

Pending Number: 00046792.00001 Writer's Direct Dial: (561) 650-0621 Writer's E-Mail Address: bseymour@gunster.com

December 3, 2018

VIA E-MAIL dreingold@ircgov.com

Indian River County Attorney's Office C/O Dylan Reingold 1801 27<sup>th</sup> Street Vero Beach, FL 32960-3365

## Re: Hole in the Wall Island Right of Way

Dear Mr. Reingold:

Thank you for taking the time to discuss the issues associated with the right of way over Hole in the Wall Island, specifically relative to the ability to provide the opportunity to bring reclaimed water to John's Island. As you know, this is an environmentally sustainable project that has long been in the works. The last issue in making it happen is the provision of the reclaimed water pipe under Hole in the Wall Island. John's Island Water Management, Inc. ("JIWM") hoped to avoid the issue of ownership of right of way over Hole in the Wall Island by working with the Indian River Mosquito Control District ("District") to obtain an easement to provide for the reclaimed water pipe. Unfortunately, the District refused to provide the easement.

Now that the District has failed to work with JIWM, we have gone back to review what rights Indian River County ("County") has relative to the Hole in the Wall Island. We have determined that the County owns a 70-foot right of way over Hole in the Wall Island ("HITW ROW"). The County's ownership is evidenced in two separate title documents.

The County's initial ownership of the HITW ROW, along with other rights of way, came in 1923. At that time, St. Lucie County as predecessor to the County claimed for public use a 70-foot wide strip of land across Hole in the Wall Island, Pine Island, and upland portions across from Pine Island to the Atlantic Ocean. This is shown by three separate paragraphs in Minute Book 4, Page 77, with the HITW ROW identified in the first paragraph. A copy of the Minute Book page is attached for your consideration. Over time, this was developed and used for roadway purposes.

As additional ownership interest, the County received a Warranty Deed from Fred and Adriana Tuerk. As you know, the Tuerk family had acquired significant lands in the County, Johns Island Water Management Inc. December 3, 2018 Page 2

including Hole in the Wall Island. By the deed recorded at Official Records Book 86, Page 292, Tuerk conveyed to the County a 70 foot strip over Hole in the Wall Island which was located 35 feet on either side of the centerline of what was referred to as Winter Beach Bridge Road. This is identified in the final paragraph of the described property in the deed, which is attached for your reference.

We have not found that the County has ever abandoned its interest in the HITW ROW obtained in 1923 nor conveyed the ownership thereof that was received from the Tuerk family. We did find that the County abandoned interests in other property by way of a Resolution recorded at Official Records Book 87, Page 493. Specifically, the County abandoned the upland property after crossing Pine Island and to the Atlantic Ocean that was identified in the 1923 minute book; this was the third paragraph. Importantly, the 70-foot strip over Hole in the Wall Island that is the HITW ROW was <u>not</u> identified in the Resolution.

Based on our review of the above referenced documents, all of which are attached for your convenience, it appears that Indian River County maintains ownership over the right of way across Hole in the Wall Island. As the owner of that property, the County has the right to convey an easement for the placement of the reclaimed water pipe.

We hope that this is helpful in your discussions. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincere

Cc: John's Island water Management Inc. (Via E-mail) Jim.Moller@jiproperties.com

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11.12 ST. LUCIE COUNTY COMMIDSIONERS ECORD, JUNE 2, 1923 ed by law under BOOK 4, PAGE 77. PAGE NO. 12 States and ~ 2,193 we priv to be di soharged. Birt' Boll MM J.H. Wynn Edwo wainman Road Uomittee. and if no protest is filed with the Board, sume will be deckared a public county road after having given thirty days notice of seme. No protest hiving been filed against the establishment of a public county road as fullows, sums is hereby deslared a public county roud by this Board: .Heginning at a point on the west shore of Holesin-the-wall island which point is 1998.9 feet east and 897.2 feet north of the southwest comer of Section Two (2). Township thirty two (32), South Rongs tirty nins (39) West, run north 60 degrees and 23 minutes. East 1790 fost to the East shore of Hole-in-the-well Islend. Also beginning at a point on the west shore of Fine Island, which point is 4460.9 fort cost in 2299.2 fort north of the south west corner of Section Two (2), Township thirty two (32) South, Hange thirty nine (39) Bast, run North 600 degrees and 23 minutes . Bast 690 feet to the Bast more of Pine Land. Also beginning at a point on the Mast bunk of the Indian Diver which is 2230.3 fort south and 254.1 feet west of the intersection of the cast bank of the indian Hivor Ð : : with the north line of lownship Thirty two (32) South, Benge thirty nine (39) wast, run north 50 degrees and 20 minutes cant 45 feet, thence on s(12 degree and 0 minute curve to the le it 348 feat, then de north 18 degrees and 30 minutes East 690 feet here or Less to a point which is 1320 feet south of the aforesaid Township line. Thenoe kast and parala. lel to the suid tourship line \$230 feet more or less to the Atlantic Doesn. The right of way of celd road to be (70 fast wide. ) munning No protest having been miled against the establishment of a public country road as follows, said road is hereby declared a public county roud by this Bourd. Beginning bt the intersection of the centre line of Mest St., Fort Firnes with the the second state the second second second Bouth corport to limits of the vity of Fort Pierof. being the south line of Sadtich Ten. Twp. 35 So. K. 40 K. thence S O deg. O2 min. W 698.4 12, thence S 1 deg 17 min, M. 545.3. . . . FAX th

	OFFICIAL RECORD	
	This Indentitie, Made this 3rd _ day of November . A. D. 19 59.	
	Beimers Bred R. Tuerk and Adriana Tuerk, his wife,	
	of the County of Indian River and State of Florida	:
•	part les of the first part, and Indian River County, a political subdivision of the State o whose mailing address is Indian River County Courthouse, Vero Beach, (Floric	
· -	of the County of Indian River - and State of Florida	
-	part y of the second part. Wilnessells, that the sold part les of the first part. for and in consideration of the sum of Ten and no/100	·
	edged, have granted, bargained, sold and conveyed, and by these presents do grant, bar- gain, sell, convey and confirm unto the said party of the second part and its successories and assigns forever, all that certain parcel of land lying and being in the County of Indian River, and State of Florida , more particularly described as follows:	
-	A right of way for a public road over, on and across the North 70 feet of that part of the South 11.5 acres of Government Lot 10, Section 36. Township 31 South, Range 39 East, which lies East of State Road AIA according to the right of way map of Section 8807-102, as filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Indian River County, Florida. This right of way is conveyed for a public road and if ever the same is used for a public beach, then it shall be a public beach for the citizens of the Winter Beach area of Indian River County; ALSO,	
	A right of way for a public road 70 feet in width, the same being 35 feet on either side of a centerline described as follows: From the gate across the old county road, sail gate lying 35 feet South and 15 feet West of the Southeast corner of Government Lot 1, Section 1, Township 32 South, Range 39 East, run North 9 degrees 11 minutes East a distance of 70.62 feet to the centerline of old State Road A1A, the same being the point of beginning; thence run 219.34 feet along the arc of a curve concave to the North, said curve having a radius of 991.12 feet to the P.C.; thence North 67 degrees 15 minutes 30 seconds East a distance of 1290 feet to Station $306 \pm 28.72$ on the centerline of State Road A1A, according to the right of way map of Section 8807-102, as filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Indian River County, Florida; ALSO,	
	A right of way for a public road 70 feet in width, the same being 35 feet on either side of the centerline as the same has now and heretofore existed across Hole in the Wall Island and across Pine Island (Orchid Island) in the Indian River, the same being known as the Winter Beach Bridge Road.	
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	Together with all the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances, with every privilege, right, title, interest and relate, dower and right of dower, reversion, remainder and easement thereto	
- 2	belonging or in anywise appertaining: To Have and to Hold the same in fee simple forever.	
	And the suid part 108 of the first part do covenant with the said part y of the second part that they are lawfully select of the said premises, that they are free from all cumbrances and that they have good right and law- ful authority to sail the same; and the said part 108 of the first part do hereby fully warrant	
· ·	the title to said land, and will defend the same against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever. In Witness Whereof, the said part ies of the first part have hereunto set their	
	hand S and seal B the day and year above written.	
· .	Signed, sealed and delivered in our presences	
	Quan T Ongh Fred R/ Tuerk	••• ••
	B Adriana Tuerk	۰.
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