



Office of

Attorney's Matters 12/05/2023

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
ATTORNEY**

William K. DeBaal, County Attorney
Susan J. Prado, Deputy County Attorney
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator

FROM: William K. DeBaal, County Attorney

DATE: November 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of Indian River County Mosquito Control District

The Indian River Mosquito Control District (District) has existed as an independent special district since 1925. The District is completely self-funded through ad valorem taxes and receives no money from the County. Due to the County's climate and habitats, there are over 40 species of mosquitos. Those mosquitoes can transmit diseases, including West Nile virus, Zika, dengue, malaria, encephalitis, and chikungunya, which may be extremely harmful to human health if not addressed promptly and professionally.

In 2021, HB1103 (now F.S. § 189.0695) was approved, requiring that all independent special districts around the state undergo a performance review by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA). Part of the review focuses on the purpose of the district, its goals and services, in addition to the following from F.S. §1889.0695(1):

(c) The delivery of services by the special district, including alternative methods of providing those services that would reduce costs and improve performance, including whether revisions to the organization or administration will improve the efficiency, effectiveness, or economical operation of the special district.

(d) A comparison of similar services provided by the county and municipal governments located wholly or partially within the boundaries of the special district, including similarities and differences in services, relative costs and efficiencies, and possible service consolidations.

The final report was completed on September 29th and is available for review in the County Commission Office.

The District supplies a unique and complex service to County residents. It is doubtful that any other local source has the sufficient experience and equipment to carry out the District's duties. The District has asked for a resolution outlining the County's support and recommendation of retaining the Indian River Mosquito Control District. The attached resolution was approved by the District's Board on October 10th. Sherry Burroughs, CDM, Executive Director of the Indian River Mosquito Control District will be present at the meeting to address the Commission and answer any questions.

Funding: There is no impact to County funds from this matter.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board approve the attached Resolution in support of the Indian River Mosquito District and authorize the Chairman to execute the Resolution on behalf of the Board.

Copy to: Sherry Burroughs, CDM,
Indian River Mosquito Control District
5655 41st Street
Vero Beach, FL 34967