

PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Office of Commissioner Janet C. Long

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Commissioner Janet C. Long
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

SUBJECT: SJWAA & Tampa Bay Watch MSTU Requests

DATE: April 13, 2018

I propose that the Board of County Commissioner fund the attached requests from Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) funds.

The Seminole Junior Warhawks Athletic Association is requesting \$32,000 for improvements to their youth sports complex. The Tampa Bay Watch, Inc. is requesting \$15,000 to support their hands-on environmental restoration projects through their Estuary EDventures summer camp and community service programs.

A copy of the requests and backup information is attached for your review.

Walsh, J Doyle

From: Steve Siesel <steve@siesel.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 8:52 PM
To: Long, Janet C
Cc: Walsh, J Doyle
Subject: Budget Request
Attachments: MSTU Letter.docx

Commissioner Long,

Attached is our MSTU Budget request. I added \$2000.00 to the project just to make sure we had enough to do what we need to do. These are needed to help maintain our complex.

Thanks again!

Steve
SJWAA
727-433-3886

Seminole Junior Warhawks Athletic Association
PO Box 9332
Seminole, FL 33775

Commissioner Janet Long
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
Clearwater, FL

March 24, 2018

Dear Commissioner Long,

I am writing to you in behalf of our organization to ask for MSTU dollars to help us make improvements to our youth sports complex. As you know after your visits, we are striving to make the best experiences for the youth in our community.

As we await the consultant's report and Penny for Pinellas dollars, we still need to maintain our complex. We have projects that we are working on that we would like reimbursement from MSTU funds.

- Creating a new dumpster/sand/clay/topsoil coral. This is going to be built at cost with in-kind contributions from members. \$16,000
- Remove and repair parking area after removal of previous dumpster pad. This is also completed by in-kind contributions by members at cost. \$5000.00
- Reimbursement of 2017 Electrical Costs for field lighting repairs, and expected repairs and maintenance in 2018-19 \$6000.00
- Replace Ice machine for injuries and concession stand. \$5000.00

Thank you for your consideration.

Steven Siesel
President
SJWAA

Walsh, J Doyle

From: Peter Clark <pclark@tampabaywatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 3:30 PM
To: Long, Janet C
Cc: 'Rachel Arndt'; 'Katie Mastenbrook'
Subject: Tampa Bay Watch Grant Request
Attachments: Tampa Bay Watch - Pinellas County Education Request.docx

Good afternoon Commissioner Long

Attached please find our request to Pinellas County to support our summertime Estuary EDventures camp programs and student community service project activities. Tampa Bay Watch is requesting \$15,000 to support these restoration and education programs with area youth in Tierra Verde and southern Pinellas County.

Thank you again Janet for your help and support. Please let us know if we can provide any additional supporting information.

Have a great Easter weekend,
Peter C.

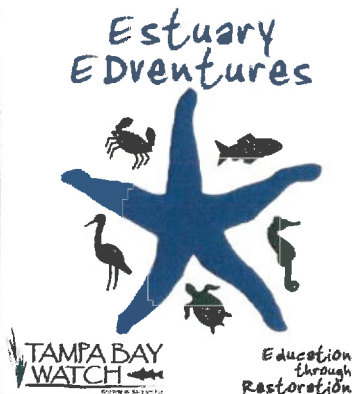
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Capt. Peter A. Clark, President  
Tampa Bay Watch, Inc.  
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[www.TampaBayWatch.Org](http://www.TampaBayWatch.Org)



# *Tampa Bay Watch Estuary EDventures Request for Sponsorship - Pinellas County*

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Tampa Bay Watch, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to the protection and restoration of the marine and wetland environments of the Tampa Bay estuary through scientific and educational programs. This year we are celebrating our twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization and are looking to build upon our successful restoration and educational efforts in the Tampa Bay region.

Tampa Bay Watch requests a \$15,000 to support hands-on environmental restoration projects through our Estuary EDventures summer camp and our community service summer programs in Tierra Verde / southern Pinellas County.

## **Estuary EDventures**

Estuary EDventures empowers children to act as stewards of the Tampa Bay estuary by providing field experiences that combine classroom resources with hands-on environmental field experiences at the Tampa Bay Watch Marine Education Center in Tierra Verde. The field experiences give campers the opportunity to learn about the critical issues that face the Tampa Bay estuary. By creating lessons that engage the students in critical thinking, we help generate the thought processes that encourage minimizing impact on the watershed.

Estuary EDventures has a new and exciting initiative in which we have partnered with several organizations to engage students in citizen science projects. Our partnerships include Florida Microplastic Awareness Project, National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science Phytoplankton Monitoring Network, EarthEcho and iSeahorse. These types of labs allow for students to collect scientific data while visiting Tampa Bay Watch, and learn how the data they are collecting enhances researcher's data around the globe.

Estuary EDventures second objective is to offer an environmental education experience that will aid in students' preparation for the Florida Standards Assessment Test, as well as the Statewide Science Assessment in 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Estuary EDventures program's foundation is based on Florida academic standards in order to complement what the students are learning in the classroom. Estuary EDventures provides students with a solid understanding of the significance of an estuary, how these unique ecosystems function and why they are critical to overall marine ecosystem health.

In 2017, Estuary EDventures summer camp provided eight weeks of camps for kids aged 6-15 years old. Our camp is an opportunity for youth who are interested in marine science topics to have a week long immersion with like-minded individuals. The campers have an opportunity to not only be on the water through boating and snorkeling activities, but also get to participate in educational activities in the Marine Education Center and head over to Fort De Soto Park to plant sea oats to restore sand dunes. We also teach campers how to be saltwater angler and even dissect an invasive lionfish. A goal of the program is to engage the campers in all the wonders of marine world and what they can do to protect these critical habitats in the Tampa Bay estuary and beyond.

### **Summer Community Service Program**



Tampa Bay Watch has a long-standing summer program for teenagers to earn community service hours over the summer through hands-on projects at our facility in



Tierra Verde. Every Monday through the summer a group of 10-15 high school students are managed by Tampa Bay Watch environmental scientists. Staff coordinates projects for them including, sea oat plantings at Ft. DeSoto Park, cleaning fishing line so it can be recycled, shoreline cleanups in Tierra Verde and Fort De Soto, and assisting with our salt marsh planting projects around the bay. The program not only provides students with necessary community volunteer hours, but teaches them valuable lessons through their participation in hands-on environmental projects.

### **In Summary**

Thank you for consideration of our summer programs which will inspire the next generation of environmental stewards in Pinellas County. Pinellas County will be recognized as a sponsor of Tampa Bay Watch on our website, in our 2018 Annual Report, in Tampa Bay Watch's email message which reaches over 16,000 of our supporters and on Facebook/Twitter pages which have over a total of 14,000 followers.

