

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

NOVEMBER 20, 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
Jason A. Crosby, Director II, Facilities Development and Operations (FDO)
May Cheng, Senior Professional Engineer, Engineering and Public Works
Alicia DeAbreu, Division Director III, OFMB
Fernando DelDago, Director I, FDO
Bob Hamilton, Division Director I, Parks and Recreation
Fattoush Jafar, Traffic Signal and Lighting Design Manager, Engineer and Public Works
Michael Jones, Chief Assistant County Attorney, 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:

Karla Perez, Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Debra A. Chandler, Mark S. Feldmesser, Rex Kirby, Frank Lewis, John R. Smith, and Kimberly Weston

Absent: Maria S. Antuña, Patrick J. Franklin, Sandra Hammerstein, Maziar Keshavarz, Christine Thrower-Skinner, and Lee Waring

(CLERK'S NOTE: No vote could be taken on Item 3 due to lack of a quorum.)

3. Approve Minutes- August 21, 2025

See later in minutes.

4. Revenue Report

a. Presentation by Sherry Brown

Ms. Brown presented the revenue report. She reported that \$142.8 million was collected to date, accrued from interest rates and sales tax. She also informed the committee that the sales tax would conclude on December 31st, 2025.

Mr. Feldmesser requested clarification on the quarterly adjustments presented. In response, Ms. Brown stated that the adjustments applied to small businesses that do not maintain a monthly filing schedule.

Ms. Brown also informed the committee that the One Penny Sales Tax would sunset on December 31st 2025, and the School's Surtax began on January 1st, 2026.

(CLERK'S NOTE: Maria S. Antuña joined the meeting.)

(CLERK'S NOTE: Item 3 was taken up at this time.)

3. Approve Minutes- August 21, 2025

MOTION to approve the minutes. Motion by Debra Chandler, seconded by Frank Lewis, and carried 7-0.

5. Expense Report

a. Presentation by Jacobs Project Management CO.

Jonathan Jordan, Principal/Senior Project Manager for Jacobs Project Management Co., provided a breakdown of the expenditure report. He also presented the Tracking Report detailing the completed, initiated, and project initiatives for the upcoming FY2026.

In addition. Mr. Jordan presented a summary report outlining expenditures for the county departments. He stated that the engineering department incurred total expenses of \$93,888,738; Facilities, Development, and Operations a total of \$205,000,125; and Parks and Recreation incurred the largest expense increase totaling \$23.8 billion.

Responding to Ms. Chandler's inquiry, Mr. Jordan stated that the pool redevelopment project at Lake Lytal Park produced the largest increase.

Mr. Feldmesser inquired about the revisions from the initial proposed budget to the amended budget.

Ms. Brown stated that the initial development for the projects began in 2014-2015 with a projected ten-year budget plan and was compromised by the impacts of construction costs during COVID.

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

a. Review of August 21, 2025, Presentation by OFMB

Ms. Brown provided an overview of the presentation that was scheduled for August 21, 2025, but was postponed due to technical difficulties. She reported an increase in costs in the detention facility's interior and exterior work within the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO).

In addition, Ms. Brown noted that Parks and Recreation had various projects to restore and repair boat ramps, pavilions, and parking lot lighting.

Ms. Brown reported that revenues collected from the surtax and interest earnings were approximately \$838 million and were sufficient to cover project funding requirements.

b. Committee Member Comment/Questions/Answers

Mr. Kirby inquired about the potential impact of eliminating property taxes.

Ms. Brown confirmed that property taxes funded parks and that a meeting would be held with the Board of County Commissioner (BCC) to propose eight house bills, one which would include the elimination of taxes on homesteaded properties.

Discussion ensued regarding the impacts of eliminating property taxes on homesteaded properties and the effects on local governments.

7. Budget Transfers/Project Presentations

a. Engineering and Public Works

1. Type 2:26-01 Hypoluxo Road & Military Trail (Signals and Signal Systems)

Mr. Carrier discussed project Type 2 and indicated that a formal vote was required to approve additional funding for a specific traffic signal.

Mr. Carrier stated that the total estimated project cost was \$1.8 million, and an additional \$1.15 million was being requested for project completion.

In addition, Mr. Carrier noted that upon approval, the funding source would be from the engineering reserves sales tax account which had a balance of \$5 million.

Mr. Carrier introduced Fattoush Jafar as the Traffic Signal and Lighting Design Manager.

Ms. Jafar specified that cost increases were contingent on contract fees, mass arm destruction, and stricter traffic signal requirements resulting from hurricane impacts.

Ms. Antuña requested the original approved \$650k project budget date.

Mr. Carrier responded that the initial approval date was in 2017 for an estimated \$450k and followed a reconsideration plan in 2021 for the approved amount increase to \$650k.

MOTION to approve the budget transfer and the additional funding request. Motion by Debra Chandler, seconded by Maria Antuña, and carried 7-0.

b. Parks and Recreation

1. Type 1:26-01 Carlin Beach Pavilion Replacement

Mr. Hamilton discussed the Carlin Beach Pavilion Replacement and provided an update on the redevelopment of Bert Winter's Park. He reported that \$1.9 million had been allocated to surtax funding and Architecture Green was the current project design consultant.

In addition, Mr. Hamilton noted that the park was not open to the public and had projections for final completion and reopening for November of 2026.

c. Facilities, Development and Operations

Mr. McClellan reported that budget allocations had been distributed to PBSO, and he confirmed that the radio project, which included radio accessories, portable radios, mobile radios and console base stations, was fully funded and completed

In addition, Mr. McClellan mentioned that there were four annual allocations for vehicle replacements, one allocation to public safety equipment, and one allocation for in-car cameras. He also reported that 358 police vehicles were replaced.

8. Other Committee Business

Responding to Mr. Smith's inquiry, Ms. Brown confirmed that all sales tax revenue had been allocated solely on approved infrastructure surtax projects.

Ms. Antuña inquired about the sales tax revenue forecast for 2026.

Ms. Brown stated that the 2026 sales tax collection period is projected to be brief, with an estimated revenue of \$30 million, after which a decrease was anticipated.

9. Public Comment

No comments were made.

10. Adjourn

At 11:01 a.m., the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

Chair/Vice Chair