

Fellsmere Water Control District

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Landowners Assessment Letter

In the Trim notice from the Property Appraiser in September you will notice two new things. The District has been split into two apportionment areas, East and West. Each area is apportioned with the amount of cost of the particular area.

- The West area is a closed agricultural area with pumps that pump storm water into the now completed Fellsmere Water Management area it is 10,857.25 acres in size.
- The East area is a Gravity Drained area that lies east of the Lateral U Canal. It gravity drains storm water north up the Lateral U and Park Lateral Canals, then east out the Main Canal to tide via the North Fork of the St. Sebastian River. It drains all of the populated as well as some agricultural and industrial land. It is 16,025.75 acres in size.

Since 1992, the Budget has been supplemented by invested funds derived from the sale of right-of-ways from different land sales. The sale of these lands throughout the years cut the assessment rate by 50%.

History and Land Sales in Chronological Order

In 1911 the Fellsmere Farms Land sales Company attempted to drain 118,000 acres of land or 184 square miles in the upper basin out one canal to tide through the north fork of the St. Sebastian River. This failed and the Company defaulted in 1918 and Fellsmere Water Control District was formed to take over the drainage plan. The Districts Plan of Reclamation reduced the size of the land from 118,000 acres to 50,000 acres or 80 square miles.

Year	Acres	Acres left	R.O.W. sold \$\$\$\$
1918	50,000	50,000	-0-
1985	6,500	43,500	\$788,750
1999	2,200	41,300	\$157,483
1999	1,754	39,546	\$409,360
2002	10,000	29,546	\$690,357
Total	29,546		\$2,045,950

1. In November 1985, 6,500 acres was sold by FJV and the FWCD to St. Johns Water Management District (SJRWMD). Today this land is known as the Stick Marsh/Farm 13. It resulted in \$788,750 from right of way sales and was invested.
2. In November 1999, 2200 acres inside of District was sold by the Carson Platt Estate to SJRWMD. It resulted in \$157,482.79 from r.o.w.s sales and was invested.
3. In March 1999, 1754 acres inside of District was sold by Jack M. Berry, Corp. to SJRWMD. It resulted in \$409,359.94 from r.o.w.s sales that the District invested.
4. In June 2002, 10,000 acres inside of District was sold by FJV to SJRWMD. It resulted in \$609,357.00 from r.o.w.s. sales that the District invested.

TOTAL invested \$2,045,950. In 1985 the interest rate was 5% it has declined to .02% today. Various Boards of Supervisors throughout the years felt that the Landowners rate should be supplemented by the investment fund.

Due to low interest rates and the loss of nearly 50% of the Districts assessments, the fund has been depleted to a point it can no longer subsidize the landowners as in the past. Therefore, to balance the budget the assessment had to be raised Florida Statute. 189.016(3).

Yearly Audit Information Showing Supplement from Fund.

- 1992

Revenue	\$255,350	
Expenditures	\$560,762	
Out of fund		(\$305,412)
- 2010

Revenue	\$265,813	
Expenditures	\$564,506	
Out of Fund		(\$298,693)
- 2012

Revenue	\$285,002	
Expenditures	\$594,147	
Out of Fund		(\$309,145)
- 2013

Revenue	\$279,529	
Expenditures	\$675,405	
Out of Fund		(\$395,876)
- 2014

Revenue	\$273,149	
Expenditures	\$694,800	
Out of Fund		(\$421,651)
- 2015

Revenue	\$275,427	
Expenditures	\$629,058	

Out of Fund		(\$353,634)
• 2016		
Revenue	\$277,034	
Expenditures	\$639,432	
Out of Fund		(\$362,398)

Treasurer Report

May 11, 2017

As of March 31, 2017, the Checking account balance is \$418,928.57 with interest amount in checking account is .20 %.

Money Market Balance \$451,891.69

(unavailable Appropriation- contingency\$125,000 GASB: \$146,000 = \$271,000)

Available money market balance is \$147,928.57 0.05%

March 31, 2017 available funds \$ 566,857.14

NOTE: CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE TAKEN FOR FUNDING ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT CONVERSION. THE LAST ATTEMPT COST \$110,000.

The Assessment rates are West \$12.50 per acre or fraction thereof, pump fees and operation to be paid by landowners.

The Assessment rates are East \$29.00 per acre of fraction thereof.

Rodney Tillman, CDM
Fellsmere water Control District