

Indian River County Florida



Solid Waste Disposal District Draft Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Susan Adams, District 1, Chairman
Joseph Flescher, District 2, Vice Chairman
Joseph H. Earman, District 3
Deryl Loar, District 4
Laura Moss, District 5

John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator
William K. DeBraul, County Attorney
Ryan L. Butler, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Randi Wardlow, Deputy Clerk

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

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Commission Chambers

15. SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND BOARDS

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.

Approval of SWDD Special Call Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2024

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Flescher, seconded by Commissioner Earman, to approve minutes of the Solid Waste Disposal District Special Call Meeting of March 20, 2024 as written. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

15.B.2.

Final Pay to Geosyntec for Work Order No. 2 - Groundwater Monitoring/Reporting and RAPM No. 4 Pre-Injection Investigation and Design at the South Gifford Road Landfill

There was no discussion regarding this Item.

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

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

15.B.3. Renewal No. 4 with Tiger Inc for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas

There was no discussion regarding this item.

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

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

15.B.4. Final Pay to Geosyntec for Work Order WO No. 3 - Title V Air Operation Permit Revision Application

There was no discussion regarding this item.

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

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

The Chairman called for a recess at 10:50 a.m., and reconvened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. with all members present.

15.B.5.

Recommendation for Franchise Award for Solid Waste and Recyclables Collection Services (RFP#2024020)

Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) Director Himanshu Mehta began his presentation with a recap of the events leading to staff's recommendation for franchise award of the County's solid waste and recyclables collection service. Previously, the SWDD Board voted in favor of carted yard waste, and directed staff to obtain a Best and Final Offer (BAFO) for universal and subscription services from the top two ranked vendors: FCC Environmental Services of Florida, Inc. (FCC), and Waste Management, Inc. of Florida (WM).

Before presenting the final offers, Director Mehta reviewed results of an audit of recycling cart use. The results showed a large percentage of non-subscribers using their recycling carts for garbage versus few households in universal service municipalities doing the same. He detailed the County's commitment to recycling and discussed reasons for supporting it.

The presentation next detailed the procurement process and then the BAFO process and evaluation criteria for subscription and universal services (Options 3 & 4). Summarizing the bids, Director Mehta noted FCC predominantly lowered their price on commercial services and WM lowered their price on residential services, which resulted in a re-ranking of the vendors. Current residential subscription service with recycling was \$14.10 per month. The final bids for residential subscription service with carted yard waste were \$25.36 (FCC) and \$18.65 (WM); final bids for residential universal service with carted yard waste was \$22.84 (FCC) and \$18.60 (WM). Multifamily complexes would remain on commercial service as the cost for universal service was prohibitively high.

Staff's analysis of the options and final bids led to the recommendation of Option 4, universal service with carted yard waste. Rationale included annual costs savings, uniform service, cleaner recycling, and less illegal dumping and burning of garbage. Director Mehta made mention of exploring the use of existing County assistance programs to provide financial aid for those who needed it.

Under discussion, the Board stated their support for staff's recommendation for reasons including: less contaminated recycling, better lagoon health, improved pricing, planning for the County's growth, and fewer code enforcement calls. Commissioner Moss was the lone dissenter, stating she would rather keep subscription service in light of constituents' financial hardship concerns. Commissioners received confirmation that municipalities could piggy-back onto the County's rates for all or some of the services offered.

The following people spoke on the Item:

Rob Canciamille, FCC, enumerated the reasons why he felt the RFP process had been violated. He requested the Board table their vote and either re-start the RFP process or open the BAFO process to all firms who submitted bids.

Julianne Price, Health Department Manager, commented that universal service could reduce dumping and sanitary nuisances, saving her department time and resources.

Bill Rigby, County resident, received information regarding future price increases and the relevance of the Commerce Clause. He was in favor of revisiting the RFP to be more inclusive of other vendors.

Myra Ferguson, Gifford Economic Development Council, explained her rationale for requesting revisiting the RFP bidding process and questioned if Waste Management was a monopoly.

A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Vice Chairman Flescher, to approve the first part of staff's recommendation, the implementation of Universal Collection for Unincorporated Indian River County with multi-family collection remaining as commercial collection services. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairman Adams, Vice Chairman Flescher, Commissioner Earman, and Commissioner Loar

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Moss

Director Mehta then requested a vote on the rest of staff's recommendations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Vice Chairman Flescher, to approve staff's recommendations to award the Solid Waste and Recycling Collection Franchise to Waste Management, Inc. of Florida, and to authorize staff to finalize the sample agreement, and return with a final agreement for SWDD Board approval. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

15.B.6.

Work Order No. 6 to Geosyntec for One Year of Groundwater Monitoring/Reporting at the Former South Gifford Road Landfill

[Clerk Note: This Item was heard following Item 15.B.4.]

There was no discussion regarding this Item.

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

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