RESOLUTION 97-82

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN SUPPORT OF A BUDGET APPROPRIATION TO FUND ACQUISITION OF FIVE (5) ACRES OF LAND FOR EXPANSION OF THE WHITNEY LABORATORY AT MARINELAND, FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, the Whitney Laboratory at Marineland is a valuable resource to the Citizens of St. Johns County; and

WHEREAS, expansion of the physical plant of the Whitney Laboratory would promote opportunities in education and public outreach programs beyond present levels; and

WHEREAS, the Whitney Laboratory is being considered as a potential headquarters site for the National Estuarine Research Reserve; and

WHEREAS, the Whitney Laboratory is situated near the “Outstanding Florida Waters” of the Pellicer Creek Aquatic Preserve; and

WHEREAS, the Whitney Laboratory is located partially in both St. Johns and Flagler Counties; and

WHEREAS, expansion of the Whitney Laboratory is essential to keep pace with emerging education and biotechnological opportunities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County supports line item appropriation 206 D in Senate Bill 2400, which authorizes $500,000 for property acquisition at Whitney Laboratory, and strongly encourages the Governor of the State of Florida, the Honorable Lawton Chiles, to sign, or let become law, SB2400.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, State of Florida, this 27th day of May, 1997.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: [Signature] Chairman

ATTEST: Cheryl Strickland

BY: [Signature] Deputy Clerk