

# Indian River County Florida

*Indian River County Administration Complex  
1801 27th Street, Building A  
Vero Beach, Florida, 32960-3388  
[www.indianriver.gov](http://www.indianriver.gov)*



## Meeting Minutes - Final

**Wednesday, September 18, 2024**

**5:01 PM**

**Final Budget Hearing**

**Commission Chambers**

## **Board of County Commissioners**

*Susan Adams, District 1, Chairman*

*Joseph Flescher, District 2, Vice Chairman*

*Joseph H. Earman, District 3*

*Deryl Loar, District 4*

*Laura Moss, District 5*

**John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator**

**Jennifer W. Shuler, County Attorney**

**Ryan L. Butler, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Present:** 4 - Vice Chairman Joseph Flescher  
Commissioner Joe Earman  
Commissioner Laura Moss  
Commissioner Deryl Loar

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Susan Adams

**2.A. A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES****2.B. INVOCATION**

**Commissioner Deryl Loar**

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Vice Chairman Joseph E. Flescher**

**4. BUDGET OVERVIEW BY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, JOHN A. TITKANICH, JR.**

[24-0768](#) Budget Ad 2024-2025

**Attachments:** [2425 Budget Ad](#)

[24-0772](#) Total Proposed Budget and Millage Rates

**Attachments:** [Proposed Budget and Millage Rates](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich announced that the total proposed budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/2025 was \$524,719,875, an increase of \$17,818,335 over last year's planned budget. He utilized a PowerPoint presentation to highlight the major impacts to the proposed budget noting a tax roll increase of 10.3% countywide and 10.0% in the unincorporated areas. He stated it was the initial year of the Environmentally Sensitive Land Acquisition Bonds, Series 2024 millage levy of 0.0639, and pointed out that the FY 2024/2025 budget reflects the County's priority commitment to public safety, noting \$145.7 million was allocated to law enforcement, emergency services, and fire rescue. He added an agreed-to Sheriff's Office funding of \$4.78 million (a reduction from the initial request of \$8.84 million from current budget), continued funding of School Resource Officers at a 50% split with the School District, the Compensation Study implementation cost of \$8,686,151, increases in the retirement rate (not including Constitutional Officers), and Worker's Compensation (including Constitutional Officers), and an increase of 38.9 full-time positions.

**5. AD VALOREM FUNDS****A. Ad Valorem Millage and Ad Valorem Budget**

**General Fund**[24-0773](#)

Proposed millage is 3.5475 and is 7.77% above rolled back rate of 3.2918. The proposed budget is \$145,834,204.

**Attachments:** [General Fund](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the General Fund proposed millage rate is 3.5475, 7.77% above the rolled back rate of 3.2918. The proposed budget is \$145,834,204.

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

Mr. Lance Lunceford, President of the Taxpayers' Association of Indian River County (Taxpayers' Association), stated the FY 2024/2025 Budget carried the Taxpayers' Association's full support. He thanked the Board and staff for their continued collaboration with the Taxpayers' Association.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to approve the millage rate of 3.5475 for the General Fund, 7.77% above the rolled back rate of 3.2918, and to approve Resolution 2024-046, establishing the tax millage rate to be levied upon all real and personal taxable property in Indian River County, Florida, for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the General Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

**A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to approve the General Fund Budget in the amount of \$145,834,204 and Resolution 2024-047, amending the County Budget Officer's estimates of receipts other than taxes and of balances to be brought forward for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and adopting a final budget for the General Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

**M.S.T.U.**

[24-0774](#)

Proposed millage is 1.1506 and is 7.24% above rolled back rate of 1.0729. The proposed budget is \$54,368,135.

**Attachments:** [MSTU](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich stated the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) proposed millage rate is 1.1506 and is 7.24% above the rolled back rate of 1.0729. The MSTU proposed budget is \$54,368,135.

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to approve the millage rate of 1.1506 for the Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU), 7.24% above the rolled back rate of 1.0729, and to approve Resolution 2024-048, establishing the tax millage rate to be levied upon all real and personal taxable property in Indian River County, Florida, for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Indian River County General Purpose Municipal Service Taxing Unit. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

**A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Vice Chairman Flescher, to approve the budget in the amount of \$54,368,135 and to approve Resolution 2024-049, amending the County Budget Officer's estimates of receipts other than taxes and of balances to be brought forward for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and adopting a final budget for the Indian River County General Purpose Municipal Service Taxing Unit. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

**Transportation Fund - (No Millage)**

[24-0775](#)

Proposed budget is \$25,881,721.

**Attachments:** [Transportation](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the proposed Transportation Fund budget is \$25,881,721.

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Vice Chairman Flescher, to approve the budget in the amount of \$25,881,721 for the Transportation Fund, and to approve Resolution 2024-050, amending the County Budget Officer's estimates of receipts other than taxes and of balances to be brought forward for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and adopting a final budget for the Transportation Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

**Emergency Services District**

[24-0777](#)

Proposed millage is 2.3531 and is 7.31% above rolled back rate of 2.1928. The proposed budget is \$66,824,334.

**Attachments:** [Emergency Services](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the Emergency Services District proposed millage is 2.3531 and is 7.31% above the rolled back rate of 2.1928. The proposed budget is \$66,824,334

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to approve the millage rate of 2.3531 for the Emergency Services District, which is 7.31% above the rolled back**

rate of 2.1928, and to approve Resolution 2024-051, establishing the tax millage rate to be levied upon all real and personal taxable property in Indian River County, Florida, for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Indian River County Emergency Services District. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Vice Chairman Flescher, to approve the dollar amount of \$66,824,334 for the Emergency Services District and to approve Resolution 2024-052, amending the County Budget Officer's estimates of receipts other than taxes and of balances to be brought forward for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and adopting a final budget for the Emergency Services District. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

#### **Land Acquisition Bonds-2024**

[24-0778](#)

Proposed millage is 0.0639. The proposed budget is \$1,778,092.

**Attachments:** [Land Acquisition](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the Land Acquisition Bonds- Series 2024 proposed millage is 0.0639 and the proposed budget is \$1,778,092.

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Loar, to approve the millage rate for the Land Acquisition Bonds - Series 2024 Referendum of 0.0639 (rolled back rate does not apply), and to approve Resolution 2024-053, establishing the tax millage rate to be levied upon all real and personal taxable property in Indian River County, Florida, for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the General Obligation Land Acquisition Bond Issue – Series 2024 Referendum. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

**A motion was made by Commissioner Moss, seconded by Commissioner Loar, to approve the budget of \$1,778,092 for the Land Acquisition Bonds – Series 2024 Referendum, and approved Resolution 2024-054, amending the County Budget Officer's estimates of receipts other than taxes and of balances to be brought forward for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and adopting a final budget for the General Obligation Land Acquisition Bond Issue – Series 2024 Referendum. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

### **Aggregate**

[24-0795](#)

Proposed aggregate millage is 6.1198 and is 7.40% above rolled back rate of 5.6981.

County Administrator John Titkanich announced that the proposed aggregate millage is 6.1198 and is 7.40 above the rolled back rate of 5.6981. The rate is used for comparison purposes and does not require adoption by the Board.

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

### **No Action Taken or Required**

## **6. INDIAN RIVER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SITTING AS SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL DISTRICT BOARD**

The Board of County Commissioners reconvened as the Board of Commissioners of the Solid Waste Disposal District. The minutes will be approved at an upcoming meeting.

[24-0779](#)

Solid Waste Disposal District Budget (Non-Ad Valorem Special District)

**Attachments:** [SWDD](#)

A. Announce 2024/2025 Proposed Charge and Budget.

1. \$108.75 per Residential Waste Generation Unit (\$163.13/House)  
(8.00% increase from current year)  
\$68.80 per Commercial Waste Generation Unit  
(8.00% increase from current year)  
Readiness-to-Use Fee \$40.30  
(9.63% increase from current year)

2. \$27,495,249 Budget

County Administrator John Titkanich outlined the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) proposed charges. The proposed budget was \$27,495,249.

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Vice Chairman Flescher, to approve the Non Ad Valorem assessment rates of \$108.75 per Residential Waste Generation Unit (\$163.13/House), a 3.72% increase from current year; \$68.80 per Commercial Waste Generation Unit, and Readiness to Use Fee of \$40.30, for the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD); and to approve Resolution 2024-055, establishing the assessment rate to be levied upon all real taxable property in Indian River County, Florida, for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Solid Waste Disposal District. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

**A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to approve the Solid Waste Disposal District (SWDD) Budget of \$27,495,249 and approve Resolution 2024-056, amending the County Budget Officer's estimates of receipts other than taxes and of balances to be brought forward for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and adopting a final budget for the Solid Waste Disposal District. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

The Board of Commissioners adjourned the Solid Waste Disposal District hearing, and reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners of the Final Budget Hearing

meeting, continuing with the adoption of Non Ad Valorem Assessment charges.

## 7. ADOPTION OF NON AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT CHARGES

A. 2024/2025 proposed charge for each Non Ad Valorem Assessment District.

[24-0780](#) Non-Ad Valorem

**Attachments:** [Non-Ad Valorem](#)

County Administrator John Titkanich announced the Non Ad Valorem Assessment Districts charges and turned the meeting over to the Board to read into record the Non Ad Valorem Assessment District for Street Lighting.

Commissioner Moss read into record the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 proposed charge for each Non Ad Valorem Assessment District for Street Lighting.

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Earman, seconded by Commissioner Moss, to approve the charges read into the record for each of the Non Ad Valorem Assessment Districts; and to approve Resolution 2024-057, establishing the assessment rates to be levied upon certain real property in Indian River County for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for all the Non Ad Valorem assessments. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

## 8. APPROVE NON AD VALOREM DOLLAR BUDGETS

A. 2024/2025 Proposed Budget

[24-0781](#) Non-Taxing Funds

**Attachments:** [Non-Taxing](#)

- |                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Special Revenue Funds   | \$28,860,914 |
| 2. Other Debt Service Fund | \$500,000    |
| 3. Capital Projects        | \$41,372,109 |
| 4. Enterprise Funds        | \$78,270,180 |
| 5. Internal Service Funds  | \$53,534,937 |

County Administrator John Titkanich outlined the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 proposed Non Ad Valorem dollar budgets.

Vice Chairman Flescher opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, the Vice Chairman closed the hearing.

There were no proposed amendments to the budget.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Loar, seconded by Vice Chairman Flescher, to approve the Special Revenue Funds in the amount of \$28,860,914; Other Debt Service Fund in the amount of \$500,000; Capital Projects in the amount of \$41,372,109; Enterprise Funds in the amount of \$78,270,180; and Internal Service Funds in the amount of \$53,534,937, and to approve Resolution 2024-058, adopting a final budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for certain Non Taxing Funds of Indian River County. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Chairman Adams

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.