

Meeting Date
March 21, 2017



AGENDA	
Section	New Business
Item No.	VI.C.1.

AGENDA REPORT
BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT:	Authorization to send letters to Brevard’s legislative delegation and the governor, requesting additional appropriation for Hurricane Matthew waterway debris cleanup.
DEPT/OFFICE:	Emergency Management / Natural Resources

Requested Action:

It is requested that the Board of County Commissioners authorize the County Manager or designee to send letters to Brevard’s state legislators and the governor, requesting that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection receive additional appropriation so that Hurricane Matthew waterway debris cleanup can be completed.

Summary Explanation & Background:

HISTORY & CURRENT SITUATION: In October 2016, Hurricane Matthew impacted Brevard County with sustained Category 1 winds and Category 2 gusts, resulting in costs to the County of more than \$30 million in damages and response activities, as well as more than \$17 million in debris collection. Brevard County received a federal disaster declaration for Public Assistance and Individual Assistance, and is complying with FEMA requirements in efforts to obtain 75% reimbursement for those costs.

As the County was responsible for land-based debris collection, that has been completed. However, navigable waterways – including the Indian River Lagoon and Banana River – are the jurisdiction and responsibility of the State of Florida, and a great deal of debris, mostly construction materials due to destroyed docks, remains in those waterways.

Following the hurricane, and at the prompting of the affected counties, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection obtained an estimate for the amount of waterway debris and the cost to collect it, which was \$40 million. This included the counties of Brevard, Volusia, Flagler, St. Johns, Clay, Putnam, Duval, and Nassau. FDEP hired contractors and began the debris collection project approximately one month ago, with a total budget of \$10 million. As of last week, the waterway debris collection project has almost reached the end of its funding, with only 10% of Brevard’s debris collected, and another 5 to 10% possible. FDEP has also stated that they do not have the funding or authority to remove any of the derelict vessels that were caused by Hurricane Matthew.

The current extension of the Governor’s Executive Order for Hurricane Matthew is in effect until March 26. Included in Section 6 of the EO is this: “I direct that sufficient funds be made available, as needed, by transferring and expending moneys appropriated for other purposes, moneys from unappropriated surplus funds, or from the Budget Stabilization Fund.”

A concerted effort by affected counties, to contact our legislative delegation and the governor, to request authorization from the Legislative Budget Commission for additional dollars for FDEP for the project, is likely to be the most successful approach. Senators Dorothy Hukill and Debbie Mayfield are both on the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Environment and Natural Resources, which would be the committee to designate funding for FDEP. The State is also eligible for 75% FEMA reimbursement.

FISCAL IMPACT: There will be no impact to General Fund.

Contact: Kimberly Prosser, Emergency Management Director
 321-637-6670 / kimberly.prosser@brevardfl.gov
 Virginia Barker, Natural Resources Management Director
 321-633-2016 / virginia.barker@brevardfl.gov

Clerk to the Board Instructions:

Exhibits Attached: AT&T single-source letter and cost breakdown

Contract /Agreement (If attached):		Reviewed by County Attorney		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	PR <input type="checkbox"/>
County Manager		Assistant County Manager		Department Director / Extension		
Stockton Whitten		Assistant County Manager				



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March 22, 2017

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Kimberly Prosser, Emergency Management Director

RE: Item VI.C.1., Authorization to Send Letters to Brevard's Legislative Delegation and the Governor Requesting Additional Appropriation for Hurricane Matthew Waterway Debris Cleanup

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on March 21, 2017, authorized the County Manager, or his designee, to send letters to Brevard's Legislative Delegation and the Governor, requesting additional appropriations to Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for Hurricane Matthew waterway cleanup.

Your continued cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

for: Donna Scott
for: Tammy Rowe, Deputy Clerk

/kp

Cc: County Manager
Natural Resources Management Director
Interim County Manager Abbate