

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
BOARD MEMORANDUM**

CONSENT AGENDA

TO: The Honorable Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: Jason E. Brown
County Administrator

THROUGH: Michael Zito
Assistant County Administrator

FROM: Beth Powell
Conservation Lands Manager

SUBJECT: Notice of Application for Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program
Grants for Jones' Pier Conservation Area & Approval of MBV Work Order
No. 10

DATE: January 17, 2018

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS

On January 8, 2018, the County received notification from the Indian River Lagoon Council that the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program (IRLNEP) is seeking grant proposals for its FY 2018-2019 grant program. Grants for various project categories are available: (1) Restoration Projects (\$860,000 funding available); (2) Science and Innovative Technologies Projects (\$300,000 funding available); (3) Citizen Engagement and Education Projects (\$100,000 funding available); and (4) Resilient Coastal Communities Planning Project (\$52,050 funding available). The General Services Department proposes to apply for the following grant:

1. Conservation Lands – Parks Division - Restoration Project for the Jones' Pier Conservation Area Stormwater Attenuation Plan and Wetland Restoration (requesting approximately \$80,000).

The purpose of this Agenda Item is to request the County Commission's approval to apply for the referenced grants and to approve the necessary MBV Work Order Number 10. The main purpose of the IRLNEP grants is to fund projects that will increase the health of the Indian River Lagoon. Based on positive feedback from the application that was made (but not funded) last year for the Jones' Pier, staff would like to pursue the 2018-19 funding opportunity.

In 2008, the County received cost-share funding for the purchase of the Jones' Pier Conservation Area in the amount of approximately \$3M. Through the cost-share funding agreement, the County agreed to special management conditions including public improvements including public parking, a picnic pavilion, stormwater or other pond, nature center (featuring the Jones' home), trails, education signage and ecological restoration. The application for funding under the grant proposal would leverage existing funding allocated under the amended CIE (December 5, 2017) to complete special management conditions. In order to submit a competitive and responsive proposal with accompanying costs, the County would need to obtain outside engineering services

to generate the required permit level drawings describing the proposed plan. Staff proposes to accelerate the engagement of these services in order to apply for the funding opportunity presented herein. In the event that the grant funds are not awarded to the County, the deliverables for this work order are required for project permitting and public use improvements already in progress.

Staff recommends applying for a wetland restoration project to complete an overall stormwater attenuation plan which will include restoration of herbaceous wetlands and a surface water feature. In order to submit a competitive and responsive proposal with accompanying costs, staff would need to generate permit level drawings describing the proposed plan. Because MBV has been working on the existing site conditions and public use improvement plan it is most cost effective and timely to utilize MBV under Work Order #10 as they already have the baseline data for the site.

General details regarding the grant application are presented below:

Grant Proposal Schedule

- January 8, 2018 – IRLNEP Grant Proposal Notification
- January 19, 2018 – Mandatory Pre-Proposal Statement of Intent
- January 24, 2018 – Mandatory Pre-Proposal Meeting (Webinar)
- February 26, 2018 – Proposals due

FUNDING

On December 5, 2017, the Board approved funding for access improvements through an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan's Capital Improvements Element as follows:

For conservation capital projects, the focus is on improvements to conservation lands. Those improvements include construction of passive recreational access facilities such as boardwalks, and stabilization/preservation of historic structures. The projects will be funded from environmental land bonds, grants, optional sales tax, boating improvement funds, upland mitigation funds, secondary roads, Windsor property exchange donation, and park impact fees. The total expenditure amount for the projects within this category for fiscal years 2017/18 through 2021/22 is \$4,450,000, representing 1.41% of the overall CIP. Staff Report Dated November 27, 2017, to Jason Brown from Bill Schutt.

Funding is budgeted and available for the MBV Work Order No. 10, under the 5 Year Capital Improvements Program Schedule, Optional Sales Tax/Parks/Other Improvements Except Buildings, Account Number 31521072-066390. Additional funding for the grant match (if awarded and approved by the Board) would be provided through one of the account numbers referenced in the 5 Year Capital Improvements Program Schedule to be determined by the Budget Office at the time of the RFP.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of Work Order No. 10 to MBV Engineering, Inc. for preliminary wetland restoration design services and requests the Board to authorize the Chairman to execute Work Order No. 10 in the amount of \$6,500.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - IRLNEP Pre-Proposal Letters of Intent

Attachment B - MBV Work Order No. 10 Proposal

APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR: JANUARY 23, 2018