



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DRAFT

9/10/2025 5:05 PM

MINUTES

COMMISSION CHAMBERS

2401 SE MONTEREY ROAD, STUART, FLORIDA 34996

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Sarah Heard, Chair

Edward V. Ciampi, Vice Chairman

Eileen Vargas, District 1

Stacey Hetherington, District 2

J. Blake Capps, District 3

Don G. Donaldson, P.E., County Administrator

Elysse A. Elder, Acting County Attorney

*Carolyn Timmann, Clerk of the Circuit Court and
Comptroller*

First Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Public Hearing

CALL TO ORDER

Present: 5 - Commissioner Stacey Hetherington
Commissioner Eileen Vargas
Commissioner J. Blake Capps
Chair Sarah Heard
Vice Chair Edward V. Ciampi

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Hetherington, seconded by Commissioner Capps, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

COMMENTS

Public (5:05 PM) - Please limit comments to three minutes.

David Britt spoke in opposition to Brightline, addressed concerns regarding Indian Riverside Park, and traffic on Jensen Beach Blvd.

The following members of the public spoke regarding budget (increases): J. Paul Moore, Sarah Hernandez, Karyn Wells, Maria Waddle, and Charlie DiToro.

Chuck Winn spoke in opposition to Brightline.

Dayna Straehley inquired about the Sheriff's 287G Program.

Commissioners

Commissioner Vargas spoke about the importance of maintaining financial stability and low millage rates for the benefit of residents.

Commissioner Capps clarified public remarks regarding increases to the millage rate. He confirmed that the tentative budget will present a decrease in millage.

Vice Chair Ciampi encouraged residents to participate in the inner workings of County government, such as enrolling into the CARES Program.

Commissioner Hetherington also encouraged participation in CARES. Commissioner Hetherington stated she supports prioritizing public safety, eliminating debt, and stormwater improvements.

County Administrator

There were none.

PUBLIC HEARING

PH-1 FIRST FISCAL YEAR 2025/2026 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

This is the first of two public hearings regarding the fiscal year 2025/2026 budget. There will be an outline of the public hearing procedures followed by an overview and review/approval of the Resolutions.

Agenda Item: 25-1028

RESOLUTION NOs. 25-9.11 through 25-9.44

County Administrator Don Donaldson provided a brief overview of the budget and public hearing process. OMB Director Stephanie Merle presented the tentative FY 2026 budget to the Board.

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Countywide MSTU Funds.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Countywide MSTU Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District One MSTU Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District One MSTU Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District Two MSTU Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District Two MSTU Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by

Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District Three MSTU Funds.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard,
and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by
Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District Three MSTU Funds.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard,
and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by
Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District Four MSTU Funds.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner
Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by
Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District Four MSTU Funds.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner
Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by
Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District Five MSTU Funds.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner
Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by
Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of District Five MSTU Funds.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner
Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Special District A-61 (Hutchinson Island) MSTU Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Special District A-61 (Hutchinson Island) MSTU Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Fire Rescue Unincorporated MSTU Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Fire Rescue Unincorporated MSTU Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Parks and Recreation MSTU Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Parks and Recreation MSTU Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Countywide MSTU Unincorporated (Stormwater & Road Maintenance) Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Countywide MSTU Unincorporated (Stormwater & Road Maintenance) Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of General Unincorporated Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Building and Permitting Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Impact Fee Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Special Revenue Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Grants Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Other Debt Service Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Other Capital Project Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Utilities Enterprise Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Airport Enterprise Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Golf Course Enterprise Fund. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Internal Service Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Trust Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

Agenda Item: 25-1028

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, for tentative approval of Community Redevelopment Area Trust Funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Vargas

ADJOURN

The Board of County Commissioners September 10, 2025 meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Carolyn Timmann, Clerk of the
Circuit Court and Comptroller
/lp

Sarah Heard, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes approved:

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