



Indian River County Florida

Meeting Minutes 4

Board of County Commissioners

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

Peter O'Bryan, Chairman, District 4
Joseph H. Earman, Vice Chairman, District 3
Susan Adams, District 1
Joseph Flescher, District 2
Laura Moss, District 5

Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
Dylan Reingold, County Attorney
Jeffrey R. Smith, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

9:00 AM

Commission Chambers

2022/2023 Budget Workshop *Tentative Schedule*

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Chairman Peter O'Bryan
Vice Chairman Joe Earman
Commissioner Susan Adams
Commissioner Joseph Flescher
Commissioner Laura Moss

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

INVOCATION

Dr. Christina Moore, Sr. Pastor, Rhema Apostolic International Deliverance Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Laura Moss

GENERAL OVERVIEW SESSION

Jason E. Brown, County Administrator

County Administrator Jason Brown gave an overview of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022/2023 Budget. Through the use of a PowerPoint presentation, Administrator Brown announced the FY 2022/2023 proposed budget is \$451,964,531, an increase of \$23,911,619 from the FY 2021/2022 beginning budget.

Administrator Brown highlighted the major budget impacts to the proposed budget, including a tax roll increase of 13.5% Countywide and 14.4% in the Unincorporated area of the County. He recommended an increase of \$7.25 million in funding for the Indian River County Sheriff's Office as agreed upon by the Sheriff. He did note that there was a reduction from the Sheriff's initial request of \$10.9 million, and thanked the Sheriff for working with the County in coming to terms on a budget increase that worked within the County's budget.

Administrator Brown mentioned an increase in the retirement rate at a cost of \$2,365,540 Countywide (including Constitutional Officers) approved by the State in order to participate in the Florida Retirement System (FRS) Plan Program. He reported the County was in the fourth year of the five (5) year deferred maintenance, capital, and renewal and replacement program. He spoke of additional full-time positions, noting the County has done a great job over the years streamlining County government and providing much greater services with fewer employees than 15 years ago.

Administrator Brown stated inflation was affecting the County's budget, noting the May Consumer Price Index (CPI) was 9.2%. He also mentioned the 3% contractual increase for the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) Budget, and the increase in maintenance for the Golf Course.

Administrator Brown provided an overview of the General Fund Millage pointing out the County continued to maintain the third lowest millage rate out of the sixty-seven (67) counties in the State of Florida.

Chairman O'Bryan opened the floor for public comment; there were none.

GENERAL FUND

- 001-101 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**
- 001-102 COUNTY ATTORNEY**
- 001-103 GIS TRANSFER**
- 001-107 COMMUNICATIONS/EMERGENCY SERVICE**
- 001-109 MAIN LIBRARY**
- 001-112 NORTH COUNTY LIBRARY**
- 001-113 BRACKETT LIBRARY**

001-118	IRC SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
001-119	LAW LIBRARY
001-201	ADMINISTRATOR - OPERATIONS
001-202	GENERAL SERVICES
001-203	HUMAN RESOURCES
001-206	VETERANS SERVICE
001-208	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
001-210	PARKS
001-211	HUMAN SERVICES
001-212	AG EXTENSION
001-215	CONSERVATION LANDS
001-216	PURCHASING
001-220	FACILITIES MANAGEMENT
001-229	OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
001-237	FPL GRANT EXPENDITURES
001-238	EMERGENCY BASE GRANT
001-241	IS/TELECOM TRANSFER
001-246	INSURANCE PREMIUMS
001-250	COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL
001-251	MAILROOM/SWITCHBOARD
001-283	LAGOON

County Administrator Jason Brown provided an overview of the General Fund Budget noting that the total proposed budget for the Board of County Commissioner Departments is \$23,546,092, an increase of \$1,279,706.

Chairman O'Bryan received confirmation from County Administrator Brown

that Veterans Services was fully staffed.

Chairman O'Bryan opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

Chairman O'Bryan stressed that there were adequate funds in the Information Technology budget for cyber security. He was very impressed by the great job Information Technology Director Dan Russell and his team was doing in regard to cyber security.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

- 001-300 CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT JEFFREY R. SMITH**
- 001-400 TAX COLLECTOR CAROLE JEAN JORDAN**
- 001-500 PROPERTY APPRAISER WESLEY DAVIS**
- 001-600 SHERIFF ERIC FLOWERS**
- 001-700 SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS LESLIE R. SWAN**
- 001-114 VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD**

County Administrator Jason Brown, in his overview of the Constitutional Officer's Budget recommendations, he thanked the Constitutional Officers' for doing a great job being conservative and fiscally responsible with the taxpayer's dollars. He announced the proposed total budget for the Constitutional Officers is \$79,202,189, an increase of \$7,878,090, pointing out the Tax Collector's budget was not due to the Department of Revenue until August 1, 2022.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments.

Chairman O'Bryan commented Chief Deputy Legal Ryan Butler was present for the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller Jeffrey R. Smith who was unable to attend today's workshop.

Chief Deputy Legal Butler stated Mr. Smith was fulfilling his duty as the newly elected Chairman of the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Commission. He thanked the Board and County staff for keeping the lines of communication open and transparent.

Chairman O'Bryan commended Mr. Smith and his entire team for doing a great job keeping the County's finances in order.

Property Appraiser Wesley S. Davis provided information on the budget and spoke of two new software programs, Just Appraised and the migration to the new updated version of the Geographic Information Service (ArcGIS) provided by Esri. He continued that the Property Appraiser's Office (PAO) hired a consultant to assist with the migration of the GIS over to a updated software. He stated the PAO would be collaborating with the Clerk of the Circuit Court on a software program called Just Appraised to streamline work flows for local governments using artificial intelligence to read documents recorded.

Chairman O'Bryan complimented Property Appraiser Davis and his staff for innovative methods, the newly implemented technology to streamline the process, and cost savings. County Administrator Brown also agreed that the information the Property Appraisers Office had provided was phenomenal.

Supervisor of Elections Leslie Swan expressed her appreciation to the Board for their continuous support. Ms. Swan mentioned budgeting for the upcoming year was a challenge with significant increases in the cost of goods and services due to high inflation.

Ms. Swan explained the Florida Legislature enacted Senate Bill 524 that mandated the implementation of additional list maintenance programs to assist and identify voter records that needed updating. She indicated an additional \$50,000 in printing and postage costs for the mailings.

Ms. Swan continued that Senate Bill 524 changed the term "Drop Boxes" to "Secure Ballot Intake Stations", which meant the Elections Office would need to change the verbiage on 100,000 secrecy sleeves for the vote by mail envelopes, revisions to the elections training materials, forms, and signage. She also pointed out the FY 2022/2023 Budget included the addition of one new Election Day polling site to accommodate the increased population growth in the County.

Chairman O'Bryan thanked and commended Ms. Swan and her staff for conducting elections without incident, and for finding ways to do more with less.

Commissioner Flescher pointed out that the Elections Office does phenomenal work, and was most reliant upon volunteers that make sure the systems run smoothly. Commissioner Flescher thanked Leslie Swan and her staff for doing a great job.

Indian River County Sheriff Eric Flowers appeared before the Board, and

thanked his staff, Under Sheriff Thomas Raulen, Deputy Chief Lonnie Rich, and Chief Financial Officer Aimee Cooper, for their work on the budget and the presentation. He also thanked County Administrator Jason Brown, and Budget Director Kristin Daniels, for taking the time and coming to a staff recommendation for the budget. He discussed the factors impacting the budget.

Chairman O'Bryan received clarification from Sheriff Flowers that the Sheriff's Budget included twenty-eight (28) full-time sworn deputies to cover road patrol and the jail. Sheriff Flowers stated as far as recruitments, there were twelve (12) new employees just sworn in and thanked Governor DeSantis for enacting a bill which allows a \$5,000 bonus for law enforcement officers coming from outside the State, and up to a \$1,000 bonus for people attending the academy.

Chairman O'Bryan recognized the success of the license plate reader cameras, stating the deputies had some real success with catching the individuals when entering the County, and could respond before they have a chance to do any harm or damage. Sheriff Flowers recalled several instances where the license plate readers helped apprehend individuals, a murder suspect, and the recovery of stolen vehicles in the County. Chairman O'Bryan wanted the public to know the County has a great relationship with the Sheriff's Office and was able to come together with an agreement on the Budget.

Commissioner Adams received clarification from Sheriff Flowers that the budget included a seven (7%) percent pay increase for employees. She sought and received information there would be increased presence of road patrol deputies to help with traffic issues, safety concerns and speeding violations. Sheriff Flowers invited constituents to come forward to the department and voice their concerns.

Vice Chairman Earman commended the Sheriff and his staff for working with the County, the comradery, and keeping the door open so the County was aware of what was occurring in the Sheriff's Office.

County Attorney Dylan Reingold commented that he attended monthly calls with the Florida Association of County Attorneys and spoke on how fortunate the County was for their relationship with the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Flowers showed a video of what it was like in a day of being a Sheriff's Deputy.

Commissioner Moss stated she received complaints from the community on drugs being sold in different areas of the community and the Sheriff's Department was very responsive.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT (M.S.T.U.)

- 004-104 NORTH COUNTY AQUATIC CENTER**
- 004-105 GIFFORD AQUATIC CENTER**
- 004-108 RECREATION**
- 004-115 INTERGENERATIONAL FACILITY**
- 004-116 BEACH PARKS**
- 004-161 SHOOTING RANGE**
- 004-204 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**
- 004-205 COUNTY PLANNING**
- 004-207 CODE ENFORCEMENT**
- 004-400 TAX COLLECTOR**

County Administrator Jason Brown provided an overview of the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) fund, pointing out there was a 14.37% increase in the tax roll, generating \$1,797,082 in additional revenue. He indicated there was no change in the millage rate of 1.1506, from the last fiscal year. The largest expense was for road and bridge maintenance. He indicated there was an increase of two (2) full-time positions, a Planning Assistant II and a Service Planner to keep up with the growth in the County. Administrator Brown announced the proposed budget for the MSTU Fund Expense is \$8,263,406, an increase of \$417,628.

Vice Chairman Earman sought and received clarification from Administrator Brown the \$15,736 increase in the budget was for an additional code enforcement officer position added mid-year. A discussion followed in regard to the collection of fees for code enforcement fines, and the increase in fees had covered a significant portion of the additional staff.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

TRANSPORTATION FUND

- 111-214 ROADS AND BRIDGES**
- 111-243 PUBLIC WORKS**
- 111-244 COUNTY ENGINEERING**
- 111-245 TRAFFIC ENGINEERING**
- 111-281 STORMWATER**

County Administrator Jason Brown presented an overview of the Transportation Fund Expenses. He further explained the State Legislature did pass a gas tax holiday for the month of October and to compensate for the loss of gas tax revenue, the State planned to backfill with American Rescue Plan (ARP) dollars upon approval by the Federal government. He added that the Road and Bridge trucks and heavy equipment require large amounts of fuel and made up most of the \$192,953 Fuel Budget; the 12.5% increase on the Stormwater Budget was to add a street sweeper at a cost of approximately \$300,000, including an operator. He further explained the street sweeper would measure the amount of material taken up and the County would receive credit for nitrogen and phosphorus loading. He estimated 360 pounds Nitrogen and 230 pounds total of Phosphorus, which would be a \$1.1 million dollar equivalent cost for our Stormwater Facilities.

Chairman O'Bryan received clarification from Administrator Brown that the State planned to use ARP funds to replace the loss of State tax revenues to the County from the State Gas Tax Holiday.

Chairman O'Bryan expressed concerned whether the County had enough funds for Road and Bridge and Public Works. Administrator Brown felt there were adequate funds in the current year budget; however, the County has about 150 miles of unmaintained dirt roads and the County needed to come up with a plan if the County was pressured into maintaining these roads. He explained the County needed to setup an adequate funding stream for the long term, because the funding now would not be sustainable.

Commissioner Adams commented in Vero Lakes Estates and Fellsmere, the roads were never dedicated, nor maintained but with the increase of homes being built, the roads need to be improved and maintained. She commented the County may need to raise the millage, if the County does not plan adequately.

Commissioner Moss thanked Administrator Brown for the street sweeping improvements.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

The Chairman called for a recess at 10:40 a.m., and the Workshop reconvened at 10:54 a.m., with all members present.

EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT

114-120 FIRE RESCUE

County Administrator Jason Brown provided an overview of the Emergency Services District Budget, Ad Valorem tax roll increase of 13.65%, bringing in \$5,171,140 in which had an additional revenue, with no change to the millage rate from last fiscal year. He reviewed the Emergency Services Millage history, pointing out there were no increases over the last six (6) years. He concluded that the total proposed budget for Emergency Services District is \$52,044,363, an increase of \$1,538,227 or 3%.

Administrator Brown announced Tad Stone, Director of Emergency Services, was retiring and had done an outstanding job with Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Fire and Rescue, and was a great leader.

Chairman O'Bryan stated great leaders had a vision to motivate people to get them on board, and not many people had that capability like Chief Stone.

The Board and County Attorney Dylan Reingold also complimented Chief Stone on his leadership qualities, his service to the community, and accomplishments. They applauded his choice of Chief Dave Johnson as his replacement.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

NON-DEPARTMENTAL STATE AGENCIES

001-106 NEW HORIZONS OF THE TREASURE COAST, INC.

001-106 STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

001-110 TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

001-110	IR LAGOON NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM COUNCIL
001-110	DEPT. OF JUVENILE JUSTICE
001-111	MEDICAID
001-252	ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD
001-901	CIRCUIT COURT ADMINISTRATION
001-901	GUARDIAN AD LITEM
001-903	VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
001-903	STATE ATTORNEY
001-904	PUBLIC DEFENDER
001-907	MEDICAL EXAMINER

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels explained the State Agencies were funded across multiple funds throughout the budget and reviewed the proposed funding of the Non-Departmental State Agencies.

Commissioner Adams received clarification from Budget Director Daniels that the Medical Examiner budget was for operations, and there was \$500,000 in the operational sales tax fund set aside for the design and engineering of the new Medical Examiner building.

Dr. Patricia Aronica, Chief Medical Examiner District 19, and Kimberly Carroll, Operations Manager, thanked the Board of their support.

Judge Cynthia L. Cox, 19th Judicial Circuit Court, spoke of the unfunded mandates from the Supreme Court and the Legislature, and she appreciated the support for the Problem Solving Courts, and Veterans program.

Patty Harris, Court Administrator for the 19th Judicial Circuit, reviewed the budget increases and explained there was a request from County Administrator Howard N. Tipton, St. Lucie County, to reduce their budget request by 50%. The budget request presented to Indian River County was revised by 50%; however, the 100% requested was \$225,430 to cover all the positions. A discussion ensued between County Administrator Jason Brown, and Budget Director Daniels to come to an agreement with the funding.

Heather Parker, Guardian ad Litem Director, for 19th Judicial Circuit, thanked the Board for their support.

Desiree Dixon, Assistant Public Defender, representing Public Defender, Diamond Litty who was not able to attend, thanked the Board for their support.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

NON-DEPARTMENTAL

001-110 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

001-128 CHILDREN’S SERVICES

001-137 SEBASTIAN COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA

001-137 FELLSMERE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AREA

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels presented the Non-Departmental Budget for the Economic Development Division's proposed budget of \$245,781, an increase of \$9,074.

Dori Stone, President of Indian River County Chamber of Commerce thanked the Board for continued support with their economic development efforts, and hoped to continue to bring forward more economic development activity in the future.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments; there was none.

Budget Director Daniels announced the Children's Services Grants total award of \$2,443,606, an increase of \$121,532, stating this does fund the full 1/8 mill that the Board approved back in February.

Lisa Kahle and Michael Kint, representing the Children's Service Advisory Committee (CSAC) Exploratory Committee, discussed the consensus of the community around the necessity and value of investing in quality children's programs.

Chairman O'Bryan brought up about five years ago the Board made a commitment to get to a 1/8 mill with a three year phase to raise to a 1/4 mill to keep up the programming with the funds available.

The Chairman open the floor for public discussion; there were none.

Budget Director Kristin Daniels gave an overview of the Community Redevelopment Areas (CRA); the Sebastian CRA recommended budget was \$240,000, an increase of \$2,000, and the Fellsmere CRA proposed budget was \$31,000, an increase of \$7,000. She added the value for the Community Redevelopment Areas was provided by the Property Appraiser.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

- 001-110 MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION**
- 001-110 UNITED AGAINST POVERTY (fka HARVEST FOOD)**
- 001-110 211 PALM BEACH/TREASURE COAST**
- 001-206 VETERANS COUNCIL OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, INC.**

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels gave an overview of the proposed recommendations for Non-Profit Organizations, and she explained that non-profit agencies were capped per the outside agency funding policy.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments.

Chief Operating Officer Angela Guzenski, and Chief Clinical Officer Heather Roberts, for the Mental Health Association, thanked the Board for their continued support, pointing out they had seen a 25% increase in walk-ins for free same day screening this past year. She explained the need to increase clinical staff and salaries to retain staff. She again thanked the Board for the continued support and for their mission to provide free mental health services.

Sharon L'Herrou, President and CEO; Kelly A. Cambron, Board Member, and Chad Adcock, Outreach Specialist, with 211 Palm Beach and Treasure Coast came before the Board to request full funding, and reconsideration of their budget category. They were currently categorized as a Non-Profit Organization and requested to be moved to Quasi Non-Profit Organization, which was a category reserved for organizations providing critical infrastructure services. Ms. L'Herrou explained that their budget of \$600,000 was very low and insufficient for the services they provide, pointing out the 211 Helpline maintained a directory of all the services in the entire region.

Outreach Specialist Chad Adcock gave an explanation of the Sunshine call process, which provided daily check-in calls to senior residents. He told of one senior resident that had fallen and because of the Sunshine call process, they were able to get help for the individual.

Ms. Cambron thanked the Board for their continued support and asked the Board to reconsider their request.

Vice Chairman Earman mentioned an incident where his niece had a problem with her child, and placed a call to the 211 Call Center.

Chairman O'Bryan encouraged Ms. L'Herrou to write a letter to staff and submit an application requesting a change to their classification.

A discussion ensued between the Board in regard to the County's cap of 8.8% funding cap for the Non-Profit Organizations. It was the consensus of the Board not to approve funding beyond the 8.8%.

Cynthia Ryan, Executive Director of the Veterans Council, stated on behalf of all the Veterans of Indian River County she wanted to thank the Board for their consideration and support of their transportation program. She explained that the program provided free transportation for the veterans and their caretakers for medical appointments locally and to the VA hospital in West Palm Beach. She continued, in addition to direct aid programs this was a critical lifeline for the veterans.

Lindsey Sumpter, Development Coordinator, United Against Poverty, spoke on the organization's new initiative called the Build Up Program, an expansion of their Success Training Employment Program (STEP). She stated the program was to help prepare individuals from various backgrounds to enter the workforce.

Chairman O'Bryan thanked her for the endless number of programs that help individuals in our community.

QUASI NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

- 001-110 COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR (SRA)**
- 001-110 CTC-SRA-SENIOR SERVICES**
- 001-110 GIFFORD YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT CENTER, INC.**
- 001-110 PROGRESSIVE CIVIC LEAGUE OF GIFFORD**
- 001-110 HUMANE SOCIETY OF VERO BEACH, FL**
- 001-110 TREASURE COAST HOMELESS SERVICES COUNCIL, INC.**

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels gave an overview of the proposed recommendations for the Quasi Non-Profit Organizations.

Commissioner Adams received clarification from Budget Director Daniels that the Humane Society's budget was based upon the current contract. In addition, she questioned how the Non-Profit agencies such as the Progressive Civic League of Gifford and the Gifford Youth Athletic Center were funded. Budget Director Daniels stated the Quasi Non-Profit agencies provided services that the County was mandated to provide by law, legislation or the Comprehensive Plan. She continued, if these agencies did not provide such services, the County would need to provide the services.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments.

Karen Deigl, CEO Senior Resource Center, thanked the Board and staff for their continued support.

DORI SLOSBERG DRIVER EDUCATION SAFETY ACT

137-110 INDIAN RIVER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels stated the proposed budget for the Dori Slosberg Driver Education Safety Act was \$49,000, and pointed out there was only one request from the school district for expenses.

STREETLIGHTING DISTRICTS

- 179 OCEANSIDE**
- 180 OSLO PARK**
- 181 GIFFORD**
- 182 LAURELWOOD**
- 183 ROCKRIDGE**
- 184 VERO HIGHLANDS**
- 186 PORPOISE POINT**
- 188 LAUREL COURT**
- 189 TIERRA LINDA**

- 190 **VERO SHORES**
- 191 **IXORA PARK**
- 192 **ROYAL POINCIANA**
- 193 **ROSELAND ROAD**
- 194 **WHISPERING PINES**
- 195 **MOORINGS**
- 196 **WALKER'S GLEN**
- 197 **GLENDALE LAKES**
- 198 **FLORALTON BEACH**
- 199 **WEST WABASSO**

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels announced the increases to the Street Lighting Districts due to Florida Power and Light's (FPL) estimated rate increase of 15%.

Vice Chairman Earman read into the record each proposed assessment rate per parcel/acre for the Street Lighting Districts.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

OTHER M.S.B.U.

- 171 **EAST GIFFORD STORMWATER M.S.B.U.**
- 185 **VERO LAKE ESTATES M.S.B.U.**

Management and Budget Director Kristen Daniels announced the proposed assessment rates per parcel acre for the Vero Lake Estates and East Gifford Stormwater Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU).

Chairman O'Bryan provided an update on the approved assessment program for the Oslo Park road paving, and establishing an assessment district. He mentioned there was a discussion held between County Attorney Dylan Reingold, Property Appraiser Wesley S. Davis, and Tax Collector Carole Jean Jordan, to determine their preference as whether to hold off and not create the Assessment District until Public Works Director Richard Szyrka had the cost estimate of the assessment, and at that time the Assessment

District would be created.

The Chairman opened the floor for public discussion; there were none.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

418-221	GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE
418-236	CLUBHOUSE
441-233	BUILDING DEPARTMENT
471-218	UTILITIES – WASTEWATER TREATMENT
471-219	UTILITIES – WATER PRODUCTION
471-235	UTILITIES – GENERAL & ENGINEERING
471-257	UTILITIES – SLUDGE OPERATIONS
471-265	UTILITIES – CUSTOMER SERVICE
471-268	UTILITIES – WASTEWATER COLLECTION
471-269	UTILITIES – WATER DISTRIBUTION
471-282	UTILITIES – OSPREY MARSH
471-292	UTILITIES – SPOONBILL MARSH
472-235	UTILITY IMPACT FEES

Management and Budget Director Kristen Daniels reviewed the Enterprise Funds.

She reviewed the increase to the Sandridge Golf Club proposed budget, stating the County was setting aside funds for the construction of the new clubhouse. Budget Director Daniels mentioned there was approximately \$5.5 million dollars for the new facility in the Capital Improvement Element (CIE).

Budget Director Daniels referred to the Building Department's proposed budget. She explained the County has been struggling to fill the Building Inspector positions and has budgeted \$100,000 for contracted building inspectors. She noted the Building Department was wrapping up a microfilm digitization project, at an additional cost of \$88,000 in the upcoming fiscal year.

Budget Director Daniels reviewed the Utilities Department recommended budget. She indicated an annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment to the Utility rates would be proposed this fiscal year. She explained although the CPI was higher, the County was capped at a 3% increase that Staff could implement, which would bring the Utilities Department an extra million dollars next fiscal year. She continued that inflation and supply chain issues have impacted the Utilities Department. Budget Director Daniels announced as of October 1, 2022, the Utilities Department would be debt free.

Vice Chairman Earman congratulated Budget Director Daniels stating it was quite an accomplishment for the Utilities Department to be debt free.

Commissioner Adams stressed the importance of appropriately funding the Utilities Department infrastructure, stating there were additional State requirements through the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and other agencies that would impact what Utilities can or cannot do, and that would require the County to seek different solutions. She continued, the septic to sewer conversions were getting more expensive, the grants and cost-share received to offset some of the projects were more constrained, and funding received from St. Johns Water Management District would require mandatory hook up to the sewer. Commissioner Adams expressed how vitally important it was to find different options of funding the Utilities Department for the future.

Commissioner Moss received clarification from Budget Director Daniels that the decrease of \$350,000 for the Spoonbill Marsh project was for a one-time purchase of equipment.

Vice Chairman Earman and County Administrator Jason Brown both agreed as the County continued to grow, expenses would increase over the next few years and there would be a need to have a good plan; they agreed whole-heartedly to make investments in the Utilities Department.

The Chairman opened the floor for public comments.

Director of Utilities Sean Lieske thanked Administrator Brown and Budget Director Daniels for their efforts compiling the budget even though there was a decrease in the Utilities Department budget.

Utilities Finance Manager Cindy Corrente thanked her team of managers, and Customer Service Manager Lisa Patton. She thanked the Commissioners for their support.

Assistant County Administrator Mike Zito stated the golf course was in better condition than it had ever been and explained the budget increase was due to greens maintenance and would come in the form of an addendum, sometime in August.

INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS

- 501 FLEET MANAGEMENT**
- 502 RISK MANAGEMENT (SELF INSURANCE)**
- 504 EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE**
- 505-103 IT - GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS**
- 505-241 IT - INFORMATION SYSTEMS & TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels gave an overview of the Internal Service Funds.

Information Technology Director Dan Russell, thanked the Board and staff for their continued support, for modernizing the County's infrastructure and for the increase in cyber resiliency.

Commissioner Moss thanked Director Russell for taking the Gifford Youth Achievement Center to outer space, and said the Earth Link presentation was absolutely amazing.

Chairman O'Bryan opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

The Chairman called for a recess at 12:22 p.m., and noted the Budget Workshop would reconvene at 1:30 p.m. with the Solid Waste Disposal District.

1:30 P.M. (PUBLIC HEARING) SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT (S.W.D.D.)

- 411-217 SANITARY LANDFILL**
- 411-255 RECYCLING**

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

The Board of County Commissioners reconvened as the Board of Commissioners of the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD). The minutes

will be approved at an upcoming Solid Waste Disposal District Meeting.

County Administrator Jason Brown announced the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) proposed budget, had an increase of \$2,684,281 from the current year budget. There was an increase for the assessment on the residential Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) of 8.8% and commercial Waste Generation Unit (WGU) of 15.8%. The proposed single family ERU charge is \$147.49 per year, an increase of \$11.87, the commercial WGU charge is \$55.19 per year, an increase of \$7.55.

Administrator Brown indicated the SWDD was facing an estimated \$336,000 increased costs in contracts because of the Consumer Pricing Index (CPI) inflator capped at 3%. He mentioned staff was currently working on a rate study and would be bringing it back to the Board before the next fiscal year as well as the recycling projects.

The Chairman opened the public hearing for comments; there were none. He closed the public hearing.

The Board of Commissioners of the Solid Waste Disposal District adjourned the meeting and reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners of the Budget Workshop meeting, continuing with Miscellaneous Funds Budget.

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS

102	TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT FEES
103	ADDITIONAL IMPACT FEES
104	TRAFFIC IMPACT FEES 2020
108	RENTAL ASSISTANCE
109	SECONDARY ROAD CONSTRUCTION
117	TREE ORDINANCE FINES
119	TOURIST DEVELOPMENT FUND
120	911 SURCHARGE
121	DRUG ABUSE FUND
123	IRCLHAP/SHIP
124	METRO PLAN ORGANIZATION

- 127 **NATIVE UPLANDS ACQUISITION**
- 128 **BEACH RESTORATION**
- 129 **NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PLAN**
- 130 **NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION 3 PLAN**
- 133 **FLORIDA BOATING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**
- 135 **DISABLED ACCESS PROGRAMS**
- 136 **INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANTS**
- 138 **ARP – AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN**
- 139 **CARES ACT & COVID-19 RESPONSE**
- 140 **COURT FACILITY SURCHARGE FUND**
- 141 **ADDITIONAL COURT COSTS**
- 142 **COURT TECHNOLOGY FUND**
- 145 **LAND ACQUISITION SERIES 2006**

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels gave an overview of the Miscellaneous Funds proposed budget, discussing the increases and decreases for each fund.

Vice Chairman Earman received clarification from County Administrator Jason Brown and Budget Director Daniels, the revenue of the Optional Sales tax was \$22 million and the 911 surcharge revenue budgeted was \$1.2 million.

Chairman O'Bryan opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

DEBT SERVICE/CAPITAL PROJECTS

- 204 **DODGER BONDS**
- 308 **JACKIE ROBINSON TRAINING COMPLEX (fka CAPITAL
RESERVE FUND)**
- 315 **OPTIONAL ONE-CENT SALES TAX**

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels gave an overview of the Other Debt /Capital Projects proposed budget, noting the Dodgertown Capital Reserve bonds will mature in the year 2031. She mentioned the County gave Major League Baseball (MLB) the money to fund the press box, concessions, and the restrooms.

Chairman O'Bryan opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

AGGREGATE MILLAGE

AGGREGATE MILLAGE RATE IS 6.1286

RECAP-TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET AND PROPOSED MILLAGE RATES

Management and Budget Director Kristin Daniels announced the proposed Aggregate Millage rate for FY 2021/2022 was 6.1226, the proposed rate for FY 2022/2023 is 6.1286, a rolled back rate of 5.5195, a rolled back difference of 0.60912. She indicated the aggregate millage rate was not a millage rate that anyone pays, just an average used for illustrative purposes to compare the year-to-year overall millage rate.

Chairman O'Bryan opened the floor for public comments; there were none.

JASON E. BROWN, COUNTY ADMINSTRATOR

County Administrator Jason Brown gave a recap of the Proposed Overall Budget for FY 2022/2023.

Overall Budget

Total Proposed budget for 2022/2023 is \$451,964,531, a decrease of \$90,319,319.

General Fund

Proposed millage is 3.5475, 11.03% above rolled back.

The proposed budget is \$118,399,287, a decrease of \$2,286,505.

Administrator Brown indicated the Court Administration had requested a budget increase of 74%. He mentioned an Interlocal Agreement to share the costs with Okeechobee, Martin and St. Lucie counties, and whoever had the lowest funding level, would set the amount of what the budget should be. Due to lack of clarity, County staffed agreed to leave the amount that is in the current proposed budget. He added if the other counties provide the full funding, staff would bring back a proposal to amend the budget, and it would be funded out of the General Fund.

Municipal Service Taxing Unit

Proposed millage is 1.1506, 11.10% above rolled back.

The proposed budget is \$44,259,621, an increase of \$4,458,739.

Transportation Fund

The proposed budget is \$21,522,509, an increase of \$2,170,944.

Emergency Services District

Proposed millage is 2.3531, 10.90% above rolled back.

The proposed budget is \$52,044,363, an increase of \$1,538,227.

A motion was made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Flescher, to approve the proposed General Fund Millage rate of 3.5475, for Fiscal Year 2022/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman O'Bryan, Vice Chairman Earman, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Flescher, and Commissioner Moss

A motion was made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Flescher, to approve the proposed Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) Millage rate of 1.1506, for the Fiscal Year 2022/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman O'Bryan, Vice Chairman Earman, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Flescher, and Commissioner Moss

A motion was made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Flescher, to approve the proposed Transportation Fund of \$21,522,509, for Fiscal Year 2022/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman O'Bryan, Vice Chairman Earman, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Flescher, and Commissioner Moss

A motion was made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Flescher, to approve the Emergency Services District proposed Millage rate of 2.3531, for the Fiscal Year 2022/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman O'Bryan, Vice Chairman Earman, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Flescher, and Commissioner Moss

A motion was made by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Flescher, to approve the Total Proposed Budget of \$451,964,531 for Fiscal Year 2022/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman O'Bryan, Vice Chairman Earman, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Flescher, and Commissioner Moss

Chairman O'Bryan announced there would be a Preliminary Budget Hearing on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 5:01 p.m., and the Final Budget Hearing would be held on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 5:01 p.m. in the Commission Chambers.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.