

Brevard County
Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan
Citizen Oversight Committee

September 15, 2023 – 8:30 to 11:30 am
Brevard County Government Center
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Building C, 3rd Floor, Florida Room
Viera, Florida 32940

- I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Agenda
- IV. Approval of the Minutes
- V. Progress and Fiscal Reports
 - a) Monthly Progress Report – Virginia Barker, Director
 - b) Monthly Revenue Graph & Financial Statements – Molly Bryan, Accountant I
- VI. Other Reports and Special Presentations
 - a) Florida’s Horseshoe Crab Watch Program and Spawning in Brevard – Holly Abeels, Florida Sea Grant Extension Agent
 - b) Seagrass Monitoring Update for the Indian River Lagoon – Lauren Hall, Environmental Scientist III, St. Johns River Water Management District
 - c) Save Our Indian River Lagoon Communication Materials and Public Engagement – Brandon Smith, Environmental Specialist III
 - d) Videos
 - i. Septic Smart Public Service Announcements
 - ii. My Lagoon Story – Don Deis
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. General Public Comments
- X. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members
 - a) Citizen Oversight Committee Succession Planning – Dr. John Windsor
- XI. Adjournment

**Save Our Indian River Lagoon
Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes**

August 18, 2023 – 8:30 a.m.
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Bldg. C,
3rd Floor, Florida Room
Viera, FL 32940

Members Present:

Expertise	Member	Present	Alternate	Present
Science	Lorraine Koss	Yes	Charles Venuto	Yes
Technology	Vinnie Taranto-Vice Chair	Yes	Don Deis	Yes
Education	Stephany Eley	Yes	Kimberly Newton	Yes
Finance	Todd Swingle-Chair	Yes	Curt Smith	Yes
Tourism	Bobby Putnam	Yes	Laurilee Thompson	Yes
Real Estate	Barbara Wall-Scanlon	Yes	Eric Mannes	Yes
Lagoon Advocacy	John Windsor	Yes	Terry Casto	No

Staff Present:

Virginia Barker, Brevard County Natural Resources Management Director
Heather Balsler, Assistant County Attorney
Terri Breeden, Environmental Section Supervisor
Molly Bryan, Accountant I
Jenny Hansen, Environmental Scientist
Jeanne Allen, Engineer III
Brandon Smith, Environmental Specialist III
Anthony Gubler, Environmental Specialist III
Dominic Dudai, Environmental Specialist I
Matt Badolato, Associate Environmental Specialist
Aleah Ataman, Associate Environmental Specialist
Abbey Gering, Associate Environmental Specialist
Jaculin Watkins, Executive Secretary

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

A quorum was established.

III. Approval of the Agenda

Lorraine Koss moved to approve the Agenda; seconded by Stephaney Eley.

There was no public comment for the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Vinnie Taranto moved to approve the Minutes; seconded by Lorraine Koss. There was no public comment for the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

V. Progress and Fiscal Reports

a. Monthly Progress Report – Virginia Barker, Director

The Monthly Progress Report was given by Virginia Barker. Discussion ensued. Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

b. Monthly Revenue Graph and Financial Statements – Molly Bryan, Accountant I

The Monthly Revenue Graph and Financial Statements were given by Molly Bryan.

c. Quarterly Financial & Grant Statements – Molly Bryan, Accountant I

The Quarterly Financial and Grant Statements were reviewed by Molly Bryan. Discussion ensued. Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

d. Quarterly Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Performance Table Update – Terri Breeden, Environmental Section Supervisor

The Quarterly Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Performance Table Update was presented by Terri Breeden. Discussion ensued. Staff and Dani Straub, City of Melbourne, responded to the Committee's questions.

VI. Other Reports and Special Presentations

a. Sounds of the Lagoon – Barry Walton, Endless Media, LLC

Barry Walton from Endless Media LLC, along with Kathie Elias, Executive Director, Eau Gallie Arts District, introduced the Sounds of the Lagoon video.

b. Evaluating Ecosystem Degradation and Stakeholder Livelihood in a Marine Protected Area: A Case Study in Mosquito Lagoon, Florida – Hannah V. Herrero, PhD.

Dr. Hannah Herrero presented a Mosquito Lagoon case study, evaluating ecosystem degradation and stakeholder livelihood. Discussion ensued. Dr. Herrero responded to the Committee's questions.

c. CCA Florida Restocking and Habitat Restoration – Frank Gidus, Director of Habitat and Environmental Restoration

Frank Gidus from the Coastal Conservation Association, Florida Chapter, presented information on their restocking efforts of different species of fish in

Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting
MINUTES – August 18, 2023

Florida and information on other programs they have developed to engage the public in conservation efforts. Discussion ensued. Mr. Gidus responded to the Committee's questions.

d. Videos

i. Grand Canal Geotube Dewatering

A video was presented on geotube dewatering.

ii. Grand Canal Interstitial Water Treatment

A video was presented on interstitial water treatment.

(Chair Todd Swingle left the meeting at this time. Vice-Chair Vinnie Taranto took over Chair duties.)

iii. My Lagoon Story – Barbara Wall-Scanlon

Committee member Barbara Wall-Scanlon's My Lagoon Story video was presented.

VIII. Old Business

No old business was heard.

IX. General Public Comments

Public Comments were heard.

X. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members

Final comments were heard.

XI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.



Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan September 2023 Progress Report

WORK COMPLETED THIS MONTH:

- Satellite Beach Hedgecock/Grabowsky & DeSoto Fields Septic to Sewer project complete
- Leaky Lateral Repairs – 419 of 649 detected private sewer leaks have been repaired; 63 grant applications received; 51 payments processed
- Quick Connects –9 more reimbursements processed of 112 to date; 312 agreements executed. Over 250 sewer connection applications have been requested by homeowners since the most recent mailing
- Septic Upgrades –15 more reimbursement processed of 190 to date; 337 total agreements executed
- Sykes Creek Phase 1 Muck Dredging – Dredging complete for Phase 1; 76,497 cubic yards removed
- University of Central Florida conducted monitoring of oysters at McNabb Park. Three months after deployment, both size classes of oysters in gabions had grown larger. The population of adult oysters in gabions decreased by 33% while the spat population decreased by 12%. One month after deployment, the number of gardened oysters on prisms decreased from 195 to 101 per square meter.
- Videos: Don Deis' My Lagoon Story, Septic Maintenance PSAs
- \$100M Indian River Lagoon and other State Grant Programs – prepared and submitted 21 septic to sewer funding requests, 14 for muck removal, 4 for mobile home park conversion to sewer; 2 for package plant conversion to central sewer; funding for 200 homeowner quick connects to sewer, 100 homeowner septic upgrades, 2 innovative technologies, 1 water quality model and 1 resilience model

WORK UNDERWAY THIS MONTH:

- 2023 Audit – responses to all file requests and questions complete; Report expected in November
- 6 Derelict Vessels Removed
- South Central C Septic-to-Sewer – 92.8% complete; awaiting FPL power connection
- Micco Sewer Line Extension – 89% complete; lift station plumbing and electrical work underway; partial site restoration underway
- Brevard County Septic-to-Sewer – 100% design underway and preparing permit submittals for South Banana Zone B and Merritt Island Zones F; 75% design review complete for North Merritt Island Zone E; 75% under review for Sykes Creek M; 75% design underway for Micco Zone B, Sykes Creek Zone R, Sykes Creek Zone T; FPL installing power line for Sykes Creek Zone N
- Basin 958 Pioneer Rd – Design for a retaining wall is underway
- Grand Canal Muck Dredging – Dredging underway; 277,728 cubic yards removed
- Sykes Creek Phase 2 Muck Dredging – Gopher tortoise relocation scheduled for this month
- Eau Gallie Muck Dredging – Task Order executed for engineering services; working on bid documents
- Canaveral South Muck Dredging – Preparing procurement documents for engineering services
- Oyster Bars - Brevard Zoo is constructing 4,700 square feet of oyster bars in the Northern Indian River
- TDC-funded Recreation and Manatee Field Guides – 70,000 brochures arrived; 33 sign panels ordered
- FDEP Innovative Technology Grant – AECOM's algae harvesting demonstration project is underway
- Videos underway: Bobby Putnam's My Lagoon Story, AECOM Algae Harvesting, and Septic to Sewer Quick Connects



PRESENTATIONS THIS MONTH:

September 7 – Suntree Country Club Environmental Committee

UPCOMING LAGOON SCIENCE FORUMS AND PUBLIC EVENTS:

September 12 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Lab Technique Training: Pipetting 101](#)

September 13 – AECOM Demonstration of Harvesting Algae from the Indian River Lagoon

September 21 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Introduction of Citizen Science Projects](#)

September 21 – Community Advocacy for Merritt Island – [Bringing Back Our Blue Lagoon](#)

October 19-20 – Marine Resources Council [Low Impact Development Conference](#)

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES:

September 9- Brevard Zoo’s Restore Our Shores [Oyster Bar Supply Making](#)

September 12 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Particle Analysis - Email Veronica To Register](#)

September 11- Brevard Zoo’s Restore Our Shores [Reef Building](#)

September 13- Brevard Zoo’s Restore Our Shores [Reef Building](#)

September 14 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Fish Processing - Email Missy Weiss To Register](#)

September 16 – Marine Resources Council [International Coastal Cleanup](#)

September 16 – City of Melbourne [International Coastal Cleanup](#)

September 21 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Fish Processing - Email Missy Weiss To Register](#)

September 27 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Native Plant Nursery - Email Wyatt To Register](#)

October 6 – Marine Resources Council [First Friday Litter Patrol](#)

Space Coast Surfrider Foundation Blue Water Task Force Monitoring – [Email Chis Baker for more information](#)

Ocean Research & Conservation Association Pollution Mapping equipment cleaning – [Email Veronica to signup](#)

Marine Resources Council super-clam monitoring, storm drain marking in Melbourne, and Concrete Creations Program seeking volunteers – [Email Caitlin Bagnall to register](#)

Rotary Park rain garden maintenance or storm drain marking in Cocoa – [Email Carlos Cuevas for opportunities](#)

Pineda Waterway Warriors Cleanup – Every 2nd Saturday under Tropical Trail Exit overpass – [Email Sherill for more information](#)

WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA, NEWSLETTER, AND REPORT LINKS:

[Lagoon Loyal Outreach & Engagement Landing Page](#)

[Save Our Indian River Lagoon Website](#)

[Save Our Indian River Lagoon Facebook](#)

[Save Our Indian River Lagoon Instagram](#)

[Save Our Indian River Lagoon YouTube](#)

[Sign up for our Monthly Newsletter](#)

[Sign up for our Weekly Harmful Algal Bloom Reports](#)

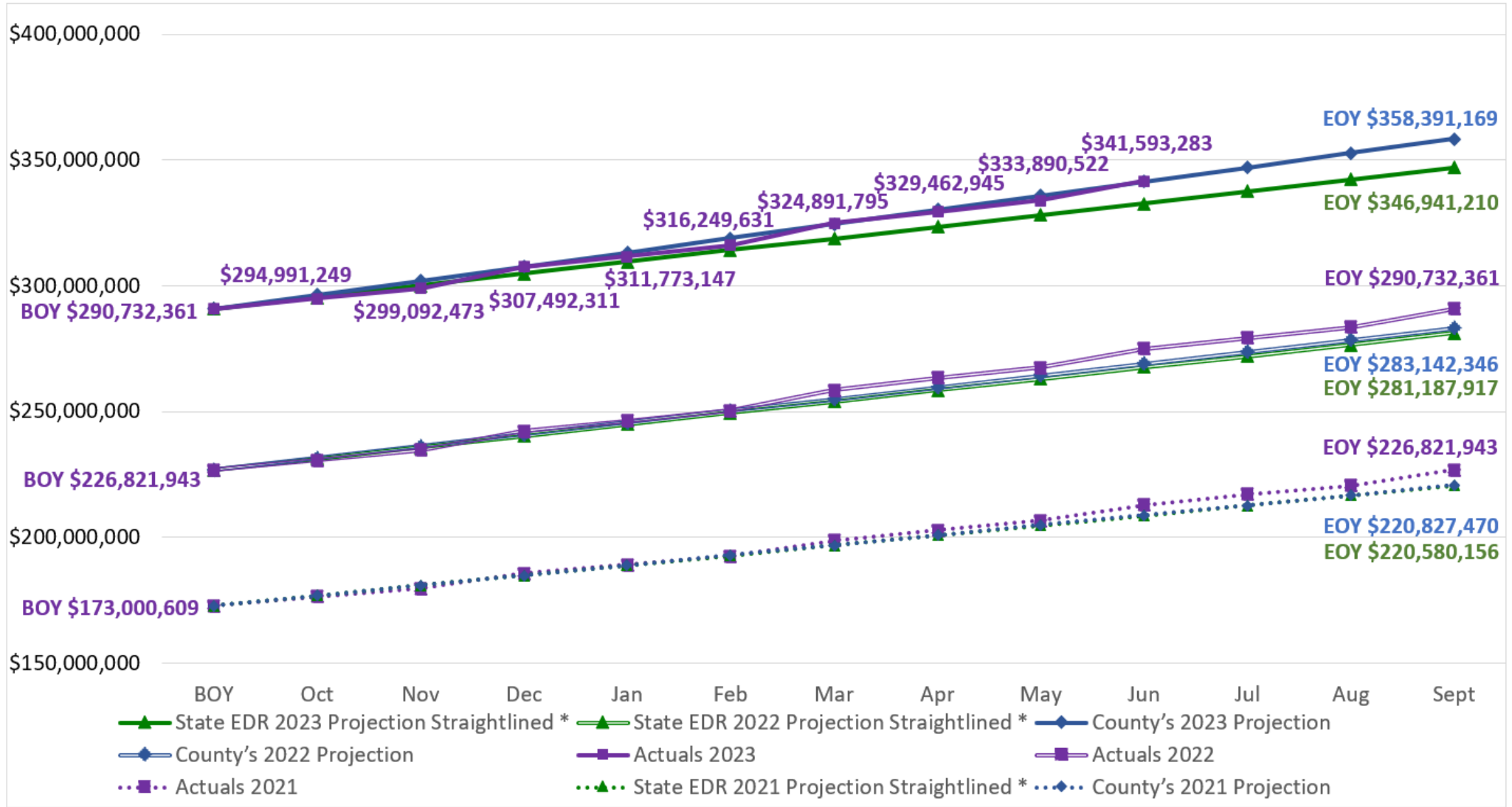
FUTURE TOPICS FOR SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

1. Lagoon Project Feasibility Study Update by St Johns River Water Management District
2. Regional Wastewater Treatment Feasibility Study by the Economic Development Commission
3. Surface Water Remediation Technologies
4. Turf grass options and alternatives
5. Lagoon Projects - managed and funded by other agencies, entities, or grant programs
6. Nutrient Loading Impacts of Reclaimed Water
7. Project Performance Measurements and Cost-Effectiveness Results
8. Inground Nitrogen Reducing Bioreactor Septic Drain Field Pilot Project Findings
9. Super Clam Restoration and Aquaculture Stimulus Projects

Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Graph Fiscal Years 20-21, 21-22 and 22-23

* Economic and Demographic Research Data is sourced from Florida's Office of Economic & Demographic Research using their Estimation of Realized and Unrealized Tax Revenues Table

- Projected and Actual Data is from Systems, Applications and Products program
- EDR-Economic and Demographic Research Data, BOY-Beginning of Year, EOY-End of Year
- For Screen Readers use the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Chart Fiscal Year 20-21 to Current Fiscal Year Table
- Updated the State EDR Beginning Of Year to match Actuals End Of Year to the prior Fiscal Years



Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Chart Fiscal Year 20-21 to Current Fiscal Year

Economic and Demographic Research Data is sourced from Florida's Office of Economic & Demographic Research using their Estimation of Realized and Unrealized Tax Revenues Table

- Projected and Actual Data is from Systems, Applications and Products program
- EDR-Economic and Demographic Research Data, BOY-Beginning of Year, EOY-End of Year
- For Screen Readers use the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Revenues Cumulative Chart Fiscal Year 20-21 to Current Fiscal Year Table

Month	State EDR 2023 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2023 Projection	Actuals 2023	State EDR 2022 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2022 Projection	Actuals 2022	State EDR 2021 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2021 Projection	Actuals 2021
BOY	\$290,732,361	\$290,732,361	\$290,732,361	\$226,821,943	\$226,821,943	\$226,821,943	\$173,000,609	\$173,000,609	\$173,000,609
Oct	\$295,416,432	\$296,370,595	\$294,991,249	\$231,352,441	\$231,515,310	\$230,665,218	\$176,965,571	\$176,986,181	\$176,417,554
Nov	\$300,100,502	\$302,008,829	\$299,092,473	\$235,882,939	\$236,208,677	\$234,614,208	\$180,930,533	\$180,971,752	\$179,767,028
Dec	\$304,784,573	\$307,647,063	\$307,492,311	\$240,413,437	\$240,902,044	\$242,347,634	\$184,895,496	\$184,957,324	\$185,628,087
Jan	\$309,468,644	\$313,285,297	\$311,773,147	\$244,943,935	\$245,595,411	\$246,260,610	\$188,860,458	\$188,942,896	\$189,094,044
Feb	\$314,152,715	\$318,923,531	\$316,249,631	\$249,474,432	\$250,288,778	\$250,342,140	\$192,825,420	\$192,928,467	\$192,467,433
Mar	\$318,836,785	\$324,561,765	\$324,891,795	\$254,004,930	\$254,982,145	\$258,706,447	\$196,790,382	\$196,914,039	\$198,814,528
Apr	\$323,520,856	\$330,199,999	\$329,462,945	\$258,535,428	\$259,675,512	\$263,179,622	\$200,755,345	\$200,899,611	\$202,841,586
May	\$328,204,927	\$335,838,233	\$333,890,522	\$263,065,926	\$264,368,879	\$267,470,408	\$204,720,307	\$204,885,183	\$206,775,862
Jun	\$332,888,998	\$341,476,467	\$341,593,283	\$267,596,424	\$269,062,246	\$275,034,484	\$208,685,269	\$208,870,754	\$212,965,332
Jul	\$337,573,068	\$347,114,701		\$272,126,922	\$273,755,612	\$279,374,282	\$212,650,231	\$212,856,326	\$216,998,992
Aug	\$342,257,139	\$352,752,935		\$276,657,419	\$278,448,979	\$283,600,235	\$216,615,194	\$216,841,898	\$220,555,946
Sept	\$346,941,210	\$358,391,169		\$281,187,917	\$283,142,346	\$290,732,361	\$220,580,156	\$220,827,470	\$226,821,943

FY 2023 Monthly Financial Statement

Save Our Indian River Lagoon

Date Range 01 October 2022 – 05 September 2023

*Total Assigned YTD-Year to Date, includes all stages of accounting for expenditures, with data derived from Systems, Applications and Products program

Revenues	Budget	Total Assigned YTD*	% Earned
Taxes	\$ 58,146,715	\$ 50,860,922	87.47%
Interest Earned	\$ 2,314,053	\$ 6,485,258	280.26%
Other Federal Grants	\$ 5,932,562	\$ 339,653	5.73%
Federal Grants Hurricane Irma	\$ 1,357,269	\$ -	0.00%
Other State Grants	\$ 13,649,974	\$ 286,358	2.10%
State Grants Hurricane Irma	\$ 226,212	\$ -	0.00%
Tourism Development Council Grants	\$ 81,428	\$ -	0.00%
Other Physical Environment Grants	\$ 338,713	\$ -	0.00%
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ 6,939,644	\$ 1,261,798	18.18%
Statutory Reduction	\$ (3,886,471)	\$ -	0.00%
Balance Forward	\$ 242,351,863	\$ 247,253,609	102.02%
Total	\$ 327,451,962	\$ 306,487,598	93.60%

Expenditures (Roll-Up)	Budget	Total Assigned YTD*	Actuals
Compensation & Benefits	\$ 1,355,722	\$ 1,298,174	\$ 928,285
Operating Expenses	\$ 297,896	\$ 190,706	\$ 170,993
Capital Outlay	\$ 118,893	\$ 56,391	\$ 15,717
SOIRL Projects funded under Operating Expenses (Non-Capital County Project & Programs)	\$ 4,113,387	\$ 1,915,865	\$ 873,102
SOIRL Projects funded under Capital Improvement (County Projects over \$35K)	\$ 83,924,179	\$ 27,034,441	\$ 12,164,169
SOIRL Projects funded under Aid to Gov't Agencies (Cities & Water Management Districts)	\$ 74,449,801	\$ 25,301,748	\$ 1,733,531
SOIRL Projects funded under Aid to Private Organizations (Property Owners & Non-Government Organizations)	\$ 48,756,501	\$ 4,293,136	\$ 2,751,047
Contingency	\$ 18,502,590	\$ -	\$ -
Reserves (for approved projects scheduled beyond this fiscal year)	\$ 95,932,993	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 327,451,962	\$ 60,090,461	\$ 18,636,844



**Save Our Indian River Lagoon
Citizen Oversight Committee
September 15, 2023**

Agenda Item:

X. a. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members

Title:

Citizen Oversight Committee Succession Planning

Requested Action:

Motion to recommend placing discussion of Succession Planning for the Citizen Oversight Committee on a future agenda

Summary Explanation and Background:

Half of the current Citizen Oversight Committee will be subject to term limits at the end of the current 2-year term. See the attached memo from John Windsor, Committee Member, regarding committee consideration of placing this topic on a future agenda to discuss the potential of making recommendations to the County Commission.

September 6, 2023

DRAFT Memorandum

To: Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee
From: John G. Windsor, Jr., SOIRL COC member
Subject: Citizen Oversight Committee Succession Planning
Copy: Virginia Barker, Natural Resources Management Department

Background: The Save Our Indian River Lagoon (SOIRL) Citizen Oversight Committee (COC) was initially selected and appointed in October through December 2016 by the League of Cities and the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to be in place when tax collection started January 1, 2017. Half of the COC appointed in 2016 continue to serve today. Per the approved bylaws, terms are for 2 years and run from March to February to fit the flow of annual Project Plan Update process.

New appointments to the COC came after serving members officially left the committee. Recruiting and selecting new COC members takes several months. A few years ago, the BOCC adopted uniform term limits of 8 years for volunteer service on County advisory committees. Based on the attached table provided by staff (thank you Jackie!), seven members will reach their term limit and may not be reappointed for the March 2024 to February 2026 term.

Issue of concern: With the potential that half the original COC will leave at the same time, staff will be challenged to bring on and provide support to seven new members to the committee. The concerns are most significant in the Science and the Lagoon Advocacy areas of expertise where both the main and alternate appointees term out at the same time. In addition, the future COC will have no member who was there “at the beginning.”

Suggestion: Place this topic on a future COC agenda and discuss potential recommendations to BOCC. Discussion topics might include:

1. Do nothing. Allow the terms to expire. (I am concerned this will place an unnecessary extra burden on staff and on the remaining COC members.)
2. Recommend that COC members who wish to continue service to the County be allowed to reapply for a one-year appointment. This would allow a more staggered approach to COC replacement. (Unlikely to be approved, but we should discuss this or some variation of this.)

3. Recommend to BOCC that we advertise early (date to be determined). Identify a pool of approved applicants. As applicants are approved for COC, the current serving member can either, a) resign and allow the new member to take over and offer to mentor the new member through the next work plan approval process, or b) mentor the new member through the next work plan approval process and then resign. (I am sure there are many other variations of this process that we could discuss at the next COC meeting if warranted.)
4. Recommend an additional, non-voting advisory board member (or two) who serve in an “ex-officio” capacity for two years after December 2024. (COC members are welcome to comment on any agenda item or during public comment. However, having one or two more readily available to COC during discussions might be a benefit to the entire COC.)
5. Others succession planning topics?

Here is the information on the current COC members (membership start, member (M) or alternate (A), and if selected by League of Cities or Brevard County):

Board Member/Alt.	Member Since	M/A *	BC or LOC	Expertise
Lorraine Koss	Dec-16	M	BC	Science
Charles Venuto	Dec-16	A	LOC	Science
Vinnie Taranto	Dec-16	M	BC	Technology
Don Deis	Mar-23	A	LOC	Technology
John Windsor	Dec-16	M	LOC	Lagoon Adv.
Terry Casto	Dec-16	A	BC	Lagoon Adv.
Bobby Putnam	Mar-23	M	BC	Tourism
Laurilee Thompson	Mar-19	A	LOC	Tourism
Stephany Eley	Dec-16	M	LOC	Education
Kimberly Newton	Sep-20	A	BC	Education
Todd Swingle	Dec-16	M	LOC	Finance
Curt Smith	Mar-23	A	BC	Finance
Barbara Wall-Scanlon	Mar-23	M	BC	Real Estate
Eric Mannes	Mar-22	A	LOC	Real Estate