

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
M E M O R A N D U M

CONSENT

TO: Honorable Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

THROUGH: Tad Stone, Director
Department of Emergency Services

FROM: Erin Sawyer, Staff Assistant IV
Department of Emergency Services

DATE: January 7, 2021

SUBJECT: Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between Indian River County and the Florida Division of Emergency Management for use of a WeatherSTEM Station

It is respectfully requested that the information contained herein be given formal consideration by the Board of County Commissioners at the next scheduled meeting.

DESCRIPTION AND CONDITIONS:

The Florida Legislature appropriated \$970,000 to the Executive Office of the Governor, Division of Emergency Management, to fund the Florida Severe Weather Mesonet – WeatherSTEM. The Florida Division of Emergency Management has contracted with WeatherSTEM for the purchase and installation of fifty (50) weather monitoring systems in designated locations throughout the state of Florida and includes maintenance of the system for three (3) years. Indian River County was one of locations selected. The WeatherSTEM system provides real-time weather information (winds, temperature, rain gauge, etc.) and the data is accessible to the public.

The suggested target area is southern Indian River County and we have selected an installation at Fire-Rescue Station 2, located at 3301 Bridge Plaza Dr. in Vero Beach.

Ownership of the Weather Station will be transferred to Indian River County upon installation. This agreement requires that Indian River County maintain the Weather Station for at least an additional seven (7) years following the end of the WeatherSTEM maintenance agreement. The annual maintenance cost for the Weather Station is estimated to be \$1,800.00.

FUNDING:

Funding for the annual maintenance is an allowable expense covered by the EMPA Grant and will be budgeted accordingly beginning in 2023, when Emergency Management is required to take over the maintenance cost.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between Indian River County and the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Two (2) copies of the Memorandum of Agreement for use of WeatherSTEM.