

A STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND UTILITY AGREEMENT

BETWEEN BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND

THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

DATED: 8-24-11

## Table of Contents

ARTICLE 1 - TITLE AND PURPOSE.....	1
1.00 Title:.....	1
1.01 Purpose .....	1
1.02 References to County Ordinances .....	2
ARTICLE 2 - DEFINITIONS .....	2
2.00 Definitions .....	2
2.01 Agreement.....	2
2.02 County.....	2
2.03 County Wide Stormwater Management Study .....	2
2.04 Cost of Service Analysis and Rate Study .....	2
2.05 Stormwater Utility Service Fee; Single Family Unit Rate (SFU). .....	3
2.06 NPDES:.....	3
2.07 Public Stormwater: .....	3
2.08 Stormwater Infrastructure:.....	3
2.09 Stormwater Management:.....	3
2.09 Stormwater Management Plan:.....	4
2.10 Stormwater Utility User Fees: .....	4
2.11 Stormwater Utility: .....	4
2.12 Town: .....	4
ARTICLE 3 - TERM OF THIS AGREEMENT .....	4
3.01 Initial Term of this Agreement: .....	5
3.02 Periodic Review of this Agreement:.....	5
3.03 Extension of this Agreement: .....	5
3.04 Termination of this Agreement:.....	5
3.05 Effect of Termination: .....	5
3.06 Conveyance of Assets:.....	5
3.07 Rebate of User Fees: .....	6
ARTICLE 4 – FINANCE AND FUNDING .....	6
4.00 Financial and Funding Relationship: .....	6
4.01 Use of Revenue:.....	6
4.02 Further Agreements Authorized: .....	8
4.03 Cost of Services: .....	8
4.04 Setting of Stormwater Utility User Fee Rate (SFU's): .....	8
4.05 Plan Review and Site Inspection: .....	9
4.06 Coordination of Services: .....	9
ARTICLE 5 – ADMINISTRATION OF STORMWATER UTILITY .....	9
5.00 Stormwater Utility: .....	9
5.01 Stormwater Management Plan:.....	9
5.02 Relationship of Plan to Agreement:.....	9
5.03 Stormwater Utility User Fees: .....	9

5.04	County Responsibilities:	10
5.05	Delivery of Services:	11
5.06	Coordination with Other Jurisdictions:	12
5.07	Qualifications and Extents of Service:	12
5.08	Fee Credits:	12
5.09	Easements:	12
ARTICLE 6: STORMWATER ORDINANCES AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS		13
6.00	Applicable Standards:	13
6.01	State or Federal Laws or Regulations:	13
6.02	Regulatory Obligations of the Town:	13
6.03	Plan Review and Site Inspection:	13
ARTICLE 7 – NPDES MS4 PHASE II PERMIT COMPLIANCE		14
7.00	NPDES Compliance:	14
7.01	Roles and Responsibilities:	14
7.02	Coordination of Activities:	14
7.03	Annual Reporting:	14
7.04	Permit Related Costs:	14
ARTICLE 8 – DATA ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT		15
8.00	Roles and Responsibilities:	15
8.01	Cost Sharing:	15
8.02	Data Sharing:	15
8.03	Data Types:	15
ARTICLE 9 – OTHER AGREEMENTS		15
9.01	Agreement Recommendations:	15
9.02	Agreement approvals:	16
ARTICLE 10 - MISCELLANEOUS		16
10.00	Provisions Applicable to This Agreement:	16
10.01	Binding Effect:	16
10.02	Amendment, Changes and Modifications:	16
10.03	Severability:	16
10.04	Execution in Counterparts:	16
10.05	Applicable Law:	16
10.06	Captions:	16
10.08	Plural/Singular:	16
10.09	No Third Party Beneficiaries:	17
10.10	Notices:	17

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

WHEREAS, this Agreement is made on this 24th day of August, 2011, by and between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, for the purpose of establishing the terms and conditions of the participation by the Town in a county-wide stormwater utility, which utility shall be operated by the County.

**ARTICLE 1 - TITLE AND PURPOSE**

*1.00 Title:* This intergovernmental agreement between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, shall be known as the “Storm Water Management and Utility Agreement Between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina.”

*1.01 Purpose:* This Agreement is made for the purpose of defining the roles, responsibilities and financial relationship between the County and the Town with respect to the establishment, administration and operation of the Beaufort County Stormwater Utility, which includes the following:

- (a) Establishment of rates;
- (b) Use of revenue;
- (c) Acquisition of existing storm water infrastructure;
- (d) Construction of new storm water infrastructure;
- (e) Maintenance of storm water infrastructure;
- (f) Operation of storm water infrastructure;
- (g) Regulation and use of stormwater infrastructure; and,
- (h) Enhancement of water quality.

*1.02 References to County Ordinances:* This Agreement hereby incorporates by reference Beaufort County, South Carolina, Ordinances 2005-33 2008-29, and 2009-21 regarding the establishment of a Stormwater Utility. In the case of any conflict between the provisions of the Ordinances and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall control.

## **ARTICLE 2 - DEFINITIONS**

*2.00 Definitions:* When used in this “Stormwater Management and Utility Agreement between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina,” the following words shall have the meanings set forth in this Article 2:

*2.01 Agreement:* This Stormwater Management and Utility Agreement between Beaufort County, South Carolina, and the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina.

*2.02 County:* Beaufort County, South Carolina.

*2.03 County Wide Stormwater Management Study:* The study conducted by the County to determine the drainage infrastructure and maintenance needs within the various watersheds within the County. This became the Beaufort County Stormwater Master Plan dated February 20, 2006.

*2.04 Cost of Service Analysis and Rate Study:* The study conducted by the County which was adopted by County Council August 22, 2005 to determine an equitable and appropriate rate structure for Stormwater Utility User Fees within all areas of the County, so that fees charged by the Stormwater Utility will be in compliance with provisions of S. C. Code Ann. 48-14-120(C)(Supp. 2010), and S. C. Regs. 72-310 (Supp. 2010).

2.05 *Stormwater Utility Service Fee; Single Family Unit Rate (SFU).* The single-family unit fee rate shall be defined as the impervious area measurements obtained from a statistically representative sample of all detached single-family structures within Beaufort County. The representative value will be 4,906 square feet.

2.06 *NPDES:* The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System stormwater regulatory program established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency to address pollutants in stormwater discharged to waters of the United States. Phase II of this regulatory program will impact communities under 100,000 population, small construction sites between one acres and five acres, and industrial sites owned and operated within communities under 100,000 population.

2.07 *Public Stormwater:* Stormwater runoff which is conveyed through a public drainage easement or public road right of way, and/or which some portion is generated from a public road right of way.

2.08 *Stormwater Infrastructure:* Real property, interests in real property, improvements to real property such as ditches, drains, pipes, culverts, catch basins, pumps, or the like, or any combination of them, used or useful in the collection and disbursement of storm and surface water, or the control of flooding. As used herein, Stormwater Infrastructure does not include drainage systems or facilities that are not publicly owned, and which do not carry public stormwater.

2.09 *Stormwater Management:* Control of storm and surface water, erosion, storm water quality protection and flooding through the use of Stormwater Infrastructure, and the creation and enforcement of development standards related to storm and surface water.

2.09 *Stormwater Management Plan:* The plan developed by the County that addresses planning, design and construction of capital improvements to the Stormwater Infrastructure; acquisition of real property or interests in real property for the purposes of Stormwater Management; maintenance and repair of Stormwater Infrastructure; regulation of the use of Stormwater Infrastructure; acquisition of equipment and other assets; regulation of impacts including any that may be mandated under the NPDES Phase II regulations, contracting with engineering, financial, legal, construction and other professionals for services in support of the Stormwater Utility, emergency preparedness related to storms and hurricanes, acquisition or construction of Stormwater Infrastructure, or any other functions required, useful or prudent for a program of Stormwater Management.

2.10 *Stormwater Utility User Fees:* Stormwater Utility User Fees shall mean the service fee imposed pursuant to this article for the purpose of funding costs related to stormwater programs, services, systems, and facilities. These fees will be calculated based upon the residential category for a parcel and/or the nonresidential parcel's impervious area and/or the vacant/undeveloped land category, as pursuant to the provisions of Beaufort County Ordinance 2005-33.

2.11 *Stormwater Utility:* The administrative organization created for the purposes of planning, designing, overseeing, funding, building, and maintaining Stormwater Infrastructure, either directly or through cooperative arrangements with other governmental bodies; and for administering and managing Stormwater Management throughout Beaufort County.

2.12 *Town:* The Town of Bluffton, South Carolina.

### **ARTICLE 3 - TERM OF THIS AGREEMENT**

3.00 *Term of This Agreement:* The term and duration of this Agreement shall be as follows in



this Article 3.

*3.01 Initial Term of this Agreement:* The Initial Term of this Agreement shall be for a period of ten (10) years, commencing on the date of the execution hereof.

*3.02 Periodic Review of this Agreement:* The Beaufort County Stormwater Management Plan Implementation Committee shall conduct periodic review of this Agreement to insure that it remains current with the state of the art stormwater management and practices and shall provide recommendations for updates to the agreement if necessary.

*3.03 Extension of this Agreement:* The term of this Agreement may be extended at any time by the mutual agreement of the parties hereto, or upon the expiration of the initial ten (10) year term set forth in Article 3.01 above.

*3.04 Termination of this Agreement:* This Agreement may be terminated by either party hereto, by delivering written notice of the termination to the other party. Termination under this Article shall only be effective on the final day of any given County fiscal year. The written notice of termination shall be provided by the party terminating the Agreement no less than one hundred eighty days prior to the date the termination will be effective.

*3.05 Effect of Termination:* Upon termination of this Agreement under any provision of this Article 3, or otherwise, all rights and obligations of any party hereto, specifically including but not limited to the right of the County to charge Stormwater Utility User Fees to property owners in the Town, shall immediately end.

*3.06 Conveyance of Assets:* Upon termination of this Agreement under any provision of this Article 3, the County shall convey to the Town all of its right, title and interest in any Stormwater Infrastructure, including any storm water easements, within the municipal limits of

the Town. However, this shall not include Stormwater Infrastructure on County owned parcels or County road rights of way within the limits of the Town.

*3.07 Rebate of User Fees:* Upon termination of this Agreement under any provision of this Article 3, the County shall return to the Town any collected but unspent or unobligated Stormwater Utility User Fees collected from within the Town Limits.

**ARTICLE 4 – FINANCE AND FUNDING**

*4.00 Financial and Funding Relationship:* The Town shall provide the County with its Stormwater Utility User Fee collection Rate for its fiscal year prior to August 15 each year of this Agreement. This will be in the form of a letter to the County Administrator from the Town Manager. In the event that the Town fails to submit this letter in accordance with Article 4 of this agreement, the previous year’s rate shall apply. If requested by the County, the Town shall also provide to the County an annual report of its storm water fee expenditures for each fiscal year.

*4.01 Use of Revenue:* In accordance with the provisions of S. C. Code Ann. 48-14-120(C) (Supp. 2010), and S. C. Regs. 72-310 (Supp. 2010), all Stormwater Utility User Fees collected within the Town, less an administrative fee, shall be returned to the Town. The administrative fee is to be calculated as a fixed dollar amount for each equivalent single family unit (SFU) billed and collected by the Stormwater Utility. The Utility shall define its administrative costs each year during the annual budget process. For fiscal year 2012 the fee shall be \$2.80 per Single Family Unit (SFU) base rate applied to the fee paying lands within the limits of the Town. After FY 2012, the Beaufort County Stormwater Management Plan

Implementation Committee shall conduct annual reviews of the Utility's administrative budget and recommend any changes to the amount billed per SFU and the Utility shall provide the Town and itemized proposal for the administrative services and deliverables to be provided in the coming fiscal year. This proposal shall be submitted to the Town by March 15 of each calendar year. The Town shall provide a written recommendation of acceptance to the Utility by April 15 of the same year. This shall serve as the basis for the annual administrative fee to be calculated per Town SFU, and included in each entity's annual budget.

(a) The administrative fee shall be used by the County to defray the County's administrative cost in managing the Stormwater Utility.

(b) The Town shall use Stormwater Utility User Fees to provide Stormwater Management within the Town, including, but not limited to:

(i) The acquisition, design, construction, and maintenance of Stormwater Infrastructure, or repayment of bonded indebtedness issued to fund construction of Stormwater Infrastructure, in so far as the law and covenants of the bonds allow, or for repayment to the Town for general fund or other funds spent by the Town to fund Stormwater Management activities;

(ii) Acquisition of Stormwater Infrastructure, including any easements or other interests in real property which shall be held in the name of the Town;

(iii) Maintenance of Stormwater Infrastructure by the Town and its contractor(s,) or by direct services of the Stormwater Utility. Charges for services by the Stormwater Utility; shall be negotiated and approved by the County and

the Town, as is provided in Articles 4.03, 4.05(a), 5.05, and 5.07 below; The Town shall have the right of non exclusive use of direct maintenance services, and there shall be no minimum dollar amount required to be spent annually by the Town on any services provided by the Stormwater Utility;

(iv) Plan review and site inspections related to compliance with stormwater ordinances and standards for development within the Town as set forth in Articles 4.05, 4.06 and 4.07 below;

(v) NPDES Phase II permit compliance;

(vi) Payment of bond indebtedness or repayment of funds borrowed from the general fund or any other fund; and,

(vii) Any other services related to Stormwater Management.

*4.02 Further Agreements Authorized:* The Town and the County may negotiate and enter into agreements to share costs and responsibilities related to NPDES permit compliance. Such agreements and cost allocations shall be reflected in each entities annual budget and must be authorized by the Town Council and County Council.

*4.03 Cost of Services:* If the Town chooses to utilize the direct services of the Stormwater Utility, however described, they shall be accounted for at the County's actual cost of the equipment, materials, and personnel utilized in the delivery of the services.

*4.04 Setting of Stormwater Utility User Fee Rate (SFU's):* The Town shall be responsible each year for setting the Storm Water Utility User Fee Rate to be assessed on parcels within the Town. The Stormwater Utility User Fee rate shall be set in accordance with S. C. Code Ann. 48-14-120(C) (Supp. 2010), and S. C. Regs. 72-310(G) (Supp. 2010), or any other applicable law or

regulation.

*4.05 Plan Review and Site Inspection:* For all activities that constitute development within Town limits, the Town will provide review of plans and site inspections to ensure compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances and regulations.

*4.06 Coordination of Services:* The Town shall identify a representative of its staff to serve as the contact person and coordinator for Stormwater Management Services, including services provided by the County within the Town, long range planning and water quality initiatives such as the NPDES Phase II requirements compliance, notification of problems, facilitating access within any planned or future Planned Unit Developments within the Town, and advising the County on site-specific conditions within the Town.

#### **ARTICLE 5 – ADMINISTRATION OF STORMWATER UTILITY**

*5.00 Stormwater Utility:* The County has established a Stormwater Utility that administers funds and conducts a Stormwater Management program throughout the County.

*5.01 Stormwater Management Plan:* The County shall have the responsibility to maintain the Stormwater Management Plan to be administered by the Stormwater Utility .

*5.02 Relationship of Plan to Agreement:* The Stormwater Management Plan developed and maintained by the Stormwater Utility shall incorporate the obligations of the County and Town under this Agreement. In the case of any conflict between the provisions of the Stormwater Management Plan and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall control.

*5.03 Stormwater Utility User Fees:* The Stormwater Utility shall bill and collect parcel based Stormwater Utility User Fees from property owners, tenants, or other appropriate parties, pursuant to its authority and subject to any intergovernmental agreements, including this

Agreement, and may also apply for, acquire and use any other funding from any public or private source in support of the Stormwater Management Plan as allowed by law.

*5.04 County Responsibilities:* The County, through the Stormwater Utility, shall have the following responsibilities:

(a) *Collection and Distribution of Fees:* Stormwater Utility User Fees within the Town limits shall be charged and collected by the County in accordance with the provisions of Article 4.0 of this Agreement; the Stormwater Utility User Fees shall be collected in accordance with S. C. Code Ann. 48-14-120(C) (Supp. 2010), and S. C. Regs. 72-310(G) (Supp. 2010), or any other applicable law or regulation, and shall not include provisions for relief from the payment of the Stormwater Utility User Fees; the County shall distribute the Town's Stormwater Utility User Fees less the County administrative costs as defined in Article 4.01, in the same manner as ad valorem taxes are distributed for each year this Agreement is in effect;

(b) *Provision of Services:* Provision of the services required under this Agreement.

(c) *Budgeting and Expenditure:* Setting the budget for the Stormwater Utility, and spending the revenues in accordance with any applicable ordinances or agreements, including this Agreement;

(d) *Administrative Activities:* Managing all administrative activities of the Stormwater Utility, including but not limited to, fee assessment, collection and distribution, maintenance of accounting records, maintenance of storm water data,

implementation of the master plan, acquisition of easements, coordination with other agencies, reporting to the storm water utility board;

(e) *Accounting:* Maintaining an accounting of revenues and expenditures on a jurisdictional or geographic basis, as may be set or described under any applicable ordinance or agreement, including this Agreement, the County shall provide the Town with an itemized annual accounting of all Stormwater Utility User Fees within the Town limits in the form of a budget report, including but not limited to: how parcel fees were determined, calculated, and assessed; total fees collected; total Administrative costs retained by the County; total fees in arrears, on which parcels and the status of the collection attempt(s) on such parcels; fee credits applied for; fee credits paid; and fees that required adjustment since the last billing. This budget report shall be parcel based and provided to the Town annually prior to February 15 throughout the term of this agreement as a electronic document compatible with the most current version of Microsoft Office. The County shall also maintain an annual accounting of all administrative costs associated with operating the Utility. Either the Town or County, at the sole expense of the requesting jurisdiction, may request a professional audit of any of the budget reports;

(f) *Operation and Maintenance:* At the direction and approval of the Town, provide for the operation and maintenance of Stormwater Infrastructure within the Town; and,

5.05 *Delivery of Services:* The County shall coordinate the delivery of services hereunder

through the Town Manager or his designee, via a Job Order Process as agreed to by the Town and County. All delivery of County services upon parcels within the Town limits shall be approved in writing by the Town before any work is performed or any funds may be returned to the County, and all delivery of storm water infrastructure services within County Rights of Ways shall be coordinated with the Town.

*5.06 Coordination with Other Jurisdictions:* From time to time a need for coordination between all incorporated jurisdictions within the County and the County may occur, and it shall be the responsibility of the County to facilitate such coordination. The County will work with designated representatives from all jurisdictions within the County to ensure effective communication regarding issues impacting the Stormwater Infrastructure and the Stormwater Management Plan.

*5.07 Qualifications and Extents of Service:* Stormwater infrastructure in road Rights of Ways, whether Federal, State, County or Municipal, shall be maintained by the owner, as these areas are exempt from Stormwater Utility User Fees per Section 99-109 (b) of County Ordinance 2005-33. The Town shall retain the right to determine the qualifications for, extent of, and level of service required to maintain the Stormwater Infrastructure within the limits of the Town, with the exception of County and State road Rights of Way, which shall be designed and maintained in accordance with their current standards.

*5.08 Fee Credits:* The Town shall have the authority to review and comment on all County stormwater fee credit applications requested upon parcels within the Town limits.

*5.09 Easements:* The Town and County will allow mutual blanket encroachments upon each other's existing easements, but only to enable the Town and/or County to perform stormwater



utility related work within the limits of the Town.

**ARTICLE 6: STORMWATER ORDINANCES AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS**

*6.00 Applicable Standards:* The current hydrologic and hydraulic engineering and design standards of the Town shall prevail in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of any portion of the Stormwater Infrastructure within the Town, unless superseded by the hydrologic and hydraulic engineering and design standards of the County or State, as may be required for specific work performed in County or State rights of way.

*6.01 State or Federal Laws or Regulations:* The Town and the County shall at all times comply with any applicable State or Federal Laws or regulations relating to Stormwater Management, Stormwater Infrastructure, erosion control or pollution.

*6.02 Regulatory Obligations of the Town:* The Town and County shall adopt and enforce ordinances and development standards as necessary to comply with State and Federal standards regarding stormwater management, erosion and sedimentation, pollution control, and flooding. Minimum water quality controls in jurisdictions shall be protective enough to reach and maintain state designated water uses.

*6.03 Plan Review and Site Inspection:* The Town and the County shall be responsible for the review and approval of all development plans within their respective jurisdictions, to ensure that all applicable regulations pertaining to construction site erosion, sedimentation, and pollution control as well to post-construction stormwater quantity and quality control are met. Each jurisdiction shall be responsible for providing inspections during construction to ensure that construction is following the approved development plan.

## ARTICLE 7 – NPDES MS4 PHASE II PERMIT COMPLIANCE

7.00 *NPDES Compliance:* Should the Town be designated by the State of South Carolina for compliance with the NPDES program, the Town shall be responsible for the development of the NPDES MS4 Phase II permit application, the development of Best Management Practices required by the permit, and the implementation of the program of Best Management Practices set forth in the permit.

7.01 *Roles and Responsibilities:* The Town and County shall hold separate NPDES MS4 Phase II permits and shall each be responsible for maintaining compliance with their respective permit requirements.

7.02 *Coordination of Activities:* It is expected that some aspects of NPDES MS4 Phase II requirements will lend themselves to coordination and cooperation between the Town and the County. In such instances, coordination between the Town and the County shall be on the basis of a specific Minimum Control Measure (MCM) and shall be established by a separate written agreement that specifies the objectives, product deliverables, schedules, funding distribution, and the roles and responsibilities of each party in addressing these measures.

7.03 *Annual Reporting:* The Town and County will each be responsible for preparing an annual report documenting the activities undertaken in support of NPDES MS4 Phase II permit requirements during the previous year and submitting the report to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

7.04 *Permit Related Costs:* All costs related to the NPDES MS4 Phase II permit shall be borne by the permit holder. In instances where the Town and County coordinate to meet permit requirements, costs may be shared on a basis that is detailed in a separate written agreement.

## **ARTICLE 8 – DATA ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT**

8.00 *Roles and Responsibilities:* The Town and County shall each be responsible for acquiring and maintaining data sets that are relevant to Stormwater Management in their respective jurisdictions.

8.01 *Cost Sharing:* Cost sharing agreements for data acquisition may be made between the Town and County on a project-specific basis. The terms and details of any cost sharing agreement shall be detailed in a separate written agreement between the Town and County.

8.02 *Data Sharing:* The Town and County shall share acquired data at the request of the other. In such instances the Town and County will agree to abide by each entity's current data distribution policy.

8.03 *Data Types:* Types of data that the Town and County will acquire, maintain, and may share include but are not limited to, GIS data, aerial photography, LIDAR data, water quality monitoring data, stream gage data, financial and accounting data.

## **ARTICLE 9 – OTHER AGREEMENTS**

9.00 *Scope and cost sharing:* From time to time various projects may be shared in scope and/or cost between the County and the Town, or the County and multiple Municipalities within the County via Memos of Understanding, Contracts, and/or Joint Resolutions.

9.01 *Agreement Recommendations:* The Stormwater Implementation Committee shall be the vehicle whereby agreements of project scope and cost sharing between the County and multiple Municipalities within the County are reviewed and recommended to the Municipalities and County. For agreements solely between the Town and the County, the Stormwater Implementation Committee Review is not required.

9.02 *Agreement approvals:* Other agreements between the County and the Town must be approved by the Town Council and the County Council or their designees.

## ARTICLE 10 - MISCELLANEOUS

10.00 *Provisions Applicable to This Agreement:* The following general provisions are applicable to this Agreement:

10.01 *Binding Effect:* This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the Town and County and their respective successors and assigns, if any are permitted hereunder.

10.02 *Amendment, Changes and Modifications:* Except as otherwise provided herein, this Agreement may not be effectively amended, changed, modified or altered without the written consent of the Town and the County.

10.03 *Severability:* In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision hereof.

10.04 *Execution in Counterparts:* This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

10.05 *Applicable Law:* This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina.

10.06 *Captions:* The captions or headings herein are for convenience only and in no way define, limit or describe the scope or intent of any provisions or sections of this Agreement.

10.08 *Plural/Singular:* Where appropriate, the use of the singular herein shall include and be deemed to be the plural, and the use of the plural herein shall be deemed to include the singular.

*10.09 No Third Party Beneficiaries:* The Town and the County hereto affirmatively represent that this Agreement is made solely for the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns and not for the benefit of any third party who is not a signature party hereto. No party other than the signature parties and their respective successors and assigns hereto shall have any enforceable rights hereunder, or have any right to the enforcement hereof, or any claim for damages as a result of any alleged breach hereof.

*10.10 Notices:* All notices, applications, requests, certificates or other communications hereunder shall be sufficiently given and shall be deemed given when delivered in person, or mailed by regular first class mail, postage prepaid (in such case, delivery shall be deemed complete upon mailing), addressed as follows, or to such other place as may be designated in writing by the parties.

To the Town:           THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON  
Anthony Barrett, Town Manager  
20 Bridge Street,  
PO Box 386  
Bluffton, SC 29928

To the County:        BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA  
Gary Kubic, Manager  
Post Office Box 1128  
Beaufort, SC, 29902

10.11 *No Waiver:* No failure of either party hereto to exercise any power or right given to such party hereunder, or to insist on strict compliance by any other party to its obligations hereunder, and no custom or practice of the parties at variance with the terms hereof shall constitute a waiver of any party's right to thereafter demand strict compliance with the terms of this Agreement.

10.12 *Further Assurances and Corrective Documents:* The Town and the County agree to do, execute, acknowledge, deliver or cause to be done all such further acts as may be reasonably determined to be necessary to carry out this Agreement and give effect to the provisions hereof. The Town and the County agree that each shall, upon request, execute and deliver such other or corrective documents as may be reasonably determined to be necessary to carry out this Agreement and each of the provisions hereof.

In Witness Whereof, The Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, and Beaufort County, South Carolina, by and through their duly authorized officers, have set their hands and seals on this 24th day of August, 2011.

WITNESSES:

THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON,  
SOUTH CAROLINA

BW Jones

By: Anthony W. Barrett

Anthony Barrett, Town Manager

Paul R. Coz

Attest: Jon Ball

WITNESSES:

BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

Breen More

By: Gary Kubic

Gary Kubic, County Administrator

Suzanne Larsson

Attest: Cheryl Harris