

**Indian River County, Florida  
Department of Utility Services  
Board Memorandum**

**Date:** August 20, 2024

**To:** Indian River County Board of County Commissioners

**Through:** John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator  
Sean C. Lieske, Director of Utility Services

**From:** Howard G. Richards, PE, Manager, Capital Projects

**Prepared by:** Nick Ackison, Utilities Plans Reviewer, Utility Services

**Subject:** Interlocal Agreement Between Indian River County (IRC) & St. Lucie County for IRC to Provide Water Service to William Emerson Property In St. Lucie County

**Background/Analysis:**

Mr. William Emerson is the owner of the property located at 149 25 Street SE, which sits in an unusual jurisdictional situation. Despite his property being physically located in St. Lucie County (SLC), Mr. Emerson is seeking to connect to the Indian River County Department of Utility Services (IRCDUS) potable water system. This request stems from the fact that SLC does not currently have the infrastructure, nor facilities, necessary to provide water and sewer services to Mr. Emerson's property. Faced with this limitation, Mr. Emerson has turned to the neighboring Indian River County (IRC) for a solution to his potable water needs.

Adding to the complexity of the situation is a precedent set by Mr. Emerson's neighbor, the property at 25 25<sup>th</sup> Street SE, which is also located in SLC. The residence at 25 25<sup>th</sup> Street SE successfully connected to the IRCDUS potable water system in February 2004. It should be noted that Mr. Emerson's neighbor connected to IRC without any formal interlocal agreement between SLC and IRC; however, it was likely an oversight at the time that an agreement to provide services would be necessary. To ensure the situation is not made worse, discussions between IRC and SLC have been ongoing since the beginning of June regarding Mr. Emerson's situation and how both Counties can effectively provide Mr. Emerson with potable water. The discussions resulted in the attached Interlocal Agreement (ILA) which was drafted by St. Lucie County with review and input by IRC's Legal Department.

**Funding:**

This connection to IRCDUS service shall be at the expense of the owner, and there are no funding requirements for this agenda item.

## **Consent Item**

### **Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the proposed Interlocal Agreement between Indian River County (IRC) and St. Lucie County (SLC) for IRC to provide water service to Mr. William Emerson's property located at 149 25<sup>th</sup> Street SE in SLC and authorize the Chairman to sign upon review by the Legal Department.

### **Attachments:**

Indian River County – St. Lucie County Interlocal Utility Agreement