

Indian River County Florida

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



Solid Waste Disposal District Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

9:00 AM

Commission Chambers

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
Susan J. Prado, Deputy County Attorney
Ryan L. Butler, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Shauna James, Deputy Clerk**

15. SPECIAL DISTRICTS AND BOARDS

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.

B. Solid Waste Disposal District

15.B.1. [24-0710](#) Indian River County SWDD Vape Pen Recycling Program

Recommended Action: Staff recommends the Solid Waste Disposal District Board approve the launching of a Vape Pen Collection program to support the proper disposal of these items in Indian River County

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Vape Pen Flyer](#)
[GAICA Proposal](#)

Managing Director of the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD), Himanshu Mehta, noted an increase in the disposal of rechargeable and lithium-ion batteries in the County, leading to safety hazards. Disposing of vape pen batteries, which were mixed with other hazardous materials, had proven to be particularly challenging and has resulted in incidents of explosions and fires.

Sue Flak, the SWDD Recycling Education and Marketing Coordinator, highlighted the challenges in disposing of vape pens containing hazardous materials like nicotine and THC. To address this issue, the SWDD staff was partnering with GAIACA Waste Revitalization to launch a Vape Pen Collection program, encouraging residents to dispose of vape pens at designated locations. GAIACA would provide lockable receptacles for disposal at an annual cost of \$5,200.

A representative from the Sheriff's Office stated that they work closely with the school district regarding the issue of vapes in schools and expressed support for this recycling program to ensure proper disposal of vapes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Commissioner Moss, 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.2. [24-0711](#) Work Order No. 2 to Jones Edmunds and Associates for 74th Avenue SW Widening Project

Recommended Action: Solid Waste Disposal District staff recommends that its Board approve Work Order No. 2 with Jones Edmunds and Associates, Inc. for \$174,920, to provide

engineering services related to the 74th Avenue SW Widening project; and authorize the Chairman to execute the same, as presented

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)

[Jones Edmunds Work Order No. 2](#)

There was no discussion on this Item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Vice Chairman Flescher, 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