



Indian River County, Florida

Draft Meeting Minutes

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

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

Shauna James, Deputy Clerk

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

9:00 AM

Commission Chambers

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 Baptist Church

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

John A. Titkanich, County Administrator

4. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA / EMERGENCY ITEMS

Approved as written

5. PROCLAMATIONS and PRESENTATIONS

5.A. Presentation of Proclamation Recognizing 211 Awareness Month

211 Palm Beach & Treasure Coast Community Relations Specialist Chad Adcock stated that the 211 Lifeline received nearly 200,000 inquiries in the past year, with about 6,000 (3%) coming from Indian River County. 211 aimed to increase this number to raise awareness of available resources. Mental health and substance abuse concerns account for 32% of inquiries, while 25% were housing support, and nearly 10% involved utility assistance. He noted the 211 Sunshine Program provided free

daily check-in calls for seniors and their caregivers, helping to combat isolation. He stated his appreciation for the Board's continued support of 211 since its founding in 1971.

Chairman Flescher stated that the 211 service connected people in need with trained professionals who could guide them to the appropriate resources. This initiative not only helped individuals find assistance but also reduced the volume of 911 calls and lowered anxiety for those seeking help.

Presented by Vice Chairman Loar

5.B.

Presentation of Proclamation Recognizing African American Pioneer In Education Dr. Deborah A. Taylor-Long

Dr. Deborah Taylor-Long shared that this year marked her 40th anniversary with the school district, a deeply cherished milestone. She stated it was a true honor to accept this Proclamation. She noted that Gifford had been her lifelong home and deeply loved this community and Indian River County. Throughout her career, she has had the privilege of influencing many students in various roles: Principal, Teacher, Director of Secondary Education, Director of Human Resources, and Director of Professional Learning. She currently served as the Director of Extended Learning Services for the District. She expressed genuine gratitude for this recognition, stating that this Proclamation was a meaningful part of her journey.

Vice Chairman Loar stated that he would never forget when he first met Ms. Taylor-Long in 2007 during a leadership class. From that moment, they had developed a wonderful friendship. Seeing her career take off over the past 18 years had been amazing. He congratulated Deborah and was grateful for everything she had accomplished.

Presented by Chairman Flescher

5.C.

Presentation of Proclamation Honoring African American Pioneer Tyrone Perry

...Recommended Action

Recommend Read & Present

Tabled until the February 25, 2025, BCC meeting

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.A.

Special Call Meeting of November 12, 2024 - EAR Workshop

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Loar, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve the Special Call Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2024 as written. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

6.B. Regular Meeting of November 19, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Vice Chairman Loar, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2024 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. Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

County Administrator John Titkanich praised the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for their remarkable achievement of earning the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 34th consecutive year, a testament to their unwavering commitment to fiscal excellence. This prestigious award, which pertained to fiscal year 2024/2025, was a source of great pride and accomplishment for the entire OMB team. Furthermore, this was the second year the OMB received a Certificate of Recognition for successfully integrating strategic goals into the budget, a commendable feat that further underscored their dedication and expertise.

He thanked the Director of Management and Budget, Kristen Daniels, and her team for their unwavering dedication. He noted that their hard work, evident in their daily commitment, particularly during the budget process, was a cornerstone of the OMB's success.

No Action Taken or Required

7.B. 1st Quarter FY 2024/2025 Budget Report

No Action Taken or Required

7.C. Event Calendar

Chairman Flescher highlighted the robust event calendar and thanked staff for organizing various community activities.

No Action Taken or Required

7.D. Administrator Approved Items

County Administrator John Titkanich announced that this initiative began in the previous quarter and would continue to be provided to the Board quarterly. This report would align with the quarterly budget amendments concerning Administrator Approved Items.

No Action Taken or Required**8. PUBLIC COMMENT: AGENDA-RELATED MATTERS (EXCEPT FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS)****9. CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, pulling Item 9.E. for discussion. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

9.A. Checks and Electronic Payments December 28, 2024 to January 3, 2025

Approved

9.B. Checks and Electronic Payments January 4, 2025 to January 10, 2025

Approved

9.C. Checks and Electronic Payments January 11, 2025 to January 17, 2025

Approved

9.D. Checks and Electronic Payments January 18, 2025 to January 24, 2025

Approved

9.E. 2025/2026 Budget Workshop/Hearing Schedule

Commissioner Moss requested that the budget packet being distributed on Thursday, July 3rd, be changed to Wednesday, July 2nd. This would provide one more workday before the Fourth of July weekend.

Administrator Titkanich responded that staff would do their best to deliver the packet to the Board on or before July 2nd.

Approved staff's recommendation, and to have the Office of Management and Budget deliver the Budget Workshop packet on or before July 2, 2025.

9.F. Amendment 01 to MBV Engineering, Inc. Work Order 04 for EOC Warehouse Addition

Approved staff's recommendation

9.G. First Amendment to Agreement with Consor for Continuing Consulting Engineering Services (RFP 2023015)

Approved staff's recommendation

- 9.H.** Designation of Excess Equipment as Surplus and Authorization for Disposal
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.I.** Award of RFP 2025009 for Fairgrounds Marquee Sign Replacement
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.J.** Award and Approval of Agreement for RFP 2025017 - Transit Advertising Services
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.K.** Miscellaneous Budget Amendment 01
Approved staff's recommendation and Resolution 2025-006, amending the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget.
- 9.L.** Public Official Bonds and Continuation Certificate for Constitutional Officers
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.M.** Public Official Bond and Continuation Certificate - Indian River County Mosquito Control District
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.N.** Florida Gas Transmission Encroachment Agreement - Indian River County Fire Station 7 (IRC-1911)
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.O.** Approval of Agreement for Membership
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.P.** Work Order No. 4 - Ecological Associates, Inc. HCP Sea Turtle Monitoring 2025
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.Q.** Work Order No. 2018006-19 - APTIM, Sector 3 Hurricanes Ian and Nicole Dune Renourishment 2025 Environmental Monitoring
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.R.** Work Order No. 2023051-5 - Coastal Tech Sector 4, Hurricanes Ian and Nicole Dune Renourishment Immediate Post-Construction Monitoring
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.S.** Request for Waiver of RFP and Extension Agreement for Concession Services at Sandridge Golf Club
Approved staff's recommendation

- 9.T.** Approval of the 2025 Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP)
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.U.** Work Order No. 1, Consor North America, Inc., 43rd Ave Bike & Pedestrian Improvements (12th St -16th St) (IRC-1818), 43rd Ave (14th Lane and 15th Place Resurfacing) (IRC-1818A)
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.V.** Amendment 1 to AtkinsRéalis USA Work Order No. 6 for Continuation of Staff Augmentation Support Services
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.W.** Florida Department of Transportation Utility Work by Highway Contractor Agreement for SR-A1A Resurfacing, FDOT Financial Project ID: 445618-2
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.X.** Work Order No. 4 to Tetra Tech, Inc. for Hobart Water Treatment Plan Post Filtration Improvements, Alternatives Analysis, IRCDUS Project ID 12.24.504
Approved staff's recommendation
- 9.Y.** Award of RFP 2024035 for West Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility Clarifiers 1 and 2 Capital Maintenance, IRCDUS Project ID 22.23.556
Approved staff's recommendation

10. CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS and GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

11. PUBLIC ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS

PROOF OF PUBLICATION FOR THIS HEARING IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK TO THE BOARD.

- 11.A.1.** Second Public Hearing - Proposed Developer's Agreement Between Riverfront Groves, Inc. and Indian River County
- Deputy County Attorney Susan Prado brought forth the second public hearing for the Harmony Isles Development. Harmony Isles would consist of 237 single-family lots and 147 townhouse units located at 1375 98th Avenue, Vero Beach, Florida. River Front Groves, Inc. (Developer) was responsible for the fair share of costs for improvements needed due to the development. Right-of-way dedications would

include roughly 3,534 square feet on 16th Street and a section on 98th Avenue. Required traffic improvements depended on the potential development of Venetian Groves, including traffic signals and lane improvements. Upon receiving the land development permit, the Developer would pay \$307,200 based on the impact of 384 units at \$800 per unit.

Commissioner Moss sought further clarification regarding the traffic study conducted by McKenzie Engineering and Planning Inc., particularly concerning the area of influence. The study highlighted the Oslo Interchange, which was anticipated to be operational by the completion of the development, projected for 2029, affecting both properties, Harmony Isles and Venetian Groves, as outlined in the Developer's Agreement. The report noted that Oslo Road through Fourth Street showed no expected impacts. Attorney Prado suggested consulting with staff for their assessment and to direct this inquiry to the Traffic Engineer for clarity.

Public Works Director Addie Javed appreciated Commissioner Moss' concerns and assured her the plan had been properly vetted.

County Administrator John Titkanich sought confirmation from Director Javid that if Venetian Groves did not develop based on this agreement, the existing traffic and background conditions would not change. Director Javid confirmed this was correct; in that case, it would not push the traffic levels over the 80% capacity threshold. Therefore, they would not be legally required to take any action. However, if Venetian Groves did proceed with development, they would be required to address the traffic concerns at that point.

Chairman Flescher opened the Public Hearing.

Attorney Pete Sweeney, on behalf of the Firm MTC Law and the Applicant, stated that Section 7 of the agreement addressed potential traffic complications due to the Venetian Groves development, which would consist of 900 units. The Harmony Isles project was only one-third the size and alone did not contribute to traffic issues, but completion of both developments would total 1,200 units. Responsibilities outlined in Scenario A and Scenario B depended on the progression of Venetian Groves. Multiple meetings had been held and traffic expert Shaun MacKenzie of MacKenzie Engineering was available to address technical concerns related to the project. The development had already received approval through necessary Ordinances and planning processes. The agreement ensured the County incurred no costs for the development, clarifying the financial responsibilities among multiple developers.

Mr. MacKenzie stated his firm had conducted the traffic study analysis, examining

scenarios with and without the proposed Venetian Groves Development. It was important to note that the developer of Venetian Groves would be accountable for installing a traffic signal if the project moved forward. Conversely, if the development does not materialize, the traffic signal would not be required.

Chairman Flescher noted that the Board was examining the non-empirical aspects of traffic studies as they related to this application and development. There was a concern about what might happen if another subdivision progressed more quickly than anticipated.

Mr. MacKenzie stated the Harmony Isles Developer had no control over the Venetian Groves Development. Still, an agreement had been established that protects the County's investment in both scenarios, whether or not it developed. This ensured that Venetian Groves' Development paid its fair share, and he trusted that it would be accountable and responsible.

Attorney Prado informed the Board that, per Florida Statute, staff must assess developers' agreements annually to ensure they comply with specific requirements, including traffic enhancements. Staff undertakes this review on a yearly basis to confirm that developers fulfill these responsibilities. If any modifications were required, the County could suggest an amendment to the agreements. Nonetheless, as Florida law requires, an amendment would be required go through two additional Public Hearings. Agreements could be altered to incorporate additional items or eliminate existing ones. The Board could terminate an agreement if a developer does not follow the agreed-upon terms.

County Attorney Jennifer Shuler responded to Chairman Flesher, stating that the Board could table the Item and reschedule the second hearing if more negotiations needed to take place. The Board could either deny it or table it for a new second hearing.

Attorney Sweeney expressed his confusion, noting nothing had changed since the first Public Hearing. Not a single detail, name, or timeline had been altered. He was open to further negotiations and discussions with staff.

Chairman Flescher addressed Attorney Sweeney, stating his intention was to tackle the concerns raised in order promote progress. He sought a clear pathway forward but felt reassured that the Board could revisit the issue if necessary.

Commissioner Earman and Commissioner Adams expressed their desire to move this forward.

There being no additional speakers, 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: 4 - Chairman Flescher, Vice Chairman Loar, Commissioner Adams, and Commissioner Earman

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Moss

The Chairman called for a recess at 10:08 a.m. and reconvened at 10:14 a.m. with all members present.

B. PUBLIC NOTICE ITEMS

12. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR MATTERS

13. DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS

A. Building and Facilities Services

B. Community Services

13.B.1. Children Services Division - Strategic Plan, 2025-2030

Community Services Director Cindy Emerson thanked the Board for their support in promoting greater fidelity and transparency within the Children's Services Advisory Committee (CSAC). She noted that the original guidebook for Children's Services, published in 1997, emphasized the need for a Comprehensive Plan. These requirements were further detailed at the January 28, 2025, meeting, prompting staff to develop a Five-Year Strategic Plan. Ms. Emerson emphasized that this organized strategy helped maintain focus on key priorities and demonstrated the community's return on investment regarding the funding allocated for children and families in Indian River County.

Human Services Manager Megan Kendrick expressed her enthusiasm for advancing this strategic plan. It enabled staff to assess their effectiveness and engage in a continuous improvement cycle. The strategic plan centered on three key areas.

The first focus area was community impact. The goal was to ensure that the programs funded delivered a strong return on investment. This would be achieved by enhancing accountability and ensuring the outcomes outlined during the RFP process were measurable and actionable. Additionally, offering professional development, individual coaching, and a tiered support program for all County

agencies.

The second focus area was community engagement. Many individuals were surprised to learn about the funding for children's programs and the Board of County Commissioners' involvement. Over 50 surveys were collected from parents, and outreach has been a valuable way to share the vital work being done.

The third focus area was fiscal responsibility and governance. Staff had successfully onboarded all new CSAC main and subcommittee members, ensuring they understood the Sunshine Law with the help of the Attorney's Office. Staff was committed to transparency through quarterly reports and making information accessible on the website.

Chairman Flescher stated that the CSAC required the clear guidance and direction that staff provided. Their dedication and enthusiasm was essential to ensuring that the services progressed effectively. This accountability was not merely a duty but a commitment to the cause. He thanked staff for their dedication to quality assurance and the development of a strategic plan with clear direction and guidance.

Vice Chairman Loar and Commissioner Earman applauded staff and noted improvements in openness and accountability within the group. Clear responsibilities have led to better service success and increased accountability among funded agencies.

The Board and staff engaged in a discussion regarding educational opportunities that extend beyond the initial onboarding phase. They acknowledged existing challenges while emphasizing the importance of transparency and the assessment of measurable results. The objective was to develop comprehensive services that ensured each child and family has the opportunity to reach their highest potential, contributing to future societal and economic stability.

A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Commissioner Adams, 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

C. Emergency Services

D. Human Resources

E. Information Technology

F. Natural Resources

G. Office of Management and Budget**H. Parks, Recreation, and Conservation****I. Planning and Development Services****J. Public Works****K. Sandridge Golf Club****L. Utilities Services****14. COUNTY ATTORNEY MATTERS****14.A.1.** Seventh Amendment to Interlocal Agreement with Palm Beach County Health Facilities Authority for Financing and Refinancing for Improvements and Additions of Facilities

County Attorney Jennifer Shuler presented the Seventh Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement for Palm Beach County's Health Facilities Authority (Authority). The original agreement was entered into in 1996, and its purpose was to facilitate the issuance of revenue bonds by the Authority to finance six healthcare facilities owned by AX Retirement Life Community. Two of these facilities were located in Indian River County; Indian River Estates East Campus and Indian River Estates West Campus.

The Authority issues retirement community revenue bonds, and this was the Seventh Amendment to the agreement to allow for another bond issuance. There was a corresponding Resolution. The Retirement Community Revenue Bond series would be issued in an amount not to exceed \$70 million, which would be used for Capital Improvements to these facilities. It was important to note that these bonds do not obligate the County in any way.

Chairman Flescher noted that, as this was the Seventh Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement, he saw no reason why the Board should not continue this process.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Loar, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve staff's recommendation and Resolution 2025-007, approving the issuance by the Palm Beach County Health Facilities Authority of one or more series of its Retirement Communities Revenue Bonds, Series 205 (Acts Retirement-Life Communities, Inc. Obligated Group) in an amount not to exceed \$70,000,000 for the purpose of financing the 2025 Project as described herein. 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

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.

16.B.1. Approval of SWDD Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2024

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Loar, seconded by Chairman Flescher, to approve the SWDD meeting minutes of November 19, 2024 as written. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

C. Environmental Control Board

17. PUBLIC COMMENT: NON-AGENDA-RELATED MATTERS

Residents Joann Binford and Deana Accardi called for the cessation of fluoride in Indian River County's water, citing its neurotoxic effects and asserting that toothpaste provides sufficient fluoride. They expressed concerns about health risks, including lower IQs in children, and argued that fluoridation constitutes unauthorized medical treatment. With 41 Florida Counties already removing fluoride from the water, they urged the Board to act, particularly for the safety of young children.

Judy Greenberg, President of the Roseland Women's Club, invited the Commissioners and the public to the 2nd Annual Roseland Women's Club

Celebration, that would focus on health and wellness. The event, scheduled for February 22nd from 9 AM to 2 PM, would include a speaker series addressing various health issues, particularly those affecting veterans, and would feature local healthcare providers. This year, there would be more outdoor activities for children to encourage time in nature. Commissioner Adams expressed enthusiasm for the celebration, recalling the enjoyable experience from last year.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.