

**Lee County Board of County Commissioners
Agenda Item Summary**

Blue Sheet No. 20060986-UTL

1. Action Requested/Purpose:

Approval to remove account balances for Fiscal Year 05/06 considered uncollectible for Lee County Utilities System in the amount of \$141,876.21 which is less than 1% (.21%) of annual water and sewer revenues.

2. What Action Accomplishes:

Adjusts accounts receivable balance to reflect anticipated collections.

3. Management Recommendation:

Approval.

4. Departmental Category: 10

CIOA

5. Meeting Date:

8-22-2006

6. Agenda:

- Consent
- Administrative
- Appeals
- Public
- Walk-On

7. Requirement/Purpose (specify)

- Statute
- Ordinance
- Admin. Code
- Other **Approval**

8. Request Initiated:

Commissioner _____
 Department **Public Works**
 Division **Utilities**
 By: *Douglas Meurer* 8-7-06
Douglas Meurer, P.E., Director

9. Background:

Request is made annually in order to remove uncollectible account balances from Lee County Utilities' (LCU) billing records.

Uncollectibles result when customers' bills remain unpaid for various reasons. The three most significant reasons the accounts remain unpaid are: 1) Closed customers not paying final bill amounts after security deposits are applied and collection agency action; 2) Legal action such as bankruptcy; 3) Sewer only customers who are not paying monthly sewer utility bills.

All accounts owing greater than \$10.00 have been forwarded to a contracted collection agency. Per current policy, amounts greater than \$2,500.00 are to be processed by the County Attorney's Office. Customers with closed accounts and unpaid balances less than \$10.00; closed between May 1, 2005 and April 30, 2006; are included in this write-off period. All closed accounts with unpaid balances of \$1.00 or more are mailed reminder notices. Fort Myers Beach sewer accounts are billed and administered by the Fort Myers Beach Public Works Services, Inc.

Account information will be retained until the Statute of Limitations period expires to ensure these customers are not granted future service until amounts are paid. Collection efforts shall continue during the Statute of Limitations period.

Fiscal year to date, between October 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006, \$142,593.90 of uncollected receivable was referred to a collection agency. The collection agency has collected \$48,727.54 this fiscal year as of June 30, 2006.

No funds required.

10. Review for Scheduling

Department Director	Purchasing or Contracts	Human Resources	Other	County Attorney	Budget Services				County Manager / P.W. Director
					Analyst	Risk	Grants	Mgr.	
<i>J. Lavender</i> Date: 8-7-06	N/A Date:	N/A Date:	<i>Self</i> N/A Date: 8-7-06	<i>S. Covert</i> Date:	<i>John</i> 8/9/06	<i>Mark</i> 8/9/06	<i>John</i> 8/9/06	<i>John</i> 8/10/06	<i>J. Lavender</i> Date: 8-7-06

11. Commission Action:

- Approved
- Deferred
- Denied
- Other

RECEIVED BY COUNTY ADMIN: <i>GW</i>
<i>8/9/06</i>
<i>10:15 AM</i>
COUNTY ADMIN FORWARDED TO: <i>1</i>
<i>5/16/06</i>

Rec. by CoAtty
Date: <i>8/8/06</i>
Time: <i>11:45 AM</i>
Forwarded To: County Admin
<i>8/10/06 9:38 am</i>