



# Indian River County, Florida

Indian River County  
Administration Complex  
1801 27th Street  
Vero Beach, Florida 32960  
indianriver.gov

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Board of County Commissioners

*Joseph Flescher, District 2, Chairman*

*Deryl Loar, District 4, Vice Chairman*

*Susan Adams, District 1*

*Joseph H. Earman, District 3*

*Laura Moss, District 5*

**John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator**

**Jennifer W. Shuler, County Attorney**

**Ryan L. Butler, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller**

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Tuesday, October 21, 2025

9:00 AM

Commission Chambers

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#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

**Present:** 5 - Chairman Joseph Flescher  
Vice Chairman Deryl Loar  
Commissioner Susan Adams  
Commissioner Joe Earman  
Commissioner Laura Moss

#### 2.A. A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

#### 2.B. INVOCATION

**Stan Boling, Gracespring Covenant Baptist Church**

#### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**Commissioner Susan Adams**

#### 4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA / EMERGENCY ITEMS

**A motion was made by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Adams, to approve the Agenda as amended, deleting Item 12.A. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

#### 5. PROCLAMATIONS and PRESENTATIONS

- 5.A. [25-1014](#) Presentation Honoring the 2025-2026 Indian River County Fire Rescue Lieutenant, Sergeant, Engineer, Firemedic, Inspector and Unit of the Year

**Recommended Action:** Recommend Read & Present.

**Attachments:** [Proclamation](#)

Commissioner Earman honored the 2025-2026 Indian River County Fire Rescue Lieutenant, Sergeant, Engineer, Fire Medic, Inspector, and Unit of the year:

Fire Medic: Luis Bustamante

Rescue Sergeant: Allison Baird

Engineer: Nicole Morris

Lieutenant: Jason Judson

Unit: Fire Rescue: Christopher Matherly, Justin Gonzalez, and Julian Catalano

Inspector: Alex Norat

Director of Emergency Services Chief David Johnson acknowledged and thanked the Board for recognizing the Annual Award Winners, who were chosen for their exemplary service and dedication to the department's mission. He compared the selection process to choosing a favorite child, emphasizing the difficulty of honoring the top performers while recognizing the hard work of all department members.

Chairman Flescher also expressed gratitude, particularly to the families of the award winners, noting the long hours and shifts they endure and the impact on their families resulting from their commitment to community service.

**Read and presented by Commissioner Earman**

## 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 6.A. [25-1021](#) Regular Meeting of August 19, 2025

**Recommended Action:** Approve

**Attachments:** [08192025 BCC Draft](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Adams, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2025, as written. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

## 7. INFORMATION ITEMS FROM STAFF OR COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

- 7.A. [25-0994](#) Notice of Extension to Contract for Construction of Required Roadway Improvements (Re: Right-Of-Way Permit No. 2021071201) - Project: Wisteria Walk PD - Developer: GRBK GHO WISTERIA WALK, LLC

**Recommended Action:** Informational only, no Board action required

**No Action Taken or Required**

- 7.B. [25-1011](#) Children’s Services Advisory Committee Vacancy

**Recommended Action:** Review

Commissioner Moss announced that staff was actively seeking applications. Anyone interested in applying was encouraged to do so and could easily submit their application through the website IndianRiver.gov.

**No Action Taken or Required**

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT: AGENDA-RELATED MATTERS (EXCEPT FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS)**

**9. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Vice Chairman Loar, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

- 9.A. [25-0979](#) Approval of Checks and Electronic Payments September 20, 2025 to September 26, 2025

**Recommended Action:** Approve the list of checks and electronic payments for the time period of September 20, 2025 to September 26, 2025

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

**Approved**

- 9.B. [25-0929](#) Children's Services Advisory Committee's Recommendation of Request for Proposal, Grant Application and Agency Grant Contract for FY 2026-2027

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Board accept the RFP, the Grant Application, and the Agency Grant Contract for FY 2026-2027 as submitted and authorize the County Administrator to execute the individual contracts after review and approval by the County Attorney.

**Attachments:** [Children's Services Request for Proposal](#)  
[Children's Services Grant Application](#)  
[Children's Services Grant Contract](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

- 9.D. [25-0981](#) Bathroom Renovations Indian River County Main Library and North County Library, IRC-2403 – Revision to Correct Account Designation and Totals

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Board approve the change in contract price and corrected project figures.

**Attachments:** [Originally Approved Staff Report](#)  
[Award Letter](#)  
[Approved Bid Schedule](#)  
[Change Order 1](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

- 9.E. [25-0982](#) Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department – Ocean Rescue Division Policy and Operation Standards

**Recommended Action:** Staff respectfully requests that the Board approve the Indian River County Policy and Operations Standards Manual for the Ocean Rescue Division, subject to any modifications identified by the Teamsters Union via impact bargaining, if any, and authorize the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Director to approve administrative, non-substantive updates to the Standard Operating Procedures, when needed.

**Attachments:** [Ocean Rescue SOP 2025.docx](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

- 9.F. [25-0985](#) Maintenance Memorandum of Agreement and Locally Funded Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for the Painting of Mast Arms, FM No.: 4493322-1-52-01

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners approve the authorizing resolution for acceptance of the Locally Funded Agreement (LFA) in the amount of \$48,540.00 and the Maintenance Memorandum Agreement (MMOA) and authorize the Chairman to execute the same.

**Attachments:** [Maintenance Memorandum Of Agreement](#)  
[Locally Funded Agreement](#)  
[Approving Resolution](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation and Resolution 2025-062, authorizing the Chairman's execution of a Locally Funded Agreement (FLA) FM No. 449332-1-52-01 with the Florida Department of Transportation for Mast Arm painting.**

- 9.G. [25-0989](#) Florida Department of Environmental Protection Consent Order/Settlement Agreement 22-0150 for the Indian River County Department of Utility Services Wastewater Collections System

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners:

- A. Authorize the Chairman to execute Consent Order 22-0150.
- B. Authorize staff to pay the \$500.00 administrative investigation fee to FDEP within 30 days of the effective date of the consent order.
- C. Approve staff to finalize the negotiation of the pollution prevention project as outlined in consent order 22-0150.

**Attachments:** [Consent Order 22-0150](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

9.H. [25-0990](#) Florida Power & Light Easements  
Sandridge Golf Club – New Clubhouse

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners approve the easements to Florida Power & Light in accordance with the attached sketch and description, authorize the County Attorney's office to finalize the legal documents to record the approved easement and authorize the Chair to execute the final legal documents to effectuate the granting of the approved easement.

**Attachments:** [FPL Overhead Easement](#)  
[FPL Underground Easement](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

9.I. [25-0992](#) Florida Gas Transmission Encroachment Agreement – Amendment 1  
Indian River County Fire Station 7 (IRC-1911)

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Florida Gas Transmission Company, LLC, and authorize the Chair to execute the final legal documents of the approved agreement.

**Attachments:** [Station 7 Firehouse Encroachment Amendment](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

9.J. [25-0993](#) Designation of Excess Equipment as Surplus and Authorization for  
Disposal and Trade-In

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Board declare the items on the Excess List for 102125 as surplus, and authorize their disposition, as indicated.

**Attachments:** [Excess List for 102125](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

9.K. [25-0997](#) Report Back of Utility Accounts Receivable Bad Debt Write Offs During  
Fiscal Year 2025

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommend that the Board of County Commissioners authorize staff to classify as bad debt expense the \$75,640.41 in penalties and interest that were waived on the settled and completed accounts.

**Attachments:** [Delinquent Accounts](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

- 9.L. [25-0998](#) Change Order - Work Order No. 2018006-19 - APTIM, Sector 3 Hurricanes Ian and Nicole Dune Renourishment 2025 Environmental Monitoring

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the BCC authorize Change Order No. 1 to Work Order No. 2018006-19 in the total lump sum amount of \$15,412.68. Additionally, staff recommends the BCC authorize the Chairman to execute Change Order No. 1 to Work Order No. 2018006-19 on behalf of the BCC.

**Attachments:** [Change Order No. 1 - Work Order No. 2018006-18 Agreement](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

- 9.M. [25-0999](#) Economic Development Council Appointment – IRC Chamber

**Recommended Action:** The County Attorney recommends that the Board review the applicant's résumé and application, and determine whether to appoint her to fill the unexpired term ending in January 2029, for the "Indian River County Chamber Representative" to the Economic Development Council.

**Attachments:** [Application - Beam Andrea](#)

[Resume - BeamAndrea](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

- 9.N. [25-1003](#) IT Policies/Acceptable Use Policy Revision

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommend the Board approve the removal of IT policies AM-1200.01 through AM-1200.20 and the renumbering and revision of the Acceptable Use Policy (previously AM-1200.21, now AM-1200.1) to designate it as the County's primary IT policy and eliminate references to retired policies.

**Attachments:** [Acceptable Use Policy](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

**9.O.**     [25-1006](#)     Resolution Cancelling Taxes on Property Purchased for Public Purpose – Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc.

**Recommended Action:** Authorize the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners to execute the Resolution to cancel certain taxes upon the property purchased by Indian River County for a public purpose, and the Clerk to send a certified copy of the Resolution to the Tax Collector and the Property Appraiser so that any delinquent or current taxes can be cancelled.

**Attachments:**   [Resolution Cancelling Taxes](#)  
                          [Recorded ROW Dedication Deed](#)  
                          [Prorated Tax Payment Receipt](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation and Resolution 2025-063, cancelling certain taxes upon publicly owned lands, pursuant to Section 196.28, Florida Statutes.**

**9.P.**     [25-1007](#)     Award of RFQ 2024030 to Ric-Man Construction Florida, Inc. for Progressive Design-Build Services for Ixora Park Infrastructure Improvements, IRCDUS Project ID 41.23.548

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners approve the Design-Build agreement and award of RFQ 2024030 to Ric-Man Construction Florida, Inc. for Progressive Design-Build Services for Ixora Park Infrastructure Improvements, IRCDUS Project ID 41.23.548, in the amount of \$1,758,399, and authorize the chairman to execute it subject to review and approval by the County Attorney or Assistant County Attorney as to form, and legal sufficiency. So long as there are no changes in the dollar amount under the agreement and upon adequate completion of the work set forth, staff is directed to make final payment and release any retainage to Ric-Man Construction Florida, Inc.

**Attachments:**   [Ixora Park Design Build Agreement](#)  
                          [Ixora Park Pre-construction services](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

**9.Q.**     [25-1008](#)     Second Amendment and Amendment to First Extension to the HireQuestDirectAgreement for Annual Day Labor Services

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Board approve the second amendment and first extension to the agreement with HireQuest Direct and authorize the Chairman to sign it after the County Attorney's approval as to form and legal sufficiency.

**Attachments:**   [HireQuest Second Amendment and Amendment to First Extension](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

- 9.R. [25-1020](#) Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. Work Order 22 for Facilities Electrical Improvements and Standby Power - IRCDUS Project ID 00.25.522

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners approve Work Order 22 to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to provide professional services for the Facilities Electrical Improvements and Standby Emergency Power project, Project ID 00.25.522, in the amount of \$129,734.68, and authorize the County Administrator to execute it, under his authority. So long as there are no changes in the dollar amount under the amount approved, upon adequate completion of the work set forth in the work order, staff is directed to make final payments to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.

**Attachments:** [KHA WO#22](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

- 9.S. [25-1022](#) Sebastian CRA Budget Resolution

**Recommended Action:** None

**Attachments:** [FY26 CRA Budget - Approved 09.24.25](#)

**No Action Taken or Required**

- 9.T. [25-1027](#) Revision to Administrative Policy Manual - AM-301.1 Payroll/Salary Administration

**Recommended Action:** Staff respectfully requests the Board approve the revision to AM-301.1 Payroll/Salary Administration

**Attachments:** [301.1 Payroll and Salary Administration 2025 draft](#)

**Approved staff's recommendation**

## 10. CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS and GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

**10.A.** [25-1013](#) IRC Sheriff's Office FY25/26 Budget Amendment

**Recommended Action:** Please review attached request

**Attachments:** [10.01.25 Budget Amendment](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich requested that the discussion on the proposed budget amendment be postponed until all budget concerns were thoroughly addressed and a clear plan of action was in place.

Commissioner Moss expressed her support for the amendment. She noted that the budget amendment proposal sought \$99,000 in total for stainless-steel inmate toilets and security upgrades. She urged the Board to consider the request and the potential impact of delaying the decision.

Commissioner Earman questioned the need for these expenditures, given the ongoing legal and budget uncertainties surrounding the Sheriff's Office.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Vice Chairman Loar, to postpone the Indian River County Sheriff's Office FY 25/26 Budget Amendment. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, and Commissioner Earman

**Nay:** 2 - Chairman Flescher, and Commissioner Moss

**11. PUBLIC ITEMS****A. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

PROOF OF PUBLICATION FOR THESE HEARINGS ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK TO THE BOARD.

11.A.1. [25-0988](#) First Public Hearing - Proposed Developer's Agreement Between Pulte Home Company, LLC and Indian River County for Emerson Oaks Subdivision

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the Board review the Proposed Developer's Agreement, open the public hearing for comment, close the public hearing and make a motion to bring the Proposed Developer's Agreement back to the Board for the required second public hearing on November 4, 2025.

**Attachments:** [Aerial Photo](#)  
[Emerson Oaks Developer Agreement](#)

Chairman Flescher introduced the parties to the proceeding as Indian River County and Pulte Home Company, LLC. (Pulte) (Applicant). As requested by the Chairman, each Commissioner disclosed ex parte communications, site visits, or independent investigations. The Commissioners also affirmed that they have an open mind and can base their decisions on the evidence presented and the applicable law.

The Deputy Clerk administered the Oath to all persons who wished to speak at the hearing.

The Chairman opened the public hearing.

Deputy County Attorney Susan Prado presented the proposed Emerson Oaks residential development, which included 171 single-family lots located at 43rd Avenue SW and 13th Street SW, to be developed in three phases. Phase 1A featured 7 model home lots, an entrance on 13th Street SW, and a stormwater pond. Phase 1B consisted of 70 lots and an amenity center. Phase 2 included 94 lots and a new entrance on 17th Street SW. To manage anticipated growth, the developer was required to provide various improvements, including dedicating right-of-way, implementing traffic enhancements, and contributing 3.7% toward the future 17th Street SW bridge. A second public hearing was scheduled for November 4, 2025.

Commissioner Moss raised concerns about the Stormwater Treatment Facilities and the associated impact fees outlined in the Developer's Agreement. She highlighted that the agreement's wording, specifically the phrase "minimum applicable" standards set by the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), was insufficient for ensuring effective water treatment. Commissioner Moss advocated adopting practices that aligned with higher standards. In response, Ms. Prado explained that the County was limited to

enforcing only the minimum legal requirements established by SJRWMD and could not impose additional standards beyond those mandated by law.

Acting Planning and Development Services Director Ryan Sweeney responded to Commissioner Moss, clarifying that all public benefits, project-required improvements, and additional elements had already been established in the Planned Development (PD) approval. This process served as a contractual agreement to ensure these components were implemented through the Developer's Agreement. He noted that the right-of-way dedications outlined the minimum requirements, as well as any enhancements beyond them, which applied to contributions for the bridge and other items. All these details had been agreed upon during the original PD approval, and the current agreement facilitated these commitments with the County.

Attorney Logan Wellmeier, representing the Applicant, addressed Commissioner Moss regarding the HOA documents. He stated that these documents would be part of the public record and included in every purchase agreement. He emphasized that regular meetings and assessments would be mandatory for all community residents. Residents would have a clear understanding of the HOA and their responsibilities towards it, eliminating any confusion about the County's obligation to maintain internal roads. Additionally, Mr. Wellmeier noted that the developer's turn lanes effectively mitigated any potential impacts on the area. He highlighted the added benefit of the right-of-way provided on 13th Street SW and 43rd Avenue, which would facilitate the realignment of 13th Street SW. This realignment had been essential for a portion of the Indrio Point project, which was already approved. Furthermore, he noted that their contributions toward the bridge connecting 17th Street created a thoroughfare from east to west. The impact of their project did not mandate these contributions; instead, they represented additional benefits that Pulte offered to the County as a good partner.

Vero Beach resident Lisa Snycerski proposed regulations to ensure that new developments proceed only when current vacant homes are filled, emphasizing that rampant development was not beneficial to wildlife or current residents.

There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

11.A.2. [25-0931](#) Public Hearing - Approval of Resolution Establishing the IRC HCV Program Five Year Plan, Certifications and Administrative Plan

**Recommended Action:** Staff respectfully recommends that the Board of County Commissioners approve the resolution adopting the IRC Housing Choice Voucher Program Five-Year Plan (2026-2030) and Administrative Plan and authorize submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Attachments:** [IRCHSD Administrative Plan 2025](#)  
[Resolution FY 2026 HCV 5 Yr Plan HCV Admin Policy 4.28.25](#)  
[Form-HUD-50075-5Y-for-FL132-ID-3464](#)  
[Form-HUD-50077-CR-for-FL132-ID-3594](#)  
[Form-HUD-50077-SL-for-FL132-ID-4480](#)

Indian River County Housing Services Manager Stacey Bush presented the request for approval of the Housing Choice Voucher Program's (PHA) 5-year Public Housing Agency Plan and Administrative Plan, as mandated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The public review period saw minimal engagement, and no comments were submitted. The Housing Services Division currently managed 439 vouchers, assisting nearly 800 residents, including children, seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities. Ms. Bush also mentioned a request for 10 additional vouchers for the Veterans' Program, which was awaiting HUD's response and had received strong support from the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center and the local Continuum of Care.

Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing.

Resident Lisa Snycerski voiced her support for housing for veterans and other community members.

There being no further comments, the Chairman closed the public hearing.

**A motion was made by Vice Chairman Loar, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve staff's recommendation and Resolution 2025-064, approving the Indian River County Housing Choice Voucher Program Five Year Plan, certifications, and Administrative Plan with the necessary attachments. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

## B. PUBLIC NOTICE ITEMS

- 11.B.1. [25-1009](#) Notice of Scheduled Public Hearing for Budget Amendment 06 for the November 4, 2025 Board Meeting

**Recommended Action:** The referenced public notice item is provided for the Board's information. No action is needed at this time.

**Deputy County Attorney Susan Prado read the notice into the record.**

## 12. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR MATTERS

- 12.A. [25-0996](#) Proposed Commission Meeting Dates for CY 2026

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends approval of the proposed Board of County Commission Regular Meeting dates for the Calendar Year 2026.

**Attachments:** [BoCC Meeting Dates Draft 2026](#)

**Postponed/Continued**

- 12.B. [25-1012](#) Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement between Indian River County Emergency Services District and Indian River County Firefighters/Paramedics Association, Local 2201, IAFF Effective October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2027

**Recommended Action:** Staff respectfully recommends approval of the Agreement and requests that the Board of County Commissioners authorize its Chairman to sign the full Agreement.

**Attachments:** [Proposed IAFF Rank and File Agreement](#)  
[Proposed IAFF Pay Plan](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich presented a two-year agreement featuring a 4% wage increase for eligible employees, effective in October 2025 through September 30, 2027. The contract also included significant increases in paramedic incentives, the introduction of a new Kelly Day to reduce work hours, and additional pay incentives for Rescue Sergeants and dual-certified employees. The tuition assistance fund was increased to support employees pursuing the Florida Paramedic Certification. Administrator Titkanich thanked the Board for their leadership during negotiations, noting successful contracts for both Battalion Chiefs and rank-and-file members. With this agreement, all unions were under contract.

Chairman Flescher expressed gratitude for the collaborative efforts that led to this milestone, emphasizing the importance of communication throughout the process. Commissioner Earman supported the agreement, highlighting the significance of the Kelly Days and educational incentives for young paramedics. Vice Chairman Loar remarked on the collective bargaining process and the pride felt for Indian River County following this agreement.

**Approved staff's recommendation**

**12.C. [25-1015](#)** 2026 Indian River County Legislative Priorities

**Recommended Action:** Review and approve the proposed 2026 Indian River County Legislative Priorities as presented, and to include authorizing staff to take the necessary steps to present a Local Bill at the Indian River County 2026 Delegation Meeting, re: Compensation for Health Care Services for Inmates in Indian River County..

**Attachments:** [Inmate Medical Summary \(20251016\) JT revised](#)  
[Inmate Medical MC HB4007 Analysis](#)

Kathy Copeland, Legislative Affairs and Communications Manager, introduced Kim Sugar and Alexandria Kernan from Arrow Group, highlighting their roles in environmental policy. Ms. Copeland presented slides that outlined the County's Overarching Guiding Principles, including support for County Home Rule. She briefed on upcoming state issues, highlighting significant property tax reform efforts and funding requests for septic-to-sewer conversions. She sought authority to address off-site inmate medical costs, with Representative Brackett agreeing to sponsor a bill aligned with state corrections provisions. She noted state support for the Fellsmere Public Library Community Resource Center, mentioning a donation of land by the City of Fellsmere, and emphasized the need for ongoing funding. Ms. Copeland reminded the Board of crucial federal issues, including the impact of the FEMA Reform Act, and the ongoing inventory of lead pipes in Indian River County, with no current issues found. She stressed the importance of monitoring developments given their potential implications and requested the Board's authorization to proceed with the legislative strategy for 2026, noting the upcoming legislative delegation meeting on October 22, 2025.

Commissioner Adams expressed gratitude to Representative Brackett for agreeing to sponsor the Inmate Medical Bill. She remarked that this was in line with what St. Lucie and Martin counties have also done in the past, and it would help control those costs and protect the County moving forward. Commissioner Adams mentioned Senate Bill 180, noting that there had been discussions about its unintended consequences. She noted that Manatee County had been advocating this issue and had spent the previous week in Tallahassee discussing several topics, with Senate Bill 180 among their main focus points. She thanked Ms. Copeland for her presentation and appreciated how well she represents Indian River County in Tallahassee.

Vice Chairman Loar highlighted that when it came to Inmate Medical Care, the County's representatives were limited to sponsoring only eight bills. As such, the Board should take pride in Representative Brackett's efforts, as this initiative was poised to save taxpayers substantial money.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Moss,**

to approve the legislative priorities as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

The Chairman called for a recess at 10:29 am, and reconvened at 10:45 with all members present.

### **13. DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS**

**A. Building and Facilities Services**

**B. Community Services**

**C. Emergency Services**

**D. Human Resources**

**E. Information Technology**

**F. Natural Resources**

13.F.1. [25-0995](#) Award of Bid 2025060 - Sector 5 Hurricanes Ian and Nicole Beach and Dune Restoration Project

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends that the Sector 5 Hurricanes Ian and Nicole Beach and Dune Restoration Project (Bid 2025060) be awarded to Guettler Brothers Construction LLC, in the amount of \$6,552,025.00 and request that the Board County Commissioners approve the sample agreement and authorize the Chairmen to execute said agreement after review and approval of the agreement by the County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency, and after receipt and approval of the require public construction bond and insurance.

**Attachments:** [Sample Agreement Sector 5 Project](#)  
[APTIM Bid Recommendation Letter](#)

Coastal Resources Manager Quintin Bergman presented the Beach and Dune Restoration Project for Sector 5, which addressed the damage from Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. He presented the proposed construction contract with Guettler Brothers Construction, LLC for this project. The Sector 5 area, a 3.1-mile stretch of critically eroded shoreline from Tracking Station Beach Park to Riomar Beach Access, experienced significant storm damage and ongoing erosion. This large-scale restoration aimed to protect properties and restore wildlife habitats. Mr. Bergman noted that the construction was scheduled for the 2025/2026 window, limited to November 1st to April 30th to avoid disrupting sea turtle nesting. The project involved placing 153,300 cubic yards of beach-compatible sand and installing 117,500 native dune plants.

Commissioner Earman stated that this was presented to the Beach and Shore Preservation Advisory Committee (BSPAC), which had expressed strong support for the project. He acknowledged staff members for their exceptional work.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

**13.F.2. [25-1001](#)** Work Order No. 2018029-14 - APTIM Sector 5 Hurricanes Ian and Nicole Beach and Dune Restoration Project Construction Administration

**Recommended Action:** Staff recommends the BCC authorize Work Order No. 2018029-14 in the total lump sum amount of \$412,630.55. Additionally, staff recommends the BCC authorize the Chairman to execute Work Order No. 2018029-14 after review and approval of the agreement by the County Attorney as to form and legal sufficiency.

**Attachments:** [Work Order No 2018029-14 Agreement with Proposal](#)

Coastal Resources Manager Quintin Bergman presented the proposed contract with APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC. (APTIM) for the Beach and Dune Restoration Project for Sector 5, which addressed the damage from Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. The Sector 5 area, a 3.1-mile stretch of critically eroded shoreline from Tracking Station Beach Park to Riomar Beach Access, experienced significant storm damage and ongoing erosion. This large-scale restoration aimed to protect properties and restore wildlife habitats.

There was no further discussion on the Item.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

**G. Office of Management and Budget**

**H. Parks, Recreation, and Conservation**

13.H.1. [25-1002](#) Environmental Lands Acquisition Status Update Regarding a Purchase Contract – Jungle Trail Island Club Manor

**Attachments:** [Attachment1-Jungle Trail Island Manor Assessment.pdf](#)  
[Attachment2-Jungle Trail Island Manor Appraisals.pdf](#)  
[Attachment 3-Jungle Trail Seller Executed PSA Addendum\(5932026.1\).pdf](#)

*[Clerk Note: Presentation and discussion for this Item was combined with Item 13.H.2.]*

Parks, Recreation & Conservation Director Beth Powell opened the presentation on the Environmental Land Bond Referendum, highlighting the Environmental Land Acquisition Panels' (ELAP) role in reviewing and ranking properties based on their restoration and recreational potential.

Parks, Recreation & Conservation Assistant Director Wendy Swindell presented two Board-approved Tier 1 properties: 1) Jungle Trail Island Club Manor - a 19.6-acre parcel located south of the Captain Forster Hammock Preserve, and 2) Winter Beach 73rd a 36.99-acre property consisting of two parcels adjacent to the Indian River Lagoon, with both uplands and wetlands.

Ms. Swindell discussed various restoration and recreation opportunities for these sites, including restoring herbaceous salt marshes, improving water quality, protecting the Indian River Lagoon, and creating nature trails and a potential kayak launch. She noted there would be a 30-day due diligence period following the November 4, 2025, public hearing.

Commissioner Earman understood that if action was not taken soon, other developers would seize the opportunity to develop the properties. His main concern was the need for staff to move quickly, even after acquiring the property. Commissioner Earman believed that the Board had achieved great success with ELAP.

Ms. Powell encouraged interested members of the public to attend the ELAP meeting to gain a better understanding of the deliberation process. She believed that this meeting was very informative, as it provided insights from various perspectives. She noted the members of ELAP had been selected and appointed by the Board to conduct due diligence from diverse viewpoints, including real estate, natural habitats, ecology, and land management.

**No Action Taken or Required**

13.H.2. [25-1010](#) Environmental Lands Acquisition Status Update Regarding a Purchase Contract - Winter Beach 73rd

**Attachments:** [Attachment 1-Winter Beach 73rd Assessment.pdf](#)  
[Attachment 2-Winter Beach 73rd Appraisals.pdf](#)  
[Attachment 3-Winter Beach 73rd - Draft.pdf](#)

*[Clerk Note: See Item 13.H.1. for discussion]*

**No Action Taken or Required**

**I. Planning and Development Services**

**J. Public Works**

**K. Sandridge Golf Club**

**L. Utilities Services**

**14. COUNTY ATTORNEY MATTERS**

14.A. [25-0983](#) Sale of Property at 8811 Highway A1A to Sea Oaks Property Owners Association, Inc.

**Recommended Action:** County staff recommends that the Board agree to the sale of the surplus property to Sea Oaks and authorize all steps necessary to complete and close the contract.

**Attachments:** [Vacant Land Contract](#)  
[Addendum 1 to Vacant Land Contract](#)  
Affidavit of Publication - Sea Oaks.pdf

Assistant County Attorney Chris Hicks presented the contract to sell surplus land to Sea Oaks for \$859,700. This price differed from the appraised values; however, as discussed in previous meetings, significant work was needed to remove items left from its previous use as a wastewater treatment facility. Sea Oaks agreed to take on this responsibility. The County Administrator and the negotiation team reached an agreement that satisfied everyone involved.

Attorney Bruce Barkett thanked the staff who had been involved in this process from the very beginning, acknowledging that it had been a long journey.

**A motion was made by Vice Chairman Loar, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Moss

**15. COMMISSIONERS MATTERS**

- A. Commissioner Joseph E. Flescher, Chairman**
- B. Commissioner Deryl Loar, Vice Chairman**
- C. Commissioner Susan Adams**
- D. Commissioner Joseph H. Earman**
- E. Commissioner Laura Moss**

**16. SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND BOARDS**

- A. Emergency Services District**
- B. Solid Waste Disposal District**
- C. Environmental Control Board**

**17. PUBLIC COMMENT: NON-AGENDA-RELATED MATTERS**

Lalita Jenke emphasized the need for a more proactive approach in managing budgetary needs to protect the livelihoods of every citizen.

Lois Wolfe expressed concerns about the Sheriff's Office budget and a proposed \$2.5 million project to bring the animal shelter under County control, questioning the need for this investment given that the Humane Society was successfully managing animal control. She believed the property value was overestimated and suggested funding the Humane Society instead. In response, Chairman Flescher highlighted ongoing discussions on animal control issues and the partnership with the Humane Society, noting capacity constraints and the need for additional resources.

Lisa Snycerski highlighted the emotional impact on families searching for lost pets and advocated for improved communication and a clear protocol to provide closure for pet owners. Chairman Flescher explained to Ms. Snycerki that calls about animals on roadways, injured or deceased, were usually directed to the Sheriff's Office. Animal Control was then notified, and the Road and Bridge Department handled the removal, creating a record of any animals found.

**No Action Taken or Required**

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.