

# Indian River County Florida

*Indian River County Administration Complex  
1801 27th Street, Building A  
Vero Beach, Florida, 32960-3388  
www.ircgov.com*



## **Solid Waste Disposal District Meeting Minutes - Draft**

**Tuesday, June 8, 2021**

**Commission Chambers**

### **Board of Commissioners**

*Chairman, Joseph E. Flescher, District 2  
Vice Chairman, Peter D. O'Bryan, District 4  
Commissioner Susan Adams, District 1  
Commissioner Joseph H. Earman, District 3  
Commissioner Laura Moss, District 5*

**Jason E. Brown, County Administrator  
Dylan Reingold, County Attorney  
Jeffrey R. Smith, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller  
Rhonda D. Zirkle, Deputy Clerk**

**B. Solid Waste Disposal District**

The Board of County Commissioners reconvened as the Board of Commissioners of the Solid Waste Disposal District. The minutes will be approved at an upcoming Solid Waste Disposal District meeting.

**15.B.1. 21-0592** American Rescue Plan Funding for Leachate Treatment Project at the IRC Landfill

**Recommended Action:** Staff offers the following two option for the Solid Waste Disposal District Board's (SWDD) consideration: a) Direct staff to continue to finalize a contract for a leachate treatment project between Indian River County SWDD and the developers, consisting of Heartland Water Technology, Inc., Proximo Energy, and Indian River Eco District, LLC, including the original 60 days for negotiations to be approved by the SWDD Board at a future meeting; or, b) Pursue the eligibility and funding through the American Rescue Plan Act, which will require a competitive procurement process of the Leachate Treatment Project. Staff recommends Option B.

**Attachments:** [Staff Report](#)

Director of Utility Services Vincent Burke referred to staff's memorandum dated June 3, 2021, to update the Board on the leachate treatment project and to discuss the financial concerns and options for moving the project forward.

Commissioner Adams inquired with staff about using American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds, the cost share required with grant funding, and the timeline involved with following federal procurement procedures. She voiced her concern that delaying the process would not improve the leachate problem and could be very costly. She made mention of the successful pilot project that was done by Heartland Water Technology, Inc.

Commissioner Earman received confirmation from County Administrator Jason Brown of the requirement to go out for bid if the Board wanted to use ARP funds, and that the ARP funds could be used for other projects if the Board chose not to use the funds on the leachate treatment project due to the time restraint.

Vice Chairman O'Bryan and Administrator Brown discussed using ARP funds for septic-to-sewer projects, which would free up sales tax dollars to lessen the 9-10% increase per household that would be necessary to fund the leachate project. Administrator Brown pointed out that the County must own the infrastructure in order to use the ARP funds.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman O'Bryan, seconded by Commissioner Adams, to approve Option A, to direct staff to continue to finalize a contract for a leachate treatment project between Indian River County SWDD and the developers, consisting of Heartland Water Technology, Inc., Proximo Energy, and Indian River Eco District, LLC, including the original 60 days for negotiations to be approved by the SWDD Board at a future meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman O'Bryan, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss