Utility Field Operations



Wastewater Pumping Wastewater Transmission Stormwater Water and Reuse Distribution Phone # (954) 786-4082 Fax # (954) 786-4003

MEMORANDUM #2023-80

DATE: July 31, 2023

TO: Carla Byrd, General Services Director

FROM: Nathaniel J Watson, Utilities Field Superintendent

- VIA: A. Randolph Brown, Utilities Director Aaron Lyons, Water/Reuse Distribution Manager Whitney Walsh, Customer Service Manager
- **SUBJECT:** Standardization of Water and Reuse Distribution Water Meters

On November 12, 2019, the City formally standardized procurement of Neptune water meters and appurtenances due to the distinct use of the equipment in relation to the City's utility field and billing operations.

Procurement of these items throughout the standardization period were direct from the vendor as the sole source manufacturer and distributor. Neptune has since chosen Ferguson Waterworks as its sole authorized distributor/reseller within the State of Florida with the requirement to maintain sufficient inventory and to provide customer field servicing exclusively assigned to Municipalities and the like.

The City's water/reuse distribution systems have been uniquely outfitted with Neptune smart metering equipment since 2011. The integration also included proprietary software that performs system monitoring and data handing that reports customer consumption use for inquiry and billing purposes. The system wide installation was part of a broader City initiative to realize efficiency and potential savings in City energy consumption and utility operations.

As a direct result, the City's distribution systems have been streamlined to collect water/reuse consumption usage remotely in near real time. Improvement in timely billing accuracy and the ability to provide customer access to billing data has proven useful in relaying water usage concerns, mandated conservation measures and identifying potential private customer leaks. The smart meters also provide a safeguard by alerting staff of probable water quality and system integrity concerns related to system reverse flow or failed backflow conditions critical to the City's Cross Connection Control program that regulates water quality protection as per Florida Administrative Code (FAC) 62-555.360 (2).

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The Neptune ecosystem of software, equipment and supplies have functioned to provide the City the means to deliver an overall dependable, trustworthy and transparent service that addresses customer inquiry, timely billing accuracy and water/reuse system integrity.

The Utilities Department request standardization classification for Neptune meters and related appurtenances for the City's water and reuse distribution service areas. Neptune Technology Group Inc., is the sole source manufacturer of its products with Ferguson Waterworks as its sole authorized distributor/reseller within the State of Florida.

Equipment and supply procurement shall be through the following budget accounts:

- ✤ 412-3330-533-64-65
- ✤ 412-3355-533-46-80
- ♦ 412-3355-533-64-65
- ✤ 420-7583-533-65-11

Collectively, Water and Reuse Distribution are estimated to procure no more than \$1 million per fiscal year in meters and equipment given regulatory requirements and the continued projection of construction in the City of Pompano Beach and its service areas.