

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Rich Virgil, P.E., Field Operations Division

DATE: October 8, 2026

SUBJECT: Clewiston Area of Responsibility Watering Services, Hendry County

Agenda Item Background:

Maintaining healthy turf vegetation on reservoir embankments, canal side slopes, and other designated areas is an important component of the District's operations and maintenance program. Proper turf cover provides erosion protection, facilitates routine inspections, and helps prevent the establishment of woody and nuisance vegetation that could interfere with inspections and maintenance activities or adversely affect embankment performance.

During prolonged dry conditions, supplemental watering is necessary to maintain adequate soil moisture, support healthy turf growth, and promote root establishment on the high-hazard dam embankment. Maintaining a continuous and healthy turf cover helps minimize erosion and areas of exposed soil while providing appropriate conditions for routine dam safety inspections and maintenance activities.

Approval of the proposed Watering Services in the Clewiston Area of Responsibility in Hendry County, will support the long-term integrity of the Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir embankment, facilitate dam safety inspections, and ensure the continued safe and reliable operation and maintenance of the Caloosahatchee (C-43) Reservoir.

Additional Item Background:

This item was solicited through a Request for Proposals. The selection committee evaluated responsive and responsible respondents based on their qualifications, technical merits and cost proposals. Proposals were subsequently scored and listed in ranked order.

Core Mission and Strategic Priorities:

Irrigation of the C-43 Reservoir promotes healthy turf growth along embankments of the high hazard dam. This maintenance ensures the structural integrity of the Dam embankment which is integral to the safety, operation, and inspections of the Reservoir and District's water control facilities.

Funding Source:

Clewiston Area of Responsibility Watering Services will be funded through Ad Valorem funds.

Staff Contact and/or Presenter:

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ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution No. 2026-1003

Backup Presentation