

# **Brevard County Board of County Commissioners**

*2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Viera, FL 32940*



## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 28, 2025**

**9:00 AM**

**Regular**

**Commission Chambers**

**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

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

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Delaney led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**D.1. Minutes for Approval: April 22, 2025 Regular Meeting; August 14, 2025 Melbourne-Tillman Public Hearing; August 26, 2025 Regular Meeting; September 4, 2025 Zoning Meeting**

Commissioner Delaney expressed her appreciation to staff; she stated the minutes are now clickable online for people who are interested and want to read Brevard County's minutes from the Agenda; and she wanted to give staff a shout out for making that happen.

The Board approved the April 22, 2025, Regular, August 14, 2025, Melbourne-Tillman, August 26, 2025, Regular, and September 3, 2025, Zoning Meeting Minutes.

**Result:** Approved

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

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

**E.1. Resolution, Re: Recognizing Native American Heritage Month**

Chairman Feltner read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-129, recognizing November as Native American Heritage Month in Brevard County.

**Result:** Adopted

**Mover:** Rob Feltner

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

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

Martha Pessaro expressed her appreciation to the Board; and she stated she wanted to introduce to the Board, Claire Ellis, who will tell everyone a little bit more about the festival, followed by Bart Lipofsky, who will give a little rendition of what people are going to hear at the Native Rhythms Festival this year.

Claire Ellis commented it is a beautiful, family-friendly, free event in Wickham Park, November 14-16; it is a happy place because family-friendly in the Native American world means there is no alcohol at a native event; she reiterated it is really family-friendly; she stated one can bring lawn chairs or a blanket to enjoy the incredible performers they bring from all over the country; there is a native village, free workshops, and wonderful, native vendors; it is a beautiful time to come and just enjoy oneself and learn more about Native Americans; and they look forward to seeing everyone there.

Mr. Lipofsky stated the Native American flute is a handmade flute; this one happens to be made by a person in the audience, John Ellis; the woodpecker is actually part of the airflow

system on the flute, it is not just a decoration, but it reflects the myth that the Woodpeckers made holes in a hollow tree limb; he is going to play a little bit of the Cherokee Morning Song; and he asked if he should play into the mic.

Chairman Feltner stated he thinks the mic, sir.

Mr. Lipofsky provided a portion of the Cherokee Morning Song to the Board and audience.

**E.2. Resolution, Re: Recognizing World Space Week**

Commissioner Altman read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-130, recognizing October 4-10, 2025, as World Space Week.

**Result:** Adopted

**Mover:** Thad Altman

**Second:** Katie Delaney

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

**E.3. Resolution, Re: Honoring Ron DiMenna, Founder of Ron Jon Surf Shop and Surfing's Evolution & Preservation Foundation**

Chairman Feltner read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-131, honoring Ron DiMenna, Ron Jon Surf Shop.

**Result:** Adopted

**Mover:** Rob Feltner

**Second:** Thad Altman

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

Jack Kirschenbaum advised he is on the board of directors of Ron Jon Surf Shop; Malcolm, his brother, is the chairman of the board of directors and a trustee on the foundation's board; he could not be here this morning, so he sent him; when Ron was inducted into the East Coast Hall of Fame, being a man of very few words, he said, "I am honored and thank you;" and he stated because he is a lawyer, he has to say a couple more words than that. He went on to say it is always an honor and a privilege to appear before this Commission; today, he is here on behalf of Ron and the family, Ron Jon, and the foundation; the Commissioners are very much younger, but in the olden days, surfing was perceived to be beatniks and beach bums; then Gidget occurred, and Ron was the one that saw that Gidget was going to bring surfing into the mainstream; he opened up a shop in New Jersey; and then he came down to Florida a few years later, he saw that Cocoa Beach looked just like his shore at Long Beach Island in New Jersey. He stated he opened up a shop, it had dirt floors, it had orange crates for shelves, and he had a few surfboards and a few t-shirts; on a personal note, his brother took him there when he was 10, he bought a surfboard and he has not stopped surfing since; today the surf is really good, so he is going to get out of here and go surfing; Ron Jon has become a national power in the surf industry; when people come to Cocoa Beach and Brevard County, they think Ron Jon; and he knows Ron and Lynn are humbled and appreciate this honor very much. He expressed his appreciation to the Board for the family.

Chairman Feltner noted Mr. Kirschenbaum is right, he is younger, although he feels older these days; when he was a kid, they always went to get a spring break shirt there right away, that was the first order of business; he kind of keeps up with that tradition when he has people visiting Brevard County who have kids, and he is like, "Come on, let's go to Ron Jon;" and they would get a spring break shirt. He advised he did not have that in the Resolution, but Ron was

a very big supporter of the National Kidney Foundation and the Surf Fest that is there; he knew Rich Salick, and he thinks Ron's contribution to that was very important; and he thanked Mr. Kirschenbaum for being here today.

**F. Update by County Manager, Re: Sunday's Storm Response**

Chairman Feltner commented before going to Consent, he is going to go to Jim Liesenfelt, County Manager, to give the Board an update of things that have happened this weekend.

Mr. Liesenfelt explained he just wanted to go through Sunday's storm response and some of the County's recovery actions; it is a couple of pages if the Board can bear with him; about the two o'clock hour on Sunday, the weather advisory indicated storm chances with locally heavy rain up to four inches possible; and that is what was received in the first notice. He went on to say the National Weather Service is a wonderful partner, the County is very fortunate to have them, and John Scott, Emergency Management Director, is in contact with them all of the time, but that is when the County started being aware of some issues; at 5:00, Mr. Scott was in contact with the weather service, and texted Marc Bernath, Public Works Director, that the County had rainfall amounts of five inches already reported in the City of Titusville; no issues were reported at the time, but Road and Bridge was on alert to prepare for some early morning full assessments on Monday; about 8:15, Mr. Scott received the first call about water in a home; and at 8:30, Mr. Scott contacted him, and he got in contact with Don Walker, SCGTV Director. He noted the County then received a request from the City of Titusville for mutual aid, which it responded to; at 9:00 on Sunday, Mr. Scott activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to include representatives from Public Works, Communications, EOC staff, Brevard County Sheriff's Office, and Brevard County Fire Rescue; also notified was Parks and Recreation, Housing and Human Services, and the Red Cross in case of possible shelter actions; at 9:25 it was requested that Public Works mobilize the teams that the County was planning to have going on Monday, mobilize the teams to get ahead of the anticipated issues that were starting to be reported; and a little after 10:30, Road and Bridge mobilized teams to Titusville, Cocoa, and Merritt Island for damage assessment and triage issues. He stated they also checked and started pumps throughout the County; throughout the night and Monday, they responded to many issues, monitoring staff gauges, closed roads, pumping water, and made temporary repairs for roadways; at 10:40, Communications at the EOC posted on Facebook and on X, the County crisis track line for residents to report damage if their home was damaged or flooded by the storm; by 2:15, most, but not all of those activated, were released because they are no longer responding at that time to life/safety issues; and staff still manned the EOC for 24 hours a day; and at 7:00 a.m. Mr. Walker was at the EOC preparing an update sent to all Commissioners, Charter Officers, and County Directors of the County's planned response actions for Monday, including damage assessment recovery efforts and additional action items deemed necessary. He advised staff posted, through social media, flood and safety information and monitored comments throughout the day; a little bit after 7:00, Mr. Bernath provided the Commissioners all a comprehensive update on flood conditions, flooded roads, downed trees, and impacts from other rain events; he believes Mr. Bernath also updated the Board another three times during the day to let he or she know where the County was; overnight, from Sunday evening through Monday, the County received 560 flood-related calls; the peak volume at the time was 100 calls to 911 in an hour; Monday morning, Utility Services were out removing excess rainwater from around manholes, discharging it downstream; crews were doing it to relieve pressure in the system to make sure the water would not come back up at the homes; and they prevented the backup of sewage in the homes. He continued by saying all together, Utility Services has employed 17 4,000 gallon pumper trucks and one 8,000 gallon tanker truck to help manage the levels in their systems; Planning and Development coordinated with EOC and sent out damage assessment teams; this is something the County does after every event, any emergency event; it had six teams out there consisting of two people; they

have been trained to assess the County's crisis track software; it includes just about everybody from the Department, and additional help from outside to help; and staff reported that in. He stated Natural Resources dispatched eight stormwater assessment response teams to document flood waters and potential damage to County infrastructure; those areas included West Cocoa, Merritt Island, Windover Farms, Mims, Scottsmeer, Port St. John, June Park Police Foundation, Lamplighter Village, and Melbourne Beach; Fire Rescue moved about a dozen units north on Sunday and Monday in response to the high water; he cannot tell the Board all of the different kinds of trucks they have listed here between brush trucks, high water trucks, and different fire engines; and as a side note, today is National First Responder Day, so just a reminder that they do a lot of stuff for the County, the emergency first responders. He mentioned the Brevard County Sheriff's Office is working with the municipalities that were impacted by an unexpected weather event; he knows the Sheriff was in contact with Mr. Scott throughout the event; what happened Sunday into Monday was a perfect example of why the County teams its EOC with the Sheriff's Office; it has the unified communications center; he was there seeing folks going back and forth between the two; but the coordination of the EOC, Fire Rescue, and the Sheriff's Office, that is vital to the County's safety and to its emergency response to the citizens, so he thanks everyone working there; the County's other responding agencies that are involved in coordination, are great partners with emergency management, includes the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Team Rubicon, as they were all out in the field on Monday, including the opening of a shelter by the Red Cross at a church in Titusville for flood victims; and as he mentioned earlier, Mr. Bernath continued to keep everybody updated, and is still working on that. He pointed out on the screen, for residents watching or folks that know citizens that were impacted or affected, it includes the County's crisis track, assessment report; he asked people that report in, he forgets the number, it was hundreds, when he checked yesterday that had reported in; this also helps; he does not think the County is going to reach a level of Federal assistance, but it helps the County with the reporting of it; then, if citizens are calling into any of the Commissioner or County offices looking for help, they are asked to contact 211, and 211 will get them the right information; he does not know who said it, but it was said it was like responding to a tornado; that is how the immediate response was Sunday afternoon; and they had no idea it was going to rain this much. He expressed his appreciation to everybody, the coordination, and the long hours; it was like responding to a tornado with rains of a hurricane; everybody did a real nice job to help folks out; and staff will still be working this for days and weeks.

Chairman Feltner asked when Mr. Liesenfelt talks about help from the Federal government with things like this, what the threshold is.

Mr. Liesenfelt advised that is why the expert is here, he will be able to tell Chairman Feltner that.

Mr. Scott asked when talking about Federal response, if it is about Federal assistance.

Chairman Feltner replied affirmatively.

Mr. Scott stated there are two kinds of Federal assistance, public assistance, which is on the government, non-profit side of the house that covers things like protective actions and infrastructure; then there is individual assistance, which is for impacted residents; while there is no hard and fast threshold for individual assistance, because it is very much about the damage to a community, when talking about flooding they are talking about hundreds of homes need to be impacted for a community of Brevard County's size, with a significant water in the homes; what is counterintuitive for many, especially if one is affected by what a lot of water means, when talking about Federal government, it is talking about water at or above outlets, so that is

12-plus inches; it is not a lot of comfort to folks who have four or six inches to hear that described as, in the Federal term, minor damage; and that is significant damage to both one's home and life. He noted when talking about how the County gets Federal assistance for these kinds of events, it would probably be 150-plus homes with 12-plus inches of water in it; that is the general threshold of where the County will be; and he added that is why it is so important that the County has volunteer groups, like Mr. Liesenfelt covered, because for these kinds of events which are very community-focused, it really is Brevard as a community who has to come together and sort of recover and rebuild itself locally.

Commissioner Delaney stated she is choosing her words carefully because she knows that County staff really worked hard over the weekend, sprang into action, and there was a lot of people who worked extremely hard trying to get everything going; living in it was a little different, it was a bit chaotic; people did not know what was happening, what to do, and where to go; she felt the communication was not clear on the severity; she does not think this is going to be the last time Brevard sees a storm like this; she thinks these events are going to get more frequent; people in her community, their homes have flooded two, three, or four times already this year since she has been in this seat; and she keeps being told this is a hundred-year storm, or a freak thing. She asked what happens when the freak things happen every other month; she advised North Brevard cannot continue to take the entire regions stormwater; people cannot afford to rebuild their homes two, three, or four times in a year; she thinks the County needs to rethink the way it is planning, not only development wise, stormwater wise, infrastructure, and emergency response; she thinks the County needs to have more severe language when letting people know rather than just 'flood watch'; and people in Florida have heard that term a thousand times, and nothing has ever really come of it in this area. She noted that is what was happening Saturday night; people were trapped in window-high water in their vehicles; one of her staff members had to wade through waist-high water to rescue her teenager, because Emergency Services were dealing with flipped over vehicles; it is nobody's fault; but what she is saying is that she thinks the time has come that the County needs to stop thinking of these events as if it is just a fluke, because these flukes are happening regularly; and she is not quite sure how the County gets there. She asked how the Board talks about this stuff; how do the Commissioners work together as a group here to make sure that District 1 is not getting slammed all of the time; and how does he or she get the County functioning in a way that it is not on survival mode all of the time.

Chairman Feltner stated responding to changing weather events, whether that is a new trend, to Commissioner Delaney's point, it is something that is established over time; the County is having not just afternoon storms, it is afternoon storms with multiple inches of rain, so the Board understands the severity of things, Sykes Creek had 15 inches of rain; there have been hurricanes in Brevard County, he will suggest in the last 15 years Brevard did not have 15 inches of rain; and that is definitely an extreme event. He went on to say back to the conversation of what the State is taking up this year and the County's Comprehensive Plan, which is well known the Board is going to have to revisit that, but it is waiting on the State; he thinks after that is done, it will just have much better answers and can move forward; he will split it with Commissioner Delaney, he is willing to do a workshop on those kinds of issues once the County has something that it knows the State has taken up; whether they do it or not, the board will have some kind of definite answer during session; and that is a very big variable today that is hard to work around.

Commissioner Delaney advised she has spoken to Brevard's State Representatives about this at length, because she is an advocate of property rights; she knows the other Commissioners are, as well as the State Representatives; the intention of a lot of these laws is to make sure that people's property rights are protected; one of the things she has kind of worked through

with some of the State Representatives is that it is not development as a whole that needs to stop, it needs to be developed in a way that the land can handle; some of those things like the re-zoning is totally in the Board's purview; upping density and things like that, is not something that is a smart thing to do at this time when the County cannot even handle the stormwater it has today; and that does not get Brevard in trouble with State laws that are passed because it is not taking anything from these people. She pointed out it is not a Bert Harris when it comes to that type of stuff; it is only if something is zoned for a certain density and the Board is trying to take away what they are already allowed to do; she is hopeful to have the Board's support moving forward when it comes to zoning issues, specifically in her District, because she represents her District; the other Commissioners represent his or her District; she knows the Commission represents the County as a whole together; but each Commissioner knows its areas and what each area can handle; and District 1 cannot handle all of this stormwater anymore. She added, there are very few places in Brevard County that have expansive land left, and one of those places is in her District; the water has got to go somewhere; and her District is going to be the next Edgewater, the next Volusia County, if the Board does not have a real plan moving forward.

Chairman Feltner stated there is a School Board Member here today, the Superintendent is here, and some of their staff; and after Consent, the Board will go to their two Items, so they can return to their workday.

Commissioner Delaney asked to pull Item F.8. from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Chairman Feltner noted the Board will take Consent, then do the School Board Items, and will then return to Item F.8.

**F.1. Board Consideration, Re: New Appointment to the Community Development Block Grant Citizen Advisory Board**

The Board approved the appointment of Bernidine Franklin to fill an at-large seat as a resident of the City of Rockledge for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen Advisory Board.

**Result:** Approved

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

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

**F.2. Approval, Re: Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Transit Corridor Grants for SR520 and SRA1A Fixed Route Bus Service**

The Board approved actions for State Fiscal Year 2026 grants from FDOT in the amount of \$967,676; executed and adopted Resolution No. 25-132, authorizing the filing and execution of a Transit Corridor Grant for State Road 520 for FDOT; executed and adopted Resolution No. 25-133, authorizing the filing and execution of a Transit Corridor Grant for State Road A1A with FDOT; authorized the Transit Services Director to execute and submit the Grant Agreements electronically, contingent upon County Attorney and Risk Management approval; authorized the Transit Services Director to execute any additional follow-up documentation, resolutions, and amendments necessary to secure these funds; and authorized the County Manager to execute necessary budget amendments.

**Result:** Adopted  
**Mover:** Kim Adkinson  
**Second:** Katie Delaney  
**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**F.3. Board Approval, Re: Adoption of the 2025 Brevard County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)**

The Board adopted Resolution No. 25-134, adopting the 2025 Brevard County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).

**Result:** Adopted  
**Mover:** Kim Adkinson  
**Second:** Katie Delaney  
**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**F.4. Adoption, Re: 2025 Brevard County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)**

The Board approved and adopted Resolution No. 25-135, adopting 2025 update of the Brevard County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Result:** Adopted  
**Mover:** Kim Adkinson  
**Second:** Katie Delaney  
**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**F.5. Board Approval, Re: Confirmation of One (1) New Member to the County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council**

The Board acknowledged the appointment of Tim Bennett to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board, with term expiring September 30, 2027.

**Result:** Approved  
**Mover:** Kim Adkinson  
**Second:** Katie Delaney  
**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**F.6. Approval, Re: 2026 Board of County Commissioners' Meeting Schedule**

The Board approved the proposed 2026 Board Meeting Schedule.

**Result:** Approved  
**Mover:** Kim Adkinson  
**Second:** Katie Delaney  
**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**F.7. Appointment(s)/Reappointment(s), Re: Citizen Advisory Boards**

The Board appointed/reappointed **John (Jay) Woltering** to the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District, with term expiring September 30, 2028.



**Result:** Approved  
**Mover:** Kim Adkinson  
**Second:** Katie Delaney  
**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**F.9. Acknowledge Receipt, Re: Bill Folder**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Bill Folder.

**Result:** Approved  
**Mover:** Kim Adkinson  
**Second:** Katie Delaney  
**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**G. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Cortney Larson provided the Board with some handouts. She stated she is the founder of Isa's Journey Rescue in Brevard County; she is not here to argue or accuse; she is here because animals in the publicly-funded shelter are suffering in ways that are preventable; and people in the community are grieving because of it. She went on to say she wants to share a few names; this is because this is personal, not abstract; Grayson, a young Cane Corso who came in terrified, underweight, and scarred; he needed time, medical treatment, and stability, he did not receive it; cuddles, heartworm positive, but treatable; she had a confirmed adopter and a treatment plan, but she never made it out; Sir Nacho, a senior dog who could have gone home, but a basic microchip and reunification steps were not followed; and that failure was not medical, it was administrative, and this was preventable. She mentioned this is not just the dogs, some of the worst suffering is happening to these cats; they have cats leaving the shelter with infected spay and neuter incisions, with untreated open wounds, active fungal and skin infections; in one documented case, a neutered cat with a large, open neck wound whose antibiotics were discontinued and remained like that for weeks; then there is Snowflake, a six-month old indoor kitten, spayed and ear-tipped, released outside even before her owner knew she was at the shelter; her family searched for her for weeks; and she has still not been found. She advised the employees inside of the shelter are not the problem, they are overwhelmed, under-resourced, and not supported by the system above them, because this is not a funding issue; the County budget allocates \$500,000 for pharmaceuticals, yet heartworm-positive dogs and sick cats are going untreated; \$90,000 for animal food despite long-standing donation agreements and constant community food donations; the money exists; and the animals are not receiving the care that money is supposed to provide. She pointed out that means there is an oversight failure, and right now rescues, volunteers, and even former staff and staff are afraid to speak because they fear retaliation, removal of access, targeting, or harassment for raising concerns; that culture of fear prevents accountability, so today she is asking for two actions; one, an independent review and audit of medical practices, euthanasia decisions, pharmaceutical use, and intake/return to field protocols; two, the formation of a community oversight council made up of veterinarians, rescues, and residents so the public has a voice in how animals are treated in Brevard's shelter; they are not here to divide this community, they are here to protect it and the animals who cannot speak for themselves; and they all want a shelter they can be proud of, and they can have one if they begin with oversight, transparency, and accountability.

Marnie Boles commented she is here about the Brevard County Sheriff's Office and Animal Shelter, specifically the ethical care, medical decision-making, and transparency; she first raised these concerns locally and she contacted all Brevard County Commissioners, and only Commissioner Delaney responded; Mayor Mark McDermott in Indian River County forwarded her note to

Sheriff Wayne Ivey; in writing the Sheriff, he found, "nothing to support the issues raised and that policies will not be changing;" that daily medical care is overseen by three veterinarians under Director Joe Hillebrand; and however, there does remain a significant gap between those assurances, and what citizens, adopters, rescues, and former volunteers continue to report. She went on to say these are consistent, recurring patterns and not isolated incidents across unrelated parties; the most common concerns are animals with treatable conditions not receiving timely care, euthanasia decisions made without first exhausting treatment alternatives, return to field releases without adequate medical assessment, limited public data transparency, and fear of retaliation for speaking out; these reports align with specific documented cases; one example is intake number 988684, a domestic female shorthair named Anna Mae; she was reportedly approved for return to field; and shelter notes attributed her to labored breathing due to stress and a local rescuer intervened before release and paid for thoracic x-rays at a private clinic. She noted the x-rays showed extensive lung masses consistent with lung cancer, and she had not yet been spayed at the time she was released; this raises foundational questions; she asked what criteria determined medical stability for return to field; are diagnostics like x-ray or ultrasound available and used before release decisions; who has the authority to make those determinations and what training is required; and what review mechanism exists to catch errors and prevent reoccurrence. She stated if diagnostics are not happening before outdoor release, medically fragile animals may be suffering unnecessarily or being released with life limiting conditions; she is respectfully asking for State-level support in three ways; a brief 15 to 20-minute discussion with the Commission offices about possible oversight pathways; consideration of a third-party operational review focused on medical treatment protocols, use and tracking of pharmaceuticals, return-to field eligibility criteria and documentation, and euthanasia decision documentation; number three, increased transparency, monthly shelter data on intake, adoptions, transfers, returns to owners, and euthanasia; plain language, standard operating procedures in a quarterly community advisory review; these are collaborative preventative steps, not punitive ones; and her goal is certainly to not assign blame, but to ensure that humane, medically responsible, and publicly accountable care in a government-run, taxpayer-funded facility is occurring. She expressed her appreciation for the Board's time, service, and consideration.

Michael Bramson mentioned before he starts his comments, he thinks this is a good opportunity based on the last two public comments to volunteer; the Board can confirm with Matthew Wallace, Public Safety Director, they have the ability to read chips at fire stations; he is not sure of the status of that program; he knows that in the Suntree corridor where he works; those programs are alive and well if one has concern; they have a machine, a book, and a cheater code on how those things work; and one can just swing by and they will help those people out on the chip readers and that type of stuff. He advised he is the President of the Brevard County Firefighters Union; as the County Manager has said, it has been a unique week; he expressed his appreciation to the Board for all of the wonderful things that have been said by the County Manager in that, what they would call, an after action review summary, it is appreciative to hear what has to happen; he commented they also acknowledge and recognize the comments that says, the term was rethink; the union does agree on that, they think that when the Board gets into some of the rethinking responsibilities, one goes into prioritization; and he does know that there are other items on the Agenda, but he is not here to speak on that. He stated he is here to speak on another couple of issues; he expressed his appreciation to staff members, over the past couple of months who have met with him to ask questions, to ask for clarification, and to verify what is the union's position and what they are doing moving forward; he would like to then, after the County Manager spoke with them, offer the opportunity to anybody on the staff, or any of the Commissioners, to give him a call if he or she would like to know where they are at; if he or she wants a different type of landscape of engaging with the union; and he has 14 people on the e-board and they can make an arrangement to meet with one of them to get a summary of where they are at. He noted what their concern is going into

the end of the year is short-term fixes; he just wanted to clarify their concern; the short-term fixes are not working; mandatory overtime, third party transport services, two-man engines, and dispatch services, it is doing so much more with so much less; then they had an event that was unprecedented, unpredicted, and unmetrized and unmeasured; and they have more water in an hour than they were supposed to get for the entire event. He pointed out that just strains them; the Chief will come up here and talk; the Chief is in the same position he is, so he just wanted to address that if they have short-term fixes, the short-term fixes have to be exited to engage into long-term fixes; any of the short-term fixes that are in place are not adequate to bring public safety to where it needs to be for the population, the needs of the citizens of Brevard County; and he just wanted to make sure he and the Board are on the same page, and to offer the opportunity for meetings to engage and thank everybody for meeting with them.

Commissioner Delaney asked if Mr. Bramson is referring to short-term fixes like the ambulance situation that the County has now with Coastal and Brevard County Rescue.

Mr. Bramson replied that is one, so that was something that came out of April when they closed the hospital to the tone of why there is a distant and difference in conversation about that; it is not the position of the union to think that the hospital closing in Rockledge was a frivolous hospital; it was critical for the needs of the people in that area; it is critical for the needs of the people all around; they had some fantastically horrible events over the weekend; if that hospital was in-place, it would have received those people; and now, unfortunately, some of the outcomes would not have changed from that hospital, and some of the medical doctors can explain that, but he does not live in that world. He advised he lives in pre-hospital, and that world means to get them to a place that has the cool tools; they only have the 10-minute tools; and they do not agree with that. He advised it has been six months since that hospital closed, so those short-term fixes are becoming long-term, and they are not adequate; one of the other things to talk about, they will get a little bit of leniency here, is standalone hospitals; they would love to see a map of that; like where are they going to be, when are they going to be, how much money it is going to cost the taxpayers, how much are they going to get augmented, and what are the tax abatements; they would really like to be part of that conversation; and he asked the Board to reach out, as he has 14 board members if he or she wants to engage on a different person on a different level, they will make that happen.

Commissioner Delaney explained she wants to share this; she gets messages all of the time, but this one, in particular, the resident gave her permission to share; their husband had a stroke in her District; it took an ambulance over 20 minutes to get to them, which all knows with a stroke, every second counts basically; luckily, they were okay at the end of this; but she agrees with Mr. Bramson, that what is happening right now is not okay; and there are things that are being missed. She pointed out, more people are definitely needed, more ambulances on the road; the County needs to do better here; and she is open to any and all communication to get this going in a better way.

Mr. Bramson noted if the Chairman does not mind, he has one more reply.

Chairman Feltner replied to go ahead.

Mr. Bramson remarked from his understanding, and some of the sidewalk conversations he had, it does sound like political restraints have been reduced, and they are moving into a better position; it does take conversations; he thinks the big conversation is, as other Commissioners have said, before any of the current Commissioners were in place, kicking that can, that can hit that wall; it does sound like conversations are happening, and that is why he is here to reassure that he is here to talk; and he thinks time is of the essence, and they ran out of time.

Chairman Feltner advised he would like to say something just real quick to Mr. Bramson; he

has talked to Health First a lot recently, and they, obviously, are in this with him; they are getting a lot more traffic to Viera Hospital than they were before; it was discussed of how they have expanded, sort of make shift emergency corridor and such; he asked, on Fire Rescue's behalf, about the amount of time holding the wall; they assure him that they are working on that; they are also formulating some plans for a standalone Emergency Room (ER) type situations in Brevard and how urgent care facilities can do some of those things; and there is a lot of conversation. He stated he will commit to him that, going forward with them, he is certainly happy to include him in that.

Mr. Bramson noted he appreciates that; just hugging the wall and those things that Chairman Feltner is talking about are wonderful; they agree with Chairman Feltner; but those are the short-term fixes they were talking about, putting extra bed in the hallway, and doing those types of things; all they are doing is changing the statistics of what is called 'wall time'; they appreciate that; he is not going to pull the numbers, it does not matter; this past weekend was just terrible, and they are going to learn a lot from it; they do not need to pull the numbers, they have to take priority; when getting into wall times and priorities that is not a short-term fix; and it is not for the best interest for the greater good, and they just do not have the resources. He went on by saying they are more than happy, and look forward to, the sitting down, and putting this all together.

Commissioner Altman stated Mr. Bramson mentioned this past weekend was terrible; and he asked what the specifics are of that.

Mr. Bramson replied the reason he is saying it was terrible, just coming off of a little bit of emotion, which he brings with him everywhere he goes, is he worked a couple of 48s; he has another 48 coming, because he too is still in the field, he is a lieutenant on Station 80, and he back fills some of the overtimes to try to prevent mandatory overtime; when they have a lot of people on Workers' Compensation, holiday season, and this week is Halloween; he has a lot of guys with young kids, so he tries to fill those gaps; not to be morbid, but Commissioner Altman did ask, at shift exchange, they are getting a lot of pass downs; he ran two fatalities, he ran three fatalities, he ran four fatalities, and they had this terrible boating accident that has ties to the relationship of public safety; these things are becoming very difficult to manage; he really appreciates, especially the County Manager's openness to engage with their health and wellness activities; and they are getting a lot of support. He went on to say they were able to put a person in position for those types of things, but one can only take so much mental abuse, when one has to cycle out; he knows the Board has seen pictures of where some of their apparatuses ended, they are not submarines, they are not jeeps, and they are not supposed to go to some of these places; he is not here to defend any action, but he is here to tell the Board in the heat of the moment when ones has a call and they have a piece of paper and a computer, and it says to do this, they are like they take the consequences later and this truck may end up in the river; but he is going to try to do the best he can with the resources they have. He stated they had one truck left over after that weekend; they have one backup truck left over that he moved out of, and said where the truck is; the mechanic asked what he was doing; he stated he told him they would swap out; he asked if they could swap out as soon as possible; he stated to just postpone dinner, and everybody get a snack; they did what they were supposed to do, they shuttled the truck where it needed to be; luckily, the other trucks were fixed onsite; and it was just an alternator. He noted their mechanics did some awesome stuff, they put a new alternator in it; whatever needs to happen, they were back on the road; all of that gets funneled through not just him, but their command staff, Fire Chief, and Public Safety Director; all of that gets funneled to a singularity; they have 460 people with the cities; they talked about mutual aid; they talked about all of this other stuff; it was talked about 200 calls getting funneled through 911; that goes through them as well, so it was an emotional response;

he did not know how to write a different term; and maybe that is the wrong term to use, but that is how he speaks.

Kelly Cover-Haugh commented she was a Merritt Island resident for over 40 years; she serves as the District 2 chairperson for the Dredging Committee; she is also on the Brevard Marine Advisory Council; she is asking the Commission to look at rescinding the full Ordinance amendment 2022-13; it was put in place in 2022, and it is her personal belief that there are many issues with the Ordinance; and here are a few that she sees as problematic. She went on say one is term limits; limiting appointees to a specified term is not necessarily a good idea when looking at the legacy knowledge that many residents contribute; this can be an issue when there are new residents that do not know the history of the surrounding areas; number two is meeting frequency; before this Policy was put into place, each committee met at the necessary frequency; sometimes four meetings a year is not sufficient to keep the citizens advised; and sometimes it is, but regulating the frequency is counterproductive. She stated the third issue that she saw with this was the time and location; having limits on time of day meetings limits the cross type of participants; working people that have valuable contributions will not be able to attend meetings during normal business hours; they cannot rely solely on the retired population for these committees; while this may have had good intentions, she thinks that some of the repercussions were not well thought out; and she asked the Board to look at either rescinding or revising the entire amendment.

**J.4. School Board Direction, Re: Call a Referendum Election for Renewal of Additional One Mill Ad Valorem Tax Millage for School Operations**

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, advised Item J.4. is the School Board's direction to the Board of County Commissioners to call a referendum election for a renewal of the School Board's additional one Mill ad valorem tax millage for school operations; under Florida Statutes, school boards may direct county commissions to call such an election; and the maximum time period for such a levy, if approved by the voters, is up to four years, or until changed by another millage election, whichever is earlier. He continued by saying most recently in November 2022, the voters of Brevard County approved an additional one mill ad valorem tax millage for school operations for four years; at a regular meeting this September, the School Board adopted resolution 2026-02; that resolution calls for a renewal of the expiring one mill levy, and directs the Board of County Commissioners to place the required referendum election on the ballot of the general election to be held on November 3, 2026; the Agenda Item includes a copy of the School Board's resolution, as well as a proposed resolution of the Board of County Commissioners directing the Supervisor of Elections to place that on the ballot as requested; in considering this Item, the Board's not considering the wisdom of the proposed one mill ad valorem millage renewal, rather if the School Board satisfied the applicable statutory requirements, the Board has administrative duty to place the referendum election on the ballot as directed; and in his opinion, the School Board has met those requirements.

Commissioner Goodson asked if by approving this the Board is not condemning it or condoning it.

Attorney Richardson replied that is correct.

Commissioner Goodson asked if it is up to the taxpayers to vote.

Attorney Richardson responded affirmatively.

Chairman Feltner asked if it was fair to say that the Board simply has to go through this process before the Supervisor of Elections can put it on the ballot.

Attorney Richardson replied that is correct, it is a statutory requirement, it is really a pass-through for the School Board's direction.

Chairman Feltner asked if it is their right to put these issues before the voters.

Attorney Richardson responded absolutely, yes.

The Board approved and adopted Resolution No. 25-136, calling for a referendum election for the qualified electors of the School District of Brevard County to vote whether to renew the additional one mill ad valorem tax millage for school operations for a period of four years.

**Result:** Adopted

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Seconder:** Thad Altman

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

**J.5. School Board Request, Re: Call a Referendum Election for Renewal of One-Half Cent Sales Surtax for School Capital Outlay**

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, explained this Item is similar; in this case, the School Board requests the Board of County Commissioners to adopt a resolution calling a referendum election for the electors of the County to vote whether to renew the half-cent sales surtax for School Capital Outlay expenditures that was approved by the voters in 2014 and then again in 2020; those were both six-year approvals; this time the School Board is requesting that the surtax be approved for the maximum time period of 10 years; again, this provided by Statute; the school board and each county may levy a discretionary sales tax and may request that the Board of County Commissioners place the Item on the ballot; he will note a very slight difference between this and the prior Item in that the statutory language with the School Board's millage levy is School Board directs County Commissioners to place it on the ballot; and in this case, staff has used the language request. He noted he believes it is absolutely clear under the law that the School Board has the ability to have this placed on the ballot and that the Board of County Commissioners has a duty to place it on the ballot; he will note that arguably there are some authorities out there in the form of an Attorney General Opinion (AGO) and a couple of court cases that are not binding on this Board, and would not be dispositive of the matter if there were an issue; but arguably at least, the Board of County Commissioners, not the School Board, has discretion as to which general election ballot that it is placed on; however, it is clear that it must be placed on the ballot; and he could not guarantee the outcome if the Board did not place it on the November 2026 ballot as requested.

Chairman Feltner stated he thinks the Commissioners understand that is what they are looking to do.

Commissioner Delaney asked if somebody from the School Board would mind coming up and talking to the Board about some of the changes to the charter schools possibly joining Brevard's schools, or filling some of the empty space and how that works.

Mark Rendell, Superintendent of Brevard Public Schools, commented the request to have the half-cent sales for tax renewed for a school capital outlay; charter schools do get a portion of that based on their enrollment; the Board's question appears to be about the schools of hope legislation, which means if they have buildings that are under-enrolled, charter schools can operate inside of those buildings; it is not really affected by this; and this millage will be used for the School Board to maintain and build new facilities.

Commissioner Delaney inquired if the charter schools are able to say to the Brevard County School Board that they need these capital improvements, and that the School Board has to provide those improvements; and does it shift the need of the community schools.

Mr. Rendell responded for the charters that are operating on their own with their own building and everything, they maintain their facilities to their standards; for their buildings, they have to maintain them to certain standards, statutory requirements; and if it was a schools of hope situation where a charter were operating inside of Brevard's schools, they would still be maintaining that building to their standards, which are the State requirements.

Commissioner Delaney asked if they could not say they want gold floors and now the School Board has to provide them.

Mr. Rendell replied correct.

Commissioner Delaney advised she just wanted to make sure that was on the record. She expressed her appreciation to Mr. Rendell for all he does; and she pointed out they do a great job.

The Board approved and adopted Resolution No. 25-137, calling for a referendum election for Brevard County to vote whether to renew the half-cent sales surtax approved by the voters in 2014 and 2020 for a period of 10 years.

**Result:** Adopted

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

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

**F.8. Confirmation, Re: Jill J. Hayes as Assistant County Manager**

Commissioner Delaney stated she just wanted to pull this to stay consistent with what she has done in the past with the other promotions and whatnot, with Ian Golden, Parks and Recreation Director, Billy Prasad, Planning and Development Director, and Juanita Jackson, Housing and Human Services Director; she expressed her appreciation to Jill Hayes, Interim Assistant County Manager, for sitting through this; but she mentioned she would like to make a motion to approve this.

The Board approved confirmation to appoint Jill J. Hayes as Assistant County Manager.

**Result:** Approved

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

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

Chairman Feltner stated he voted yes, enthusiastically; and expressed his congratulations to Ms. Hayes, as she does a wonderful job for the County.

**H.1. Public Interest Determination, Re: Wetland Impacts for Linde Mims Plant Expansion at Hammock Road, Tax Account Number 2103214**

Chairman Feltner called for a public hearing to consider a request for a public interest determination for wetland impacts for Linde Mims Plant Expansion at Hammock Road, Tax Account No. 2103214.

Amanda Elmore, Natural Resources Management Deputy Director, commented Item H.1., is a public interest determination or wetland impacts at Linde Mims Plant in Mims; there is an expansion there; they will be impacting 1.07 acres, and offsetting that with mitigation at a Brevard County mitigation bank; and she believes the consultant is here if the Board has any questions.

Commissioner Goodson asked if they are mitigating land; and if the land is in Farmington.

Shelby Oenbrink, Environmental Consultant with Kimley Horn, replied affirmatively.

Commissioner Goodson asked if she heard during this meeting talk about flooding with new construction.

Ms. Oenbrink replied she has.

Commissioner Goodson asked if they are buying mitigation land in Farmington.

Ms. Oenbrink responded Farmington Mitigation Bank, yes.

Commissioner Goodson asked how she is going to help the Commissioner in District 1 not to flood adjacent land.

Ms. Oenbrink responded as the Environmental Consultant she is here to speak on the wetland impacts that are associated with this; but they do have a full civil engineering team on the project as well that is helping to make sure they do not have flood plain impacts onsite or offsite.

Commissioner Goodson asked if their engineer is here today to answer questions like that.

Ms. Oenbrink replied their engineer is not here.

Commissioner Goodson asked if she had flooding the last weekend of all of the rains.

Ms. Oenbrink asked did her project site have flooding.

Commissioner Goodson responded affirmatively.

Ms. Oenbrink advised the existing project is a filled, raised platform, with some percolation ponds; the majority of their development is occurring on the existing fill pad with some wetland impacts associated; and those wetlands will be brought up and filled to avoid flood plain impacts from the future development.

Commissioner Goodson asked if it answered the question he asked her; and if the land is going to be raised three feet, then do a pond, then do an overflow structure out of that pond, if there is going to be flooding for the Commissioner in District 1.

Ms. Oenbrink responded they are designing the stormwater pond and raising the site to meet all flood plain requirements for this development; they are currently in site plan application review; and they are in discussions with the flooding department as well to make sure they meet all requirements; and if they meet all of those requirements, her understanding is they should not have flood plain impacts on their site or adjacent.



Commissioner Goodson noted he would agree she would not have it on her site, but once she has a 100-year storm or more, hurricane, or tornado, the outflow of the pond is going somewhere, and that is on the neighbors; and he asked if she would agree with that.

Ms. Oenbrink replied the neighbor to the south is the existing Linde Plant that is in operation; to the east there are undeveloped wetlands, which are not planned to be impacted at any point, so retention can absolutely take on more there; and east of that, there is the river itself.

Commissioner Goodson asked if the river means St. Johns or Indian River.

Ms. Oenbrink responded Indian River.

Commissioner Goodson inquired if she is allowed to outflow to the river.

Ms. Oenbrink advised she is not incredibly familiar with the flow pattern for the development; and she is just speaking to the adjacent lands.

Commissioner Goodson asked if she is glad he is asking her these questions.

Ms. Oenbrink responded it is fantastic, it is great to meet him.

Commissioner Goodson asked if there are anyone with Ms. Oenbrink who can answer questions; as long as District 1 is happy with the outflow and the overflow of their lake into the public river or somewhere else, he has no issues; and he just wants everyone to understand that their water has got to go somewhere once it fills up on their land.

Ms. Oenbrink remarked yes, and they are leaving five acres of wetlands unimpacted on this parcel; they have needs that go outside of their existing footprint of a cleared and modified area, so they are doing minor impacts to the adjacent wetlands to fit everything they need to fit in that area; but the majority of their site is going to remain in wetlands that will be able to do the natural water retention and all of that fantastic stuff that wetlands offer in this area.

Commissioner Goodson inquired if Commissioner Delaney is happy with this, is she satisfied with the overflow that will occur sometime in his or her lifetime.

Commissioner Delaney responded with this project, this location, this thing, yes, because Ms. Elmore has also mentioned that Natural Resources Management is also satisfied with what they are doing; this particular area, like Ms. Oenbrink had mentioned, does not have any neighbors really, it is all undeveloped land; and this is not an area that is at extensive risk.

Commissioner Goodson asked if Natural Resources Management could speak to this question, over time when one builds, and he is not knocking the facility, he is all for it, he is just asking her; and he noted 20 years from now when a subdivision comes next door, she is not going to be able to use the excuse that one cannot raise it to that elevation, the house pads.

Ms. Elmore inquired if Commissioner Goodson is asking for future developments, whether they will have to meet the standards at that time.

Commissioner Goodson mentioned he is asking if she can in future developments raise the house pads three foot over the crown of the road to assure not flooding the subdivision, but maybe the water going to the right or left, or going back to Linde; and he does not know, he is just asking.

Ms. Elmore pointed out future developments will have to meet the stormwater criteria at that time; and those standards are being increased on December 27, 2025, so any future developments would have to assure . . .

Commissioner Goodson inquired right now what the elevation is above the crown of the road.

Ms. Elmore responded they are looking at the design, it is a little bit difficult to see, but they do have a pond designed here; the design right now is still preliminary; they will have to meet all of the criteria before they can be approved; and this is just a wetland impact determination.

Commissioner Goodson asked if Ms. Elmore will agree that the design of the pond would have to be an elevation that the water would outflow into someone's ditch or somewhere else.

Ms. Elmore replied she cannot really see where the current outflow design is.

Commissioner Goodson asked if that elevation will come back for approval.

Ms. Elmore responded it will have to be approved administratively, not back to the Board.

Commissioner Goodson asked with that all being said, and he understands it is out in the middle of a cow pasture or something, forests and wetlands, because there is not much out there, but as one goes through life and development is approved there, he does not want to hear it cannot be done because of this or that, and if they are going to do it, they need to plan for the future, and he is talking about in 40 years out, something Ms. Elmore is happy with, do they not.

Ms. Elmore replied they will have to meet the criteria; and once they do, administratively, they have to approve it, so they are not really looking 40 years ahead at this point, they are looking at the regulations they have on hand.

Commissioner Goodson stated if the Commissioner of District 1 is happy with her proposal.

Chairman Feltner mentioned he think she said that; and he believes she answered that.

There being no further comments or objections, the Board, in accordance with Chapter 62, Article X, Division 4, Section 62-3694(c)(3)c, approved the request by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (Kimley Horn) on behalf of Linde Engineering Americas (Linde), and on behalf of PRAXAIR Inc. (Praxair) to consider a Public Interest Determination (PID) for wetland impacts proposed for an industrial project, on Linde Mims plant expansion at Hammock Road, Tax Account No. 2103214.

**Result:** Approved

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

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

**J.1. Board Direction, Re: Contract with Waterway Warriors for SR 404 Pineda Causeway Barrel Program**

Peter Cranis, Tourism Development Director, stated Item J.1. is coming from the Tourist Development Council (TDC); it is a recommendation to provide Waterway Warriors \$7,500 for a project that they have on the Pineda Causeway, a barrel program; and it will pay for the emptying of the barrels on a regular basis.

Chairman Feltner stated he considers this his Item; he is happy to try to answer questions; the TDC took this up, and the Waterway Warriors came; it is no secret, he thinks a lot of this group; and he thinks the causeways have never looked better. He continued by saying they want to keep the barrel program going; they have someone who is basically in-kind the service to the tune of \$7,500; a match is being looked at to keep that going; and that is the Item; he asked if the Board has any questions; and he stated Waterway Warriors are here.

Commissioner Adkinson inquired who is actually doing that now.

Sharon Noll, Waterway Warriors, explained the contractor is right on junk removal, and they are in their donation service timeframe.

Commissioner Adkinson asked what the timeframe is of picking up the cans and emptying them.

Ms. Noll replied it is done 60 times a year; it is done every single weekend and then twice on the major holidays; that is due to the data they have collected over the last years; and his schedule is due to the data that they have collected showing that they need two cleanups on the holiday weekends.

Commissioner Adkinson asked if that is for all the causeways.

Ms. Noll responded that is just for the Pineda Causeway.

Chairman Feltner stated he would clarify that real quickly; the cleanups that they do when they go out and they pick up, so when one is on Pineda and sees the bags by the sign, that they have worked out with and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) contractor; it is through FDOT, they have a contractor; they come and pick it up; they bag it, they put it there, and that is the result of their cleanups; the barrel program is what the Board is talking about today; it is a bit much for Keep Brevard Beautiful (KBB); and that is what the \$7,500 is going to augment.

Commissioner Delaney noted she thinks this is great, and she appreciates it being brought forward.

The Board authorized and approved the Tourism Development Office Director to develop a one-year Contract with Waterway Warriors to maintain their barrel program on SR 404 Pineda Causeway from November 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026, for the amount of \$7,500. Further, by approving the Agenda Item, the Board makes the following legislative findings: the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) is an estuary with multiple public access points for tourism purposes and a long history of use by tourists; this project specifically improves, maintains, re-nourishes, restores, protects, or assists with erosion control in either the Indian River, the Banana River, or the Mosquito Lagoon (all part of the IRL); and this project is authorized for the expenditure of Tourist Development Tax (TDT) revenue under Section 125.0104(5)(a)5, Florida Statutes, and Section 102119(4)(a), of the Brevard County Code of Ordinances. Additionally, the Tourism Development Office Director is authorized to negotiate and sign all necessary contracts and related documents, upon County Attorney's Office, Risk Management, and Purchasing Services approval; and authorized the County Manager to execute all necessary budget amendments (BCRs).

**Result:** Approved

**Mover:** Rob Feltner

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

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

Chairman Feltner expressed his appreciation on behalf of the County for the work Waterway Warriors do.

**J.2. Board Approval, Re: Allocation and Procurement of Four (4) Class A Fire Engine/Pumper Trucks, One (1) Type IV Wildland Brush Truck, and Design/Construction of Fire Station 27**

Chief Patrick Voltaire, Fire Rescue Director, commented to springboard off a lot of conversation this afternoon, he will talk about the elephant in the room for Brevard County Fire Rescue (BCFR), the viral video of the ambulance that the union president talked about; he talked about what those guys and girls were doing and the response they had this weekend; it was terrible, crazy conditions; he was working shoulder-to-shoulder with the Brevard County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) Ag Marine at the same time in the middle of the St. Johns coordinating those efforts, as they were doing a large area search; the Ag Marine airboat would come over to him asking for resources to be sent to the north end, so as they were doing a search and rescue mission in the St. John's River around midnight, they were still coordinating efforts with Ag Marine Sheriff's Office to go north; and it was a dynamic Sunday. He pointed out in his 26 years to be working two large events like that, with awesome shoulder-to-shoulder communication and work, was amazing; his point for saying that was the visibility and weather that he witnessed, those folks were doing the best they could to respond to an event with less than zero visibility; another great point by the union president was their fleet guys worked their tails off with those trucks going through the water; trucks are a hard thing to keep going; they always need trucks; and that is why they are here before the Board today with Item J.2. He advised Item J.2., requesting allocation of Fire Control Multiple Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) funds in the total amount of \$5.5 million to approve the purchase of four Class A pumpers at the amount of \$2.9 million, and one type-four wildland brush truck; brush fires and water events like this typically do not go hand-in-hand; this type four brush truck will have the ability to forklift off of the firefighting bed, and then add on a high water vehicle rescue bed, similar to the one the City of Palm Bay sent them during the event; they had just recently purchased two; the Sheriff's Office has a few; but the newest models of those are ex-surplus military and they are 1978 models, so parts and keeping them going is tough; this would be a newer model of that; it will allow them to do both things; and they are fortunate enough that when there is a lot of water, there is not brush fires, and vice versa, as well as the beginning construction of Fire Station 27 in the West Port St. John Fay Lake Park area. He went on to say they request authority to the County Manager to execute all necessary budget amendments and other administrative actions necessary to complete this purchase.

Commissioner Adkinson stated she just wanted to hear a little bit about the efforts they are making to make sure that the equipment the County is buying it could have repaired; and her question is Fire Rescue does not have equipment that is going to not be repairable in a few years because the company is . . .

Chief Voltaire responded he is glad Commissioner Adkinson asked that question; he felt like he was talking too much all ready, but she asked a question that lets him put in a little more piece that he would like to; the reason for this purchase and why it is important is they are still running frontline trucks that the manufacturer went out of business in 2006; the newest of those models is 20 years old; it will allow them to fix those and start flushing some of those out; although one may look at their boneyard, he does not surplus those, they keep them for parts and even help out other fire departments that are still trying to run those trucks; they have become somewhat of a parts depot for the southeast; but it is the right thing to do to keep these trucks going and do their best to save money; and that is why these trucks right now are great because they have 180-day or less delivery time within the fire service community of building fire trucks, all heavy equipment, even Solid Waste, it has taken a long time to get big

trucks. He pointed out 36 to 48 months is some of the standard delivery time; but another great point to what Commissioner Adkinson is saying is getting parts; they do not buy firetrucks, as they learned with one manufacturer, proprietary parts are terrible, they are costly, they are one off, so the windshield is a Kenworth, the door handles are a Peter Built; and he is making that up a little bit, but that is how they purchase.

Commissioner Adkinson asked if buying these now, as opposed to buying them in four or five years, how much more expensive could this be.

Chief Voltaire responded just in the history of almost four years as the Fire Chief, they have probably saved \$2 million buying early; and the first thing he sat up here for as Fire Chief was buying a 100-foot tower ladder truck they bought at the tune of \$1.3 million, and approved about two meetings ago was \$2.2 million.

Chairman Feltner stated as an example, he remembers the hazmat truck that they got about a year ago that was a little bit early, but it was on the lot and he got . . .

Chief Voltaire advised it was about \$800,000 saved on the hazmat truck they bought early.

Commissioner Delaney stated she will not be able to support this today, and she wanted to explain why; she feels like when the Board asked the public for the raise for fire assessment and MSTU, that the staffing issues really need to be fixed, and until the Board is able to implement Kelly Days or 24/72 schedule, the recruitment efforts; while everyone is working very hard, until there is some work life balance element that can be advertised, the County is not going to get people fast enough; she personally believes the County needs to spend this money on implementing those work-life balance pieces into the contract; and that is just how she feels about it.

The Board approved allocation of Fire Control Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) funds in the amount of \$5,557,251; approved the purchase of four (4) Fouts Bros FB94 Custom Class A Fire Engine/Pumper Trucks, \$2,904,820; approved one (1) type IV Wildland Brush Truck, \$349,398; approved Fire Station 27 Design/Construction, \$2,303,033; and authorized the County Manager to execute all necessary budget amends (BCRs), or other administrative actions necessary to complete the purchases.

**Result:** Approved

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Thad Altman

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

**Nay:** Delaney

### **J.3. Approval, Re: 2025 County Advisory Board Annual Written Reports**

Kathy Wall, Central Services Director, explained J.3. is a request to acknowledge receipt of the 2025 County advisory board annual written report, and approve request for excusal dismissal due to absences for some members; Brevard County Code of Ordinance provides that all advisory boards shall submit an annual written report to the Board; at the beginning of the County's fiscal year; and this Item includes all of the County's 34 advisory boards.

Barry Forbes stated he serves as the treasurer for the Brevard County Housing Finance Authority; they have an opportunity to talk today, so they showed up; he is not sure how many of them are familiar with what they do, but their primary role is to manage the allocation of tax-free bond issues for the purpose of providing affordable housing here in Brevard County;

and they do that to support single-family construction for individuals, and to help support commercial development of affordable housing as well. He went on to say they are not the housing authority that manages public housing, they are the group that just manages that particular aspect of helping provide the residents here in Brevard County the ability to live somewhere in an affordable way; there are a number of things that we have been able to do over the last several years and over the last decades; what he thinks most people will remember are the first-time buyer programs, the bond issues, and that has become very difficult to do, it is not economically feasible to do today because of where interest rates are; a lot of what the professionals in this field have come up with are some creative ways to help; he is here to urge the Board to support everything it can to help make housing affordable in Brevard County; it is in a crisis situation; he means if the interest rate on a home loan was zero, it is not what he would term affordable; finding better and cheaper ways to build housing is paramount; he knows stormwater, density, and that type of thing has been talked about a lot; but for the right types of projects, he thinks the County needs to weigh those things. He stated he would urge the Board to do that; and he would be happy to answer any questions it had about the authority.

Kevin Gholston mentioned he is the member of the Citizens Budget Review Committee; he wants to speak with the Board about his experience on the Committee; when he joined, he had no idea how County budgets were made, the funding cycles, and the different spending buckets; the first two or three years, he learned how the County operates; he is a business consultant, he helps businesses with their efficiencies and productivity, so being able to apply his professional skills as a member has been very valuable, he thinks, to the Committee; and they have done some good things. He went on to say they have looked at a lot of places in the County budget, and some of them that are notable he wants to mention to the Board was health insurance; they spent at least four or five sessions going through and hearing presentations from that Department; when he looked at the number of employees that are covered and what private businesses pay, it is very efficient; and he does not know how they can make it any more efficient. He noted they looked at road maintenance; of course, everyone is driving around; they see potholes; they asked what is going on; he stated they had several meetings with Public Works people; when they started, and he has been on the Committee for six or seven years, and there were a lot of roads there were in bad condition; they had grading scale, they worked miracles; in looking at the road maintenance, he asked what about matching funds or matching grants, how does that work; and come to find out, there really was not a central repository or somebody focused on getting grants. He explained as a conservative, he does not want a lot of free money; but he asked if this Federal and State government has allocated funds for certain purposes why the County should not get its fair share as much as anybody; the County took the advice and made a position about two years ago for someone to focus on grants; they had a presentation from this individual last summer; and come to find out that they are managing something north of \$30 million that may have come in despite the focus; but the impact, he thinks, was positive. He stated he asked himself what could be done better; one of the things that was mentioned earlier was this Ordinance 22-13, Term Limits; only having four meetings a year, many times they get into a topic, and it takes them two years to dig into it; he would recommend to the Board to change that and take term limits off; and he expressed his appreciation for the Board's time.

Chairman Feltner expressed his appreciation to the many people who work for the County for free; it is hard to get people to work for the County for money, it is even harder to get them to work for the County for free; he advised he does appreciate every one of them; he does value the many years of experience that the County's board members have; and it is invaluable.

Commissioner Altman pointed out that is the second time he has heard doing away with the term limits; and he would be in favor of doing that.

Chairman Feltner stated that is something that could be put on a future Agenda if Commissioner Altman would like to do that.

Commissioner Delaney noted the reason she asked for this to be pulled is because this is one of the things that she campaigned on was breathing more life into the County's advisory boards; she was planning on bringing forward some changes; but she is happy to collaborate with the Board to bring forward all of the ideas it can pull together.

Chairman Feltner stated he thinks all of those things could be future Agenda Items, and he is happy to discuss it further; it is well-taken with the term limits, because sometimes it is hard to get people to be on the boards, also in these areas of specialty; they have many of those areas; he really appreciates the folks who care enough about sometimes their industry to continue to serve on these boards for sometimes for many years; and he always tries to make it open to new folks, but oftentimes it is just that folks who have worked in that for a long time are the ones who dedicate their time to making their own industry better.

Dr. John Potomski, Chairman of Brevard Commission on Aging, commented he would like to present Kerry Fink who is the Chairman of their advocacy subcommittee; and he is very much more eloquent of a speaker, and the best dressed guy in Brevard County.

Kerry Fink asked the Board if it had the raffle for the car; and he stated they did.

Chairman Feltner asked what the car was this year.

Mr. Fink replied it was the winner's choice; AJ Hires makes seven cars available; the winner picks; they do not know, as they are still deciding; and they will put it out there on their Facebook.

Chairman Feltner expressed his congratulations for that.

Mr. Fink advised it keeps their little charity running. He stated he is here today to talk about the work that they do, together with the Chair of the Brevard Commission on Aging, Dr. Potomski; their role is 100 percent of seniors all of the time; one of four of Brevard County citizens are age 65-plus; one in two are over the age of 50; by AARP definitions, they are going to send one a membership card the day one turns 50 whether he or she is insulted or not; he always says 50 is the number, although they say 80 is the new 60 now; and it is a whole different deal. He went on to say Brevard County is gaining so many seniors every day; it happens for three reasons; number one is that more people are turning 65; it is one every seven seconds nationally; everybody is turning 65; but the other thing is people are just flat out living longer. He noted they used to stop down a national television show to honor the two people in America who turned 100; today, there are many people who are 100 and are seniors in the area; third, everybody is moving to Florida, so their role of Brevard Commission on Aging is to expand awareness of the value of seniors in the County; and they are committed really to two goals for next year. He stated number one, they are launching a senior needs survey because they want to come back and access what seniors are telling them; they are working with a lot of the community partners, folks like Senior Life Magazine and Senior Scene Magazine; they are going to promote it, Aging Matters is going to promote it; Brevard Alzheimer's Foundation is going to promote it; but they want to hear what the pulse of seniors are asking them for; and then with the results of that, they are going to come back and ask the Board of County Commissioners to help them in a process of developing a Countywide aging plan as one of the leading counties in the terms of aging. He added, he would love their goal, collectively five years from now, to be for people to look at Brevard County and say, 'these people are taking

good care of seniors', that is what they are here to do; and he expressed his appreciation to the Board for this time to share on that.

Dr. Potomski advised he will use the last few seconds to say that the Commission on Aging is co-sponsoring the 35th Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Continuum, it is all health care from home, so it is all the health care from home care to hospice to assisted living to nursing homes to rehab centers; that is going to be on November 19th; it is a free educational event for anybody across the healthcare continuum, anybody from the Commission or folks who would like to attend; one can register; the Commission on Aging is co-sponsoring it along with the Brevard County Medical Directors Association; to register it is very simple just to go to [bcmda.org](http://bcmda.org); one can register online; and to pick what meal one wants. He stated they have a two-hour session where they have an exhibit hall; then they have a three-hour session where they have education for folks that are in any aspect of care for seniors in Brevard; the venue is at Rialto Hilton in Melbourne; the Sheriff's Office comes and presents the colors, someone sings the national anthem, and they have a reverend; they try to do this right after Veteran's Day to honor the veterans, but also before Thanksgiving to give thanks to all caregivers that take care of all of the seniors across Brevard County; it is November 19th; the exhibit hall is 4:00 to 6:00; and then the program is from 6:00 to 9:00. He reiterated everyone is invited; and for people who are watching this, again it is [bcmda.org](http://bcmda.org).

Chairman Feltner stated Dr. Potomski may be more optimistic about the number of people watching a Commission meeting than reality; but he did a good job with his plug there.

Don Deis stated he is a member of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizens Oversight Committee (SOIRL COC); it is an advisory board to the County Commission through the Natural Resources Management Department; the Board has their annual report and written comments from him; the focus of the COC is to restore the health of the Indian River Lagoon system; their monthly meetings are an opportunity for the public to voice concerns and offer solutions; each year they select projects for recommendation to the County Commission to be funded by the SOIRL sales surtax; and the committee reviews monthly financial reports, project progress reports, project performance, water quality monitoring data, and system status reports. He noted their product is the yearly project plan, which is like 400 pages long; he has a shortened version for anybody interested; it is a brochure that explains everything; it is for approval by the County Commission; it will receive it early next year for the 2026 plan; things of significance this year is turnover from member's term limits; but they are not complaining; five of the seven voting members are new, so they spent a lot of time onboarding new members, and they kept two emeritus members as advisors; and that is an option for the Board in the future. He mentioned new regulations have been passed by the State with time limits affecting improvements to water treatment, septic systems, and stormwater; those were mentioned here; they have been seeing water quality improvements within the Lagoon; algae blooms are less intense and seagrasses are returning to some areas of the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) system; the projects are working; but they have a lot more work to do.

John Hopengarten commented he comes before the Board as one of the individuals who serves on advisory boards; he is from the private sector, and they are here to help; the discussion earlier about term limits, he firmly believes they should keep term limits on advisory boards because the County needs new people coming on the boards with new ideas, new views, that is not gotten when it has people that have been on boards for 10 to 12 years; and they get really old, boring, and stale. He continued by saying if the Board decides to investigate term limits that it thinks clearly that term limits are beneficial for the boards; he serves on two County boards, Planning and Zoning and Affordable Housing; he is also the Chairman for the ICOC for the School District on the half penny tax; and they just implemented on the ICOC term limit because they had members that had been there since the beginning of the referendum in



2014. He pointed out one of his concerns is how the Commission receives its input on items that they have, for example, at Planning and Zoning; he asked if the Commission watches the meeting that they have; does it review the televised broadcast; does he or she read the minutes, because oftentimes he comes here during the Board's Planning and Zoning meetings sessions and the information that it is receiving is not what they had presented or agreed to in their meetings; he is not sure of the vehicle that the Board is using to make its decisions, and it is a little concerning; oftentimes some of the presenters or the applicants will come up and talk a different story than what they have heard; and that is a little problematic. He stated maybe because they are the filter for the Board, they realize they have to change their tactics in order to get what they want, he does not know; but they want to be able to communicate more with the Board, and if they can help it in making its decisions on some of the things that they advise it about; they are able to help; he enjoys his time on the boards; and he thinks that more people should be involved. He noted on Affordable Housing they just changed over the entire board with new people who are very active and know what they are doing; the last Commission changed the makeup of the Planning and Zoning board; there now are 15 voting members; sometimes they run out of chairs to seat them; and he would say the County is doing well with the advisory boards.

Chairman Feltner stated he does value, speaking for himself, the Planning and Zoning board; he always asks what happened there; he watches and his staff watches it; it is usually playing live; he is in this building; sometimes he sticks his head in there; but not very often does he walk into those meetings. He explained he always described the Planning and Zoning board as the oyster of the County's planning; he thinks Planning and Zoning board does a really good job of filtering out a lot, so that when the Board does get to its Planning and Zoning meetings as a Commission where it is really getting down to the essence of it; and for him, he really does appreciate it.

Tom Kammerdener mentioned he was hearing the Fire Chief earlier talking about his fire trucks; he still has an oven from 1978.

Chairman Feltner stated he was going to say that the '78 model stuff will probably still work in an EMP event, so there is some irony in that one.

Mr. Krammerdener noted they keep their stuff as long as they can. He went on to say he is president, CEO, Aging Matters in Brevard; he is here to talk about his time on the Brevard Commission on Aging; it has been an eye-opening experience with working with a group of people dedicated to seniors of Brevard; he is also on the Florida Association of Aging Service Providers; the group is cohesive in nature and they have a common cause to help provide vital information and help to make improvements; he is not very well versed at the policies and procedures; he is kind of more of a bull in a china shop in a lot of cases; and being a CEO of three years, kind of learning that role and then going into this role here. He stated they need to bring the issues of the aging population to the forefront; while Mr. Fink was giving the Board the stats there, Aging Matters look at 60 and above; that is over 200,000 people in Brevard County who are 60 and above, and that number is growing; the County really needs to make a shift in how it thinks about how it does things in Brevard County; and food insecurity, affordable housing, and transportation is always at the top of the list. He continued by saying he has a waiting list in every area of his agency from the homecare side to the Meals on Wheels program; the problems are not going away; the funding is just not keeping up; but that is what they are trying to do, to find solutions to those problems; he thinks having more of the audience, that one-on-one with the Commissioners, is important; and he would love to do that in the future. He pointed out it is vital that they come to the forefront; everyone in here has issues they want to talk about, and the issues, they are all important; but when one talks about housing, that is a common thing for everybody, but they want to be there, they want to be in that

conversation; food insecurity, again, there are children, people of middle age, and then there are seniors; it is all a common problem, but they want to be a part of the conversation and want the Board to be part of that conversation, as well; and he expressed his appreciation to the Board for its time.

Jerrad Atkins stated he is part of the aforementioned oyster that Chairman Feltner referred to them as; that is a new one for him, so that is interesting; he was not really planning on speaking, but he filled out a card, and then he just put some thoughts together; he is going to try to keep it under three minutes; he has been on the Planning and Zoning board for less than one year, of course, the oyster; he has spoken in front of that board a number of times prior to being appointed to the board; and for that reason, he really values public input. He noted he thinks that is a really important way to sort of gather data that otherwise would not be provided by engineers and property attorneys; he does not particularly like when folks are encouraged not to come up and say their piece; it does not happen a lot, but it can happen; he thinks the engineers and developers make claims that sort of go unchecked; like he said, public input, folks that live in these communities see what happens with weather, traffic, and whatnot; and that is where their input is needed the most. He advised he has something that he is going to read only because there are some very specific data that goes along with it; "Lee County versus Sunbelt Equities, Florida, Second District in 1993, had a ruling that held State Statute 163.3177, which states that the future land use is a ceiling, not a guarantee. There is no constitutional or Harris Act property right to increase planning allowances. Under Florida Law, the purchase of land is generally subject to the existing zoning or environmental restrictions. There's no property right to change them. There's another case that held that *Friedland v. Hollywood, Florida, Third District, 1961*;" he stated future land use is not being a property right, that is pretty big; it is treated a lot of times as if it were; and he thinks it is very important to note that it is not. He pointed out he enjoys working for the County for free; and he likes to think of himself as the pearl in the oyster of the Planning and Zoning board.

Commissioner Delaney stated also the Mayor of Scottsmeer.

Chairman Feltner explained he did not mean that in a bad way, he just means that it is definitely the filter; he does appreciate it; and if there is a pearl, Mr. Atkins is certainly one of them. He asked if there is an action on this item.

Ms. Wall responded yes, it is to acknowledge receipt of the 2025 County Advisory Board annual written reports, and approve request for excusal from dismissal due to absences for some members.

Commissioner Delaney noted she asked for this to be pulled because she had emailed all of the advisory board members and sent them a list of survey questions, like how it is going, what their feelings were about how the advisory boards are going, and there really was some mixed reviews, which she thought was great; some were negative, some neutral, and some positive; she printed out for the Commissioners these charts; she pointed out it is up on the board; and tomorrow she will be posting it on her Facebook page for the public. She stated she just wanted to share that there were definitely some tweaks she would love to bring forward to their ordinance like some people had shared before about possible term limits, the frequency of meetings, and the times of the meetings; she understands that there are boards that are, she means the County has everything from Environmentally Endangered Lands (EELs) to Planning and Zoning to Personnel Council, and all of these different things; she knows not every board has the same role; but she really values all of the volunteers' time; and she wants to make this the best process possible for them. She went on to say another thing she had seen through her data searches is that not all of the meeting minutes get posted online, and the audio is kind of burdensome to get sometimes, because it has to be requested, as it is not posted someplace;

only a few of the County's advisory board meetings are videoed on YouTube; she does not know if this is an administrative change or a Policy change; but if the Board could figure out a way to get minutes and audio recordings online for people, so that, not just the advisory board members that miss a meeting, but also the public who is interested in these different things.

Chairman Feltner stated for clarification, audio, maybe for a meeting that does not have video, but they brought a voice recorder, not every room in the government complexes have the video; but one can still put that on YouTube; he asked if Commissioner Delaney agrees; and he stated even if it is just a picture of the County seal or something like that.

Commissioner Delaney yes, definitely.

Chairman Feltner stated maybe that is worth a discussion; Commissioner Delaney said she was going to bring some items back in the future; and that may be an easy way to do it.

Commissioner Delaney asked if the Commissioners would rather her bring it back as a discussion Item where it can be collaborated on his or her ideas, or to bring forward a draft policy, and then tweak it from there.

Chairman Feltner stated he supposes if Commissioner Delaney brings it forward as an Agenda Item, with maybe five things in there, then the Board can go through them, discuss, and amend along the way.

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, advised probably the way to go would be a legislative intent item with just a few general categories of changes that the Board might like to see; and then the Board can discuss it, and staff can prepare the amendment accordingly.

Commissioner Delaney expressed her appreciation to the audience members who showed up today to speak on his or her items, as the Board appreciates their input, time, effort, and energy; she stated she knows that everyone has a very busy life; and this is a serious community service.

Chairman Feltner advised he is proud of his office staff, as they do a good job of filling appointments, because he thinks the worst thing that could happen to the advisory boards is they get together and they do not have a quorum, but it happens; and as much as possible if the Commission make the appointments that he or she needs to, it helps prevent that, so he is very mindful of that.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the 2025 County Advisory Board Written Reports; and approved the request for excusal from dismissal due to absences for Cory Lancaster, Thomas Brandon, Louvanna Simpson, Jeri Blanco, Jay Woltering, Patrick Mulligan, Edwin Peter Poole, Janis Shellabarger, Robert Wise, and Eric Michajlowicz.

**Result:** Approved

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

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

## **L.2. Morris Richardson, County Attorney**

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated he is requesting that the Board approve the scheduling and advertisement of a private attorney-client session to discuss pending litigation; the case is Waters Mark Development v. Brevard County, Case No.

05-2014-CA-41947-XXXX-XX in the Circuit Court for the 18th Judicial Circuit; this case has been ongoing since 2014, but it is on a trial calendar for this December; it looks like it is probably going to trial; the subject matter of the meeting will be confined to strategy related to litigation expenditures and potentially settlement negotiations; and he would like to hold the session on Tuesday, November 18, immediately following the Board's organizational and regular meeting scheduled for 9:00 a.m. that day.

The Board reached consensus to schedule a special meeting for a private attorney-client session in the case of Waters Mark Development v. Brevard County, Case No. 05-2014-CA-41947-XXXX-XX, to discuss pending litigation confined to strategy related to litigation expenditures and, potentially, settlement negotiations on November 18, 2025, immediately following the Organizational and Regular meeting scheduled for 9:00 a.m.

**L.3. Katie Delaney, Commissioner District 1**

Commissioner Delaney commented obviously, the flooding was talked about earlier; one of the things she has been trying to work on a bit is a relationship with St. John's River Water Management District; one of the things that she would love is any help from the Board Members who have relationships with them as well; she feels like they need to start looking into the possibility of dredging, because she is concerned that the St. John's, she remembers as a kid, and years prior, one could see the bottom of it; and now, there is quite a bit of muck in the St. John's taking up water capacity. She went on to say a lot of the focus she has found is that they are dealing with water quality, which is equally as important, but she thinks the water capacity is an issue; that is something she is working on; she is asking that anyone who has relationships there as well, if he or she would not mind, chatting with them about that; she knows with the State Legislature, she knows a lot of focus has been on the Indian River Lagoon, which again is equally as important, but the County needs some help by the St. John's; and the entire region is dumping into the St. John's, and it is ending up in Mims and now Titusville. She noted she wanted to put that on the airwaves of anybody who might be listening to this; she is open to collaboration and finding a way to move forward with people to get a plan; obviously, the County cannot stop development, it cannot stop improvement or whatnot, but it can be done in a better, smarter way; it has been a rough few days for District 1; and she is hopeful that in the future everybody can come together to get a plan going, because the County's infrastructure is really behind the Federal and State governments, its commercial partners in space. She added, everybody wants Brevard County to be the gateway to the universe, and she wants that as well, but the County needs help here; it is operating on 1950s infrastructure; the burden cannot fall on Brevard residents solely; she reiterated that the County needs some involvement and help to get it to a place where it can support these industries that are coming here; and the County wants them here, but it needs help.

Chairman Feltner advised he thinks the best, liaison wise, was the St. John's for that, and they could come over and meet Commissioner Delaney, and she can take them to lunch at Pier 220, or something like that.

**L.5. Kim Adkinson, Commissioner District 3**

Commissioner Adkinson expressed her appreciation to all of the County's emergency staff who spent their weekend doing what they did.

**L.6. Thad Altman, Commissioner District 5**

Commissioner Altman expressed his appreciation to staff for that very difficult weekend; he wanted to acknowledge the loss of life on the St. John's River, a tragic death; he stated the


County's emergency responders worked very hard on that incident; he did not know them, but they were friends of his sphere of influence and personal friends; and it was just a tragic accident to young, incredible people who lost their lives there. He mentioned he thinks moving forward, the County really needs to take a look at safety on the St. John's River; as it grows as a community, and more activity occurring there, it is a little bit of the wild west out there; and he wanted to remember and pray for those families that were affected.

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

Chairman Feltner expressed his appreciation to Public Works and the emergency folks who worked hard over the weekend; he went out yesterday and tried to help with some of the assessments, taking pictures, and going to different locations; he appreciates staff helping him do that; he is technologically behind, so he had to send a picture, and they attached it to the right system; he did talk to some neighbors out there; and he appreciates everyone working together on that. He advised the Board is going to close with the employee spotlight for Tory Miller, Project Supervisor, Road and Bridge; and the Board was provided with the video.

Upon consensus of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK  
\_\_\_\_\_  
THAD ALTMAN, CHAIR  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

As approved by the Board January 13, 2026.