





## Marion County Board of County Commissioners

### Office of Environmental Services

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### Memorandum

**To:** Angel Roussel, P.E., Assistant County Administrator   
**Through:** Jody C. Kirkman, P.E., Environmental Services Director  
**From:** Joshua Kramer, Utilities Maintenance Manager   
**Date:** April 21, 2022  
**Re:** Request for a BAR to Purchase Meters in FY21/22

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#### **Background**

During the budget preparation process, staff prepares the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) budget which contains a line item labeled Automated Meter Reading (AMR). Each year, \$450,000 is budgeted in this line item for the purchase of the department's meter and dual check inventory. This amount provides staff the ability to purchase approximately 2,400 small meters (5/8in x 3/4in), a small number of large meters (1-inch thru 6-inch), and the necessary dual checks. This inventory is utilized for installing meters for new development and to change out failed meters as well. The budgeted amount has met the department's needs until recently.

During the FY21/22 budget preparation process, staff proposed the annual customer base growth to be approximately 575 new connections during that fiscal year. As of April 13, 2022, the department has finalized 1,128 new connections with an additional 297 pending. This is roughly three (3) times what was projected and with this current rate, staff is projecting approximately 1,100 additional new connections by the end of the fiscal year. Staff is estimating approximately 2,200 new connections for the FY21/22 budget. Additional inventory will need to be purchased to cover the projected growth.

In February 2022, the Board approved an increase of \$150,000 to an open purchase order with National Metering Services to assist the department with meter change outs that have built up due to staffing constraints. Additional inventory will need to be purchased to cover this additional work.