

## Tentative Budget Hearing Minutes

Indian River Mosquito Control District

September 14, 2021 @ 5:01 PM

The Indian River Mosquito Control District Board of Commissioners held a tentative budget hearing on September 14, 2021, at the District Office.

**Present:** Janice Broda (Chair), Matt Erpenbeck (Vice-Chair) and Tom Lowther (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Staff:** Sherry Burroughs (Executive Director), Lisa Ridley (Finance Director) and Sarah McInnis (Operations Director)

**Visitors:** Bob Broda

I. **Call to Order** – Chair Broda called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

II. **Determination of the Millage Rate**

Sherry reported that the first order of business is for the Board to determine the millage rate. Two scenarios were provided for Board consideration; Option 1 with 0.2430 millage rate (rolled back rate) and Option 2 with 0.2515 millage rate. The Board had previously approved the tentative millage rate of 0.2515 at the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, which is the same millage rate as the last five years.

**Commissioner Lowther made a motion to select Option 2 and adopt millage rate of 0.2515.**

**Commissioner Erpenbeck seconded the motion. Chair Broda supported the rolled back millage rate, stating that she believed there are sufficient reserves available, there will be additional robust increases in the tax base and we are still in a time of uncertainty with individuals struggling financially. She stressed the need to focus on their fiduciary responsibilities and go with the rolled back rate.**

Sherry announced that for FY 2021-2022, the District will use a millage rate of 0.2515 which is 3.5% above the rolled-back rate of 0.2430.

III. **Discussion of Reason for Inability to Use Rolled-back Millage**

Lisa reported the District is using a millage higher than the rolled-back due to the uncertainty of expenses the District will incur in the upcoming year, including, but not limited to threatening tropical weather patterns, arbovirus outbreaks, increasing costs of goods and services, continued effects COVID-19. The population of Vero Beach has increased by 15% over the last decade. IRMCD has maintained the same number of full-time employees for the last (5) years. Increases in population increases the demand for mosquito control service. Significant weather events have also been considered as they have a negative budgetary impact. The implications are immediate in the form of preparation, however there is also a long-term cost effect if extensive damages occur. In July, the Consumer Price Index rose .5 percent; rising 5.4 percent over the last 12 months. Decreasing revenue will have financial implications that effect FY 2022-2023. Less funding in the beginning balance will impact replacement equipment purchases and routine operational costs. Subsequent fiscal years may require a millage rate increase due to a change in the cash position. The millage rate of 0.2515 will allow the District to adequately operate during FY 2021-2022.

IV. **Public Comment** - None.

V. **Separate Order of Business**

A. **Adoption of the Proposed Millage Rate**

**Commissioner Lowther made a motion to adopt Resolution #2021-003 to set the tentative millage rate at 0.2515 for FY2021-2022 (which is 3.5% above the rolled-back rate of 0.2430). Commissioners Lowther and Erpenbeck approved; Chair Broda was opposed. The motion passed at 5:08 PM.**

**B. Adoption of the Proposed Budget**

Commissioner Lowther made a motion to adopt Resolution #2021-004, setting the proposed budget of \$6,852,774 for FY 2021-2022. Commissioners Lowther and Erpenbeck approved; Chair Broda was opposed. The motion passed at 5:08 PM.

**VI. Date of Final Budget Hearing – September 21, 2021 at 5:01 PM.**

**VII. Adjournment**

Commissioner Lowther made the motion to adjourn. The Board unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 PM.

Attest:

  
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