



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**Citrus County Courthouse
110 N. Apopka Avenue, Room 100
Inverness, FL 34450**

MINUTES

September 11, 2025 - 5:01 PM

**Rebecca Bays, Chairman, District 4
Diana Finegan, 1st Vice Chair, District 2
Janet Barek, 2nd Vice Chair, District 3
Jeff Kinnard D.C., Commissioner, District 1
Holly L. Davis, Commissioner, District 5**

**Steve L. Howard, County Administrator
Denise A. Dymond Lyn, County Attorney
Traci Perry, Clerk of the Circuit Court and
Comptroller**

A. CALL TO ORDER

September 11, 2025 Citrus County Courthouse
The meeting was called to order at 04:41 PM.

Chair Rebecca Bays asked for prayers for the Andy Lahera family.

A.1. Invocation

Diane South gave the Invocation.

[Public Speaker Form for Item A1](#)

A.2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mark Svestka from Pine Ridge Property Owners Association led the Pledge of Allegiance.

[Public Speaker Form for Item A2](#)

A.3. Roll Call

Present: Holly L. Davis, Rebecca Bays, Jeff Kinnard D.C., Diana Finegan, Janet Barek, County Administrator Steve Howard, Management and Budget Director Tammy Wilson, Deputy Clerk Amy Novinger, Deputy Clerk Georgette Tozer

Absent: Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller Traci Perry, County Attorney Denise Lyn

B. TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING PRESENTATIONS

B.1. Charting our Course Tentative Budget Hearing Presentations

Management and Budget Director Tammy Wilson provided the presentation.

C. TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING

C.1. Discuss the purpose of the Public Hearing

The hearing is primarily for the purpose of explaining the budget, proposed tax levy and any proposed amendments, as well as affording the general public the opportunity to participate in the budget process.

Management and Budget Director Tammy Wilson reviewed the purpose of the public hearing and provided an overview.

C.2. Discuss Proposed Tentative Millage Rates for FY 2025-2026

The Citrus County Board of County Commissioners proposed tentative aggregate millage rate of 8.8733 mills is a 5.01% increase over the aggregate rolled-back rate of 8.4502 mills. The 2025-2026 proposed tentative millage produces \$143,075,355 in ad valorem tax revenue.

Management and Budget Director Tammy Wilson provided the staff presentation and read the proposed millage rates into the record.

C.3. Discuss Proposed Tentative Budget for FY 2025-2026

a) The Proposed Tentative Budget is \$505,866,078, a 1.79% increase from fiscal year 2025/2026 budget of \$497,023,889.

b) Presentation of budget modifications amending the 2025/2026 budget incorporating adjustments proposed at the Budget Workshop (Exhibit A), other budget modifications (Exhibit B), and Cash Carry Forward Projects (Exhibit C).

Management and Budget Director Tammy Wilson discussed the tentative proposed budget.

C.4. Receive Public Comments Regarding FY 2025-2026 Budget

Receive comments and questions from the general public concerning the proposed millage and the tentative budget.

The following individuals addressed the Board on various issues:

Ray Kalavsky

Mark Svestka, on behalf of Pine Ridge Property Owners Association

Dr. Susan Barrett

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*Gill Phelan
Ray Brown
Betty Wittersheim
Dewayne Davis
Diane South
Gary Litfin
Gary McClintock
Robin Orlandi
Myrna Phelan
Dean Bales
Katrín Romeo
John Labriola*

Additional Information for Item C4 - Submitted by John Labriola

Public Speaker Forms for Item C4

C.5. Set the Tentative Millage Rates for FY 2025-2026

Request a motion to adjust or adopt the millage and authorize the Chairman to execute a resolution adopting the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners tentative millage rates for the County-Wide millage, Library Services, Fire Taxing District, Fire Rescue/EMS MSTU, and Stormwater MSTU for 2025-2026.

Prior to voting on the motion, the name of the taxing authority, the rolled-back rate, the percentage change and the millage rates to be levied must be read into the record.

	FY 25/26
	Millage
<i>County-Wide</i>	
General Fund	6.9898
Transportation	0.9860
Health	0.0564
Department	
<i>Total County-Wide</i>	8.0322
<i>Special Districts</i>	
Library Services	0.3147
Fire Taxing	0.0000
District	
Fire MSTU	0.5780
Stormwater	0.0000
<i>Total Special</i>	0.8927
<i>Districts</i>	
Total Proposed	8.9249
Millage	

Commissioners recognized the Management and Budget Department, addressed public comments, and discussed the budget.

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At the request of First Vice Chair Diana Finegan, Management and Budget Director Tammy Wilson read rolled-back information for the Health Department and Library Services into the record.

County Administrator Steve Howard commented.

Library Services Director Adam Chang, Ms. Wilson, and Florida Department of Health Administrator of Citrus County Gayle Guidash addressed Board questions.

Ms. Wilson read the recommended motion into the record.

Motion to adopt the millage rates, as is.

Board discussion ensued with Ms. Wilson.

Ms. Wilson read the following proposed millage rates into the record:

	FY 2025/2026 Millage
County-Wide:	
General Fund	6.9898
Transportation	0.9860
Health Department	0.0564
Total County-Wide	8.0322
Special Districts:	
Library Services	0.3147
Fire Taxing District	0.0000
Fire MSTU	0.5780
Stormwater MSTU	0.0000
Total Special Districts	0.8927
Total Proposed Tentative Millage	8.9249

The proposed tentative aggregate rolled-back millage rate of 8.8733 mills is a 5.01% increase over the aggregate rolled-back rate of 8.4502 mills.

RESULT: **Adopted**
MOVER: Holly L. Davis
SECONDER: Jeff Kinnard D.C.
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C.
NAY: Finegan, Barek

Following the vote, the Commissioners commented.

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Mr. Howard addressed Board questions and Ms. Wilson addressed the Board regarding the motion.

Commissioner Holly Davis rescinded the motion and Commissioner Jeff Kinnard, D.C. rescinded the second.

Motion to approve the General Fund millage of 6.9898.

RESULT: **Adopted**
MOVER: Diana Finegan
SECONDER: Janet Barek
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C., Finegan, Barek
NAY: None

Motion to approve the Transportation millage of 0.9860.

RESULT: **Adopted**
MOVER: Diana Finegan
SECONDER: Janet Barek
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C., Finegan, Barek
NAY: None

Motion to approve the Health Department millage of 0.0564.

RESULT: **Adopted**
MOVER: Holly L. Davis
SECONDER: Janet Barek
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C., Barek
NAY: Finegan

Motion to approve the Library Services millage of 0.3147.

RESULT: **Adopted**
MOVER: Holly L. Davis
SECONDER: Jeff Kinnard D.C.
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C.
NAY: Finegan, Barek

Motion to approve the Fire Taxing District millage of 0.0000.

RESULT: **Adopted**
MOVER: Diana Finegan
SECONDER: Janet Barek
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C., Finegan, Barek
NAY: None

Motion to approve the Fire MSTU millage of 0.5780.

RESULT: Adopted
MOVER: Janet Barek
SECONDER: Holly L. Davis
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C., Finegan, Barek
NAY: None

Motion to approve the Stormwater MSTU millage of 0.0000.

RESULT: Adopted
MOVER: Holly L. Davis
SECONDER: Janet Barek
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C., Barek, Finegan
NAY: None

Resolution Number 2025-090

C.6. Set the Tentative Budget for FY 2025-2026

Request motion to adopt and authorize the Chairman to execute the resolution adopting the 2025-2026 tentative budget for the County-Wide budget, Library Services, Fire Taxing District, Fire Rescue/EMS MSTU, and Stormwater MSTU.

Management and Budget Director Tammy Wilson provided the recommendation.

Motion to adopt and authorize the Chair to execute the resolution adopting the 2025-2026 tentative budget for the County-Wide budget, Library Services, Fire Rescue Taxing District, Fire Resue/EMS MSTU, and Stormwater MSTU.

RESULT: Adopted
MOVER: Holly L. Davis
SECONDER: Jeff Kinnard D.C.
AYES: Davis, Bays, Kinnard D.C., Finegan
NAY: Barek

Resolution Number 2025-091

C.7. Announce the date, time and location for the final budget hearing

DATE: September 23, 2025
TIME: 5:01 P.M.
LOCATION: County Commission Meeting Room

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110 North Apopka Avenue
Inverness, FL

Management and Budget Director Tammy Wilson announced the date, time, and location of the Final Budget Hearing.

D. UPCOMING MEETINGS

1. Regular Meeting, **September 23, 2025** at 1:00 PM, Citrus County Courthouse, Room 100, 110 N. Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450

E. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

[Proof of Publication](#)