Office of the
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Jason E. Brown
             County Administrator

DATE: March 15, 2019

SUBJECT: Non-Binding Memorandum of Understanding for Research, Education and
             Training, Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees
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Last year the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute (HBOI) Foundation provided a grant to establish the Florida Center for Coastal and Human Health for the purpose of addressing the Health of Florida Coastal Ecosystems and Communities. Dr. James M. Sullivan, Executive Director, Florida Atlantic University (FAU) – HBOI, was in touch with Indian River County (IRC) Staff last fall as we dealt with the red tide issue. During our communications, Dr. Sullivan offered Indian River County the opportunity to become a stakeholder in the FAU-HBOI Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Center.

It is the intent of FAU-HBOI to actively work toward education and engagement of the public on research results and work being undertaken to fill a critical need for understanding the significant health threats associated with environmental changes on the Indian River Lagoon ecosystem. Toward that end, I have executed a Non-Binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Research, Education, and Training with the FAU Board of Trustees.   No funding is required to participate, but IRC is committing staff collaboration in research, educational, and training projects. Should any future joint projects be proposed which would require funding participation, a separate contract would be necessary and would be brought to the Board for consideration and authorization.

For your information, please find attached the Executive Summary of the FAU-HBOI Florida Center for Coastal and Human Health. Also attached is the MOU which specifies the Objectives and Activities in which IRC will participate.

Attachments: Executive Summary
             Non-Binding Memorandum of Understanding