

## **Industrial Advisory Committee**

MEETING DATE – NOVEMBER 10, 2020

LIAISON REPORT – JAMES MURPHY

### **Hydrologic Conditions Update**

- Mr. Granville Kinsman, Hydrologic Data manager, provided an update on the state of the hydrologic conditions through the end of October 2020. Mr. Granville explained the rainy season, overall, received average rainfall. The winter and spring forecast is expected to be drier and warmer than normal, however, the District's water supply is very healthy.

### **Recycled Water: Public Sentiment**

- Ms. Michele Sager, lead communications coordinator, provided a presentation on public perception on recycled water. Ms. Sager identified the One Water Florida partnership as well as a statewide survey that was conducted on the public's perception of reclaimed water as well as direct and indirect potable reuse. Following education on indirect and direct potable reuse, 65 percent of respondents support reuse for household purposes including drinking and 6 percent oppose. Ms. Sager explained One Water Florida and its partners will kick off a recycled water campaign in effort to educate users about potable reuse as a future water supply in Florida.
- Ms. Balcom asked whether there was a significant difference in rural versus urban area on responses. Ms. Robin Grantham, lead communications coordinator, explained the survey was broken into each District, and Suwannee River Water Management District (WMD) (50 percent) were most familiar and South Florida WMD (30 percent) were least familiar.
- Mr. Chris Cooley applauded the presentation and asked for an update on the status of proposed legislation that would prohibit wastewater treatment plants from discharging to surface water. Mr. Anthony Andrade, reuse coordinator, explained this was a proposal to prohibit surface water discharge into coastal estuarian waters. It never came to a full vote and was pulled. Mr. Cooley asked if this will be back in the next session. Mr. Andrade identified Senate Bill 712, bill that contained the direct potable reuse component is only environmental bill that passed through both the House and Senate unanimously. Environmental organizations provided tremendous support on this and the emphasis on potable reuse which will make surface discharges a moot point.

### **Discussion on Remote Meetings**

- Mr. Michael Molligan, Employee and External Relations division director, explained the decision to facilitate remote meetings was a result of COVID, and as offices reopen to the public, staff would like feedback from advisory committee members as to whether meetings should continue remote or in person.
- The committee suggested to hold remote meetings and meet in person once or twice a year.