

# Office of

# INDIAN RIVER COUNTY ATTORNEY

Dylan Reingold, County Attorney William K. DeBraal, Deputy County Attorney Susan J. Prado, Assistant County Attorney

#### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Dylan Reingold, County Attorney

**DATE:** February 14, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Attorney for Indian River County Code Enforcement Board

#### BACKGROUND.

Florida law provides that the County Attorney cannot represent both the Code Enforcement Board ("CEB") and the Code Enforcement Officers presenting cases before the CEB. On June 10, 2014, the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners approved a contract with Jennifer D. Peshke to serve as the attorney to the CEB at the then current hourly rate of \$181 for the first hour and \$100 for each hour thereafter. That had been the rate for at least three years with the prior attorney to the CEB and with Ms. Peshke in her interim service as attorney to the CEB. Ms. Peshke has continued to serve as the CEB attorney under that contract.

The County Attorney's Office has worked with Ms. Peshke to draft a new a contract. The new contract increases the hourly rate to \$225 for the first hour and \$175 for each hour thereafter. The County Attorney's Office believes that increasing the hourly rate is appropriate after over 10 years. Also, the new contract formally allows Ms. Peshke to have an attorney attend the meetings in her absence, which has inevitably happened over the past seven plus years. Finally, the contract clarifies some of her duties.

## **FUNDING.**

Funds for this expenditure are provided from the County Attorney's Office budget in the General Fund. Expenses total approximately \$7,000 per year. Account number 00110214-033110, County Attorney-Legal Services.

## RECOMMENDATION.

The County Attorney recommends that the Board approve the new contract with Attorney Jennifer D. Peshke and authorize the chairman to sign the attached legal services agreement.

#### ATTACHMENT.