

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

9:00 AM

The Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County, Florida, met in regular session on July 25, 2017 at 9:00 AM in the Government Center Commission Room, Building C, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, Florida.

CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rita Pritchett	Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1	Present	
Jim Barfield	Commissioner District 2	Present	
John Tobia	Commissioner District 3	Present	
Curt Smith	Chairman/Commissioner District 4	Present	
Kristine Isnardi	Commissioner District 5	Present	

INVOCATION

The invocation was provided by Pastor Matthew Stallbaum, East Christian Center, Merritt Island.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Isnardi led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM V.A., APPOINTMENT, RE: INTERIM COUNTY MANAGER, FRANK ABBATE, AS COUNTY MANAGER

Chairman Smith stated he wants to move Item V.A., Appointment of Interim County Manager Frank Abbate as County Manager, to the beginning of the meeting.

The Board appointed Interim County Manager Frank Abbate as County Manager.

Frank Abbate, County Manager, expressed his appreciation to the Board for the confidence and support it has showed to him; he stated he is grateful for the opportunity to move forward in this role; he expressed his appreciation to County staff primarily; and he stated he thinks they can do a tremendous job for the Board, the community, and the organization moving forward.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
SECONDER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

MINUTES APPROVAL

The Board approved the April 25, 2017 and May 23, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND COUNTY ATTORNEY TO WORK OUT DETAILS OF COUNTY MANAGER'S CONTRACT

The Board appointed Chairman Smith and Scott Knox, County Attorney, to work out the details of the new County Manager, Frank Abbate's, contract.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
SECONDER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM I.A., RESOLUTION, RE: RECOGNIZING SUSAN E SZYMULA FOR 30 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE WITH THE BREVARD COUNTY LIBRARIES

Chairman Smith read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-123, recognizing Susan E. Szymula for 30 years of dedicated service with the Brevard County Libraries.

Susan E. Szymula expressed her appreciation to the Board for the Resolution.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Curt Smith, Chairman/Commissioner District 4
SECONDER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM I.B., RESOLUTION, RE: PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF JULY 16-22, AS PRETRIAL, PROBATION, AND PAROLE SUPERVISION WEEK

Commissioner Isnardi read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-124, proclaiming the week of July 16-22, 2017, as Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week.

Rachel Richardson expressed her appreciation to the Board for the Resolution.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
SECONDER: Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

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ITEM I.C., PRESENTATION, RE: RECOGNIZING THE EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Board recognized and presented Professional Development Certificates to Julie Adams, Titusville Library; Jeanne Allen, Natural Resources; Vivian Arzola, Information Technology; Radella Ashton, Public Works, Cynthia Bagwell, Library Services; Greg Brost, Information Technology; Tina Chalfant, Cape Canaveral Library; Leanna Fitzgerald, Franklin DeGroot Library; Donald Gabbard, Eau Gallie Library; Lucy Hamelers, Public Works; Tina Hare, Information Technology; Lixin Huang, Information Technology; Steven Kimball, Parks and Recreation/South Area; Steven McCall, Cape Canaveral Library; Bach McClure, Natural Resources; Donna McPheters, South Mainland Library; and Carol Richardson, Solid Waste Management, who passed with honors; Nicholas Alvarado, Public Works/Traffic Operations; Vanessa Bethauser, Parks and Recreation/South Area; Stephanie Boyle, Public Works; Addie Brooks, Dr. Martin Luther King Library; Brian Campbell, Parks and Recreation/North Area; Megan Collins, Utility Services; Shane Custer, Parks and Recreation/South Area; William Damoth, Parks and Recreation/South Area; Gilbert Donovan, Parks and Recreation/North Area; Denny Long, Planning and Development/Code Enforcement; Rachel McNitt, Parks and Recreation/South Area; Kayla Stubblefield, Information Technology; Henry Thibodeau, Parks and Recreation/South Area; and James Wilson, Parks and Recreation/South Area for successfully passing all three phases of the Professional Development Program.

ITEM I.E., RESOLUTION, RE: RECOGNIZING AND HONORING CHARLI AND JACKSON WARD

Chairman Smith read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-125, recognizing and honoring Charli and Jackson Ward for their selfless act of kindness and service.

Charli and Jackson Ward thanked the Board for the Resolution.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Curt Smith, Chairman/Commissioner District 4
SECONDER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.A.1., RESOLUTION, RE: BREVARD COUNTY SHORE PROTECTION PROJECT; AND LONG RANGE BUDGET AND STATE COST-SHARE REQUEST

The Board adopted Resolution No. 17-126, supporting the Brevard County Shore Protection Project; approved a State grant Cost-share funding matched by local option Tourists Development Tax (TDT) that is dedicated to the BIF for Shore Protection Project; authorized the County Manager, or his designee, to execute contracts, amendments, and task orders to secure the grant funds and accomplish work; and authorized any necessary budget change requests.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.A.2., BINDING DEVELOPMENT PLAN, RE: DANA HIPPLE

The Board executed Binding Development Plan Agreement with Dana Hipple for property located on the south side of Rayburn Road, west of Britt road.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.A.3., BINDING DEVELOPMENT PLAN, RE: GERARD AND NARESA CANCRO

The Board executed Binding Development Plan Agreement with Gerard and Naresa Cancro for property located on the north side of Ocean Boulevard, west of Highway A1A.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.A.4., BINDING DEVELOPMENT PLAN, RE: GRANITE PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

The Board executed Binding Development Plan Agreement with Granite Property Development for property located on the west side of U.S. Highway 1, north of Pam Lem Street.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.A.5., BINDING DEVELOPMENT PLAN, RE: GRANITE PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (FKA SUSIE MOMENT)

The Board executed Binding Development Plan Agreement with Granite Property Development, fka Susie Moment, for property located on the east side of Railroad Avenue, south of Canaveral Groves Boulevard.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

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ITEM II.A.7., APPROVAL, RE: SUBORDINATION OF UTILITY INTERESTS FOR EASEMENTS #804 AND #809, CONVEYED FROM FLORIDA POWER AND LIGHT (FP&L) IN FAVOR OF BREVARD COUNTY FOR THE GANDY ROAD PROJECT IN MIMS

The Board approved and accepted the Subordination of Utility Interests for Easements #804 and #809 from FP&L related to Gandy Road Project in Mims; and authorized the Chairman to execute the same.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.A.8., RESOLUTION AND SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 1 TO LOCAL AGENCY PROGRAM (LAP) AGREEMENT WITH FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT), RE: VALKARIA ROAD SIDEWALK FROM GRANT-VALKARIA PARK TO LEGHORN ROAD PROJECT FPN 438023-1-58/68-01

The Board executed and adopted Resolution No. 17-127; executed and approved the Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to the LAP Agreement with FDOT for the Valkaria Road Sidewalk from Grant-Valkaria Park to Leghorn Road Project FPN 438023-1-58/68-01; and adjusting the local funds depicted on the schedule of funding.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.B.1., APPROVAL OF AWARD AND AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY HOUSING INITIATIVE, INC., RE: PURCHASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Board approved the recommendation of Affordable Housing Council and the Agreement to award \$540,000 for the administration of the County's Purchase Assistance Program, Housing Counseling Program, and Homebuyer Counseling Workshop; and authorized the Chairman to approve future modification and/or amendments after review and approval by the County Attorney and Risk Management.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.B.2., AUTHORIZATION OF REVISED GRANT APPLICATION, RE: SECTION 5339 FEDERAL TRANSITADMINISTRATION BUS AND BUS FACILITIES FORMULA PROGRAM

The Board executed and approved the revised Grant Application; and authorized the request that the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) amend the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to reflect the revised amount of the Section 5339 funds.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.B.3., MEDICAID WAIVER SERVICES AGREEMENT AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT WITH FLORIDA AGENCY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, RE: MEDICAID WAIVER HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

The Board executed and approved the Medicaid Waiver Services Agreement and the Business Associate Agreement for the Home and Community Based Services Transportation Program with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.C.1., APPROVAL OF ONLY BID, RE: PUBLIC SALE OF A SURPLUS PROPERTY, ON MILTON AVENUE, COCOA, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,500 FROM PHYLLIS DIANE COFFER

The Board approved the public sale of surplus property pursuant to Florida Statute 125.35(1)(a); and authorized the Central Services Director to accept the only bid in the amount of \$7,500 received by Phyllis Diane Coffe for Lot 19, Tax ID 2304871; and authorized the Chairman to execute all necessary documents.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.C.2., APPROVAL OF HIGHEST BID, RE: PRIVATE SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY, 7150 MILTON AVENUE, COCOA, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,155

The Board approved the private sale of surplus parcel of property pursuant to Florida Statute 125.35(2); authorized the Central Services Director to accept the highest bid in the amount of

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\$7,155 for property at 7150 Minton Avenue, Cocoa; and authorized the Chairman to execute all necessary documents.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.C.3., INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF COCOA BEACH, RE: 800MHZ PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO TOWER SITING

The Board authorized the County Manager, or his designee, to negotiate and establish an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Cocoa Beach for an 800 MHz tower off Tom Warriner Boulevard, on City property that will become part of the 800 MHz Public Safety Radio Network administered by Emergency Management; and authorized the County Manager, or his designee, to execute any documents and renewals on behalf of the Board as may be required to administer any modification to the Agreement and any subsequent extensions, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.C.4., AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONTRACT, RE: VOLUNTARY DENTAL INSURANCE PROGRAM PROVIDED BY CIGNA TO BE EFFECTIVE 01/01/2018

The Board authorized the placement of Voluntary Dental Coverage with Cigna effective January 1, 2018; and authorized the Human Resources Director to negotiate and execute all contracts and other necessary documents necessary to secure this coverage and execute future renewal.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.1., ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT, RE: FY 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR VIERA STEWARDSHIP DISTRICT

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Fiscal Year 2018 proposed budget for Viera Stewardship District.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.2., ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT, RE: FY 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR MONTECITO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Fiscal Year 2018 proposed budget for Montecito Community Development District.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.3., ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT, RE: FY 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR BAYTREE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Fiscal Year 2018 proposed budget for Baytree Community Development District.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.4., ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT, RE: FY 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR HERITAGE ISLE AT VIERA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Fiscal year 2018 proposed budget for Heritage Isle at Viera Community Development District.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.5., ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT, RE: FY 2015-2016 ANNUAL AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE MELBOURNE - TILLMAN WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 annual audited financial statements of the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.6., APPOINTMENT RENEWAL, RE: COUNTY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO REPRESENT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AT MEDIATION

The Board approved appointment renewal for the County Manager, or his designee, to represent the BOCC at mediations.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.7., REAPPOINTMENTS, RE: BREVARD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS DBA CAREERSOURCE BREVARD

The Board reappointed **Daryl Bishop, Colleen Browne, William Chivers, Dale Coxwell, Robert Jordan, Jr., Paula Just, Linda Miedema, and Lynda Weatherman** to the Brevard Workforce Development Board, with terms expiring June 30, 2020.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.8., CERTIFICATION, RE: LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD ONE-STOP OPERATOR AND REQUIRED PARTNERS

The Board authorized the Chairman to execute and certify the designation of a One-Stop Operator for the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) Area; and acknowledged that all of the required partners are included as part of the One-Stop system.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER: Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES: Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM II.D.10., APPROVAL, RE: BILLFOLDER

The Board approved the Billfolder, as submitted.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM III., PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pam LaSalle stated a few years ago as she was an animal advocate she determined that non-profit entities are not desirable from a perspective of public records; it is difficult to get public records from a non-profit organization; and at the time, she advocated not to put the animals with a non-profit. She went on to say subsequent to that she noticed the Economic Development Commission (EDC) became a grant; and this spring when she attended a meeting of theirs, the liaison that handled visitors was very emphatic that they were a non-profit organization. She noted this Board has decided for charities, non-profits, to reduce them and eliminate them after five years; and her recommendation, and what she would advocate for would be that the Board treats the EDC like all other non-profits, reduce them, and eliminate them.

ITEM IV.A., RESOLUTION, RE: PETITION TO VACATE TWO 15.00 FOOT WIDE PUBLIC DRAINAGE EASEMENTS - TAX PARCELS 13 AND 3, SECTIONS 23 AND 26 RESPECTIVELY, T. 24 S., R. 35E. - COCOA - WAL-MART STORES EAST, LP

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing to consider a resolution to vacate two 15.00 foot wide public drainage easements, Tax Parcels 13 and 3, Sections 23 and 26 respectively, Township 24 South, and Range 35 East, Cocoa, as petitioned by Wal-mart Stores East, LP.

Andrew Holmes, Interim Public Works Director, stated this is a petition to vacate two 15.00 foot wide public drainage easements; the purpose of this is to enhance development potential of this lot; and there have been no objections received to this.

There being no comments or objections, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-128, vacating two 15.00 foot wide public drainage easements - Tax Parcels 13 and 3, Sections 23 and 26 respectively, Township 24 South, Range 35 East, Cocoa, as petitioned by Wal-mart Stores East, LP.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM IV.B., ORDINANCE, RE: AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 22, ARTICLE VI, CONTRACTORS' LICENSING CODE OF BREVARD COUNTY

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Chapter 22, Article VI, Contractors' Licensing Code of Brevard County.

Tad Calkins, Planning and Development Director, stated this is a request to amend Chapter 22, Article VI, of the Contractors' Licensing Code; this amendment will allow for when an unlicensed contractor receives a citation, they will be able to apply that towards obtaining their licenses;

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another change staff is proposing is to align the Code when it relates to demolition contractors with recent changes of Florida Statutes; and the other one is staff is removing some grand fathering time periods because those have lapsed.

There being no comments or objections, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 17-17, amending Chapter 22, Article VI, Divisions 1 through 4, Code of Ordinances of Brevard County, Florida, relating to Contractors; specifically amending Section 22-477, Definitions, adding the definition of Demolition Contractor to comply with Florida Statute 489; removing demolition from the list of Specialty Contractor; specifically amending Sec 22-529, Classes of Certificates of Competency, adding Demolition; specifically amending Sec 22-559, Enforcement Procedures, providing for mitigation of fines for first time violators; specifically amending Sec 22-567, grand fathering, adding the provision for the grand fathering of demolition contractors for a 120 day period; eliminating grand fathering for framing/carpentry, excavating, masonry, swimming pool finish; providing for severability; providing for inclusion in Code; providing a Conflicting provision; providing for area encompassed; and providing for an effective date.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
SECONDER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM IV.D., RESOLUTION, RE: TRANSFER OF FEE SIMPLE INTEREST PROPERTY TO THE TITUSVILLE RIFLE AND PISTOL CLUB, INC.

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing to consider a resolution approving the transfer of property to the Titusville Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc.

Mary Ellen Donner, Parks and Recreation Director, stated this is a resolution for transfer of fee simple interest property to the Titusville Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc.

Chairman Smith advised the Board to pass, this Item must be a super majority vote.

There being no comments or objections, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-129, approving the transfer of the property to the Titusville Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc.; authorized the Chairman to execute such documents; and authorized the Chairman to execute all budgetary documents needed to effectuate the terms of this transfer.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM IV.E., RESOLUTION, RE: TAX EQUITY AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1982 (TEFRA) HEARING FOR RETIREMENT HOUSING FOUNDATION/COURTENAY SPRINGS VILLAGE

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing to consider a resolution acknowledging TEFRA public hearing for bond issuance by the Public Finance Authority to benefit the Retirement Housing Foundation and affiliates, including Courtenay Springs Village.

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Scott Knox, County Attorney, stated this a public hearing on the bond issue for Retirement Housing Foundation, which involves Courtenay Springs on Merritt Island; and it is a public hearing just to take comments from the public on this proposed bond issue, which will qualify it for tax exempt status.

There being no comments or objections, the Board adopted Resolution No. 17-130, to acknowledge TEFRA public hearing for bond issuance by the Public Finance Authority to benefit the Retirement Housing Foundation and affiliates (including Courtenay Springs Village, a retirement community located in Brevard County.)

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM V.B., AMENDMENT TO PURCHASE AGREEMENT, RE: BREVARD COUNTY AND FLORIDA EASTCOAST RAILWAY LLC (FEC) TO EXTEND CLOSING DATE

John Denninghoff, Interim Assistant County Manager, stated this is an Item where staff believes they have ran into some difficulty with the closing on the aerial easement for the Pineda Causeway overpass for the Florida East Coast Railway; there is language they are having some difficulty with; they do not believe it can be done in time for the closing date in compliance with the original agreement; and this Item amends the original agreement to give them until August 23, 2017, to continue to work on the language. He went on to add in the event they cannot get it worked out by then, staff will bring it back in an Agenda Report to let the Board know what the options are going forward.

The Board authorized the Chairman tot sign the Amendment to Purchase Agreement between Brevard County (buyer) and Florida East Coast Railway, LLC for the acquisition of the Perpetual Aerial Easement Agreement related to Pineda Causeway Grade Separation Project to extend the closing date to August 23, 2017.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM VI.A.1., FINAL PLAT AND CONTRACT APPROVAL, RE: VIERA TOWN CENTER II - THE VIERA COMPANY

Tad Calkins, Planning and Development Director, stated this Item is a final plat approval and contract execution for the Viera Town Center II plat.

The Board granted final plat and Contract approval for Viera Town Center II - The Viera Company; and authorized the Chairman to sign the final plat and the Contract.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM VI.B.1., RESOLUTION, INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT, AND COUNTY DEED WITH THE CITY OF COCOA, RE: CONVEYANCE OF LEE WENNER PARK TO THE CITY

Mary Ellen Donner, Parks and Recreation Director, stated this is a resolution and interlocal agreement with the City of Cocoa to convey Lee Wenner Park to the City; the County would retain the fishing pier.

Chairman Smith advised this requires a super majority vote to pass.

The Board adopted Resolution No. 17-131, and executed Interlocal Agreement and Deed with the City of Cocoa for conveyance of Lee Wenner Park; and authorized the Chairman to execute all budgetary documents needed to effectuate the terms of this Agreement.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM VI.B.2., APPROVAL OF TERMINATION OF LEASE, RE: CITY OF COCOA

Mary Ellen Donner, Parks and Recreation Director, stated this Item is an approval of termination of lease with the City of Cocoa at Travis Park; the County leases the land from the City; and in turn, the County subleases it to the Florida Historical Society, so this would be removing the County as the middle person. She pointed out the County will retain Travis Park.

The Board executed Lease Termination Agreement and Mutual Release with the City of Cocoa for property located in Travis Park.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
SECONDER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM VI.F.1., CITIZEN REQUEST BY REVEREND JOHNNIE B. DENNIS, RE: TRANSFER OF GUN RANGE

Reverend Johnnie B. Dennis stated the members of District 1 are beyond sick and tired of excessive noise, they are beyond sick and tired of coming in here and being ignored; he provided the Board a copy of evidence that shows they have been ignored; he stated the collusion between the Commissioners and the Brevard County Sheriff's office has cheated an entire community in District 1 of their 14th amendment rights to enjoy their property; their

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concern is to close in or move the gun range have been ignored over six times by the elected people who are supposed to be serving them; and he has been awakened at 8:00 a.m. by machine gun fire. He went on to add the training range is not an asset to the community, it is a nuisance, health hazard, and a major cause for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to occur; and they want the gun range moved. He noted Commissioner Rita Pritchett has been in office for eight months and has failed to address any of their concerns, she has intentionally ignored them, they refuse to allow her to ride the clock for four years filling her pockets with their tax dollars, and they want their money back for derelict of duty. He stated as of today, they have filed a complaint in Tallahassee, Florida, with the Florida Commission of Ethics; they have called for Commissioner Pritchett to step down for dereliction of duty; and if she does not step down at a certain time, under local government Code, Chapter 87, they will file a petition with the United States District Court to help her step down, because they are beyond sick and tired. He went on Chairman Curt Smith has made no efforts to address their concerns that were made with him as the Chairman. He pointed out they have no 14th Amendment rights; and they paid too much money to have a place to live when their concerns are ignored. He stated they are also asking Chairman Smith to step down, because they are sick and tired of coming before the Board asking it to do something about the noise at their gun range and their concerns being ignored.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she appreciates Reverend Dennis' concerns, but she thinks he is a little out of line asking Commissioners to step down because he or she does not agree with the gun range; she has dealt with this issue in the City of Palm Bay; she has never heard from him, and she is a Commissioner; and if he had those concerns, he could have contacted her office as well. She reiterated she thinks it is reckless to ask Commissioners to step down because he or she will not grant his request to close a gun range.

Melissa Martin stated as a citizen of Cocoa, and with full deference and respect to the Board, she hopes there can be a workshop of some sort; when she looked at this issue for what it is, she always tries to look at all sides; and she always wondered if this would happen if the neighborhood was full of affluent citizens or if the gun range was owned by a private company versus the Sheriff's office. She stated that is worth further debate and discussion perhaps in a workshop setting or some other civil entity where the issues can be flushed out.

The Board acknowledged Citizen Request by Reverend Johnnie B. Dennis requesting the transfer of the gun range in West Cocoa, but took no formal action.

ITEM VI.F.2., BOARD DISCUSSION, RE: DISPOSITION OF COUNTY OWNED GOLF COURSES

Frank Abbate, County Manager, explained he handed out a preliminary internal audit report that staff recently engaged RSM to conduct for them relative to Integrity and Golf Operations in light of what has been happening in the last few weeks; Jennifer Murtha is present to answer any questions Board Members may have; it is a very preliminary report because they have not been able to get all of the information they need to do the comprehensive review on the financial analysis that would be needed; however, staff wanted to get to the Board as much as they could; and that is why they are handing the Board this preliminary report at this time. He went on to add last week, consistent with the Board's directive, staff issued a Request for Bid proposals from two vendors that they were seeking to transition during the period of time that Integrity would be leaving at the end of the week; those two proposals were received yesterday afternoon; and they have sent the Commissioners, earlier in the day, electronic copies of that, and they have handed out to the Board this morning a hard copy. He pointed out staff does have some thoughts on those two proposals; the Board did give staff direction to move forward; but today, since they have those proposals, there is the Board meeting, and there was this

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Agenda Item, they thought it would be a good thing to have that open discussion as part of that Item. He noted in addition to that he thinks, County Attorney, Scott Knox, has additional information he would like to share as well regarding an alternative option the Board may want to consider.

Attorney Knox stated they have been contacted by a law firm in Orlando that represents a consultant that is engaged in the brokering of distressed golf courses, which is the issue the Board is facing today; after discussion of that with the Chairman, he directed him to ask them to speak to the Board if the Board is willing to hear them; and they are both here today, Cameron White, Attorney, and Greg Christovich, Consultant, if the Board would like to hear from them.

Chairman Smith stated in light of the situation the Board is faced with, with the sudden departure of the management company, it is in the position where decisions have to be made regarding the golf courses; there are Reserves the Board can work with; but when Attorney Knox advised him of Mr. White's and Mr. Christovich's background and expertise, he thought this is someone the Board needs to hear from.

Cameron White, Attorney with South Milhausen in Orlando, Florida, stated he represents golf course owners, operators, and developers, in golf law, and helps in transitioning in these types of matters; Mr. Christovich is a consultant, and he can introduce his background; and real estate, banking, creditor's rights, and things of that nature in his background.

Greg Christovich, Consultant/Advisory Broker, stated he has 30 years' experience operating and managing golf courses from single property level to multiple units; he worked for three of the largest management companies in the industry during his career; and nine years ago, he opened a small sort of boutique company that specializes mainly in assessing and helping to figure out distressed golf courses, because he has probably seen about 2,000 golf courses in the last nine years, and he worked out about 150 of them. He went on to say many of his clients are lenders going through foreclosure proceedings, but he also has done work for some municipalities, private owners, and managements companies; his job is to sort of crack these things open and figure out what is going wrong, what the potential is to get in the upside out of them, if there is any, provide a full assessment, and report back to the client; and he ultimately figures out what the worst case/best case scenario, and what some of the options are available to get out from under the golf courses if that is the best recommendation. He stated he is not saying it is the best recommendation right now, but it could very well be. He pointed out the other issue is to get someone in here and operate them rather quickly within five days or so; he is familiar with most of the management companies in the industry, certainly the ones in Florida; he has worked with a couple of them in the past; and he thinks he can help the County figure out what the best option is and how to structure an agreement that makes sense for the County and the operator. He noted he lives in Brevard County, about a mile south of Spessard Holland Golf Course in Melbourne Beach; he has had a residence here since 2012; he moved here full-time from Orlando a year ago this month; and he has been coming to Brevard County since he was a kid as he used to surf here. He advised he is familiar with the golf course operations, he knows the marketplace very well, and he thinks he can help the Board with what is going on and what it should do; he visited all three courses yesterday to take a look at them; he played Spessard Holland a number of times this year; but he has not been to play the Savannahs and Habitat Courses in some time. He stated they are okay, but in a little bit rough shape; they probably need recovery fairly quickly to the get course conditions back to where they ought to be; there is an issue with the interior at Savannahs, as the bar has been torn apart, and the club house is pretty rough since Hurricane Matthew; and there is a solution for everything. He stated there are too many golf courses and not enough people playing golf; there are 26 golf courses in Brevard County; and the population is not big enough to sustain all 26 of them. He noted there was a golf course that closed in Palm Bay in 2004, Royal Oak in Titusville closed four or five years ago; but it does not seem to help supporting the supply and demand. He stated

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Savannahs is the toughest one; Spessard Holland is the best one for a lot of reasons; and Habitat is somewhere in the middle. He stated in the end they will figure out what to do with all three of them together, or one at a time; the buying environment is challenging right now, and the County can expect to have the courses for a little while even if it decides to dispose of them; and it is difficult to sell a negative cash flow asset as a business, but there are some buyers out there purchasing golf courses.

Mr. White stated he has also handled special assets for private investors over the last 10 years or so during the foreclosure meltdown; he has experience in resolving title issues; and speaking with Attorney Knox and his office, there may be some title issues to work through, but it can be solved based upon their knowledge and experience. He stated his firm has been around for over 20 years in the Orlando area; they do strictly real estate and banking law, as well as his own practice of golf law dealing with the disposal of distressed assets.

Commissioner Isnardi inquired if the County were to retain their services, what it would expect to see in that report; and she stated she hopes it would contain more than just a basic audit. She asked if there would be recommendations involved, and what specifically would they be looking at.

Mr. Christovich replied he actually sent Attorney Knox a report he did on La Cita, and maybe at some point in time he could share that with the Board; it is very comprehensive; it is physical facilities, staffing levels, a budget for every property based on how it should be operated, a full market analysis so they know how the clubs are positioned competitively, and whether there is anything that can be done differently; and ultimately there will be a series of recommendations, such as how to make them better as they go, structure in terms of manpower and labor costs, and ultimately if there is a recommendation to dispose, how to do that.

Commissioner Tobia asked if Mr. Christovich would handle these individually or cumulatively as in all three.

Mr. Christovich responded both actually; the initial assessment would break down each property as they are in different locations, have different competitions, and all in their own market bubble; but in terms of the end game, there has to be some linkage between the three operations because there will be some structural issues from a management standpoint that will apply to all three; and if disposition time comes, whether they can sell as a package, it is always a challenge. He noted he has dealt with multi-course dispositions in similar markets, and more often than not, they go better one at a time rather than all together.

Commissioner Tobia stated Mr. Christovich mentioned that Spessard Holland is the best; but revenue at Habitat is by a magnitude of 25 times that of Spessard Holland; and he inquired if he could explain why in his expertise that Spessard Holland is better than one that is turning literally 25 times the amount of revenue.

Mr. Christovich replied he would have to see the numbers; he thought in reading some of the media releases, it looked like in 2015 Spessard Holland was performing the best; but if he is wrong about it, he is wrong.

Commissioner Tobia noted there is no question Spessard Holland has lost money since inception, as early as a couple of years after it opened, there was a transfer of \$170,000 to keep them open; he read through his proposal, and it looks like he can do some interesting things outside the box he did not think of; and he asked with a reverter in place, what the best case scenario of what the Board's disposition would be at Savannahs. He stated he just does not see any positives; he would like to do these as a package; but it seems to be paying a lot of money and getting nothing in return. He stated it would be exercising a reverter that hands it

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back to the Homeowners Association so they can manage that loss instead of the County being strapped with a management company that could potentially make a little bit of money off of the other courses and get rid of one that is projected to lose \$50,000 to \$60,000; and he bets the County would get a better deal if it were asking to only manage two courses. He inquired if Mr. Christovich could give him a positive with Savannahs because he could not find one.

Mr. Christovich responded there is a reason it has never made any money, and it probably means no matter how good someone is it will not ever make any money, and the County may have to face the realization because of its location, there is too much golf to get to that is closer; it is a more difficult golf course to play as there is a lot of water, comparing it to Spessard Holland; and the deferred maintenance on Savannahs is now extreme.

Commissioner Tobia stated he understands the challenges; he inquired if there is any light at the end of the tunnel; he stated he sees a light at the end of the tunnel for the other two; and he asked Mr. Christovich to give him a reason that his services are necessary for the Savannahs.

Mr. Christovich replied the Board can make the decision today, as it has been talking about Savannahs for 20 years; and there are residents, taxpayers, and golf constituents that like to play there.

Commissioner Tobia asked financially what is the possible light at the end of the tunnel.

Mr. Christovich responded he will probably have to dig in a little bit deeper before he were to make a comment; if it was his golf course, he owned it, and it had been doing what it has been doing, he is leaning toward some sort of provision with a reverter to get the County out from under operating it.

Commissioner Tobia inquired Mr. Christovich has a fee per course, so if the Board decided to cut a loss, would he be willing to offer his services or amend his proposal to the two right off the bat off the top of his head that positives could come out of those courses.

Mr. Christovich pointed out he does not think a judgment should be made about Savannahs.

Commissioner Tobia noted based on 20 years of data that has been collected in which it has never made a profit.

Mr. Christovich stated having been on the other side and seeing sort of a back wash of just making a decision, he thinks people are going to want to know more about it.

Commissioner Barfield stated what he is hearing is he is saying there is absolutely no way Savannahs is ever going to be profitable.

Mr. Christovich replied probably not.

Commissioner Barfield inquired if he is not saying absolutely. He stated he went back through all of the reports, and each one gives a financial profit and loss; it is interesting that over the last year Integrity Golf their General Administrative Charges started sky rocketing as a percentage; looking at Savannahs the last part of the last calendar year, the General Administrative Charges as opposed to the revenue is 84 percent; and that tells him the GNA should drop as the revenue because not as much needs to be spent to operate. He noted 84 percent, looking at Spessard Holland it is 46 percent; it is all from 2016; and he inquired if he is throwing indirect in like that, something does not seem right to him. He went on to say if he ran into GNA of more than 40 percent, he would not be in business; when he sees things like that, it tells him if something is managed properly a profit can be made; and Merritt Island is going to have more houses going

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in, and many things are coming in south of Kennedy Space Center. He stated when looking at these things he likes to look at the whole picture; he would like to see any option the County has because its hands have been tied, especially on Savannahs because it could not really explore selling it according to what it has heard; and he advised Mr. White, as a law attorney, it would have to be the best job in the world. He stated if there is a way to look at it and what is best for the County, residents, and all of that it needs to do that; the worst thing the Board can do is walk away from this and turn it back to the Homeowners Association, they did not sign up for that; when they bought their homes, they did not sign up for operating a golf course; the property values will drop; and if something like that happens, it will hurt the property values of all of North Merritt Island. He stated the audit needs to look at what the real revenues are; he is looking at reports that came off of the sales tax; and it is a lot different than what Commissioner Tobia has said. He stated he thinks the best thing that can be done is to look at what the options are for Savannahs and the other two golf courses as well.

Attorney Knox clarified by saying if Savannahs reverts to a dissolved corporation, which means the surviving trustee, Mr. Spielvogel, would be the one in charge of how that gets disposed of and what is done with the property.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she struggles with the government competing with the private sector; she comes from the Titusville area, and they have lived through the Royal Oak, La Cita, and Walkabout; Walkabout has done pretty good; La Cita was bought and is sort of having a resurrection; and Royal Oak came to the City of Titusville trying to get them to take it up, but it was not a good idea. She stated she does not think government should get involved and compete with the private sector; she received a few emails of people trying to convince her it is for public enjoyment; but this is kind of a different animal. She went on to say it will not help reversing the history, the Board needs to think about how to move forward with a solution; she does not know if it will be easy to get out of; she will probably be more in favor of moving the golf courses back into the private sector and let them stay golf courses; and then to find a way someone can run them more effectively and efficiently, and find a way to profit off of them. She stated maybe the homeowners can own it and find a way to chip in and get the property values up and enjoy that in their backyards. She advised she looked through the financials, and even the best of the courses are not doing that well right now; her thought for the best for the County, and probably the best for the community and people who live on these, is to find someone who can own them, manage them, enjoy them, and find a way to make them succeed; and she does not want to do anything destructive in a hurry.

Chairman Smith stated the Board has a time certain, which is 14 minutes late for a topic; and he expressed his appreciation to Mr. White and Mr. Christovich.

ITEM IV.C., APPROVAL, RE: ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDED FY 2017-2018 AD VALOREM MILLAGES

Chairman Smith called for a public hearing to consider approval of recommended Millages for FY 2017-2018, for the purpose of notification to taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser.

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated this Item relates to the tentative millages as required by the Florida Truth in Millage Act, also known as TRIM; staff is requesting that the Board set the FY 2017-2018 proposed millage rates; TRIM establishes the statutory requirements that all taxing authorities that levy millages are required to follow the notice and the public hearing requirements; staff received certified property values from the Property Appraiser on June 29, 2017; and that started the clock ticking for the TRIM requirements. He went on to say under the Florida Statute, the County has 35 days of the certification of the value, which is going to be

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August 3, 2017, that the Board has to give as the taxing authority informs the Property Appraiser of several items that through designated completed TRIM forms they have to provide to them; that includes the prior year millage rate, the current year proposed millage rate, the current year rolled back rate, and the date, time, and meeting place of a tentative budget hearing, the first of two; within 55 days of the certification of value, which they receive from the Property Appraiser, which is August 23, 2017, the Property Appraiser is required to mail out the TRIM notices notifying all taxpayers of the tentative millage rates; and this also serves as the announcement of the first of two public hearings that the Board will have in September. He pointed out the first of these two hearings will be on September 12th at 5:30 p.m.; at that meeting, the Board will adopt the tentative millages and the tentative budget; under the Florida Truth in Millage Act, within 15 days of that first tentative hearing, the taxing authority is required to advertise its intent to adopt a final millage and budget; for the County that advertisement will occur in the *Florida TODAY* newspaper; and as the taxing authority, it must advertise a Notice of Proposed Tax Increase if the tentatively adopted millage rate is greater than the rolled back rate, that is in the aggregate. He noted if the tentatively adopted millage rate is equal to or less than the rolled back rate, the advertisement can be headed as a Notice of Budget Hearing; the proposed millages in the County Manager's recommended budget will necessitate a Notice of Proposed Tax Increase, although those proposed millage rates are lower than the current millage rates and the vast majority of homesteaded properties will see a decrease in their County taxes; and the only ones that will not are the ones that have had a significant addition to their footprint or additional new construction on the property. He stated on September 26th the final public hearing will be held; at this meeting for each of the 25 taxing districts, the Board will have to discuss and announce the percentage increase in millage over the rolled back that is to be levied; the Agenda that the Board has before it, the attachment provides the Board with the details on the 25 individual taxing districts that Brevard County is the taxing authority; that includes 20 that are operating millages and five that are voter-approved debt millages; and millage rates have been established in the proposal the Board has received in compliance with the Brevard County Charter, Florida Statutes, and the voter-approved rate structures for those that were voter-approved millages. He added while the majority of the operating millages are proposed at that rate, the increases of the ad valorem revenue by 1.26 percent change in the CPI, not including new construction, there are five voter-approved taxing districts that have been proposed with a rate that are in accordance with what the voters approved and the corresponding State maximum requirements; those include the following five districts: Recreation District 4 for Operation and Maintenance, and that has a voter-approved cap of 0.9000; the millage rate that is being proposed in accordance with the State imposed simple majority maximum rate is at 0.7114; for Environmentally Endangered Lands, the voter approved cap is at 0.2085; the millage rate that is being proposed in accordance with the State imposed simple majority maximum rate is 0.0617 for the operating millage, and 0.0908 for the debt millage based on the current debt service requirements; and this proposed rate is below the voter approved EELs cap. He went on to say North Brevard Special District, the voter approved cap is 0.8000, and the millage rate is being proposed in accordance with the cap at 0.5770 for the debt millage based on debt service requirements, and the remaining 0.2230 for operations and maintenance; Merritt Island MSTU, there is a voter approved cap, is 0.8000; the millage rate is being proposed in accordance with that cap; and finally South Brevard Special Recreation District, the voter approved cap is 0.6000, the millage rate being proposed in accordance with that cap is 0.3044 for the debt millage based on debt service requirements, and the remaining 0.2956 for operations and maintenance. He pointed out while at the second budget hearing under what the County Manager has proposed, the millage rate would require for the EELs a super majority vote, that vote is not needed today; today if the Board chooses to move forward to the Property Appraiser these proposed millages, it would only require a simple majority vote; and the Budget Director and he are available to answer any additional questions the Board may have.

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Vince Lamb stated for 98 percent of the budget he is fine, but he was totally shocked by this last minute proposal to cut the budget for Parks and Recreation by one million dollars. He went on to say a couple of months back he and many other people in the room who were present when Parks and Recreation was at the budget workshop held upstairs, a lot of them spoke in support of Parks and Recreation; and there were a few questions asked at the end of that Agenda Item, and the Board moved on. He noted they thought Parks and Recreation was safe from any budget cuts for the upcoming fiscal year; Brevard County Parks are extremely utilized by residents and visitors; when driving down A1A most weekend days, a person will see ocean front parks and overflow with cars up and down the road; the parks around here with ballfields and recreational facilities are also very well used; and there are so many outstanding special events held at the parks. He pointed out by conservative estimates 170,000 hike the trails maintained by the EEL Program in 2016, that is one-third of the people who live in the County; the Space Coast Birding and Wildlife Festival is considered the best of its kind in the United States; and the economic impact exceeds a million dollars annually. He stated this festival relies heavily on the EEL Program conservation lands, education centers, as well as a number of park facilities like Fox Lake; if those facilities were closed or limited in operation, the festival would suffer; he could go on for hours with stories of the benefit of the EEL Program, but he obviously does not have time to do that; and he hopes the Board knows many of them. He went on to say the Brevard County voters passed two referendums to fund the EEL Program with 70 percent majorities; last year the voters, 62 percent, voted for the Save Our Lagoon, it is not parks, but it shows the support for the natural resources of the County. He inquired if it is really bad to have a small tax increase; he stated he looks at all of the good this budget will accomplish, more money for fixing roads, providing a long-awaited pay raise for County staff, and hopefully continuing the excellent parks program; and he asked the Board to please vote yes to support the Parks and Recreation, including the EEL Program.

Philip Stasik, Space Coast Progressive Alliance, expressed his appreciation to the Board for allowing the people to speak with it today, because this is a very important topic; it is interesting that the Board talked about the importance of history; the County just celebrated the 48th Anniversary of Apollo 11 Mission, the first manned mission to walk on the Moon; just yesterday, the 24th of July, was the anniversary of them coming back and splashing down in the Pacific Ocean; and the thing those astronauts have from their mission to space is the view of the Earth. He went on to add when they went to the Moon, they always came back and said what emotionally moving it was to look at that little blue dot in space, they realize this is their home planet; the importance of protecting the Earth is unmistakable; with the concept of think and act locally, the Board is charged with stewardship of the endangered lands and the river that must be cared for; and if the Board cuts funding on this, it will not be fulfilling the stewardship of the lands. He noted these are precious lands, and they must be protected; and the Board has to find a way to make that work within the budget. He stated he appreciates the challenge of managing the County's budget. He encouraged the Board to put itself in the mind of the astronauts traveling into deep space and looking back at the Earth, and thinking what is most important; he stated the Board must protect EELs land and the parks; there is a reason why people choose to live in Brevard County; and he requested the Board defend the EELs lands and parks.

Jackson Scott stated about two years ago he came before the Board because the drainage pipe on an easement behind his house is falling in, and it has been falling in for 20 years; he inherited this property from his father-in-law; they finally came to do the drainage pipe across the back of the yard; and he is thankful for that because he knows money is hard to come by. He went on to say he is supposed to be in the hospital today receiving a battery of tests, but he has a letter from Mr. Little stating they are doing the pipe behind the house, and it also states plus 138 feet south of Barclay Drive; he has pictures of where the drainage ditch out front has collapsed since the last hurricane; and now his driveway is collapsing in. He noted he called last Wednesday to Road and Bridges and talked to Cathy, he called last Thursday and talked to

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Cathy; she said someone would get back to him; he called Friday, and they said they would get back to him; he talked to the workers and they are telling him they are not putting this pipe beside of his house which was sleeved 30 years ago, and he was told they are waiting for the money; and he had to cancel his personal life to come before the Board because staff says they are not doing it. He stated he has a letter from Mr. Little stating that they are doing it. He went on when they cleared the property beside him, the County is putting its workers at risk by putting a bucket truck and pulling trees through these power lines; when they knew this project was going to be done, they sent the letter 30 days ago, they did not have Florida Power and Light come and move the power lines out of the trees; and he reiterated the Board is putting its employees at high risk by pulling these trees through the power lines, which is causing arcing all over the place. He pointed out it is putting them as homeowners not having a surge on their air conditioners, refrigerators, and televisions. He asked the Board what it is going to do about this issue, and if the pipe is going to be replaced.

John Denninghoff, Interim Assistant County Manager, advised the Board he is not aware of the current situation regarding the pipe running along the side lawn, but he can find out; if it needs to be replaced, it is in a public easement, and it is the public responsibility to take care of, it will get done; exactly when, he cannot say without checking into the situation; and as to doing their jobs and taking care of safety, he would be interested to see and try to confirm what has been reported. He noted he finds it to be unlikely.

Commissioner Pritchett asked Mr. Scott to talk with Marcia Newell her Legislative Aid, who is sitting in the back of the room; and they will see what information they can get for him.

Marjorie Derrick stated they have an environmental crisis, and that is, according to *Florida TODAY*, by the year 2050 the human population is going to outstrip the ability of the planet to sustain it; according to *American Farmland Trust* they are losing 40 acres of land an hour to development; and whatever can be done now to save and promote EELs, please to do it.

George Rosenfield stated he is an environmental scientist, he has a Master's Degree, a Science Degree from United States College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse, and he is retired from the U.S. Geological Service as a Research Physical Scientist, and those are his credentials. He stated he last addressed this Board on March 7th of this year on passing the money tax for the Indian River Lagoon, with a brief history on activities of the Marine Resources Council in this effort; not too far in the past, citizens of this County twice voted money for the EELs Program; the first time the money was used for other things; the second time, it was okay for a while, but since then it has been reduced; and they are now talking about further reducing the money for the EELs Program. He added they passed the money for the EELs Program to keep Brevard County green; he does not want it paved over as much as Florida from West Palm Beach south; Brevard County is beautiful and is environmentally sound; they have the natural areas as Florida always has been, with the plants, animals, climate, and people living in balance with each other with the ecology and the environment; and that is why he came back here 31 years ago. He stated he lived here for nine years in the 1950s and 1960s as a scientist on a missile range, he fell in love with Brevard County; he left in the recession after the end of the military program and before the Apollo Program; but like General Douglas McArthur, he returned. He asked the Board to keep Brevard County green, to keep the money in the EELs Program, to protect what there is remaining of the original Florida ecology and environment, and to keep the plants, animals, climate, and people living together in balance and harmony.

Bo Platt stated he is speaking specifically to the cuts in the EELs and Parks and Recreation Programs. He pointed out he is a board member of the Conradina Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society, the Sebastian Inlet Chapter of the Surf Rider Foundation, and the Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition; the members of these three organizations recognize that the EELs Program is a valuable resource and should be fully-funded; they realize the value of these

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nature preserves to the County; and a relatively small amount of the County's budget goes to the maintenance and operation of these preserves, and the three education centers, is a wise investment in their lifestyle, a big part of Brevard County's brand, and a big thing that sets them apart from coastal communities to the north and south of Brevard. He stated voters in the County voted twice to fund these programs; Brevard residents understand the value of these lands to the quality of life; the Native Plant Society Members take regular field trips to these sanctuaries to view the native wildlife; and they always see other visitors, some local, others that come to visit because they do not have sanctuaries where they live. He went on to say the sanctuaries provide valuable habitat to native plants and animals; the education centers serve not just Brevard residents but residents from all over the country and the world; he has helped with guiding turtle walks at the Barrier Island Center this summer; in the past few weeks they have had visitors from South Florida, Orlando, Arizona, and Michigan; and last Saturday night they had visitors from Scotland. He pointed out these people stay in the hotels, eat in the restaurants, and shop in Brevard County stores. He inquired what the savings are that result from these million dollar plus cuts from Parks and Recreation and the EELs Programs; he stated the cuts will result in staff layoffs, closing of an educational center, and decreased maintenance in the sanctuaries; and the savings is around \$1.50 for each Brevard County resident, or \$6 for a family of four. He inquired if savings .50 cents a month for a family of four a smart decision when it comes at a cost to Brevard's economy, identity, and the quality of life; and is it a wise choice to make these cuts in order to save the cost of one Big Mac meal that a family of four can fight over every year.

Lisa Zelnick stated she is urging the Board to vote against further cuts to the parks and the Environmentally Endangered Lands Program; the parks contribute to the quality of life in the County by providing leisure activities, protecting the interest and values of the citizens and visitors; many of the parks preserve sensitive eco-systems and include endangered lands and threatened species; the educational programs that the nature centers focus on awareness of the outdoors and the preservation of the environment, which includes the previous, unique Indian River Lagoon, St. Johns River, lakes, wetlands, maritime hammocks, and the scrub; and specific parks are a haven for bird watching and provide sanctuary for many bird communities including the Osprey, Eagle, Egret, Pelican, various wildlife, including Sea Turtles and the Manatees. She added the parks provide venues for community and regional activities including the three public golf courses, one of which, the Savannahs, is a wetlands area for many endangered species; they have camping at three unique campgrounds, horse trails, fishing, and boating with County provided access to the boat ways with the ramps; they have beaches, lakes, and swimming and various venues for water sports, such as sailing, wind surfing, rowing, canoeing, and kayaking; and other facilities also include softball, tennis, volleyball, horseshoes, shuffle board, soccer, and Little League ballfields, the picnic pavilions, and even playgrounds are available at various parks. She pointed out a price cannot be put on the quality of life the parks provide for the citizens; the EELs Program has consistently received support from Brevard County citizens; the EELs Program has conserved 34 miles of natural Lagoon shoreline that helps provide a barrier for polluted runoff and a habitat barrier, helping to protect the struggling Indian River Lagoon; and the Program protects authentic pockets of Florida and provides a Lagoon legacy that future generations may enjoy. She noted the EELs Program allows the residents to have an increased ecological appreciation of the County and State, improves the quality of life for the citizens by allowing green spaces, and provides economic benefit to the County through increased tourism dollars for those who visit these sites. She went on to say it helps to reduce flooding by preventing over building of areas, and allows for strategic community planning that incorporates green infrastructure so people do not lose its natural resources. She stated the Brevard County citizens have consistently recognized the need for and voted to support the EELs Program through referendums; they need this millage rate returned to the highest rate possible to support these lands; the citizens recognize the importance; and they treasure their EELs Program and thank the Board for its continued support.

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Catherine Haynes stated she recognizes that budget hearings are extremely difficult, and this year's process is no different; the problem for the Board is that typically speaking, the public does not want a tax increase; but at the same time, they do not want to feel any pain as the result of cutting budgets. She went on to say the public want County government to be lean and efficient, but no one wants to have their favorite service or program cut; she also recognizes that politics often create a situation in which it is the interest of the elected officials to let problems get worse rather than to take the steps required to immediately address them; however, it is her personal and professional experience, that when she operates using strategic long term planning, the results are less reactionary and more holistic and goal oriented; she believes the proposed million dollar cut for the green spaces will damage communities in the County, and reduce investment in the County; and at the same time, it leads to an evitable decline in the quality and quantity of their green spaces for people and to reduce habitat for wildlife. She explained once these green spaces are no longer protected, development will ensue and that generally escalates the problems that the recently passed one cent sales tax is intended to mitigate; it is clear the vision and strategy that accompanies the County's budget recognizes the need to make the most of County assets; but cuts to Parks and Recreation and EELs budgets miss the critical point that green spaces are major assets that require investment and long term planning to recognize their true benefits. She pointed out Brevard County's environment is a source of its civic pride; green spaces and waterways are the heart of the County, and a shared identity; that is why voters overwhelmingly passed the recent Sales Tax Referendum; a long term more fundamental shift in thinking is required to secure these vital spaces; investments in a healthy environment benefits everyone that lives here, works here, cares about or runs a business here; and it is the primary reason people live here. She stated it is the backbone of the economy, character, and culture. She asked the Board not to use difficult fiscal times as the excuse to stop investing in the things they all care about.

Lewis Kontnik stated he moved here about a year ago and brought his consulting business here from California, and he has found the amazing resources and community that supports the Indian River Lagoon and the parks. He advised the Board has heard great statement about why people want this to continue; and he asked that everyone who supports the full funding of the EELs and Parks and Recreation to please stand. He noted he thinks the Board understands; the people understand the fiscal realities; Chairman Smith challenged previously that the roads may need support and so on; and he knows he is personally supporting the petition for that in addition, so it may not be dividing the baby.

Anita Unrath stated she is totally against the proposed cuts of Parks and Recreation, and especially the EELs Program in the County; she had an interesting conversation with a gentleman at the pool yesterday in their community; she has never met him before; he has lived here for 22 years; part of the year he is in Ireland; and he asked her when they were talking if she would ever move from here. She advised the gentleman no, she moved to Brevard County 15 years ago, God and the Air Force sent her husband Tom here; she loves Brevard County; she expressed her appreciation to the Board for its service to the County; and she stated she understands it has a tough job. She noted she missed the last budget meeting, and she is not sure about the yellow and red she saw at the last year's budget meeting; but last year, in July, the Board decided to lower the millage rate, and they were the only ones in Central Florida that did that; and all of the other counties kept the millage rate the same. She asked why the millage rate was being cut; she stated she was told there was more construction, there will be more houses, there will be more income, and they will be okay; she would like for the Board to make sure the County is okay, that it keeps its green spaces; the EELs properties are wonderful from the Enchanted Forest to Turkey Creek to the Barrier Island Sanctuary; she just went on a turtle walk for the first time with Vince Lamb; and it was amazing to see the Loggerhead mother laying the eggs, and this is what is in Brevard County. She pointed out she lives near River Walk, it is a wonderful park; she often goes to the Cruickshank Sanctuary to see the Scrub Jays; there used to be a lot of Scrub Jays in the neighborhood, but due to construction, a lot of them are not

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there anymore; and when she wants to see the Scrub Jays, she knows she can see them at Cruickshank Sanctuary. She asked the Board not to mess with the citizens quality of life; she stated the Board's job is to keep the County running and to have an efficient budget, and also to make it the wonderful place it is to keep for the children and grandchildren; she does not have children who use Parks and Recreation; but she does have children in her neighborhood who do.

Tom Unrath stated he is a pastor and he lives in the Suntree area. He went on to say he has a congregation in Cocoa; he appreciates more than most might all of the comments that have been made regarding stewardship; God has given them the wonderful place in which they live; and he is absolutely convinced of that. He pointed out it is their responsibility, as citizens and as Commissioners, to take care of the property. He stated he is going to talk finances; he has documents he dug up over the past couple of years that talk specifically about finances, about home valuations; valuations of homes near green spaces go way up; as much as 30 percent of the houses value is determined by its proximity to green space; when talking about home values going up, it is talking about millages and taxes; he does not like paying taxes any more than anyone else does; but if his home value goes up, he is okay with that; and if he has to pay a little bit more in property taxes, because his home value is up, he will deal with that. He encouraged the Board to please maintain the green spaces and EELs programs that are so valuable to this County.

Gail Meredith stated she is part of the Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition and she is a turtle scout for the Barrier Island Center, and she is very involved in many of the aspects of the programs. She added she hopes the Board has these experiences as well; people are blessed to live in Brevard County; and she hopes the Board will honor these places by continuing to fund them to the highest possible degree. She noted the millages seem so small for individual households that it does not seem worth it to go down on the millage rate to save a little bit of money so next year people will not be as freaked out as much as they are now due to the potential of losing things. She stated she attended the last budget workshop, and she thought it was one of the worst experiences she has had recently; the cavalier attitude towards people who are dedicating their lives to the service of these treasures was appalling; she thinks they need to take a long-term view of what is being maintained and to be more careful about it; the citizens have repeatedly voted for the Lagoon and the EELs Program; and yet they seem to be constantly endangered. She pointed out she attends the Citizens Oversight Committee for the Lagoon spending of the Referendum funds; last Friday they heard the sea grass is recovering very slowly in the Lagoon; and the epicenter of the bad news is Melbourne to Cocoa, and they are continuing to watch the algae blooms and wondering if there will be more serious die offs like last year. She stated the EELs Program is continued to be challenged, which they know protects the Lagoon and protects the pollution of the Lagoon; and she asked the Board to be long-term in its thinking and to fund the EELs Program at the highest possible degree.

Donn Weaver stated as one of 70,000 veterans in the County, he wants to tell the Board how Parks and Recreation needs to keep the ball going forward; years ago, during the worst economic times, Parks and Recreation was cut regularly for five years according to the information he received; together the veterans and the community have created the best Veterans Memorial Center and Park in the State; some of the Board Members have not visited it yet; and the greatest addition to that is combining the 82 acres of the Veterans Memorial Park. He went on to add the Florida Key Lime Pie Festival has chosen to hold their event there; they have hosted 200 Boy Scouts on a three-night jamboree; they have dozens of groups coming out there all of the time; and there are 2,000 visitors a month at the Park. He noted this is a Park people are still learning about, because it was only Veterans Day last year that it was opened; it was opened without any increased revenue by the Parks and Recreation Department; and they had to ask the veterans to help, and they did by spending \$60,000 renovating an old building that they got from more than 105 companies and people donating over \$300,000. He went on

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the State had chimed in with a wonderful new building, which is their museum; Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency (MIRA) has chimed in with more money for the Park; and Tourist Development has just come up with a substantial amount of money to help with the Park with development. He pointed out it is a cooperative effort. He stated Keep Brevard Beautiful, and all of the citizens groups are willing to help; but he asked the Board not to cut out the financial links of the people who are professionals and know what to do.

Melissa Martin stated voters care about natural Brevard; they do not necessarily care so much about ad valorem millage changes; and they are here because this is a visceral issue. She noted she will not repeat all of the environmental and economic reasons why the Board should support fully-funding these programs, EELs especially and Parks and Recreation, or all of the reasons it should oppose any agenda tearing it down piece by piece; but she is here on behalf of herself, her children, the Brevard Indian River Lagoon Coalition, and about 40 partners they have in not only non-profits, but business industries and citizens advisory boards. She stated on behalf of all of them, she wanted to make three points. She explained one is the fact the Board may know already, the Board's natural parks and amount of wildlife in conserved lands are the exact reason why her family moved here; real Floridians know this, and even science is backing it up; and nature is good for the people. She went on to say it is good for soles, health, and spending quality family time on the cheap, something everyone needs. She advised point two, she is sure the Board knows about the ongoing mass lawsuit over about \$300 million of the Florida Legislature for misspending the funds regarding Amendment 1 in violation of the voters clear intent; and the relevant point is this, the government works for the people, so when the people speak, through clearly established process, like voting, which they have already done, it is the Board's social contractual duty to fulfill their wishes. She stated third, without laboring the many points about how the EELs Program directly integrates with the Lagoon's health and restoration, she will note for the Board's attention, in a previous coalition partners meeting they adopted EELs as a matter of strategic importance; it is part of the Coalition's strategic plan from now on; and they are under their protection in a way as far as the political will and the public voice on these issues. She pointed out the voters have spoken; natural Brevard County is a community treasure; she hopes the Board treats her with due respect; and together in the Space Coast everyone can grow to be environmentally responsible and an economically prosperous green space coast.

Pamela Dirschka stated the articles she has been following about the budget process for Brevard County have been of great concern; so many programs that have been helpful to the County residents when they are in a tough spot have been reduced; today the discussion is about the budget for the Parks and Recreation and EELs Program; Brevard County can be proud of its program; and the voters have shown support of the Parks, the EELs Program, and the Indian River Lagoon in multiple votes. She went on to add the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary is in her neighborhood, and it lives up to its name; yesterday she emailed the Board Members a picture of her mother-in-law and father-in-law walking in the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary; they are 86 and 89 years old; and they go there regularly and so do the rest of her family. She pointed out they really treasure that area, as well as the others on the list; there are some on that list that she has not yet been to explore; and she looks forward to doing that. She asked the Board to use all methods available to it to fully-fund the Parks and the EELs Program; and to please not reduce any funding for these.

Courtney Barker, City Manager City of Satellite Beach, stated she is here largely because of a telephone call she received yesterday; they work a lot together as cities and the County; a lot of times the cities will take over facilities, because it is in the middle of a city and they want control of that. She went on to say lately it is becoming more because of the lack of maintenance, particularly with the parks; yesterday she received a telephone call from a County resident that wanted them to take over the Sea Park facility in an unincorporated area of Satellite Beach, due to the lack of maintenance; and she had to explain the City cannot do that because it is not in

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the City of Satellite Beach. She explained that is something the Board needs to know that the residents are calling cities to take over its parks because some of them are not being maintained; they are now looking at another cut to a Parks and Recreation system it cannot afford; when cities take over these parks, it is not saving the residents money; and it is cost shifting something that used to be spread over the cost to the entire population of the County, and it is shifting that cost to the population of the municipalities. She noted the residents are not saving any money, and the residents of that municipality are gaining a tax and responsibility. She stated the County is the provider of regional facilities and services, and it needs to remember that; the more things are shifted over to cities, the County is basically creating an unincorporated city; and it needs to remember the role the County plays as it is important for it to maintain that role, because when it stops maintaining things, that affects the cities. She advised the cities are here in support of the County, but they want it to stay intact, and that is why she is here to ask the Board not to consider any cuts to the Parks and Recreation, as it will cost more down-the-road.

Nicholas Sanzone, Environmental Programs Coordinator for City of Satellite Beach, stated this is a budget issue, and as an environmentalist he will attack it from a different angle; he inquired what value is the County getting in return; he stated the Board has heard a lot today about environmental values, social values, and economic values, and Ms. Barker just spoke on maintenance issues; when the parks and EELs lands are no longer being maintained, the issues down-the-road are something to think about; but as environmentalists, looking at the State of Florida, and how it functions biologically, there is something he wants the Board to think about for a moment. He noted the system is roughly three million years old in looking how it was formed from erosional activities that created the aquifer system beneath everyone's feet, where they get their water from, it has to go through the land into the system through these EELs Program lands; and not only is it creating environments where children can go to a park and learn about these things through activities and events, it creates a system that actually promotes the kind of citizenry it wants in the community that is involved in situations like this who vote for these types of programs in these areas. He went on to add he would not be here today if it was not for these lands, because he went on field trips as a young man; he urged the Board to reconsider removing these programs; and he asked the Board to find another way by looking somewhere else. He pointed out they, as individuals have voted for the EELs lands; and he asked the Board to show its support for the people who support it.

Tony Sasso, representing the Friends of the Thousand Islands, stated he has met with many of the Commissioners, and he knows in each ones heart he or she is an environmentalist; this is an environmental community; he asked the Board to consider the economics of this County; he stated they are moving along slowly, but in a positive direction; and he requested the Board to consider that. He advised several years back a lot of things were put off, such as roads; he inquired if the Board going to do the same thing with the environmental lands; he stated 10 years from now the County will have to catch up again; and that is probably not a good thing to do. He added he always remembers when the former CEO of Harris Corporation put on a conference where he was talking about how important these benefits the County has meant to him and his employees and the ability for that business to be in the County; there are many people who move to the County, because it is a cool environmental community; and it is one of the better environmental communities in the State. He inquired if people are going to talk about the couple of saved dollars or about the legacy that was left; and he stated the legacy is the environment. He stated he is still active with the Boy Scouts; hundreds of young men have earned their merit badges in the Thousand Islands in kayaking and other things; he inquired how many people come here to visit and go to the Thousand Island to kayak and really enjoy that beautiful nature; and he stated to consider anything different, the County is better than that. He asked the Board to keep funding this.

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Linda Behret, speaking for herself as a citizen of Brevard County, as well as the Sierra Club, Turtle Coast Group, stated the Sierra Club's mission is to enjoy, explore, and protect the environment; the local group does a lot of outings to explore and enjoy the EELs lands and parks in the County; and she is present to day to help protect the funding for these lands. She went on to say she has been to Cruickshank Sanctuary, which is one of the closest parks to her; people go there to see the Scrub Jays; and they are a beautiful bird. She added there are Gopher Tortoises there, and a lot of other environmental sites people enjoy seeing; she has brought friends from Southern Illinois, who spent their money, and staying in the County; it does help in a different way to improve the economy; most folks, like the folks who voted for the EELs Program twice to fund them would enjoy having these things more than saving the few cents to a couple of dollars each on the tax money; and she asked the Board not to cut taxes for Parks and Recreation and the EELs Program.

Terry LaPlante urged the Board to fully-fund Parks and Recreation and the EELs Program; she stated these lands serve to protect the quantity and quality of drinking water, which is vital to everyone; she personally has not heard of anyone complaining about their property taxes; and she does not know of anyone asking the Board to cut funding for Parks and Recreation or the EELs Program. She noted she meets people almost daily who are looking for work, under employed, and complaining about lack of jobs and low wages; she suspects if these people were employed or had better wages, he or she would buy more homes and be paying more taxes; making these budget cuts would undoubtedly put more people out of work; and she thinks that is a bad idea. She suggested the Board consider adopting solar systems for County buildings and operations as a way to cut expenses in creating good paying jobs for the clean energy jobs for the County; and it could adopt the PACE Program and support legislation that would make solar more affordable and more assessable to homeowners who could reduce their electric bills and have more money for other expenses.

Karen Wade stated they know a healthy eco-system is required for society to sustain and thrive; there are many aspects to a healthy eco-system, and Parks and Recreation and Natural Resources are fundamental to a healthy eco-system that they require to live; they also know that this is not about a cut right now; and they cannot make a short-term decision without looking at the long-term effect. She went on to say they are cutting a million dollars now; what will be a lot will be the \$5 to \$10 million of debt being added to the next generations when they have to invest to revive these; and all of that money can be saved by maintaining them. She pointed out the County has to take responsibility for the parks, natural resources, and it has to sustain, and to not deny the children the opportunity to enjoy these things.

Rob Rains, United Way of Brevard, stated it was a good decision to appoint Frank Abbate as the new County Manager; another good decision would be to keep the funding for Parks and Recreation; he echo's a lot of the speakers; the County has a fantastic Parks and Recreation staff that care about the community; the United Way runs a program called Feed and Read Program; the Parks and Recreation Department are a key partner in that; they distribute 9,000 books and 7,000 to 9,000 meal packets to children during the summer; and he reiterated the County parks are a key distribution site for food and books for over 900 kids. He pointed out there are kids who need these services, and he hopes the Board will keep that in place.

Laurilee Thompson, co-owner of Dixie Crossroads Seafood Restaurant, stated clams in 1996 were nearly 800,000 pounds, and in 2016 there were 2,000 claims harvested; blue crabs were just under three million pounds in 1996 and a little over 800 pounds in 2016; mullet was just under one-half a million pounds in 1996 and 127,000 in 2016; spotted sea trout was 6,057 pounds in 1996, and 169 pounds in 2016; and brown shrimp was 306,000 pounds in 1996 and just under 90,000 in 2016. She pointed out these reductions in seafood have been catastrophic to the men and women who make their living on the Indian River Lagoon; and it has affected the off-shore stuff as well, because shrimp grow up in the Lagoon and go off shore and the boats

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catch them out there. She stated the shrimp catches are down; they are catching no fin fish at all; as a by catch they catch flounder, spots, crockers, and whiting; and she reiterated they are hardly catching fin fish at all, because the sea grasses have disappeared so badly in the Lagoon which affects everything. She stated the County has 37 miles of living, non-hardened shoreline in the EELs Program lands; 34 miles of shoreline that is protected from ditches and small tributaries in the EELs properties; and EELs lands adjacent to the Lagoon, those lands could be used for nurseries to grow sea grass and mangroves, clams, and oysters for large scale Lagoon restoration. She stated for 20 years Brevard County's premier Office of Tourism has worked to promote this County as a destination for families to enjoy nature-based activities; the EELs sanctuaries are a major component of the natural tourism offerings; it makes no economic sense to jeopardize such a critical component of the tourism assets; and tourism is the number one driver of the economy. She added the short fall that will be created if the Board does not go to the highest millage rate possible for the EELs Program will have to be made up some other way; it will be over a \$400,000 short fall next year; and it will have to come out of the General Fund or programs and learning centers will be closed.

Diane Stees stated she volunteered her time for the EELs Program for almost 30 years, prior to the first Referendum in 1990; she is here to remind the Board there are economic benefits to taking care of the land that have been preserved throughout the County; these lands prevent stormwater runoff into the Indian River Lagoon; these lands recharge the aquifer, which is the drinking water supply; and the land protect adjacent neighborhoods from wildfires when they are properly managed. She went on to say these lands are heavily used by eco-tourism, both locals and tourists from around the State, the nation, and the world; these lands raise property values in the neighborhoods; and she is part of the high tech workforce the Board keeps spending money to attract to Brevard County. She stated having spent over 30 years working in the nations manned space flight program, this workforce wants their green space; Commissioners over the years have collected over \$30 million for EELs; and recent State Statute has been added to that. She asked the Board to stop the bleeding, and do not support further cuts to Parks and Recreation, including the EELs Program; she noted the Board's support is an investment in the County's future, children's future, and it makes economic sense; and she requested the Board to help keep the Indian River Lagoon clean, help keep the children and seniors off of the streets, support Parks and Recreation and EELs Programs. She pointed out the voters have spoken four times in this County for the 1990 and 2004 EEL Referendums, for Amendment 1 in 2014, and for the Lagoon Sales Tax in 2016, they vote and they are watching the Board.

*The Board recessed at 11:27 a.m. and reconvened at 11:40 a.m.

Commissioner Barfield stated before getting into discussions on these cuts, the Board talked about pay raises for the employees; and he would like for the Human Resources Director to talk about what has been done.

Jerry Visco, Human Resources Director, stated HR has been working on a salary survey project; they are the beneficiaries of very significant data that was provided to the Board by the Florida Public Human Resources Association; the County participated in a survey at the end of 2016; it was collected by the Association from October 2016 to January of 2017; and they are one of 105 participants in the survey. He went on to add as a result they are the recipient of a tremendous amount of salary data; staff has been spending a fair amount of time going through this data, making some comparisons, and doing analyses; and he will throw out a couple of the number to show what staff has found so far. He noted the 105 participating entities produced statistically significant data on over 150 positions; what staff has done, is they have analyzed the position descriptions included in the survey with their own positions; and the County has almost 600 class and job descriptions in County Government. He stated finding the 150 or so

that match up was a little bit of a challenge, but they worked through that, and at the end of the day what was found is they were able to match up 116 of those 150 positions in the survey with County job descriptions; that is about a 20 percent sample of all counties positions; and statistically they are in a good place to make some decisions using this data. He pointed out of the 116 comparable positions, they found they were looking at where the average salaries were falling, where the median salaries between the County and the survey; they found 74 out of 116 positions have salaries that fell at least 10 percent or more below the average salary reported in the survey; they looked beyond that and looked at the pay ranges the survey also identified; and in that analysis about 38 of the County's pay ranges fall more than 10 percent below the average minimum salary for the survey. He stated in total it was about two-thirds of the County's comparable positions feel 10 percent or greater below the average salaries for the minimum pay bands for the survey participants; they want to look a little deeper as to what this data can show them; they did additional analyses, they started to look at the hiring and re-hiring the County has done in the last year or year and one-half; and since October 2016 to July of this year they have had 618 hires or re-hire positions. He stated they looked to see where those folks were brought in at what salary levels; what was found was only 75 of those 618 positions were brought in at a salary above minimum; they then looked at separation and turnover rates; they looked at those positions that a person was separated from employment with less than six months of time on the job; they then looked to see if that number was different for folks who left with six months to 12 months on the job; and when they looked at those thresholds, they then looked at turnover of jobs in excess of 10 percent. He explained to the Board they only looked at those positions that had more than 10 individuals in those slots, so there was not a situation where it was a two person job description and one of those individuals left; with all of these little data points, staff needs to do analyses where they overlay all of that information to look for those positions that are either the hardest to fill or the hardest to retain, the combination of the positions that have the greatest salary gap, that have the most significant separation rates or turnover rates, should be those positions they want to pay particular attention to going forward; and they acknowledge they have limited resources to address some of these issues as the salary gaps are significant. He added they have some jobs that are 20, 30, or 40 percent below those averages, a very significant gap with those; they know there are not the resources to address all of that at one time across the board; and their effort would be to identify those particular hardest to fill, hardest to retain, so those could be targeted with the resources that they have in an appropriate time frame. He stated so far they have about a dozen plus positions that have met all of those criteria that really need a particular focus; and there is a lot more work to do with this.

Commissioner Barfield inquired if a consultant needs to be hired or is it something that can be done internally; he stated what he would really like the Board to get to is this, the County knows it is behind; at least a plan can be put into place where it will know this year it can do a percentage increase across the board, or whatever; and each year it would know exactly what it needs to work towards to get to. He noted that way the employees know that the Board is trying to do this; and it could help cut down on the turn over as well

Mr. Visco stated the separation and turnover data, staff has for the Board, they can continue to work with that, and overlay that with the salary data they have; there is enough good data that staff can continue to push the process forward; if a 20 percent sample is not significant enough for the Board and it would like to see more, at that point staff will need to bring in a salary survey and consultant to do something on a quite larger scale.

Commissioner Barfield stated it sounds like staff can pick out the ones that are really the dramatic ones, if the Board knows the average of the rest, it can be figured out; he would like to see the Board get to this point, because every year it comes up with this and every year it is further behind; staff sent the Board Members two different approaches in doing the salary

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adjustments; and he inquired what the difference was if the Board gives a four percent raise across the board.

Mr. Visco replied based on what staff has projected and posed in budget workshops to date, if the Board moved from the tiered salary approach to a straight four percent across the board, it is about an additional \$295,000 of General Fund monies; and he provided the Board with a handout.

Commissioner Barfield stated he would like the Board to do this because this is a salary adjustment to bring the workers up to where they should be, and he thinks it is the right thing to do.

Commissioner Tobia stated this Agenda Item has both the staff suggestion, as well as one that came through his office; it seems as though most of the speakers were concerned with his; and he inquired how that needs to be tackled. He inquired if the Board wants to discuss his to see if the motion goes up or down, and then move to the second one; and he asked what works for the Chairman.

Chairman Smith pointed out most of what the Board heard today concerned Commissioner Tobia's proposal, and it would be appropriate to focus on that.

Commissioner Tobia expressed his appreciation to Jill Hayes, Budget Director, who worked extremely hard; he stated these are not her suggestions, to be very clear, but once his suggestions were presented, Ms. Hayes worked hard to make sure that the numbers were correct. He expressed his appreciation to Frank Abbate, County Manager, for spending some time to help him run through this process. He went on to say he asked at a budget workshop that Ms. Hayes present a budget that does not break the Charter cap under Brevard County Chapter Section 2.9.3.1, and she delivered a budget that met that requirement; what he failed to do was to ask her to present a budget that does not increase taxes according to the Board, because this Board would not play with numbers, but various counties certainly do; this is very complicated; and thankfully the State stepped in and they created the Florida Department of Revenue under Florida Statutes Section 200.065 formula, that says if the County goes over 'X', then it is a tax increase, and if it is under 'X', then it is not. He explained as Mr. Abbate mentioned, there are two things that have to be put in the newspaper, a Notice of Budget Hearing, which has no size requirements, or this one, a Notice of Proposed Tax Increase, where under Statute there are certain guidelines that have to be a quarter page, and the headlines have to be at 18 point. He stated once he saw his failing, he ran to Ms. Hayes and asked her to help him out to get to numbers to hit the rolled back rate; a lot has been said today, and the people are going to hear something that many of them probably are surprised, he agrees with them, the Board should not be cutting Parks and Recreation and EELs Programs; but he thinks the people have heard the wrong thing because the budget that he put forward, and do not take it from him, take it from the budget chair, has increased revenues of \$5.7 million, there are no cuts; there is not one dollar in cumulative cuts or one dollar in an individual cut in ad valorem revenue collected; and that is what is being talked about here. He added by going through the line items, a person will see that there is over a million new dollars in his plan in Parks and Recreation, EELs as well, there are a little over \$44,000 new dollars for EELs; there is not one dollar in reduction; he is more than willing to talk about service that this budget may participate for EELs, it is because there is a trust fund that is coming to an end; whether it comes to an end this year or whether it comes to an end next year, these are the same issues that will have to be talked about one way or the other; and he would like to talk about them now. He inquired where people heard about this magical million dollars, it is actually \$1,039,250, or less than one-half of one percent of the staff proposal; and he stated all this budget does is create parity. He pointed out he went to the line items and found out the County is above the CPI on a number of them, and it can be above the CPI according to the Charter; he does not believe that is fair, he does

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not believe one item should be treated over another one; Parks and Recreation is very important; but he does not know that the Board should provide a higher percentage for Parks than it does for things like law enforcement or roads and bridges; and what he did is, with Ms. Hayes help again, her input was the math side of things as a Budget Chief and not as a policy maker, was to create a budget that is very responsible that creates more revenue from Parks and Recreation and EELs and does not cut a single dime. He stated the budget suggestion that came out of the County, again his fault, he takes full responsibility, he did not ask for it to come in as not a tax increase, it did, and his would just bring it back to the rolled back rate, so the County Commissioners could say it was responsible, it prioritized the need; and it did not raise people's taxes and did not make any cuts. He noted that is all his budget did; if the Commissioners have concerns, there are other ways, and he does not know if the Board Members want to get to the same result; his result was not to have a tax increase; but if other Commissioners have other ideas, he certainly stands here open to those ideas; and again, he is willing to talk about any of these line items, but he wants to be clear, he appreciates everyone who came to speak. He asked the people to understand there is not one cut to Parks and Recreation, in fact, there is more than a million of increases to Parks and Recreation; there is not one dollar cut to EELs, there is more than \$44,000 of increases to them; he inquired could the Board tax higher according to what voters gave it the leeway, absolutely, it has that authority; he stated he is not here to pull any punches or to hide anything; but as a conservative, he thinks it is very, very important that the Board does not arbitrarily say how much it can get from the taxpayers; and he asked how the Board can do it in a responsible way as stewards to the environment, as well as being responsible to the people that brought the Board Members up there. He stated if the Board wants to discuss any of these, there are five line items, it can; one individual made the comment it was last minute; this was put on the budget the day the proposed millage was put on the budget; he did this weeks ago, with Ms. Hayes help; as soon as he realized his mistake, he went to Ms. Hayes; this went out to all of his fellow Commissioners, but he or she cannot respond; but he has the ability to send it out, so he has been as transparent as possible; and he looks forward, as his proposal is discussed, to take any suggestions to shift the money around so it can end up with it not being a tax increase, or any suggestions to move forward in another direction. He stated these were his ideas, that was his goal, and he is here to answer any questions. He added the four changes were Recreation District 4 that was different than the proposed; EELs was different than the proposed, North Brevard Special Recreation District, Merritt Island Special Recreation District, and the South Brevard Special Recreation District. He stated with that, he is willing to take any questions; and he would certainly like the opportunity of 30 seconds or a minute to close on this before a motion is made.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she just wanted to remind everyone this is just to advertise for the millage rate; she has been speaking with Mr. Abbate and Ms. Hayes about some possible alternatives; but she is not ready to go with all of the proposals from Commissioner Tobia. She went on to say she also wants to talk about, she spoke with Ms. Hayes and Mr. Abbate a while ago, and it is funny Commissioner Barfield brought up the pay raises for employees, because she just talked to Ms. Hayes about possibly having the same rate across the board, because just because a person is a manager or director their raise should not be less; it is almost being punitive for furthering a person's education or professional experience, and she does not feel comfortable going that route, although she wants to be fair in the sense that she wants to be decent enough to have an impact for them, because many of the County employees have not seen raises; but she is open to talk about and consider some of the items on here. She pointed out she is torn on the EELs issue, not because everyone showed up, she has said no to crowds four times this size, so it is not about that; what it is about is the voter Referendum; it was put out to the voters, and whether a person agreed with the Board that did so in the past, over the last several years Boards of the past have reduced EELs causing it to be operated off of Reserves; where she disagrees with the priorities of the EELs program is in the past there have been poor land purchases; and she does not think the Board should be looking at grabbing

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more land as much as it needs to worry about maintaining the land it has, and making it accessible to the residents. She stated she is sort of on the fence and she is open to discussion; this is something that has kept her awake the last few nights because she is struggling; it is the voters will, however, she has to take her own personal feelings out of it; and that is sort of the responsibility of sitting up here and making that hard decision.

Commissioner Barfield commented looking back to the past to what has happened in this County, it has deferred, deferred, and deferred maintenance, a good example is roads, but also in parks; the parks, a lot of work there has not been done; and quite frankly, the economy was bad then. He stated at this point it is getting better; the decisions the Board makes now impacts it five, seven, and 10 years down-the-road; it is seeing the results of things that happened five, eight, and 10 years ago; when looking at each one of the list of all of the items, not just the ones Commissioner Tobia wants to cut, but looking at all of them, there is a little thing that says 'voted millage', and there is a note in it that says 'v', which means it was voted in; and all of the cuts asking to be made are with a 'v' next to them, and that bothers him because if the Board is good stewards, it needs to be careful what it is doing for the future. He went on to say the Board knows the items are all important because they were all voted on by the people; it is up to the Board to make the decisions that eight, 10 years down-the-road it can catch up some on this and correct some of the things that have not been done because of lack in the economy; and he is hesitant to vote to change anything from the budget standpoint for this. He added the other side is when looking at the true taxes, what his and others property taxes are, he believes with a budget like this if a person is a homesteaded property, a person's property taxes will not go up, in fact they will probably go down; his own taxes have gone down for at least five years, maybe more; and he thinks that is what is seen across-the-board. He explained the reality is for him a tax increase is what he has to write a check to pay his taxes for; and he inquired if that is a tax increase to him or a tax increase on paper. He pointed out he does not believe this is a tax increase for the people on a dollar figure; he stated he is hesitant to do this; he does not see that these cuts really help, it hurts in the long run; and he will be opposed to the cuts.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she was kind of excited when she received the budget; Mr. Abbate brought back a budget to the Board that was within the tax criteria with what everyone had asked him to do; she understands Commissioner Tobia's concept with this, she admires him for it trying to find a way to keep from sending out a tax increase; she spoke with Ms. Hayes and Mr. Abbate about how it affects each household; and it looks like with the budget the County Manager has brought that everyone has been paying between \$5 and \$50 less per year in a household. She went on to say overall it is adjusting the millage; there are so many different concepts that go into the budget; this budget overall will be less per person in the community; and that is a really good thing. She noted she wishes the Board would not have cut Meals on Wheels and Children's Services, but it did; in this budget there is an increase for salaries, but it probably is not enough; she would actually like to do a pay study of outside resources; the County is able to catch up with the road resurfacing with this, and there is another group of money that will actually allow road reconstruction, which there was not previously a budget for. She advised this budget is still not really a tax increase on the aggregate. She stated she spoke with surrounding municipalities, and they are all working towards tax increases because of the growth going on in the communities; she is thinking about the County not doing the tax increase while the other municipalities are having to; but the County Manager came back with a budget that meets the needs without cutting services and taking care of critical things that needed to be done; there is time to dig through things and make negotiations moving forward, because this is just a tentative budget; and wisdom always tells her when voting on a tentative millage, to vote it over a little bit more than being planned so there will be some wiggle room in case something comes up the Board is not ready for. She stated if the Board votes it less, it has to send out public TRIM notices and everything to make any adjustments; this is not the legal millage today the Board is voting on, it is the tentative; and she will vote for this to go through as the tentative, and the Board can keep the negotiations

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moving forward. She noted the Board has to work on road reconstruction moving forward, planning and growth, it is growing as a community as it is an exciting time, and it will need to facilitate the growth needs by boosting staffing for permits; and she thinks the Board should focus on more Lean Six Sigma items to get the County more effective and efficient.

Chairman Smith stated it is important that everyone understands what is being voted on today is the proposed millage, and it gives the Board some wiggle room; it does not tie its hands; he was one of those people who voted for the budget cap in 2006, because who does not want to handcuff those rascally politicians and keep them from raising his taxes; the unintended consequences of that was that the CPI has been artificially low over the last couple of years; and it is difficult sitting up here to give people raises, fix roads, and to buy ambulances and buses that cost twice what they did just six years ago on that kind of a number as it is impossible. He went on to say that is why the County is losing people; it is competing with its own municipalities for firefighters, police people, and people that work in different jobs for the County; the unintended consequences when the income is kept low artificially, that compounds year after year; and the County has been working from behind all of the time, and roads and pay increases show that.

Commissioner Tobia stated he appreciates everyone's comments; he ran for office recently, and one of the promises he made was that he would not increase taxes; he appreciates everyone showing up; but he thinks when a person knocks on someone's door asking them for something as precious as their vote that is a promise to keep with those individuals. He added people probably do not like that he did this, but he typed in other Commissioners and put in taxes and saw what came up; first of all, Commissioner Pritchett was very good, he did not see any promises made; and Commissioner Isnardi was the same thing, he could not find anything. He stated on August 9, 2016, in *Space Coast Daily*, Chairman Smith stated the aggregate rate in 2016 is below the rolled back rate, it is now above the rolled back rate, so this is considered a tax decrease; and by his definition and the State's definition, it is a tax increase. He stated Chairman Smith also said on July 26, 2016, that it is all about priorities, the Board needs to make tough decisions; and his favorite one was *Florida TODAY* where Commissioner Smith said, "When future Commissioners make budget decisions, I hope they ask themselves, what would Curt Smith do?" He noted that gets him to Commissioner Barfield, it said, "Our County Commissioners must make the tough decisions to cut costs instead of raising taxes." He pointed out these are promises that were made to voters when asking for their votes; there is nothing more precious than asking for someone to trust in the Board Members for a period of time; there are three options right now; option one, he does not think it is fair to say it is a horrible budget, and he completely disagrees with it, and not offer an alternative; and that is what he did. He went on to say he appreciates everyone showing up and pointing out why he or she did not like the alternative he presented; he would have more than willing to meet with someone so he could have said what his goals were; they are not hidden; he made the promise over and over again that he was not up her to raise taxes; and he looked at other lines to see if maybe Public Safety or Mosquito Control, or maybe the Board spends too much on roads and bridges, so the Board could come up with something that was not a tax increase. He explained he did the due diligence and presented a responsible budget that made no cuts and is not a tax increase; these are not tough decisions, these are providing more monies and not raising taxes. He went on to say option two is any Commissioner, with the help of Ms. Hayes, could have gone anytime, if keeping his or her statements made, asked her to help them create a budget that sticks to the principals of which he or she espoused when they were running for office; to his knowledge, no one else did that; he went forward knowing that people would show up and say they did not support it; but that was the responsibility he made to thousands of people when he knocked on their door and asked for their votes; and all of the Board Members should do that, and he takes it very seriously. He noted option three is the Board can sit here and say it is okay with the tax increase; it can be justified that his taxes are not going up, but why not go to an objective third party, the Florida Department of Revenue (FDOR) that has no dog in the hunt;

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he spent eight years in Tallahassee trying to cut taxes; but he recognized, as Chairman Smith did, that the roads are in bad repair; and he is not offering a penny to turn back to taxpayers, he is just saying not to raise the taxes, to prioritize and spend them moving forward on roads. He pointed out what is scary is the Board provided a tiered pay raise, this is the first he heard of the across-the-board four percent, but initially it was \$290,000, if the Board continues down this road it will be more than \$1 million; he stated one other Commissioner provided suggestions for cuts to the budget; that is the hard part; it is easy to say to pay people more, build new parks, and to pave roads; and the hard part is the cutting. He went on to say due to the CPI, the Board is provided with millions of extra dollars, and yet it is saying it is not enough; and he inquired at what point is it enough. He stated when he ran for office, it was the promise he made; he understands the people's frustration and disappointment in the suggestions he made; he appreciates it and he takes them extremely seriously; what he takes more seriously is the responsibility that he has to the people he spoke with when he asked for their vote to help him get up here; and he is not willing to sacrifice that for the votes that showed up. He stated if people have suggestions, they are more than willing to all of his data, to create a budget that does not require a tax increase, he is more than willing to listen; but in deference to many of the people who spoke, they were 100 percent honest, and he really appreciated that; and they said they do not mind more taxes. He added he is just not willing to levy taxes on the taxpayers; the bulk of the people who sent him up there are not willing to either; maybe there is middle ground where the resources can be focused on in order to move that forward so something can be found from another area; and he reiterated he takes this extremely seriously. He expressed his appreciation to Ms. Hayes for the hours she has spent with him and his staff explaining this complicated process; he expressed his appreciation to Mr. Abbate for helping to explain the various nuances of the budget; and lastly, he expressed his appreciation to his staff Ashley, Christine, and Billy for putting up with the telephone calls from the people who largely were on the other side of this issue from all across the County.

Motion by Commissioner Tobia to approve the District 3 proposal on the millage rates.

Motion dies due to lack of a second.

Commissioner Pritchett expressed her appreciation to Commissioner Tobia on how he always sticks to what he believes, and that she does admire; she stated he never comes with anything that he did not say he was going to do; and he also brings points that makes her really think harder and dig in to make sure she is true to what she believes she should be doing and what the community expects her to do. She stated when she started going through this budget, she has been in government for a little while, and over the last six years the County had to do tax cuts because there has not been any money in the community and no one could afford it; the County was in such a bad spot; a lot of staff has been lost in this government, as well as the local municipalities. She added staffing levels between 2001 and now, at 2001 it was at 2,270, and that is where the County is now; it has gone from 2,700 staff in 2006, so the numbers are way down as far as staff; the growth in the County has gone from 480,000 in 2001, and it is now over 560,000 in 2017; and the community is continuing to grow by the thousands, the staffing level is low, and the tax numbers coming in are still low. She pointed out the County is still not able to have enough taxing dollars coming in to help continue with the growth situation; roads have been not done and the money put into other places to take care of critical needs; for what she ran on, and what she believes, it would be irresponsible of her not to try to find funding to try to take care of all of these needs; and that is what she is hearing the community say to her. She stated as far as parks and EELs lands being voted in, medical marijuana was voted in, she did not vote for it, but the community spoke, so she is taking care of that situation because of the votes.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she does not disagree with advertising for not a tax increase, what she did not agree with were these specific reductions; there were, she does not know how

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many, millions of dollars talked about during the budget workshops, and even though the Board did consensus on what it would approve and disapprove, that million could be taken out of the general Countywide budget; there is more flexibility in the General Fund budget; the Board argued many things that were close; and the Community Based Organizations (CBOs) were reduced 20 percent, which is \$400,000 of it right there, almost 50 percent, and it does not touch the voter-approved millage rates. She advised the Board she does not like the idea of what is being proposed on here, maybe some, not others, but she would be fine with advertising for not a tax increase and keeping the millage rate at the rolled back rate. She stated as much as she is not supporting this specific proposal that Commissioner Tobia brought forward to the Board, she would be in support of a non-advertised rolled back rate for this coming year.

Commissioner Barfield stated this is the first hearing, and the Board can go ahead and pass the tentative millage rate; when the Board comes back at its next budget hearing, it can look at any cuts it wants to make; and otherwise, the County would have to re-advertise and pay for all of the TRIM notices.

Commissioner Isnardi explained she gets where Commissioner Barfield is coming from, because she has made that decision before as a Council Member; the danger there is it is already advertised, it is easier not to force the Board to make those cuts; and this would force its hand in making any cuts or committing to those cuts to stay at that rolled back rate. She noted this Board is very fluid and fragile, she will not pick at anyone as she refuses to do that, but he or she have done something completely different than what they did or suggested before; she does not necessarily think everyone's mind will change from this meeting to the next when the decision has to be made; but she does think it makes the Board bring those cuts to the table and discuss those things that were discussed at workshops to reduce the budget by a million dollars, as the budget is big enough the Board can make that change.

Chairman Smith stated everything that Commissioner Tobia quoted him as saying, he still agrees with 100 percent; but as a responsible individual, Commissioner, and a person with 40 years of experience running a business, he is not wet behind the ears, he understand there are times when if a person is a riverboat captain and his goal is to get from New Orleans to St. Louis, he cannot just go straight, because there may be an impediment that pops up so course adjustments need to be made; and he reiterated he stands by everything he said in the past, and full steam ahead.

The Board approved the recommended Millages for FY 2017-2018, for the purpose of notification to taxpayers by the Brevard County Property Appraiser; and authorized the County Manager to complete the Florida Department of Revenue's Certifications of Taxable Value, Forms DR-420.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [3 TO 2]
MOVER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
SECONDER:	Jim Barfield, Commissioner District 2
AYES:	Rita Pritchett, Jim Barfield, Curt Smith
NAYS:	John Tobia, Kristine Isnardi

Commissioner Barfield stated back to the salary adjustment for County employees; he inquired if the Board were to go to four percent, is that obtainable within the County's budget

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated staff can bring back a variety of options if that is the Board's direction to how it can be accomplished.

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Commissioner Barfield asked if the Board is not ready to make a decision on that yet.

Mr. Abbate responded if the Board gives staff direction to do it, they will; it is a large enough budget that staff will make the adjustments; money has been put in Reserves as part of this budget; and there are some dollars there. He went on to add for the first time this budget is above the Board's minimum policy level of 10 percent; and extra money was put in as well for unfunded critical needs, so there are opportunities if that is what the Board decides for staff to look at, or other areas. He stated if the Board were to do that, between now and the first budget hearing, staff would do whatever is necessary and will come back to the Board with that; he thinks it can be accomplished; it would be how staff accomplishes it; and staff would want to give the Board options on how to do that. He advised the answer is yes, it could, if the Board decided to do that.

Commissioner Isnardi stated maybe the Board can look at what three and one-half percent looks like, and maybe that is the happy middle ground it finds. She noted she thinks all Board Members are in support of doing something good. She added she does not think people should be penalized for working hard, getting promoted, and going to school.

Commissioner Tobia stated it sounds like a lot of work was done on the individual pay difference per job title; now it sounds like there is movement on the Board to go ahead and have an across the board four percent increase; and he inquired as the Human Resources Director, and as someone who has looked at retention rates and differences between the individual job titles between the various counties, what would be better to move the County forward with less rates of attrition. He asked if the County should do a targeted surgical approach where the ones are found that are 20, 30, or 40 percent different so it can make sure once he or she is trained they will be retained, or would it be better for an across the board four percent increase.

Jerry Visco, Human Resources Director, replied given the amount of the gaps that exist across the board right now, the four percent across the board is a reasonable approach, because there is a lot of ground to cover over many job positions; he stated four percent is not going to get the County there as there are a handful of positions that will be significantly more of a gap to close; staff acknowledges the Board cannot get there from here; and in his opinion, he would prefer to see an across the board and begin to make those incremental steps as much as possible.

Commissioner Tobia inquired which one does Mr. Visco see a greater pay increase, the across the board four percent, or the differential staff was looking at.

Mr. Visco replied greater in terms of dollars, he is not sure he understands the question.

Commissioner Tobia asked if he would see a larger increase in his paycheck with the four percent increase he advocates or the cost difference between the average and whatever his title would be.

Mr. Visco responded it was greater than four percent; he is not quite at 10 percent; but his numbers are pretty much up there.

Commissioner Pritchett inquired if staff can give the Board a dollar amount of the difference between the proposed pay increases or if the four percent is done.

Mr. Visco replied those are in front of the Board right now. He advised moving from the tiered approach discussed in the budget workshop to the straight four percent is \$290,000, which would be the General Fund impact.

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Commissioner Pritchett stated with the studies Mr. Visco is saying need to be looked at that this is going to help alleviate part of the pain; and the Board will need to look at it over the next few years moving forward if it is something it wants to do. She stated she thinks if the Board does that, an outside salary study needs to be done, it is necessary that someone come in from the outside so it has an arm's length transaction on all of the information coming in; and someone needs to come in that is impartial to give the Board some information. She noted she is willing to make a commitment over the next few years on whatever the salary study comes back and see if that can be funded.

Commissioner Tobia asked if the Board were to go over the \$1.26 million could it potentially run into Charter Cap issues.

Jill Hayes, Budget Director, responded it depends on if the Board were to reallocate the additional resources in the proposed budget; there were some dollars set aside in Reserves above the 10 percent, which is the recommendation according to Policy; the Policy for Reserves states the County wants to be at 10 percent of the operating revenue; and the proposal given to the Board is above that 10 percent, so there is some flexibility in that.

Commissioner Tobia inquired if the Board did go over that and it did not reallocate the dollars, it would all of a sudden run into cap issues if it came out of General Fund.

Ms. Hayes replied there would be no plan to increase the proposed millage rate on the General Fund.

Commissioner Tobia asked if the Board is using dollars that have been allocated somewhere else, there is a lot of Parks money in the General Fund; and is it possible if the Board does not want to touch the Reserves that those line items could see cuts to those items.

Ms. Hayes replied that would be at the discretion of the Board.

Chairman Smith stated he thinks this effort by most of the Commissioners signals to the employees it has a responsibility to operate the County government as responsibility as it can; if a person wants to get down to the municia, he or she can say the Board is busting the cap, raising taxes, and doing all of these dastardly things, but in reality, the Board is not doing any of those things; and it is signaling to the employees that it recognizes this will not solve the salary discrepancies, but it does signal to them the Board cares about them, wants them to stay, and will do everything it can in its power to keep them. He stated he thinks the Board is being responsible despite the comments.

Motion by Commissioner Barfield to give a four percent pay increase across the board, and reallocate the funds above the 10 percent Reserves.

Motion dies due to lack of a second.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she does not know what the rush is until those numbers come back to the Board; and she requested the Board wait to get those numbers back from staff as she would like to know how much above the 10 percent it is.

The Board directed staff what those impacts will be to budget under the different scenarios of possible employee raises, and to bring it back to the Board for discussion.

ITEM VI.F.2., BOARD DISCUSSION, RE: DISPOSITION OF COUNTY OWNED GOLF COURSES (CONTINUED)

Dana Moriarty stated as a senior citizen, he golfs; he is retired and that is what he does for his recreation, very similar to those citizens who go to the senior's centers; and there are literally hundreds of seniors that play golf. He stated they pay to play golf; he does not expect the County to lose money; as a senior, he wants to be able to afford the golf he appreciates the County having; and they know it is a problem. He went on to say they were standing here a little over a year and a they were talking about this same subject; it is his belief the Board did an ill job in vetting Integrity Golf to see how financially stable they were; at the time, he thinks they were, but shortly after they took over, they lost their major financial backers; if the Board is going the route of another management company, which they are not opposed to, it has to be clear these people will come in under a solid contract they cannot get out of without good reason; and they must show they are financially responsible, they have the management capability to handle these golf courses that a very important to a lot of the citizens; and that the money generated does not necessarily have to make the County money, but it is sustainable for the people who are operating the golf courses. He added this past contract, the County received \$100,000 for sitting back and literally doing nothing, they let Integrity Golf run the courses; maybe the first couple of years the County does not insist the company give it \$100,000 if they are taking over total operations, maintenance, and so forth; and maybe it can gradual until they get their feet in the door and see what is going on. He stated like Commissioner Tobia said, Savannahs has been losing for 20 plus years; he does not know what the answer is; he does not want the people in Savannahs to have to suffer; he plays at Spessard Holland and Habitat; he occasionally will play at Savannahs, but it is a swamp; a person cannot play in the summer with the rains and mosquitoes, and the Board will not generate any revenue there; and the other two courses alone will be sustainable if the County wants to continue to maintain them. He asked the Board to give it a long, hard consideration, and do not just jump to any conclusions.

Don Ray, representing the Savannahs Homeowners Association, stated a lot of what he has heard today is impressive, and some of it is not so impressive; some of it is based on truth, and some of it is not based on truth; and he knows because he lives on Savannahs Golf Course. He went on to say they had two representatives that may be potential consultants; the younger man said some things that are not true; that golf course is in excellent shape; and he would pit it against the other two courses. He stated it is not because of Integrity Golf management, it is because of one man on the course, John Lewis, the supervisor that takes care of the course. He stated Integrity had a problem he noticed; he went to every one of the Golf Advisory Board meetings that they have had since Integrity has taken over; in those meetings, there were probably six executives with Integrity that did not have to be at that meeting, they were accountants, vice presidents of this and that; they are based in Orlando and drawing salaries that did not need to be at the Golf Advisory Board meetings; if Integrity is saying no money is being made and they are going to back out and violate the contract, maybe it is because they have six drivers driving the stage coach and one horse pulling it; and it is kind of sad to see. He pointed out the Board is seeing numbers he believe are skewed; the Commissioner Barfield's number of 84 percent he showed earlier, the administrative costs he can tell the Board, they are sitting in Orlando and going to meetings. He stated the bottom line is the Board has a big decision to make; there are kids that will be in need of some type of recreation; and if the kids do not have somewhere to go and something to do with County subsidized golf playing, maybe free, then maybe they will be in some of the jails the County will have to build.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she agrees with Commissioner Pritchett, she would prefer the County not be in the golf course business; however, another way to look at it, if the Board does decide to go that way, is to stick with the two that obviously create revenues, because those revenues can be used to fund other services the parks provide; and there is a plus side if it

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helps fund the Parks and Recreation Department. She stated she would be fine, until the Board has it looked at by a consultant, sticking with the two courses and reverting back with the other.

Commissioner Tobia stated he has two motions, and he thinks the Board will be more interested in the second of the motions. He went on to say the Board needs to look at the known and the unknown's; when the Board looked at this in 2015, it looked at this as three courses instead of the courses individually; he expressed his appreciation to Mary Ellen Donner, Parks and Recreation Director, as she is new and she had already been to all three golf courses; and she went back again to meet him and explain to him what was going on. He pointed out the known, the County has profit loss statements, and there is really nothing more important in running businesses than profit loss statements; these are Brevard County's numbers not his numbers; the Savannahs has negative \$66,000, negative \$90,000, negative \$106,000, negative \$183,000, negative \$141,000, negative \$112,000, negative \$140,000, and there are no positives; he does not know what it will be next year or the year after; but if he was a betting man, he thinks it will begin with a negative. He added there is years of data that shows the course loses resources; a golf consultant came up and was asked point blank to give the best case scenario; and the Board heard crickets. He stated there is a contract that was just provided to the Board about management of these; the Savannahs will cost the County, if it decides to stick with that, \$69,903.50; that will be offset by some of the revenue they derive; but remember the revenue they derive is negative revenue, so they are projected to lose a ton of money; the County is in the bad time, so the revenues are going to be extra bad in these quarters that are coming up; and the projected negative revenue in the third quarter alone is going to be almost \$60,000 to Savannahs. He noted what he is saying is all of the news is bad; there is no positive news in 20 years of data about the Savannahs Golf Course, with maybe the exception that it is a pretty course. He stated it has to stay a golf course; there are four public courses within 25 miles; three of those four courses are cheaper; it scares him the fact that the private sector has prices substantially less than the Savannahs; and he reiterated there is no good here.

Motion by Commissioner Tobia, seconded by Commissioner Isnardi, to direct staff to execute, or at least present to the Board, the reverter contract on the Savannahs Golf Course, so it could be turned over to the Homeowners Association, and let them deal with the issue.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she may be more apt to do this at the next meeting because she wants to know what kind of impact it will have on the community; she does not mind staff going forward and bringing the Board back some information, because she would like to be free from all of the golf courses.

Commissioner Tobia stated he would like to have an extra two weeks because he thinks the more information that comes out, the more it helps the case, but his issue is there is a continuity of service issue that is coming up; and he inquired if there is any way the Board could fulfill what Commissioner Pritchett is saying and handle with what the management bids that he received back.

Mr. Abbate replied it would be very difficult for the County to continue to run the courses effective after the end of the week with a management company for a shorter period of time; his understanding is the proposal the County received from the two management companies, is they are willing to work for less than the six months; but he does not know if there was an minimum period associated with any of that.

Commissioner Tobia stated he does not think there is that option; and he inquired if Mr. Abbate thinks there is that possibility.

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Mr. Abbate responded the question is can the Board continue operating the course for a two-week period after Saturday, they do not have the internal resources that would be available to do that now; whether or not to bring the motion back or what can be done with the course during that interim period, that is the unresolved issue that will have to be addressed.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she believes it is six months or less, so they could actually be hired now, and after a month if they were not needed any longer, that could be done.

Mr. Abbate stated he would think on a monthly basis, because that is what they proposed, if the County waited more than two weeks and waited a month, there is not a minimum six-month requirement, as he did discuss it with staff; and the proposal was on a monthly basis, so maybe not two weeks, but if the County went to four, it would at least have that opportunity.

Commissioner Pritchett stated he thought is the Board maybe need to figure out how to maintain these golf courses; that gives the Board a little time to have an analysis how it is affecting the community continuing forward; again, her hope is private entities are found to take over these golf courses; and she does not think she could make that decision today as she will need a little bit more information for staff to come back with witty ideas of how the property can be moved to other hands.

Commissioner Tobia stated he can count to three; and he asked Commissioner Pritchett to word the motion proposing to wait that month and then see what happens.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she was hoping to get the outside source come in and take care of the three golf courses currently; they have up to six months and the conversation can then be continued with Attorney Knox bringing back ideas of other alternatives of how the golf courses can be moved into other hands; it is an enterprise business; and hopefully there will be someone out there or maybe the homeowners can put together the funds to purchase the course or run it. She stated the responsible thing to do is move forward with something because they are the County's and it is its responsibility, and it cannot just pull the rug out.

Ms. Donner stated one of the two respondent companies did do it on a per month, as staff requested; the only hiccup she can see at this point is the golf carts and turf equipment that maintains the golf course are leased; and it is her understanding one of the two would not absorb the current leases that they would enter into new leases. She went on to add the only thing that may be in consideration in talking specifically about one, two, or three golf courses is if the leasing company is going to want to come in for a short period of one month as opposed to the other two could be up to six months.

Commissioner Barfield inquired if the County has spoken to any of those vendors; he stated what could possibly be done as a County is if it could some way take on that lease as they are going to be out of business.

Mr. Abbate noted the vendor staff is looking at of the two intends to have different leases, not to take assignment of the current lease; he thinks IGM is the preferred one of the two that staff would recommend at this point to move forward with; and they intend to have their own leases not assume the current existing lease.

Chairman Smith asked if their lease would include six months or less.

Ms. Donner replied that had not been determined; IGM in particular contacted a golf course leaser, they priced that separately, and it was not assuming Integrity's golf cart lease, because there was some discussion; and they want to make a clean break.

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Chairman Smith stated in the position the County is in, the Board needs a lot more information; to jump into any kind of motions of decisions right now if premature; and the Board does not know what the unintended consequences would be. He stated he agrees Savannahs is a red herring.

Chairman Smith called for a vote on the motion. Motion dies. Commissioners Pritchett, Barfield, and Smith voted nay.

RESULT:	DEFEATED [2 TO 3]
MOVER:	John Tobia, Commissioner District 3
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	John Tobia, Kristine Isnardi
NAYS:	Rita Pritchett, Jim Barfield, Curt Smith

Commissioner Tobia stated his next motion has been vetted by the County Attorney. He stated he would like to authorize the Request for Proposals to advertise today on the golf consultants, he thinks that presentation was good, he read through it, but he certainly does not want to offer a single source; he would like to waive purchasing policy, which gives the County the ability to advertise for seven days instead of 21 days; he would like to waive the negotiating committee and authorize the County Manager to negotiate the contract; and he would like to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement in lieu of bringing it back to the Board. He stated it is to make sure that there is no one who has equal or better qualifications than the gentleman who spoke earlier, to look at the courses independently, and do that as soon as possible.

Mr. Abbate asked if the selection from the RFP also going to be made by him.

Commissioner Tobia replied affirmatively.

Chairman Smith stated he questions seven days, as that is tough to do for companies to hear about it and to give the Board a responsible answer.

Commissioner Tobia stated 21 days is the default.

Chairman Smith stated 21 days is more workable to get the County where it wants to be; with IGM, the County will have someone moving forward that will manage during the interim period.

Mr. Abbate stated he believes that is how staff would proceed.

Commissioner Tobia inquired if the Board still has to make a decision on the management company.

Chairman Smith advised this motion needs to be voted on first.

The Board authorized Request for Proposals (RFP) to advertise today for golf consultants to take a look at Savannahs, Habitat, and Spessard Holland Golf Courses independently; waived selection and negotiating committees, and authorized the County Manager to negotiate the contract; authorized the Chairman to sign the contract in lieu of bringing it back to the Board.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Tobia, Commissioner District 3
SECONDER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

Chairman Smith stated now the Board has IGM and Cypress.

Commissioner Tobia inquired if Ms. Donner is going to look at the potential of finding out whether or not, he knows it is in the contract, about shortening that, or will she at least mention that to see what the possibilities are if that does happen.

Ms. Donner replied staff will have to get a contract written with International Golf Maintenance, and that can be month-to-month.

Chairman Smith asked if they are comfortable with six months, he does not see a reason why six months should not be done, because if the County is putting these golf courses up for sale, it does not have to be a fire sale and they be given away; and staff will need to negotiate with these companies going forward, so six months gives enough time to do that, and it gives IGM the time they feel comfortable with.

Commissioner Tobia asked if Chairman Smith has a contract for \$69,000, what would be better in the County's position, for it to be month-to-month or lock it in for six months and be \$69,000.

Chairman Smith replied the six months because someone will probably say they will do business with the County for one month and make it the absolute, the company may walk; and he inquired then where is it when the County still does not have someone to manage the golf courses.

Commissioner Tobia inquired which puts the County in the better bargaining position, and gives it better leverage, the \$204,000 for all three courses.

Attorney Knox replied it is going to be a double edged sword, because what Commissioner Tobia is talking about, the six-month period, starts the lucrative period of the golf business; if the County gives that six-month period to the management company, they will get the benefit of that and will offset whatever costs by that amount; and if, on the other hand, the County hires a consultant and they get someone that is going to buy the golf courses, the same thing would apply, they would want to get in there and make some money on it.

Commissioner Tobia stated his understanding with what he is looking at right here, there is a monthly fee, there is no percentage of gross; and he inquired if he is reading that correctly. He asked whether a lot of people are golfing or no one is golfing, the County is obliged to pay the same amount.

Attorney Knox replied affirmatively.

Chairman Smith stated he understands Commissioner Tobia's point, it would be great for the County only to be on the hook for \$69,000 if the golf course could be sold in a few days; but his point is, what if the company does not want to be bothered doing all they have to do to set up three golf courses for 30 days, and then they are out of here.

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Commissioner Tobia stated they already have a contract authorized by the Executive Vice President saying he will do it on a monthly compensation.

Commissioner Pritchett stated when this was discussed she thought staff said if it was up to six months or just two months, the County would get the best of both those worlds.

Ms. Donner replied the sixth month is January, and that is one of the highest months of revenue.

The Board accepted International Golf Management's proposal to run the Golf Courses on a month-to-month basis, for a period of up to six months.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

ITEM VIII.C., BOARD REPORT, RE: JIM BARFIELD, DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Barfield stated with the Central Florida Expressway Authority, they require the appointment be for two years; he came in at one-half a year; and that would be a year and one-half for him.

The Board extended Commissioner Barfield's appointment to the Central Florida Expressway Authority to May 24, 2019.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Rita Pritchett, Vice Chairwoman/Commissioner District 1
SECONDER:	Kristine Isnardi, Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Pritchett, Barfield, Tobia, Smith, Isnardi

Upon consensus of the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

CURT SMITH, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA