

# **Brevard County Board of County Commissioners**

*2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Viera, FL 32940*



## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, July 22, 2025**

**9:00 AM**

**Regular / Tentative Millage**

**Commission Chambers**

**A. CALL TO ORDER 9:00 AM**

Rollcall

**Present:** Commissioner District 1 Katie Delaney , Commissioner District 2 Tom Goodson, Commissioner District 3 Kim Adkinson, Commissioner District 4 Rob Feltner, and Commissioner District 5 Thad Altman

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Thad Altman, District 5**

Commissioner Altman led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**E.2. Resolution recognizing Waste and Recycling Workers Week - District 3**

Commissioner Adkinson read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-060, recognizing June 17, 2025, as Waste and Recycling Workers Week.

Jordan Chandler, Waste Management, stated he would like to thank Commissioner Adkinson for thinking of honoring the sacrifice, the selflessness, and the commitment of these essential workers who provide an essential service to the community; some know it is more than just about trash, recyclables, and garbage routes, it is about creating a more vibrant, more healthy, and safer community for all; and again, thanks for recognizing the contributions of the countless men and women who represent the Solid Waste Department and Waste Management.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**E.1. Presentation by CT Social (CTS) providing a preview of the upcoming Brevard County Opioid Awareness Marketing Campaign.**

Juanita Jackson, Housing and Human Services Director, stated staff has briefed some of the Board and scheduled the others on the Brevard County Opioid abatement marketing and education program; it was requested for CT Social (CTS) to provide a preview of the upcoming marketing campaign that will launch on August 21; it will start with a brief introduction of how they got here; May 18, 2021, the Board authorized Resolution 21-017, which committed the County to participate in the opioid settlement Florida Plan which would enable the County to receive funds once settlements were reached with opioid pharmaceutical companies; on October 25, 2021, Brevard County was approved as a qualified County to receive opioid abatement settlement funds; and it is estimated for the County to receive \$44 million over the next 18 years, if all the pharmaceutical companies pay out their full settlements. She continued by saying qualified counties are required to follow the State guidelines regarding expenditures or funds on the core strategies and approved uses included and required in reporting for this Department; on November 24, 2023, the Board approved the first year opioid abatement services to include a marketing and education contract with CTS after the approved Request for Proposal (RFP) process; and now she will hand it over to Greg Trujillo with CTS.

Greg Trujillo stated when they started on this project, they conducted a large amount of background research accessing publicly accessible reports going onto online forums and social media to see public sentiment and also reviewing government data that was available to them; they performed community listening which entailed seven townhalls across the County and a community survey that was distributed as well through the government and also through

advertising; they have performed stakeholder interviews which consisted of talking to County and City leadership, to different staff members from Emergency Medical Services (EMS), law enforcement, parks, libraries, and also to nonprofit service providers in this sector; and what they found was there is a large burden on different systems in the community. He continued by saying for law enforcement, while they are pursuing traffickers and DWIs, they are also responding to a high number of overdose calls; in addition to first responders and healthcare, there are a high volume of calls that places a strain on the system and a large number of emergency rooms being taken up for those people that are overdosing; for community workers, parks, libraries, and transit staff, they have seen people overdosing and intoxicated in their facilities to the point that a park worker even said that they had gotten stuck with a needle while changing out the toilet paper rolls in the park; and the only thing that they could say was thank goodness it was them and not a child. He went on to say nonprofit providers have said they require additional funding to serve the growing need of those that are overdosing and to provide treatment and beds; the Child Welfare System has seen a larger number of children entering the foster care system because of caretaker drug abuse and families that struggle to know how to help those that they are connected to when they are struggling with Opiate Use Disorder; for the survey some of the key takeaways, about 82 percent said they feel this is a concerning issue in Brevard; 46 percent said they have been personally affected by this issue whether it is themselves, friends, or family; and a large number of people believe that it is 30 and under that are most at risk of opiate overdose, but research found that it is actually 35 and over that have the most risk of dying from Fentanyl overdoses. He stated some of the messaging that they have put together, or the priorities they will be messaging upon, is reducing the stigma so they can encourage people to seek help; they want to offer accessible resources to family members so that they can talk to loved ones and hopefully provide them with the support that they need; they want to make sure that the navigation is easy to find treatment and resources for those that are ready and willing; they want to focus on youth substance abuse prevention; they have heard for the diversion program of children as young as six getting admitted because they were found with a vape that had THC in it; and they want to also make sure that they promote lifesaving knowledge and tools such as Naloxone and Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) programs. He noted a lot of people do not understand what MAT is and they want to make sure that they can outline that for them if that is a correct choice that they can go down; through this campaign, they have identified different audiences that they will pair with these messages so they can get the right messages to the right audience using the correct platform; they will engage those audiences through print media, digital media, television, social media, and also partnerships with youth outreach and local nonprofits; the timeline is currently still doing stakeholder meetings; they are designing these concepts and brand guidelines; they are creating a website with the County that will be owned directly by the County; and they are prepping launch for August 21, which is Fentanyl awareness day. He mentioned from that point they will have a media campaign going on all of the mediums that he has talked about; and they will make sure they have all the media buying before October, finalized to run for the rest of the year and prep and planning for year two.

Commissioner Delaney expressed her appreciation to Mr. Trujillo and his team.

### **E.3. Presentation by Stephanie Palacios on Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida**

Commissioner Delaney stated she had a really great meeting with Second Harvest; she has been involved in some different food bank situations; she has volunteered with Farm Share and some of these different things; she realized that there was not really a whole lot going on in District 1; and she just really wanted to bring awareness to food deserts, food needs, and let people know there are services available out there that provide food for people who need it.

Stephanie Palacios, Director of Government Relations at Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, asked if any of the Board Members or staff have been to their previous facility in West Melbourne or the brand new facility in Melbourne; she commented she knows Commissioner Delaney has; Second Harvest Food Bank is the largest hunger relief organization in Central Florida; this map shows their service area; they have five locations, with the headquarters, main warehouse in downtown Orlando; the newest location is in Melbourne and she will talk about that brand new facility in just a moment; their service area is seven counties; and in these counties they distribute 300,000 meals every single day. She went on to say Second Harvest is a member of Feeding America as well as Feeding Florida; on this map of Florida it shows their sister food banks throughout the State; Feeding Florida covers every county in the State of Florida and they all work together; the reason that is so important is in the times of disaster, if the State is hit by a hurricane, while they are not first responders, their infrastructure already exists and they can get their trucks on the road as soon as the roads are safe and they do that; and they actually hold State commodities, disaster commodities in their warehouses throughout the State to partner with the State of Florida to support its neighbors who are food insecure after disasters. She went on to say with their new Brevard facility they actually have more emergency disaster relief supplies in Brevard County; this network, through Feeding America, which is the largest hunger relief organization in the United States, they can source food from all over the County, but most of the food actually comes from Florida; last year, 75 percent of the produce that was distributed was Florida grown; that was 34 million pounds of produce; their agricultural partners are essential to the work that they do; she asked what does hunger look like and who is hungry in Central Florida; she advised one in seven Central Floridians is food insecure, which is a big number, and the number is even more staggering when one thinks about one in six children are food insecure; and that kind of hits home, these are babies that may not know where their next meal is coming from and if they are not in school, they may not be getting that meal over the weekend. She stated that is something they really take to heart at Second Harvest and really try to address; over one-half of a million people in the seven-county service area are food insecure and either seek assistance from one of the pantries or through one of the hunger relief programs; last year, Second Harvest distributed over 82 million meals in its seven-county service area; as she mentioned, cadence for distributing meals is 300,000 meals per day; this is a higher number than it was back in 2020; and they are seeing more people come to the pantries for assistance than back in 2020 and it continues to go up. She went on to say Second Harvest is kind of like the Amazon of food pantries; these smaller food pantries, which there are about 800 community partners in its seven-county service area, they go to one of the warehouses to get food; they source food from all over, some of their biggest partners are Publix, Walmart, and Winn Dixie; they are getting food from retail partners as well as agricultural partners; not only are they providing food, they are providing nutrition education; cooking demonstrations, so if a neighbor is getting some sort of produce that they are not sure how to use, they will help them learn how to use it; and they have 25 trucks that hit the road every morning to head to their retail partners to pick up that extra food. She stated if one goes into Publix and he or she sees some ground beef that may be approaching its expiration date, most people are not going to pick that up to buy it; however, it is perfectly good ground beef; what Publix does is they freeze it and one of the trucks will pick it up, all of the trucks are refrigerated, and bring it to the warehouse; the volunteers will sort through it and make sure it is not compromised in any way, then it goes out to the community for free; and they are eliminating waste because otherwise that food is going to get thrown away, but it is getting out to families who need it. She stated additionally, they purchase food; their philanthropic work, a lot of it is to make sure that they can purchase those healthy options so their pantries have them to distribute to their neighbors; as she previously stated, their over 800 partners are the people who are on the ground distributing straight to their neighbors in need; they also have a culinary training program through the Orlando warehouse which is a free 16-week workforce development program that teaches its neighbors,

who are mostly food insecure, the essential skills that they need to work in hotels, Disney, Universal, or anywhere in the culinary arts; additionally, they have their school partnerships program that is in Brevard County as well; and this is where they provide school markets and farmers markets at schools so that the students have access to those healthy options at school, as well as their families because that is one thing that they see, if they are feeding a student, it is likely they are sharing that food at home with their family. She continued by saying they provide Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) assistance which is her team and there are two specialist that are based in Brevard County that assist neighbors in registering for SNAP; this program is unique; they have a contract with Department of Children and Families (DCF); and they act as DCF by doing the first interview with a neighbor who is seeking SNAP assistance. She mentioned the brand new Brevard branch in Melbourne, they have been operating in Brevard in some capacity, since 2000, with their previous location in West Melbourne; it was much smaller and they were outgrowing that location; they have expanded to a 23,000 square foot facility in Melbourne and that is a picture of it; they opened it in 2024; they have increased capacity by over 60 percent since they moved into their brand new Melbourne facility; and this is all food that is going out to Brevard County neighbors. She went on to say they do house their disaster supplies, the second level is all disaster supplies; she mentioned they have partner agencies all throughout the service area that help distribute food; in Brevard County, there are 92 smaller nonprofits who get a majority of their food through Second Harvest; these are diverse pantries that are maybe the size of one room or a small warehouse, but they are serving neighbors directly and they are all within their network; last year they distributed over 8.8 million meals to Brevard County residents; and they have 11 school partnership sites, and have a meeting tomorrow with the School Board to expand the sites here in Brevard County. She reiterated they have that SNAP application assistance and two specialists who are dedicated to Brevard County. She stated that is just a quick overview of Second Harvest; she would like to invite each Board Member to come to the Melbourne warehouse for a tour and a discussion is any of them would like to learn more about their partner agencies and how they are supporting constituents in their district; her information is there and business card is provided; if they have any questions or have a constituent who is seeking food assistance please let her know and she can connect them; and they are there as a resource them.

Commissioner Delaney thanked Ms. Palacios for presenting on this important topic.

**F.3. Legislative Intent and Permission to Advertise Amendments to Chapter 94, Solid Waste**

Sandra Sullivan stated the first thing she wants to talk about is the Legislative intent and permission to advertise amendments to solid waste; she wants to encourage that what the public wants is more transparency and accountability; there was a recent item on the Agenda on going out for some bonds and how it was allocated for that bonding and what it was specified for; she came to the Board and said that it did not correspond with what vendor link was showing, which was a \$33 million project; and last night she was reading the budget and the cost for the new I-92 dump is up to \$83 million, it was supposed to be around \$30 to \$35 million originally. She commented people now know that number; and what she would ask of this Board is for just more transparency to the public, like what is going wrong, why is it such an aggressive cost, etcetera.

**F.12. Acknowledge Receipt of the FY 2023-2024 Community Redevelopment Agencies Annual Reports, along with an Audit Report**

Sandra Sullivan stated the second Item is about the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) annual reports and specifically she wants to talk about the Eau Gallie CRA; it has been the position of the State Legislators to try to push to do away with CRAs to no new debt and

eliminate them by 2040; she thinks that push, that direction and particularly in light of the budgetary constraints of this County, indicating it has a fiscal crisis, and when one reads that CRA it has in there that they have been collecting CRA and County funds not expending money per the agreement, and that they are up to about \$5 million now; the parking garage was not to exceed \$6 million and change, but they are up to \$8 million and change; now there is a cost escalation; and she is just going to say that this should be addressed right now because that is not compliant with the agreements. She noted she sent the Board a very detailed email about all of the Agenda Items from the past for this and attached the agreement that it should not exceed \$6 million and some change; and that should be discussed here and now, in her opinion. She added when one sees who the developer of this parking garage is and see that they give to packs that help elect people on this Board does not have good optics.

**F.13. Brevard County Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 and Brevard County Annual Financial Audits Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024**

Sandra Sullivan stated the audit reports for Fiscal Year 2024, she has been looking for those repeatedly and she was happy to see that they came out; what she does not see in them is an explanation and more detail, and this Board has not discussed this either, for the first time ever, in February and March of this year, there was no write-off on the Agenda Item for Ambulance; what she does see is like \$7 million and some change as a loss; usually there is about \$23 million net after the write-offs; and she thinks some explanation, with transparency and accountability, is in order on this Item.

**F.1. Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between St Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and Brevard County for muck disposal at the Sebastian River Dredge Material Containment Area (DMCA) as approved by the Board on July 8, 2025. (District 4)**

The Board authorized the County Manager to execute the IGA, subject to review and approval by the County Attorney's Office and Risk Management; and authorized the County Manager to sign amendments.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**F.2. Approval Re: Second Amendment to Lease Agreement and Renewal of the Interlocal Agreement with the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization**

The Board approved and authorized the Interim County Manager, or County Manager, to execute the Second Amendment to the Lease Agreement with the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization; approved and authorized the Interim County Manager, or County Manager, to execute any other necessary lease-related documents such as amendments and/or renewals, contingent upon review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, Risk Management, and Purchasing Services; and approved and authorized the Interim County Manager, or County Manager, to execute the upcoming renewal of the Interlocal Agreement and any other agreement-related documents such as amendments and/or renewals, contingent upon review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, Risk Management, and Purchasing Services.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**F.3. Legislative Intent and Permission to Advertise Amendments to Chapter 94, Solid**

## **Waste**

The Board approved legislative intent and permission to advertise for a Public Hearing on amendments to the Brevard County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 94, Solid Waste.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconders:** Kim Adkinson

### **F.4. Approval Re: Agreement between the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners and Housing for Homeless, Inc. (District 2)**

The Board authorized the County Manager, or his designee, to execute an Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners and Housing for Homeless, Inc., upon approval by the County Attorney and Risk Management; authorized the Housing and Human Services Director to execute any future amendment(s) or modification(s) upon approval by the County Attorney and Risk Management; and authorized the County Manager to execute all necessary Budget Change Requests.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconders:** Kim Adkinson

### **F.5. Approval; RE: Land Donation from Korpi Trust -District 3**

The Board approved acceptance of a donation of property from the Korpi Trust, in Malabar (Parcel ID Number 29-37-12-00-52, Tax Account Number 2931789); approved waiving the requirement for a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment; and authorized the Chair to execute the Agreement to accept the donation, upon County Attorney's Office and Risk Management review and approval, with the County paying title and closing fees.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconders:** Kim Adkinson

### **F.6. Approval, Re: Federal Transit Administration Fiscal Year 2025 Certifications and Assurances.**

The Board approved and authorized the Chair to execute the Fiscal Year 2025 Certification and Assurances for Federal Transit Administration Grants; and authorized the Transit Services Director to execute the Certifications and Assurances electronically.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconders:** Kim Adkinson

### **F.7. Approval, Re: Authorizing Resolution, Grant Application, Certifications and Assurances, Execution of Follow-Up Grant Agreement for FFY2023/SFY2025 Space Coast Area Transit Section 5310 Formula Grant with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).**

The Board approved the following actions for the FFY2023/SFY2025 Section 5310 Formula Grant for Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities with FDOT:

- Adopting and Authorizing the Chairman to sign Authorizing Resolution No. 25--061;
- Use of FDOT Toll Revenue Credits as a local match source;
- Use of sales of surplus vehicles as local match source;

- Authorizing the Transit Services Director to execute and submit the Grant Agreement electronically, contingent upon County Attorney and Risk Management approvals;
- Authorizing the Transit Services Director to execute any additional follow-up documentation, resolution, and amendments necessary to secure these funds; and
- Authorizing the County Manager to execute any necessary Budget Change Requests.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**F.8. Approval, Re: Authorizing Resolution, Grant Recipient Information Form, and Execution of Grant Agreement for SFY 2026 Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Trip & Equipment Grant**

The Board approved the following:

- Adopting and Authorizing the Chairman to sign Authorizing Resolution No. 25-062;
- Authorizing the Chairman to sign the Grant Application Information Form;
- Authorizing the Chairman to execute the Grant Agreement, contingent upon County Attorney and Risk Management approval;
- Authorizing the Transit Services Director to execute any additional follow-up documentation, resolutions, and amendments necessary to secure these funds; and
- Authorizing the County Manager to execute necessary Budget Change Requests.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**F.9. Approval, Re: Budget Change Request**

The Board reviewed and approved the Budget Change Resolution (BCR), as submitted.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**F.10. Certification of Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT) Percentages Allocations**

The Board approved the certification of the LOGT Percentages Allocations; and authorized the Clerk's Finance Department to submit the allocations to the Florida Department of Revenue (FDOR).

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**F.11. FY 2026 Proposed Budgets for Community Development Districts**

The Board approved and acknowledged receipt of the FY 2026 Proposed Budgets for Baytree Community Development District, Chaparral of Palm Bay Community Development District, Heritage Isle at Viera Community Development District, Mayfair Community Development District, Montecito Community Development District, Tranquility Community Development District, Viera East Community Development District, Viera Stewardship Community Development District, Willow Creek Community Development District, and Willow Creek II Community Development District.

**Result:** APPROVED



**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconded:** Kim Adkinson

**F.12. Acknowledge Receipt of the FY 2023-2024 Community Redevelopment Agencies Annual Reports, along with an Audit Report**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the FY 2023-2024 Community Redevelopment Agencies Annual Reports, and recognized the FY 2024-2025 budget amendment for the City of Melbourne and the City of Titusville.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconded:** Kim Adkinson

**F.13. Brevard County Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 and Brevard County Annual Financial Audits Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Annual ACFR for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2024; and acknowledged the Annual Financial Audits for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2024.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconded:** Kim Adkinson

**F.14. Bill Folder**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Bill Folder.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconded:** Kim Adkinson

**G. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Individuals may not speak under both the first and second public comment sections.)**

Lieutenant John Dacko stated the back of the Citizens Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendations (CEER) recommendation is the staff analysis which is kind of what he is going to address today; he is there to address the CEER recommendation that he submitted 2025020 which was recently denied; he reviewed the staff analysis in detail and he wishes to clarify critical misunderstandings; while the correct Florida Statute was indeed cited, Section 212.05508, it is application and potential were not fully-recognized in his view; this recommendation clearly authorizes counties, like Brevard, to propose one percent discretionary sales tax via ordinance or a referendum for Emergency Fire Rescue Operations and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advanced Life Support (ALS) services; contrary to the conclusion of the staff memo, this initiative is not outside of the County's authority; and in fact, the Statute lays out a clear and legal path forward, one that other counties have already successfully walked. He went on to say here is what the Statute allows; the sales surtax would replace fire and EMS related property tax and assessments, easing the financial burden of business owners, developers, and homeowners; funds can be distributed proportionally to all participating municipalities or retained Countywide capital improvements such as building or renovating fire stations, purchasing life savings equipment, and staffing ambulances; unused or declined shares from municipalities can legally revert back to the County and be used exclusively for Fire Rescue and EMS ALS operations managed in a dedicated fund with oversight and audits; and in other words, the County can structure this program to ensure that

every dollar collected stays in Brevard County and serves Brevard County Fire Rescue and its EMS ALS system. He noted that flexibility is built into Statute; he is reading between the lines that the staff recommendation is this is too ambitious, that the coordination with municipalities is too complex, and that this initiative is maybe too politically difficult; and if that is truly the case, the County is failing in its duty as stewards of the public trust, saying it is too hard and that is not leadership. He advised the Board the departments it oversees remain underfunded and overstretched, particularly Fire Rescue and the EMS ALS transport services; he has presented a legally sound voter-driven and sustainable funding mechanism to fully support these vital operations; he spoke with Chairman Feltner four or five months ago and he acknowledged the merit of this proposal, and he actually had something similar as well; he asked how to move forward in that moment and he had hoped Chairman Feltner would provide him guidance, he hoped for leadership, and now he hopes for action; the proposal directly aligns with the very initiative that the Governor Ron DeSantis is working to implement, shifting the burden of funding critical services, away from property owners, and towards broader more equitable base; and a sales surtax does exactly that. He noted it ensures that the millions of tourists and visitors who enjoy Brevard County also contribute to maintaining the high quality emergency services they expect when they are here; when people visit Brevard they expect excellent infrastructure, rapid emergency response, and well-equipped professionals; cutting funding from one department just to provide a lifeline to another is not leadership; presenting critical needs is a crisis, while failing to explore viable funding solutions, is not leadership; breaking the three percent sales tax cap instead of developing a sustainable funding source is not leadership; this pattern that the County is in right now is reactionary; and the short term fix has gone on far too long, it needs to stop. He commented hopefully this Board will stop that and find a creative funding source to fix the County's needs; to be honest, the real obstacle here is not legality, it is effort; it will take interlocal agreements, time, and public agreement, but it is all possible and more importantly it is necessary; leadership means making hard decisions, and doing what is right, not what is easy; it means being bold when the people being served need it most; Brevard County needs leadership who are will to step forward; and hopefully this Board will that leader.

Sandra Sullivan stated she wants to talk about and continue on with what Mr. Dacko was talking about; the first page is the 2025 local discretionary sales surtax rates in Florida counties; as a County, Brevard County is allowed up to a three cent sales tax; as Mr. Dacko said, there is an appetite at the State level to move from property tax to sales tax to lift some of the burden on the people because quite frankly, things are getting unaffordable; as one can see on this, it shows the existing taxes Brevard County already has and what is available; and there is a specific category for emergency fire rescue services to where this could be funded. She continued by saying one can also see that according to the Tourist Development Council (TDC), there are 24 new hotels coming on line in the next three years; that is a lot of tourism; basically looking at fire and EMS, they are doing calls to the beaches, they are doing calls to the Port, and they are doing calls to the hotels; quite frankly, a lot of the costs that Brevard has with regard to the beaches and EMS responses and so on means that it is a very fair and equitable thing for that cost to be shared and offset; a one-half cent sales tax brings in about \$600 million over 10 years; it was also the recommendation by transportation to have a one-half cent sales tax to cover transportation; and this County has a huge deficit, \$2.2 billion and the no way to cover that, and that crisis is increasing. She noted there is some talk about SB 180 and maybe the Board can increase impact fees, that is a question; finally, the County has Save Our Indian River Lagoon (SOIRL), which she thinks most people are not in favor of anymore, and would like to see the sewage system taken and restructured into; and she is going to request that the Board consider doing this now, it has until August 19 to draft ordinances to do sales tax because kicking this can down the road while the County has a fiscal crisis, is just setting the people up for the Board wanting to do away with the three

percent tax cap; and yes Commissioner Adkinson came to a meeting and made that pitch.

**H.1. Final Public Hearing and Approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan for the Brevard County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium**

Chairman Feltner called for final public hearing for approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan for the Brevard County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium.

Juanita Jackson, Housing and Human Services Director, stated this is the final public hearing for FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan; it is the second and final hearing; the first public hearing was on May 6, 2025, and it opened a 30-day public hearing requirement; per the Citizens Participation Plan, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires jurisdictions to hold two public hearings and one public meeting under the Annual Action Plan; the public meeting was held on May 20 during the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen Advisory Committee meeting; HUD requires the recipients of HOME and CDBG funds to prepare an Annual Action Plan using the goals and priorities established in the five-year consolidated plan; the department is estimated to receive \$1.3 million in CDBG dollars and a little over \$1 million in HOME funds; they advertised in Florida TODAY, Ebony News, Aldia, the Housing and Human Services Department website, press release on the County website, social media, and press release on Spectrum News 13; and they have received five public comments.

There being no comments or objections, the Board approved the following:

- The FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan for the Brevard County HOME Investment Partnerships Program Consortium;
- The Chairman to execute the required certifications, assurances, and the Application for Federal Assistance for the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and HOME grants;
- The County Manager to sign the CDBG Program and HOME Program Grant Agreements and Disbursement Agreements with the four Brevard HOME Consortium member cities, upon approval from Housing and Urban Development (HUD);
- The Housing and Human Services Department, as contract administrators, to use competitive procurement to secure contractors to complete proposed activities and projects;
- The Housing and Human Services Director to endorse agreements, amendments, and modifications for activities and projects identified in the Action Plan, and procured by the Housing and Human Services Department upon approval from Risk Management and the County Attorney's Office; and
- The County Manager to execute and necessary Budget Change Requests.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**H.2. Public Hearing and Approval: RE: Substantial Amendment to Fiscal Years 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plans (\$38,724.79-District 1) (\$165,000-District 2).**

Chairman Feltner called a public hearing for approval of a substantial amendment to Fiscal Years 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plans.

Juanita Jackson, Housing and Human Services Director, stated this is approval for the CDBG substantial amendment; and this action moves unencumbered funds from various years to the current Fiscal Year to pay off the Health Department Section 108 loan and to fund the speed humps on Schoolhouse Lane, Lucan Terrace, Minnie Street, and Myrtle Avenue.

There being no comments or objections, the Board held a public hearing to consider input from the public regarding the substantial amendment; approved the substantial amendments to FY 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 CDBG Annual Action Plans; authorized the Housing and Human Services Director to perform any action necessary for the successful implementation and completion of the activities identified in the substantial amendment, such as acting as signatory on any required United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) documents and coordination with other County Departments (example – Public Works, Road and Bridge) to conduct bids and complete construction; and authorized the County Manager to execute all necessary Budget Change Requests.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**H.3. Permission to Participate in and Accept the U.S. Dept. of Justice (DOJ) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.**

Chairman Feltner called for public hearing requesting permission to participate in and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated this is just permission to participate in and accept the DOJ Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for Countywide transportation of prisoners; and there is an Agreement between law enforcement agencies and the County that these funds are used so the Sheriff can send someone to transport prisoners to the County Jail Complex so the municipal Departments do not have to take an officer off the road to drive them there.

There being no comments or objections, the Board granted permission to participate in and accept the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant application; designated the Brevard County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) as the point of contact; authorized the Chairperson to execute the necessary contractual agreements, modifications and amendments; authorized the County Manager to execute necessary Budget Change Requests; and authorized the Board of County Commissioners to provide the BCSO with written approval.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**H.4. Petition to Vacate, Re: A portion of two Public Rights-of-ways - Plat of "Bellewood Estates" Plat Book 6, Page 27 - Titusville - STG Properties LLC - District 1**

Chairman Feltner called for a public hearing on a request by STG Properties, LLC for a petition to vacate a portion of two public rights-of-way, Plat of Bellewood Estates, Plat Book 6, Page 27, located in Titusville.

Marc Bernath, Public Works Director, stated this is a petition to vacate a portion of two public rights-of-way, Bellewood Estates; it is located in Titusville, located west of U.S. 1, north of River Park Boulevard; petitioner is requesting vacating to make ownership contiguous which will allow the continuous development of the current property; and there are no objections.

There being no comments or objections, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2025-063, vacating a portion of two public rights-of-way, Bellewood Estates, located in Titusville, Florida, lying in Section 12, Township 23 South, Range 35 East, requested by STG Properties, LLC.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**H.5. Petition to Vacate, Re: A portion of a two public utility and drainage easements, and a portion of a storm water retention easement - Plat of "Indian River Village", Plat Book 25, Page 94 - Merritt Island - Francisco B. and Josephine Bautista - District 2**

Chairman Feltner called for a public hearing on a request by Francisco B. and Josephine Bautista for a petition to vacate a portion of two public utility and drainage easements, and a portion of a stormwater retention easement, Indian River Village, Plat Book 25, Page 94, located in Merritt Island.

Marc Bernath, Public Works Director, stated this is a petition to vacate a portion of two public utility and drainage easements and a portion of a stormwater retention easement in Indian River Village, Merritt Island, south of State Road (SR) 528, west of North Courtenay Parkway; petitioners are requesting to allow for the construction of a garage/workshop; and he has received no comments or objections.

There being no comments or objections, the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-064, vacating a portion of two public utility and drainage easements and a portion of a stormwater retention easement, Indian River Village, Merritt Island, Florida, lying in Section 15, Township 24 South, Range 36 East, as requested by Francisco B. and Josephine Bautista.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**H.6. Petition to Vacate, Re: A portion of a public utility easement - Plat of "Barefoot Bay Mobile Home Subdivision, Unit Two, Part Eleven", Plat Book 22, Page 116 - Barefoot Bay - Peter Barrett and Susan M. Dearnley - District 3**

Chairman Feltner called for a public hearing on a request by Peter Barrett and Susan M. Dearnley for a petition to vacate a portion of a public utility easement, Barefoot Bay Mobile Home Subdivision, Unit Two, Part Eleven, Plat Book 22, Page 116, located in Barefoot Bay.

Marc Bernath, Public Works Director, stated this is a petition to vacate a portion of a public utility easement, Barefoot Bay Mobile Home Subdivision; the petitioner is requesting the vacate to allow the replacement of a screen enclosure on the porch which was purchased with the

home, but was blown out during a hurricane; in order to remove the encroachment, this vacating needs to go through; and it has received no objections.

There being no comments or objections, the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-065, vacating a portion of a public utility easement, Barfoot Bay Mobile Home Subdivision, Barefoot Bay, Florida, lying in Section 10, Township 30 South, Range 38 East, as requested by Peter Barrett and Susan M. Dearnley.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**H.7. Approval, Re: Ordinance amending Chapter 102, Article III of the Code of Ordinances of Brevard County, Florida, pertaining to the collection of the tourist development tax.**

Chairman Feltner called for public hearing to request approval of an ordinance amending Chapter 102, Article III of the Code of Ordinances of Brevard County, Florida, pertaining to the collection of the Tourist Development Tax.

Peter Cranis, Tourist Development Office Director, stated this is a change to the Tourist Development Tax Ordinance to allow the Clerk of the Courts to begin collection of the Tourist Development Tax beginning in October.

Commissioner Adkinson expressed her appreciation to the Clerk of Courts for taking on this responsibility.

Commissioner Delaney agreed.

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, asked for the motion to include a provision that the County Attorney's Office can correct any scrivener errors prior to transmission to the State through the Clerk, there may be a capitalization that might need to be changed.

There being no comments or objections, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 25-12, amending Chapter 102, Article III of the Code of Ordinances of Brevard County, Florida, amending Sections 102-118, 102-119(8), and 102-124 to replace reference to the County Tax Collector with the County Clerk of the Circuit Court for Tourist Development Tax collection purposes; providing for conflicts; providing for severability; providing for inclusion into the Code of Ordinances; providing an effective Date of October 1, 2025; and authorized the County Attorney to address any scrivener errors prior to transmission to the State by the Clerk.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**H.8. Adoption of Proposed FY 2025-2026 Ad Valorem Millages**

Chairman Feltner called for a public hearing for adoption of proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Ad Valorem Millages.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated staff is requesting that the Board set the FY 2025-2026 proposed millage rates; the Agenda attachment provides details on the 24 individual taxing Districts that Brevard County is taxing authority over; these millages align with the proposed budget that was presented to the Board and posted on the County's website on July 15; all of these millage rates have been established within the Brevard County Charter Cap limitations; as the property values increase, which is approximately seven percent this year, because the County is limited in the ad valorem growth by three percent or CPI, which was 2.95, all of the proposed millages have decreased from the current millage rates; and that is a 1.32 percent decrease from the current aggregate rate, but while the millage rates have decreased the aggregate millage rate is higher than the roll back rate, therefore, according to the State requirements under this proposal, the final budget hearing would be advertised as a tax increase. She continued by saying Florida Statute requires that the County provide the Property Appraiser with proposed millages no later than August 4 for inclusion in the Truth in Millage (TRIM) notice; the TRIM notice is what notifies the taxpayers of the tentative millage rates and also serves as the announcement for the first budget hearing in September; staff is also requesting in this Agenda Item that the Board Meeting calendar be changed to reflect the Tentative Budget Hearing date as September 10; it was initially scheduled the first hearing for September 9, however, according to Florida Statutes the County cannot schedule a hearing on the same day as the School Board; they have scheduled their final budget hearing for September 9; therefore, staff is requesting to move it to the following day, which would be September 10.

Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager, stated in his budget message he had in there for the public service tax; thanks to the sharp eyes, and staff has confirmed, that is a utility tax; under Section 2.99 of the Charter that would have to go to the voters, therefore, the Board cannot vote on that or implement it; he called around yesterday to make sure the Board was aware; but he also wanted to make sure everyone in the public is aware; and he apologized for the inconvenience.

Commissioner Delaney stated she has an Item later on in the Agenda talking about different possible revenue sources, and she asked if the Board would rather talk about this at one time, or keep going with the Agenda as it was put out.

Chairman Feltner stated he does not personally mind talking about it after this Item; he thinks the Board needs to adopt the millages for the sake of the Property Appraiser and sending TRIM notices, and those sorts of things; his preference would be to finish this Item, then go to Item J.8.; and he asked if that is amenable.

Commissioner Delaney responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Altman stated he has a similar question, and he asked if the Board is going to have some dialogue, what its options are, how much to roll the millage up or down, or not; he stated he does have some questions related to the Environmentally Endangered Lands (EELs) Program that he may want to provide a millage adjustment in EELs so the Board would have the ability to do additional bonding on that program if the Board desires; if that is not done today, the adoption of these preliminary millages that may preclude the Board from taking action for an entire year; and that was some discussion he wanted to have.

Chairman Feltner advised the Board will definitely have some discussion, it is just on questions now; and he will come back to that.

Sandra Sullivan asked where all the money is going; she commented, while holding up a

document, this is about a 200 percent increase since 2014 and advising it is from the Property Appraiser's presentation; since the County has fiscal constraints, her first question is why the Board did not do Department of Governmental Efficiency (DOGE), two cities did DOGE; she asked why the Board did not get the help of the State to come in and help with that process; and she mentioned she wants to talk about the Board having before it, State Statute 125.271, which is about Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and it states, "A county that adopted an Ordinance authorizing the imposition of an assessment for Emergency Medical Services prior to January 1, 2002 can put the EMS assessment below the line." She went on to say she does know there was a lawsuit with Palm Bay, however, the legal opinion which the Board has had several times via email, is dated 2012, and there other lawsuits, the law changed and they came out with a legal opinion that the Board can move EMS assessment below the line; she does not know why the Board does not do that; to be clear, when the County is rolling back and it is not enough to keep it under three percent, she presumes that was very craftily worded to mean it is busting the cap this year; and she asked the Board to clarify that to the public at large that is watching this meeting. She continued by saying this graph is in the transportation budget and it is looking at options for other means of income; all this pink on the counties that are doing really well for transportation, that is coming from a transportation sales tax; she does not know, but this County does not do proactive management; it waits until a dump runs out of space before it starts building one, not knowing how long it is even going to take; it was supposed to be five years but who knows; according to the budget report for transportation there is over \$2.2 billion, and the critical needs this year is \$251.6 million, and she thinks the County has about one-quarter of that, from what she read; \$61.4 million is what is in the budget report; this Board has a crisis; and she is betting it is going to kick this can down the road yet another year. She added the Board delayed the impact fee study to the ones that could have gotten out early and done milestones; she knows because she called the contractor; and instead the Board is going to wait until the whole thing is in so that some of the locals that are connected can go to Tallahassee and lobby so that the County cannot increase impact fees. She stated she does not know about SB 180 on that; what this County should be doing proactively, in her opinion, for 2026, is to move the EMS assessment below the line; the reason that she feels the County does not do that is just like the lifeguards, it was not legal to use the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) money for lifeguards, she gave a legal opinion, but a law changed this year so now it is legal, but the cities do not want to pay their share of EMS; looking at the last few years, the portion of EMS in the General Fund was not enough to cover it; there is a 37 percent increase in fire, and a corresponding increase in EMS; and taking it away from other services paid by the County residents is not fair and equitable. She commented to put EMS assessment below the line, please.

Vince Lamb stated he learned today is essentially the last opportunity to increase the bond limit on the EEL Program conservation land purchase so he thought he would come speak and ask the Board to consider that; he thinks most of the Board knows that he serves as a political action committee chair to get the referendum passed in 2024; it not only passed, it received more than 70 percent of the vote; he can assure the Board that the Brevard voters knew what they were voting for on that; and here he is almost approaching three years later and they have not really initiated a meaningful conservation land program. He continued to say he wanted to remind the Board that this conservation land program is very much focused on the Lagoon; it was a preference for properties that will benefit the Lagoon; there is even some requiring information about how much they benefit; the Lagoon right now he believes, is making progress, but it needs all the help that can be provided; this is an important way to provide it; and he asked the Board to please consider increasing the bond limit to something significant.

Commissioner Altman stated he would propose the Board raise the millage rate that would allow it to bond under the voter approved millage; it is a very small impact on the \$250,000



dollar home, it is like \$18 a home or something per year; he talked to staff; and he asked what would be the change if the Board did that here today, at least to give the Board the option to have the public discussion when it goes to public hearing.

Ms. Hayes explained the voter-approved millage on the EELs is .1465; that is separated by the debt portion and operating, but together the proposed rate is 0.0531; there is still a balance; and the additional levy on an average taxpayer would be an additional \$18.68 annually, based on an average taxable value of \$200,000.

Commissioner Altman asked so the millage rate the County would need to achieve that would be what, not including the annual maintenance, but the actual capital.

Ms. Hayes advised staff had run some numbers yesterday just to look; a bond was issued in 2024 at just over \$6.2 million; the remaining amount that could be bonded is about \$43.8 million; that is in accordance with what the voters approved of up to \$50 million; the County would have 17 years to pay that off; staff did a quick estimate on an amortization schedule; the required debt millage to pay that would be around \$3.3 million per year plus what the County is currently paying; and it would be 0.0521 as the additional debt required, and that is just an estimate.

Commissioner Altman repeated 0.0521.

Ms. Hayes responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Altman commented he would love to see the Board at least advertise for that so it is not foregoing that opportunity and closing off that program.

Chairman Feltner inquired if, just to clarify, what Commissioner Altman is suggesting is that the Board bond the remaining \$43 million and some change.

Commissioner Altman advised that today the Board at least, when it advertises the millage, that it has the ability to have that discussion in the public hearings, in the future; he is not trying to convince the Board in any way, shape, or form, to bond those additional dollars here today; and at least have the ability to have the public input and the discussion of that in the future at the budget hearings.

Commissioner Delaney stated she has a similar request for the Fire Control MSTU; the voter-approved millage was .6 something; and she asked Ms. Hayes for the whole number.

Ms. Hayes stated in 1998 the voters approved referendum with the voter-approved millage for Fire Control MSTU at 0.6431.

Commissioner Delaney explained the reason she feels like this might be a good idea to have this as a possibility for the County is because while the Board did do the fire assessment that really gave the funds that were needed to get a good contract, but it did not really leave a whole lot for infrastructure and other needs that the Fire Department desperately has; and she feels as though it would be a good idea to make sure that there is funding so they can do the job that they have to do.

Chairman Feltner asked what that does for exceeding the charter cap or any of those kinds of things.

Ms. Hayes advised since that is a voter-approved millage, the charter cap limitation does not apply to those voter approved millages.

Commissioner Adkinson stated she has a procedural question as she wants to know what she is talking about; when talking about the voter approved millage rates from 1994 and 2000, and she looks at the numbers, it is not close to what the voters approved 25 years ago; while she does not think the Board should not change those millage rates, what she is concerned about is over 25 years have people's thoughts shifted; what she does not want to do is to preclude the Board from being able to adjust these; she would like to have resident input; 25 years ago people said yes, please, but what do people think right now; and she does not know the best way to do that. She continued by saying if staff has any thoughts about how to get it accomplished, finding residents thoughts without today stopping the Board from being able to make that change later.

Ms. Hayes stated whatever the Board adopts today will be sent in those TRIM notices which will notify the taxpayers of what their potential property taxes will be on those individual levies; the Board can always lower those; that is what happens in September at the tentative and final budget hearings; and those millage rates can be lowered but cannot be increased after the TRIM notice goes out, without a significant cost sending out additional mailings and things of that nature.

Commissioner Adkinson stated say the Board suggested the idea of just going to half of what voters approved in 2000 and 1994, that would go out to residents and the Board would hear probably how they feel about that; and she asked if that is a safe assumption.

Ms. Hayes replied they would be notified in the TRIM notice and it would also provide the date of the tentative budget hearing where they would be discussing those rates, so there would be notification to those taxpayers.

Commissioner Adkinson stated she thinks that might just elicit some thoughts from people who are looking at their notices.

Chairman Feltner stated to Commissioner Altman that it is interesting on the EELs and he can appreciate where he is coming from; his recollection of the prior Board, was it did not want to bond the whole amount out all at once because obviously the market changes, other things change, and it is his opinion, and he may be wrong in this, there will be a cooling off of the market and there will probably be better buys in the future; these things are cyclical and buying at the highest value today might not be the best way forward; he has a little angst going out there for the whole monty; and if Commissioner Altman was to get somewhere maybe that the prior Board did, that is a lot less than what he wants, but he could potentially go there with him on that one.

Commissioner Altman asked what the prior did.

Chairman Feltner advised it went to about \$6 million.

Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager, stated it was about \$6.2; the first half of that \$3.2 million was for operational capital needs; and then the \$3 million was for land acquisition.

Chairman Feltner stated if he could suggest, the County is going to pay that back over the next 17 years, in payments.

Ms. Hayes stated that one is over 20 years.

Chairman Feltner stated over the life span of this whole thing, he will just say this EELs last for 20 years, maybe not tie the hands of future Boards right now today and give them a little flexibility; and that is where he is at today on that issue.

Commissioner Altman stated he appreciates that; he does not know if \$6 million would be enough; here is the crystal ball, interest rates are a little high now, property values are high, and the Board could wait and not pay the higher interest rate, but property values could continue to appreciate at a higher level than the interest rate; he thinks Chairman Feltner's analysis that things may cool off probably is a valid analysis; maybe his motion, when he gets to that would be for not 100 percent bonding but a lower amount; he was thinking maybe one-half of what he would request and bond half of it giving a future Board the ability to come back; and he knows there is a consultant on board helping with the acquisition that would also be a good opportunity to get their feet wet and get started. He reiterated he would be willing to make a motion for less than the full amount, he just does not know exactly how much would give him comfort; \$6 million may be a little low; but he would be willing to do a substantial cut. He commented he thinks right now it would be about \$44 million because there is \$6 million out.

Ms. Hayes responded affirmatively. She advised \$43.8 million is the balance of the \$50 million that the voters approved.

Mr. Liesenfelt stated if it helps Commissioner Altman, he wants to remind the Board that whatever the amount is that it bonds, that amount needs to be spent within the first three years; staff is good with whatever the Board wants; he just wants it to be aware of the pipeline; he is sure he is not speaking out of turn with Mr. McKnight, there could be a large property that cost \$6 million or there might be 100 properties at \$60,000; however, that money has to be spent within the three years of the issuance of the bond. He advised that does not mean that the County cannot go back out and bond more afterwards.

Commissioner Altman stated he would like to crunch some numbers; he does not know if the Board is looking for him to make a motion now; he would be willing to lower that; he wants to see what number works; and this is not etched in stone it is only what is being advertised.

Mr. Liesenfelt commented whatever numbers are given staff will do some public math and provide the millages back to the Board, if it gives them a target number.

Commissioner Adkinson stated she did just want to mention having gone over all of this for days, she said a few meetings ago that the Board would have to start making some tough decisions and many of the people out there, do not have the privilege of having this list in front of them, but she thanked Ms. Hayes for providing a balanced budget; a lot of stuff had to be cut, Public Works, Transportation projects, and Facility stuff; there is a lot of stuff that was cut so the Board could balance this budget; she thinks it is important to note that having a balanced budget is really important but it is giving up a lot; and that is why the discussion of where can other money come from, is uncomfortable, but necessary.

Commissioner Delaney stated she would also support expanding the EELs program as well.

Chairman Feltner asked Ms. Hayes to walk the Board through how this needs to be done today.

Ms. Hayes advised the proposed millages in the Agenda are based on what staff included in the proposed budget; if there were requests to change some of those millages she would listen to those and take some time to calculate what those millages would be based on whatever revenue was required, or millage rate; and if the Board wanted to do them one-by-one or if there were certain ones that it wanted to look at to see what it would be at certain rates and what revenue it would generate, she could do that.

Mr. Liesenfelt advised they could be voted for as is or with suggested changes; if there are suggested changes staff would ask for a few minutes to calculate that for the Board; and the second part is bureaucratic but to make sure there is a motion to change the meeting date to September 10.

Chairman Feltner stated to do the easy one.

The Board approved changing the meeting date of the First Public Hearing from September 9 to September 10, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Chairman Feltner stated he thinks what he is hearing from the Board is provided here with the exception of EELS and EMS; and he asked if that is correct.

Commissioner Adkinson advised she is interested in the Recreation Special District, the previous voter-approved.

Chairman Feltner asked if it would be ideal to do separate motions on just those millages and then the rest together, or one-by-one.

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated the Board could adopt them as a whole with just changes to those; however, he thinks staff needs some direction on where the Board wants to go with those so Ms. Hayes can calculate the millages for those if there is going to be an adjustment.

Commissioner Adkinson stated in order for her to make a motion, she would really like to know if the Board moved the voter-approved millages just up to half of what the voters have already approved, what that number would look like; and she means that for Port St. John, Canaveral Groves, North Brevard, Merritt Island, and South Brevard.

Mr. Liesenfelt asked if the number she is looking for is number, because the millage would be half, the number she is looking for is the additional proposed revenue that it would generate.

Commissioner Adkinson responded affirmatively.

Ms. Hayes asked if the Board would give her a few minutes to work on that, she would be happy to do that.

Chairman Feltner stated for the Board to give Ms. Hayes a suggestion of what it wants and then the Board will take a short break, or do a couple other Items, and come back.

Commissioner Altman advised a break right now would be good.

Chairman Feltner stated the Board will give Ms. Hayes some answers and then it will take a break for her; and he called on Commissioner Delaney to state what she is looking for from staff.

Commissioner Delaney stated she is looking for the Fire MSTU to roll it up to the .6431.

Commissioner Altman stated he agrees with Commissioner Adkinson and what she is trying to do in Recreation, to go to half of the voter-approved; and in the spirit of that what he would like to do is go to half of the voter-approved for the EELS program. He added he thinks that is a reasonable measured approach.

Chairman Feltner asked if staff is clear on that.

Mr. Liesenfelt stated the way he is understanding this is Fire Control up to .6431 will show what revenue that generates; one-half for Recreation to show the revenue generated for that; then one-half for EELS; it would be one-half of the millage rate, so staff can show what revenue; and staff can take a stab at what that might be for bonding, but at least provide the Board with the millage now and then bring that back to the Board to talk about the bonding amount.

Commissioner Adkinson stated one point of clarification, in her request she is not including the Recreation Special District Operations because they are already at one-half.

Ms. Hayes requested clarification from Commissioner Adkinson for what she was not including.

Commissioner Adkinson reiterated the Recreation Special District Operations and Maintenance District 4 that was approved in 71.

\*The Board recessed at 10:19 a.m. and reconvened at 10:32 a.m.

Mr. Liesenfelt stated Ms. Hayes has the spreadsheet but he would a few minutes to put it together and print it out for the Board so that everybody will be on the same page before the vote; and he asked the Board to move on to the next Item and come back to this one.

Chairman Feltner advised the Board he will come back to this one.

**I.1. Request Approval for the Chairman to Execute a Professional Services Contract with the Number One-Ranked Firm for Consultant Services for the State Lobbyist Services**

Kathy Wall, Central Services Director, stated this is a request for the Board to approve the Selection and Negotiating Committees number one ranked firm, approval of a five-year contract to include professional services fee of \$75,000 for the first 12 months, and after that it would be three percent or Consumer Price Index (CPI), whichever is less; and to authorize the Chairman to execute a professional service contract. She noted there were three proposals for the State lobbyist: Crisafulli Consulting, LLC, Ronald L. Book, PA, and the Southern Group of Florida, Incorporated.

Commissioner Goodson asked what prerequisite and line Items each one offered to get to the committee to choose Ronald L. Book.

Ms. Wall stated Ron Book's proposal indicated that he had a lot of governmental contracts,

more so than the other two.

Commissioner Goodson asked if that was the deciding factor.

Ms. Wall replied that was one of the deciding factors.

Commissioner Goodson asked for the other factors.

Ms. Wall noted another factor was what they have done for the County in previous years, the other two had never done any business with the County.

Commissioner Goodson asked if Ms. Wall would say that the funding this year from the State of Florida was kind of slim or would she say non-existent; and he asked if Mr. Book is operating off of his laurels from years ago.

Ms. Wall explained at the time he was selected the committee did not know exactly what was going to be recommended or what was going to be approved in the budget.

Commissioner Goodson agreed.

Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager, stated there were several items that were vetoed.

Commissioner Goodson noted that Crisafulli is local and was born in Brevard County; and he asked if he would have a better outlook on the County as far as performing, or would Mr. Book being from Broward County.

Ms. Wall stated she is a Brevard County girl and she is a little biased about Brevard County; and she really cannot answer that question.

Commissioner Adkinson advised she is also a Brevard County girl; she understands recently, that Mr. Crisafulli's firm just got the Sheriff's Office a fairly sizable chunk of money; and she asked if staff knows anything about that and if there is anyone who can speak to that.

Ms. Wall commented she had just heard about it but does not know the details.

Chairman Feltner advised that the undersheriff is in attendance; and he asked if he would mind speaking on that.

Doug Waller, Brevard County Sheriff's Office, stated he can speak to this; he is a Brevard County boy; he has been blessed with 39-plus years with the Sheriff's Office; he has walked those halls in Tallahassee, it is a very unique animal; he has walked them with Commissioner Altman and Commissioner Goodson, and with Speaker of the House, Steve Crisafulli; the Sheriff asked him to engage with Mr. Crisafulli last year about this time and they were able to aggressively approach and discuss with the legislative body, both the House and the Senate, Jim Boyd with the Senate, and Tyler Sirois from the House, who were co-sponsors; and they were able to accomplish a \$10 million fee towards the new West Precinct and Regional Training Center. He continued by saying he does not think that a lot of people understand how that animal works up there; it is a minute-by-minute and hour-by-hour daily routine that someone has to be there; he cannot be there, the Sheriff cannot be there, but someone has to be in those hallways, in those committee meetings, and someone has to have those discussions; Mr. Crisafulli was a very unique person because he has the relationships to Brevard County and the relationships to the actual legislative body up there; it was very

successful for the Sheriff's Office; most importantly, \$10 million means a lot to Brevard County, but it is also a connection to bills that are associated; Commissioner Goodson was the sponsor of the revenge porn bill; and there was an incredible opportunity to pass good legislative actions. He commented that Commissioner Altman was very important on some of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) actions years ago to return the three percent and to assist the public safety; his efforts were greatly appreciated; and without relationships and a consultant such as Steve Crisafulli, he thinks the County misses out on golden opportunities.

Commissioner Delaney stated in her briefing she had some of these same concerns about what the County's appropriations looked like this year; and she would definitely be open to something different.

Sandra Sullivan stated she follows the appropriations very closely and some of them she provided information to the State Representatives on a few things; the biggest red flag that she saw this year was 57 counties and cities made sizable appropriations for sewage plants because of the growth coming from the mandates from the State; Brevard made none; and she looks at the County's appropriations and she does not think there was a good effort, from a County perspective, of what it needs appropriations for. She mentioned Ron Book has done an extraordinary job for this County for years and the monies that he has brought in; she would point more to this Board on that impact; a few items were line item-ed by the Governor; what concerns her is since Chairman Feltner got on this Commission, this is the third time he has brought forward changing the lobbyist; to be clear for the audience, the number one who is not doing government is Crisafulli; and she feels that is a red flag. She noted there was just a meeting, two or three meetings ago, where he was representing Health First and there is a conflict there with his clients here locally; he sat there for an Agenda Item where the improper notice was given, the notice was given for the 8th and the meeting was held on the 3rd because the big beautiful bill was moving faster and signed that afternoon; then the video for the Facebook Live was clipped; the statements made by the Chair were clipped out that this was made faster and put on this date because of the big beautiful bill moving faster; and the other concern is when looking at campaign contributions to PACs and mailers that supported Chairman Feltner getting elected of tens of thousands of dollars and as soon as he is on the dais, this is the third time trying to change the lobbyist; and she thinks there is an agenda here and there needs to be talk about the conflicts of interest with numerous clients that he represents locally. She asked how does one represent the County and then come here before the County Commission and lobby for other clients, big clients at that.

Commissioner Altman stated he thinks all three firms are fantastic and very capable; no matter which firm the Board goes with he thinks it is going to be a good decision; he thinks it is good to have someone representing the Board and engaged; he has worked with all three of them for decades; he thinks each one has its own strengths and weaknesses; he would be inclined to stay with the Book firm since the County has used them for many years; they have some pretty deep roots here; he wants to have discussion, that is not a motion; but that is where he would lean.

Commissioner Goodson stated he would move to reject the committee's ranking and select Crisafulli, LLC as the new lobbyist and for the Committee to go back and negotiate with him for first year \$60,000 and three percent increase with CIP, and a five-year contract.

The Board rejected the Selection and Negotiation Committee's number one ranked firm, Ronald L. Book, P.A.; approved selection of Crisafulli Consulting, LLC, as the County's lobbyist; and directed staff to negotiate a five (5) year contract, to include the first year service fee of \$60,000, with a three percent increase, or Consumer Price Index (CPI), for each additional

year.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconders:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**J.1. Waivers of Subdivision Requirements, Re: Banyan Cove (24SP00039, 25WV00008, 25WV00011, 25WV00012, 25WV00013)  
DR Horton, Inc. (District 2)**

Billy Prasad, Planning and Development Director, stated this is for the waiver of subdivision requirements for Banyan Cove related to application no. 24SP00039; it is for four waivers to Brevard County Code in accordance with Section 62-2849 A, Brevard County Code of Ordinances.

The Board, in accordance with Section 62-2849(a), granted four (4) waivers (24SP00039, 25WV00008, 25WV00011, 25WV00012, and 25WV00013) to different sections of the Brevard County Land Development Code to allow the development of a 22-unit single-family attached subdivision, Banyan Cove, contingent upon the waivers being implemented be consistent with the site plan provided in the Agenda, and any deviation from these plans shall render the waivers voidable.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Seconders:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**J.2. Waivers of Subdivision Requirements, Re: Sykes Landing at Winar Creek (24SP00026, 25WV00014, 25WV00015, 25WV00016, 25WV00017)  
Condev Properties, LLC (District 2)**

Billy Prasad, Planning and Development Director, stated this is for waiver of subdivision requirements for Sykes Landing at Winar Creek related to application number 24SP00026, located in District 2; and it is for four waivers.

Commissioner Adkinson stated she wants to clarify something that discussed in her briefing about the infrastructure; and she asked if that is something the County is going to have to pay for and maintain or will it stay private.

Mr. Prasad noted the Board could make clear in its motion that the infrastructure is to stay privately maintained; if that is a concern of the Board, he would suggest it be included in the motion; and he would also ask the Board to make the motion contingent upon being implemented consistent with the site plan.

The Board, in accordance with Section 62-2849(a), granted four (4) waivers (24SP00026, 25WV00014, 25WV00015, 25WV00016, and 25WV00017) to different sections of the Brevard County Land Development Code to allow the development of a 158-unit single-family attached subdivision, Sykes Landing at Winar Creek, contingent upon the infrastructure staying privately maintained, the waivers being implemented be consistent with the site plan provided in the Agenda packet, and any deviation from these plans shall render the waivers voidable.

**Result:** APPROVED



**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Seconders:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**J.3. Approval, Re: Contract for Sale and Purchase from Vetterlein for the 72.35-acre Jefferson Marsh Tract for Mosquito Control - District 2**

Marc Bernath, Public Works Director, stated this Item is a contract for sale and purchase from Vetterlein for the 72.35 acres Jefferson Marsh Tract for Mosquito Control, located east and on the west side of South Courtenay Parkway in Merritt Island; staff is proposing fair market value as confirmed by two independent appraisals for \$543,000; and there is a grant for \$452,500, with the balance being split between Natural Resources and Mosquito Control.

The Board authorized to waive the Environmental Site Assessment report as required per Administrative Order 37 due to the intended use of the property; accepted and authorized the Chairman to execute the Contract for Sale and Purchase; authorized the County Manager to execute the Ducks Unlimited North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) Sub-Award Agreement US-FL-71-1, subject to the approval of the County Attorney's Office, Purchasing, and Risk Management; authorized the County Manager to execute task orders up to the grant funded amount, as needed to accomplish the work, subject to the approval of the County Attorney's Office, Purchasing, and Risk Management; authorized the County Manager to execute amendments to the contract, as needed, subject to the approval of the County Attorney's Office, Purchasing, and Risk Management; approved associated Budget Change Requests; and authorized the County Manager to execute any additional Budget Change Requests or paperwork, as needed.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Seconders:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**H.8. Adoption of Proposed FY 2025-2026 Ad Valorem Millages**

Commissioner Delaney asked if it would be possible to allow for public comment since the Board is changing some of these things.

Chairman Feltner stated he is open to that, he will explain it, take questions from the Commissioners, and take cards again.

Commissioner Delaney expressed her appreciation.

Jill Hayes, Budget Office Director, stated what was passed out to the Board, in the highlighted section, those were the millage rates as proposed in the Agenda Package; in the blue font in the middle of the sheet is the adjusted millages based on the Board's direction before the break, bringing the Fire Control Multiple Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) up to the voter-approved and then adjust those Recreation to provide for one-half of the voter-approved referendums; off to the far right column, that shows the increase in revenue and the change in millage for each one of those that were adjusted; and she asked if the Board would like her to go down the list for Fire Control MSTU, at the adjusted rate of .6431 that would generate an additional \$5,557,251, with a change in millage of 0.1598. She continued by saying those Recreation Districts, Port St. John/Canaveral Groves new millage rate of 0.0458 would generate an additional \$452,819, the North Brevard Special Recreation District adjusted millage rate 0.3192

would generate an additional \$930,815, the Merritt Island Recreation MSTU adjusted millage rate 0.4000 would generate an additional \$1,045,203, the South Brevard Recreation District adjusted millage rate of 0.3000 would generate an additional \$3,765,610; and in the debt section, the EELS, one-half of the millage outside of what is levied in the operating section, would be 0.0275 and would generate an additional \$1,478,432 in the debt millage.

Commissioner Adkinson stated she wants to be clear, what the Board would be doing here is sending a notice out to the residents saying this is what the Board is considering doing, possibly hear back from the residents, and at a further point in time the Board will be deciding what these millage rates would actually be set at; if the Board approves some higher amounts that would release some General Funds to be used in some of the places that the Board is cutting; and she asked if that is accurate.

Ms. Hayes explained what the Board is doing today is setting the proposed millages that will go in the TRIM notice, that is correct; the Board can always lower those later on at the tentative or Final Budget hearings; in terms of allocating the dollars, since these are voter-approved for specific purposes, for example the Fire Control MSTU would be allocated to Fire Operations and Recreation millages stay within those districts; it would be up for the Board to decide if there are General Fund dollars currently allocated to those programs that it wanted to reallocate to a different area; and those discussion could be had between now and those Budget hearings.

Chairman Feltner asked if the Board adopted these changes today, because they are voter-approved, it would not put it in an 'exceeding the charter cap' situation.

Ms. Hayes responded affirmatively.

Chairman Feltner stated he thinks it was said a couple of times already, but the Board is going to come back and adopt final millage later so this is the maximum for the purpose of the TRIM notice, and it can always go down from there, but cannot go up; and he asked if that is correct.

Ms. Hayes responded again in the affirmative.

Sandra Sullivan stated she wants to clarify a couple things here; for Recreation, being this was voter-approved, this was in 2000 and 2006 and specifically there were dollar amounts of that which were for debt for specific items that were being funded; there were some questions about what had happened between 2000 and 2006 and Helen Voltz had requested an audit be done; she thinks it is very important to get a legal opinion on this since the debt portion is retiring in 2026; that debt portion, she does not think this Board can just extend it without specificity and the voters approving it; just like in 2006, the Board could not just expand it and fund an additional amount, it had to come back to a referendum in order to make that possible; and she does not think this Board can do what it is proposing. She went on to say the second thing, the MSTU Fire Control, to go back to 2007 with the Palm Bay lawsuit and what happened at that time; she thinks probably the Fire Control MSTU should have been eliminated, but the EMS assessment which was below the line, went up into the General Fund and Fire Assessment was created at that time; at that time, with the change in Fire Control, it became only unincorporated residents paying that tax, where before it had been Countywide; what this Board is proposing is placing the burden on unincorporated residents to pay a disproportionate share; that is why she thinks what the Board should really be considering is putting the EMS assessment below the line now for this coming year and going to referendum in November and letting the people decide to do a sales tax in lieu of the Fire and EMS assessments and solve this problem, because this is not solving the problem, it is just kicking the can down the road, in

her opinion; and per the proposal of just arbitrarily picking one-half out of the air on the millage rate, the County had over a 200 percent increase in property values; to that properly math-wise, one would want to do the rollback and figure out what that equivalent tax rate should be; and she thinks putting the disproportionate share on unincorporated residents to pay for firetrucks and other things is not a solution.

Vince Lamb stated he wanted to share his enthusiasm if the bond limit for the EELS program gets up to the 50 percent level, it will make a lot of people happy; he can assure the Board with confidence that the Selection and Management Committee will go to work on trying to find the absolute best conservation land properties available around Brevard County to make it a great success; and he thanked the Board for considering it.

Chairman Feltner asked Ms. Hayes and Attorney Richardson how they want the Board to proceed forward with what it has asked today to get the motion in the proper posture.

Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager, stated staff is asking for the Board to adopt the millages as presented; if it wants the changes that were suggested, it would be adopting the millages as presented at the dais; and then it will be advertised properly.

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated he would have the new proposed millage rates for those that changed, be read into the record.

Chairman Feltner suggested it may be cleaner if the Board just went through every one; Ms. Hayes can read them into the record; the Board could do the motion and second; he knows that probably seems tedious, but for the sake of clarity in the record, the Board could just do that; he would be willing to work with the Board to let that go and let it be advertised, but he is going to reserve the right to vote differently when the time comes; he thinks this Board has a future discussion ahead of it on where it lands with these; and he asked Ms. Hayes if that is good.

Ms. Hayes asked if the Chairman wants her to read each individual taxing district and what that millage rate is.

Chairman Feltner commented he thinks that is the cleanest way to get through this.

Ms. Hayes stated for the Brevard County BCC Operating General Fund, the proposed millage rate would be 2.8643.

The Board approved the Brevard County BCC Operating General Fund millage rate of 2.8643, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated for the Brevard County Free Public Library District, the proposed millage rate would be 0.3242.

The Board approved the Brevard County Free Public Library District millage rate of 0.3242, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated for the Brevard County Mosquito Control District, the proposed millage rate would be 0.1340.

The Board approved the Brevard County Free Mosquito Control District millage rate of 0.1340, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Fire Control MSTU proposed millage is 0.6431.

The Board approved the Fire Control MSTU millage rate of 0.6431, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Recreation District 1 proposed millage is 0.4173.

The Board approved the Recreation District 1 millage rate of 0.4173, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Recreation Special District Operations and Maintenance District 4 proposed millage is 0.4948.

The Board approved the Recreation Special District Operations and Maintenance District 4 millage rate of 0.4948, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority proposed millage is 0.0000.

The Board approved the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority millage rate of 0.0000, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Law Enforcement MSTU proposed millage is 0.8531.

The Board approved the Law Enforcement MSTU millage rate of 0.8531, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 1 MSTU proposed millage is 0.4863.

The Board approved the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 1 MSTU millage rate of 0.4863, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 2 MSTU proposed millage is 0.1648.

The Board approved the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 2 MSTU millage rate of 0.1648, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 3 MSTU proposed millage is 0.1855.

The Board approved the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 3 MSTU millage rate of 0.1855, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Seconders:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 4 MSTU proposed millage is 0.2176.

The Board approved the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 4 MSTU millage rate of 0.2176, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Seconders:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 5 MSTU proposed millage is 0.2887.

The Board approved the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 5 MSTU millage rate of 0.2887, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Thad Altman

**Seconders:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 4, North Beaches MSTU proposed millage is 0.1842.

The Board approved the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 4, North Beaches MSTU millage rate of 0.1842, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Seconders:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 4 Merritt Island South MSTU proposed millage is 0.0964.

The Board approved the Road and Bridge Maintenance District 4 Merritt Island South MSTU millage rate of 0.0964, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Seconders:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the EELS 2024 Operating proposed millage is 0.0458.

The Board approved the EELS 2024 Operating millage rate of 0.0458, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Port St. John/Canaveral Groves Recreation District proposed millage is 0.4500.

The Board approved the Port St. John/Canaveral Groves Recreation District millage rate of 0.4500, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the North Brevard Recreation Special District proposed millage is 0.3192.

The Board approved the North Brevard Recreation Special District millage rate of 0.3192, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Merritt Island Recreation MSTU proposed millage is 0.4000.

The Board approved the Merritt Island Recreation MSTU millage rate of 0.4000, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the South Brevard Special Recreation District proposed millage is 0.3000.

The Board approved the South Brevard Recreation Special District millage rate of 0.3000, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated moving into the debt millages, the EELS Voted Debt 2024 proposed millage is 0.0275.

The Board approved the EELS Voted Debt 2024 millage rate of 0.0275, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Thad Altman

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the North Brevard Recreation Special District Voted Debt proposed millage is 0.0808.

The Board approved the North Brevard Recreation Special District Voted Debt millage rate of 0.0808, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the Merritt Island Recreation Voted Debt is being paid off in the upcoming year and the current fund balance is adequate to fund that so the proposed millage is 0.0000.

The Board approved the Merritt Island Recreation Voted Debt millage rate of 0.0000, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Hayes stated the South Brevard Recreation Special District Voted Debt is going to be paid off and there is adequate fund balance so the proposed millage is 0.0000.

The Board approved the South Brevard Recreation Special District Voted Debt millage rate of 0.0000, for the purpose of notification to the taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

#### **J.4. Board Consideration, Re: New Appointments and Re-Appointments to the**



## **Affordable Housing Advisory Committee**

Juanita Jackson, Housing and Human Services Director, stated this is appointments and reappointments to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) which is a State-mandated board by Florida Statute 420.9076 and allows Brevard County to receive State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) funds; the AHAC makes recommendations to the board on allocation of funds from SHIP and HOME Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants; the AHAC consists of members who represent specific categories per Statute; there are currently seven vacant positions; they have received seven applications; and have three actions for the Board today. She continued by saying the first action requires a supermajority vote for reappointment of two members who have exceeded their term limits; and those two members are Corey Lancaster a member since 2008 and a resident who is representative of those areas of labor actively engaged in home building and connection with affordable housing, and Cynthia Matthews a member since 2016 and resident who represents the area of essential services personnel.

Chairman Feltner advised there will be four action items here and four different motions.

Ms. Jackson advised that is correct and the first one she needs a supermajority vote.

Commissioner Delaney stated this Board has term limits and that is what the Board is voting on here is because they have exceeded their term limits.

Ms. Jackson responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Delaney stated she has more but it is for discussion.

Chairman Feltner inquired with the two people who exceeded the term limits, he is very sensitive to boards having quorum, because he thinks one of the hard things is when getting together for a board meeting and there is not a quorum because not enough people showed up, are those two active participants or do they miss a lot of meetings.

Ms. Jackson responded yes, they are active members.

Chairman Feltner commented it is a tough thing when the salary is \$0; it is hard enough to get people to work for the County and doing it for \$0 is hard; and he moved on to discussion.

Commissioner Delaney stated there seems to be a lot of participation and it seems to her that people are wanting to participate more; she thought she would bring up that maybe it is time to let other people participate; but she is not dug in either way.

Commissioner Goodson asked how many people applied for action one, and if there were more than just these two people.

Ms. Jackson advised staff advertised all the seats and the vacancies that they had; there were seven applications; the applicants select what seat because each seat has a specific category, therefore the applicant selects on the application the seat they are applying for; and there was no application for the two seats that she is asking the reappointments for.

Commissioner Goodson clarified no one other than those two people.

Ms. Jackson responded affirmatively.

The Board reappointed Corey Lancaster, a resident who is representative in the area of labor actively engaged in home building in connection with affordable housing, and Cynthia Matthews, a resident who represents the area of essential services personnel, to the AHAC for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2025.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Jackson noted it is requested that the following individual who is currently serving on the AHAC be reappointed to a new two-year term, John Hoppengarten; and he has been a member since 2022, a resident who is actively serving on the County Local Planning Agency (LPA).

The Board reappointed John Hopengarten, a resident who is actively serving on the County's LPA, to AHAC for a two-year term, beginning July 1, 2025.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Jackson stated it is requested that the Board appoint the following applicants to fill the vacant seats to AHAC for a period of two years; and the following are: Steve Bruch who is actively engaged in homebuilding industry of affordable housing, Miesha Carr a resident who is actively engaged as a not-for-profit provider of affordable housing, and Emily Harkins a resident who represents employers within the jurisdiction.

Chairman Feltner asked if these are people who come to the meetings and participate.

Ms. Jackson advised they are new appointments but she thinks they will show up, there is one in the audience today.

The Board appointed Steve Bruch a resident who is actively engaged in homebuilding industry of affordable housing, Miesha Carr a resident who is actively engaged as a not-for-profit provider of affordable housing, and Emily Harkins a resident who represents employers within the jurisdiction to the AHAC, with said terms to expire June 30, 2027.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

Ms. Jackson stated it is requested that the Board review the following applications and resumes and elect one applicant to fill the seat that represents the actively engaged real estate professional in connection with affordable housing: William Rusler, Nancy Shear, Debbie Strawhand, and Sandra Sullivan; and these were all applicants for the real estate professional actively engaged in affordable housing.

Sandra Sullivan stated she has been to numerous of these AHAC meetings; she has attended all of the affordable housing summits that have been hosted by Brevard County; she is very well-informed that the primary risk is with the elderly; they are the highest rate of homelessness; and she is very informed and follows legislatively SHIP and sale, as well as live local.

Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager, stated he is reminding the Board to place their name on their ballot.

Ms. Jackson advised she typed their names on the ballots.

Chairman Feltner asked what Ms. Jackson wants the Board to do.

Ms. Jackson advised to select one and then she will collect them.

Chairman Feltner asked if they should come back to this in a few minutes after she tallies them.

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated that is fine just make sure to get them to the Clerk to the Board so the votes can be on the record and it is not a secret ballot.

**J.5. Ratify, Re: Labor Agreements between Brevard County and International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local 2969 Rank and File and Supervisory Units**

Melissa Powers, Human Resources Director, stated the negotiating committee reached a tentative agreement, therefore, she is requesting that the Board vote to ratify the three-year contracts with the Fire Fighters Union, both the Rank and File and the supervisory units; the union ratification completed their ratification vote on July 15 and it was overwhelmingly supportive by their membership; and staff is now asking for the Board to approve it.

Sandra Sullivan stated it has been a long uphill battle to get to this point and she hopes the Board will ratify this contract today; there is truly something to celebrate here today because they have worked so hard; and the community has worked so hard to get to this point.

Commissioner Delaney stated she wanted to thank the staff and the firefighters; this has been a tough hill to get over but it are all making good progress; she thinks this was a great first step; she hopes the Board continues to make this even better; she is going to keep saying the forbidden words, 'Kelly Days' until it is in Brevard County; she hopes that is the next step in this; she is going to support this; and the people support this.

Commissioner Altman expressed his appreciation to everyone involved, the firefighters, the public, and staff; he stated he really wants to give thanks to this Board as it takes a lot of political courage and commitment and it has really risen to the occasion; he does not know if it will ever get the credit but it was very courageous; and he has served on a lot of Boards, but he thinks this is one of the more significant things he has seen, elected officials coming together and doing the right thing for their constituents.

Chairman Feltner expressed his appreciation to the negotiating teams for both the union and the County; and he mentioned it has been a lot of work to get to this today.

The Board ratified the tentatively agreed upon modifications to the various articles in the IAFF Collective Bargaining Agreements presented herewith; and authorized the County Manager to execute the three-year Labor Agreements as provided for by 447.309, Florida Statutes.

**Result: APPROVED**

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Seconders:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**J.4. Board Consideration, Re: New Appointments and Re-Appointments to the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee**

Ms. Jackson asked if she needs to read off the votes or just announce the winner.

Attorney Richardson advised she can announce the winner, but she must provide the ballots to the Clerk to the Board to be made part of the record.

Ms. Jackson announced Sandra Sullivan as the winner.

The Board reviewed applications and resumes and appointed Sandra Sullivan to fill the AHAC seat of actively engaged real estate professional in connection with affordable housing.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Seconders:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**J.6. The Savannahs at Sykes Creek Homeowners' Association, Inc. Requests Authorization to Convey The Savannahs Golf Course to a Third Party**

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated this is a request by the Savannahs at Sykes Creek Homeowners' Association that the Board approve an amendment to the Agreement between the County and the HOA that will allow the HOA to convey the Savannah's golf course to a third party; historically the County had operated for some time and maintained the Savannah's golf course as a public course; back in 2018 the County abandoned the Savannah's golf course and by agreement with the HOA, the HOA accept title to the Savannah's golf course and they agreed to continue to operate and maintain it as a public golf course for a minimum of 10 years, which expires May 22, 2028; and as part of that, there was talk about the HOA forming a Community Development District (CDD) and getting some funding from the County, but that never happened, so no money ever went to them, however, they still had that obligation to maintain it as a public course through 2028. He went on to say he has reviewed an agreement between the Savannah's HOA and a third party buyer that would require the third party to operate it as a golf course for 15 years from the date of closing; the agreement incorporates the existing requirement of the County and HOA agreement, specifically, that it be a public golf course at least through May 22, 2028; in order for that sale to happen, and the HOA represents that the buyer is going to make investments in the course that the HOA cannot, out of 286 homes in the community, 185 voted on the issue with 158 voting to approve; without this Board's approval of the sale, the sale cannot happen; it is up to the Board to decide whether to approve or not approve the sale; if the Board does not approve that requirement that it be maintained as a public golf course, it expires on May 22, 2028; and after that, the HOA will be able to do whatever it is legally able to do with the property as the owner, with no more restrictions.

Commissioner Altman asked what happens after the 15 years.

Attorney Richardson advised anything can happen, they would be a third party owner, they can sell or transfer.

Commissioner Altman commented the HOA or the private company that they hire.

Attorney Richardson advised the private company would own it at that point; they are not hiring them to operate it, they are transferring it to the operator; the operator will actually own it and operate it as a golf course; anything can happen after the 15 years; honestly, after May 22, 2028, anything can happen anyway, regardless if the Board approves the sale or not.

Commissioner Altman asked if the private owner would be able to develop it.

Attorney Richardson replied potentially, he does not know what restrictions might be on that property now; they might need to come in for various land use approval or changes; he is not sure what they would need; again, that could happen after May 22, 2028; and what this would do is push it out so that it has to be a golf course for at least 15 years from the date of closing.

Commissioner Altman stated his concern is was there something negotiated in that agreement to protect the homeowners in the 15 years.

Attorney Richardson stated he thinks that is a good question for the HOA; that agreement is between the HOA and the third party, he can only speak to the agreement currently, between the HOA and the County that they are asking to amend; the County has zero ability to restrict them from doing whatever they want with it after May 22, 2028; and it appears if the County allows this, at least there would be some extension of the guaranteed life of the property as a golf course for an additional approximately 12 years beyond what it has currently. He noted he thinks the question about the HOA's agreement with the sellers is best posed to whoever is there to answer questions for the HOA, but he does have a copy of the agreement.

Commissioner Adkinson stated she wants to be clear, 55 percent of the current homeowners were approving of this transfer.

Attorney Richardson stated 55 percent of the entire community, but only 185 voted out of the 286; and out of the people who voted, 85 percent approved, but it is 55 percent of the community if counting the ones who did not vote at all.

John Hallam, HOA secretary, stated it is his understanding that the agreement has a clause in there for the new buyer to transfer the 15-year after if they want to sell it if it does not succeed; that is his understanding of the agreement; and also picking up on the points of the voting, there was only 27 people who voted against the sale out of the homeowners.

Attorney Richardson stated he does not want to get into the business of interpreting the agreement too much between the HOA and the buyer, but there is a provision in addition to the restriction that it has to be used as a golf course for 15 years; there is a right of first refusal if the property sold, that the HOA has the right of first refusal to purchase it; it is slightly unclear to him whether that extends beyond the 15 years; he thinks it does as written; but he would not want to render an opinion whether it is absolutely clear.

Commissioner Altman stated that would be a good provision; he would assume if they tried to develop it, they would have to get a land use amendment or rezoning; and it would probably have to come back to this Board.

Attorney Richardson stated he believes so because probably all of their approvals were premised on that being open space or recreation; and he is sure it would need certain

approvals through here as with past golf courses that have closed that had to go to the various appropriate local government bodies for those kinds of approvals.

Commissioner Altman asked if this was opened up and if they looked at different companies; and he asked Mr. Hallam to explain a little bit of the process of how it got to where it is.

Mr. Hallam stated when they inherited the golf course, it was not making any profit and losing money and had been for several years; they appointed a General Manager who has managed to turn it around to get it to nearly a break-even point; they just do not have the funds or the appetite as homeowners to invest into the investment the golf course needs; it needs new greens, new cart paths, ponds dredging, clubhouse refurbishment, the toilets are existing, and he can go on; they just cannot continue with that type funding for it; and they started opening it up, and have been approached by a number of people, four or five companies. He continued by saying the first one who approached them for golf refused to accept the non-development clause, so that one was discounted straight away; they had another celebrity that was interested in it, but they were a little bit slow; and then they came across the current buyer who is operating two locations already, and successfully taken one over in Venetian Bay and has done a very good job. He noted they went to see what they had done there and it is very impressive; they are very confident in this particular organization; and that is pretty much how they have gone through the due diligence of the different people who have approached them.

Commissioner Altman stated he takes a little bit of interest because he was on the Commission when they approved the Savannah's and the golf course; he was there for the grand opening and maybe played a half round of golf during the big ceremony; it was an exciting time; it was a beautiful course; and he really hope it works out.

Mr. Hallam stated as the Board can tell from his accent, he was not around when it passed.

Commissioner Delaney stated she was just curious but does the HOA feel it has put in the contract, protections for the neighborhood because if this golf course were to get redeveloped into a community, she is sure it would affect the drainage in the community and change the whole atmosphere of the Savannahs; and she asked if the HOA feels comfortable.

Mr. Hallam stated absolutely; he mentioned they have had various meetings with this organization and they are so excited about it; and even before they closed on the opportunity they have already been up there and decorated the clubhouse externally because they are so keen in trying to show the homeowners that they have got their best interest at heart.

Chairman Feltner stated first of all he hopes every golf course is able to survive; it is incredibly competitive; it is not his game but he is very empathetic to the neighbors who live on golf courses and it does not work out; it is not what is anticipated; and for that reason, he hopes they all succeed. He asked if other people are allowed to use the Savannah's clubhouse and play the course, non-members.

Mr. Hallam responded affirmatively.

Chairman Feltner asked if the Savannah's clubhouse is a catering facility.

Mr. Hallam advised there is and they have current caterers in there now.

Chairman Feltner advised there are some golf courses in District as one might imagine, and he could go to Duran Golf Club for lunch today, and Viera East do that as well; and businesses

have to do what they have to do to survive.

Commissioner Goodson asked how the hog population is doing.

Mr. Hallam stated when he first moved in two years ago he saw one being caught and he has not seen any since.

Commissioner Goodson advised if they are in one's yard they can legally be shot.

Mr. Hallam commented sadly he is not legally allowed to own a gun.

Commissioner Goodson mentioned he might want to buy one because they will be coming back.

The Board executed and approved the Amendment to Agreement between Brevard County and the HOA, allowing the HOA to convey The Savannahs Golf Course at Sykes Creek to a third party.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**J.7. Legislative Intent and Permission to Advertise Amendments to Chapter 62, Article VI, "Zoning Regulations" RE: Farm Animals and Fowl**

Commissioner Delaney stated she is looking for support to go for legislative intent on the Ordinance dealing with chickens; Brevard is one of the few counties that has such harsh restrictions for unincorporated; in the Agenda Packet she added some attachments, one was a table that she put together from Indian River, Marion, and Osceola Counties allow six chickens; Charlotte, Hillsboro, and Seminole, depending on some other things in the language, allow four to six chickens; this is for legislative intent and it would go through the process of going to Planning and Zoning, getting lots of citizen input, and then come back to the Board again; there would be plenty of time for citizen input to make sure the County gets the right ordinance together; and the reason why she has brought this forward is because constituents in her District are having issues regarding Brevard County's restrictions and she is trying to alleviate those issues.

Commissioner Goodson asked Assistant County Manager, Tad Calkins, if he can say how many Code Enforcement cases there have been in the last year concerning chickens.

Tad Calkins, Assistant County Manager, stated he thinks in the last five years there has been an average of about 20 cases per year.

Commissioner Goodson asked for the reasoning of the complaints.

Mr. Calkins informed the Board he thinks it varied from the number of chickens to the chickens being there with other matters that the officers were investigating.

Sandra Sullivan stated she is absolutely for this; going back to after World War II, when there are food shortages it allows people to be able to support their families; there was just this massive shortage of eggs, there were none to be found at the grocery stores for a while; when

they finally get some they are really expensive; the victory garden concept of feeding families, is a huge thing; people are all for freedom, what people do with their properties; now in terms of rules, bring up the point about someone was not containing the feed the right way, then that would be one of those Code violations, potentially; and that is part of the rules of how to maintain chickens, and not an issues. She commented, on this egg shortage thing, remarkably her family in Canada did not have a shortage and the people in Mexico did not have a shortage, but Avian Flu just sort of stopped at that border; she has to scratch her head at that one; some years ago she bought and has a chicken coup building and the intention, but she spends so much time coming to these meetings that it just sits there; one day she will get her chickens and hopefully be able to have four to six chickens, as she has a family of five; she really commends this; other cities have done this; and certainly there are legislatively enough other areas to refer to that allow six chickens. She noted there are lots of people in her community that have chickens and one would never know that their neighbor has them, they are not a problem; and she hopes the Board will allow the discussion with the public, allow people to weigh in, and certainly there are no decisions being made today.

Joe Harris stated yes, back in the early 1900's, from 1900 to about 1950, most people had chickens in their yards, it did not matter the lot size; people kept them regulated and clean; it was not until after World War II that people started getting into more processed foods, unhealthier options, and started getting away from the gardens and chickens; as things progress now, and egg prices increase, a decent dozen eggs, the ones that cost \$6 or \$7 that have a better flavor, better yolk, are expensive; other cities, Titusville, Cocoa, Melbourne, and quite a few cities in Brevard County allow chickens in the city; he is in unincorporated Brevard and being there it does not have major roads in the neighborhoods; the neighborhoods are not one-quarter acre cookie cutter lots all over; they have more area; and when one goes to the store there is a certain brand called Pete and Jerrys and on the carton it reads 108 square feet per chicken, and those are considered pasture raised chickens, 10.4 by 10.4 foot area. He mentioned his yard is .39 acre and the rough math he has about .24 that is all backyard; that is ample according to that company for him to have at least anywhere from four to six chickens; he asked the Board to please consider this and put it out for public opinion; he commented he understands there might be a lot of people who sit there and say it does not affect them; that is great, but one day it might; and with the amount of people moving into Brevard County from other areas, people will start having issues with people and more complaints about people wanting to just live, feed their families, and enjoy their lives.

Luke Harris stated he wanted to address Commissioner Adkinson's concerns from the last meeting, about chickens bringing rats; from personal experiences, the rats are a natural cause and effect from the chicken feed, other rodents as well can be caused from dog food, cat food, from improperly maintenance storage and improperly distribution of the food; any time when they would feed their chickens they stayed inside the pen when they were being fed, that is it; the food was never put outside and they never had rodent problems; and actually, if it is properly distributed, the opposite effect happens where one sees less rodents and less bugs as well, they eat ticks and other bugs that can be affecting dogs and cats if they are outside. He stated he wants to also talk about the psychological effect on chickens; he knows they are animals but they do have feelings of some sort with loneliness; from an early stage of development, when one goes to the store to buy chicks, one cannot buy an adult chicken that is already laying eggs; from early development when buying them, they are about three weeks old sometimes, when buying one chick, it causes them to have a significant impact on their psychological effect; there are plenty of studies that talk about this and how it affects their adrenal glands and the hormones that they produce out, and makes them less chicken-like, they do not roam, or feel secure; they are more susceptible to predators which means people are more likely to lose that one chicken because there are no other companions to help them



out; there have been a few studies and he has done some research on it, and it also lowers egg production; with six chickens one would get maybe five eggs a day on average; if there was just one chicken it likely one will one get one egg every two or three days because the egg production can go down significantly; he just wanted to bring those concerns; and he hopes the Board is able to get this up to four or six chickens, six would be great, it is a safe number for unincorporated Brevard.

Jennifer Harris stated she wanted to personally address Commissioner Adkinson as during the last meeting she mentioned she had some problems with some rats from her neighbors personal chickens and it caused her dog to have some medical problems; she lost a dog about 10 years ago who had seizures and she completely understands what she is going through and is very sorry about that; the fact is that what her son brought up is about containing the food properly, if one contains the food properly; and Commissioner Goodson had brought up about predators, and if one addresses it and keeps it contained properly and the chickens contained properly it will not bring in new predators; and in fact, coyotes will steal cats and dogs when they are let out at night sometimes. She went on to say chickens are usually contained in a pen or a coup so it would not be as big of a problem; she just wanted to address the predator issue; back in 2020 there were probably a lot of eggs available for customers at the grocery store, but since then there has been a lot of inflation, shortages, and eggs unavailable; people could not go to the grocery store during COVID; if people wanted to feed their families, the stores were closed; and she believes that Second Harvest Bank spoke first today and they really pointed out some very important issues. She continued by saying Ms. Palacios stated that one out of six children are actually starving in Brevard County, they do not have food security; one out of seven people that live here do not have food security; this would be such a great thing to provide security; she asked can Brevard bring up its standards to the cities standards, because she lives in unincorporated, and that is outside of the city limits; and she commented she believes that people in unincorporated should be able to have the same amount as them.

Commissioner Goodson asked if he understood her husband to say that they live on an acre and one-quarter.

Ms. Harris stated they live on .39 acres.

Commissioner Goodson asked how many chickens she has.

Ms. Harris replied they have zero.

Commissioner Goodson asked how many chickens she wants.

Ms. Harris advised he does not want her to honestly answer that.

Commissioner Goodson asked how many Code Enforcement officers come by her house and count chickens.

Ms. Harris stated she has had Code Enforcement called on her before and she had to get rid of her chickens.

Commissioner Goodson asked how many chickens she had.

Ms. Harris advised they had six, and at the time Code Enforcement was called they had two.

Commissioner Goodson asked if she had a rooster.

Ms. Harris responded she did not.

Commissioner Goodson asked staff if this is a big Code Enforcement problem that people ride in the County, Mims, and count chickens out their door.

Mr. Calkins replied Code Enforcement responds to complaints, they do not have any proactive Code Enforcement for that; on average there are about 20 cases per year that involve chickens; that is probably out of somewhere between 1,800 and 2,000 cases that are looked at per year in general; and that is not related to chickens, just to give the Board an idea of the volume compared.

Commissioner Goodson questioned if there was a neighbor who did not like her that has now moved away with her chickens so now Ms. Harris can have her chickens and be happy.

Ms. Harris stated no comment.

Commissioner Delaney stated one of the requests was that she be a little bit more specific about some of the things; it was changing it up to six chickens, allowing on a residential lot, she is putting in that there must be a 10-foot setback from the property lines, and that feed must be stored securely; there are things that get policed all the time with Code Enforcement; she does not think this is out of the ordinary; there are places like Satellite Beach which is a pretty comparable community to the areas of concern...

Chairman Feltner stated just as a point of clarification, he does not think the Board can impose on Satellite Beach that they would end up having six chickens.

Commissioner Delaney replied no, she is just saying it is comparable to...

Chairman Feltner interjected by saying the size of the lot.

Commissioner Delaney advised she was speaking about the ordinance is comparable; she commented she knows Satellite Beach has a large group or residents who garden, have chickens, and all of that stuff; she just brought that up because of the similar community to Melbourne Beach; she just felt like this is something that is being brought up a lot; and she is hoping the Board can give the public the opportunity to weigh in on this, even the people who do not agree can come and share their thoughts and concerns, that way the Board can make the fairest and best ordinance.

Commissioner Altman stated he is going to support this at this time, but this is why there is a Planning and Zoning Board; he thinks Commissioner Adkinson's point of the smaller units is a valid one; maybe this will give an opportunity to vet it; it will be interesting to hear what they come up with as it goes through the process because of the rats; he can understand as he compares his love of those adorable little chickens to rats, and seeing them run across her fence; and he was hoping maybe it was an endangered beach mouse.

Commissioner Adkinson advised it was not.

Commissioner Altman reiterated it was not one of those cute beach mice; he commented it would be interesting to see; he can support it to at least go through the process and see what they come up with; maybe they can get creative; however, he really appreciates Commissioner Adkinson's concerns.

Chairman Feltner stated he has a thought; he would split this with her if she only wanted to do this in the north end of the County; it is just an idea; then she could see how this goes and come back some time in the future and consider that for the rest of the County; otherwise, he cannot vote today for backyard chickens in portions of his unincorporated District 4.

Commissioner Delaney stated she is amenable to that.

Chairman Feltner stated if that is where Commissioner Delaney is at, she might find support from the Board tonight.

Commissioner Goodson stated he is totally confused; this is one County, the Board is governing Brevard County not Mims or Titusville; if Commissioner Delaney wants to do this let the Board vote for the whole County, Suntree and Baytree, he is sure they will be happy with that.

Chairman Feltner stated he is not doing that.

Commissioner Goodson questioned but he is going to do that in North Brevard.

Chairman Feltner explained he thinks they have a lot more rural areas in the north end of the County.

Commissioner Goodson pointed out Valkaria has a lot of vacant land down there, and there just would not be chickens in the middle.

Chairman Feltner stated there is an incorporated area down in Grant/Valkaria.

Commissioner Delaney stated this would not affect HOAs.

Chairman Feltner stated the Board cannot impose this on HOAs, they have their own deed restrictions; and HOAs can also tell people they cannot have short-term rentals.

Commissioner Delaney made the motion to go to legislative intent for the chicken ordinance for the north end.

Chairman Feltner asked if that is for District 1.

Commissioner Delaney responded affirmatively.

Chairman Feltner asked staff if that can be done.

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated that can be done; occasionally with redistricting the district lines change therefore it is not always great to make a regulation made on political boundaries of a District; and maybe the Board could come up with a description of like a rural north Brevard area, or something like that.

Chairman Feltner asked from Canaveral Groves north.

Commissioner Delaney stated she would want to include the District 1 portions of Cocoa because there is lot of rural areas in there as well.

Chairman Feltner asked how Commissioner Delaney can craft that from what is the current bottom boundary of unincorporated District 1 north.

Attorney Richardson stated if the Board is willing staff can just take direction to work with the District 1 office on that, and maybe provide any specific direction that it might want to add, like Port St. John which has some smaller lots to be in or out; if staff could just get some general direction it can work with the District 1 office in getting that boundary; and he just would not want to see it follow the District line which can change.

Commissioner Goodson asked Commissioner Delaney if she has had a town hall meeting and how many people are this concerned about chickens and chicken eggs; and can she provide a number other than this group that has been to the Board meetings twice.

Commissioner Delaney stated she has had multiple conversations with...

Commissioner Goodson interjected by asking how many six, or 10.

Commissioner Delaney advised she cannot even count, that is how many, it has been a lot.

Commissioner Goodson asked again if she has had a town hall meeting to get these people in there to talk about it, the ones who are for it and against it; her comments are only people for the chickens; and he asked if that is correct.

Commissioner Delaney advised she is not understanding his question.

Commissioner Goodson reiterated by saying the people she has had conversations with want the chickens.

Commissioner Delaney responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Goodson commented so she had none that said they did not want chickens.

Commissioner Delaney noted while she has not had a town hall that she has done is put it out on social media, advertised in the Agenda multiple times, and no one has contacted her saying they are not for these changes; she did not specifically have a town hall in her community because she felt like, originally this should be a Countywide ordinance change, but if she only has support to do it in the north end, then she is happy to do that; and this legislative intent gives the public the opportunity to come and state their concerns.

Commissioner Goodson stated he will tell a story and it goes back to Commissioner Adkinson talking about it, they do not promote predators, Monday night a person in West Cocoa, District 1, has a beautiful chicken coup, chickens, and no roosters, one went missing; the next evening he looked out there and there was a 40 pound Bobcat eating one of his chickens; predators come to chickens; rats come to chicken food; and people can say they store their feed. He commented the chickens eat out of a pan and dribble feed all around the yard; he hears what she is saying; he is glad she wants to do this; and he cannot vote for it and cannot agree that the Board is going to take half of Brevard County and turn it into a chicken coup on the north end and not do it on the south end. He commented if the Board is going to do this then do it on the south end too, and in Suntree.

Commissioner Delaney asked if she would have his support if she did that because she would rather do that.

Commissioner Goodson commented he would do that and the Chairman represents that so he will help him out.

Chairman Feltner asked if that is Commission Goodson's motion, for the whole County.

Commissioner Goodson commented yeah, turn them loose; and same thing with ducks, if people can hunt ducks openly, get some ducks involved.

Chairman Feltner asked if that is his motion.

Commissioner Delaney stated she will second that.

Commissioner Goodson advised he does not have a motion; and he asked to hurry up and move along if this Board does not have anything more to talk about than chickens.

Chairman Feltner advised he thinks that was a joke and Commissioner Delaney can go ahead and restate her motion.

Commissioner Delaney restated the motion.

Commissioner Goodson asked if the City of Cocoa has a chicken ordinance now.

Commissioner Delaney replied she believes so.

Commissioner Goodson stated she better know so because she does not want to try to infuse something on them that they already have in a policy.

Commissioner Delaney noted this is only for unincorporated.

Commissioner Altman asked what the zoning ordinance is now and if it allows one unit per acre, does it have to be rural residential; and what is the status of the ordinance now.

Commissioner Goodson stated it is lot size.

Tad Calkins, Assistant County Manager, stated it is based on lot size, so if under a one-half acre, one chicken is allowed; if over one-half acre, four chickens are allowed by conditional use; and when going into agricultural zoning classification, then there is unlimited chickens.

Commissioner Altman stated he now sees that in the staff report.

The Board approved legislative intent and permission to advertise Amendments to Chapter 62, Article VI, "Zoning Regulations", Brevard County Code for the north end; and directed staff to bring forward an ordinance that addresses the issues detailed in the summary explanation of the Agenda Report.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Feltner, and Altman

**Nay:** Goodson, and Adkinson

**J.8. Commissioner discussion regarding FY2025-26 Budget Challenges and Funding Options**

Commissioner Delaney expressed her appreciation to staff for the budget workshops; she stated if anyone gets a chance to watch those they are full of information; staff did an incredible job of giving a clear picture of the challenges that the County is facing and the opportunities that the County has; she wanted to give the Board an opportunity because it did not have the chance to talk about some of the revenue streams that were presented; and she does not know if the Chairman wants to go to cards or discuss.

Sandra Sullivan stated the fiscal crisis that the County is in, was avoidable if the Board was more proactive, and had not kicked the can down the road on impact fees for 25 years; one of the funding options is the impact fees; in 1997 with the Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) referendum, the study recommended \$305 for impact fees and it is still at \$97, or \$87; the County is at a junction right now where action can be taken by this Board, but the time is ticking and it only has until August 19, as a deadline to put a referendum on the ballot; and yes, the County would have to pay for the cost of doing that, but it is the cost of doing business. She added if it cost one-half million dollars to put something out on a ballot initiative and a couple of them are done, for each one-half cent the County is bringing in \$600 million, the number is going to go up; and that is a number of what it would be now, \$600 million over 10 years. She went on to say the Board was given a sheet of paper and this is the key option right now because it is putting a Band-Aid on it right now, but the County does not have enough money to fund the Fire Department now; it is taking from other budgets; there is not enough money in years two and three; in order to get ahead of this, so that next year a referendum would go into play and it would be bringing in that money; on that sheet of paper the Board could do a regional transportation surtax, and she showed a chart where the counties that have their transportation figured out, are doing that; that was from the budget workshop and presented by the director as having a fiscal crisis for transportation of \$2.2 billion; and the Board has a quarter of the money it needs to fund critical needs right now, not on the total needs. She went on to say why it makes sense is because there are 24 new hotels coming on board; tourism plays a part in those costs; and she is pleading with the Board to take action this year and not kick the can down the road for another year; it is going to be seven to nine months because the Board did not do milestones for some of the studies for impact fees; that relief is not coming; and she would strongly urge for Fire and transportation to do sales tax.

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated he would like to point out to the Board because it has heard this many times now, to be very clear, Florida Statutes 212.055, which governs the discretionary sales surtax for things like infrastructure or the fire service on that has been talked about, none of those can be placed on a ballot other than a general election ballot, by referendum; the earliest it could have it appear on a ballot would be the 2026 General Election; it cannot be done in a non-general election year; essentially, only in even numbered years; and the August date that it has heard about and a November 25 election that is impossible by Statute.

Commissioner Delaney stated she has a question about that; and she asked if that includes if the County were to do a special election.

Chairman Feltner advised the County cannot do a special election.

Attorney Richardson explained that it cannot have a special election referendum, it has to be a

referendum on a general election ballot.

Commissioner Delaney stated okay.

Chairman Feltner stated he would like to say something about that real quick because in 2003 the County did a special election for infrastructure and it ended up losing 2:1; the State came back some years later and, Commissioner Altman was probably there at the time, said that it has to be put before the voters when the greatest number of voters would be voting, not in a special election; and that is the situation with a referendum on a tax question, it is a technical issue.

Commissioner Altman stated he appreciates this Item being on the Agenda; he thinks it is healthy that the Board discusses these options as much as possible; a lot of these options do not necessarily have to be looked at as revenue producing taxes, but they could be looked at in a way of making the tax system more just; in other words, some of them can be used to reduce property taxes because that is the most evil of all taxes; it is penalizing people for achieving the American dream; he knows when the County raised the gas tax in the 80s, it took a pretty good portion of that to lower the MSTU Road and Bridge property taxes; and it could demonstrate that it was able to generate significant revenue and at the same time reduce property taxes. He commented it made the distribution more equitable; one thing that Brevard County has as a great revenue producer is called I-95; it is 72 miles and this is the longest County in the State; a lot of people have to stop to gas up on their way to Miami or on their way north; that is generating a lot of revenue for roads, but it has not necessarily been borne by the Brevard County tax payers; and he does think gas tax is a more equitable and fair way. He added he knows that some of the service charge fees that were talked about is more consumption-based; he is a big fair tax person and he believes in consumption-based taxes more than taxing income or property; that makes the tax more avoidable; taxes that are avoidable are better than taxes that are non-avoidable because he does not like paying taxes; it is the American way, and he knows they have to be there, but at least if they are there in a way that the consumer has a little bit of a choice, it is more equitable; he thinks it is a healthy discussion; and he hopes this Board continues that, because he knows he is interested in pursuing some of these options and hopefully it can be done in a way that will diminish the tax burden on Brevard County residents and also make this a more attractive place to live.

Chairman Feltner stated Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT) was easy when it first came about and the guy who owned the gas pump was the Tax Collector; it was real simple; that is changing and not necessarily anyone who drives on the road pays that tax; that is a dilemma and the Board will hear that at Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) when it goes; they have had Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) folks and someone from Federal Transportation agencies that have spoken on that issue; the State is going to take that up sometime in the future to figure it out because gas taxes for those who collect it, will continue to decline; it is a good thing that cars are more efficient than they were 50 years ago; and that is going to continue to be a problem. He mentioned on some of the other taxes that are collected across the County in terms of a sales tax, some of those he thinks have to be split with municipal government so it is not quite as clean as Brevard County's going to get it all; and he looks forward to continuing the discussion, but he thinks that is probably all that is going to happen today.

Commissioner Delaney stated the ones that she was mostly interested in was the gas taxes and the sales taxes; like Commissioner Altman had said consumptive taxes are definitely more ideal than property taxes; that way the people visiting Brevard County can be contributing to the tax base even more and lessen the burden on the residents; she would even be interested in,

as much as it could, through sales tax because it could reduce the property taxes with the money that is generated from these other sales taxes; that is kind of where her head is at; and she agrees with Lieutenant Dacko, even if it is not the EMS sales tax, doing something to have a designated source of revenue for the Fire Department she thinks is really important. She commented she thinks the sales tax would be a good thing because the tourists would then be contributing; when they call 9-1-1, part of their spending will go towards their ambulance ride or the services they get from Brevard County; she thinks the transportation really needs to be looked at; as the Public Works Director shared with the Board at the budget workshop, \$2.2 billion in transportation backlog, and that cannot be solely on the backs of the residents; she thinks that is something this Board needs to talk about extensively; and she personally feels like this Board needs to make a decision within the relatively near future on how it is going to bring more income into the County.

Chairman Feltner stated the Board will continue to think about that; in regards to any kind of sales tax that would potentially go before the voters, since that would be in 2026, there is time to continue that discussion; if it was to happen in 2025, just thinking about the calendar, it would almost have to adopt something today to let the Supervisor of Elections (SOE) know, he has to know in August; and just so Commissioner Delaney is aware of the calendar going forward, as a matter of how that would work with the SOE.

Commissioner Delaney asked if the Board decided to do fuel taxes, when it would need to have those discussions and decisions made by.

Kathy Wall, Central Services Director, stated according to Florida Statutes, they can be levied before October 1 of any given year to be effective January 1 of the next year.

Chairman Feltner asked if that is because it starts the new fiscal year; and he stated as she had mentioned the other day, it misses out on two months of collection.

Ms. Wall stated the Department of Revenue needs time to notify the dealers that this is increased; and it is providing the Department of Revenue time to notify so everything can be updated for the new year.

Commissioner Delaney stated she was in Fort Lauderdale over Christmas break; they have all of their fuel taxes levied in that area and their gas prices were the same, if not a couple cents cheaper than here; and she does not necessarily think that if the Board were to levy these that it would make the gas prices go through the roof or anything like that.

Chairman Feltner stated he is not an expert on gas but it may be that they bring gas through their port and Brevard County does not; he does not know if that is the issue there; and there may be other things happening.

The Board discussed options to address the current County fiscal challenges that were identified during this year's budget workshop, but took no action.

#### **J.9. Proposed changes to Board Policy BCC-43, Commission District Office Annual Budget**

Commissioner Delaney stated she is bringing forth this Policy, BCC-43, and she has made some changes to her first draft to include getting rid of the State travel portion that Chairman Feltner had concerns about; it was in the previous Policy, but just for the sake of his concerns, she struck that out; she also struck out any of the talk about the Budget Department sending budget updates; what she left in there was the update for the 24-25 numbers to make that



up-to-date; and then based on the recommendations that she received from staff, she left in that Facilities would provide a written estimate for renovations of Commission offices.

Commissioner Goodson asked if Commissioner Delaney would require a written estimate if she was doing a sidewalk in her District from construction.

Commissioner Delaney replied yes.

Commissioner Goodson asked again if she would, and if she has.

Commissioner Delaney stated she misunderstood what Commissioner Goodson was talking about and replied no she would not.

Commissioner Goodson asked why not.

Commissioner Delaney noted she feels like those are two different things because this is something that is her versus a County project.

Commissioner Goodson asked if it was two different things why did she not understand what she was doing in her own office.

Commissioner Delaney stated with all due respect, she asked multiple times and was promised but not given the estimates; and by the time they had told her the work was beginning it was pretty much done.

Commissioner Goodson commented really.

Commissioner Delaney stated with all due respect, she was sitting in the fourth floor of the six-story building and watching everything that they were doing, she trusted that staff was doing what they told her they would do; she was busy catching up on things; and she does not know about anyone else but she walked into her office with over 100 voicemails and no office furniture.

Commissioner Goodson asked Commissioner Delaney if she recently bought a \$740 refrigerator.

Commissioner Delaney responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Goodson asked why she did not go to scratch and dent and buy a \$400 one.

Commissioner Delaney stated she went and there were none, she went to Appliance Direct.

Commissioner Goodson advised Lowe's had even cheaper ones than what she bought; and he asked if there was a color combination that matches the décor in her office.

Commissioner Delaney responded by saying no; she advised it was pretty standard and fit the area.

Commissioner Goodson stated it was 20.5 cubic yards, that is a pretty big refrigerator and she will be able to store a lot of boiled eggs.

Commissioner Delaney repeated it was standard.

Commissioner Goodson advised he cannot support this because he thinks a Commissioner needs to have a certain amount of knowledge with what he or she is doing; he finds it hard to believe that; and he asked what Commissioner Delaney was told that her office renovation would cost.

Commissioner Delaney advised she was told on multiple occasions that it would be \$20,000 or less.

Commissioner Goodson stated \$20,000 for new flooring, new desk, new security...

Commissioner Delaney interjected by saying no new desks, they got no new furniture, it was all Asset Management furniture.

Commissioner Goodson continued on by saying new floors, and asked if she received new curtains or blinds.

Commissioner Delaney stated there were new blinds.

Commissioner Goodson stated if Commissioner Delaney knows anything about the world today, \$20,000 will not buy crap.

Commissioner Delaney stated it is not a huge office.

Commissioner Goodson stated it must have been; and he asked how much they finally spent.

Commissioner Delaney replied off the top of her head she does not know exactly what that number is.

Commissioner Goodson asked staff how much they finally spent.

Jim Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager, stated he does not have the number of the top of his head; he believes the number he saw was \$102,000; and he believes the final price for flooring has not come back yet.

Commissioner Delaney explained that is because more flooring was included than what her project required; and she believes that flooring is going to the Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Goodson asked if the Sheriff is involved in this as well. He commented he cannot support this because he thinks the member needs to be able to handle his or her own business.

Commissioner Adkinson stated this says the language revision was recommended, reviewed, and edited by County staff; and she would like to know if staff actually recommended this.

Mr. Liesenfelt stated he does not change Agendas; that was pointed out to him so he spoke with Commissioner Delaney; he does believe that Commissioner Delaney believes that staff recommended it; he spoke with Marc so he sees where she is coming from; he is sure it was miscommunication, but as staff, they only provide advice on Commissioner Agendas and will help when asked; however, staff does not provide recommendations to individual Commissioners to bring Items to the Board.

Commissioner Adkinson stated she is not going to support this because she does not believe that she needs to tell Facilities to provide a written estimate, she can ask them to provide whatever it is that she needs; she does not know that the Board needs to put this on them to obtain written approval; and that is where she stands on this.

Commissioner Delaney advised she has multiple emails saying, "I propose the above tweaks for several important reasons" and another one, "I'm adding so and so to my proposed input below", "as so and so stated in a previous meeting, the CMO mentioned a Policy that is specific to Commissioners and that could be adjusted to avoid this situation in the future," multiple times here where the staff is recommending changes to this Policy; this one says, "to codify further, you may wish to request the Board to consider a Policy change to BCC-43, as previously suggested"; she commented she does not understand what the issue is with adding a level of checks and balances and transparency because she is glad for Commissioner Adkinson that she received the respect and the word of the staff to provide her with those things, but she did not; she also did not get the benefit of using the construction crew, as staff costs were not included in District 3 or District 5's estimates, which staff time was included in hers; and she asked why she was not being treated the same as the other Commissioners. She continued by saying in addition to that she did not have the previous Commissioner to make updates to her office prior to her getting into office, like District 3 did; she also had to go through her office furniture being given to another Commissioner's Office; there is a reason she is asking for everybody to be treated the same and for some standardization in the processes and for transparency and accountability; and she owns it, it is her fault for trusting that staff was going to do what it told her it was going to do, but she was not awarded that same respect.

Chairman Feltner asked for the pleasure of the Board.

Commissioner Delaney made the motion to update Policy BCC-43.

Motion dies for lack of a second.

The Board discussed revisions to Policy BCC-43, Commission District Office Annual Budget, but took no action.

**J.10. Support for grant opportunity for strategic economic planning in North Brevard.**

Commissioner Delaney stated as the Board knows she sits on the Eastern Central Florida Regional Planning Council; she was recently told about a possible grant opportunity through Florida Commerce, it is up to a \$75,000 grant with zero match; this would be to basically look to the future for economic development in North Brevard; she thought with the dissolution with the North Brevard Economic Development Zone that this would be a good opportunity to get some data and make a plan to go forward for economic development in her District; and she is looking for support.

Chairman Feltner advised he is going to pass out a letter; he took Commissioner Delaney's letter and made a couple amendments to it; if she is friendly to it, he would feel more comfortable with this; in short, the main thing in the letter is instead of the Eastern Florida Regional, there is an economic development Commission right here in Brevard County; they are and have been for many years working to bring things to the north end of the County; he would feel better if the Board was working with them instead of the group from Orlando; and that is the short of his amendment to the letter, but whatever the pleasure of the Board is.

Commissioner Delaney stated she would be amenable to that.

Chairman Feltner clarified that this is a timely issue and that she needs to get that to them.

Commissioner Delaney replied yes, by August 1.

The Board approved a letter of support for a North Brevard Community Planning Grant to support economic resilience in North Brevard.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Seconder:** Rob Feltner

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**K. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Individuals may not speak under both the first and second public comment sections.)**

Christina Fleming stated first she would like to thank the Board for voting to approve the recent contract; that decision did not just support a group of employees, it acknowledged the value of their work and the challenges they have endured for far too long; she also wanted to thank the Board for now showing a willingness to consider future contracts more seriously and more promptly; this shift matters and she hopes it is a sign of continued progress; but she would be negligent if she did not speak honestly about how everyone got here.

She went on to say for months and in some case years, the facts have been brought before this Board and past Boards; the stories, the data, the pleas from employees and residents alike, there were opportunities to act earlier to fix issues before they became crisis, and for too long nothing was done; this contract approval is a positive step, but let it also be a turning point; let it be a moment where this Board commits to not just listening, but hearing, not just reacting, but acting; let this experience serve as a reminder to proactively address the needs of departments that in this County are still understaffed and underpaid, especially as new studies and reports begin to surface; doing the right thing is not always easy and sometimes it feels risky, politically and personally; it might even feel like career suicide; but in the long run, integrity and courage matters and when one chooses to lead with truth, listen to be guided by facts and fairness, it sets a new example and shows the community and future leaders that local government can be principled and can stand up for what is right, even when it is not convenient. She expressed her appreciation once again; she stated she hopes there is a shift in approach going forward; to build on the momentum and not make people fight so hard just to be heard and respected; to make this Board one that leads with honesty, moral clarity, and with the people's trust.

Commissioner Altman thanked Ms. Fleming for her kind comments; he stated on the issue of promptly, more promptly, he wants to highlight that even when this was at impasse, this Board very promptly, with the staff, very early, raised the Fire Assessment fee great political peril; at the earliest possible date of setting millage, it established a millage rate; he knows she is talking about the past, and there have been some problems, but this Board has acted really quickly; and he thinks this Board will keep that up.

Paige Sassman stated she spoke at a previous meeting during negotiations as an employee; she is there today as a previous employee eligible for rehire; she thinks this Contract has a lot of good in it, still with minor twerks and everything that needs to get worked out, but it is a positive; she hopes this Board understands that there are a lot of people that have left and are considering returning because of this raise, herself included; this place is home for a lot of people; she thinks that is why a lot of people took it personally when it took so long to get a contract; and she thanked the Board stating she looks forward to what the future holds.

L.3. Katie Delaney, Commissioner District 1

Commissioner Delaney stated she has one thing to mention; she is very excited to announce Tom Statham Park is now going to be open and rentable for the public again; everybody is invited for the ribbon cutting on July 25, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.; she wanted to express her appreciation to the Parks and Recreation crew who did such a quick turnaround on that facility; they did a beautiful job; and she is glad this community space is going to be able to be utilized by the community again.

Chairman Feltner asked if that were to be rented for a wedding, class reunion, or something like that, how many people can fit in there.

Commissioner Delaney stated Ian Golden, Parks and Recreation Director, may have to help with that, but it is 4,600 square feet; a large building that is beautiful, right on the river, there is an awesome playground; one of the County's living shorelines is at this park; and there is a beautiful deck over the water with tables for a great place to eat lunch.

L.7. Rob Feltner, Commissioner District 4, Chairman

Chairman Feltner stated Don Walker, Communications Director, has something.

Don Walker, Communications Director, stated he would like to introduce the Board to Jeremy Faella; he is a student at Eastern Florida State College, and along with a fellow classmate who were both hired as summer interns, to video and interview County employees for a recruitment campaign that is being kicked off today; this was done through a partnership with Space Coast Government Television (SCGTV) and Human Resources, in particular Leslie Jones, Career Development Manager, and Taciana Raders, Employee Development and Volunteer Specialist; the effort, which was guided by SCGTV production Manager, Logan Hemenway, who did a spotlight on various County employees and what they do for the County as a way to entice other people to join the County team; they have the first video that was produced that they are kicking off the campaign with today; and he wanted to show that to the Board today for its enjoyment. He added they have done 17 videos and it is being kicked off with a social media campaign; these will be posted on the County's web page and also on You Tube; and hopefully, the County will start receiving job candidates.

Chairman Feltner stated the Board will see some future ones and it will do the same thing on Board Reports.

Mr. Walker advised all 17 are done and ready to go.

Adjourn

Upon consensus of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

ATTEST:

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RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
ROB FELTNER, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COUNTY

BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA