

Indian River County, Florida
Department of Utility Services
Board Memorandum

Date: November 4, 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: Harrison Youngblood, PE, Utilities Engineer

Subject: Adoption of Indian River County Department of Utility Services Water, Wastewater & Reuse Water Utility Construction Standards, December 2024, IRCDUS Project ID 00.23.543

Background:

Given that industry construction standards are constantly changing, an update to the Indian River County Department of Utility Services (IRCDUS) Water, Wastewater & Reuse Water Utility Construction Standards (Standards) is essential to stay in conformance with regulatory agencies, as well as conforming to guidance from established industry groups such as the American Water Works Association (AWWA). On May 21, 2019, the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved the current version of the Standards – May 2019 (2019 Standards).

Infrastructure dedicated to IRCDUS with updated changes will be of a quality that will potentially minimize future maintenance and replacement costs. In so doing, new facilities accepted by IRCDUS will not burden existing customers due to premature failure. Additionally, the procedures contained in the updates provide a detailed description of IRCDUS administrative requirements. This allows projects to be completed as expediently as possible and permits staff to treat all new projects/customers in a uniform and non-discriminatory manner. Staff evaluates new products and solicits input from product manufacturers and accepts those with merit. Incorporating this kind of change offers a clear and consistent guideline to a contractor providing building services in the County. Similarly, for Utility Inspectors, the Standards provide minimum acceptable installation requirements. Ultimately, IRCDUS customers benefit from a reliable system.

On September 13, 2022, the BCC approved Work Order No. 8 (WO 8) to Bowman Consulting Group, LTD. (Bowman) under its consultant's continuing competitive act (CCNA) 2018 contract to assist with the review process and complete the updates deemed necessary to the 2019 Standards. On January 23, 2024, the BCC approved Amendment 1 to Bowman Consulting Group, LTD. Amendment 1 to WO 8 was deemed necessary by IRCDUS staff to update certain portions of the Standards related to lift stations including bonding ring grounding and as-builts/record drawing submittals.

Analysis:

IRCDUS Engineering and Operations staff, along with Bowman consultants, reviewed the 2019 Standards and began working to complete a mostly administrative set of revisions, which is to become the new Utility Construction Standards – Dec 2024 (2024 Standards). IRCDUS requested Bowman to review and revise the 76 AutoCAD (.dwg) files for the standard drawings to conform to a standard template. Drawing elements (i.e.: text, objects, dimensions, hatching, etc.) will be moved to appropriate layers. The appearance of the drawing elements will thus be uniform throughout the detail set. Bowman met with IRCDUS staff multiple times throughout the project and jointly reviewed the ongoing mark-ups of the 2019 Standards. The drawings and specifications were revised to correct errors, clarify construction requirements, and to better align with IRCDUS mission.

The draft of the 2024 Standards was posted online for public comment on the Demand-Star website on September 9, 2024, as well as emailed out to 2,097 recipients registered on the site. The 30-day window for comments ended on October 7, 2024. No public comments were received during the review period.

The intent and technical integrity of the document provides a minimum standard and serves as a guide for the construction of water, wastewater, and reclaimed water facilities and infrastructure. A list of the 2024 Standards revisions is documented in Attachment A. When approved, the revised standards will be posted on the IRCDUS website and will be available to the public for downloading in a portable document format (PDF).

Funding:

No funding is required for this agenda item.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners approve the adoption of the Indian River County Department of Utility Services Water, Wastewater, and Reuse Water Utility Construction Standards – December 2024, as presented.

Attachment:

1. Attachment A – List of Revisions
2. IRCDUS Utility Construction Standards – Dec. 2024