A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the East County Water Control District, Lee and Hendry Counties; amending chapter 2000-423, Laws of Florida, as amended; changing the name of the district to the Improvement District of Lehigh Acres; amending the boundaries of the district; providing for a board of commissioners in lieu of a board of supervisors; providing that the board may provide water and sewer services and levy non-ad valorem assessments or user fees; revising meeting attendance requirements for commissioners; providing penalties for unexcused absences from meetings; providing for a referendum; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. The charter of the East County Water Control District, as codified in section 3 of chapter 2000-423, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 2003-315, 2005-308, and 2006-319, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 1. Creation; Status; Charter amendments; District boundaries.--

(1) The decree of the circuit court in and for the twelfth (12th) judicial circuit, Lee County, entered in chancery no. 12,429 on May 5, 1958, created the East County Water Control District, and the subsequent decree of the circuit court in and for the twelfth (12th) judicial circuit, Lee County, extended the boundaries of said District to include additional lands in Lee County and Hendry County, said decree being entered in

Page 1 of 27

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chancery no. 12,429 on May 26, 1961, together with all
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    subsequent proceedings taken in said circuit court concerning
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    said District which were ratified, confirmed, and approved by
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    special act of the Legislature in 1963. The East County Water
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    Control District, hereinafter renamed the "Improvement District
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    of Lehigh Acres," is therefore declared to exist as an
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    independent special district.
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              The boundaries of the District are hereby declared to
37
    be as follows:
         LANDS IN LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
38
         TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST
39
         SECTION 25:
40
         The following portions of Section 25;
41
         The East 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast
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         1/4, together with
43
44
         The Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of the
         Northeast 1/4
45
         TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST
46
47
         SECTION 19:
48
         Commencing at the Southeast corner of Government Lot 5
         of said Section 19, said point also being the
49
         Southeast Corner of the Southwest 1/4 South 1/4
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         Section Corner of said Section 19; thence North 89°
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         32' 09" West along the South line of said Section 19,
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53
         a distance of 941.17 941.16 feet to the POINT OF
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         BEGINNING, thence continuing along the south line of
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         said Section 19 a distance of 623.70 feet; thence
         North 00°33' 48" West along the west line of lands
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Page 2 of 27

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described in Book 4433, Page 952-953 of the Official Records of Lee County, Florida a distance of 579.14 feet to a point on the southerly right-of-way of the Caloosahatchee River Canal; thence North 72° 41' 35" East along said right-of-way a distance of 264.64 feet; thence North 50°57' 38" East along said right-of way a distance of 399.11 feet; thence North 84°04' 34" East along said right-of-way a distance of 57.98 feet to the northeast corner of lands described in Book 3558, Page 3183-3185 of the Official Records of Lee County, Florida; thence South 00° 33' 49" East along the east line of said lands a distance of 920.30 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING and there terminate of this description; thence North 00° 33' 49" West, a distance of 961.01 feet to the Southerly United States Government Easement line of the Caloosahatchee River; thence continuing North 00° 33' 48" West, a distance of 90 feet, more or less, to the Southerly waters edge of the said Caloosahatchee River; thence Southwesterly along the meanders of said Southerly waters edge of the Caloosahatchee River, a distance of 780 feet, more or less; thence South 00° 33' 48" East, a distance of 50 feet, more or less, to the said Southerly United States Government Easement line of the Caloosahatchee River; thence continuing South 00° 33' 48" East, a distance of 578.75 feet to the said South line of Section 19; thence South 89° 32' 09" East along the said South line of Section 19 to the POINT OF

Page 3 of 27

85 BEGINNING, LESS the Easterly 35.80 feet of the above 86 described parcel. 87 SECTION 30: The following portions of Section 30; 88 That portion of the West 1/2 of said Section 30 lying 89 90 North of State Road 80, LESS the West 118.40 feet 91 thereof. That portion of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 92 93 of Section 30 lying North of State Road 80. That portion of Section 30 lying South of the 94 Southerly Right-of-Way line of State Road 80, LESS the 95 West 200.00 feet of said Section 30 lying South of 96 Hickey's Creek, 97 AND LESS lots 18 thru 28, Lots 31 and 32, Lots 37 and 98 38, Lots 41 thru 44 all as shown on Pine Creek Acres, 99 100 Unit No. 1 as recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 13 of the 101 Public Records of Lee County, Florida. AND LESS Lot 1, Lots 23 and 24, Lots 27 and 28, the 50 102 103 foot Right-of-Way for Dixie Lane and that portion of the 50 foot Right-of-Way for Pine Boulevard lying 104 105 Easterly of a line connecting the Northeast corner of Lot 92 with the Southeast corner of Lot 35 all as 106 shown on Pine Creek Acres, Unit No. 2 as recorded in 107 Plat Book 10, Page 74 of the said Public Records, 108 109 AND LESS the following described parcel; 110 BEGINNING at the Northeast corner of Pine Creek Acres, Unit No. 1 as recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 13 of the 111 said Public Records; thence South 00° 56' 00" East 112

Page 4 of 27

113 along the East line of said Pine Creek Acres, Unit No. 114 1 and the Southerly projection thereof, a distance of 223.86 feet; thence North 89° 35' 20" East, a distance 115 116 of 166.20 feet; thence North 00° 24' 40" West, a distance of 203.00 feet to the said Southerly Right-117 of-Way line of State Road 80; thence North 82° 54' 00" 118 119 West along the said Southerly Right-of-Way line of 120 State Road 80 to the POINT OF BEGINNING, 121 AND LESS the following described parcel; Commencing at the said Northeast corner of Pine Creek 122 123 Acres, Unit No. 1; thence South 82° 54' 00" East along the said Southerly Right-of-Way line of State Road 80, 124 a distance of 307.31 thence South 00° 56' 00" East 125 along the said East line of Pine Creek Acres, Unit No. 126 1 and the Southerly projection thereof, a distance of 127 128 223.86 feet; thence North 89° 35' 20" East, a distance of 166.20 feet; thence North 00° 24' 40" West, a 129 130 distance of 203.00 feet to the said Southerly Right 131 of-Way line of State Road 80, thence South 82° 54' 00" 132 East along the said Southerly Right of Way line of State Road 80, a distance of 137.61 feet to the POINT 133 OF BEGINNING of this description; thence South 00° 24' 134 40" East, a distance of 237.58 feet; thence North 89° 135 35' 20" East, a distance of 209.19 feet; thence South 136 137 00° 24' 40" East, a distance of 918.16 feet; thence 138 North 89° 35' 20" East, a distance of 420.00 feet; thence North 00° 24" 40" West, a distance of 1069.39 139 feet to the said Southerly Right-of-Way line of State 140

Page 5 of 27

141 Road 80; thence Northwesterly along the said Southerly 142 Right-of-Way line of State Road 80 to the POINT OF 143 BEGINNING, 144 AND LESS the following described parcel; 145 BEGINNING at the intersection of the East line of the 146 Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 30 147 and the said Southerly Right-of-Way line of State Road 80; thence South 00° 24' 40" East along the East line 148 149 of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 30 to a point which is South 00° 24' 40" East, a 150 151 distance of 129.00 feet from the Northwest corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 152 30; thence South 89° 41' 55" East along a line 153 154 parallel with the North line of the said Southeast 1/4 155 of the Northeast 1/4, a distance of 337.00 feet; 156 thence North 00° 24' 40" West to the said Southerly Right-of-Way line of State Road 80; thence North 81° 157 08' 00" West along the said Southerly Right-of-Way 158 159 line of State Road 80 to the POINT OF BEGINNING. 160 SECTION 31: 161 The following portions of Section 31; The West 1/2, together with 162 The West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4, together with 163 The Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, together with 164 165 The Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4, together with The Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of the 166 Northeast 1/4, together with 167

Page 6 of 27

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168
          The Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the
169
          Northeast 1/4
          SECTION 36:
170
171
          The East 1/2 of Section 36, LESS the Northwest 1/4 of
          the Northeast 1/4 thereof.
172
173
          TOWNSHIP 44 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST
174
          SECTION 1-3:
          All of Sections 1, 2 and 3.
175
176
          SECTION 4:
          The East 1/2 of Section 4.
177
178
          SECTION 10:
          The following portions of Section 10;
179
180
          The East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4, together with
181
          The Northwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4.
          SECTIONS 11-14:
182
          All of Sections 11, 12, 13 and 14.
183
184
          SECTION 15:
185
          The East 1/2 of the East 1/2 of Section 15.
186
          SECTION 16:
          The following portions of Section 16;
187
188
          All of Units 1 through 5 of "Lehigh Acres" as recorded
          in Plat Book 27, Page 186 of the Public Records of Lee
189
          County, Florida together with,
190
          Lot 16, Block 36 of "Buckingham Park, Northwest
191
192
          Section" as recorded in Plat Book 9, Page 92 of the
193
          said Public Records.
          SECTION 19:
194
          The following portions of Section 19;
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Page 7 of 27

196 The Southeast 1/4, together with That portion of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 19 197 198 lying South of Buckingham Road. 199 SECTION 20: 200 The following portions of Section 20; 2.01 The South 1/2, together with 202 That portion of the North 1/2 of said Section 20 lying 203 South of Buckingham Road. 204 SECTION 21: 205 The following portions of "Buckingham Park, South 206 Section" as recorded in Plat Book 9, Page 99 of the said Public Records being in Section 21; 207 208 Lots 3 through 10 of Block 40, 209 Lots 1 and 3 of Block 38, 210 Lot 28 of Block 29, 211 The North 40 feet of Lot 29 of Block 29, 212 All of Tract "D", 213 All of Block "E" 214 together with, the Re-subdivision of that portion of Block "E" of 215 216 said "Buckingham Park, South Section" as replatted on "Plat of Unit 3 Lehigh Park, a Subdivision of Lehigh 217 Acres" as recorded in Plat Book 15, Page 66 of the 218 said Public Records, together with 219 220 That portion of said Section 21 lying Southwesterly of the centerline of a 60 foot easement as described in 221 Miscellaneous Book 32, Page 335 of the said Public 222 223 Records.

Page 8 of 27

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224
          SECTION 22:
225
          That portion of Section 22 lying South and
226
          Southwesterly of Homestead Road as shown on Plat of
227
           "Buckingham Park Entrance Roads" as recorded in Plat
228
          Book 9, Page 97 of the said Public Records.
229
          SECTIONS 23-29:
230
          All of Sections 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29.
          SECTION 30:
231
232
          The following portions of Section 30;
233
          The South 1/2, together with
234
          The Northeast 1/4, together with
          The South 100 feet of the North 1/2 together with
235
236
          The remainder of the Northeast 1/4.
237
          SECTION 31:
238
          That portion of said Section 31 lying Northeasterly of
239
          State Road 82.
240
          SECTIONS 32-36:
          All of Sections 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36.
241
242
          TOWNSHIP 44 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST
243
          SECTION 1:
244
          All of Section 1.
245
          SECTION 2:
          All of Section 2, LESS the Northwest 1/4 of the
246
          Northwest 1/4 thereof.
247
          SECTION 3:
248
          All of Section 3, LESS the Northeast 1/4 thereof,
249
          AND LESS the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 thereof.
250
          SECTIONS 4-6:
251
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Page 9 of 27

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252
          All of Sections 4, 5 and 6.
253
          SECTION 7:
          The following portions of Section 7;
254
255
          The South 1/2, together with
256
          The Northwest 1/4, together with
257
          The Southwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4, together with
258
          The North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4, together with
259
          The North 854 feet of the East 466 feet of the
          Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4.
260
          SECTION 8:
261
262
          The following portions of Section 8;
          The South 1/2, together with
263
          The Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4, together with
264
265
          The West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4, together with
266
          The East 3/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest
          1/4.
267
268
          SECTION 9:
269
          All of said Section 9, LESS the Southwest 1/4 of the
270
          Northeast 1/4 thereof.
          SECTIONS 10-36:
271
272
          All of Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18,
          19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31,
273
274
          32, 33, 34, 35 and 36.
275
          TOWNSHIP 45 SOUTH, RANGE 26 EAST
          SECTIONS 1-3:
276
          All of Section 1, 2 and 3.
277
          SECTION 4:
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Page 10 of 27

279	All that portion of Section 4 lying North of State
280	Road 82.
281	SECTION 5:
282	All that portion of Section 5 lying North of State
283	Road 82.
284	SECTION 6:
285	All that portion of Section 6 lying North of State
286	Road 82.
287	SECTION 9:
288	All that portion of Section 9 lying North of State
289	Road 82.
290	SECTION 10:
291	All that portion of Section 10 lying North of State
292	Road 82.
293	SECTION 11:
294	All that portion of Section 11 lying North of State
295	Road 82.
296	SECTION 12:
297	All of Section 12.
298	SECTION 13:
299	All that portion of Section 13 lying North of State
300	Road 82.
301	SECTION 14:
302	All that portion of Section 14 lying North of State
303	Road 82.
304	TOWNSHIP 45 SOUTH, RANGE 27 EAST
305	SECTIONS 1-3 :
306	All of Sections 1, 2 and 3.

Page 11 of 27

307	SECTION 4:
308	All of Section 4, LESS the Southeast 1/4 of the
309	Southeast 1/4 thereof,
310	AND LESS the South $1/2$ of the Northeast $1/4$ of the
311	Southeast 1/4 of said Section 4.
312	AND LESS the South $1/2$ of the Northeast $1/4$ of the
313	Northeast $1/4$ of the Southeast $1/4$ of said Section 4,
314	AND LESS the Northwest $1/4$ of the Northeast $1/4$ of the
315	Southeast 1/4 of said Section 4.
316	SECTION 5:
317	The following portions of Section 5;
318	The Northwest 1/4, together with
319	The East $3/4$ of the North $1/2$ of the Southwest $1/4$ ,
320	together with The South $1/2$ of the Southwest $1/4$ ,
321	together with
322	The Southwest $1/4$ of the Southeast $1/4$ LESS the South
323	175 feet of the East 125 feet thereof, together with
324	The following described parcel being in the Northeast
325	1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 5; Commencing
326	at the Northeast corner of said Section 5; thence
327	Westerly along the North line of said Section 5, said
328	North line of Section 5 being the South line of Units
329	7 and 18 of "Leeland Heights" as shown on plat
330	recorded in Plat Book 12, Page 53 of the said Public
331	Records, a distance of 116.51 feet to the Southwest
332	corner of Lot 10 of Block 87 of said "Leeland Heights"
333	and the POINT OF BEGINNING of this description; thence
334	continuing Westerly along the said North line of

Page 12 of 27

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Section 5, a distance of 1208.55 feet to the Northwest corner of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section 5; thence South 01° 35' 34" East along the West line of the said Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 5, a distance of 1149.72 feet; thence Easterly along a line parallel with the said North line of Section 5, a distance of 1268.07 feet to a point of intersection with a line parallel with and 60 feet Westerly of (as measured at right angles) the East line of said Section 5; thence North 01° 44' 40" West along said parallel line, a distance of 1089.78 feet to a point of intersection with a line parallel with and 60 feet Southerly of (as measured at right angles) the said North line of Section 5; thence Westerly along said line parallel with and 60 feet Southerly of the North line of Section 5, a distance of 58.31 feet to a point of intersection with the Southerly prolongation of the West line of said Lot 10 of Block 87 of "Leeland Heights"; thence Northerly along said Southerly prolongation, a distance of 60.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. Bearings in last described parcel relative to said Plat of Units 7 and 18 of "Leeland Heights". SECTION 6: All of Section 6, LESS the following described parcel, BEGINNING at the Southwest corner of Government Lot 5 of said Section 6; thence Northerly along the West line of said Government Lot 5, a distance of 466.70

Page 13 of 27

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363
          feet; thence Easterly along a line parallel with the
364
          South line of said Government Lot 5, a distance of
365
          466.70 feet; thence Southerly along a line parallel
366
          with the said West line of Government Lot 5, a
367
          distance of 466.70 feet; thence Westerly along the
368
          South line of said Government Lot 5, a distance of
369
          466.70 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING.
          SECTION 7:
370
371
          All of Section 7.
372
          SECTION 8:
373
          All of Section 8, LESS the Southwest 1/4 of the
          Southeast 1/4 thereof.
374
          SECTION 9:
375
376
          The following portions of Section 9;
377
          The West 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4, together with
378
          The Southeast 1/4, together with
379
          The West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4, together with
380
          The Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4.
381
          SECTIONS 10-17:
          All of Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17.
382
383
          SECTION 18:
384
          All of Section 18, LESS the 200 foot Right-of-Way for
          State Road 82 thereof,
385
          AND LESS the Westerly 25 feet of that portion of said
386
          Section 18 lying Northerly of said State Road 82, said
387
388
          25 foot strip as conveyed to Lee County for roadway
          purposes by deed recorded in Official Record Book 147,
389
          Page 73 of the said Public Records of Lee County.
390
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Page 14 of 27

391	SECTION 19:
392	All of Section 19, LESS the 200 foot Right-of-Way for
393	State Road 82 thereof,
394	AND LESS the following described parcel, BEGINNING at
395	the Northeast corner of said Section 19; thence South
396	89°55'00" West with the North line of said Section 19,
397	a distance of 1327.50 feet to the Northwest corner of
398	the East 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 19;
399	thence South 49°30'50" West a distance of 465.93 feet
400	to the Northern Right-of Way line of State Road 82;
401	thence Southeasterly with the said Northern Right-of-
402	Way line to the East line of Section 19; thence North
403	00834'00" West along the East line of Section 19 South
404	00° 34' 00" East along the East line of said Section
405	19 to the East 1/4 Section corner of said Section 19;
406	thence South 89° 53' 40" West along the East/West 1/4
407	Section line of said Section 19, a distance of 1479.38
408	feet; thence North 00° 39' 20" West along a line
409	parallel with and 156.00 feet Westerly of (as measured
410	at right angles) the West line of the East 1/2 of the
411	Northeast 1/4 of said Section 19, a distance of
412	2019.77 feet to a point of intersection with the
413	Southwesterly Right of Way line of said State Road 82;
414	thence South 64° 06' 00" East along the said
415	Southwesterly right of Way line of State Road 82, a
416	distance of 174.40 feet to a point of intersection
417	with the said West line of the East 1/2 of the
418	Northeast 1/4 of Section 19; thence North 00° 39' 20"

Page 15 of 27

419 West along the said West line of the East 1/2 of the 420 Northeast 1/4 of Section 19, a distance of 223.58 feet 421 to a point of intersection with the Northeasterly 422 Right of Way line of State Road 82; thence North 64° 423 06' 00" West along the said Northeasterly Right-of-Way 424 line of State Road 82, a distance of 400.00 feet; 425 thence North 49° 30' 50" East, a distance of 465.93 426 feet to the Northwest corner of the said East 1/2 of 427 the Northeast 1/4 of Section 19; thence North 89° 55' 428 00" East along the North line of said Section 19, a distance of 1327.50 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. 429 SECTION 20: 430 All of Section 20, LESS the 200 foot Right-of-Way for 431 432 State Road 82 thereof, 433 AND LESS the following described parcel, BEGINNING at 434 the Northwest corner of said Section 20; thence North 89° 15' 50" East along the North line of said Section 435 20, a distance of 227.46 feet; thence South 00° 34' 436 437 00" East along a line parallel with the West line of said Section 20, a distance of 1516.82 feet to a point 438 of intersection with the Northerly Right-of-Way line 439 of State Road 82; thence North 49° 52' 20" West along 440 the said Northerly Right-of-Way line of State Road 82, 441 442 a distance of 300.00 feet to a point of intersection with the West line of said Section 20; thence North 443 444 00° 34' 00" East along the said West line of Section 20 to the POINT OF BEGINNING 445

Page 16 of 27

446	AND LESS the following described parcel, BEGINNING at
447	the intersection of the Southwesterly Right-of-Way
448	line of State Road 82 and the South line of said
449	Section 20; thence North 24° 51' 40" West along the
450	said Southwesterly Right-of-Way line of State Road 82,
451	a distance of 1000.00 feet; thence South 32° 24' 30"
452	West, a distance of 1081.39 feet to a point of
453	intersection with the said South line of Section 20;
454	thence North 89° 40' 40" East along the said South
455	line of Section 20, a distance of 1000.00 feet to the
456	POINT OF BEGINNING. Last described parcel being
457	recorded in Deed Book 306, Page 153 of the said Public
458	Records of Lee County.
459	SECTIONS 21-26:
460	All of Sections 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26.
461	SECTION 27:
462	All of Section 27 lying NORTH of State Road 82.
463	SECTION 28:
464	All of Section 28 lying North of State Road 82.
465	SECTION 29:
466	All of Section 29 lying North of State Road 82.
467	SECTION 34:
468	All of Section 34 lying North of State Road 82.
469	SECTION 35:
470	All of Section 35 lying North of State Road 82.
471	SECTION 36:
472	All of Section 36 LESS the 200 foot Right-of-Way for
473	State Road 82 thereof.

Page 17 of 27

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474
          LANDS IN HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA.
475
          TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 28 EAST
476
          SECTION 30:
477
          The following portions of Section 30;
          The West 400.00 feet of the Southwest 1/4 less the
478
          right-of-way for State Road 80, together with
479
480
          The parcel commencing at the West 1/4 corner of
481
          Section 30; thence along the West Section line North
482
          01° 01' 11" West, a distance of 164.01 feet to the
483
          North right-of-way line of State Road 80 and the POINT
484
          OF BEGINNING; thence continuing North 01° 01' 11"
          West, a distance of 1156.17 feet to the South Right-
485
          of-Way line for the Caloosahatchee River (C-43 canal);
486
487
          thence along said South Right-of-Way line North 78°
488
          07' 28" East, a distance of 162.92 feet; thence South
489
          01° 01' 11" East, a distance of 415.55 feet; thence
          South 45° 02' 36" East, a distance of 345.35 feet;
490
          thence South 01° 01' 11" East, a distance of 520.42
491
          feet to the North Right-of-Way for State Road 80;
492
          thence along said right-of-way South 88° 36' 43" West,
493
          a distance of 400.00 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING
494
495
          SECTION 31:
          The following portions of Section 31;
496
497
          The Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4, together with
498
          The East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4, together with,
499
          The South 185.00 feet of the North 1/2 of the
          Northwest 1/4 less the West 1189.24 feet of the East
500
          1439.25 feet of the South 25.00 feet thereof;
501
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Page 18 of 27

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502
          Together with the West 660.76 feet of the North 30.00
503
          feet of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4,
504
          Together with the West 400.00 feet of the Northwest
505
          1/4 of the Northwest 1/4.
506
          TOWNSHIP 44 SOUTH, RANGE 28 EAST
507
          SECTION 6:
508
          The West 1/2 of Section 6.
          SECTION 7:
509
          The West 1/2 of Section 7.
510
          SECTION 18:
511
          The West 1/2 of Section 18.
512
          SECTION 19:
513
          The West 1/2 of Section 19.
514
515
          SECTION 30:
          The West 1/2 of Section 30.
516
517
          SECTION 31:
518
          The West 1/2 of Section 31.
519
          Section 2.
                       Installment assessments and the collection
520
     thereof.--Annual installment assessments, which are levied under
521
     section 298.36, Florida Statutes, shall become due and be
522
     collected during each year at the same time that county taxes
523
     are due and collected, pursuant to section 298.36, Florida
524
     Statutes, chapter 197, Florida Statutes, and this act. Said
525
     assessments shall be a lien until paid on the property against
     which assessed, and enforceable in like manner as county taxes.
526
527
                       Maintenance assessments. -- Maintenance
     assessments as provided for under section 298.54, Florida
528
     Statutes, shall be apportioned upon the basis of the net
529
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Page 19 of 27

assessments of benefits assessed as accruing from original construction and any subsequent improvements, and shall be due and collected pursuant to section 298.54, Florida Statutes, chapter 197, Florida Statutes, and this act. Provided, nothing herein shall prevent the Board of Commissioners Supervisors from apportioning maintenance taxes for the maintenance of the district facilities equally to all benefited acres if the Board of Commissioners Supervisors determines that benefits are substantially equal for benefited acreage throughout the District. Said assessments shall be a lien until paid on the property against which assessed and enforceable in like manner as county taxes.

Section 4. Water and sewer powers and duties; non-ad valorem assessments; user charges and fees.--

(1) The district shall have, and the board may exercise, subject to the regulatory jurisdiction and permitting authority of all applicable governmental bodies, agencies, and special districts having authority with respect to any area included therein, the power to provide water supply, sewer, and wastewater management, reclamation, and reuse or any combination thereof, and to construct and operate connecting, intercepting, or outlet sewers and sewer mains and pipes and water mains, conduits, or pipelines in, along, and under any public street, alley, highway, or other public place or way, and to dispose of any effluent, residue, or other byproducts of such system or sewer system. The district shall also have the authority to require and enforce the use of its facilities whenever and wherever they are accessible.

(2) Non-ad valorem assessments, user charges, or fees, including impact fees, authorized by the Board of Commissioners may be levied to finance, fund, plan, establish, acquire, construct, operate, and maintain systems, facilities, and basic infrastructure for water supply, sewer, and wastewater management, reclamation, and reuse and to construct and operate connecting, intercepting, or outlet sewers and sewer mains and pipes and water mains, conduits, or pipelines in, along, and under any public street, alley, highway, or other public place or way, and to dispose of any effluent, residue, or other byproducts of such system or sewer system. Non-ad valorem assessments may be levied and collected pursuant to chapter 197 or chapter 170, Florida Statutes. The receipt and collection of these charges or fees shall be in the manner prescribed by board resolution not inconsistent with general law.

(3) Any exercise of the powers and authority granted in subsections (1) and (2) which is necessary to provide any proposed facilities, services, or charges within Lee County shall be subject to prior approval by the adoption of a resolution by a majority of the Lee County Commission in session at a duly advertised public hearing. Any exercise of the powers and authority as granted in subsections (1) and (2) which is necessary to provide any proposed facilities, services, or charges within Hendry County shall be subject to prior approval by the adoption of a resolution by a majority vote of the Hendry County Commission in session at a duly advertised public hearing.

Section <u>5.4.</u> Board of <u>Commissioners</u> <u>Supervisors</u>; elections; candidate qualifications; powers and duties.--The provisions of chapter 298, Florida Statutes, to the contrary notwithstanding, the following provisions, to the extent of any conflict, shall control the <u>Improvement District of Lehigh Acres</u> <u>East County Water Control District</u>:

- (1) The Board of <u>Commissioners</u> Supervisors of the <u>Improvement District of Lehigh Acres</u> East County Water Control District shall be composed of five members who shall be registered voters and residents of the District. The Board of <u>Commissioners</u> Supervisors shall be elected at large by the electors residing in the District. Terms of all <u>commissioners</u> Supervisors shall be for 4 years.
- be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even-numbered years. All District Commissioners Supervisors shall be elected at large by nonpartisan plurality vote with the candidate who receives the highest number of votes for each seat winning the election. Only registered voters residing within the District shall be permitted to vote. The cost of any election shall be borne by the District. Terms of all commissioners supervisors shall begin with the first regularly scheduled board meeting after certification of on the day after the election by the Secretary of State as established by this act. The terms of the Board of Commissioners Supervisors of the Improvement District of Lehigh Acres East County Water Control District serving on May 27, 1998, shall be extended for one year to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the even-

Page 22 of 27

numbered year following the year in which their term is currently due to expire.

- (3) Qualifying for the position of District <u>Commissioner</u> Supervisor shall be coordinated by the supervisors of elections of the counties within which the District is located. Methods of qualifying shall be uniform pursuant to section 99.092, Florida Statutes. Candidates shall be required to open depositories and appoint treasurers prior to accepting any contributions or expending any funds.
- (4) Vacancies on the Board shall be filled pursuant to chapter 100, section 298.12, Florida Statutes.
- (5) The members of the Board shall be reimbursed for their expenses pursuant to section 112.061, Florida Statutes, and paid a salary flat fee of \$250 per calendar calendar month during term of office as established herein. The Board may remove any member who has three consecutive, unexcused absences from regularly scheduled meetings. In addition, commissioners shall not be paid for any unexcused absences from regularly scheduled meetings. The Board shall adopt policies by resolution defining excused and unexcused absences, provided however, the flat fee of \$250 per calendar month shall only be payable in the event the member of the Board attends at least one (1) full regularly scheduled session of the Board during the subject calendar month.
- (6) Each year, the Board of <u>Commissioners</u> Supervisors shall hold an annual organizational meeting, at which a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected, whose duties shall be established by Resolution of the Board.

Page 23 of 27

(7) The Board of <u>Commissioners</u> Supervisors shall have the power to employ a person to be designated General Manager of the District and to vest in him or her such authority and to delegate to him or her the performance of such duties and to provide such compensation as may be determined by the Board of <u>Commissioners Supervisors</u>. The Board may require the General Manager to furnish bond with good and sufficient surety in such amount as the Board may by resolution determine.

- (8) The District shall have and the Board may exercise and hold all powers, functions, and duties set forth in this act and chapters 189, 197, and 298, Florida Statutes, as they may be amended from time to time, including, but not limited to, non-ad valorem assessments, bond issuance, other revenue-raising capabilities, budget preparation and approval, liens and foreclosure of liens, use of tax deeds and tax certificates as appropriate for non-ad valorem assessments, and contractual agreements.
- (9) The methods for assessing and collecting non-ad valorem assessments, fees, or service charges shall be as set forth in chapter 189, chapter 197, or chapter 298, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time.
- (10) The District's planning requirements shall be as set forth in this act and chapters 189 and 298, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time.
- (11) Requirements for financial disclosure, meeting notices, reporting, public records maintenance, and per diem expenses for officers and employees shall be as set forth in

chapters 112, 119, 189, 286, and 298, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time.

(12) The District shall have the authority to sell, lease, or otherwise encumber surplus real property owned by the District for the benefit of the District, except for environmentally sensitive property as designated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Section <u>6.5.</u> Bonds issuable for 40 years.--Notwithstanding the provisions of section 298.47, Florida Statutes, the Board of <u>Commissioners</u> <u>Supervisors</u> may issue bonds maturing at annual intervals within 40 years.

Section <u>7.6.</u> Assessment records.--Notwithstanding the provisions of section 298.36(2), Florida Statutes, the secretary of the Board of <u>Commissioners Supervisors</u>, as soon as said total assessment is levied, shall, at the expense of the District, prepare a list of all assessments levied, said list to be stored in electronic format.

Section 8.7. Public improvements and community facilities.--In addition to the powers provided in chapter 298, Florida Statutes, the District shall have, and the Board may exercise, subject to the regulatory jurisdiction and permitting authority of all applicable governmental bodies, agencies, and special districts having authority with respect to any area included therein, any or all of the following special powers relating to public improvements and community facilities authorized by this act:

(1) Conservation, mitigation, and wildlife habitat.--The power to finance, fund, plan, establish, acquire, construct or

Page 25 of 27

reconstruct, enlarge or extend, equip, operate, and maintain systems, facilities, and basic infrastructure for conservation areas, mitigation areas, and wildlife habitat, including the maintenance of any plant or animal species, and any related interest in real or personal property;

- (2) Recreational, cultural, and educational.--After the Board has obtained the consent of the local general purpose government within the jurisdiction of which the specified power is to be exercised, the power to plan, establish, acquire, construct or reconstruct, enlarge or extend, equip, operate and maintain additional systems and facilities for parks and facilities for indoor and outdoor recreational, cultural, and educational uses; and
- (3) Navigational and boating facilities.--The power to construct and maintain navigational and boating facilities in its canals, including, but not limited to, locks and dams, to widen and deepen its canals, to make them usable for navigation and boating, and to regulate in all respects the use of its canals for navigation and boating, including, but not limited to, the size of boats, their speed and hours of use. Prior to the District having the powers described in subsection (2), the additional power granted to the District must receive approval by a majority vote of the qualified electors of the district voting in a referendum election to be called by the District at the next general election, with the exception of the following three parks:
  - (a) Lake Camille Park
  - (b) Williams Park

Page 26 of 27

## <del>(c) Eco Park.</del>

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Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, except that the provisions of new section 4 of the charter, as created in section 1 of this act authorizing acquisition of water and wastewater facilities, shall take effect only upon the approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of the district, as set forth in section 1 of the charter as amended and renamed in section 1 of this act, voting in a referendum to be held by the district in conjunction with any primary, general, special, or other election to be held in the district.