



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 25-00171

Agenda Date: 3/11/2025

Agenda Item Name:

Acceptance of Utility Easements for Santa Fe Hills Water System Improvements

Presenter:

Ramon D. Gavarrete, P.E.

Description:

Alachua County is improving the drinking water system in the Santa Fe Hills neighborhood in order to transfer the system to the City of Alachua. This requires the County to obtain utility easements allowing the system to be “looped” and eliminating dead end water lines.

Recommended Action:

Accept the donation of the Utility Easements, authorize the Chair to sign the Resolution and Utility Easements for the purpose of indicating the County’s acceptance, and any other documents approved by the County Attorney necessary to complete this conveyance.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Fiscal Note:

Recording Fees in the amount of \$142 are required for the conveyance. Fees would be paid from the Santa Fe Hills Water System Fund account: 235.56.5600.533.49.00 with the account description of other charges and obligations.

Strategic Guide:

Infrastructure

Background:

The Santa Fe Hills Water System is a community drinking water system that is located within and serves the Santa Fe Hills subdivision in unincorporated Alachua County, Florida. By order issued by the Eighth Judicial Circuit Court dated March 22, 2002, Alachua County was appointed receiver of the Santa Fe Hills Water System (“Order”). County staff have been in negotiations with staff from the City of Alachua (“City”) for the City to provide municipal drinking water service to the Santa Fe Hills subdivision. Any such arrangement would require written agreements between the County and the City, and court approval if the County wants to terminate its receivership.

One of the requirements that the City has identified during the negotiations is for the County to install a new drinking water line to serve the Santa Fe Hills subdivision. The new drinking water line

includes a water line loop through private property on parcel numbers 03043-003-000, 03043-004-000, 03043-005-000 and 03043-006-000 (the "Affected Properties"). The owners of the Affected Properties have each agreed to donate a Utility Easement to the County in order to complete the upgrades to the water system.