

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
OF THE
INFRASTRUCTURE SURTAX
INDEPENDENT CITIZEN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

AUGUST 21, 2025

**THURSDAY
10:00 A.M.**

**1st FLOOR TRAINING ROOM, FD&O
WEST PALM BEACH, FL**

MEMBERS:

John R. Smith, Chair
Lee Waring, Vice Chair
Maria S. Antuña
Debra A. Chandler
Mark S. Feldmesser
Patrick J. Franklin
Sandra Hammerstein
Maziar Keshavarz
Rex Kirby
Frank D. Lewis
Christine M. Thrower-Skinner
Kimberly Weston

COUNTY STAFF PRESENT:

Daniella Alcin, Budget Analyst II, Office of Financial Management and Budget (OFMB)
Sherry Brown, Director IV, OFMB
Diane Capria, Fiscal Specialist III, OFMB
Steve Carrier, Assistant County Engineer, Engineering and Public Works
Alicia DeAbreu, Division Director II, OFMB
Fernando DelDago, Director I, Facilities Development and Operations (FDO)
Bob Hamilton, Division Director I, Parks and Recreation
Michael Jones, Chief Assistant County Attorney
Eric McClellan, Division Director IV, FDO
Michael Pitter, Planning Technician, FDO

ALSO PRESENT:

Jonathan Jordan, Principal/Senior Project Manager, Jacobs Project Management Co.
Stuart Patterson, Senior Project Manager, Jacobs Project Management Co.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE STAFF PRESENT:

Danielle Freeman, Deputy Clerk
Karla Perez, Board Meetings Specialist

1. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Debra A. Chandler, Mark S. Feldmesser, Patrick J. Franklin, Sandra Hammerstein, Maziar Keshavarz, Rex Kirby, Frank Lewis, John R. Smith, Christine Thrower-Skinner, Lee Waring, and Kimberly Weston

Absent: Maria S. Antuña

3. Approve Minutes-May 15, 2025

MOTION to approve the minutes. Motion by Debra Chandler, seconded by Lee Waring, and carried 11-0.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Due to technical difficulties the presentations could not be displayed.)

4. Revenue Report

a. Presentation by Sherry Brown

Ms. Brown announced that they were experiencing technical difficulties, but she would deliver a synopsis of the revenue report until the issue was resolved.

Ms. Brown reported that collections decreased by 3 percent in May, following a 5.5 percent increase recorded in April. She also added that expenditures would continue through FY2026 despite the sales tax collection ending on December 31st.

Ms. Brown stated that she wanted to review the projects that required additional funding, but she preferred to use the projectors to show the Committee.

Discussion ensued.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Item 7 was taken up at this time.)

7. Budget Transfers/project Presentations

a. Engineering and Public Works

1. Type 1: 25-08 - Sections of Palm Beach Lakes Blvd - Striping
2. Type 1: 25-09 - Congress Ave over LWDD Lat.24 Canal - Bridge Replacement
3. Type 1: 25-10 - Congress Ave-Palm Beach Lakes Blvd to 45th St -Resurfacing
4. Type 1: 25-11 - Westgate Ave-Military Tr to Congress Ave – Resurfacing
5. Type 1: 25-12 - 10th Ave N-Congress to I-95 – Resurfacing
6. Type 1: 25-13 - Royal Palm Beach Blvd-40th St to Persimmon Blvd – Resurfacing
7. Type 1: 25-14 - Purdy Lane-E3 Canal to Kirk Rd – Resurfacing
8. Type 1: 25-15 - Jog Rd-Forest Hill Blvd to Summit Blvd – Resurfacing
9. Type 1: 25-16 - Bolles Canal/John L. Evans Rd-US 27 West for 5 Miles – Resurfacing
10. Type 1: 25-17 - Seminole Dr from Lantana Rd to Tallulah Rd – Pathways

Steve Carrier, Assistant County Engineer, addressed the 10 projects for which a Type 1 Transfer had recently been completed by the Engineering and Public Works Department.

He discussed that the department closed eight resurfacing projects which included projects 3-9 with expenditures over \$5 million to complete. He continued with Project 10 stating that it was a pathway project that was completed by FDOT in which the funds were transferred into the Engineering IST reserve account.

In addition, Mr. Carrier reported that the funding for project 2 was \$1.1 million and was completed for \$1,002,814 while project 1 was completed with an actual cost of less than \$30,000, significantly under its allocated budget of \$100,000.

Mr. Carrier stated that the remaining \$70,000 funds from project 1 were transferred to the Engineering IST reserve account for future project use pending approval from the Board of County Commissioner (BCC).

Discussion ensued regarding the completed projects discussed.

Mr. Smith asked if there were reports that could be completed without the use of the projectors.

Ms. Chandler confirmed with staff that the presentations that could not be displayed could be emailed to the members.

Ms. Brown discussed the current project list which totaled just under 1 billion dollars. She reported that increased construction costs would require a request for additional funding that would be brought to the BCC for approval in September as part of the FY26 budget process. She further highlighted specific departments that required additional funding.

In addition, she stated that the estimated revenue for the current fiscal year would be \$153 million and the projected revenue for fiscal year 2026 is about \$51 million. A little over \$1 billion was projected to be collected with surplus collections being used to allocate additional funding for the projects in need.

Responding to Mr. Smith's inquiry about whether a vote was needed for this item, Ms. Brown said that a recommendation on the additional funding was needed.

Mr. Smith stated that he would take questions first before pursuing a vote on this item.

Mr. Waring requested clarification regarding the allocation of the additional funding being requested. Ms. Brown confirmed that the funds would be allocated from the surtax funds. Ms. Brown continued her presentation by discussing the specific financial needs for various projects, specifying that \$4 million was proposed for allocation to detention facilities; \$172,000 for a pavilion replacement; \$1.561 million for several parking lot lighting replacements; \$8.259 million for aquatic facility repair and replacement; \$663,000 for fresh water boat ramp replacement; and a little more than \$1 million in additional funds for playground replacements.

Discussion ensued.

Ms. Chandler made the motion to approve the additional funding request.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Chandler to hold off on her motion until after discussion.

Mr. Mazier inquired if the request for additional funding was related to a previous request submitted for an aquatic facility that was being renovated, and Ms. Brown confirmed this request was in addition to that one. Ms. Brown added that the guaranteed maximum price (GMP) had come in higher than what they anticipated.

Discussion continued.

Bob Hamilton, Parks and Recreation Division Director I, clarified that the need for additional funds was due to the result of a 50% increase in the GMP.

Mr. Mazier inquired about the project's initial budget. Ms. Brown stated that it was originally budgeted for \$2.3 million but would increase to \$9.2 million pending BCC approval.

MOTION to approve the revenue report and the additional funding request. Motion by Debra Chandler

Discussion ensued regarding how to proceed with approving the additional funding request.

The motion was seconded by Frank Lewis and carried 11-0.

Discussion continued regarding the projects that would require additional funding.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Item 5 was taken up at this time.)

5. Expense Report

a. Presentation by Jacobs Project Management Co.

Jonathan Jordan, Principal/Senior Project Manager for Jacobs Project Management Co., summarized a breakdown of the expenditure report. He also incorporated the statuses of upcoming projects along with the associated costs.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Item 6 was taken up at this time.)

6. Proposed Funding of FD&O and Parks Project Shortfall

Mr. Hamilton presented details regarding the renovations for the Aqua Crest pool located in Delray Beach, with a current budget of \$23 million, and stated that the design was currently pending.

A timeline was provided by Mr. Hamilton specifying the completion of design by early to mid-2026, construction completion by fall of 2026, and the overall project completion by 2028.

a. Presentation by OFMB

See earlier in minutes.

b. Committee Member Comment/Questions/Answers

See earlier in minutes.

c. Committee Recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners

See earlier in minutes.

Mr. Smith confirmed that Item 6.a, b, and c had been incorporated in Ms. Brown's presentation and the motion made earlier in the meeting.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Item 7.c was taken up at this time.)

c. Facilities, Development and Operations

Eric McClellan, FDO Division Director IV, affirmed that the content for the slideshow was based on the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office category, which pertained to tangible personal property.

He also announced that a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was approved by the BCC and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO), to delegate authority to the FDO department director for the reimbursement of expenditures in the following four categories: radio replacements, vehicle replacements, public safety equipment, and back-end car cameras.

Mr. McClellan confirmed that he would submit the presentation to the members, and it would also be posted on the website.

8. Other Committee Business

Mr. Waring thanked everyone for a productive meeting, acknowledging its success despite the technical challenges.

Ms. Brown confirmed that future meetings would include printouts to ensure this issue doesn't happen again.

Ms. Chandler also requested that the presentations be sent via email to the members, and Mr. Smith confirmed that staff would submit them prior to the meeting.

9. Public Comment

No comments were made.

10. Adjourn

At 10:45 a.m., the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

MOTION to adjourn. Motion by Debra Chandler, seconded by Christine Thrower-Skinner, and carried 11-0.

APPROVED:

Chair/Vice Chair