents filed by electronic mail or facsimile transmission. Filings are only accepted during normal business hours.
- (4) A Rule of the District shall be effective upon adoption by affirmative vote of the District Board. After a Rule becomes effective, it may be repealed or amended only through the rulemaking procedures specified in these Rules. Notwithstanding, the District may immediately suspend the application of a Rule if the District determines that the Rule conflicts with Florida law. In the event that a Rule conflicts with Florida law and its application has not been suspended by the District, such Rule should be interpreted in the manner that best effectuates the intent of the Rule while also complying with Florida law. If the intent of the Rule absolutely cannot be effectuated while complying with Florida law, the Rule shall be automatically suspended.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Rule 1.1 Board of Supervisors; Officers and Voting.**

- (1) Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors of the District (“Board”) shall consist of five (5) members. Members of the Board (“Supervisors”) appointed by ordinance or rule or elected by landowners must be citizens of the United States of America and residents of the State of Florida. Supervisors elected or appointed by the Board to elector seats must be citizens of the United States of America, residents of the State of Florida and of the District and registered to vote with the Supervisor of Elections of the county in which the District is located and for those elected, shall also be qualified to run by the Supervisor of Elections. The Board shall exercise the powers granted to the District under Florida law.
  - (a) Supervisors shall hold office for the term specified by Section 190.006 of the Florida Statutes. If, during the term of office, any Board member(s) vacates their office, the remaining member(s) of the Board shall fill the vacancies by appointment for the remainder of the term(s). If three or more vacancies exist at the same time, a quorum, as defined herein, shall not be required to appoint replacement Board members.
  - (b) Three (3) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting business, exercising powers and all other purposes. A Board member shall be counted toward the quorum if physically present at the meeting, regardless of whether such Board member is prohibited from, or abstains from, participating in discussion or voting on a particular item.
  - (c) Action taken by the Board shall be upon a majority vote of the members present, unless otherwise provided in the Rules or required by law. Subject to Rule 1.3(10), a Board member participating in the Board meeting by teleconference or videoconference shall be entitled to vote and take all other action as though physically present.
  - (d) Unless otherwise provided for by an act of the Board, any one Board member may attend a mediation session on behalf of the Board. Any agreement resulting from such mediation session must be approved pursuant to subsection (1)(c) of this Rule.
- (2) Officers. At the first Board meeting held after each election where the newly elected members take office, the Board shall select a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Treasurer.
  - (a) The Chairperson must be a member of the Board. If the Chairperson resigns from that office or ceases to be a member of the Board, the Board shall select a Chairperson. The Chairperson serves at the pleasure of the Board. The Chairperson shall be authorized to execute resolutions and



contracts on the District's behalf. The Chairperson shall convene and conduct all meetings of the Board. In the event the Chairperson is unable to attend a meeting, the Vice-Chairperson shall convene and conduct the meeting. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson may delegate the responsibility of conducting the meeting to the District's manager ("District Manager") or District Counsel, in whole or in part.

- (b) The Vice-Chairperson shall be a member of the Board and shall have such duties and responsibilities as specifically designated by the Board from time to time. The Vice-Chairperson has the authority to execute resolutions and contracts on the District's behalf in the absence of the Chairperson. If the Vice-Chairperson resigns from office or ceases to be a member of the Board, the Board shall select a Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson serves at the pleasure of the Board.
- (c) The Secretary of the Board serves at the pleasure of the Board and need not be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining the minutes of Board meetings and may have other duties assigned by the Board from time to time. An employee of the District Manager may serve as Secretary. The Secretary shall be bonded by a reputable and qualified bonding company in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or have in place a fidelity bond, employee theft insurance policy, or a comparable product in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) that names the District as an additional insured.
- (d) The Treasurer need not be a member of the Board but must be a resident of the State of Florida. The Treasurer shall perform duties described in Section 190.007(2) and (3) of the Florida Statutes, as well as those assigned by the Board from time to time. The Treasurer shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Treasurer shall either be bonded by a reputable and qualified bonding company in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), or have in place a fidelity bond, employee theft insurance policy, or a comparable product in at least the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) that names the District as an additional insured.
- (e) In the event that both the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are absent from a Board meeting and a quorum is present, the Board may designate one of its members or a member of District staff to convene and conduct the meeting. In such circumstances, any of the Board members present are authorized to execute agreements, resolutions, and other documents approved by the Board at such meeting. In the event that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are both unavailable to execute a document

previously approved by the Board, the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary may execute such document.

- (f) The Board may assign additional duties to District officers from time to time, which include, but are not limited to, executing documents on behalf of the District.
  - (g) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and any other person authorized by District Resolution may sign checks and warrants for the District, countersigned by the Treasurer or other persons authorized by the Board.
- (3) Committees. The Board may establish committees of the Board, either on a permanent or temporary basis, to perform specifically designated functions. Committees may include individuals who are not members of the Board. Such functions may include, but are not limited to, review of bids, proposals, and qualifications, contract negotiations, personnel matters, and budget preparation.
- (4) Record Book. The Board shall keep a permanent record book entitled "Record of Proceedings," in which shall be recorded minutes of all meetings, resolutions, proceedings, certificates, and corporate acts. The Records of Proceedings shall be located at a District office and shall be available for inspection by the public.
- (5) Meetings. For each fiscal year, the Board shall establish a schedule of regular meetings, which shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located and filed with the local general-purpose governments within whose boundaries the District is located. All meetings of the Board and Committees serving an advisory function shall be open to the public in accord with the provisions of Chapter 286 of the Florida Statutes.
- (6) Voting Conflict of Interest. The Board shall comply with Section 112.3143 of the Florida Statutes, so as to ensure the proper disclosure of conflicts of interest on matters coming before the Board for a vote. For the purposes of this section, "voting conflict of interest" shall be governed by the Florida Constitution and Chapters 112 and 190 of the Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time. Generally, a voting conflict exists when a Board member is called upon to vote on an item which would inure to the Board member's special private gain or loss or the Board member knows would inure to the special private gain or loss of a principal by whom the Board member is retained, the parent organization or subsidiary of a corporate principal, a business associate, or a relative including only a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law.
- (a) When a Board member knows the member has a conflict of interest on a matter coming before the Board, the member should notify the Board's

Secretary prior to participating in any discussion with the Board on the matter. The member shall publicly announce the conflict of interest at the meeting. This announcement shall appear in the minutes.

If the Board member was elected at a landowner's election or appointed to fill a vacancy of a seat last filled at a landowner's election, the Board member may vote or abstain from voting on the matter at issue. If the Board member was elected by electors residing within the District, the Board member is prohibited from voting on the matter at issue. In the event that the Board member intends to abstain or is prohibited from voting, such Board member shall not participate in the discussion on the item subject to the vote.

The Board's Secretary shall prepare a Memorandum of Voting Conflict (Form 8B) which shall then be signed by the Board member, filed with the Board's Secretary, and provided for attachment to the minutes of the meeting within fifteen (15) days of the meeting.

- (b) If a Board member inadvertently votes on a matter and later learns he or she has a conflict on the matter, the member shall immediately notify the Board's Secretary. Within fifteen (15) days of the notification, the member shall file the appropriate Memorandum of Voting Conflict, which will be attached to the minutes of the Board meeting during which the vote on the matter occurred. The Memorandum of Voting Conflict shall immediately be provided to other Board members and shall be read publicly at the next meeting held subsequent to the filing of the Memorandum of Voting Conflict. The Board member's vote is unaffected by this filing.
- (c) It is not a conflict of interest for a Board member, the District Manager, or an employee of the District to be a stockholder, officer or employee of a landowner or of an entity affiliated with a landowner.
- (d) In the event that a Board member elected at a landowner's election or appointed to fill a vacancy of a seat last filled at a landowner's election, has a continuing conflict of interest, such Board member is permitted to file a Memorandum of Voting Conflict at any time in which it shall state the nature of the continuing conflict. Only one such continuing Memorandum of Voting Conflict shall be required to be filed for each term the Board member is in office.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.  
**Law Implemented:** §§ 112.3143, 190.006, 190.007, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 1.2 District Offices; Public Information and Inspection of Records; Policies; Service Contract Requirements; Financial Disclosure Coordination.**

- (1) District Offices. Unless otherwise designated by the Board, the official District office shall be the District Manager's office identified by the District Manager. If the District Manager's office is not located within the county in which the District is located, the Board shall designate a local records office within such county which shall at a minimum contain, but not be limited to, the following documents:
- (a) Agenda packages for prior 24 months and next meeting;
  - (b) Official minutes of meetings, including adopted resolutions of the Board;
  - (c) Names and addresses of current Board members and District Manager, unless such addresses are protected from disclosure by law;
  - (d) Adopted engineer's reports;
  - (e) Adopted assessment methodologies/reports;
  - (f) Adopted disclosure of public financing;
  - (g) Limited Offering Memorandum for each financing undertaken by the District;
  - (h) Proceedings, certificates, bonds given by all employees, and any and all corporate acts;
  - (i) District policies and rules;
  - (j) Fiscal year end audits; and
  - (k) Adopted budget for the current fiscal year.

The District Manager shall ensure that each District records office contains the documents required by Florida law.

- (2) Public Records. District public records include all documents, papers, letters, maps, books, tapes, photographs, films, sound recordings, data processing software, or other material, regardless of the physical form, characteristics, or means of transmission, made or received in connection with the transaction of official business of the District. All District public records not otherwise restricted by law may be copied or inspected at the District Manager's office during regular business hours. Certain District records can also be inspected and copied at the

District's local records office during regular business hours. All written public records requests shall be directed to the Secretary who by these rules is appointed as the District's records custodian. Regardless of the form of the request, any Board member or staff member who receives a public records request shall immediately forward or communicate such request to the Secretary for coordination of a prompt response. The Secretary, after consulting with District Counsel as to the applicability of any exceptions under the public records laws, shall be responsible for responding to the public records request. At no time can the District be required to create records or summaries of records, or prepare opinions regarding District policies, in response to a public records request.

- (3) Service Contracts. Any contract for services, regardless of cost, shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws. The District Manager shall be responsible for initially enforcing all contract provisions related to a contractor's duty to comply with public records laws.
  
- (4) Fees; Copies. Copies of public records shall be made available to the requesting person at a charge of \$0.15 per page for one-sided copies and \$0.20 per page for two-sided copies if not more than 8 ½ by 14 inches. For copies of public records in excess of the sizes listed in this section and for outside duplication services, the charge shall be equal to the actual cost of reproduction. Certified copies of public records shall be made available at a charge of one dollar (\$1.00) per page. If the nature or volume of records requested requires extensive use of information technology resources or extensive clerical or supervisory assistance, the District may charge, in addition to the duplication charge, a special service charge that is based on the cost the District incurs to produce the records requested. This charge may include, but is not limited to, the cost of information technology resource, employee labor, and fees charged to the District by consultants employed in fulfilling the request. In cases where the special service charge is based in whole or in part on the costs incurred by the District due to employee labor, consultant fees, or other forms of labor, those portions of the charge shall be calculated based on the lowest labor cost of the individual(s) who is/are qualified to perform the labor, taking into account the nature or volume of the public records to be inspected or copied. The charge may include the labor costs of supervisory and/or clerical staff whose assistance is required to complete the records request, in accordance with Florida law. For purposes of this Rule, the word "extensive" shall mean that it will take more than 15 minutes to locate, review for confidential information, copy and re-file the requested material. In cases where extensive personnel time is determined by the District to be necessary to safeguard original records being inspected, the special service charge provided for in this section shall apply. If the total fees, including but not limited to special service charges, are anticipated to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), then, prior to commencing work on the request, the District will inform the person

making the public records request of the estimated cost, with the understanding that the final cost may vary from that estimate. If the person making the public records request decides to proceed with the request, payment of the estimated cost is required in advance. Should the person fail to pay the estimate, the District is under no duty to produce the requested records. After the request has been fulfilled, additional payments or credits may be due. The District is under no duty to produce records in response to future records requests if the person making the request owes the District for past unpaid duplication charges, special service charges, or other required payments or credits.

- (5) Records Retention. The Secretary of the District shall be responsible for retaining the District's records in accordance with applicable Florida law.
- (6) Policies. The Board may adopt policies related to the conduct of its business and the provision of services either by resolution or motion.
- (7) Financial Disclosure Coordination. Unless specifically designated by Board resolution otherwise, the Secretary shall serve as the Financial Disclosure Coordinator ("Coordinator") for the District as required by the Florida Commission on Ethics ("Commission"). The Coordinator shall create, maintain and update a list of the names, e-mail addresses, physical addresses, and names of the agency of, and the office or position held by, all Supervisors and other persons required by Florida law to file a statement of financial interest due to his or her affiliation with the District ("Reporting Individual"). The Coordinator shall provide this list to the Commission by February 1 of each year, which list shall be current as of December 31 of the prior year. Each Supervisor and Reporting Individual shall promptly notify the Coordinator in writing if there are any changes to such person's name, e-mail address, or physical address. Each Supervisor and Reporting Individual shall promptly notify the Commission in the manner prescribed by the Commission if there are any changes to such person's e-mail address.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 112.31446(3), 112.3145(8)(a)1., 119.07, 119.0701, 190.006, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 1.3 Public Meetings, Hearings, and Workshops.**

- (1) Notice. Except in emergencies, or as otherwise required by statute or these Rules, at least seven (7) days public notice shall be given of any public meeting, hearing or workshop of the Board. Public notice shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and in the county in which the District is located. "General circulation" means a publication that is printed and published at least once a week for the preceding year, offering at least 25% of its words in the English language, qualifies as a periodicals material for postal purposes in the county in which the District is located, is for sale to the public generally, is available to the public generally for the publication of official or other notices, and is customarily containing information of a public character or of interest or of value to the residents or owners of property in the county where published, or of interest or of value to the general public. The annual meeting notice required to be published by Section 189.015 of the Florida Statutes, shall be published in a newspaper not of limited subject matter, which is published at least five days a week, unless the only newspaper in the county is published less than five days a week. Each Notice shall state, as applicable:
- (a) The date, time and place of the meeting, hearing or workshop;
  - (b) A brief description of the nature, subjects, and purposes of the meeting, hearing, or workshop;
  - (c) The District office address for the submission of requests for copies of the agenda, as well as a contact name and telephone number for verbal requests for copies of the agenda; and
  - (d) The following or substantially similar language: "Pursuant to provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting/hearing/workshop is asked to advise the District Office at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting/hearing/workshop by contacting the District Manager at (877) 276-0889. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1 (800) 955-8770 or 1 (800) 955-8771, who can aid you in contacting the District Office."
  - (e) The following or substantially similar language: "A person who decides to appeal any decision made at the meeting/hearing/workshop with respect to any matter considered at the meeting/hearing/workshop is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based."

- (f) The following or substantially similar language: “The meeting [or hearing or workshop] may be continued in progress without additional notice to a time, date, and location stated on the record.”
- (2) Mistake. In the event that a meeting is held under the incorrect assumption that notice required by law and these Rules has been given, the Board at its next properly noticed meeting shall cure such defect by considering the agenda items from the prior meeting individually and anew.
- (3) Agenda. The District Manager, under the guidance of District Counsel and the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson, shall prepare an agenda of the meeting/hearing/workshop. The agenda and any meeting materials available in an electronic format, excluding any confidential and any confidential and exempt information, shall be available to the public at least seven days before the meeting/hearing/workshop, except in an emergency. Meeting materials shall be defined as, and limited to, the agenda, meeting minutes, resolutions, and agreements of the District that District staff deems necessary for Board approval. Inclusion of additional materials for Board consideration other than those defined herein as “meeting materials” shall not convert such materials into “meeting materials.” For good cause, the agenda may be changed after it is first made available for distribution, and additional materials may be added or provided under separate cover at the meeting. The requirement of good cause shall be liberally construed to allow the District to efficiently conduct business and to avoid the expenses associated with special meetings.

The District may, but is not required to, use the following format in preparing its agenda for its regular meetings:

- Call to order
- Roll call
- Public comment
- Organizational matters
- Review of minutes
- Specific items of old business
- Specific items of new business
- Staff reports
  - (a) District Counsel
  - (b) District Engineer
  - (c) District Manager
    - 1. Financial Report
    - 2. Approval of Expenditures
- Supervisor’s requests and comments
- Public comment



## Adjournment

- (4) Minutes. The Secretary shall be responsible for preparing and keeping the minutes of each meeting of the Board. Minutes shall be corrected and approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting. The Secretary may work with other staff members in preparing draft minutes for the Board's consideration.
- (5) Special Requests. Persons wishing to receive, by mail, notices or agendas of meetings, may so advise the District Manager or Secretary at the District Office. Such persons shall furnish a mailing address in writing and shall be required to pre-pay the cost of the copying and postage.
- (6) Emergency Meetings. The Chairperson, or Vice-Chairperson if the Chairperson is unavailable, upon consultation with the District Manager and District Counsel, if available, may convene an emergency meeting of the Board without first having complied with sections (1) and (3) of this Rule, to act on emergency matters that may affect the public health, safety, or welfare. Whenever possible, the District Manager shall make reasonable efforts to provide public notice and notify all Board members of an emergency meeting twenty-four (24) hours in advance. Reasonable efforts may include telephone notification. Notice of the emergency meeting must be provided both before and after the meeting on the District's website, if it has one. Whenever an emergency meeting is called, the District Manager shall be responsible for notifying at least one newspaper of general circulation in the District. After an emergency meeting, the Board shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the District, the time, date and place of the emergency meeting, the reasons why an emergency meeting was necessary, and a description of the action taken. Actions taken at an emergency meeting may be ratified by the Board at a regularly noticed meeting subsequently held.
- (7) Public Comment. The Board shall set aside a reasonable amount of time at each meeting for public comment and members of the public shall be permitted to provide comment on any proposition before the Board. The portion of the meeting generally reserved for public comment shall be identified in the agenda. Policies governing public comment may be adopted by the Board in accordance with Florida law.
- (8) Budget Hearing. Notice of hearing on the annual budget(s) shall be in accord with Section 190.008 of the Florida Statutes. Once adopted in accord with Section 190.008 of the Florida Statutes, the annual budget(s) may be amended from time to time by action of the Board. Approval of invoices by the Board in excess of the funds allocated to a particular budgeted line item shall serve to amend the budgeted line item.

- (9) Public Hearings. Notice of required public hearings shall contain the information required by applicable Florida law and by these Rules applicable to meeting notices and shall be mailed and published as required by Florida law. The District Manager shall ensure that all such notices, whether mailed or published, contain the information required by Florida law and these Rules and are mailed and published as required by Florida law. Public hearings may be held during Board meetings when the agenda includes such public hearing.
- (10) Participation by Teleconference/Videoconference. District staff may participate in Board meetings by teleconference or videoconference. Board members may also participate in Board meetings by teleconference or videoconference if in the good judgment of the Board extraordinary circumstances exist; provided however, at least three Board members must be physically present at the meeting location to establish a quorum. Such extraordinary circumstances shall be presumed when a Board member participates by teleconference or videoconference, unless a majority of the Board members physically present determines that extraordinary circumstances do not exist.
- (11) Board Authorization. The District has not adopted Robert's Rules of Order. For each agenda item, there shall be discussion permitted among the Board members during the meeting. Unless such procedure is waived by the Board, approval or disapproval of resolutions and other proposed Board actions shall be in the form of a motion by one Board member, a second by another Board member, and an affirmative vote by the majority of the Board members present. Any Board member, including the Chairperson, can make or second a motion.
- (12) Continuances. Any meeting or public hearing of the Board may be continued without re-notice or re-advertising provided that:
- (a) The Board identifies on the record at the original meeting a reasonable need for a continuance;
  - (b) The continuance is to a specified date, time, and location publicly announced at the original meeting; and
  - (c) The public notice for the original meeting states that the meeting may be continued to a date and time and states that the date, time, and location of any continuance shall be publicly announced at the original meeting and posted at the District Office immediately following the original meeting.
- (13) Attorney-Client Sessions. An Attorney-Client Session is permitted when the District's attorneys deem it necessary to meet in private with the Board to discuss pending litigation to which the District is a party before a court or administrative agency or as may be authorized by law. The District's attorney must request such

session at a public meeting. Prior to holding the Attorney-Client Session, the District must give reasonable public notice of the time and date of the session and the names of the persons anticipated to attend the session. The session must commence at an open meeting in which the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson announces the commencement of the session, the estimated length of the session, and the names of the persons who will be attending the session. The discussion during the session is confined to settlement negotiations or strategy related to litigation expenses or as may be authorized by law. Only the Board, the District's attorneys (including outside counsel), the District Manager, and the court reporter may attend an Attorney-Client Session. During the session, no votes may be taken and no final decisions concerning settlement can be made. Upon the conclusion of the session, the public meeting is reopened, and the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson must announce that the session has concluded. The session must be transcribed by a court-reporter and the transcript of the session filed with the District Secretary within a reasonable time after the session. The transcript shall not be available for public inspection until after the conclusion of the litigation.

- (14) Security and Firesafety Board Discussions. Portions of a meeting which relate to or would reveal a security or firesafety system plan or portion thereof made confidential and exempt by section 119.071(3)(a), Florida Statutes, are exempt from the public meeting requirements and other requirements of section 286.011, Florida Statutes, and section 24(b), Article 1 of the State Constitution. Should the Board wish to discuss such matters, members of the public shall be required to leave the meeting room during such discussion. Any records of the Board's discussion of such matters, including recordings or minutes, shall be maintained as confidential and exempt records in accordance with Florida law.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 189.069(2)(a)16, 190.006, 190.007, 190.008, 286.0105, 286.011, 286.0113, 286.0114, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 1.4 Internal Controls to Prevent Fraud, Waste and Abuse**

(1) Internal Controls. The District shall establish and maintain internal controls designed to:

- (a) Prevent and detect “fraud,” “waste” and “abuse” as those terms are defined in section 11.45(1), Florida Statutes; and
- (b) Promote and encourage compliance with applicable laws, rules contracts, grant agreements, and best practices; and
- (c) Support economical and efficient operations; and
- (d) Ensure reliability of financial records and reports; and
- (e) Safeguard assets.

(2) Adoption. The internal controls to prevent fraud, waste and abuse shall be adopted and amended by the District in the same manner as District policies.

**Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.**

**Law Implemented: § 218.33(3), Fla. Stat.**

**Rule 2.0 Rulemaking Proceedings.**

- (1) Commencement of Proceedings. Proceedings held for adoption, amendment, or repeal of a District rule shall be conducted according to these Rules. Rulemaking proceedings shall be deemed to have been initiated upon publication of notice by the District. A “rule” is a District statement of general applicability that implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy, or describes the procedure or practice requirements of the District (“Rule”). Nothing herein shall be construed as requiring the District to consider or adopt rules unless required by Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes. Policies adopted by the District which do not consist of rates, fees, rentals or other monetary charges may be, but are not required to be, implemented through rulemaking proceedings.
  
- (2) Notice of Rule Development.
  - (a) Except when the intended action is the repeal of a Rule, the District shall provide notice of the development of a proposed rule by publication of a Notice of Rule Development in a newspaper of general circulation in the District before providing notice of a proposed rule as required by section (3) of this Rule. Consequently, the Notice of Rule Development shall be published at least twenty-nine (29) days prior to the public hearing on the proposed Rule. The Notice of Rule Development shall indicate the subject area to be addressed by rule development, provide a short, plain explanation of the purpose and effect of the proposed rule, cite the specific legal authority for the proposed rule, and include a statement of how a person may promptly obtain, without cost, a copy of any preliminary draft, if available.
  
  - (b) All rules as drafted shall be consistent with Sections 120.54(1)(g) and 120.54(2)(b) of the Florida Statutes.
  
- (3) Notice of Proceedings and Proposed Rules.
  - (a) Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule other than an emergency rule, the District shall give notice of its intended action, setting forth a short, plain explanation of the purpose and effect of the proposed action, a reference to the specific rulemaking authority pursuant to which the rule is adopted, and a reference to the section or subsection of the Florida Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific. The notice shall include a summary of the District’s statement of the estimated regulatory costs, if one has been prepared, based on the factors set forth in Section 120.541(2) of the Florida Statutes, and a statement that any person who wishes to provide the District with a lower cost regulatory alternative as provided by Section 120.541(1), must do so in writing within

twenty-one (21) days after publication of the notice. The notice shall additionally include a statement that any affected person may request a public hearing by submitting a written request within twenty-one (21) days after the date of publication of the notice. Except when intended action is the repeal of a rule, the notice shall include a reference to both the date on which and the place where the Notice of Rule Development required by section (2) of this Rule appeared.

- (b) The notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and each county in which the District is located not less than twenty-eight (28) days prior to the intended action. The proposed rule shall be available for inspection and copying by the public at the time of the publication of notice.
  - (c) The notice shall be mailed to all persons named in the proposed rule and to all persons who, at least fourteen (14) days prior to such mailing, have made requests of the District for advance notice of its rulemaking proceedings. Any person may file a written request with the District Manager to receive notice by mail of District proceedings to adopt, amend, or repeal a rule. Such persons must furnish a mailing address and may be required to pay the cost of copying and mailing.
- (4) Rule Development Workshops. Whenever requested in writing by any affected person, the District must either conduct a rule development workshop prior to proposing rules for adoption or the Chairperson must explain in writing why a workshop is unnecessary. The District may initiate a rule development workshop but is not required to do so.
- (5) Petitions to Initiate Rulemaking. All Petitions to Initiate Rulemaking proceedings must contain the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner, the specific action requested, the specific reason for adoption, amendment, or repeal, the date submitted, the text of the proposed rule, and the facts showing that the petitioner is regulated by the District or has a substantial interest in the rulemaking. Not later than sixty (60) calendar days following the date of filing a petition, the Board shall initiate rulemaking proceedings or deny the petition with a written statement of its reasons for the denial. If the petition is directed to an existing policy that the District has not formally adopted as a rule, the District may, in its discretion, notice and hold a public hearing on the petition to consider the comments of the public directed to the policy, its scope and application, and to consider whether the public interest is served adequately by the application of the policy on a case-by-case basis, as contrasted with its formal adoption as a rule. However, this section shall not be construed as requiring the District to adopt a rule to replace a policy.

- (6) Rulemaking Materials. After the publication of the notice referenced in section (3) of this Rule, the Board shall make available for public inspection and shall provide, upon request and payment of the cost of copies, the following materials:
- (a) The text of the proposed rule, or any amendment or repeal of any existing rules;
  - (b) A detailed written statement of the facts and circumstances justifying the proposed rule;
  - (c) A copy of the statement of estimated regulatory costs if required by Section 120.541 of the Florida Statutes; and
  - (d) The published notice.
- (7) Hearing. The District may, or, upon the written request of any affected person received within twenty-one (21) days after the date of publication of the notice described in section (3) of this Rule, shall, provide a public hearing for the presentation of evidence, argument, and oral statements, within the reasonable conditions and limitations imposed by the District to avoid duplication, irrelevant comments, unnecessary delay, or disruption of the proceedings. The District shall publish notice of the public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the District either in the text of the notice described in section (3) of this Rule or in a separate publication at least seven (7) days before the scheduled public hearing. The notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the public hearing, and the name, address, and telephone number of the District contact person who can provide information about the public hearing. Written statements may be submitted by any person prior to or at the public hearing. All timely submitted written statements shall be considered by the District and made part of the rulemaking record.
- (8) Emergency Rule Adoption. The Board may adopt an emergency rule if it finds that immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare exists which requires immediate action. Prior to the adoption of an emergency rule, the District Manager shall make reasonable efforts to notify a newspaper of general circulation in the District. Notice of emergency rules shall be published as soon as possible in a newspaper of general circulation in the District. The District may use any procedure which is fair under the circumstances in the adoption of an emergency rule as long as it protects the public interest as determined by the District and otherwise complies with these provisions.
- (9) Negotiated Rulemaking. The District may use negotiated rulemaking in developing and adopting rules pursuant to Section 120.54(2)(d) of the Florida Statutes, except that any notices required under Section 120.54(2)(d) of the

Florida Statutes, may be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located.

(10) Rulemaking Record. In all rulemaking proceedings, the District shall compile and maintain a rulemaking record. The record shall include, if applicable:

- (a) The texts of the proposed rule and the adopted rule;
- (b) All notices given for a proposed rule;
- (c) Any statement of estimated regulatory costs for the rule;
- (d) A written summary of hearings, if any, on the proposed rule;
- (e) All written comments received by the District and responses to those written comments; and
- (f) All notices and findings pertaining to an emergency rule.

(11) Petitions to Challenge Existing Rules.

- (a) Any person substantially affected by a rule may seek an administrative determination of the invalidity of the rule on the ground that the rule is an invalid exercise of the District's authority.
- (b) The petition seeking an administrative determination must state with particularity the provisions alleged to be invalid with sufficient explanation of the facts or grounds for the alleged invalidity and facts sufficient to show that the person challenging a rule is substantially affected by it.
- (c) The petition shall be filed with the District. Within 10 days after receiving the petition, the Chairperson shall, if the petition complies with the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, designate any member of the Board (including the Chairperson), District Manager, District Counsel, or other person as a hearing officer who shall conduct a hearing within 30 days thereafter, unless the petition is withdrawn or a continuance is granted by agreement of the parties. The failure of the District to follow the applicable rulemaking procedures or requirements in this Rule shall be presumed to be material; however, the District may rebut this presumption by showing that the substantial interests of the petitioner and the fairness of the proceedings have not been impaired.
- (d) Within 30 days after the hearing, the hearing officer shall render a decision and state the reasons therefor in writing.



- (e) Hearings held under this section shall be de novo in nature. The petitioner has a burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the existing rule is an invalid exercise of District authority as to the objections raised. The hearing officer may:
    - (i) Administer oaths and affirmations;
    - (ii) Rule upon offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;
    - (iii) Regulate the course of the hearing, including any pre-hearing matters;
    - (iv) Enter orders; and
    - (v) Make or receive offers of settlement, stipulation, and adjustment.
  - (f) The petitioner and the District shall be adverse parties. Other substantially affected persons may join the proceedings as intervenors on appropriate terms which shall not unduly delay the proceedings.
- (12) Variations and Waivers. A “variance” means a decision by the District to grant a modification to all or part of the literal requirements of a rule to a person who is subject to the rule. A “waiver” means a decision by the District not to apply all or part of a rule to a person who is subject to the rule. Variations and waivers from District rules may be granted subject to the following:
- (a) Variations and waivers shall be granted when the person subject to the rule demonstrates that the purpose of the underlying statute will be or has been achieved by other means by the person, and when application of the rule would create a substantial hardship or would violate principles of fairness. For purposes of this section, "substantial hardship" means a demonstrated economic, technological, legal, or other type of hardship to the person requesting the variance or waiver. For purposes of this section, "principles of fairness" are violated when the literal application of a rule affects a particular person in a manner significantly different from the way it affects other similarly situated persons who are subject to the rule.
  - (b) A person who is subject to regulation by a District Rule may file a petition with the District, requesting a variance or waiver from the District’s Rule. Each petition shall specify:
    - (i) The rule from which a variance or waiver is requested;
    - (ii) The type of action requested;

- (iii) The specific facts that would justify a waiver or variance for the petitioner; and
    - (iv) The reason why the variance or the waiver requested would serve the purposes of the underlying statute.
  - (c) The District shall review the petition and may request only that information needed to clarify the petition or to answer new questions raised by or directly related to the petition. If the petitioner asserts that any request for additional information is not authorized by law or by Rule of the District, the District shall proceed, at the petitioner's written request, to process the petition.
  - (d) The Board shall grant or deny a petition for variance or waiver and shall announce such disposition at a publicly held meeting of the Board, within ninety (90) days after receipt of the original petition, the last item of timely requested additional material, or the petitioner's written request to finish processing the petition. The District's statement granting or denying the petition shall contain a statement of the relevant facts and reasons supporting the District's action.
- (13) Rates, Fees, Rentals and Other Charges. All rates, fees, rentals, or other charges shall be subject to rulemaking proceedings. Policies adopted by the District which do not consist of rates, fees, rentals or other charges may be, but are not required to be, implemented through rulemaking proceedings.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.035, Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.035(2), Fla. Stat.

**Rule 3.0 Competitive Purchase.**

- (1) Purpose and Scope. In order to comply with Sections 190.033(1) through (3), 287.055 and 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, the following provisions shall apply to the purchase of Professional Services, insurance, construction contracts, design-build services, goods, supplies, and materials, Contractual Services, and maintenance services.
- (2) Board Authorization. Except in cases of an Emergency Purchase, a competitive purchase governed by these Rules shall only be undertaken after authorization by the Board.
- (3) Definitions.
  - (a) “Competitive Solicitation” means a formal, advertised procurement process, other than an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, or Invitation to Negotiate, approved by the Board to purchase commodities and/or services which affords vendors fair treatment in the competition for award of a District purchase contract.
  - (b) “Continuing Contract” means a contract for Professional Services entered into in accordance with Section 287.055 of the Florida Statutes, between the District and a firm, whereby the firm provides Professional Services to the District for projects in which the costs do not exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000), for a study activity when the fee for such Professional Services to the District does not exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), or for work of a specified nature as outlined in the contract with the District, with no time limitation except that the contract must provide a termination clause (for example, a contract for general District engineering services). Firms providing Professional Services under Continuing Contracts shall not be required to bid against one another.
  - (c) “Contractual Service” means the rendering by a contractor of its time and effort rather than the furnishing of specific commodities. The term applies only to those services rendered by individuals and firms who are independent contractors. Contractual Services do not include auditing services, Maintenance Services, or Professional Services as defined in Section 287.055(2)(a) of the Florida Statutes, and these Rules. Contractual Services also do not include any contract for the furnishing of labor or materials for the construction, renovation, repair, modification, or demolition of any facility, building, portion of building, utility, park, parking lot, or structure or other improvement to real property entered into pursuant to Chapter 255 of the Florida Statutes, and Rules 3.5 or 3.6.

- (d) “Design-Build Contract” means a single contract with a Design-Build Firm for the design and construction of a public construction project.
- (e) “Design-Build Firm” means a partnership, corporation or other legal entity that:
  - (i) Is certified under Section 489.119 of the Florida Statutes, to engage in contracting through a certified or registered general contractor or a certified or registered building contractor as the qualifying agent; or
  - (ii) Is certified under Section 471.023 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice engineering; certified under Section 481.219 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice architecture; or certified under Section 481.319 of the Florida Statutes, to practice or to offer to practice landscape architecture.
- (f) “Design Criteria Package” means concise, performance-oriented drawings or specifications for a public construction project. The purpose of the Design Criteria Package is to furnish sufficient information to permit Design-Build Firms to prepare a bid or a response to the District’s Request for Proposals, or to permit the District to enter into a negotiated Design-Build Contract. The Design Criteria Package must specify performance-based criteria for the public construction project, including the legal description of the site, survey information concerning the site, interior space requirements, material quality standards, schematic layouts and conceptual design criteria of the project, cost or budget estimates, design and construction schedules, site development requirements, provisions for utilities, stormwater retention and disposal, and parking requirements applicable to the project. Design Criteria Packages shall require firms to submit information regarding the qualifications, availability, and past work of the firms, including the partners and members thereof.
- (g) “Design Criteria Professional” means a firm who holds a current certificate of registration under Chapter 481 of the Florida Statutes, to practice architecture or landscape architecture, or a firm who holds a current certificate as a registered engineer under Chapter 471 of the Florida Statutes, to practice engineering, and who is employed by or under contract to the District to provide professional architect services, landscape architect services, or engineering services in connection with the preparation of the Design Criteria Package.
- (h) “Emergency Purchase” means a purchase necessitated by a sudden unexpected turn of events (for example, acts of God, riot, fires, floods,

hurricanes, accidents, or any circumstances or cause beyond the control of the Board in the normal conduct of its business), where the Board finds that the delay incident to competitive purchase would be detrimental to the interests of the District. This includes, but is not limited to, instances where the time to competitively award the project will jeopardize the funding for the project, will materially increase the cost of the project, or will create an undue hardship on the public health, safety, or welfare.

- (i) "Invitation to Bid" is a written solicitation for sealed bids with the title, date, and hour of the public bid opening designated specifically and defining the commodity or service involved. It includes printed instructions prescribing conditions for bidding, qualification, evaluation criteria, and provides for a manual signature of an authorized representative. It may include one or more bid alternates.
- (j) "Invitation to Negotiate" means a written solicitation for competitive sealed replies to select one or more vendors with which to commence negotiations for the procurement of commodities or services.
- (k) "Negotiate" means to conduct legitimate, arm's length discussions and conferences to reach an agreement on a term or price.
- (l) "Professional Services" means those services within the scope of the practice of architecture, professional engineering, landscape architecture, or registered surveying and mapping, as defined by the laws of Florida, or those services performed by any architect, professional engineer, landscape architect, or registered surveyor and mapper, in connection with the firm's or individual's professional employment or practice.
- (m) "Proposal (or Reply or Response) Most Advantageous to the District" means, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board, the proposal, reply, or response that is:
  - (i) Submitted by a person or firm capable and qualified in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements, who has the integrity and reliability to assure good faith performance;
  - (ii) The most responsive to the Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation as determined by the Board; and
  - (iii) For a cost to the District deemed by the Board to be reasonable.

- (n) “Purchase” means acquisition by sale, rent, lease, lease/purchase, or installment sale. It does not include transfer, sale, or exchange of goods, supplies, or materials between the District and any federal, state, regional or local governmental entity or political subdivision of the State of Florida.
- (o) “Request for Proposals” or “RFP” is a written solicitation for sealed proposals with the title, date, and hour of the public opening designated and requiring the manual signature of an authorized representative. It may provide general information, applicable laws and rules, statement of work, functional or general specifications, qualifications, proposal instructions, work detail analysis, and evaluation criteria as necessary.
- (p) “Responsive and Responsible Bidder” means an entity or individual that has submitted a bid that conforms in all material respects to the Invitation to Bid and has the capability in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability that will assure good faith performance. “Responsive and Responsible Vendor” means an entity or individual that has submitted a proposal, reply, or response that conforms in all material respects to the Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation and has the capability in all respects to fully perform the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability that will assure good faith performance. In determining whether an entity or individual is a Responsive and Responsible Bidder (or Vendor), the District may consider, in addition to factors described in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, the following:
  - (i) The ability and adequacy of the professional personnel employed by the entity/individual;
  - (ii) The past performance of the entity/individual for the District and in other professional employment;
  - (iii) The willingness of the entity/individual to meet time and budget requirements;
  - (iv) The geographic location of the entity’s/individual’s headquarters or office in relation to the project;
  - (v) The recent, current, and projected workloads of the entity/individual;
  - (vi) The volume of work previously awarded to the entity/individual;

- (vii) Whether the cost components of the bid or proposal are appropriately balanced; and
- (viii) Whether the entity/individual is a certified minority business enterprise.
- (q) “Responsive Bid,” “Responsive Proposal,” “Responsive Reply,” and “Responsive Response” all mean a bid, proposal, reply, or response which conforms in all material respects to the specifications and conditions in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation document and these Rules, and the cost components of which, if any, are appropriately balanced. A bid, proposal, reply or response is not responsive if the person or firm submitting it fails to meet any material requirement relating to the qualifications, financial stability, or licensing of the bidder.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.  
**Law Implemented:** §§ 190.033, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 3.1 Procedure Under the Consultants' Competitive Negotiations Act.**

- (1) Scope. The following procedures are adopted for the selection of firms or individuals to provide Professional Services exceeding the thresholds herein described, for the negotiation of such contracts, and to provide for protest of actions of the Board under this Rule. As used in this Rule, "Project" means that fixed capital outlay study or planning activity when basic construction cost is estimated by the District to exceed the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FIVE, or for a planning study activity when the fee for Professional Services is estimated by the District to exceed the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO, as such categories may be amended or adjusted from time to time.
  
- (2) Qualifying Procedures. In order to be eligible to provide Professional Services to the District, a consultant must, at the time of receipt of the firm's qualification submittal:
  - (a) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
  - (b) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
  - (c) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the consultant is a corporation; and
  - (d) Meet any qualification requirements set forth in the District's Request for Qualifications.

Evidence of compliance with this Rule may be submitted with the qualifications, if requested by the District. In addition, evidence of compliance must be submitted any time requested by the District.

- (3) Public Announcement. Except in cases of valid public emergencies as certified by the Board, the District shall announce each occasion when Professional Services are required for a Project or a Continuing Contract by publishing a notice providing a general description of the Project, or the nature of the Continuing Contract, and the method for interested consultants to apply for consideration. The notice shall appear in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the District and in such other places as the District deems appropriate. The notice must allow at least fourteen (14) days for submittal of qualifications from the date of publication. The District may maintain lists of consultants interested in receiving such notices. These consultants are encouraged to submit annually statements of qualifications and performance data. The District shall make reasonable efforts to provide copies of any notices to such consultants, but the failure to do so shall not give



such consultants any bid protest or other rights or otherwise disqualify any otherwise valid procurement process. The Board has the right to reject any and all qualifications, and such reservation shall be included in the published notice. Consultants not receiving a contract award shall not be entitled to recover from the District any costs of qualification package preparation or submittal.

(4) Competitive Selection.

- (a) The Board shall review and evaluate the data submitted in response to the notice described in section (3) of this Rule regarding qualifications and performance ability, as well as any statements of qualifications on file. The Board shall conduct discussions with, and may require public presentation by consultants regarding their qualifications, approach to the Project, and ability to furnish the required services. The Board shall then select and list the consultants, in order of preference, deemed to be the most highly capable and qualified to perform the required Professional Services, after considering these and other appropriate criteria:
  - (i) The ability and adequacy of the professional personnel employed by each consultant;
  - (ii) Whether a consultant is a certified minority business enterprise;
  - (iii) Each consultant's past performance;
  - (iv) The willingness of each consultant to meet time and budget requirements;
  - (v) The geographic location of each consultant's headquarters, office and personnel in relation to the project;
  - (vi) The recent, current, and projected workloads of each consultant; and
  - (vii) The volume of work previously awarded to each consultant by the District.
- (b) Nothing in these Rules shall prevent the District from evaluating and eventually selecting a consultant if less than three (3) Responsive qualification packages, including packages indicating a desire not to provide Professional Services on a given Project, are received.
- (c) If the selection process is administered by any person or committee other than the full Board, the selection made will be presented to the full Board

with a recommendation that competitive negotiations be instituted with the selected firms in order of preference listed.

- (d) Notice of the rankings adopted by the Board, including the rejection of some or all qualification packages, shall be provided in writing to all consultants by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's ranking decisions under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

(5) Competitive Negotiation.

- (a) After the Board has authorized the beginning of competitive negotiations, the District may begin such negotiations with the firm listed as most qualified to perform the required Professional Services at a rate or amount of compensation which the Board determines is fair, competitive, and reasonable.
- (b) In negotiating a lump-sum or cost-plus-a-fixed-fee professional contract for more than the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR, the firm receiving the award shall be required to execute a truth-in-negotiation certificate stating that "wage rates and other factual unit costs supporting the compensation are accurate, complete and current at the time of contracting." In addition, any professional service contract under which such a certificate is required, shall contain a provision that "the original contract price and any additions thereto, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which the Board determines the contract price was increased due to inaccurate, incomplete, or noncurrent wage rates and other factual unit costs."
- (c) Should the District be unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the firm determined to be the most qualified at a price deemed by the District to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, then negotiations with that firm shall be terminated and the District shall immediately begin negotiations with the second most qualified firm. If a satisfactory agreement with the second firm cannot be reached, those negotiations shall be terminated and negotiations with the third most qualified firm shall be undertaken.
- (d) Should the District be unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with one of the top three (3) ranked consultants, additional firms shall be

selected by the District, in order of their competence and qualifications. Negotiations shall continue, beginning with the first-named firm on the list, until an agreement is reached or the list of firms is exhausted.

- (6) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
- (7) Continuing Contract. Nothing in this Rule shall prohibit a Continuing Contract between a consultant and the District.
- (8) Emergency Purchase. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these Rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 119.0701, 190.011(3), 190.033, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

### **Rule 3.2 Procedure Regarding Auditor Selection.**

In order to comply with the requirements of Section 218.391 of the Florida Statutes, the following procedures are outlined for selection of firms or individuals to provide Auditing Services and for the negotiation of such contracts. For audits required under Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes but not meeting the thresholds of Chapter 218 of the Florida Statutes, the District need not follow these procedures but may proceed with the selection of a firm or individual to provide Auditing Services and for the negotiation of such contracts in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District.

(1) Definitions.

(a) "Auditing Services" means those services within the scope of the practice of a certified public accounting firm licensed under Chapter 473 of the Florida Statutes, and qualified to conduct audits in accordance with government auditing standards as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy.

(b) "Committee" means the auditor selection committee appointed by the Board as described in section (2) of this Rule.

(2) Establishment of Auditor Selection Committee. Prior to a public announcement under section (4) of this Rule that Auditing Services are required, the Board shall establish an auditor selection committee ("Committee"), the primary purpose of which is to assist the Board in selecting an auditor to conduct the annual financial audit required by Section 218.39 of the Florida Statutes. The Committee shall include at least three individuals, at least one of which must also be a member of the Board. The establishment and selection of the Committee must be conducted at a publicly noticed and held meeting of the Board. The Chairperson of the Committee must be a member of the Board. An employee, a chief executive officer, or a chief financial officer of the District may not serve as a member of the Committee; provided however such individual may serve the Committee in an advisory capacity.

(3) Establishment of Minimum Qualifications and Evaluation Criteria. Prior to a public announcement under section (4) of this Rule that Auditing Services are required, the Committee shall meet at a publicly noticed meeting to establish minimum qualifications and factors to use for the evaluation of Auditing Services to be provided by a certified public accounting firm licensed under Chapter 473 of the Florida Statutes, and qualified to conduct audits in accordance with government auditing standards as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy.

(a) Minimum Qualifications. In order to be eligible to submit a proposal, a firm must, at all relevant times including the time of receipt of the proposal by the District:

- (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
- (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the proposer is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any pre-qualification requirements established by the Committee and set forth in the RFP or other specifications.

If requested in the RFP or other specifications, evidence of compliance with the minimum qualifications as established by the Committee must be submitted with the proposal.

(b) Evaluation Criteria. The factors established for the evaluation of Auditing Services by the Committee shall include, but are not limited to:

- (i) Ability of personnel;
- (ii) Experience;
- (iii) Ability to furnish the required services; and
- (iv) Such other factors as may be determined by the Committee to be applicable to its particular requirements.

The Committee may also choose to consider compensation as a factor. If the Committee establishes compensation as one of the factors, compensation shall not be the sole or predominant factor used to evaluate proposals.

(4) Public Announcement. After identifying the factors to be used in evaluating the proposals for Auditing Services as set forth in section (3) of this Rule, the Committee shall publicly announce the opportunity to provide Auditing Services. Such public announcement shall include a brief description of the audit and how interested firms can apply for consideration and obtain the RFP. The notice shall appear in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the District and the

county in which the District is located. The public announcement shall allow for at least seven (7) days for the submission of proposals.

- (5) Request for Proposals. The Committee shall provide interested firms with a Request for Proposals (“RFP”). The RFP shall provide information on how proposals are to be evaluated and such other information the Committee determines is necessary for the firm to prepare a proposal. The RFP shall state the time and place for submitting proposals.
- (6) Committee’s Evaluation of Proposals and Recommendation. The Committee shall meet at a publicly held meeting that is publicly noticed for a reasonable time in advance of the meeting to evaluate all qualified proposals and may, as part of the evaluation, require that each interested firm provide a public presentation where the Committee may conduct discussions with the firm, and where the firm may present information, regarding the firm’s qualifications. At the public meeting, the Committee shall rank and recommend in order of preference no fewer than three firms deemed to be the most highly qualified to perform the required services after considering the factors established pursuant to subsection (3)(b) of this Rule. If fewer than three firms respond to the RFP or if no firms respond to the RFP, the Committee shall recommend such firm as it deems to be the most highly qualified. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may recommend that any and all proposals be rejected.
- (7) Board Selection of Auditor.
  - (a) Where compensation was not selected as a factor used in evaluating the proposals, the Board shall negotiate with the firm ranked first and inquire of that firm as to the basis of compensation. If the Board is unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with the first ranked firm at a price deemed by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, then negotiations with that firm shall be terminated and the Board shall immediately begin negotiations with the second ranked firm. If a satisfactory agreement with the second ranked firm cannot be reached, those negotiations shall be terminated and negotiations with the third ranked firm shall be undertaken. The Board may reopen formal negotiations with any one of the three top-ranked firms, but it may not negotiate with more than one firm at a time. If the Board is unable to negotiate a satisfactory agreement with any of the selected firms, the Committee shall recommend additional firms in order of the firms’ respective competence and qualifications. Negotiations shall continue, beginning with the first-named firm on the list, until an agreement is reached or the list of firms is exhausted.

- (b) Where compensation was selected as a factor used in evaluating the proposals, the Board shall select the highest-ranked qualified firm or document in its public records the reason for not selecting the highest-ranked qualified firm.
  - (c) In negotiations with firms under this Rule, the Board may allow the District Manager, District Counsel, or other designee to conduct negotiations on its behalf.
  - (d) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board may reject any or all proposals. The Board shall not consider any proposal, or enter into any contract for Auditing Services, unless the proposed agreed-upon compensation is reasonable to satisfy the requirements of Section 218.39 of the Florida Statutes, and the needs of the District.
- (8) Contract. Any agreement reached under this Rule shall be evidenced by a written contract, which may take the form of an engagement letter signed and executed by both parties. The written contract shall include all provisions and conditions of the procurement of such services and shall include, at a minimum, the following:
- (a) A provision specifying the services to be provided and fees or other compensation for such services;
  - (b) A provision requiring that invoices for fees or other compensation be submitted in sufficient detail to demonstrate compliance with the terms of the contract;
  - (c) A provision setting forth deadlines for the auditor to submit a preliminary draft audit report to the District for review and to submit a final audit report no later than June 30 of the fiscal year that follows the fiscal year for which the audit is being conducted;
  - (d) A provision specifying the contract period, including renewals, and conditions under which the contract may be terminated or renewed. The maximum contract period including renewals shall be five (5) years. A renewal may be done without the use of the auditor selection procedures provided in this Rule but must be in writing.
  - (e) Provisions required by law that require the auditor to comply with public records laws.
- (9) Notice of Award. Once a negotiated agreement with a firm or individual is reached, or the Board authorizes the execution of an agreement with a firm where compensation was a factor in the evaluation of proposals, notice of the intent to

award, including the rejection of some or all proposals, shall be provided in writing to all proposers by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests regarding the award of contracts under this Rule shall be as provided for in Rule 3.11. No proposer shall be entitled to recover any costs of proposal preparation or submittal from the District.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 119.0701, 218.33, 218.391, Fla. Stat.



**Rule 3.3 Purchase of Insurance.**

- (1) Scope. The purchases of life, health, accident, hospitalization, legal expense, or annuity insurance, or all of any kinds of such insurance for the officers and employees of the District, and for health, accident, hospitalization, and legal expenses upon a group insurance plan by the District, shall be governed by this Rule. This Rule does not apply to the purchase of any other type of insurance by the District, including but not limited to liability insurance, property insurance, and directors and officers insurance. Nothing in this Rule shall require the District to purchase insurance.
- (2) Procedure. For a purchase of insurance within the scope of these Rules, the following procedure shall be followed:
  - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared a Notice of Invitation to Bid.
  - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District. The notice shall allow at least fourteen (14) days for submittal of bids.
  - (c) The District may maintain a list of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid. The District shall make reasonable efforts to provide copies of any notices to such persons, but the failure to do so shall not give such consultants any bid protest or other rights or otherwise disqualify any otherwise valid procurement process.
  - (d) Bids shall be opened at the time and place noted in the Invitation to Bid.
  - (e) If only one (1) response to an Invitation is received, the District may proceed with the purchase. If no response to an Invitation to Bid is received, the District may take whatever steps are reasonably necessary in order to proceed with the purchase.
  - (f) The Board has the right to reject any and all bids and such reservations shall be included in all solicitations and advertisements.
  - (g) Simultaneously with the review of the submitted bids, the District may undertake negotiations with those companies that have submitted reasonable and timely bids and, in the opinion of the District, are fully qualified and capable of meeting all services and requirements. Bid responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the specifications and criteria contained in the Invitation to Bid; in addition, the total cost to the District, the cost, if any, to the District officers, employees, or their dependents, the geographic location of the company's headquarters and

offices in relation to the District, and the ability of the company to guarantee premium stability may be considered. A contract to purchase insurance shall be awarded to that company whose response to the Invitation to Bid best meets the overall needs of the District, its officers, employees, and/or dependents.

- (h) Notice of the intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, shall be provided in writing to all bidders by United States Mail, by hand delivery, or by overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's procurement of insurance under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** § 112.08, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 3.4 Pre-qualification**

- (1) Scope. In its discretion, the District may undertake a pre-qualification process in accordance with this Rule for vendors to provide construction services, goods, supplies, and materials, Contractual Services, and maintenance services.
- (2) Procedure. When the District seeks to pre-qualify vendors, the following procedures shall apply:
  - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared a Request for Qualifications.
  - (b) For construction services exceeding the thresholds described in Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, the Board must advertise the proposed pre-qualification criteria and procedures and allow at least seven (7) days notice of the public hearing for comments on such pre-qualification criteria and procedures. At such public hearing, potential vendors may object to such pre-qualification criteria and procedures. Following such public hearing, the Board shall formally adopt pre-qualification criteria and procedures prior to the advertisement of the Request for Qualifications for construction services.
  - (c) The Request for Qualifications shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of qualifications for goods, supplies and materials, Contractual Services, maintenance services, and construction services under two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000). The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of qualifications for construction services estimated to cost over two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) and thirty (30) days for construction services estimated to cost over five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).
  - (d) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Requests for Qualifications. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any pre-qualification determination or contract awarded in accordance with these Rules and shall not be a basis for a protest of any pre-qualification determination or contract award.
  - (e) If the District has pre-qualified vendors for a particular category of purchase, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been

pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies or responses in response to the applicable Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

- (f) In order to be eligible to submit qualifications, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the qualifications:
  - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
  - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
  - (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
  - (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Request for Qualifications.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the qualifications if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the qualifications.

- (g) Qualifications shall be presented to the Board, or a committee appointed by the Board, for evaluation in accordance with the Request for Qualifications and this Rule. Minor variations in the qualifications may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature.
- (h) All vendors determined by the District to meet the pre-qualification requirements shall be pre-qualified. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the requirements contained in a Request for Qualifications, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of qualifications. For construction services, any contractor pre-qualified and considered eligible by the Department of Transportation to bid to perform the type of work the project entails shall be presumed to be qualified to perform the project.

(i) The Board shall have the right to reject all qualifications if there are not enough to be competitive or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of qualification preparation or submittal from the District.

(j) Notice of intent to pre-qualify, including rejection of some or all qualifications, shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, electronic mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's pre-qualification decisions under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11; provided however, protests related to the pre-qualification criteria and procedures for construction services shall be resolved in accordance with section (2)(b) of this Rule and Section 255.20(1)(b) of the Florida Statutes.

(3) Suspension, Revocation, or Denial of Qualification

(a) The District, for good cause, may deny, suspend, or revoke a prequalified vendor's pre-qualified status. A suspension, revocation, or denial for good cause shall prohibit the vendor from bidding on any District construction contract for which qualification is required, shall constitute a determination of non-responsibility to bid on any other District construction or maintenance contract, and shall prohibit the vendor from acting as a material supplier or subcontractor on any District contract or project during the period of suspension, revocation, or denial. Good cause shall include the following:

- i. One of the circumstances specified under Section 337.16(2), Fla. Stat., has occurred.
- ii. Affiliated contractors submitted more than one proposal for the same work. In this event the pre-qualified status of all of the affiliated bidders will be revoked, suspended, or denied. All bids of affiliated bidders will be rejected.
- iii. The vendor made or submitted false, deceptive, or fraudulent statements, certifications, or materials in any claim for payment or any information required by any District contract.
- iv. The vendor or its affiliate defaulted on any contract or a contract surety assumed control of financial responsibility for any contract of the vendor.

- v. The vendor's qualification to bid is suspended, revoked, or denied by any other public or semi-public entity, or the vendor has been the subject of a civil enforcement proceeding or settlement involving a public or semi-public entity.
- vi. The vendor failed to comply with contract or warranty requirements or failed to follow District direction in the performance of a contract.
- vii. The vendor failed to timely furnish all contract documents required by the contract specifications, special provisions, or by any state or federal statutes or regulations. If the vendor fails to furnish any of the subject contract documents by the expiration of the period of suspension, revocation, or denial set forth above, the vendor's pre-qualified status shall remain suspended, revoked, or denied until the documents are furnished.
- viii. The vendor failed to notify the District within 10 days of the vendor, or any of its affiliates, being declared in default or otherwise not completing work on a contract or being suspended from qualification to bid or denied qualification to bid by any other public or semi-public agency.
- ix. The vendor did not pay its subcontractors or suppliers in a timely manner or in compliance with contract documents.
- x. The vendor has demonstrated instances of poor or unsatisfactory performance, deficient management resulting in project delay, poor quality workmanship, a history of payment of liquidated damages, untimely completion of projects, uncooperative attitude, contract litigation, inflated claims or defaults.
- xi. An affiliate of the vendor has previously been determined by the District to be non-responsible, and the specified period of suspension, revocation, denial, or non-responsibility remains in effect.
- xii. The vendor or affiliate(s) has been convicted of a contract crime.
  1. The term "contract crime" means any violation of state or federal antitrust laws with respect to a public contract or any violation of any state or federal law involving fraud, bribery, collusion, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation with respect to a public contract.
  2. The term "convicted" or "conviction" means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a contract crime, with or without an

adjudication of guilt, in any federal or state trial court of record as a result of a jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.

- (b) A denial, suspension, or revocation shall prohibit the vendor from being a subcontractor on District work during the period of denial, suspension, or revocation, except when a prime contractor's bid has used prices of a subcontractor who becomes disqualified after the bid, but before the request for authorization to sublet is presented.
- (c) The District shall inform the vendor in writing of its intent to deny, suspend, or revoke its pre-qualified status and inform the vendor of its right to a hearing, the procedure which must be followed, and the applicable time limits. If a hearing is requested within 10 days after the receipt of the notice of intent, the hearing shall be held within 30 days after receipt by the District of the request for the hearing. The decision shall be issued within 15 days after the hearing.
- (d) Such suspension or revocation shall not affect the vendor's obligations under any preexisting contract.
- (e) In the case of contract crimes, the vendor's pre-qualified status under this Rule shall be revoked indefinitely. For all violations of Rule 3.4(3)(a) other than for the vendor's conviction for contract crimes, the revocation, denial, or suspension of a vendor's pre-qualified status under this Rule shall be for a specific period of time based on the seriousness of the deficiency.

Examples of factors affecting the seriousness of a deficiency are:

- i. Impacts on project schedule, cost, or quality of work;
- ii. Unsafe conditions allowed to exist;
- iii. Complaints from the public;
- iv. Delay or interference with the bidding process;
- v. The potential for repetition;
- vi. Integrity of the public contracting process;
- vii. Effect on the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.  
**Law Implemented:** §§ 190.033, 255.0525, 255.20, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 3.5 Construction Contracts, Not Design-Build.**

- (1) Scope. All contracts for the construction or improvement of any building, structure, or other public construction works authorized by Chapter 190 of the Florida Statutes, the costs of which are estimated by the District in accordance with generally accepted cost accounting principles to be in excess of the threshold amount for applicability of Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, as that amount may be indexed or amended from time to time, shall be let under the terms of these Rules and the procedures of Section 255.20 of the Florida Statutes, as the same may be amended from time to time. A project shall not be divided solely to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of construction services is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
  - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
  - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the District and in the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of sealed bids, proposals, replies, or responses, unless the Board, for good cause, determines a shorter period of time is appropriate. Any project projected to cost more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) must be noticed at least thirty (30) days prior to the date for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses. If the Board has previously pre-qualified contractors pursuant to Rule 3.4 and determined that only the contractors that have been pre-qualified will be permitted to submit bids, proposals, replies, and responses, the Notice of Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation need not be published. Instead, the Notice of Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be sent to the pre-qualified contractors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service.
  - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in



accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.

- (d) If the District has pre-qualified providers of construction services, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, or responses to Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations.
- (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
  - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
  - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
  - (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the bidder is a corporation; and
  - (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Any contractor that has been found guilty by a court of any violation of federal labor or employment tax laws regarding subjects including but not limited to, reemployment assistance, safety, tax withholding, worker's compensation, unemployment tax, social security and Medicare tax, wage or hour, or prevailing rate laws within the past 5 years may be considered ineligible by the District to submit a bid, response, or proposal for a District project.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply, or response, if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses, or the portions of which that include the price, shall be publicly opened at a meeting noticed in accordance with Rule 1.3, and at which at least one district representative

is present. The name of each bidder and the price submitted in the bid shall be announced at such meeting and shall be made available upon request. Minutes should be taken at the meeting and maintained by the District. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation and these Rules. Minor variations in the bids, proposals, replies, or responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.

- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder in response to an Invitation to Bid shall be accepted. In relation to a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, the Board shall select the Responsive Proposal, Reply, or Response submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Vendor which is most advantageous to the District. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, and responses.
- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No contractor shall be entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, response, or reply preparation or submittal from the District.
- (i) The Board may require potential contractors to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
- (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses, shall be provided in writing to all contractors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall

constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's purchase of construction services under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

- (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase construction services or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may proceed with the procurement of construction services, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the construction services without further competitive selection processes.
- (3) Sole Source; Government. Construction services that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Construction services provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. This Rule shall not apply to the purchase of construction services, which may include goods, supplies, or materials, that are purchased under a federal, state, or local government contract that has been competitively procured by such federal, state, or local government in a manner consistent with the material procurement requirements of these Rules. A contract for construction services is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process.
- (4) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
- (5) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board Meeting.
- (6) Exceptions. This Rule is inapplicable when:
  - (a) The project is undertaken as repair or maintenance of an existing public facility;
  - (b) The funding source of the project will be diminished or lost because the time required to competitively award the project after the funds become available exceeds the time within which the funding source must be spent;
  - (c) The District has competitively awarded a project and the contractor has abandoned the project or the District has terminated the contract; or

- (d) The District, after public notice, conducts a public meeting under Section 286.011 of the Florida Statutes, and finds by a majority vote of the Board that it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using its own services, employees, and equipment.

Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 189.053, 190.033, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 3.6 Construction Contracts, Design-Build.**

- (1) Scope. The District may utilize Design-Build Contracts for any public construction project for which the Board determines that use of such contract is in the best interest of the District. When letting a Design-Build Contract, the District shall use the following procedure:
  - (2) Procedure.
    - (a) The District shall utilize a Design Criteria Professional meeting the requirements of Section 287.055(2)(k) of the Florida Statutes, when developing a Design Criteria Package, evaluating the proposals and qualifications submitted by Design-Build Firms, and determining compliance of the project construction with the Design Criteria Package. The Design Criteria Professional may be an employee of the District, may be the District Engineer selected by the District pursuant to Section 287.055 of the Florida Statutes, or may be retained pursuant to Rule 3.1. The Design Criteria Professional is not eligible to render services under a Design-Build Contract executed pursuant to the Design Criteria Package.
    - (b) A Design Criteria Package for the construction project shall be prepared and sealed by the Design Criteria Professional. If the project utilizes existing plans, the Design Criteria Professional shall create a Design Criteria Package by supplementing the plans with project specific requirements, if any.
    - (c) The Board may either choose to award the Design-Build Contract pursuant to the competitive proposal selection process set forth in Section 287.055(9) of the Florida Statutes, or pursuant to the qualifications-based selection process pursuant to Rule 3.1.
      - (i) Qualifications-Based Selection. If the process set forth in Rule 3.1 is utilized, subsequent to competitive negotiations, a guaranteed maximum price and guaranteed completion date shall be established.

(ii) Competitive Proposal-Based Selection. If the competitive proposal selection process is utilized, the Board, in consultation with the Design Criteria Professional, shall establish the criteria, standards and procedures for the evaluation of Design-Build Proposals based on price, technical, and design aspects of the project, weighted for the project. After a Design Criteria Package and the standards and procedures for evaluation of proposals have been developed, competitive proposals from qualified firms shall be solicited pursuant to the design criteria by the following procedure:

1. A Request for Proposals shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District is located. The notice shall allow at least twenty-one (21) days for submittal of sealed proposals, unless the Board, for good cause, determines a shorter period of time is appropriate. Any project projected to cost more than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) must be noticed at least thirty (30) days prior to the date for submittal of proposals.
2. The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Requests for Proposals. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
3. In order to be eligible to submit a proposal, a firm must, at the time of receipt of the proposals:
  - a. Hold the required applicable state professional licenses in good standing, as defined by Section 287.055(2)(h) of the Florida Statutes;
  - b. Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
  - c. Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the proposer is a corporation;

- d. Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Request for Proposals and Design Criteria Package.

Any contractor that has been found guilty by a court of any violation of federal labor or employment tax laws regarding subjects including but not limited to reemployment assistance, safety, tax withholding, worker's compensation, unemployment tax, social security and Medicare tax, wage or hour, or prevailing rate laws within the past 5 years may be considered ineligible by the District to submit a bid, response, or proposal for a District project.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the proposal if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the proposal.

4. The proposals, or the portions of which that include the price, shall be publicly opened at a meeting noticed in accordance with Rule 1.3, and at which at least one district representative is present. The name of each bidder and the price submitted in the bid shall be announced at such meeting and shall be made available upon request. Minutes should be taken at the meeting and maintained by the District. In consultation with the Design Criteria Professional, the Board shall evaluate the proposals received based on evaluation criteria and procedures established prior to the solicitation of proposals, including but not limited to qualifications, availability, and past work of the firms and the partners and members thereof. The Board shall then select no fewer than three (3) Design-Build Firms as the most qualified.
5. The Board shall have the right to reject all proposals if [the proposals are too high](#), or rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of proposal preparation or submittal from the District.
6. If less than three (3) Responsive Proposals are received, the District may purchase design-build services or may reject the proposals for lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive

Proposals are received, the District may proceed with the procurement of design-build services in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the design-build services without further competitive selection processes.

7. Notice of the rankings adopted by the Board, including the rejection of some or all proposals, shall be provided in writing to all consultants by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's rankings under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.
8. The Board shall negotiate a contract with the firm ranking the highest based on the evaluation standards and shall establish a price which the Board determines is fair, competitive and reasonable. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. The Board shall then undertake negotiations with the second most qualified firm, based on the ranking by the evaluation standards. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the second most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. The Board shall then undertake negotiations with the third most qualified firm. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with the firm considered to be the third most qualified at a price considered by the Board to be fair, competitive, and reasonable, negotiations with that firm must be terminated. Should the Board be unable to negotiate a satisfactory contract with any of the selected firms, the Board shall select additional firms in order of their rankings based on the evaluation standards and continue negotiations until an agreement is reached or the list of firms is exhausted.

9. After the Board contracts with a firm, the firm shall bring to the Board for approval, detailed working drawings of the project.
  10. The Design Criteria Professional shall evaluate the compliance of the detailed working drawings and project construction with the Design Criteria Package and shall provide the Board with a report of the same.
- (3) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
  - (4) Emergency Purchase. The Board may, in case of public emergency, declare an emergency and immediately proceed with negotiations with the best qualified Design-Build Firm available at the time. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.
  - (5) Exceptions. This Rule is inapplicable when:
    - (a) The project is undertaken as repair or maintenance of an existing public facility;
    - (b) The funding source of the project will be diminished or lost because the time required to competitively award the project after the funds become available exceeds the time within which the funding source must be spent;
    - (c) The District has competitively awarded a project and the contractor has abandoned the project or the District has terminated the contractor; or
    - (d) The District, after public notice, conducts a public meeting under Section 286.011 of the Florida Statutes, and finds by a majority vote of the Board that it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using its own services, employees, and equipment.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 119.0701, 189.053, 190.033, 255.0518, 255.0525, 255.20, 287.055, Fla. Stat.



**Rule 3.7      Payment and Performance Bonds.**

- (1)    Scope. This Rule shall apply to contracts for the construction of a public building, for the prosecution and completion of a public work, or for repairs upon a public building or public work and shall be construed in addition to terms prescribed by any other Rule that may also apply to such contracts.
  
- (2)    Required Bond. Upon entering into a contract for any of the services described in section (1) of this Rule in excess of \$200,000, the Board should require that the contractor, before commencing the work, execute and record a payment and performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price. Notwithstanding the terms of the contract or any other law, the District may not make payment to the contractor until the contractor has provided to the District a certified copy of the recorded bond.
  
- (3)    Discretionary Bond. At the discretion of the Board, upon entering into a contract for any of the services described in section (1) of this Rule for an amount not exceeding \$200,000, the contractor may be exempted from executing a payment and performance bond.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** § 255.05, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 3.8 Goods, Supplies, and Materials.**

- (1) Purpose and Scope. All purchases of goods, supplies, or materials exceeding the amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR, shall be purchased under the terms of this Rule. Contracts for purchases of “goods, supplies, and materials” do not include printing, insurance, advertising, or legal notices. A contract involving goods, supplies, or materials plus maintenance services may, in the discretion of the Board, be treated as a contract for maintenance services. However, a purchase shall not be divided solely in order to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of goods, supplies, or materials is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
  - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
  - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
  - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
  - (d) If the District has pre-qualified suppliers of goods, supplies, and materials, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
  - (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
    - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;

- (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;
- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply or response if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

Any firm or individual whose principal place of business is outside the State of Florida must also submit a written opinion of an attorney at law licensed to practice law in that foreign state, as to the preferences, if any or none, granted by the law of that foreign state to business entities whose principal places of business are in that foreign state, in the letting of any or all public contracts. Failure to submit such a written opinion or submission of a false or misleading written opinion may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be publicly opened at the time and place noted on the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, and this Rule. Minor variations in the bids, proposals, replies, or responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.
- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid, after taking into account the preferences provided for in this subsection, submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder in response to an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be accepted. If the lowest

Responsive Bid is submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder whose principal place of business is located in a foreign state which does not grant a preference in competitive purchase to businesses whose principal place of business are in that foreign state, the lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder whose principal place of business is in the State of Florida shall be awarded a preference of five (5) percent. If the lowest Responsive Bid is submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder whose principal place of business is located in a foreign state which grants a preference in competitive purchase to businesses whose principal place of business are in that foreign state, the lowest Responsible and Responsive Bidder whose principal place of business is in the State of Florida shall be awarded a preference equal to the preference granted by such foreign state.

To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, and responses.

- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, reply, or response preparation or submittal from the District.
- (i) The Board may require bidders and proposers to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
- (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's purchase of goods, supplies, and materials under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.

- (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase goods, supplies, or materials, or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may proceed with the procurement of goods, supplies, and materials, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the goods, supplies, and materials without further competitive selection processes.
- (3) Goods, Supplies, and Materials included in a Construction Contract Awarded Pursuant to Rule 3.5 or 3.6. There may be occasions where the District has undergone the competitive purchase of construction services which contract may include the provision of goods, supplies, or materials. In that instance, the District may approve a change order to the contract and directly purchase the goods, supplies, and materials. Such purchase of goods, supplies, and materials deducted from a competitively purchased construction contract shall be exempt from this Rule.
- (4) Exemption. Goods, supplies, and materials that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Goods, supplies, and materials provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. A contract for goods, supplies, or materials is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process. This Rule shall not apply to the purchase of goods, supplies or materials that are purchased under a federal, state, or local government contract that has been competitively procured by such federal, state, or local government in a manner consistent with the material procurement requirements of these Rules.
- (5) Renewal. Contracts for the purchase of goods, supplies, and/or materials subject to this Rule may be renewed for a maximum period of five (5) years.
- (6) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 189.053, 190.033, 287.017, 287.084, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 3.9 Maintenance Services.**

- (1) Scope. All contracts for maintenance of any District facility or project shall be set under the terms of this Rule if the cost exceeds the amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY FOUR. A contract involving goods, supplies, and materials plus maintenance services may, in the discretion of the Board, be treated as a contract for maintenance services. However, a purchase shall not be divided solely in order to avoid the threshold bidding requirements.
  
- (2) Procedure. When a purchase of maintenance services is within the scope of this Rule, the following procedures shall apply:
  - (a) The Board shall cause to be prepared an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.
  
  - (b) Notice of the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation shall be advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the District and within the county in which the District is located. The notice shall also include the amount of the bid bond, if one is required. The notice shall allow at least seven (7) days for submittal of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
  
  - (c) The District may maintain lists of persons interested in receiving notices of Invitations to Bid, Requests for Proposals, Invitations to Negotiate, and Competitive Solicitations. The District shall make a good faith effort to provide written notice, by electronic mail, United States Mail, hand delivery, or facsimile, to persons who provide their name and address to the District Manager for inclusion on the list. However, failure of a person to receive the notice shall not invalidate any contract awarded in accordance with this Rule and shall not be a basis for a protest of any contract award.
  
  - (d) If the District has pre-qualified suppliers of maintenance services, then, at the option of the District, only those persons who have been pre-qualified will be eligible to submit bids, proposals, replies, and responses.
  
  - (e) In order to be eligible to submit a bid, proposal, reply, or response, a firm or individual must, at the time of receipt of the bids, proposals, replies, or responses:
    - (i) Hold all required applicable state professional licenses in good standing;
  
    - (ii) Hold all required applicable federal licenses in good standing, if any;

- (iii) Hold a current and active Florida corporate charter or be authorized to do business in the State of Florida in accordance with Chapter 607 of the Florida Statutes, if the vendor is a corporation; and
- (iv) Meet any special pre-qualification requirements set forth in the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation.

Evidence of compliance with these Rules must be submitted with the bid, proposal, reply, or response if required by the District. Failure to submit evidence of compliance when required may be grounds for rejection of the bid, proposal, reply, or response.

- (f) Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be publicly opened at the time and place noted on the Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation. Bids, proposals, replies, and responses shall be evaluated in accordance with the respective Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, and these Rules. Minor variations in the bids, proposals, replies, and responses may be waived by the Board. A variation is minor if waiver of the variation does not create a competitive advantage or disadvantage of a material nature. Mistakes in arithmetic extension of pricing may be corrected by the Board. Bids and proposals may not be modified or supplemented after opening; provided however, additional information may be requested and/or provided to evidence compliance, make non-material modifications, clarifications, or supplementations, and as otherwise permitted by Florida law.
- (g) The lowest Responsive Bid submitted in response to an Invitation to Bid by a Responsive and Responsible Bidder shall be accepted. In relation to a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate or Competitive Solicitation the Board shall select the Responsive Proposal, Reply, or Response submitted by a Responsive and Responsible Vendor which is most advantageous to the District. To assure full understanding of the responsiveness to the solicitation requirements contained in a Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, discussions may be conducted with qualified vendors. Vendors shall be accorded fair treatment prior to the submittal date with respect to any opportunity for discussion, preparation, and revision of bids, proposals, replies, or responses.
- (h) The Board shall have the right to reject all bids, proposals, replies, or responses because they exceed the amount of funds budgeted for the

purchase, if there are not enough to be competitive, or if rejection is determined to be in the best interest of the District. No Vendor shall be entitled to recover any costs of bid, proposal, reply, or response preparation or submittal from the District.

- (i) The Board may require bidders and proposers to furnish bid bonds, performance bonds, and/or other bonds with a responsible surety to be approved by the Board.
  - (j) Notice of intent to award, including rejection of some or all bids, proposals, replies, or responses shall be provided in writing to all vendors by United States Mail, hand delivery, facsimile, or overnight delivery service. The notice shall include the following statement: "Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Rule 3.11 of the Rules of the District shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under those Rules," or wording to that effect. Protests of the District's procurement of maintenance services under this Rule shall be in accordance with the procedures set forth in Rule 3.11.
  - (k) If less than three (3) Responsive Bids, Proposals, Replies, or Responses are received, the District may purchase the maintenance services or may reject the bids, proposals, replies, or responses for a lack of competitiveness. If no Responsive Bid, Proposal, Reply, or Response is received, the District may proceed with the procurement of maintenance services, in the manner the Board determines is in the best interests of the District, which may include but is not limited to a direct purchase of the maintenance services without further competitive selection processes.
- (3) Exemptions. Maintenance services that are only available from a single source are exempt from this Rule. Maintenance services provided by governmental agencies are exempt from this Rule. A contract for maintenance services is exempt from this Rule if state or federal law prescribes with whom the District must contract or if the rate of payment is established during the appropriation process.
  - (4) Renewal. Contracts for the purchase of maintenance services subject to this Rule may be renewed for a maximum period of five (5) years.
  - (5) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract entered into pursuant to this Rule shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.
  - (6) Emergency Purchases. The District may make an Emergency Purchase without complying with these rules. The fact that an Emergency Purchase has occurred or is necessary shall be noted in the minutes of the next Board meeting.



**Specific Authority: §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), 190.033, Fla. Stat.**  
**Law Implemented: §§ 119.0701, 190.033, 287.017, Fla. Stat.**

**Rule 3.10 Contractual Services.**

- (1) Exemption from Competitive Purchase. Pursuant to Section 190.033(3) of the Florida Statutes, Contractual Services shall not be subject to competitive purchasing requirements. If an agreement is predominantly for Contractual Services, but also includes maintenance services or the purchase of goods and services, the contract shall not be subject to competitive purchasing requirements. Regardless of whether an advertisement or solicitation for Contractual Services is identified as an Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Negotiate, or Competitive Solicitation, no rights or remedies under these Rules, including but not limited to protest rights, are conferred on persons, firms, or vendors proposing to provide Contractual Services to the District.
  
- (2) Contracts; Public Records. In accordance with Florida law, each contract for Contractual Services shall include provisions required by law that require the contractor to comply with public records laws.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 119.0701, 190.011(3), 190.033, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 3.11      Protests with Respect to Proceedings under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, and 3.9.**

The resolution of any protests with respect to proceedings under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, and 3.9 shall be in accordance with this Rule.

(1)      Filing.

- (a)      With respect to a protest regarding qualifications, specifications, documentation, or other requirements contained in a Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Bid, or Competitive Solicitation issued by the District, the notice of protest shall be filed in writing within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the first advertisement of the Request for Qualifications, Request for Proposals, Invitation to Bid, or Competitive Solicitation. A formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. For purposes of this Rule, wherever applicable, filing will be perfected and deemed to have occurred upon receipt by the District. Failure to file a notice of protest shall constitute a waiver of all rights to protest the District's intended decision. Failure to file a formal written protest shall constitute an abandonment of the protest proceedings and shall automatically terminate the protest proceedings.
  
- (b)      Except for those situations covered by subsection (1)(a) of this Rule, any firm or person who is affected adversely by a District's ranking or intended award under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, or 3.9 and desires to contest the District's ranking or intended award, shall file with the District a written notice of protest within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after receipt of the notice of the District's ranking or intended award. A formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. For purposes of this Rule, wherever applicable, filing will be perfected and deemed to have occurred upon receipt by the District. Failure to file a notice of protest shall constitute a waiver of all rights to protest the District's ranking or intended award. Failure to file a formal written protest shall constitute an abandonment of the protest proceedings and shall automatically terminate the protest proceedings.
  
- (c)      If the requirement for the posting of a protest bond and the amount of the protest bond, which may be expressed by a percentage of the contract to

be awarded or a set amount, is disclosed in the District's competitive solicitation documents for a particular purchase under Rules 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.8, or 3.9, any person who files a notice of protest must post the protest bond. The amount of the protest bond shall be determined by District staff after consultation with the Board and within the limits, if any, imposed by Florida law. In the event the protest is successful, the protest bond shall be refunded to the protestor. In the event the protest is unsuccessful, the protest bond shall be applied towards the District's costs, expenses, and attorney's fees associated with hearing and defending the protest. In the event the protest is settled by mutual agreement of the parties, the protest bond shall be distributed as agreed to by the District and protestor.

- (d) The District does not accept documents filed by electronic mail or facsimile transmission. Filings are only accepted during normal business hours.
- (2) Contract Execution. Upon receipt of a notice of protest which has been timely filed, the District shall not execute the contract under protest until the subject of the protest is resolved. However, if the District sets forth in writing particular facts and circumstances showing that delay incident to protest proceedings will jeopardize the funding for the project, will materially increase the cost of the project, or will create an immediate and serious danger to the public health, safety, or welfare, the contract may be executed.
- (3) Informal Proceeding. If the Board determines a protest does not involve a disputed issue of material fact, the Board may, but is not obligated to, schedule an informal proceeding to consider the protest. Such informal proceeding shall be at a time and place determined by the Board. Notice of such proceeding shall be sent via facsimile, United States Mail, or hand delivery to the protestor and any substantially affected persons or parties not less than three (3) calendar days prior to such informal proceeding. Within thirty (30) calendar days following the informal proceeding, the Board shall issue a written decision setting forth the factual, legal, and policy grounds for its decision.
- (4) Formal Proceeding. If the Board determines a protest involves disputed issues of material fact or if the Board elects not to use the informal proceeding process provided for in section (3) of this Rule, the District shall schedule a formal hearing to resolve the protest. The Chairperson shall designate any member of the Board (including the Chairperson), District Manager, District Counsel, or other person as a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer may:
  - (a) Administer oaths and affirmations;
  - (b) Rule upon offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;

- (c) Regulate the course of the hearing, including any pre-hearing matters;
- (d) Enter orders; and
- (e) Make or receive offers of settlement, stipulation, and adjustment.

The hearing officer shall, within thirty (30) days after the hearing or receipt of the hearing transcript, whichever is later, file a recommended order which shall include a caption, time and place of hearing, appearances entered at the hearing, statement of the issues, findings of fact and conclusions of law, separately stated, and a recommendation for final District action. The District shall allow each party fifteen (15) days in which to submit written exceptions to the recommended order. The District shall issue a final order within sixty (60) days after the filing of the recommended order.

- (5) Intervenors. Other substantially affected persons may join the proceedings as intervenors on appropriate terms which shall not unduly delay the proceedings.
- (6) Rejection of all Qualifications, Bids, Proposals, Replies and Responses after Receipt of Notice of Protest. If the Board determines there was a violation of law, defect, or an irregularity in the competitive solicitation process, the Bids, Proposals, Replies, and Responses are too high, or if the Board determines it is otherwise in the District's best interest, the Board may reject all qualifications, bids, proposals, replies, and responses and start the competitive solicitation process anew. If the Board decides to reject all qualifications, bids, proposals, replies, and responses and start the competitive solicitation process anew, any pending protests shall automatically terminate.
- (7) Settlement. Nothing herein shall preclude the settlement of any protest under this Rule at any time.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.  
**Law Implemented:** § 190.033, Fla. Stat.

**Rule 4.0      Effective Date.**

These Rules shall be effective March 21, 2022, except that no election of officers required by these Rules shall be required until after the next regular election for the Board.

**Specific Authority:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

**Law Implemented:** §§ 190.011(5), 190.011(15), Fla. Stat.

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**5**



## PROPOSAL / AUTHORIZATION FOR WORK

March 17, 2022

To: Rustic Oaks CDD  
c/o Craig Wrathell, District Manager  
Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC  
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Project Name: Rustic Oaks CDD -  
Stormwater Needs Analysis

CLD Job No.: CDD-RR-002

We hereby propose to do the following work:

Provide the District with a Stormwater Needs Analysis Report in accordance with sections 403.9301 and 403.9302 of Florida Statutes. The report will be submitted to Pasco County by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The county will then submit to the Department of Environmental Protection (EDR) by July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. EDR will publish an analysis of the submissions in the 2023 edition of the Annual Assessments of Florida’s Water Resources and Conservation Lands. The next report will be due in 2027.

All work herein is subject to the conditions described in Attachment “A” attached herewith and made a part of this “Authorization for Work”.


Fees for the above will be billed as follows: **Lump Sum \$7,500.00**

**ACCEPTANCE:**  
**Rustic Oaks CDD**  
**c/o Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC**

**CLEARVIEW LAND DESIGN, P.L.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Client Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jordan Schrader, P.E.**  
**Principal**

Please return one signed copy to: Clearview Land Design, P.L. (Attn: [maryrobin.thiele@clearviewland.com](mailto:maryrobin.thiele@clearviewland.com))

P:\Rustic Road\Rustic CDD\Contracts\2022.03\_CDD-RR-002\_Rustic Oaks CDD\_Stormwater Report Work

Order.docx CC: Ann Stuck, Heather Meyer, File



## ATTACHMENT "A"

In addition to the fees in this Work Order, we charge all out-of-pocket expenses such as printing, photocopying, long distance telephone calls and postage. These expenses will be charged to you at our cost. Consultant Fees and permit fees, (if necessary), etc. will be charged at our cost plus 15%. Client shall pay the following items in advance: (a) all review/permit fees required by governmental agencies, and (b) any fees or other charges to be imposed upon Clearview Land Design, P.L., by its insurance carriers in excess of those necessary to obtain a standard certificate of insurance (including, without limitation, for earmarking of policy coverage to the project or for a waiver of subrogation). In the event such items are paid by Clearview Land Design, P.L. fees shall be reimbursed by Client in addition to the contract prices stated herein.

Any work requested which is not included in the stated fees shall be performed only after the execution of an "Authorization for Work" form. Fees for the additional work shall be at the rates prevailing at the time of the additional service.

Work will be billed at the end of each month under the terms of this Work Order, and we shall expect payment by the tenth of the following month. Client shall pay the invoice and statement in accordance with the terms of this Work Order and the terms of said statement and invoice. If Client fails to make any payment due Clearview Land Design, P.L. for services within 30 days of the invoice date, the amount(s) due shall include an interest charge at the rate of 1 ½ percent per month for the thirtieth day.

Additionally, notwithstanding any other terms or conditions herein to the contrary, it is expressly understood and agreed that Clearview Land Design, P.L., at its sole discretion, shall have the right to cease work on the project and withhold all information and documents concerning the project in the event until any amounts then due have been outstanding for more than 30 days from the date of the invoice. It is further agreed that Client shall hold Clearview Land Design, P.L. harmless for any and all damages resulting from ceasing work and/or withholding information or documents concerning the project.

All rates and fees are subject to renegotiation after a one month period from the date of this Work Order if it has not been accepted.

Unless otherwise agreed to in this contract, all sketches, tracings, drawings, computations, details, design calculations, permits, and other documents and plans prepared by Clearview Land Design, P.L., pursuant to this contract are instruments of service and are the property of Clearview Land Design, P.L. Client may not use or modify such documents on other projects or extensions of this project without the prior written approval of Clearview Land Design, P.L. Notwithstanding any provision in this contract to the contrary, in the event of a default by Client (including, without limitation, any failure to pay amounts due within 30 days of invoice date), Clearview Land Design, P.L., shall be entitled to exclusive ownership and possession of any and all documents prepared pursuant to this contract.

In the event this contract is terminated prior to completion, Clearview Land Design, P.L. shall be entitled to payment for services performed as of the date of termination, plus out-of-pocket expenses.

Client shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless Clearview Land Design, P.L., from and against any claims, liability, damages, penalties and/or costs (including, without limitation, reasonable attorney's fees and expenses) Clearview Land Design, P.L., may incur as a result of claims in any form by third parties (including, without limitation, governmental agencies and departments) relating to or arising out of this contract, except to the extent such claims arise from the gross negligence or intentional misconduct of Clearview Land Design, P.L.

Your acceptance of this proposal shall constitute a contract between the Client and Clearview Land Design, P.L.

The prevailing party in any litigation between the parties relating to or arising out of this contract (including, without limitation, trial, appellate and bankruptcy proceedings) shall recover its reasonable attorney's fees and costs from the non-prevailing party.

Opinions of probable construction costs provided by Clearview Land Design, P.L. represent our best judgment but do not constitute a guarantee since we have no control over contractor pricing.

The scope of services does not include site investigations or other engineering evaluations to determine the presence or extent of hazardous wastes or soil and groundwater contamination. Clearview Land Design, P.L. accepts no responsibility or liability in this regard.

Client acknowledges that the work described herein will constitute a lien against the property. The signature on this Work Order authorizes the work herein described and does so on behalf of the owner in question and warrants that he has the authority to sign this agreement on behalf of the Owner. In the event improvements are dedicated to public use or otherwise alienated by the Owner, then Clearview Land Design, P.L. shall be entitled to a lien on all property abutting said improvements.

### Limitation of Liability

To the maximum extent permitted by law, CLEARVIEW LAND DESIGN, P.L.'s liability for CLIENT's damages will not exceed the compensation received by CLEARVIEW LAND DESIGN, P.L. under this Agreement. CLEARVIEW LAND DESIGN, P.L. is not responsible for the duties and responsibilities that belong to the borrower(s), developer(s), construction contractor(s), designer(s), testing laboratories, full-time inspector(s), or other parties associated with the Project (currently, in the past or in the future) not in the employ of or a subcontractor to CLEARVIEW LAND DESIGN, P.L. The limitations of liability and indemnities will apply whether CLEARVIEW LAND DESIGN, P.L.'s liability arises under breach of contract or warranty; tort; including negligence (but not sole negligence); strict liability; statutory liability; or any other causes of action; and shall apply to CLEARVIEW LAND DESIGN, P.L.'s officers, employees, and subcontractors. Due to the inherent risk involved in the type of work in this agreement, at the Client's discretion, and upon payment of an additional fee to be negotiated, CLEARVIEW LAND DESIGN, P.L.'s liability for the work can be increased.

The Client agrees to extend any and all liability limitation and indemnification provided by the Client to the Clearview Land Design, P.L. to those individuals and entities that Clearview Land Design, P.L. retains for performance of the services

under this Agreement, including but limited to the Clearview Land Design , P.L.'s current or former officers and employees and their heirs and assigns.

**PURSUANT TO SECTION 558.0035 FLORIDA STATUTES, THE CONSULTANT'S CORPORATION IS THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY FOR THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IT AGREES TO PROVIDE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. NO INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE, AGENT, DIRECTOR, OFFICER OR PRINCIPAL MAY BE INDIVIDUALLY LIABLE FOR NEGLIGENCE ARISING OUT OF THIS CONTRACT.**

Revised 09/29/15

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**6A**

# LOCALiQ

The Gainesville Sun | The Ledger  
Daily Commercial | Ocala StarBanner  
News Chief | Herald-Tribune

PO Box 631244 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1244

## PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Gillyard  
Daphne Gillyard  
Rustic Oaks Community Dev District  
2300 Glades RD # 410W  
Boca Raton FL 33431-8556

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF Sarasota

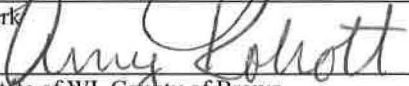
The Herald-Tribune, a newspaper printed and published in the city of Sarasota, and of general circulation in the Counties of Sarasota, Manatee, and Charlotte, State of Florida and personal knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issues dated or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on:

03/04/2022, 03/11/2022

and that the fees charged are legal.  
Sworn to and subscribed before on 03/11/2022



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### RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021 AND 2021/2022 BUDGETS, AND NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING.

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Rustic Oaks Community Development District ("District") will hold public hearings on March 21, 2022 at 1:30 p.m., at the Comfort Suites Sarasota - Siesta Key, 5690 Honore Avenue, Sarasota Florida, 34233 for the purpose of hearing comments and objections on the adoption of the proposed budgets ("Proposed Budgets") of the District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021 ("Fiscal Year 2020/2021") and for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022 ("Fiscal Year 2021/2022"). A regular board meeting of the District will also be held at that time where the Board may consider any other business that may properly come before it. A copy of the agenda and Proposed Budgets may be obtained at the offices of the District Manager, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, (877) 276-0889 ("District Manager's Office"), during normal business hours.

The public hearings and meeting are open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida law. The public hearings and meeting may be continued to a date, time, and place to be specified on the record of the meeting. There may be occasions when Board Supervisors or District Staff may participate by speaker telephone.

Any person requiring special accommodations at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the District Manager's Office at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1, or 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) / 1-800-955-8770 (Voice), for aid in contacting the District Manager's Office.

Each person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the public hearings or meeting is advised that person will need a record of proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

considered at the hearing is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

Craig Wrathell  
District Manager

Pub: March 4 & 11, 2022; #6973275



# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**6B**

## RESOLUTION 2022-13

### THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (“DISTRICT”) RELATING TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2020, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021; AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, the District Manager has submitted to the Board of Supervisors (“**Board**”) of the Rustic Oaks Community Development District (“**District**”) proposed budgets (“**Proposed Budget**”) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021 (“**Fiscal Year 2020/2021**”) along with an explanatory and complete financial plan for each fund of the District, pursuant to the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the District filed a copy of the Proposed Budget with the local governing authorities having jurisdiction over the area included in the District pursuant to the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(b), *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board set a public hearing thereon and caused notice of such public hearing to be given by publication pursuant to Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Manager posted the Proposed Budget on the District’s website at least two days before the public hearing; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*, requires that, prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the Board, by passage of the Annual Appropriation Resolution, shall adopt a budget for the ensuing fiscal year and appropriate such sums of money as the Board deems necessary to defray all expenditures of the District during the ensuing fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Manager has prepared a Proposed Budget, whereby the budget shall project the cash receipts and disbursements anticipated during a given time period, including reserves for contingencies for emergency or other unanticipated expenditures during the fiscal year.

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:**

#### **SECTION 1. BUDGET**

- a. The Board has reviewed the Proposed Budget, a copy of which is on file with the office of the District Manager and at the District’s Local Records Office, and hereby approves certain amendments thereto, as shown in Section 2 below.
- b. The Proposed Budget, attached hereto as **Exhibit “A,”** as amended by the Board, is hereby adopted in accordance with the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes* (“**Adopted Budget**”), and incorporated herein by reference; provided, however, that the comparative figures contained in the Adopted Budget may be subsequently revised as deemed necessary by the District Manager to reflect actual revenues and expenditures.



**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.**

ATTEST:

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A:**     Adopted Budget



**EXHIBIT A:** Adopted Budget

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
PROPOSED BUDGET  
FISCAL YEAR 2021**

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
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**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
GENERAL FUND BUDGET  
FISCAL YEAR 2021**

	Proposed Budget FY 2021
<b>REVENUES</b>	
Landowner contribution	42,781
Total revenues	42,781
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
<b>Professional &amp; administrative</b>	
Management/accounting/recording**	4,000
Legal	25,000
Engineering	1,500
Audit*	-
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	-
Dissemination agent*	-
Trustee*	-
Telephone	33
Postage	350
Printing & binding	83
Legal advertising	6,500
Annual special district fee	175
Insurance	2,750
Contingencies/bank charges	500
Website hosting & maintenance	1,680
Website ADA compliance	210
Total expenditures	42,781
Excess/(deficiency) of revenues over/(under) expenditures	-
Fund balance - beginning (unaudited)	-
Fund balance - ending	\$ -

\* These items will be realized when bonds are issued

\*\* WHA will charge a reduced management fee of \$2,000 per month until bonds are issued.

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
DEFINITIONS OF GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES**

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>FY 2021</u>
<b>Professional &amp; administrative</b>	
Management/accounting/recording**	\$ 4,000
<b>Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC</b> (WHA), specializes in managing community development districts by combining the knowledge, skills and experience of a team of professionals to ensure compliance with all of the District's governmental requirements. WHA develops financing programs, administers the issuance of tax exempt bond financings, operates and maintains the assets of the community.	
Legal	25,000
General counsel and legal representation, which includes issues relating to public finance, public bidding, rulemaking, open meetings, public records, real property dedications, conveyances and contracts.	
Engineering	1,500
The District's Engineer will provide construction and consulting services, to assist the District in crafting sustainable solutions to address the long term interests of the community while recognizing the needs of government, the environment and maintenance of the District's facilities.	
Audit	-
Statutorily required for the District to undertake an independent examination of its books, records and accounting procedures.	
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	-
To ensure the District's compliance with all tax regulations, annual computations are necessary to calculate the arbitrage rebate liability.	
Dissemination agent*	-
The District must annually disseminate financial information in order to comply with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Wrathell, Hunt & Associates serves as dissemination agent.	
Telephone	33
Telephone and fax machine.	
Postage	350
Mailing of agenda packages, overnight deliveries, correspondence, etc.	
Printing & binding	83
Letterhead, envelopes, copies, agenda packages	
Legal advertising	6,500
The District advertises for monthly meetings, special meetings, public hearings, public bids, etc.	
Annual special district fee	175
Annual fee paid to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.	
Insurance	2,750
The District will obtain public officials and general liability insurance.	
Contingencies/bank charges	500
Bank charges and other miscellaneous expenses incurred during the year and automated AP routing etc.	
Website hosting & maintenance	1,680
Website ADA compliance	210
Total expenditures	<u>\$ 42,781</u>

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**7A**

# LOCALiQ

The Gainesville Sun | The Ledger  
Daily Commercial | Ocala StarBanner  
News Chief | Herald-Tribune

PO Box 631244 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1244

## PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Gillyard  
Daphne Gillyard  
Rustic Oaks Community Dev District  
2300 Glades RD # 410W  
Boca Raton FL 33431-8556

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF Sarasota

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Legal Clerk



Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

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### RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021 AND 2021/2022 BUDGETS, AND NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING.

The Board of Supervisors ("Board") of the Rustic Oaks Community Development District ("District") will hold public hearings on March 21, 2022 at 1:30 p.m., at the Comfort Suites Sarasota - Siesta Key, 5690 Honore Avenue, Sarasota Florida, 34233 for the purpose of hearing comments and objections on the adoption of the proposed budgets ("Proposed Budgets") of the District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021 ("Fiscal Year 2020/2021") and for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022 ("Fiscal Year 2021/2022"). A regular board meeting of the District will also be held at that time where the Board may consider any other business that may properly come before it. A copy of the agenda and Proposed Budgets may be obtained at the offices of the District Manager, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, (877) 276-0889 ("District Manager's Office"), during normal business hours.

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considered at the hearing is advised that person will need a record of the proceedings and that accordingly, the person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

Craig Wrathell  
District Manager

Pub: March 4 & 11, 2022; #6973275

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**7B**



## RESOLUTION 2022-14

### THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (“DISTRICT”) RELATING TO THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022; AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, the District Manager has submitted to the Board of Supervisors (“**Board**”) of the Rustic Oaks Community Development District (“**District**”) proposed budgets (“**Proposed Budget**”) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022 (“**Fiscal Year 2021/2022**”) along with an explanatory and complete financial plan for each fund of the District, pursuant to the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the District filed a copy of the Proposed Budget with the local governing authorities having jurisdiction over the area included in the District pursuant to the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(b), *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board set a public hearing thereon and caused notice of such public hearing to be given by publication pursuant to Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Manager posted the Proposed Budget on the District’s website at least two days before the public hearing; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes*, requires that, prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the Board, by passage of the Annual Appropriation Resolution, shall adopt a budget for the ensuing fiscal year and appropriate such sums of money as the Board deems necessary to defray all expenditures of the District during the ensuing fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Manager has prepared a Proposed Budget, whereby the budget shall project the cash receipts and disbursements anticipated during a given time period, including reserves for contingencies for emergency or other unanticipated expenditures during the fiscal year.

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:**

#### **SECTION 1. BUDGET**

- a. The Board has reviewed the Proposed Budget, a copy of which is on file with the office of the District Manager and at the District’s Local Records Office, and hereby approves certain amendments thereto, as shown in Section 2 below.
- b. The Proposed Budget, attached hereto as **Exhibit “A,”** as amended by the Board, is hereby adopted in accordance with the provisions of Section 190.008(2)(a), *Florida Statutes* (“**Adopted Budget**”), and incorporated herein by reference; provided, however, that the comparative figures contained in the Adopted Budget may be subsequently revised as deemed necessary by the District Manager to reflect actual revenues and expenditures.



**PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.**

ATTEST:

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A:**     Adopted Budget

**EXHIBIT A:** Adopted Budget

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
PROPOSED BUDGET  
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
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**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
GENERAL FUND BUDGET  
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

	Proposed Budget FY 2022
<b>REVENUES</b>	
Landowner contribution	\$ 97,290
Total revenues	97,290
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
<b>Professional &amp; administrative</b>	
Management/accounting/recording**	44,000
Legal	25,000
Engineering	2,000
Audit	5,000
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	500
Dissemination agent*	1,000
Trustee*	5,000
Telephone	200
Postage	500
Printing & binding	500
Legal advertising	6,500
Annual special district fee	175
Insurance	5,500
Contingencies/bank charges	500
Website hosting & maintenance	705
Website ADA compliance	210
Total expenditures	97,290
Excess/(deficiency) of revenues over/(under) expenditures	-
Fund balance - beginning (unaudited)	-
Fund balance - ending	\$ -

\* These items will be realized when bonds are issued

\*\* WHA will charge a reduced management fee of \$2,000 per month until bonds are issued.

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
DEFINITIONS OF GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES**

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<u>FY 2022</u>
<b>Professional &amp; administrative</b>	
Management/accounting/recording**	\$ 44,000
<b>Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC</b> (WHA), specializes in managing community development districts by combining the knowledge, skills and experience of a team of professionals to ensure compliance with all of the District's governmental requirements. WHA develops financing programs, administers the issuance of tax exempt bond financings, operates and maintains the assets of the community.	
Legal	25,000
General counsel and legal representation, which includes issues relating to public finance, public bidding, rulemaking, open meetings, public records, real property dedications, conveyances and contracts.	
Engineering	2,000
The District's Engineer will provide construction and consulting services, to assist the District in crafting sustainable solutions to address the long term interests of the community while recognizing the needs of government, the environment and maintenance of the District's facilities.	
Audit	5,000
Statutorily required for the District to undertake an independent examination of its books, records and accounting procedures.	
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	500
To ensure the District's compliance with all tax regulations, annual computations are necessary to calculate the arbitrage rebate liability.	
Dissemination agent*	1,000
The District must annually disseminate financial information in order to comply with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Wrathell, Hunt & Associates serves as dissemination agent.	
Telephone	200
Telephone and fax machine.	
Postage	500
Mailing of agenda packages, overnight deliveries, correspondence, etc.	
Printing & binding	500
Letterhead, envelopes, copies, agenda packages	
Legal advertising	6,500
The District advertises for monthly meetings, special meetings, public hearings, public bids, etc.	
Annual special district fee	175
Annual fee paid to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity.	
Insurance	5,500
The District will obtain public officials and general liability insurance.	
Contingencies/bank charges	500
Bank charges and other miscellaneous expenses incurred during the year and automated AP routing etc.	
Website hosting & maintenance	705
Website ADA compliance	210
Total expenditures	<u><u>\$ 97,290</u></u>



# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**8**

**RESOLUTION 2022-06**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS FOR REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, the Rustic Oaks Community Development District (“**District**”) is a local unit of special-purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the District is required by Section 189.015, *Florida Statutes*, to file quarterly, semi-annually, or annually a schedule (including date, time, and location) of its regular meetings with local governing authorities; and

**WHEREAS**, further, in accordance with the above-referenced statute, the District shall also publish quarterly, semi-annually, or annually the District’s regular meeting schedule in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county in which the District is located.

**WHEREAS**, the Board desires to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 meeting schedule attached as **Exhibit A**.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:**

1. **ADOPTING FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE.** The Fiscal Year 2021/2022 annual meeting schedule attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein as **Exhibit A** is hereby approved and shall be published in accordance with the requirements of Florida law and also provided to applicable governing authorities.

2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

ATTEST:

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

**Comp. Exhibit A:** Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Annual Meeting Schedule

**EXHIBIT "A"**

<b>RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT</b>		
<b>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 MEETING SCHEDULE</b>		
<b>LOCATION</b> <i>TBD</i>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>POTENTIAL DISCUSSION/FOCUS</b>	<b>TIME</b>
<b>February 16, 2022</b>	<b>Special Meeting</b>	<b>1:30 PM</b>
<b>March __, 2022</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>__:__ AM/PM</b>
<b>April __, 2022</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b> <i>(presentation of FY2023 proposed budget)</i>	<b>__:__ AM/PM</b>
<b>May __, 2022</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>__:__ AM/PM</b>
<b>June __, 2022</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>__:__ AM/PM</b>
<b>July __, 2022</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>__:__ AM/PM</b>
<b>August __, 2022</b>	<b>Public Hearing and Regular Meeting</b> <i>(adoption of FY2023 budget)</i>	<b>__:__ AM/PM</b>
<b>September __, 2022</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>	<b>__:__ AM/PM</b>

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**9**

**RESOLUTION 2022-08**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATING THE PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE AND PRINCIPAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE DISTRICT AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Rustic Oaks Community Development District (“**District**”) is a local unit of special-purpose government created and existing pursuant to Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the District desires to designate its primary administrative office as the location where the District’s public records are routinely created, sent, received, maintained, and requested, for the purposes of prominently posting the contact information of the District’s Record’s Custodian in order to provide citizens with the ability to access the District’s records and ensure that the public is informed of the activities of the District in accordance with Chapter 119, *Florida Statutes*; and

**WHEREAS**, the District additionally desires to specify the location of the District’s principal headquarters for the purpose of establishing proper venue under the common law home venue privilege applicable to the District.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:**

**1. PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.** The District’s primary administrative office for purposes of Chapter 119, *Florida Statutes*, shall be located at 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431.

**2. PRINCIPAL HEADQUARTERS.** The District’s principal headquarters for purposes of establishing proper venue shall be located at the offices of \_\_\_\_\_, and within Sarasota County, Florida.

**3. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

ATTEST:

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair/Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

# **10A**

# LOCALiQ

The Gainesville Sun | The Ledger  
Daily Commercial | Ocala StarBanner  
News Chief | Herald-Tribune

PO Box 631244 Cincinnati, OH 45263-1244

## PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Daphne Gillyard  
Rustic Oaks Community Dev District  
2300 Glades RD # 410W  
Boca Raton FL 33431-8556

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF Sarasota

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09/10/2021

and that the fees charged are legal.  
Sworn to and subscribed before on 09/10/2021

Dickson Jacobs  
Legal Clerk

Sarah Bertelsen  
Notary, State of WI, County of Brown  
7/27/25

My commission expires

Publication Cost: \$95.70  
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SARAH BERTELSEN  
Notary Public  
State of Wisconsin

## RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ANNUAL AUDIT SERVICES

The Rustic Oaks Community Development District hereby requests proposals for annual financial auditing services. The proposal must provide for the auditing of the District's financial records for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, with an option for four (4) additional optional annual renewals. The District is a local unit of special-purpose government created under Chapter 190, Florida Statutes, for the purpose of financing, constructing, and maintaining public infrastructure. The District is located in the City of Venice, Sarasota County, Florida. The final contract will require that, among other things, the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, be completed no later than June 30, 2022.

The auditing entity submitting a proposal must be duly licensed under Chapter 473, Florida Statutes, and be qualified to conduct audits in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards," as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with Florida Law and particularly Section 218.39, Florida Statutes, and the rules of the Florida Auditor General.

Proposal packages, which include evaluation criteria and instructions to proposers, are available from the District Manager at the address and telephone number listed below.

Proposers must provide one (1) electronic copy and one (1) unbound copy of their proposal to the offices of the District Manager, located at 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, phone: (877) 276-0889 ("District Manager"), in an envelope marked on the outside "Auditing Services, Rustic Oaks Community Development District." Proposals must be received by 12:00 p.m., on September 20, 2021, at the office of the District Manager. Please direct all questions regarding this Notice to the District Manager.

District Manager  
9/10/2021

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

# **10B**



**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ANNUAL AUDIT SERVICES**

The Rustic Oaks Community Development District hereby requests proposals for annual financial auditing services. The proposal must provide for the auditing of the District's financial records for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, with an option for four (4) additional optional annual renewals. The District is a local unit of special-purpose government created under Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, for the purpose of financing, constructing, and maintaining public infrastructure. The District is located in the City of Venice, Sarasota County, Florida. The final contract will require that, among other things, the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, be completed no later than June 30, 2022.

The auditing entity submitting a proposal must be duly licensed under Chapter 473, *Florida Statutes*, and be qualified to conduct audits in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards," as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with Florida Law and particularly Section 218.39, *Florida Statutes*, and the rules of the Florida Auditor General.

Proposal packages, which include evaluation criteria and instructions to proposers, are available from the District Manager at the address and telephone number listed below.

Proposers must provide one (1) electronic copy and one (1) unbound copy of their proposal to the offices of the District Manager, located at 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, phone: (877) 276-0889 ("**District Manager**"), in an envelope marked on the outside "Auditing Services, Rustic Oaks Community Development District." Proposals must be received by 12:00 p.m., on September 20, 2021, at the office of the District Manager. Please direct all questions regarding this Notice to the District Manager.

District Manager

## **RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

#### **District Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2021**

Sarasota County, Florida

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS**

**SECTION 1. DUE DATE.** Sealed proposals must be received no later than 12:00 p.m., on September 20, 2021, at the offices of District Manager, located at Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431. Proposals will be publicly opened at that time.

**SECTION 2. FAMILIARITY WITH THE LAW.** By submitting a proposal, the Proposer is assumed to be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that in any manner affect the work. Ignorance on the part of the Proposer will in no way relieve it from responsibility to perform the work covered by the proposal in compliance with all such laws, ordinances and regulations.

**SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF PROPOSER.** The contract, if awarded, will only be awarded to a responsible Proposer who is qualified by experience and licensing to do the work specified herein. The Proposer shall submit with its proposal satisfactory evidence of experience in similar work and show that it is fully prepared to complete the work to the satisfaction of the District.

**SECTION 4. SUBMISSION OF ONLY ONE PROPOSAL.** Proposers shall be disqualified and their proposals rejected if the District has reason to believe that collusion may exist among the Proposers, the Proposer has defaulted on any previous contract or is in arrears on any previous or existing contract, or for failure to demonstrate proper licensure and business organization.

**SECTION 5. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL.** one (1) electronic copy and one (1) unbound copy of the Proposal Documents, and other requested attachments at the time and place indicated herein, which shall be enclosed in an opaque sealed envelope, marked with the title "Auditing Services – Rustic Oaks Community Development District" on the face of it. **Please include pricing for each additional bond issuance.**

**SECTION 6. MODIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL.** Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by an appropriate document duly executed and delivered to the place where proposals are to be submitted at any time prior to the time and date the proposals are due. No proposal may be withdrawn after opening for a period of ninety (90) days.

**SECTION 7. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS.** The proposal documents shall consist of the notice announcing the request for proposals, these instructions, the Evaluation Criteria Sheet and a proposal with all required documentation pursuant to Section 12 of these instructions (“**Proposal Documents**”).

**SECTION 8. PROPOSAL.** In making its proposal, each Proposer represents that it has read and understands the Proposal Documents and that the proposal is made in accordance therewith.

**SECTION 9. BASIS OF AWARD/RIGHT TO REJECT.** The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, make modifications to the work, and waive any informalities or irregularities in proposals as it is deemed in the best interests of the District.

**SECTION 10. CONTRACT AWARD.** Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notice of Award from the District, the Proposer shall enter into and execute a Contract (engagement letter) with the District.

**SECTION 11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.** Nothing herein shall be construed as or constitute a waiver of the District’s limited waiver of liability contained in Section 768.28, *Florida Statutes*, or any other statute or law.

**SECTION 12. MISCELLANEOUS.** All proposals shall include the following information in addition to any other requirements of the proposal documents.

- A. List the position or title of all personnel to perform work on the District audit. Include resumes for each person listed; list years of experience in present position for each party listed and years of related experience.
- B. Describe proposed staffing levels, including resumes with applicable certifications.
- C. Three references from projects of similar size and scope. The Proposer should include information relating to the work it conducted for each reference as well as a name, address and phone number of a contact person.
- D. The lump sum cost of the provision of the services under the proposal, plus the lump sum cost of four (4) annual renewals.

**SECTION 13. PROTESTS.** In accordance with the District’s Rules of Procedure, any protest regarding the Proposal Documents, must be filed in writing, at the offices of the District Manager, within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the receipt of the Proposal Documents. The formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be

filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. Failure to timely file a notice of protest or failure to timely file a formal written protest shall constitute a waiver of any right to object or protest with respect to the aforesaid Proposal Documents.

**SECTION 14. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS.** The criteria to be used in the evaluation of proposals are presented in the Evaluation Criteria Sheet, contained within the Proposal Documents.

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
AUDITOR SELECTION EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**1. Ability of Personnel. (20 Points)**

(E.g., geographic location of the firm's headquarters or permanent office in relation to the project; capabilities and experience of key personnel; present ability to manage this project; evaluation of existing work load; proposed staffing levels, etc.)

**2. Proposer's Experience. (20 Points)**

(E.g. past record and experience of the Proposer in similar projects; volume of work previously performed by the firm; past performance for other or current Community Development District(s) in other contracts; character, integrity, reputation of Proposer, etc.)

**3. Understanding of Scope of Work. (20 Points)**

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates an understanding of the District's needs for the services requested.

**4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services. (20 Points)**

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates the adequacy of Proposer's financial resources and stability as a business entity necessary to complete the services required.

**5. Price. (20 Points)\*\*\***

Points will be awarded based upon the lowest total proposal for rendering the services and the reasonableness of the proposal.

**Total (100 Points)**

\*\*\*Alternatively, the Board may choose to evaluate firms without considering price, in which case the remaining categories would be assigned 25 points each.

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

# **10CI**

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
PROPOSAL FOR AUDIT SERVICES**

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**PROPOSED BY:**

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, PL

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600 Citrus Avenue, Suite 200  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

(772) 461-6120

**CONTACT PERSON:**

J. W. Gaines, CPA, Director

**DATE OF PROPOSAL:**

September 20, 2021

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# Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank

Certified Public Accountants PL

600 Citrus Avenue  
Suite 200  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

772/461-6120 // 461-1155  
FAX: 772/468-9278

September 20, 2021

Rustic Oaks Community Development District  
Wrathell, Hunt & Associates, LLC  
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W  
Boca Raton, FL 33431

Dear District Manager:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to present our professional credentials to provide audit services for Rustic Oaks Community Development District.

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL has assembled a team of governmental and nonprofit specialists second to none to serve our clients. Our firm has the necessary qualifications and experience to serve as the independent auditors for Rustic Oaks Community Development District. We will provide you with top quality, responsive service.

## **Experience**

Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is a recognized leader in providing services to governmental and nonprofit agencies throughout Florida. We have been the independent auditors for a number of local governmental agencies and through our experience in performing their audits, we have been able to increase our audit efficiency and; therefore, reduce costs. We have continually passed this cost savings on to our clients and will continue to do so in the future. As a result of our experience and expertise, we have developed an effective and efficient audit approach designed to meet or exceed the performance specifications in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the standards for financial and compliance audits. We will conduct the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; "Government Auditing Standards" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the provisions of the Single Audit Act, Subpart F of Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, with minimal disruption to your operations. Our firm has frequent technical updates to keep our personnel informed and up-to-date on all changes that are occurring within the industry.

Fort Pierce / Stuart

Member AICPA

- 1 -  
Member AICPA Division for CPA Firms  
Private Companies practice Section

Member FICPA

Rustic Oaks Community Development District  
September 20, 2021

Our firm is a member of the Government Audit Quality Center, an organization dedicated to improving government audit quality. We also utilize the audit program software of a nationally recognized CPA firm to assure us that we are up to date with all auditing standards and to assist us maintain maximum audit efficiencies.

To facilitate your evaluation of our qualifications and experience, we have arranged this proposal to include a resume of our firm, including our available staff, our extensive prior governmental and nonprofit auditing experience and clients to be contacted.

You need a firm that will provide an efficient, cost-effective, high-quality audit within critical time constraints. You need a firm with the prerequisite governmental and nonprofit experience to perform your audit according to stringent legal and regulatory requirements, a firm that understands the complex nature of community development districts and their unique compliance requirements. You need a firm with recognized governmental and nonprofit specialists within the finance and governmental communities. And, certainly, you need a firm that will provide you with valuable feedback to enhance your current and future operations. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL is that firm. J. W. Gaines is the person authorized to make representations for the firm.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this proposal to Rustic Oaks Community Development District.

Very truly yours,



Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank  
Certified Public Accountants PL  
Fort Pierce, Florida

## **PROFILE OF THE PROPOSER**

### **Description and History of Audit Firm**

**Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** is a Treasure Coast public accounting firm, which qualifies as a small business firm, as established by the Small Business Administration (13 CFR 121.38), with offices in Fort Pierce and Stuart. We are a member of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The firm was formed from the merger of Edwards, Berger, Harris & Company (originated in 1972) and McAlpin, Curtis & Associates (originated in 1949). J. W. Gaines and Associates (originated in 1979) merged with the firm in 2004. Our tremendous growth rate experienced over the last 71 years is directly attributable to the firm's unrelenting dedication to providing the highest quality, responsive professional services attainable to its clients.

We are a member of the Private Companies Practice Section (PCPS) of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) to assure we meet the highest standards. Membership in this practice section requires that our firm meet more stringent standards than standard AICPA membership. These rigorous requirements include the requirement of a triennial peer review of our firm's auditing and accounting practice and annual Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for all accounting staff (whether CPA or non-CPA). For standard AICPA membership, only a quality review is required and only CPAs must meet CPE requirements.

We are also a member of the Government Audit Quality Center ("the Center") of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants to assure the quality of our government audits. Membership in the Center, which is voluntary, requires our firm to comply with additional standards to promote the quality of government audits.

We have been extensively involved in serving local government entities with professional accounting, auditing and consulting services throughout the entire 71 year history of our firm. Our substantial experience over the years makes us uniquely qualified to provide accounting, auditing, and consulting services to these clients. We are a recognized leader in providing services to governmental and nonprofit agencies on the Treasure Coast and in Central and South Florida, with extensive experience in auditing community development districts and water control districts. We were the independent auditors of the City of Fort Pierce for over 37 years and currently, we are the independent auditors for St. Lucie County since 2002, and for 38 of the 42 years that the county has been audited by CPA firms. Additionally, we have performed audits of the City of Stuart, the City of Vero Beach, Indian River County and Martin County. We also presently audit over 75 Community Development Districts throughout Florida.

Our firm was founded on the belief that we are better able to respond to our clients needs through education, experience, independence, quality control, and personal service. Our firm's commitment to quality is reflected in our endeavor of professional excellence via continuing education, the use of the latest computer technology, professional membership in PCPS and peer review.

We believe our approach to audit engagements, intelligence and innovation teamed with sound professional judgment enables us to explore new concepts while remaining sensitive to the fundamental need for practical solutions. We take pride in giving you the assurance that the personal assistance you receive comes from years of advanced training, technical experience and financial acumen.

## Professional Staff Resources

**Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** has a total of 32 professional and administrative staff (including 14 professional staff with extensive experience servicing government entities). The work will be performed out of our Fort Pierce office with a proposed staff of one senior accountant and one or two staff accountants supervised by an audit manager and audit partner. With the exception of the directors of the firm's offices, the professional staff is not specifically assigned to any of our individual offices. The professional and administrative staff resources available to you through Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL are as follows:

	<u>Total</u>
Partners/Directors (CPA's)	5
Principals (CPA)	1
Managers (CPA)	1
Senior/Supervisor Accountants (2 CPA's)	3
Staff Accountants (1 CPA)	9
Computer Specialist	1
Paraprofessional	8
Administrative	<u>4</u>
Total – all personnel	32

Following is a brief description of each employee classification:

**Staff Accountant** – Staff accountants work directly under the constant supervision of the auditor-in-charge and, are responsible for the various testing of documents, account analysis and any other duties as his/her supervisor believes appropriate. Minimum qualification for a staff accountant is graduation from an accredited university or college with a degree in accounting or equivalent.

**Senior Accountant** – A senior accountant must possess all the qualifications of the staff accountant, in addition to being able to draft the necessary reports and financial statements, and supervise other staff accountants when necessary.

**Managers** – A manager must possess the qualifications of the senior accountant, plus be able to work without extensive supervision from the auditor-in-charge. The manager should be able to draft audit reports from start to finish and to supervise the audit team, if necessary.

**Principal** – A principal is a partner/director in training. He has been a manager for several years and possesses the technical skills to act as the auditor-in-charge. A principal has no financial interest in the firm.

**Partner/Director** – The director has extensive governmental auditing experience and acts as the auditor-in-charge. Directors have a financial interest in the firm.

## **Professional Staff Resources (Continued)**

**Independence** – Independence of the public accounting firm, with respect to the audit client, is the foundation from which the public gains its trust in the opinion issued by the public accounting firm at the end of the audit process. This independence must be in appearance as well as in fact. The public must perceive that the accounting firm is independent of the audit entity to ensure that nothing would compromise the opinion issued by the public accounting firm. **Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** is independent of Rustic Oaks Community Development District, including its elected officials and related parties, at the date of this proposal, as defined by the following rules, regulations, and standards:

AuSection 220 – Statements on Auditing Standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

ET Sections 101 and 102 – Code of Professional Conduct of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

Chapter 21A-1, Florida Administrative Code;

Section 473.315, Florida Statutes; and,

Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

On an annual basis, all members of the firm are required to confirm, in writing, that they have no personal or financial relationships or holding that would impair their independence with regard to the firm's clients.

Independence is a hallmark of our profession. We encourage our staff to use professional judgment in situations where our independence could be impaired or the perception of a conflict of interest might exist. In the governmental sector, public perception is as important as professional standards. Therefore, the utmost care must be exercised by independent auditors in the performance of their duties.

## **Ability to Furnish the Required Services**

As previously noted in the Profile of the Proposer section of this document, our firm has been in existence for over 69 years. We have provided audit services to some clients for over 30 years continually. Our firm is insured against physical loss through commercial insurance and we also carry liability insurance. The majority of our audit documentation is stored electronically, both on our office network and on each employee laptop or computer assigned to each specific job. Our office computer network is backed up on tape, so in the event of a total equipment loss, we can restore all data as soon as replacement equipment is acquired. In addition, our field laptop computers carry the same data and can be used in the event of emergency with virtually no delay in completing the required services.

## **ADDITIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED**

### **Arbitrage Rebate Services**

**Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** also provides arbitrage rebate compliance and related services to governmental issuers. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 requires issuers of most tax-exempt obligations to pay (i.e., “rebate”) to the United States government any arbitrage profits. Arbitrage profits are earnings on the investment of bond proceeds and certain other monies in excess of what would have been earned had such monies been invested at a yield equal to the yield on the bonds.

Federal tax law requires that interim rebate calculations and payments are due at the end of every fifth bond year. Final payment is required upon redemption of the bonds. More frequent calculations may be deemed advisable by an issuer’s auditor, trustee or bond counsel or to assure that accurate and current records are available. These more frequent requirements are usually contained in the Arbitrage or Rebate Certificate with respect to the bonds.

Our firm performs a comprehensive rebate analysis and includes the following:

- Verifying that the issue is subject to rebate;
- Calculating the bond yield;
- Identifying, and separately accounting for, all “Gross Proceeds” (as that term is defined in the Code) of the bond issue, including those requiring analysis due to “transferred proceeds” and/or “commingled funds” circumstances;
- Determining what general and/or elective options are available to Gross proceeds of the issue;
- Calculating the issue’s excess investment earning (rebate liability), if any;
- Delivering appropriate documentation to support all calculations;
- Providing an executive summary identifying the methodology employed, major assumptions, conclusions, and any other recommendations for changes in recordkeeping and investment policies;
- Assisting as necessary in the event of an Internal Revenue Service inquiry; and,
- Consulting with issue staff, as necessary, regarding arbitrage related matters.

## **GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING EXPERIENCE**

**Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** has been practicing public accounting in Florida for 69 years. Our success over the years has been the result of a strong commitment to providing personalized quality service to our clients.

The current members of our firm have performed audits of over 900 community development districts, and over 1,800 audits of municipalities, counties and other governmental entities such as the City of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County.

Our firm provides a variety of accounting, auditing, tax litigation support, and consulting services. Some of the professional accounting, auditing and management consulting services that are provided by our firm are listed below:

- Performance of annual financial and compliance audits, including Single Audits of state and federal financial assistance programs, under the provisions of the Single Audit Act, Subpart F of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), with minimal disruptions to your operations;
- Performance of special compliance audits to ascertain compliance with the applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations;
- Issuance of comfort letters and consent letters in conjunction with the issuance of tax-exempt debt obligations, including compiling financial data and interim period financial statement reviews;
- Calculation of estimated and actual federal arbitrage rebates;
- Assistance in compiling historical financial data for first-time and supplemental submissions for GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting;
- Preparation of indirect cost allocation systems in accordance with Federal and State regulatory requirements;
- Providing human resource and employee benefit consulting;
- Performance of automation feasibility studies and disaster recovery plans;
- Performance feasibility studies concerning major fixed asset acquisitions and utility plant expansion plans (including electric, water, pollution control, and sanitation utilities); and
- Assistance in litigation, including testimony in civil and criminal court.
- Assist clients who utilize QuickBooks software with their software needs. Our Certified QuickBooks Advisor has undergone extensive training through QuickBooks and has passed several exams to attain this Certification.

### **Continuing Professional Education**

All members of the governmental audit staff of our firm, and audit team members assigned to this engagement, are in compliance with the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) requirements set forth in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. In addition, our firm is in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Florida Statutes that require CPA's to have met certain CPE requirements prior to proposing on governmental audit engagements.

## **GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

The audit team has extensive experience in performing governmental audits and is exposed to intensive and continuing concentration on these types of audits. Due to the total number of governmental audits our team performs, each member of our governmental staff must understand and be able to perform several types of governmental audits. It is our objective to provide each professional employee fifty hours or more of comprehensive continuing professional education each year. This is accomplished through attending seminars throughout Florida and is reinforced through in-house training.

Our firm has made a steadfast commitment to professional education. Our active attendance and participation in continuing professional education is a major part of our objective to obtain the most recent knowledge on issues which are of importance to our clients. We are growing on the reputation for work that our firm is providing today.

### **Quality Control Program**

Quality control requires continuing commitment to professional excellence. **Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants, PL** is formally dedicated to that commitment.

To ensure maintaining the standards of working excellence required by our firm, we joined the Private Companies Practice Section (PCPS) of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). To be a participating member firm of this practice section, a firm must obtain an independent Peer Review of its quality control policies and procedures to ascertain the firm's compliance with existing auditing standards on the applicable engagements.

The scope of the Peer Review is comprehensive in that it specifically reviews the following quality control policies and procedures of the participating firm:

- Professional, economic, and administrative independence;
- Assignment of professional personnel to engagements;
- Consultation on technical matters;
- Supervision of engagement personnel;
- Hiring and employment of personnel;
- Professional development;
- Advancement;
- Acceptance and continuation of clients; and,
- Inspection and review system.

We believe that our commitment to the program is rewarding not only to our firm, but primarily to our clients.

The external independent Peer Review of the elements of our quality control policies and procedures performed by an independent certified public accountant, approved by the PCPS of the AICPA, provides you with the assurance that we continue to conform to standards of the profession in the conduct of our accounting and auditing practice.



## **GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

Our firm is also a member of Governmental Audit Quality Center (GAQC), a voluntary membership center for CPA firms that perform governmental audits. This center promotes the quality of governmental audits.

Our firm has completed successive Peer Reviews. These reviews included a representative sample of our firm's local governmental auditing engagements. As a result of these reviews, our firm obtained an unqualified opinion on our quality control program and work procedures. On page 31 is a copy of our most recent Peer Review report. It should be noted that we received a pass rating.

Our firm has never had any disciplinary actions by state regulatory bodies or professional organizations.

As our firm performs approximately one hundred fifty audits each year that are reviewed by federal, state or local entities, we are constantly dealing with questions from these entities about our audits. We are pleased to say that any questions that have been raised were minor issues and were easily resolved without re-issuing any reports.

### **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR)**

We are proud and honored to have been involved with the City of Fort Pierce and the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority when they received their first Certificates of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal years ended September 30, 1988 and 1994, respectively. We were also instrumental in the City of Stuart receiving the award, in our first year of performing their audit, for the year ended September 30, 1999.

We also assisted St. Lucie County, Florida for the year ended September 30, 2003, in preparing their first Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, and St. Lucie County has received their Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting every year since.

As continued commitment to insuring that we are providing the highest level of experience, we have had at least one employee of our firm serve on the GFOA – Special Review Committee since the mid-1980s. This committee is made up of selective Certified Public Accountants throughout the United States who have demonstrated their high level of knowledge and expertise in governmental accounting. Each committee member attends a special review meeting at the Annual GFOA Conference. At this meeting, the committee reports on the Certificate of Achievement Program's most recent results, future goals, and common reporting deficiencies.

We feel that our previous experience in assisting the City of Fort Pierce, the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority and St. Lucie County obtain their first CAFRs, and the City of Stuart in continuing to receive a CAFR and our firm's continued involvement with the GFOA, and the CAFR review committee make us a valued asset for any client in the field of governmental financial reporting.

## **GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

### References

Terracina Community Development  
District  
Jeff Walker, Special District Services  
(561) 630-4922

Gateway Community Development  
District  
Stephen Bloom, Severn Trent Management  
(954) 753-5841

The Reserve Community Development District  
  
Darrin Mossing, Governmental Management  
Services LLC  
(407) 841-5524

Port of the Islands Community Development  
District  
Cal Teague, Premier District Management  
  
(239) 690-7100 ext 101

In addition to the above, we have the following additional governmental audit experience:

### Community Development Districts

Aberdeen Community Development District

Alta Lakes Community Development District

Amelia Concourse Community Development  
District

Amelia Walk Community Development  
District

Aqua One Community Development District

Arborwood Community Development District

Arlington Ridge Community Development  
District

Armstrong Community Development District

Avalon Park West Community Development  
District

Bartram Springs Community Development  
District

Baytree Community Development District

Beaumont Community Development District

Bella Collina Community Development  
District

Boggy Branch Community Development  
District

Boggy Creek Community Development  
District

Bonnet Creek Community Development  
District

Buckeye Park Community Development  
District

Candler Hills East Community Development  
District

Capital Region Community Development  
District

Cedar Hammock Community Development  
District

**GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

Central Lake Community Development  
District

Channing Park Community Development  
District

Cheval West Community Development  
District

Clearwater Cay Community Development  
District

Coconut Cay Community Development  
District

Colonial Country Club Community  
Development District

Connerton West Community Development  
District

Copper Creek Community Development  
District

Copperstone Community Development  
District

Creekside at Twin Creeks Community

Deer Run Community Development  
District

Dowden West Community Development  
District

DP1 Community Development District

Durbin Crossing Community Development  
District

Eagle Point Community Development District

East Nassau Stewardship District

Eastlake Oaks Community Development  
District

Easton Park Community Development  
District

Eden Hills Community Development District

Estancia at Wiregrass Community  
Development District

Estates at Cherry Lake Community  
Development District

Evergreen Community Development  
District

Finley Woods Community Development  
District

Gateway Services Community Development  
District

Gramercy Farms Community Development  
District

Greenway Improvement District

Greyhawk Landing Community  
Development District

Griffin Lakes Community Development  
District

Habitat Community Development District

Harmony Community Development District

**GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

Harmony West Community Development District

Hawkstone Community Development District

Heritage Harbor South Community Development District

Heritage Isles Community Development District

Heritage Lake Park Community Development District

Heritage Landing Community Development District

Heritage Palms Community Development District

Heron Isles Community Development District

Highland Meadows II Community Development District

Julington Creek Community Development District

Laguna Lakes Community Development District

Lake Ashton Community Development District

Lake Bernadette Community Development District

Lakeside Plantation Community Development District

Landings at Miami Community Development District

Legends Bay Community Development District

Lexington Oaks Community Development District

Live Oak No. 2 Community Development District

Lucaya Community Development District

Madeira Community Development District

Magic Reserve Community Development District

Magnolia Creek Community Development District

Marhsall Creek Community Development District

Meadow Pointe IV Community Development District

Midtown Miami Community Development District

Mira Lago West Community Development District

Montecito Community Development District

Myrtle Creek Improvement District

Narcoossee Community Development District

Naturewalk Community Development District

New Port Tampa Bay Community Development District

Overoaks Community Development District

**GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

Paseo Community Development District	Pier Park Community Development District
Pine Ridge Plantation Community Development District	Piney Z Community Development District
Poinciana West Community Development District	Port of the Islands Community Development District
Portofino Isles Community Development District	Quarry Community Development District
Renaissance Commons Community District	Reserve #2 Community Development District
Reserve at Pradera Community Development District	Reserve Community Development District
River Hall Community Development District	River Place on the St. Lucie Community Development District
Rivers Edge Community Development District	Riverwood Estates Community Development
Rolling Hills Community Development District	Rolling Oaks Community Development District
Ryals Creek Community Development District	Sampson Creek Community Development District
San Simeon Community Development District	Sandmine Road Community Development District
Six Mile Creek Community Development District	South Fork Community Development District
South Shore Community Development District	South Village Community Development District
Southern Hills Plantation I Community Development District	St. John's Forest Community Development District
Stoneybrook South at ChampionsGate Community Development District	Stoneybrook South Community Development District
Stoneybrook West Community Development District	Storey Creek Community Development District
Terracina Community Development District	Tison's Landing Community Development District

**GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

Town of Kindred II Community Development District	TPOST Community Development District
Triple Creek Community Development District	TSR Community Development District
Turnbull Creek Community Development District	Twin Creeks North Community Development District
Urban Orlando Community Development District	Venetian Community Development District
Verano #2 Community Development District	Viera East Community Development District
VillaMar Community Development District	Vizcaya in Kendall Community Development District
Waterset North Community Development District	West Port Community Development District
Westside Community Development District	WildBlue Community Development District
Willow Creek Community Development District	Willow Hammock Community Development District
Wiregrass Community Development District	Wiregrass II Community Development District
Zephyr Ridge Community Development District	

## **GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

### Other Governmental Organizations

City of Westlake	Office of the Medical Examiner, District 19
Florida Inland Navigation District	Rupert J. Smith Law Library of St. Lucie County
Fort Pierce Farms Water Control District	St. Lucie Education Foundation
Indian River Regional Crime Laboratory, District 19, Florida	Seminole Improvement District
Viera Stewardship District	Troup Indiantown Water Control District

### Current or Recent Single Audits.

St. Lucie County, Florida Early Learning Coalition, Inc. Treasure Coast Food Bank, Inc.	Gateway Services Community Development District
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Members of our audit team have acquired extensive experience from performing or participating in over 2,100 audits of governments, independent special taxing districts, school boards, and other agencies that receive public money and utilize fund accounting.

Much of our firm's auditing experience is with compliance auditing, which is required for publicly financed agencies. In this type of audit, we do a financial examination and also confirm compliance with various statutory and regulatory guidelines.

Following is a summary of our other experience, including Auditor General experience, as it pertains to other governmental and fund accounting audits.

### Counties

(Includes elected constitutional officers, utilities and dependent taxing districts)

Indian River  
Martin  
Okeechobee  
Palm Beach

### Municipalities

City of Port St. Lucie  
City of Vero Beach  
Town of Orchid

## **GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

### Special Districts

Bannon Lakes Community Development District  
Boggy Creek Community Development District  
Capron Trail Community Development District  
Celebration Pointe Community Development District  
Coquina Water Control District  
Diamond Hill Community Development District  
Dovera Community Development District  
Durbin Crossing Community Development District  
Golden Lakes Community Development District  
Lakewood Ranch Community Development District  
Martin Soil and Water Conservation District  
Meadow Pointe III Community Development District  
Myrtle Creek Community Development District  
St. Lucie County – Fort Pierce Fire District  
The Crossings at Fleming Island  
St. Lucie West Services District  
Indian River County Mosquito Control District  
St. John's Water Control District  
Westchase and Westchase East Community Development Districts  
Pier Park Community Development District  
Verandahs Community Development District  
Magnolia Park Community Development District

### Schools and Colleges

Federal Student Aid Programs – Indian River Community College  
Indian River Community College  
Okeechobee County District School Board  
St. Lucie County District School Board

### State and County Agencies

Central Florida Foreign-Trade Zone, Inc. (a nonprofit organization affiliated with the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners)  
Florida School for Boys at Okeechobee  
Indian River Community College Crime Laboratory  
Indian River Correctional Institution



## **FEE SCHEDULE**

We propose the fee for our audit services described below to be \$3,030 for the year ended September 30, 2021, \$3,150 for the years ended September 30, 2022 and 2023, and \$3,300 for the years ended September 30, 2024 and 2025. The fee is contingent upon the financial records and accounting systems of Rustic Oaks Community Development District being “audit ready” and the financial activity for the District is not materially increased. If we discover that additional preparation work or subsidiary schedules are needed, we will consult with your authorized representative. We can assist with this additional work at our standard rates should you desire.

## **SCOPE OF WORK TO BE PERFORMED**

If selected as the District's auditors, we will perform a financial and compliance audit in accordance with Section 11.45, Florida Statutes, in order to express an opinion on an annual basis on the financial statements of Rustic Oaks Community Development District as of September 30, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025. The audits will be performed to the extent necessary to express an opinion on the fairness in all material respects with which the financial statements present the financial position, results of operations and changes in financial position in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles and to determine whether, for selected transactions, operations are properly conducted in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements. Reportable conditions that are also material weaknesses shall be identified as such in the Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters. Other (non-reportable) conditions discovered during the course of the audit will be reported in a separate letter to management, which will be referred to in the Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters.

Our audit will be performed in accordance with standards for financial and compliance audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as in compliance with rules and regulations of audits of special districts as set forth by the State Auditor General in Chapter 10.550, Local Governmental Entity Audits, and other relevant federal, state and county orders, statutes, ordinances, charter, resolutions, bond covenants, Administrative Code and procedures, or rules and regulations which may pertain to the work required in the engagement.

The primary purpose of our audit will be to express an opinion on the financial statements discussed above. It should be noted that such audits are subject to the inherent risk that errors or irregularities may not be detected. However, if conditions are discovered which lead to the belief that material errors, defalcations or other irregularities may exist or if other circumstances are encountered that require extended services, we will promptly notify the appropriate individual.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **J. W. Gaines, CPA, CITP**

Director – 41 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ Stetson University, B.B.A. – Accounting

#### **Registrations**

- ◆ Certified Public Accountant – State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy
- ◆ Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) – American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

#### **Professional Affiliations/Community Service**

- ◆ Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Affiliate member Government Finance Officers Association
- ◆ Past President, Vice President-Campaign Chairman, Vice President and Board Member of United Way of St. Lucie County, 1989 - 1994
- ◆ Past President, President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer of the Treasure Coast Chapter of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants, 1988 - 1991
- ◆ Past President of Ft. Pierce Kiwanis Club, 1994 - 95, Member/Board Member since 1982
- ◆ Past President, Vice President and Treasurer of St. Lucie County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, 1980 -1986
- ◆ Member of the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce, Member Board of Directors, Treasurer, September 2002 - 2006, Chairman Elect 2007, Chairman 2008, Past Chairman 2009
- ◆ Member Lawnwood Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees, 2000 – Present, Chairman 2013 - Present
- ◆ Member of St. Lucie County Citizens Budget Committee, 2001 – 2002
- ◆ Member of Ft. Pierce Citizens Budget Advisory Committee, 2010 – 2011
- ◆ Member of Ft. Pierce Civil Service Appeals Board, 2013 - Present

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Miles Grant Development/Country Club – Stuart, Florida, July 1975 – October 1976
- ◆ State Auditor General's Office – Public Accounts Auditor – November 1976 through September 1979
- ◆ Director - Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants PL, responsible for numerous government and nonprofit audits.
- ◆ Over 40 years experience in all phases of public accounting and auditing experience, with a concentration in financial and compliance audits. Mr. Gaines has been involved in all phases of the audits listed on the preceding pages.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

**J. W. Gaines, CPA, CITP (Continued)**

Director

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Has participated in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors over the last two years to keep abreast of the latest developments in accounting and auditing such as:
  - Governmental Accounting Report and Audit Update
  - Analytical Procedures, FICPA
  - Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors
  - Single Audit Sampling and Other Considerations

# ***Commitment to Quality Service***

## **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

### **David S. McGuire, CPA, CITP**

Accounting and Audit Principal – 18 years

Accounting and Audit Manager – 4 years

Staff Accountant – 11 years

### **Education**

- ◆ University of Central Florida, B.A. – Accounting
- ◆ Barry University – Master of Professional Accountancy

### **Registrations**

- ◆ Certified Public Accountant – State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy
- ◆ Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) – American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Certified Not-For-Profit Core Concepts 2018

### **Professional Affiliations/Community Service**

- ◆ Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Associate Member, Florida Government Finance Office Associates
- ◆ Assistant Coach – St. Lucie County Youth Football Organization (1994 – 2005)
- ◆ Assistant Coach – Greater Port St. Lucie Football League, Inc. (2006 – 2010)
- ◆ Board Member – Greater Port St. Lucie Football League, Inc. (2011 – 2017)
- ◆ Treasurer, AIDS Research and Treatment Center of the Treasure Coast, Inc. (2000 – 2003)
- ◆ Board Member/Treasurer, North Treasure Coast Chapter, American Red Cross (2004 – 2010)
- ◆ Member/Board Member of Port St. Lucie Kiwanis (1994 – 2001)
- ◆ President (2014/15) of Sunrise Kiwanis of Fort Pierce (2004 – 2017)
- ◆ St. Lucie District School Board Superintendent Search Committee (2013 – present)
- ◆ Board Member – Phrozen Pharoes (2019-2021)

### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Twenty-eight years public accounting experience with an emphasis on nonprofit and governmental organizations.
- ◆ Audit Manager in-charge on a variety of audit and review engagements within several industries, including the following government and nonprofit organizations:
  - St. Lucie County, Florida
  - 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit Office of Medical Examiner
  - Troup Indiantown Water Control District
  - Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Inc.
  - Healthy Kids of St. Lucie County
  - Mustard Seed Ministries of Ft. Pierce, Inc.
  - Reaching Our Community Kids, Inc.
  - Reaching Our Community Kids - South
  - St. Lucie County Education Foundation, Inc.
  - Treasure Coast Food Bank, Inc.
  - North Springs Improvement District
- ◆ Four years of service in the United States Air Force in computer operations, with a top secret (SCI/SBI) security clearance.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **David S. McGuire, CPA, CITP (Continued)**

Accounting and Audit Principal

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mr. McGuire has attended numerous continuing professional education courses and seminars taught by nationally recognized sponsors in the accounting auditing and single audit compliance areas. He has attended courses over the last two years in those areas as follows:

Not-for-Profit Auditing Financial Results and Compliance Requirements

Update: Government Accounting Reporting and Auditing

Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors

# ***Commitment to Quality Service***

<b>Personnel Qualifications and Experience</b>
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**David F. Haughton, CPA**

Accounting and Audit Manager – 30 years

**Education**

- ◆ Stetson University, B.B.A. – Accounting

**Registrations**

- ◆ Certified Public Accountant – State of Florida, State Board of Accountancy

**Professional Affiliations/Community Service**

- ◆ Member of the American and Florida Institutes of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Former Member of Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants Committee on State and Local Government
- ◆ Affiliate Member Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for over 10 years
- ◆ Affiliate Member Florida Government Finance Officers Association (FGFOA) for over 10 years
- ◆ Technical Review – 1997 FICPA Course on State and Local Governments in Florida
- ◆ Board of Directors – Kiwanis of Ft. Pierce, Treasurer – 1994-1999; Vice President – 1999-2001

**Professional Experience**

- ◆ Twenty-seven years public accounting experience with an emphasis on governmental and nonprofit organizations.
- ◆ State Auditor General’s Office – West Palm Beach, Staff Auditor, June 1985 to September 1985
- ◆ Accounting and Audit Manager of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, Certified Public Accountants PL, responsible for audit and accounting services including governmental and not-for-profit audits.
- ◆ Over 20 years of public accounting and governmental experience, specializing in governmental and nonprofit organizations with concentration in special districts, including Community Development Districts which provide services including water and sewer utilities. Governmental and non-profit entities served include the following:

**Counties:**

St. Lucie County

**Municipalities:**

City of Fort Pierce

City of Stuart

# ***Commitment to Quality Service***

<b>Personnel Qualifications and Experience</b>
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**David F. Haughton, CPA (Continued)**  
Accounting and Audit Manager

**Professional Experience (Continued)**

**Special Districts:**

- Bluewaters Community Development District
- Country Club of Mount Dora Community Development District
- Fiddler’s Creek Community Development District #1 and #2
- Indigo Community Development District
- North Springs Improvement District
- Renaissance Commons Community Development District
- St. Lucie West Services District
- Stoneybrook Community Development District
- Summerville Community Development District
- Terracina Community Development District
- Thousand Oaks Community Development District
- Tree Island Estates Community Development District
- Valencia Acres Community Development District

**Non-Profits:**

- The Dunbar Center, Inc.
- Hibiscus Children’s Foundation, Inc.
- Hope Rural School, Inc.
- Maritime and Yachting Museum of Florida, Inc.
- Tykes and Teens, Inc.
- United Way of Martin County, Inc.
- Workforce Development Board of the Treasure Coast, Inc.

- ◆ While with the Auditor General’s Office he was on the staff for the state audits of the Martin County School District and Okeechobee County School District.
- ◆ During 1997 he performed a technical review of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants state CPE course on Audits of State and Local Governments in Florida. His comments were well received by the author and were utilized in future updates to the course.

**Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ During the past several years, he has participated in numerous professional development training programs sponsored by the AICPA and FICPA, including state conferences on special districts and governmental auditing in Florida. He averages in excess of 100 hours bi-annually of advanced training which exceeds the 80 hours required in accordance with the continuing professional education requirements of the Florida State Board of accountancy and the AICPA Private Companies Practice Section. He has over 75 hours of governmental CPE credit within the past two years.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Matthew Gonano, CPA**

Senior Staff Accountant – 10 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ University of North Florida, B.B.A. – Accounting
- ◆ University of Alicante, Spain – International Business
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University – Masters of Accounting

#### **Professional Affiliations/Community Service**

- ◆ American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- ◆ Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Senior Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.
- ◆ Performed audits of nonprofit and governmental organizations in accordance with Governmental Accounting Auditing Standards (GAAS)
- ◆ Performed Single Audits of nonprofit organizations in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, Audits of State, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mr. Gonano has participated in numerous continuing professional education courses.



## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Paul Daly**

Staff Accountant – 9 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, B.S. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Working to attain the requirements to take the Certified Public Accounting (CPA) exam.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Melissa Marlin, CPA**

Senior Staff Accountant – 7 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ Indian River State College, A.A. – Accounting
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, B.B.A. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mrs. Marlin participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ◆ Mrs. Marlin is currently studying to pass the CPA exam.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Bryan Snyder**

Staff Accountant – 5 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, B.B.A. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Accountant beginning his professional auditing career with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank.
- ◆ Mr. Snyder is gaining experience auditing governmental & nonprofit entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mr. Snyder participates in numerous continuing education courses and plans on working to acquire his CPA certificate.
- ◆ Mr. Snyder is currently studying to pass the CPA exam.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Maritza Stonebraker, CPA**

Staff Accountant – 4 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ Indian River State College, B.S.A. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff Accountant beginning her professional auditing career with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mrs. Stonebraker participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Jonathan Herman, CPA**

Senior Staff Accountant – 7 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ University of Central Florida, B.S. – Accounting
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, MACC

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Accounting graduate with five years experience with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mr. Herman participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Sean Stanton, CPA**

Staff Accountant – 4 years

#### **Education**

- ◆ University of South Florida, B.S. – Accounting
- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, M.B.A. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank auditing governmental and non-profit entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mr. Stanton participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

<b>Personnel Qualifications and Experience</b>
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### **Taylor Nuccio**

Staff Accountant – 3 years

### **Education**

- ◆ Indian River State College, B.S.A. – Accounting

### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Ms. Nuccio participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ◆ Ms. Nuccio is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

<b>Personnel Qualifications and Experience</b>
--

**Tifanee Terrell**  
Staff Accountant

**Education**

- ◆ Florida Atlantic University, M.B.A. – Accounting

**Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

**Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Ms. Terrell participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ◆ Ms. Terrell is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.



## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Arturo Ortiz**

Staff Accountant

#### **Education**

- ◆ Indian River State College, B.S.A. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mr. Ortiz participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ◆ Mr. Ortiz is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Mathew Spinosa**

Staff Accountant

#### **Education**

- ◆ Indian River State College, B.S.A. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mr. Spinosa participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ◆ Mr. Spinosa is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.

## ***Commitment to Quality Service***

### **Personnel Qualifications and Experience**

#### **Dylan Dixon**

Staff Accountant

#### **Education**

- ◆ Indian River State College, A.A. – Accounting

#### **Professional Experience**

- ◆ Staff Accountant with Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, & Frank providing professional services to nonprofit and governmental entities.

#### **Continuing Professional Education**

- ◆ Mr. Dixon is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Accounting.
- ◆ Mr. Dixon participates in numerous continuing professional education courses provided by nationally recognized sponsors to keep abreast of the latest developments.
- ◆ Mr. Dixon is currently working towards completing an additional 30 hours of education to qualify to sit for CPA exam.



Judson B. Baggett    6815 Dairy Road  
MBA, CPA, CVA, Partner    Zephyrhills, FL 33542  
Marci Reutimann    (813) 788-2155  
CPA, Partner    (813) 782-8606

### Report on the Firm's System of Quality Control

To the Partners  
Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL  
and the Peer Review Committee of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

October 30, 2019

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL, (the firm), in effect for the year ended May 31, 2019. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (Standards).

A summary of the nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review as described in the Standards may be found at [aicpa.org/prsummary](http://aicpa.org/prsummary). The summary also includes an explanation of how engagements identified as not performed or reported in conformity with applicable professional standards, if any, are evaluated by a peer reviewer to determine a peer review rating.

#### Firm's Responsibility

The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. The firm is also responsible for evaluating actions to promptly remediate engagements deemed as not performed or reported in conformity with professional standards, when appropriate, and for remediating weaknesses in its system of quality control, if any.

#### Peer Reviewer's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control, and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review.

#### Required Selections and Considerations

Engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards*, including a compliance audit under the Single Audit Act.

As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities as communicated by the firm, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL, in effect for the year ended May 31, 2019, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)*, or *fail*. Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank, CPAs, PL has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

*Baggett, Reutimann & Associates, CPAs PA*  
BAGGETT, REUTIMANN & ASSOCIATES, CPAS, PA  
Signed: E. Reutimann by: J. Baggett, Reutimann & Associates, CPAs, PA, 178161. email: jrb@baggett.com

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**District Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2021**  
Sarasota County, Florida

**INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS**

**SECTION 1. DUE DATE.** Sealed proposals must be received no later than 12:00 p.m., on September 20, 2021, at the offices of District Manager, located at Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431. Proposals will be publicly opened at that time.

**SECTION 2. FAMILIARITY WITH THE LAW.** By submitting a proposal, the Proposer is assumed to be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that in any manner affect the work. Ignorance on the part of the Proposer will in no way relieve it from responsibility to perform the work covered by the proposal in compliance with all such laws, ordinances and regulations.

**SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF PROPOSER.** The contract, if awarded, will only be awarded to a responsible Proposer who is qualified by experience and licensing to do the work specified herein. The Proposer shall submit with its proposal satisfactory evidence of experience in similar work and show that it is fully prepared to complete the work to the satisfaction of the District.

**SECTION 4. SUBMISSION OF ONLY ONE PROPOSAL.** Proposers shall be disqualified and their proposals rejected if the District has reason to believe that collusion may exist among the Proposers, the Proposer has defaulted on any previous contract or is in arrears on any previous or existing contract, or for failure to demonstrate proper licensure and business organization.

**SECTION 5. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL.** one (1) electronic copy and one (1) unbound copy of the Proposal Documents, and other requested attachments at the time and place indicated herein, which shall be enclosed in an opaque sealed envelope, marked with the title "Auditing Services – Rustic Oaks Community Development District" on the face of it. Please include pricing for each additional bond issuance.

**SECTION 6. MODIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL.** Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by an appropriate document duly executed and delivered to the place where proposals are to be submitted at any time prior to the time and date the proposals are due. No proposal may be withdrawn after opening for a period of ninety (90) days.

**SECTION 7. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS.** The proposal documents shall consist of the notice announcing the request for proposals, these instructions, the Evaluation Criteria Sheet and a proposal with all required documentation pursuant to Section 12 of these instructions ("Proposal Documents").

**SECTION 8. PROPOSAL.** In making its proposal, each Proposer represents that it has read and understands the Proposal Documents and that the proposal is made in accordance therewith.

**SECTION 9. BASIS OF AWARD/RIGHT TO REJECT.** The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, make modifications to the work, and waive any informalities or irregularities in proposals as it is deemed in the best interests of the District.

**SECTION 10. CONTRACT AWARD.** Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notice of Award from the District, the Proposer shall enter into and execute a Contract (engagement letter) with the District.

**SECTION 11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.** Nothing herein shall be construed as or constitute a waiver of the District's limited waiver of liability contained in Section 768.28, Florida Statutes, or any other statute or law.

**SECTION 12. MISCELLANEOUS.** All proposals shall include the following information in addition to any other requirements of the proposal documents.

- A. List the position or title of all personnel to perform work on the District audit. Include resumes for each person listed; list years of experience in present position for each party listed and years of related experience.
- B. Describe proposed staffing levels, including resumes with applicable certifications.
- C. Three references from projects of similar size and scope. The Proposer should include information relating to the work it conducted for each reference as well as a name, address and phone number of a contact person.
- D. The lump sum cost of the provision of the services under the proposal, plus the lump sum cost of four (4) annual renewals.

**SECTION 13. PROTESTS.** In accordance with the District's Rules of Procedure, any protest regarding the Proposal Documents, must be filed in writing, at the offices of the District Manager, within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the receipt of the Proposal Documents. The formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. Failure to timely file a notice of protest or failure to timely file a formal written protest shall constitute a waiver of any right to object or protest with respect to the aforesaid Proposal Documents.

**SECTION 14. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS.** The criteria to be used in the evaluation of proposals are presented in the Evaluation Criteria Sheet, contained within the Proposal Documents.

**RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
AUDITOR SELECTION  
EVALUATION CRITERIA**

**1. Ability of Personnel. (20 Points)**

(E.g., geographic location of the firm's headquarters or permanent office in relation to the project; capabilities and experience of key personnel; present ability to manage this project; evaluation of existing work load; proposed staffing levels, etc.)

**2. Proposer's Experience. (20 Points)**

(E.g. past record and experience of the Proposer in similar projects; volume of work previously performed by the firm; past performance for other or current Community Development District(s) in other contracts; character, integrity, reputation of Proposer, etc.)

**3. Understanding of Scope of Work. (20 Points)**

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates an understanding of the District's needs for the services requested.

**4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services. (20 Points)**

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates the adequacy of Proposer's financial resources and stability as a business entity necessary to complete the services required.

**5. Price. (20 Points)\*\*\***

Points will be awarded based upon the lowest total proposal for rendering the services and the reasonableness of the proposal.

**Total (100 Points)**

\*\*\*Alternatively, the Board may choose to evaluate firms without considering price, in which case the remaining categories would be assigned 25 points each.

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**10C11**



# Professional Services Proposal for Rustic Oaks Community Development District

Sep 13, 2021

## Proposer

Carr, Riggs & Ingram CPAs and Advisors  
500 Grand Blvd., Suite 210  
Miramar Beach, FL 32550  
Phone: 850.837.3141  
Fax: 850.654.4619

## Submitted by

Jonathan Hartness  
Engagement Partner  
JHartness@CRlcpa



**CRl** CARR  
RIGGS &  
INGRAM

CPAs and Advisors

CRlcpa.com



Dear Rustic Oaks Community Development District:

Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC (CRI) appreciates the opportunity to propose on auditing services to Rustic Oaks Community Development District. We are genuinely excited about the prospect of serving you and establishing a long-term relationship. We pride ourselves on getting to know our clients and illuminating solutions by providing innovative ideas to move them from compliance to providing them a competitive advantage.

**Investment in You.** We believe in developing long-term, mutually beneficial relationships and quickly demonstrating value with a fee structure and service solutions that provide immediate and continued savings. Our investment starts on “Day 1” as your assigned team begins with our proven, streamlined process that minimizes your time and disruption during the service provider change and continues throughout the relationship.

**Dedicated Team.** CRI’s team consists of more than 1,900 professionals, which allows us to tailor your service team by aligning their industry, service, and specialty skills with your needs. Our dedicated teams deliver the highest level of business acumen and knowledge to your organization; our commitment to consistent staffing allows you to maximize savings and remain focused on your needs.

**Equilibrium.** CRI delivers big firm expertise with small firm service. Of approximately 45,000 public accounting firms in the United States, CRI currently ranks in the top 25. Additionally, as a part of PrimeGlobal, an association of independent accounting firms, we have access to international resources as – and when – needed. Leveraging these resources while maintaining local decision-making authority means that simplified solutions are only a phone call away. And we believe that’s the best of both worlds for our clients.

**Active Partner Participation.** Collectively, our partners deliver expertise derived from more than 7,500 years of business experience. With this level of talent, we thoughtfully choose a partner that aligns with your business’ needs and industry. Our hands-on, working partners “show up” to convey our genuine commitment to your success. They strive to earn trusted advisor roles by digging in, proactively learning your business, and producing long-term value for you.

**Simplified Solutions.** While our 500+ cumulative partner certifications is an impressive statistic, success is measured by translating complex concepts into client solutions. While accounting is the language of business, we’re here to decipher the jargon and help you make educated decisions. CRInnovate embraces agility and invention.

Our CRI vSTAR™ process provides a transformational approach to client service by encompassing every service we offer in a completely virtual format. Regardless of physical location, our processes are designed to provide clients with increased efficiencies, reduced travel costs, and crisis-proofing for business functions.

We welcome the opportunity to demonstrate to you the same teamwork, expertise, innovation, and responsiveness that have made us one of the fastest growing public accounting firms in the United States. Again, we appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Hartness  
Engagement Partner  
Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC

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# UNDERSTANDING & MEETING YOUR NEEDS



From the RFP or during our recent visit with your team, we understood your team to express the following needs, requests, and/or issues. We've detailed our proposed solutions below and are happy to discuss other related projects as they arise and upon request.

NEEDS & ISSUES		SOLUTIONS & SERVICES
Technical	The District is required to have independent audits performed on its financial statements.	Perform external audit services in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS), in order to express an opinion on the Rustic Oaks Community Development District's financial statements.
Relational	The District's Board of Supervisors and management expect open and continuous communication with their CPA firm in order to avoid surprise findings at the end of the audit.	<p>Communicate contemporaneously and directly with management regarding the results of our procedures.</p> <p>Anticipate and respond to concerns of management and/or the Audit Committee (if/when formed).</p>



# YOUR SERVICES AND FEES

We value creating mutually rewarding, long-term relationships with our clients. Our goal is to provide high quality, responsive service that yields returns far greater than your investment in our professional fees. Please find below our proposal of fees to provide the requested services for the upcoming fiscal years.

SERVICE	CRI FEES 2021	CRI FEES 2022	CRI FEES 2023	CRI FEES 2024	CRI FEES 2025
Perform external audit services in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS)	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

The above fee quote is based in part on the fact that the District has not yet issued bonds or other debt instruments to finance capital asset acquisition and construction. In the event the District issues such debt instruments or upon construction of major infrastructure additions, the audit fee will increase by an amount of \$1,100 per year for each bond issuance.

If Rustic Oaks Community Development District requests additional services outside of this proposal, professional fee hourly rates are as follows, but may be negotiated depending on the project request:

CLASSIFICATION	HOURLY RATE
Partner	\$325
Manager	\$225
Senior	\$150
Staff	\$110
IT Specialist	\$400
Fraud Specialist	\$400

Our professional fees are based on the key assumptions that Rustic Oaks Community Development District will:

- Ensure that the predecessor’s work papers will be made available for timely review.
- Make available documents and work papers for review at Rustic Oaks Community Development District's headquarters location, although we may choose to review at alternate locations.
- Prepare certain schedules and analyses and provide supporting documents as requested.
- Assist us in obtaining an understanding of the accounting systems of Rustic Oaks Community Development District.
- Not experience a significant change in business operations or financial reporting standards.



**FOUNDED IN 1997** • **10 STATES**  • **25+ MARKETS**



**1900+**  
**PROFESSIONALS**



**300+**  
**PARTNERS**



**TOP 25 CPA FIRM**

*(as ranked by Accounting Today)*

**100,000+**  
**CLIENTS**



**20+ YEARS**  
**OF CONSISTENT GROWTH**  
**SINCE FORMATION**

## CRI FIRM VALUES:

**CLIENT SERVICE.**  
**RESPECT.**  
**INTEGRITY.**



## SERVICES

Accounting & Auditing  
Advisory  
Business Support & Transactions  
Business Tax  
Employee Benefit Plans  
Governance, Risk & Assurance  
Individual Tax & Planning  
IT Audits & Assurance

## INDUSTRY EXPERTISE

Captive Insurance  
Construction  
Financial Institutions  
Governments  
Healthcare  
Institutional Real Estate  
Insurance  
Manufacturing & Distribution  
Nonprofits

## CRI FAMILY OF COMPANIES

-  Auditwerx
-  CRI Advanced Analytics
-  CRI Capital Advisors
-  CRI Solutions Group
-  CRI TPA Services
-  Level Four Advisory Services
-  Paywerx
-  Preferred Legacy Trust



# CRI'S GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTISE

Audit and Consulting Services for

**500+** governmental entities with annual revenues totaling **\$26 Billion**



**230+** single audits performed annually

Consulting and other agreed upon procedures engagements for **150+** government entities

 Single Audit Resource Center's Award for Excellence in Knowledge, Value, and Overall Client Satisfaction

 Member of AICPA's Government Audit Quality Center



## Governmental Partner Designations

Including: CPA, CGFM, CITP, CFE, CMA, CISA, CGEIT, CTGA, CFF, CGMA, and CGAP

## CLIENTS WITH ANNUAL REVENUES UP TO:

 80+ School Districts **\$1.1 Billion**

 110+ Municipalities **\$1.8 Billion**

 75+ Agencies/Authorities **\$3 Billion**

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE



CRI delivers a depth of resources that ensures our understanding of your challenges and innovative solutions for overcoming them. Our team's combined experience is derived from providing audit, tax, consulting, and accounting outsourcing services. We parlay this vast experience and derived best practices into proven solutions that benefit you. Below we share specific, relevant client references; we encourage you to consult with them.

RELATIONSHIP	TIMELINE	SERVICE DESCRIPTION	RELEVANT POINTS TO CONSIDER
Rizzetta & Company Shawn Wildermuth 3434 Colwell Avenue Suite 200 Tampa, FL 33614 813.933.5571	2006 – Present	Annual Financial Statement Audits of Multiple CDDs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client service experience</li> <li>• Responsiveness to client needs</li> <li>• Long-term relationship</li> <li>• CDD management co.</li> </ul>
GMS, LLC Dave DeNagy 14785 Old St. Augustine Road Suite 4 Jacksonville, FL 32258 904.288.9130	2006 – Present	Annual Financial Statement Audits of Multiple CDDs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client service experience</li> <li>• Responsiveness to client needs</li> <li>• Long-term relationship</li> <li>• CDD management co.</li> </ul>
Wrathell, Hunt & Associates, LLC Jeffrey Pinder 2300 Glades Road Suite 410W Boca Raton, FL 33431 561.571.0010	2006 – Present	Annual Financial Statement Audits of Multiple CDDs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client service experience</li> <li>• Responsiveness to client needs</li> <li>• Long-term relationship</li> <li>• CDD management co.</li> </ul>
PFM Group Consulting, LLC Jennifer Glasgow 12051 Corporate Blvd. Orlando, FL 32817 407.382.3256	2007 – Present	Annual Financial Statement Audits of Multiple CDDs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client service experience</li> <li>• Responsiveness to client needs</li> <li>• Long-term relationship</li> <li>• CDD management co.</li> </ul>



## YOUR SOLUTION TEAM



# Jonathan Hartness

Engagement Partner

JHartness@CRlcpa.com

850.337.3569 | Direct



### Representative Clients

- Community Development Districts
- Condominium and Homeowner Associations

### Experience

Jonathan has over 12 years of auditing and accounting experience with CRI. He is responsible for audits, reviews and compilations of local governmental entities, condominium and homeowner associations, and non-public companies.

Jonathan is licensed to practice as a Certified Public Accountant in Florida. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He exceeds all continuing professional education requirements related to *Government Auditing Standards*.

Jonathan currently supervises engagements for many governmental entities in the State of Florida including community development districts. He is active in our firm's governmental industry line as well as our condominium and homeowner association practice. Jonathan is an integral part of our community development district practice.

### Education, Licenses & Certifications

- MAcc, Accounting, University of West Florida
- Certified Public Accountant
- Community Association Manager (CAM), Licensed in Florida

### Professional Affiliations

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA)



# K. Alan Jowers

## Consulting Partner

AJowers@CRlcpa.com  
850.337.3213 | Direct



### Representative Clients

- Santa Rosa County District School Board
- Okaloosa Gas District
- Santa Rosa Island Authority
- Pasco County
- Okaloosa County District School Board
- Pinellas County School District
- Celebration Community Development District
- Hammock Bay Community Development District
- Amelia National Community Development District

### Experience

Alan has over 25 years of experience in public accounting primarily with financial statement assurance engagements. His practice includes local governmental entities, condominium and homeowner associations, non-profit organizations, and nonpublic companies. He currently has direct engagement responsibility for a significant number of audits throughout the state of Florida.

Alan is licensed to practice as a certified public accountant in Florida and Georgia. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA), has been an active member of the FICPA's State and Local Governmental Committee, and is a past chair of its Common Interest Realty Association Committee. He is also active in the Panhandle Chapter of the Florida Governmental Finance Officers Association (FGFOA) and is a former member of the FGFOA's statewide Technical Resource Committee.

### Education, Licenses & Certifications

- Masters of Accountancy, University of Alabama
- BS, Accounting, Florida State University
- Certified Public Accountant

### Professional Affiliations

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA) - member of the Board of Governors
- Governmental Finance Officers Association (GFOA)
- Florida Governmental Finance Officers Association (FGFOA)

## YOUR SOLUTION TEAM



# Grace Hartness

Senior Manager

GHartness@CRlcpa.com

850.337.3243 | Direct



### Representative Clients

- Community Development Districts
- Condominium and Homeowner Associations
- Utility Services
- School Districts
- County and Local Governments
- Non-Profit Organizations

### Experience

Grace has over 12 years accounting and audit experience with CRI. She has worked on several major construction companies, government entities, community development districts, condominium and homeowner associations and non-profit organizations. In addition, she has been involved in special audit projects for the Miami-Dade Airport Authority. Grace is licensed to practice as a certified public accountant in Florida and exceeds all continuing professional education requirements related to Government Auditing Standards. In addition, Grace fluently speaks several languages including French and Arabic. Grace currently supervises engagements for many special districts in the State of Florida including community development districts and school districts. She is active in our firm's condominium and homeowner association practice. Grace started with CRI in August 2006, upon completion of her master's degree, and was promoted to manager in 2011.

### Education, Licenses & Certifications

- MAcc, Accounting, University of West Florida
- Certified Public Accountant
- Community Association Manager (CAM), Licensed in Florida

### Professional Affiliations

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA)
- Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance (AFWA)

## YOUR SOLUTION TEAM



# Chad Branson

## Senior Manager

CBranson@CRlcpa.com  
850.337.3226 | Direct



### Representative Service Areas

- Local Governments including Water and Sewer Organizations and Fire Districts
- School Districts including Foundations
- Nonprofit Organizations

### Representative Clients (including previous clients)

- School Districts - Pinellas County, Okaloosa County, Pasco County, Santa Rosa County
- Florida Office of Early Learning Coalition
- Florida Department of Elder Affairs
- Fire Districts -Destin, Ocean City, North Bay
- Utilities - Regional Utilities, Midway Water Systems, Inc., Emerald Coast Utilities Authority
- Escambia County

### Experience

Chad Branson has over 17 years of experience in public accounting, with practice concentrations in auditing governmental, nonprofit and for profit entities. Chad has accumulated experience throughout his career in Federal and Florida Single Audit Acts compliance monitoring and auditing. During his career he has supervised and managed audit engagements for a wide variety of governmental and nonprofit organization clients. In addition, he has performed internal audit work, information technology general controls testing, forensic investigations, and risk assessments for governmental entities.

Chad has been with Carr, Riggs and Ingram, LLC since 2005.

### Education, Licenses & Certifications

- Bachelor and Master of Accountancy – University of Mississippi, Oxford MS
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA) – Licensed in Florida and Mississippi
- Community Association Manager (CAM) – Florida
- Certified Information Technology Professional – AICPA

### Professional Affiliations

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA)
- Emerald Coast Chapter (FICPA) Board
- Florida Governmental Finance Officers Association (FGFOA)

## YOUR SOLUTION TEAM



# Lauren Villarreal

## Supervising Senior

LVillarreal@CRICpa.com  
850.337.3223 | Direct



### Representative Service Areas

- Community Development Districts
- Condominium and Homeowner Associations
- Employee Benefit Plans
- County and Local Governments
- Non-Profit Organizations

### Experience

Lauren has four years auditing and accounting experience in the Destin office of CRI. She is an audit supervising senior with primary responsibility for fieldwork and reporting on audits of clients in a variety of industries including local governmental and non-profit entities as well as employee benefit plans and commercial businesses. She is currently the in-charge auditor for over a dozen community development districts with several CDD management companies in the State of Florida.

Lauren is licensed to practice as a Certified Public Accountant in Florida. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants. She exceeds all continuing professional education requirements related to *Government Auditing Standards*.

Lauren currently supervises engagements for many governmental entities in the State of Florida including community development districts and other special governments. She is active in our firm's governmental industry line as well as the condominium and homeowner association practice. In addition, Lauren has accumulated experience in Federal and Florida Single Audit Acts compliance monitoring and auditing. Lauren has performed several single audits of federal grants under OMB Circular A-133.

### Education, Licenses & Certifications

- BS, Accounting, Florida State University
- BS, Business Administration, Florida State University
- Certified Public Accountant
- Community Association Manager (CAM), Licensed in Florida

### Professional Affiliations

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA)

# DELIVERING QUALITY TO YOU



## AUDIT METHODOLOGY

Our audit, tax, consulting, and client accounting services documentation is maintained electronically. Compliance with our methodology is regularly reviewed and evaluated as part of our internal quality program, which is further discussed in this section under **INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL REVIEWS AND EXTERNAL REVIEWS**. Comprehensive policies and procedures governing all of our practices and addressing professional and regulatory standards and implementation issues are constantly updated for new professional developments and emerging issues. See the table of contents to identify the relevant audit approach and methodology detailed description section.

## ENGAGEMENT QUALITY REVIEW PARTNER (CONCURRING PARTNER)

Audit engagements are assigned engagement quality review (EQR) partner, as appropriate. This role is one of the most important elements of our quality assurance process, as it provides for a timely, independent review of key accounting and auditing issues. The EQR partner also reviews the financial statements and related supporting documentation—including the disclosures—to evaluate their fair presentation under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

## INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL REVIEWS AND EXTERNAL REVIEWS

Experienced partners and professional staff of our firm conduct quality control reviews of our audits. Our partners' work is reviewed annually, and the inspection process includes periodic testing of the effectiveness of our quality controls and a continuous improvement program. This risk-based annual inspection is intended to mimic the triennial peer review described in the following paragraph and are performed on completed engagements. In addition to this inspection, we perform in-process, "pre-issuance" reviews of partners' work that are chosen for using a risk-based selection process; these reviews are performed by our corporate quality control team. The combination of the in-process and completed engagements is part of our continuous improvement processes.

Peer reviews are performed every three years by another independent public accounting firm. The most recent review of our firm was performed in 2019 by Brown Edwards, whose report was the most favorable possible "Pass".

In addition, we are registered with the PCAOB and our 2018 PCAOB inspection report was also the most favorable possible—no audit deficiencies or quality control defects identified. The 2018 PCAOB report can be viewed at:

<https://pcaobus.org/Inspections/Reports/Documents/104-2019-029-Carr-Riggs-Ingram-LLC.pdf>.



# SHARING CRI'S VALUES WITH YOU

We are proud of our hands-on, service-centric, and results-oriented approach. Combining that approach with quality controls and superior talent allows us to help you achieve your goals and strengthen your management systems and processes. This approach is further emphasized through our three core values which guide our team's behavior and function as the foundation for interactions with our clients and each other.



### CLIENT SERVICE

Defining our brand by meeting or exceeding the highest expectations of our clients

### RESPECT

Building productive, long-term relationships with each other that are based on mutual respect, trust, and sharing

### INTEGRITY

Living with sincerity, transparency, and honesty

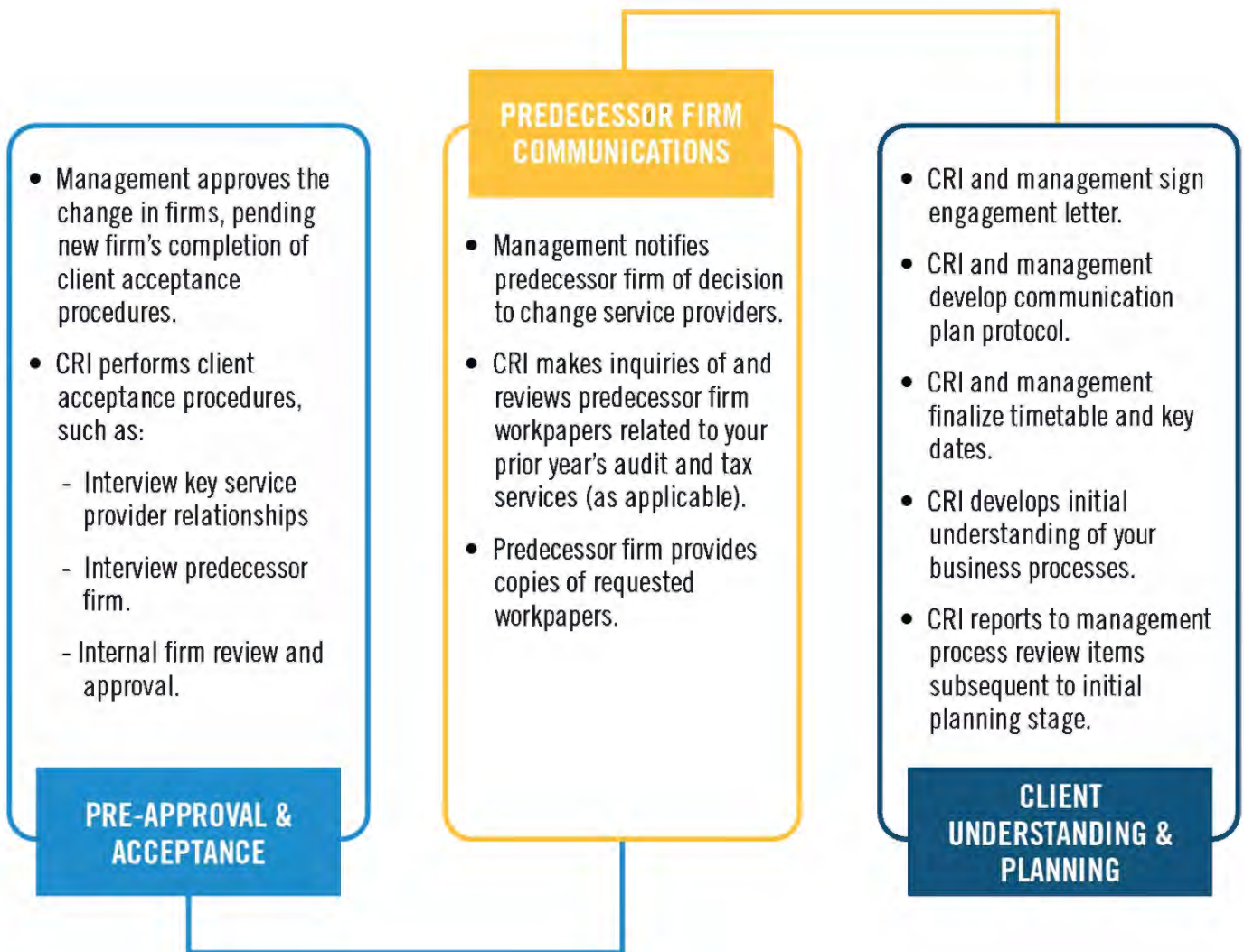


# TRANSITIONING YOU

When choosing to change firms, the time involved in working with new accounting professionals is often a concern. CRI's well-defined efficient, seamless transition process is designed to:

- Provide you with value from the very first encounter,
- Avoid interruption of service,
- Minimize disruption and investment of management's time,
- Raise the standard of service, and
- Establish ongoing channels of communication with Rustic Oaks Community Development District's management.

The transition plan is comprised of the following key activities and can occur within approximately two weeks, depending on the availability of the parties involved:





# CRI'S GLOBAL RESOURCES



Many businesses are expanding and/or evaluating their global reach, and they require assistance in order to comprehensively consider the various financial implications of growing in international markets. In addition to CRI's internal resources, we deliver the expertise and support of some of the world's most highly regarded accounting firms through shared alliance as members of PrimeGlobal.

## WHO IS PRIMEGLOBAL?



## HOW OUR PRIMEGLOBAL MEMBERS CAN BENEFIT YOU

We supplement our in-depth, industry knowledge and specialized services through our collaborations with other PrimeGlobal firms to help you evaluate your options globally. CRI's goal is to provide you with the information you need to make well-informed, smart business decisions.

### 4 KEY BENEFITS TO CRI CLIENTS FROM OUR PRIMEGLOBAL MEMBERSHIP

- 1 SOLUTIONS**  
that are worldwide and world-class.
- 2 ACCESSIBILITY**  
to knowledge and resources of statutory, regulatory, and compliance requirements throughout the world.
- 3 DECISION MAKING**  
with the support of local connections and cultural understanding throughout regions of the world.
- 4 SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT**  
CRI's team serves as your contact for each engagement, and we project manage across the entire team - including other PrimeGlobal firms and specialists.

# JOIN OUR CONVERSATION



We know that some information that makes perfect sense to a CPA may not be as clear to our clients. Therefore, we produce original content in the form of articles, videos, white papers, webinars, and more to provide timely, down-to-earth translations of complex subjects. We publish this original content on [CRIcpa.com](https://www.cricpa.com) and across all our many social channels.

## FOLLOW CRI ON SOCIAL MEDIA @CRICPA



## SUBSCRIBE TO THE CRI E-NEWSLETTER

[CRICPA.COM/NEWSLETTER-SIGNUP](https://www.cricpa.com/newsletter-signup)



### IT FIGURES: THE CRI PODCAST

Created to provide insight into the latest developments and regulations in the accounting and finance space, It Figures is an accounting and advisory focused podcast for business and organization leaders, entrepreneurs, and anyone who is looking to go beyond the status quo.

Listen on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, iHeart Radio, and more.  
[itfigurespodcast.com](https://itfigurespodcast.com)



### CRI'S CEO ACTION FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Carr, Riggs & Ingram is committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse place for all employees to work in and engage. When our managing partner and chairman, Bill Carr, signed the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion™ pledge, he made a public commitment to building a productive, diverse, and inclusive workplace. [Learn more about CRI's commitment to Diversity and Inclusion.](#)



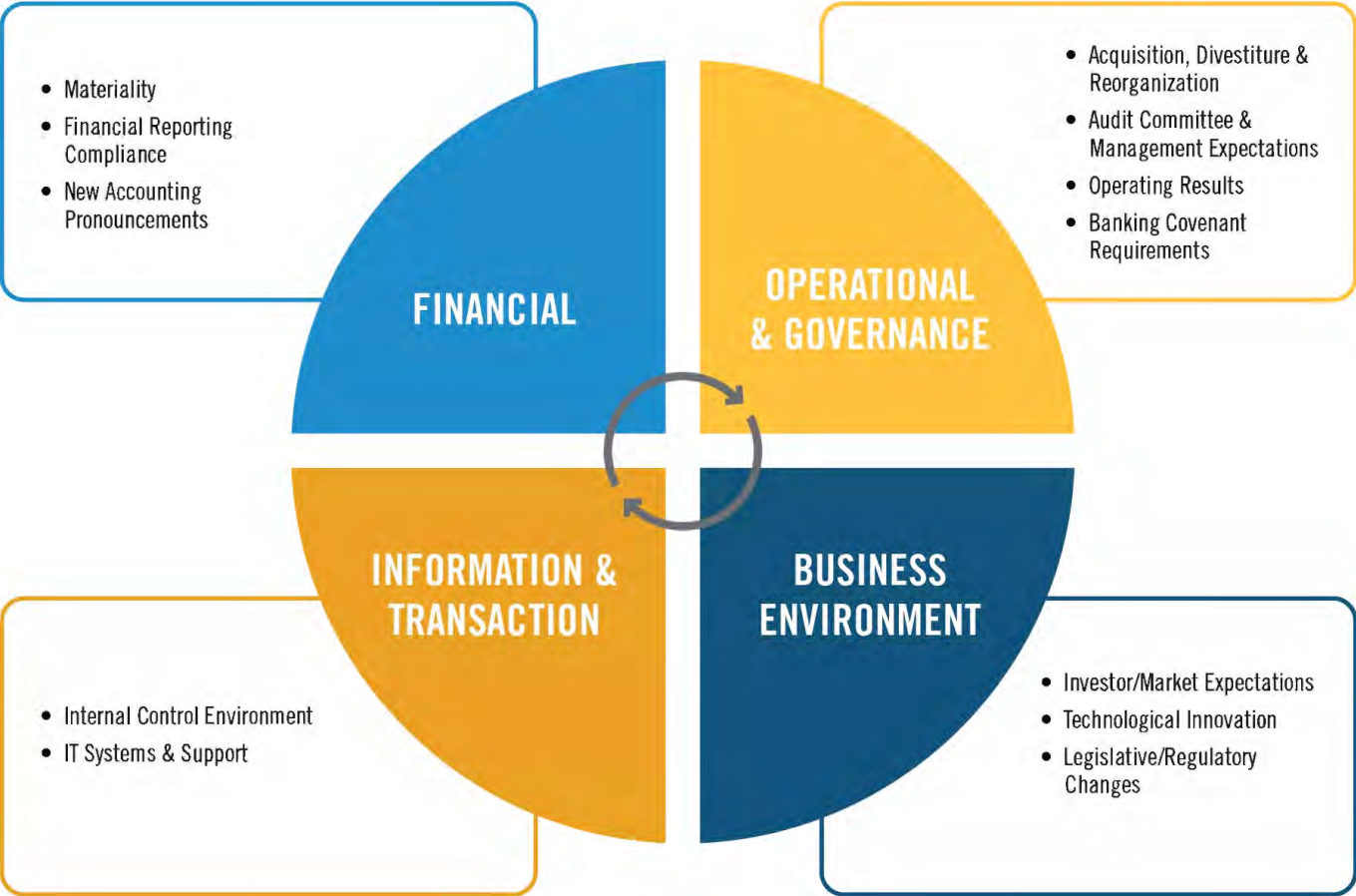
# CRI AUDIT FRAMEWORK

Our proposed services require a coordinated effort between us and Rustic Oaks Community Development District's team. Planning and continual communication are essential to developing the appropriate procedures, working collaboratively to resolve any identified issues, and meeting your timelines.

CRI's audit approach occurs within a framework of our client's business and industry; therefore, we assess risk by:

- Understanding management's perspectives and goals, and
- Considering business conditions and threats that could prevent management from achieving its business objectives.

We assess risks in the following areas:



# CRI AUDIT FRAMEWORK



Our ultimate intent is to drill down from these broad risks to specific financial reporting risks. We understand both these risks and management's processes and procedures for mitigating them (i.e. internal controls) in order to develop our procedures to carry out our audit responsibilities.

Although our audits are conducted through a structured, risk-based model, we focus on understanding the client's needs, requirements, and expectations. We work collaboratively with management and the Audit Committee (or similar function) to develop a communication and work plan to continuously improve client service, by doing so we help in moving your team from simple compliance to providing you with a competitive advantage.

In planning, we concentrate on "key risks," (items with a greater risk of a material misstatement, a material weakness in internal controls, or other matters resulting in the issuance of an inappropriate audit report). We focus on "material" items (i.e. those items that would be important to the user of your financial statements). When evaluating materiality of identified misstatements, certain quantitative and qualitative factors must be considered—which may include:

- Impact on operating trends (revenue/income, expenses, net income, etc).
- Nature of the misstatement (i.e., did the misstatement result from an unlawful transaction?).
- Impact on liquidity, capital/surplus, earnings capacity, etc.
- Impact to loan covenants and contractual and regulatory requirements.

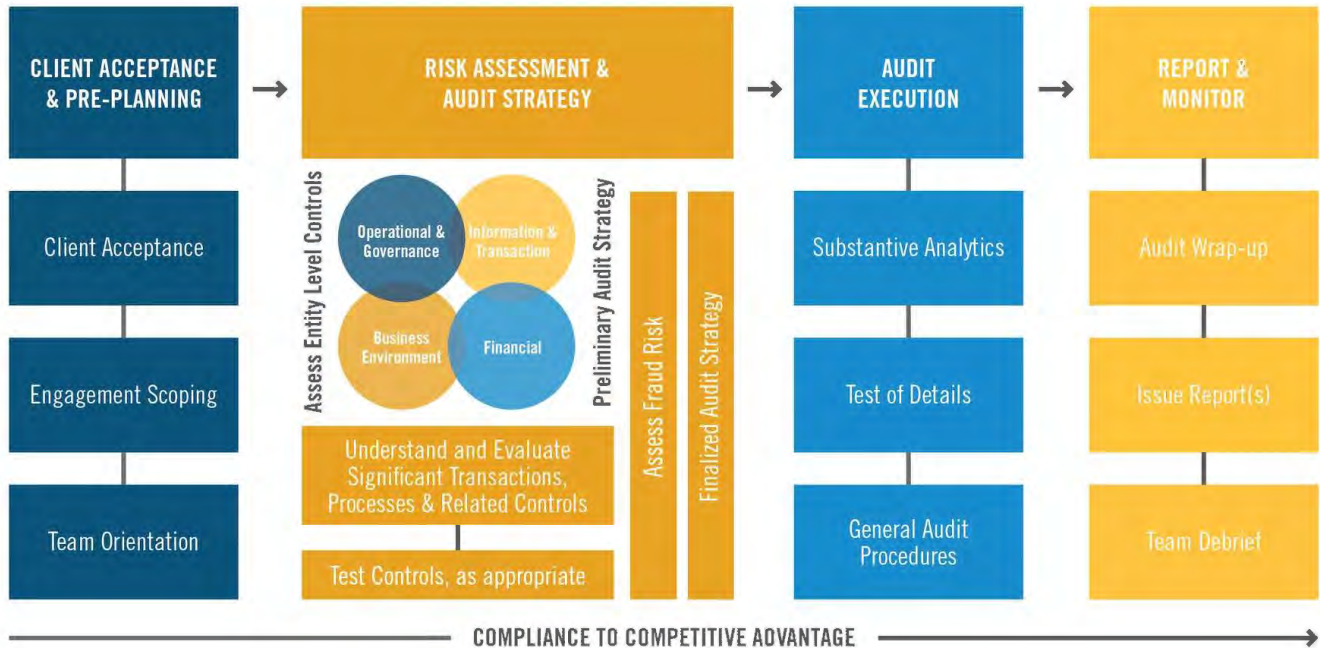
Consistent communication is a key to completion of the audit. By ensuring constant involvement, we are in a better position to respond to your issues timely and efficiently. Therefore, we plan to meet with your management to:

- Set-up the audit by reviewing the mapping of Rustic Oaks Community Development District's financial information (financial statements and notes) to significant processes and IT systems to ensure that all significant account balances, transactions, procedures, and systems are tested as deemed necessary.
- Discuss ongoing changes—specifically new accounting pronouncements and key business transactions in their early stages, enabling us to agree on the resolution of various complex business issues on a timely basis.



# CRI AUDIT APPROACH

Our audit approach is a four stage approach, as depicted in the summary below. Our client acceptance and risk assessment procedures occur during detailed conversations and observations with your team. The results of those procedures allow us to tailor an audit program to your specific risks and needs. We then execute the audit, report the results, and evaluate continuous improvement opportunities for ongoing service and benefit to you.





# CRI AUDIT APPROACH

## STAGE 1: CLIENT ACCEPTANCE & PRE-PLANNING

- Perform client acceptance procedures.
- Collaborate with management to agree to expectations and scope.
- Assign appropriate staff based on client needs and assessed risk.

## STAGE 2: RISK ASSESSMENT & AUDIT STRATEGY

- Interview client personnel and others to understand client-specific objectives and risks.
- Assess following aspects of the organization for their impact on the audit plan:
  - environmental and other external risks,
  - management's fraud and IT risk assessment models,
  - entity level controls including:
    - control environment
    - risk assessment,
    - information and communication,
    - and monitoring controls.
  - IT General Computer (ITGC) controls, such as
    - IT Environment
    - Developing and Delivering IT, and
    - Operating and Monitoring IT.
- Determine materiality.
- Develop and document our understanding of and/or reliance on:
  - linkage of financial statements to:
    - significant transactions,
    - processes,
    - IT systems, and
    - related controls,
  - existence of/reliance on SOC entities and their reports,
  - internal audit, and
  - specialists (e.g. valuation, pension costs, etc.).
- If elected, test controls including ITGC, through a mix of:
  - inquiry,
  - observation
  - examination, and
  - re-performance.
- Perform preliminary analytical procedures.
- Finalize risk assessments and develop a final audit strategy.

## STAGE 3: AUDIT EXECUTION

- Where possible to test as efficiently as possible:
  - develop detailed analytical procedures to use as substantive tests (benefit = reducing tests of details):  
Examples include:
    - ratio analysis,
    - regression analysis,
    - trend analysis,
    - predictive tests, or
    - reasonableness test,
  - utilize Computer-Assisted Audit Techniques (CAATs) (benefit = automation of testing for more coverage and less disruption to the client), and
  - perform targeted testing (also known as "coverage" testing) to test large portions of account balances (benefit = more coverage with smaller selections).
- Perform tests of details, including sampling.
- Perform general audit procedures such as tests related to:
  - commitments and contingencies,
  - legal letters,
  - management representations,
  - reviews of Board minutes,
  - related party transactions,
  - debt covenants, and
  - going concern.
- Perform other tests for compliance such as Yellow Book or Single Audit tests.

## STAGE 4: REPORT & MONITOR

- Continually monitor throughout the audit - providing feedback as agreed during scoping.
- Conclude the audit (i.e. issue opinions and reports).
- Develop and present:
  - reports,
  - required communications,
  - management letter comments, and
  - other audit-related deliverables.
- Perform debriefings to identify opportunities for improvement with our:
  - engagement team, and/or
  - client's team.

# APPENDIX A - RFP DOCUMENTS



## RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ANNUAL AUDIT SERVICES

The Rustic Oaks Community Development District hereby requests proposals for annual **financial auditing services**. **The proposal must provide for the auditing of the District's** financial records for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, with an option for four (4) additional optional annual renewals. The District is a local unit of special-purpose government created under Chapter 190, *Florida Statutes*, for the purpose of financing, constructing, and maintaining public infrastructure. The District is located in the City of Venice, Sarasota County, Florida. The final contract will require that, among other things, the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, be completed no later than June 30, 2022.

The auditing entity submitting a proposal must be duly licensed under Chapter 473, *Florida Statutes*, and **be qualified to conduct audits in accordance with "Government Auditing Standards," as adopted by the Florida Board of Accountancy**. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with Florida Law and particularly Section 218.39, *Florida Statutes*, and the rules of the Florida Auditor General.

Proposal packages, which include evaluation criteria and instructions to proposers, are available from the District Manager at the address and telephone number listed below.

Proposers must provide one (1) electronic copy and one (1) unbound copy of their proposal to the offices of the District Manager, located at 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431, phone: (877) 276-0889 ("**District Manager**"), in an envelope **marked on the outside "Auditing Services, Rustic Oaks Community Development District."** Proposals must be received by 12:00 p.m., on September 20, 2021, at the office of the District Manager. Please direct all questions regarding this Notice to the District Manager.

District Manager

# APPENDIX A - RFP DOCUMENTS



## RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

District Auditing Services for Fiscal Year 2021  
Sarasota County, Florida

### INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS

**SECTION 1. DUE DATE.** Sealed proposals must be received no later than 12:00 p.m., on September 20, 2021, at the offices of District Manager, located at Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC, 2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W, Boca Raton, Florida 33431. Proposals will be publicly opened at that time.

**SECTION 2. FAMILIARITY WITH THE LAW.** By submitting a proposal, the Proposer is assumed to be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that in any manner affect the work. Ignorance on the part of the Proposer will in no way relieve it from responsibility to perform the work covered by the proposal in compliance with all such laws, ordinances and regulations.

**SECTION 3. QUALIFICATIONS OF PROPOSER.** The contract, if awarded, will only be awarded to a responsible Proposer who is qualified by experience and licensing to do the work specified herein. The Proposer shall submit with its proposal satisfactory evidence of experience in similar work and show that it is fully prepared to complete the work to the satisfaction of the District.

**SECTION 4. SUBMISSION OF ONLY ONE PROPOSAL.** Proposers shall be disqualified and their proposals rejected if the District has reason to believe that collusion may exist among the Proposers, the Proposer has defaulted on any previous contract or is in arrears on any previous or existing contract, or for failure to demonstrate proper licensure and business organization.

**SECTION 5. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL.** one (1) electronic copy and one (1) unbound copy of the Proposal Documents, and other requested attachments at the time and place indicated herein, which shall be enclosed in an opaque sealed envelope, **marked with the title "Auditing Services – Rustic Oaks Community Development District"** on the face of it. **Please include pricing for each additional bond issuance.**

**SECTION 6. MODIFICATION AND WITHDRAWAL.** Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by an appropriate document duly executed and delivered to the place where proposals are to be submitted at any time prior to the time and date the proposals are due. No proposal may be withdrawn after opening for a period of ninety (90) days.



# APPENDIX A - RFP DOCUMENTS



**SECTION 7. PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS.** The proposal documents shall consist of the notice announcing the request for proposals, these instructions, the Evaluation Criteria Sheet and a proposal with all required documentation pursuant to Section 12 of these instructions (“Proposal Documents”).

**SECTION 8. PROPOSAL.** In making its proposal, each Proposer represents that it has read and understands the Proposal Documents and that the proposal is made in accordance therewith.

**SECTION 9. BASIS OF AWARD/RIGHT TO REJECT.** The District reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, make modifications to the work, and waive any informalities or irregularities in proposals as it is deemed in the best interests of the District.

**SECTION 10. CONTRACT AWARD.** Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the Notice of Award from the District, the Proposer shall enter into and execute a Contract (engagement letter) with the District.

**SECTION 11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.** Nothing herein shall be construed as or constitute a waiver of the District’s limited waiver of liability contained in Section 768.28, *Florida Statutes*, or any other statute or law.

**SECTION 12. MISCELLANEOUS.** All proposals shall include the following information in addition to any other requirements of the proposal documents.

- A. List the position or title of all personnel to perform work on the District audit. Include resumes for each person listed; list years of experience in present position for each party listed and years of related experience.
- B. Describe proposed staffing levels, including resumes with applicable certifications.
- C. Three references from projects of similar size and scope. The Proposer should include information relating to the work it conducted for each reference as well as a name, address and phone number of a contact person.
- D. The lump sum cost of the provision of the services under the proposal, plus the lump sum cost of four (4) annual renewals.

**SECTION 13. PROTESTS.** In accordance with the District’s Rules of Procedure, any protest regarding the Proposal Documents, must be filed in writing, at the offices of the District Manager, within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the receipt of the Proposal Documents. The formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be

## APPENDIX A - RFP DOCUMENTS



filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. Failure to timely file a notice of protest or failure to timely file a formal written protest shall constitute a waiver of any right to object or protest with respect to the aforesaid Proposal Documents.

**SECTION 14. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS.** The criteria to be used in the evaluation of proposals are presented in the Evaluation Criteria Sheet, contained within the Proposal Documents.

# APPENDIX A - RFP DOCUMENTS



## RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AUDITOR SELECTION EVALUATION CRITERIA

**1. Ability of Personnel. (20 Points)**

(E.g., geographic location of the firm's headquarters or permanent office in relation to the project; capabilities and experience of key personnel; present ability to manage this project; evaluation of existing work load; proposed staffing levels, etc.)

**2. Proposer's Experience. (20 Points)**

(E.g. past record and experience of the Proposer in similar projects; volume of work previously performed by the firm; past performance for other or current Community Development District(s) in other contracts; character, integrity, reputation of Proposer, etc.)

**3. Understanding of Scope of Work. (20 Points)**

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates an understanding of the District's needs for the services requested.

**4. Ability to Furnish the Required Services. (20 Points)**

Extent to which the proposal demonstrates the adequacy of Proposer's financial resources and stability as a business entity necessary to complete the services required.

**5. Price. (20 Points)\*\*\***

Points will be awarded based upon the lowest total proposal for rendering the services and the reasonableness of the proposal.

**Total (100 Points)**

\*\*\*Alternatively, the Board may choose to evaluate firms without considering price, in which case the remaining categories would be assigned 25 points each.

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**10CIII**



**Grau & Associates**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

# Proposal to Provide Financial Auditing Services:

## **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Proposal Due: September 20, 2021  
12:00PM

**Submitted to:**

Rustic Oaks  
Community Development District  
c/o District Manager  
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

---

**Submitted by:**

Antonio J. Grau, Partner  
Grau & Associates  
951 Yamato Road, Suite 280  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

**Tel** (561) 994-9299  
(800) 229-4728

**Fax** (561) 994-5823

[tgrau@graucpa.com](mailto:tgrau@graucpa.com)

[www.graucpa.com](http://www.graucpa.com)



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# Grau & Associates

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

September 20, 2021

Rustic Oaks Community Development District  
c/o District Manager  
2300 Glades Road, Suite 410W  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Re: Request for Proposal for Professional Auditing Services for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2021, with an option for four (4) additional annual renewals.

Grau & Associates (Grau) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Rustic Oaks Community Development District's (the "District") Request for Proposal (RFP), and we look forward to working with you on your audit. We are an energetic and robust team of knowledgeable professionals and are a recognized leader of providing services to Community Development Districts. As one of Florida's few firms to primarily focus on government, we are especially equipped to provide you an effective and efficient audit.

Special district audits are at the core of our practice: **we have a total of 360 clients, 329 or 91% of which are special districts.** We know the specifics of the professional services and work products needed to meet your RFP requirements like no other firm. With this level of experience, we are able to increase efficiency, to provide immediate and continued savings, and to minimize disturbances to client operations.

## Why Grau & Associates:

### Knowledgeable Audit Team

Grau is proud that the personnel we assign to your audit are some of the most seasoned auditors in the field. Our staff performs governmental engagements year round. When not working on your audit, your team is refining their audit approach for next year's audit. Our engagement partners have decades of experience and take a hands-on approach to our assignments, which all ensures a smoother process for you.

### Servicing your Individual Needs

Our clients enjoy personalized service designed to satisfy their unique needs and requirements. Throughout the process of our audit, you will find that we welcome working with you to resolve any issues as swiftly and easily as possible. In addition, due to Grau's very low turnover rate for our industry, you also won't have to worry about retraining your auditors from year to year.

### Developing Relationships

We strive to foster mutually beneficial relationships with our clients. We stay in touch year round, updating, collaborating and assisting you in implementing new legislation, rules and standards that affect your organization. We are also available as a sounding board and assist with technical questions.

### Maintaining an Impeccable Reputation

We have never been involved in any litigation, proceeding or received any disciplinary action. Additionally, we have never been charged with, or convicted of, a public entity crime of any sort. We are financially stable and have never been involved in any bankruptcy proceedings.

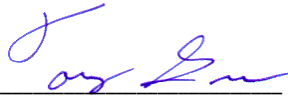
### Complying With Standards

Our audit will follow the Auditing Standards of the AICPA, Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida, and any other applicable federal, state and local regulations. We will deliver our reports in accordance with your requirements.

This proposal is a firm and irrevocable offer for 90 days. We certify this proposal is made without previous understanding, agreement or connection either with any previous firms or corporations offering a proposal for the same items. We also certify our proposal is in all respects fair, without outside control, collusion, fraud, or otherwise illegal action, and was prepared in good faith. Only the person(s), company or parties interested in the project as principals are named in the proposal. Grau has no existing or potential conflicts, and anticipates no conflicts during the engagement. Our Federal I.D. number is 20-2067322.

We would be happy to answer any questions or to provide any additional information. We are genuinely excited about the prospect of serving you and establishing a long-term relationship. Please do not hesitate to call or email either of our Partners, Antonio J. Grau, CPA ([tgrau@graucpa.com](mailto:tgrau@graucpa.com)) or Racquel McIntosh, CPA ([rmcintosh@graucpa.com](mailto:rmcintosh@graucpa.com)) at 561.994.9299. We thank you for considering our firm's qualifications and experience.

Very truly yours,  
Grau & Associates



Antonio J. Grau



# Firm Qualifications



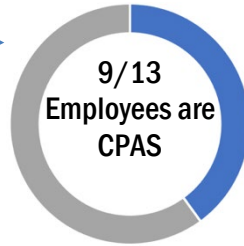
**Grau & Associates**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

# Grau's Focus and Experience

## Our Team



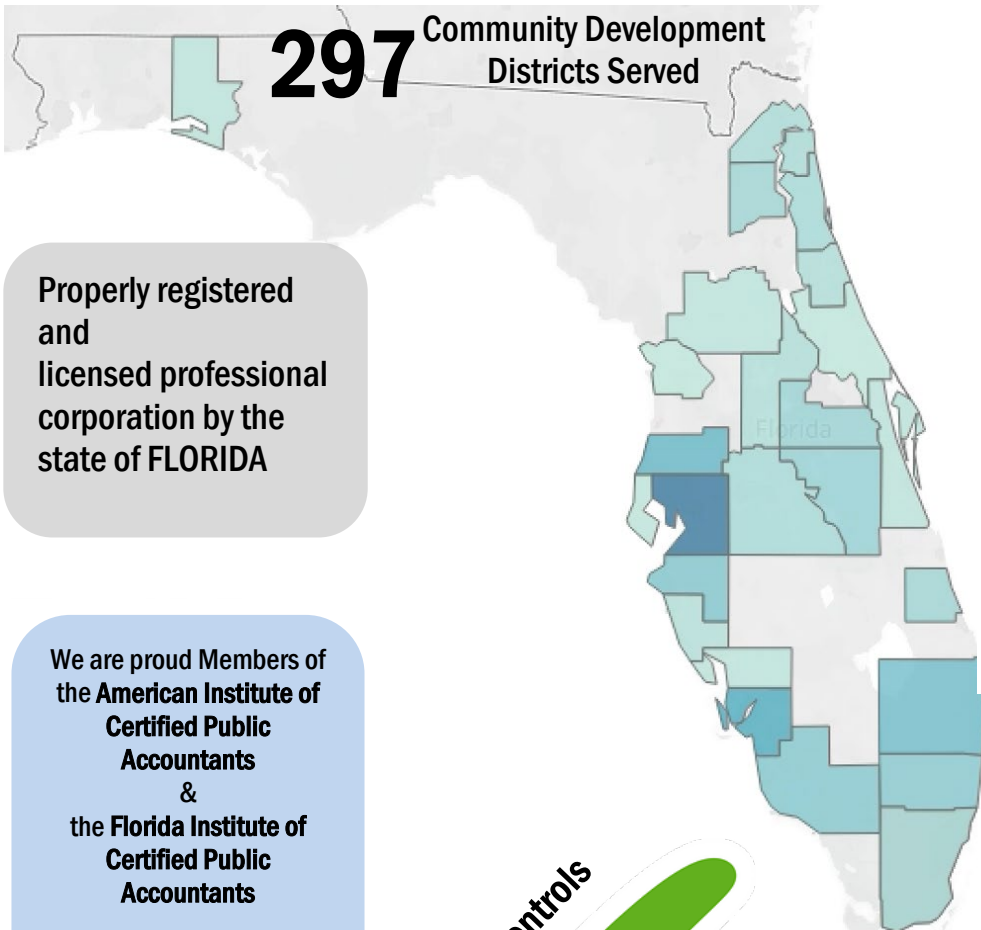
3 Partners  
10 Professional Staff  
2 Administrative Professionals



# 2005

Year founded

## Services Provided



Properly registered and licensed professional corporation by the state of FLORIDA

We are proud Members of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants & the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Quality Controls

- ⇒ External quality review program: consistently receives a pass
- ⇒ Internal: ongoing monitoring to maintain quality



AICPA | FICPA | GFOA | FASD | FGFOA

See next page for report and certificate



**FICPA Peer Review Program**  
Administered in Florida  
by The Florida Institute of CPAs



Peer Review  
Program

**AICPA Peer Review Program**  
Administered in Florida  
by the Florida Institute of CPAs

February 20, 2020

Antonio Grau  
Grau & Associates  
951 Yamato Rd Ste 280  
Boca Raton, FL 33431-1809

Dear Antonio Grau:

It is my pleasure to notify you that on February 20, 2020, the Florida Peer Review Committee accepted the report on the most recent System Review of your firm. The due date for your next review is December 31, 2022. This is the date by which all review documents should be completed and submitted to the administering entity.

As you know, the report had a peer review rating of pass. The Committee asked me to convey its congratulations to the firm.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,  
*FICPA Peer Review Committee*

Peer Review Team  
FICPA Peer Review Committee  
paul@ficpa.org  
800-342-3197 ext. 251

Florida Institute of CPAs

cc: Daniel Hevia, Racquel McIntosh

Firm Number: 900004390114

Review Number: 571202

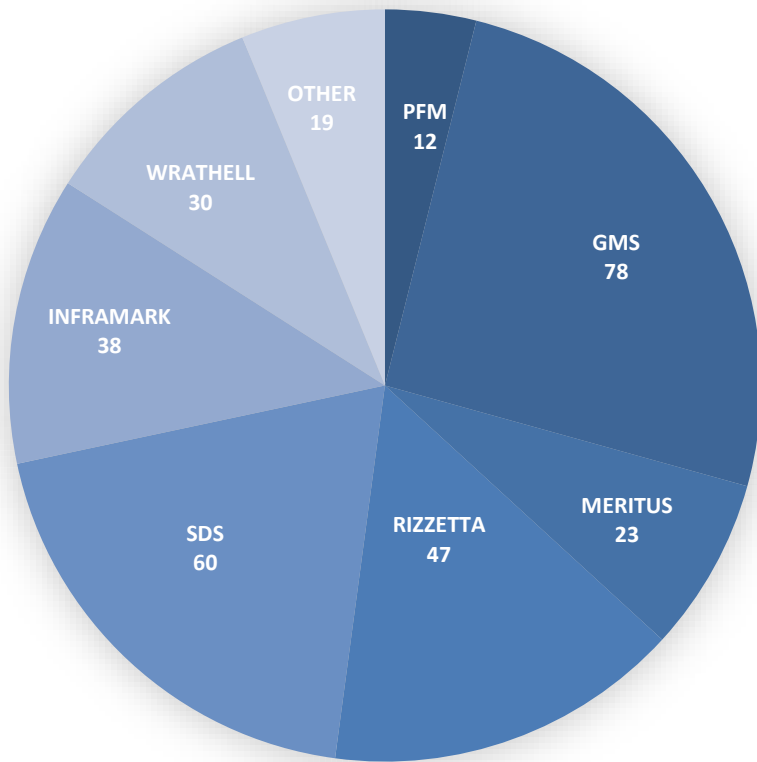
3800 Esplanade Way, Suite 210 | Tallahassee, FL 32311 | 800.342.3197, in Florida | 850.224.2727 | Fax: 850.222.8190 | [www.ficpa.org](http://www.ficpa.org)

# Firm & Staff Experience



**Grau & Associates**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## GRAU AND ASSOCIATES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT EXPERIENCE BY MANAGEMENT COMPANY



### Profile Briefs:

#### **Antonio J GRAU, CPA (Partner)**

Years Performing Audits: 30+  
 CPE (last 2 years): Government Accounting, Auditing: 24 hours; Accounting, Auditing and Other: 58 hours  
 Professional Memberships: AICPA, FICPA, FGFOA, GFOA

#### **Racquel McIntosh, CPA (Partner)**

Years Performing Audits: 14+  
 CPE (last 2 years): Government Accounting, Auditing: 38 hours; Accounting, Auditing and Other: 56 hours  
 Professional Memberships: AICPA, FICPA, FGFOA, FASD

“Here at Grau & Associates, staying up to date with the current technological landscape is one of our top priorities. Not only does it provide a more positive experience for our clients, but it also allows us to perform a more effective and efficient audit. With the every changing technology available and utilized by our clients, we are constantly innovating our audit process.”

Tony Grau

“Quality audits and exceptional client service are at the heart of every decision we make. Our clients trust us to deliver a quality audit, adhering to high standards and assisting them with improvements for their organization.”

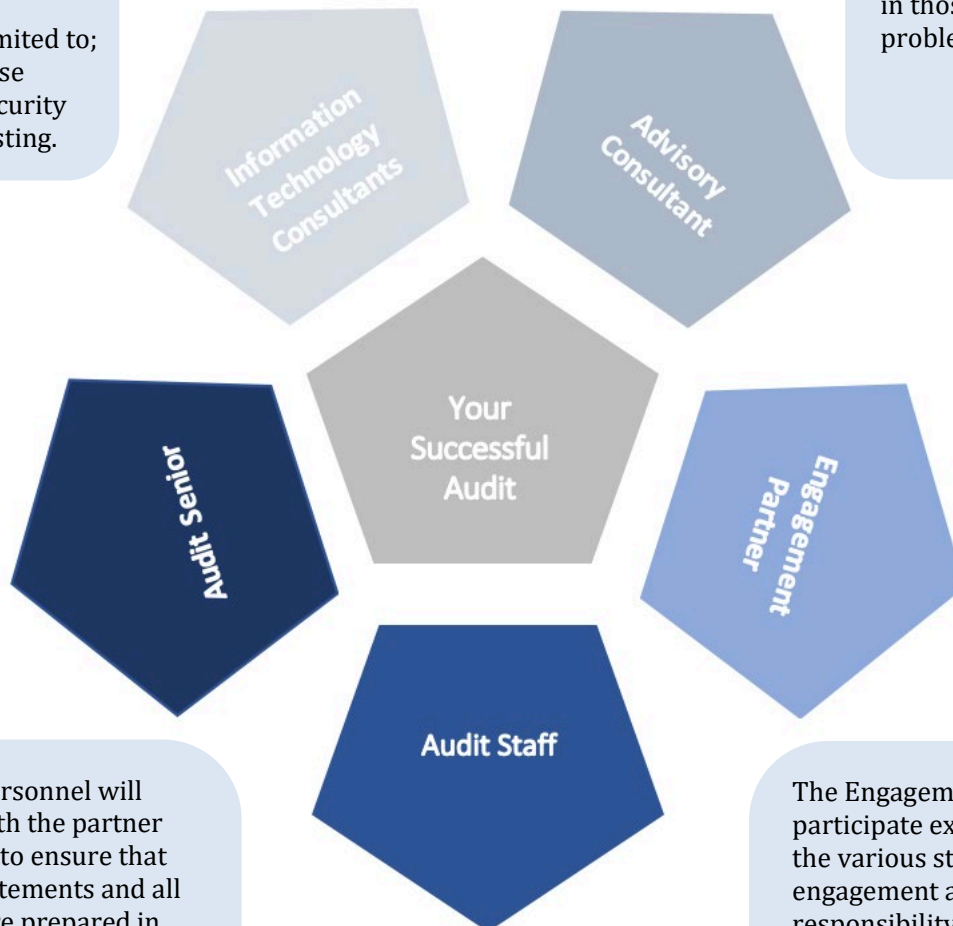
Racquel McIntosh

# YOUR ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Grau's client-specific engagement team is meticulously organized in order to meet the unique needs of each client. Constant communication within our solution team allows for continuity of staff and audit team.

Grau contracts with an outside group of IT management consultants to assist with matters including, but not limited to; network and database security, internet security and vulnerability testing.

An advisory consultant will be available as a sounding board to advise in those areas where problems are encountered.



The assigned personnel will work closely with the partner and the District to ensure that the financial statements and all other reports are prepared in accordance with professional standards and firm policy. Responsibilities will include planning the audit; communicating with the client and the partners the progress of the audit; and determining that financial statements and all reports issued by the firm are accurate, complete and are prepared in accordance with professional standards and firm policy.

The Engagement Partner will participate extensively during the various stages of the engagement and has direct responsibility for engagement policy, direction, supervision, quality control, security, confidentiality of information of the engagement and communication with client personnel. The engagement partner will also be involved directing the development of the overall audit approach and plan; performing an overriding review of work papers and ascertain client satisfaction.



# Antonio 'Tony' J. Grau, CPA Partner

Contact: [tgrau@graucpa.com](mailto:tgrau@graucpa.com) | (561) 939-6672

## Experience

For over 30 years, Tony has been providing audit, accounting and consulting services to the firm's governmental, non-profit, employee benefit, overhead and arbitrage clients. He provides guidance to clients regarding complex accounting issues, internal controls and operations.

As a member of the Government Finance Officers Association Special Review Committee, Tony participated in the review process for awarding the GFOA Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting. Tony was also the review team leader for the Quality Review of the Office of Management Audits of School Board of Miami-Dade County. Tony received the AICPA advanced level certificate for governmental single audits.

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## Education

University of South Florida (1983)  
Bachelor of Arts  
Business Administration

## Clients Served (partial list)

(>300) Various Special Districts, including:

Bayside Improvement Community Development District	St. Lucie West Services District
Dunes Community Development District	Ave Maria Stewardship Community District
Fishhawk Community Development District (I,II,IV)	Rivers Edge II Community Development District
Grand Bay at Doral Community Development District	Bartram Park Community Development District
Heritage Harbor North Community Development District	Bay Laurel Center Community Development District
Boca Raton Airport Authority	
Greater Naples Fire Rescue District	
Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District	
Lake Worth Drainage District	
South Indian River Water Control	

## Professional Associations/Memberships

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants    Florida Government Finance Officers Association  
Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants    Government Finance Officers Association Member  
City of Boca Raton Financial Advisory Board Member

## Professional Education (over the last two years)

<u>Course</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Government Accounting and Auditing	24
Accounting, Auditing and Other	58
Total Hours	<u>82</u> (includes of 4 hours of Ethics CPE)



# Racquel C. McIntosh, CPA

## Partner

Contact : [rmcintosh@graucpa.com](mailto:rmcintosh@graucpa.com) | (561) 939-666

### Experience

Racquel has been providing government audit, accounting and advisory services to our clients for over 14 years. She serves as the firm’s quality control partner; in this capacity she closely monitors engagement quality ensuring standards are followed and maintained throughout the audit.

Racquel develops in-house training seminars on current government auditing, accounting, and legislative topics and also provides seminars for various government organizations. In addition, she assists clients with implementing new accounting software, legislation, and standards.

### Education

- Florida Atlantic University (2004)  
Master of Accounting
- Florida Atlantic University (2003)  
Bachelor of Arts:  
Finance, Accounting

### Clients Served (partial list)

(>300) Various Special Districts, including:  
 Carlton Lakes Community Development District  
 Golden Lakes Community Development District  
 Rivercrest Community Development District  
 South Fork III Community Development District  
 TPOST Community Development District

Westchase Community Development District  
 Monterra Community Development District  
 Palm Coast Park Community Development District  
 Long Leaf Community Development District  
 Watergrass Community Development District

East Central Regional Wastewater Treatment Facilities  
 Indian Trail Improvement District  
 Pinellas Park Water Management District  
 Ranger Drainage District  
 South Trail Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

### Professional Associations/ Memberships

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- FICPA State & Local Government Committee
- FGFOA Palm Beach Chapter

### Professional Education (over the last two years)

<u>Course</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Government Accounting and Auditing	38
Accounting, Auditing and Other	56
Total Hours	<u>94</u> (includes of 4 hours of Ethics CPE)



# References



**Grau & Associates**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

We have included three references of government engagements that require compliance with laws and regulations, follow fund accounting, and have financing requirements, which we believe are similar to the District.

## Dunes Community Development District

<b>Scope of Work</b>	Financial audit
<b>Engagement Partner</b>	Antonio J. Grau
<b>Dates</b>	Annually since 1998
<b>Client Contact</b>	Darrin Mossing, Finance Director 475 W. Town Place, Suite 114 St. Augustine, Florida 32092 904-940-5850

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## Two Creeks Community Development District

<b>Scope of Work</b>	Financial audit
<b>Engagement Partner</b>	Antonio J. Grau
<b>Dates</b>	Annually since 2007
<b>Client Contact</b>	William Rizzetta, President 3434 Colwell Avenue, Suite 200 Tampa, Florida 33614 813-933-5571

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## Journey's End Community Development District

<b>Scope of Work</b>	Financial audit
<b>Engagement Partner</b>	Antonio J. Grau
<b>Dates</b>	Annually since 2004
<b>Client Contact</b>	Todd Wodraska, Vice President 2501 A Burns Road Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410 561-630-4922

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# **Specific Audit Approach**



**Grau & Associates**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

# **AUDIT APPROACH**

## **Grau's Understanding of Work Product / Scope of Services:**

We recognize the District is an important entity and we are confident our firm is eminently qualified to meet the challenges of this engagement and deliver quality audit services. ***You would be a valued client of our firm and we pledge to commit all firm resources to provide the level and quality of services (as described below) which not only meet the requirements set forth in the RFP but will exceed those expectations.*** Grau & Associates fully understands the scope of professional services and work products requested. Our audit will follow the Auditing Standards of the AICPA, *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Rules of the Auditor General of the State of Florida and any other applicable Federal, State or Local regulations. **We will deliver our reports in accordance with your requirements.**

## **Proposed segmentation of the engagement**

Our approach to the audit engagement is a risk-based approach which integrates the best of traditional auditing techniques and a total systems concept to enable the team to conduct a more efficient and effective audit. The audit will be conducted in three phases, which are as follows:



### **Phase I - Preliminary Planning**

A thorough understanding of your organization, service objectives and operating environment is essential for the development of an audit plan and for an efficient, cost-effective audit. During this phase, we will meet with appropriate personnel to obtain and document our understanding of your operations and service objectives and, at the same time, give you the opportunity to express your expectations with respect to the services that we will provide. Our work effort will be coordinated so that there will be minimal disruption to your staff.

#### **During this phase we will perform the following activities:**

- » Review the regulatory, statutory and compliance requirements. This will include a review of applicable federal and state statutes, resolutions, bond documents, contracts, and other agreements;
- » Read minutes of meetings;
- » Review major sources of information such as budgets, organization charts, procedures, manuals, financial systems, and management information systems;
- » Obtain an understanding of fraud detection and prevention systems;
- » Obtain and document an understanding of internal control, including knowledge about the design of relevant policies, procedures, and records, and whether they have been placed in operation;
- » Assess risk and determine what controls we are to rely upon and what tests we are going to perform and perform test of controls;
- » Develop audit programs to incorporate the consideration of financial statement assertions, specific audit objectives, and appropriate audit procedures to achieve the specified objectives;
- » Discuss and resolve any accounting, auditing and reporting matters which have been identified.

## Phase II – Execution of Audit Plan

The audit team will complete a major portion of transaction testing and audit requirements during this phase. The procedures performed during this period will enable us to identify any matter that may impact the completion of our work or require the attention of management. Tasks to be performed in Phase II include, but are not limited to the following:

- » Apply analytical procedures to further assist in the determination of the nature, timing, and extent of auditing procedures used to obtain evidential matter for specific account balances or classes of transactions;
- » Perform tests of account balances and transactions through sampling, vouching, confirmation and other analytical procedures; and
- » Perform tests of compliance.

## Phase III - Completion and Delivery

In this phase of the audit, we will complete the tasks related to year-end balances and financial reporting. All reports will be reviewed with management before issuance, and the partners will be available to meet and discuss our report and address any questions. Tasks to be performed in Phase III include, but are not limited to the following:

- » Perform final analytical procedures;
- » Review information and make inquiries for subsequent events; and
- » Meeting with Management to discuss preparation of draft financial statements and any potential findings or recommendations.

You should expect more from your accounting firm than a signature in your annual financial report. Our concept of truly responsive professional service emphasizes taking an active interest in the issues of concern to our clients and serving as an effective resource in dealing with those issues. In following this approach, we not only audit financial information with hindsight but also consider the foresight you apply in managing operations.

Application of this approach in developing our management letter is particularly important given the increasing financial pressures and public scrutiny facing today's public officials. We will prepare the management letter at the completion of our final procedures.

In preparing this management letter, we will initially review any draft comments or recommendations with management. In addition, we will take necessary steps to ensure that matters are communicated to those charged with governance.

In addition to communicating any recommendations, we will also communicate the following, if any:

- » Significant audit adjustments;
- » Significant deficiencies or material weaknesses;
- » Disagreements with management; and
- » Difficulties encountered in performing the audit.

Our findings will contain a statement of condition describing the situation and the area that needs strengthening, what should be corrected and why. Our suggestions will withstand the basic tests of corrective action:

Is the recommendation cost effective?

Is the recommendation the simplest to effectuate in order to correct a problem?

Is the recommendation at the heart of the problem and not just correcting a symptomatic matter?

Is the corrective action taking into account why the deficiency occurred?

To assure full agreement with facts and circumstances, we will fully discuss each item with Management prior to the final exit conference. This policy means there will be no “surprises” in the management letter and fosters a professional, cooperative atmosphere.

### **Communications**

We emphasize a continuous, year-round dialogue between the District and our management team. We regularly communicate through personal telephone calls and electronic mail throughout the audit and on a regular basis.

Our clients have the ability to transmit information to us on our secure client portal with the ability to assign different staff with separate log on and viewing capability. This further facilitates efficiency as all assigned users receive electronic mail notification as soon as new information has been posted into the portal.

# Cost of Services



**Grau & Associates**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Our proposed all-inclusive fees for the financial audit for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2021-2025 are as follows:

<b>Year Ended September 30,</b>	<b>Fee</b>
2021	\$3,200
2022	\$3,400
2023	\$3,600
2024	\$3,800
2025	<u>\$4,000</u>
<b>TOTAL (2021-2025)</b>	<b><u>\$18,000</u></b>

The above fees are based on the assumption that the District maintains its current level of operations. Should conditions change or Bonds are issued the fees would be adjusted accordingly upon approval from all parties concerned. If Bonds are issued the fee would increase by \$2,000. The fee for subsequent annual renewals would be agreed upon separately.



# Supplemental Information



**Grau & Associates**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## PARTIAL LIST OF CLIENTS

<b>SPECIAL DISTRICTS</b>	<b>Governmental Audit</b>	<b>Single Audit</b>	<b>Utility Audit</b>	<b>Current Client</b>	<b>Year End</b>
Boca Raton Airport Authority	✓	✓		✓	9/30
Captain's Key Dependent District	✓			✓	9/30
Central Broward Water Control District	✓			✓	9/30
Collier Mosquito Control District	✓			✓	9/30
Coquina Water Control District	✓			✓	9/30
East Central Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility	✓		✓		9/30
Florida Green Finance Authority	✓				9/30
Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District	✓			✓	9/30
Greater Naples Fire Control and Rescue District	✓	✓		✓	9/30
Green Corridor P.A.C.E. District	✓			✓	9/30
Hobe-St. Lucie Conservancy District	✓			✓	9/30
Indian River Mosquito Control District	✓				9/30
Indian Trail Improvement District	✓			✓	9/30
Key Largo Waste Water Treatment District	✓	✓	✓	✓	9/30
Lake Padgett Estates Independent District	✓			✓	9/30
Lake Worth Drainage District	✓			✓	9/30
Loxahatchee Groves Water Control District	✓				9/30
Old Plantation Control District	✓			✓	9/30
Pal Mar Water Control District	✓			✓	9/30
Pinellas Park Water Management District	✓			✓	9/30
Pine Tree Water Control District (Broward)	✓			✓	9/30
Pinetree Water Control District (Wellington)	✓				9/30
Ranger Drainage District	✓	✓		✓	9/30
Renaissance Improvement District	✓			✓	9/30
San Carlos Park Fire Protection and Rescue Service District	✓			✓	9/30
Sanibel Fire and Rescue District	✓			✓	9/30
South Central Regional Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Board	✓			✓	9/30
South-Dade Venture Development District	✓			✓	9/30
South Indian River Water Control District	✓	✓		✓	9/30
South Trail Fire Protection & Rescue District	✓			✓	9/30
Spring Lake Improvement District	✓			✓	9/30
St. Lucie West Services District	✓		✓	✓	9/30
Sunshine Water Control District	✓			✓	9/30
West Villages Improvement District	✓			✓	9/30
Various Community Development Districts (297)	✓			✓	9/30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>327</b>	

## **ADDITIONAL SERVICES**

### **CONSULTING / MANAGEMENT ADVISORY SERVICES**

Grau & Associates also provide a broad range of other management consulting services. Our expertise has been consistently utilized by Governmental and Non-Profit entities throughout Florida. Examples of engagements performed are as follows:

- Accounting systems
- Development of budgets
- Organizational structures
- Financing alternatives
- IT Auditing
- Fixed asset records
- Cost reimbursement
- Indirect cost allocation
- Grant administration and compliance

### **ARBITRAGE**

The federal government has imposed complex rules to restrict the use of tax-exempt financing. Their principal purpose is to eliminate any significant arbitrage incentives in a tax-exempt issue. We have determined the applicability of these requirements and performed the rebate calculations for more than 150 bond issues, including both fixed and variable rate bonds.

**73**

Current  
Arbitrage  
Calculations

**We look forward to providing **Rustic Oaks Community Development District** with our resources and experience to accomplish not only those minimum requirements set forth in your Request for Proposal, but to exceed those expectations!**

**For even more information on Grau & Associates  
please visit us on [www.graucpa.com](http://www.graucpa.com).**

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

# **10D**

# RUSTIC OAKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

## AUDITOR EVALUATION MATRIX

RFP FOR ANNUAL AUDIT SERVICES	ABILITY OF PERSONNEL	PROPOSER'S EXPERIENCE	UNDERSTANDING OF SCOPE OF WORK	ABILITY TO FURNISH REQUIRED SERVICES	PRICE	TOTAL POINTS
<b>PROPOSER</b>	<b>20 POINTS</b>	<b>20 POINTS</b>	<b>20 POINTS</b>	<b>20 POINTS</b>	<b>20 POINTS</b>	<b>100 POINTS</b>
<b>Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines &amp; Frank</b>						
<b>Carr, Riggs &amp; Ingram, LLC</b>						
<b>Grau &amp; Associates</b>						

NOTES:

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Board Member's Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Board Member

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**11**

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
UNAUDITED  
JANUARY 31, 2022**

**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JANUARY 31, 2022**

	General Fund	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
Due from Landowner	3,836	3,836
Total assets	\$ 9,836	\$ 9,836
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,836	\$ 3,836
Landowner advance	6,000	6,000
Total liabilities	9,836	9,836
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>		
Deferred receipts	3,836	3,836
Total deferred inflows of resources	3,836	3,836
Fund balances:		
Unassigned	(3,836)	(3,836)
Total fund balances	(3,836)	(3,836)
 Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	 \$ 9,836	 \$ 9,836



**RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
GENERAL FUND  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED JANUARY 31, 2022**

	Current Month	Year to Date	Budget	% of Budget
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Landowner contribution	\$ 2,501	\$ 24,976	\$ 97,290	26%
Total revenues	<u>2,501</u>	<u>24,976</u>	<u>97,290</u>	26%
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>Professional &amp; administrative</b>				
Management/accounting/recording**	2,000	8,000	44,000	18%
Legal	730	1,191	25,000	5%
Engineering	-	-	2,000	0%
Audit	-	-	5,000	0%
Arbitrage rebate calculation*	-	-	500	0%
Dissemination agent*	-	-	1,000	0%
Trustee*	-	-	5,000	0%
Telephone	16	66	200	33%
Postage	-	-	500	0%
Printing & binding	42	167	500	33%
Legal advertising	-	-	6,500	0%
Annual special district fee	-	-	175	0%
Insurance	-	5,000	5,500	91%
Contingencies/bank charges	-	-	500	0%
Website hosting & maintenance	-	-	705	0%
Website ADA compliance	-	-	210	0%
Total professional & administrative	<u>2,788</u>	<u>14,424</u>	<u>97,290</u>	15%
Excess/(deficiency) of revenues over/(under) expenditures	(287)	10,552	-	
Fund balances - beginning	<u>(3,549)</u>	<u>(14,388)</u>	-	
Fund balances - ending	<u>\$ (3,836)</u>	<u>\$ (3,836)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	

\*These items will be realized when bonds are issued

\*\*These items will be realized the year after the issuance of bonds.

# **RUSTIC OAKS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**12**

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
RUSTIC OAKS  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

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The Board of Supervisors of the Rustic Oaks Community Development District held a Special Meeting on February 16, 2022, at 1:30 P.M., at the Comfort Suites Sarasota – Siesta Key, 5690 Honoré Avenue, Sarasota, Florida 34233.

**Present at the meeting were:**

Garth Noble	Chair
Jerry Tomberlin	Vice Chair
Jessica Reschke	Assistant Secretary
Chris Torres	Assistant Secretary

**Also present were:**

Kristen Suit	District Manager
Jordan Schrader (via telephone)	Interim District Engineer
John Vericker (via telephone)	District Counsel
John Kakridas	Meritage Homes

**FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

Ms. Suit called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m. Supervisors Noble, Tomberlin, Reschke and Torres were present, in person. Supervisor O’Brien was not present.

**SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Acceptance of Resignation of Matt O’Brien,  
Seat 5**

Ms. Suit presented the resignation of Mr. Matt O’Brien.

**On MOTION by Mr. Noble and seconded by Mr. Torres, with all in favor, the resignation of Mr. Matt O’Brien, dated February 14, 2022, was accepted.**

41 **FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Consider Appointment of John Kakridas to Fill  
Unexpired Term of Seat 5, Term Expires  
November 2022**

42  
43  
44  
45

Mr. Noble nominated Mr. Kakridas to fill Seat 5. No other nominations were made.

46

**On MOTION by Mr. Noble and seconded by Mr. Tomberlin, with all in favor,  
the appointment of Mr. John Kakridas to Seat 5, term expires November 2022,  
was approved.**

50  
51

52 **A. Administration of Oath of Office to Newly Appointed Supervisor *(the following to be***  
53 ***provided in a separate package)***

54 Ms. Suit, a Notary of the State of Florida and duly authorized, administered the Oath of  
55 Office to Mr. Kakridas. She provided and briefly explained the following items:

- 56 **I. Guide to Sunshine Amendment and Code of Ethics for Public Officers and**
- 57 **Employees**
- 58 **II. Membership, Obligations and Responsibilities**
- 59 **III. Financial Disclosure Forms**
  - 60 **a. Form 1: Statement of Financial Interests**
  - 61 **b. Form IX: Amendment to Form 1, Statement of Financial Interests**
  - 62 **c. Form IF: Final Statement of Financial Interests**
- 63 **IV. Form 8B – Memorandum of Voting Conflict**

64 **B. Consideration of Resolution 2022-09, Designating Certain Officers of the District, and**  
65 **Providing for an Effective Date**

66 Ms. Suit presented Resolution 2022-09.

67 Mr. Noble nominated the following slate of officers:

- 68 Garth Noble Chair
- 69 Jerry Tomberlin Vice Chair
- 70 Craig Wrathell Secretary
- 71 Jessica Reschke Assistant Secretary
- 72 Chris Torres Assistant Secretary
- 73 John Kakridas Assistant Secretary

74 Kristen Suit Assistant Secretary

75 No other nominations were made.

76 Prior appointments by the Board for Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer remain  
77 unaffected by this Resolution.

78

79 **On MOTION by Mr. Noble and seconded by Mr. Torres, with all in favor,**  
80 **Resolution 2022-09, Designating Certain Officers of the District, as nominated,**  
81 **and Providing for an Effective Date, was adopted.**

82

83

84 **FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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Ms. Suit presented Resolution 2022-10 and read the title.

99

Mr. Vericker stated the Resolution confirms the final pricing of the Series 2022 bonds.

100

Ms. Suit gave a brief overview of the Final Supplemental Special Assessment  
101 Methodology Report, dated January 27, 2022, and noted the pertinent information in each  
102 section and in the Appendix Tables.

103

104 **On MOTION by Mr. Tomberlin and seconded by Ms. Reschke, with all in favor,**  
105 **Resolution 2022-10, Approving the Execution of All Documents, Instruments,**  
106 **and Certificates in Connection with the District’s Series 2022 Capital**  
107 **Improvement Revenue Bonds; Setting Forth the Final Terms of the Special**  
108 **Assessments Which Secure the Series 2022 Capital Improvement Revenue**  
109 **Bonds; Adopting the Supplemental Engineer’s Report; Adopting the Final**  
110 **Supplemental Special Assessment Methodology Report; and Providing for**  
111 **Severability, Conflicts and an Effective Date, was adopted.**

112

113 **SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS** **Consideration of Any Pending Bond**  
 114 **Related Matters**

115  
 116 There were no pending bond related matters.

117  
 118 **SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS** **Consideration of Clearview Land Design,**  
 119 **P.L., Response to Request for**  
 120 **Qualifications (RFQ) For Engineering**  
 121 **Services**

122  
 123 **A. Competitive Selection Criteria/Ranking**

124 The sole respondent to the RFQ was Clearview Land Design, P.L. (Clearview). Clearview  
 125 received a total score of 85 points out of 100 points. Asked if the RFQ was advertised, Ms. Suit  
 126 stated Staff advertised the RFQ as directed.

127 **B. Award of Contract**

128  
 129 **On MOTION by Mr. Torres and seconded by Mr. Noble, with all in favor,**  
 130 **ranking the sole respondent, Clearview Land Design, P.L., as the #1 ranked**  
 131 **respondent, was approved.**

132  
 133  
 134 **On MOTION by Mr. Noble and seconded by Mr. Tomberlin, with all in favor,**  
 135 **awarding the Engineering Services contract to Clearview Land Design, P.L., the**  
 136 **#1 ranked respondent, authorizing Staff to negotiate an agreement with**  
 137 **Clearview Land Design, P.L., and authorizing the Chair to execute the**  
 138 **agreement, was approved.**

139  
 140  
 141 **EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS** **Ratification Items**

142  
 143 **A. Assignment and Assumption of Bridge Construction Agreement**

144 **B. Assignment and Assumption of the Onsite PH. 1.2 North and South Construction**  
 145 **Agreement**

146 Ms. Suit stated she was informed prior to the meeting that the CDD would not be  
 147 proceeding with this assignment.

148 **C. Assignment and Assumption of the Rustic Roads (Offsite/CDD) Construction**  
 149 **Agreement**

150 Mr. Vericker stated the contractor for Item 8A is Thomas Marine Construction, Inc. and  
151 the contractor for Item 8C is Deme Construction, LLC. He asked a Board Member to inform  
152 Deme that the project would proceed with the Meritage Homes Agreement.

153 Mr. Schrader asked for a summary to be provided after the meeting that clarifies what  
154 contracts are Meritage contracts and what contracts are CDD contracts. He stated since  
155 Clearview is not the Design Engineer for the bridge or the offsite project, the CDD would need  
156 to consult with another design engineering firm to perform the Development Engineering  
157 Inspection of that. He wanted clarification of what scopes are private and what scopes are for  
158 the CDD.

159 Mr. Vericker stated, currently, the CDD is assuming the bridge and off-site contracts in  
160 total and not assuming any of the on-site work. In response to the question of whether the  
161 Rustic Road and Ranch Improvement Plans and the Offsite Utility Extensions are being assumed  
162 by the CDD, Mr. Noble replied affirmatively.

163 Regarding how pay requests would be handled, Mr. Noble stated Clearview would not  
164 be processing pay requests for the off-site work from the Clearview Land Design office as a  
165 normal course of business. Eddie and Devon would be reviewing the application requests and  
166 all of the work and certifying to the Board that work is completed.

167 Discussion ensued regarding Deme Construction forwarding pay requests, ISS, Meritage,  
168 the design engineer, certification and Management processing payment requisitions. Mr. Noble  
169 would send an email explaining the payment requisition and processing process to all parties  
170 involved. Ms. Suit recommended sending the email to Management and to Mr. Schrader and  
171 for the Board Members to not "Reply All."

172

173 **On MOTION by Mr. Noble and seconded by Mr. Torres, with all in favor, the**  
174 **Assignment and Assumption of Bridge Construction Agreement and the**  
175 **Assignment and Assumption of the Rustic Roads (Offsite/CDD) Construction**  
176 **Agreement, were ratified.**

177

178

179 Mr. Vericker stated the on-site work is still under Meritage for now.

180

181 **NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Consideration of Resolution 2022-06, Designating Dates, Times and Locations for Regular Meetings of the Board of Supervisors of the District for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 and Providing for an Effective Date

182  
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185  
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187  
188 This item was deferred.

189  
190 **TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Consideration of Resolution 2022-08, Designating the Primary Administrative Office and Principal Headquarters of the District and Providing an Effective Date

191  
192  
193  
194  
195 This item was deferred.

196  
197 **ELEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Acceptance of Unaudited Financial Statements as of December 31, 2021

198  
199  
200 Ms. Suit presented the Unaudited Financial Statements as of December 31, 2021.

201  
202 **On MOTION by Mr. Noble and seconded by Mr. Tomberlin, with all in favor, Unaudited Financial Statements as of December 31, 2021, were accepted.**

203  
204  
205  
206 **TWELFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Approval of January 19, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

207  
208  
209 Ms. Suit presented the January 19, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes:

210  
211 **On MOTION by Mr. Nobel and seconded by Ms. Reschke, with all in favor, the January 19, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes, as presented, were approved.**

212  
213  
214  
215 **THIRTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Staff Reports

216  
217 **A. District Counsel: *Straley Robin Vericker***

218 There was nothing further to report.

219 **B. District Engineer (Interim): *Clearview Land Design, P.L.***



220 Mr. Schrader stated that Clearview would do the bill of sale for the requisition. A  
221 proposal for the Stormwater Needs Analysis Report would be presented at the next meeting.

222 C. District Manager: *Wrathell, Hunt and Associates, LLC*

- 223 • NEXT MEETING DATE: March 21, 2022 at 1:30 P.M.

- 224 ○ QUORUM CHECK

225 All Supervisors confirmed their attendance at the March 21, 2022 meeting.

226

<b>227 FOURTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	<b>Board Members' Comments/Requests</b>
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228

229 There were no Board Members' comments or requests.

230

<b>231 FIFTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	<b>Public Comments</b>
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232

233 There were no public comments.

234

<b>235 SIXTEENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	<b>Adjournment</b>
--	--------------------

236

237 There being nothing further to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

238

239 On MOTION by Mr. Kakridas and seconded by Mr. Tomberlin, with all in favor,  
240 the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

241

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245

[SIGNATURES APPEAR ON THE FOLOWING PAGE]

246

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251 \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Assistant Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_

Chair/Vice Chair