

RESOLUTION NO. 2002 - 165

A RESOLUTION OF THE NASSAU COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING THAT THE CITIES OF MILTON AND GULF BREEZE RECONSIDER THEIR ACTIONS TO ESTABLISH A UTILITY AUTHORITY KNOWN AS FLORIDA WATER SERVICE AUTHORITY UPON A DETERMINATION THAT ACQUISITION OF THE FLORIDA WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY SYSTEM IN NASSAU COUNTY BY SUCH AUTHORITY IS NOT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST WITH RESPECT TO THE NASSAU COUNTY CUSTOMERS OF THE SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, Nassau County is a member of the Florida Governmental Utility Authority, and the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County has supported the efforts to acquire the Florida Water System; and

WHEREAS, the sudden announcement of an agreement for sale between Florida Water Services and a newly formed utility authority, denominated as the "Florida Water Service Authority," which appears to have been assembled without adequate public notice, with the cooperation and encouragement of the elected and appointed officials of the Cities of Milton and Gulf Breeze, and is contrary to the best interest of the citizens of Nassau County, in that :

- Nassau County has not been included in whatever process has been undertaken;
- No notice has been provided to Nassau County, and the public purpose for the acquisition of facilities has not been and cannot be established;
- The fact that Florida Water Services will be the operator/manager leaves us in the same position as before;
- A scenario has been created in which Nassau County may have NO regulatory control whatsoever over rates or service...something we consider unacceptable; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County has endorsed the FGUA acquisition process and is committed to acquiring ownership of the Florida Water facilities in the interest of ensuring that ALL the residents of Nassau County get high quality water at a fair price with local accountability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this 24th day of September, 2002, by the Board of County Commissioners, Nassau County, Florida, as Follows:

SECTION 1. The County Coordinator, the County Attorney, and the Clerk shall take all necessary and proper steps to protect the rights of Nassau County and the customers of Florida Water Services so that ALL the residents of Nassau County get high quality water at a fair price with local accountability, including but not limited to working closely with other host

governments and other involved parties in the formulation of any and all legal action which may prevent consummation of the pending transaction between Florida Water Services, Inc., and a newly formed entity purportedly created by the Cities of Milton and Gulf Breeze denominated as "Florida Water Service Authority."

SECTION 2. Nassau County urges the elected and appointed officials of the Cities of Milton and Gulf Breeze to recognize the substantial harm their actions in forming the "Florida Water Service Authority" will cause to tens of thousands of Florida Water Services customers throughout Florida and to rescind any actions to create this "Authority."

SECTION 3. Nassau County urges the executives and shareholders of Allete, Inc., parent company of Florida Water Services, to act responsibly in this matter and to repudiate the actions of those who have advised cooperation in any transaction between Florida Water Services and the "Florida Water Service Authority."

SECTION 4. The Nassau County Coordinator is directed to provide copies of this resolution to the city managers and to each elected official of the Cities of Milton and Gulf Breeze, as well as to such other entities as staff may determine will best serve the public interest of the citizens and ratepayers of Nassau County.

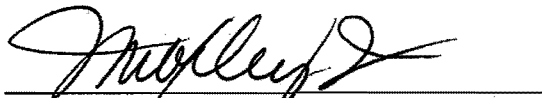
SECTION 5. The Nassau County Coordinator, the County Attorney, and the Clerk are authorized to travel to meet with the staff of the Cities of Milton and Gulf Breeze, Allete, Inc., and any and all other cities and counties that are involved.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA




NICK D. DEONAS
Its: Chairman

ATTEST:



J. M. "CHIP" OXLEY, JR.
Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the
Nassau County Attorney



MICHAEL S. MULLIN

h/anne/res/fgua-res-word-perfect

2022-07-28 10:00 AM
MICHAEL S. MULLIN
NASSAU COUNTY ATTORNEY