

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Service Delivery

DATE OF MEETING: January 8, 2020

BUDGET IMPACT \$ - 0 -

FUNDING SOURCE

Annual

Capital

N/A

Regular Meeting

Work Session

Recommendation

Policy/Discussion

Report

Other

COUNTY ACTION REQUESTED ON: SDS Agreement

HISTORY, FACTS AND ISSUES:

In September 2019, Chairman Slaughter delivered to each of the Mayors a proposed revised SDS Agreement. It included a Joint Resolution, SDS Agreement (with Special Provisions), and DCA Forms.

Dasher accepted this revision without changes. Hahira, Remerton, and Lake Park did not suggest any changes. Valdosta suggested only one change. It was to the Special Provision in the SDS Agreement regarding water and sewer services.

Based on these responses, the only issue left to be resolved was the Special Provision in the SDS Agreement regarding water and sewer services.

Valdosta's proposed Special Provision regarding water and sewer services was not acceptable to the County.

It did not comply with the SDS law. It would have eliminated water and sewer service areas for commercial and industrial properties, created duplication of service, and created unnecessary competition between providers of these services.

In addition, Valdosta's proposed revision would have frustrated the County's ability to plan and make expansions of its water and sewer systems and harmed unincorporated area residents and property owners, in part by forcing unincorporated area property owners to annex their property to receive public water and sewer services.

On December 31, 2019, Commissioners Evans, Griner, and Orenstein met with Valdosta Council Members Sonny Vickers and Andy Gibbs. During that meeting, they agreed on the following alternative Special Provision for water and sewer services:

2. In regards to water and sewer services:

The Parties' current water and sewer service areas are delineated on the service area maps attached to the DCA Forms for water and sewer services approved herewith.

All existing intergovernmental agreements of the Parties regarding the provision of water and sewer services shall remain in effect.

Any request for an extraterritorial extension shall be negotiated by the requesting Party and the affected Party. Approval of the affected Party shall not be unreasonably withheld.

This alternative Special Provision for water and sewer services is substituted in the revised Joint Resolution, SDS Agreement, and DCA Forms presented to the Board of Commissioners.

The only other changes incorporated in the revised Joint Resolution, SDS Agreement, and DCA Forms compared to the September 2019 proposal are to change references to the 2019 SDS Agreement to 2020 SDS Agreement, to change references to the County's prior Agreement with the Industrial Authority to the County's current Agreements with the Industrial Authority, and to update the maps attached to the DCA Forms based on an intervening Hahira annexation and water and sewer service extension approved by the County as the affected party.

- OPTIONS:
- 1. Approve Joint Resolution, SDS Agreement, and DCA Forms as presented
 - 2. Redirect

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Option 1

DEPARTMENT: County Manager

Department Head: Joe Pritchard

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION:

County Manager

Action Taken By Board: _____