

Tentative Budget Hearing Minutes
Indian River Mosquito Control District
September 13, 2022 @ 5:01 PM

The Indian River Mosquito Control Board of Commissioners held a tentative budget hearing on September 13, 2022 at the District Office.

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

Staff: Sherry Burroughs (Executive Director), Michael Hart (Director of Operations), Lisa Ridley (Director of Finance and Administrative Support Services)

Visitors: Lawrence Kyzer, Paul Baffino, Josh Reilly, Bruce Lewis

I. **Call to Order** – Chair Erpenbeck 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. Three options were provided for Board consideration; Option 1 with 0.2500 millage rate, Option 2 with 0.2382 millage rate, and Option 3 0.2265 millage rate (rolled-back rate). The Board had tentatively adopted the millage rate of 0.2500 at the September 13th tentative budget hearing. This millage rate is 10.38% above the rolled back rate of 0.2265.

Commissioner Lowther made a motion to adopt millage rate of 0.2500, The Board unanimously approved; motion passed.

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

Lisa reported the recommendation for using a millage higher than the rolled back is due to economic uncertainty caused by rapid increase in cost of living. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners (CPI-W) for the period ending July 2022 is 9.4%. The Consumer Price Index Summary reported on August 10, 2022 that over the last 12 months, all items indexed have increased 8.5%. This inflation has created economic uncertainty in forecasting revenue and expenditures. A rapid increase in cost of living can impact economic cycles creating a downturn that could negatively affect revenue. The recommended budget was created using actual expenditure data factored with inflationary projections. Every operational program area is fully funded with the proposed millage rate of 0.2500.

Commissioner Broda discussed options for reducing the millage rate providing examples from previous budget years. Commissioner Broda expressed the Board's fiduciary obligations to the taxpayers of Indian River County and recommended Option 2 with modifications to adjust COLA and contingency.

Commissioner Erpenbeck expressed concerns over current budgetary external factors that are not controlled by Board members. Commissioner Erpenbeck presented his personal tax bill for reference and discussion.

Commissioner Lowther discussed future expansion and funding necessary to achieve long term goals of the District and fund current operations.

IV. Public Comment – None

V. Presentation and Discussion of Proposed Budget and Millage

Lisa presented the proposed budget for FY 2022-2023; the tax base is 23.3 billion this equates to a 13.44% increase over last year's tax base figure of 20.5 billion. The proposed tax increase will fund Option 1 with a millage rate of .2500. This option is 10.38% over the rolled back rate of .2265 and will provide an Ad Valorem Tax revenue of \$5,543,598. This budget option includes a 4% COLA increase, chemicals are funded at 100%, two aerial adulticide missions, and contingency is funded at \$615K.

VI. Separate order of Business

A. Adoption of the Proposed Millage Rate

Commissioner Lowther made a motion to adopt Resolution #2022-005 to set the tentative millage rate at 0.2500 for FY 2022-2023 (which is 10.38% above the rolled back rate of 0.2265). Commissioners Lowther and Erpenbeck approved; Commissioner Broda was opposed. The motion passed at 5:14 PM.

B. Adoption of the Proposed Budget

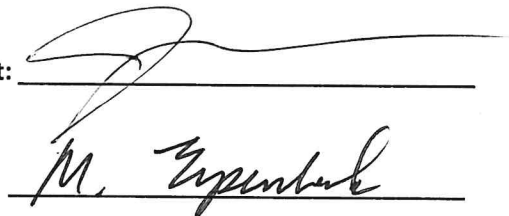
Commissioner Lowther made a motion to adopt Resolution #2022-006 setting the proposed budget of \$8,205,253 for FY 2022-2023. Commissioners Lowther and Erpenbeck approved; Commissioner Broda was opposed. The motion passed at 5:15 PM.

VII. Date of Final Budget Hearing – September 20, 2022 at 5:01 PM.

VIII. Adjournment

Commissioner Broda made the motion to adjourn. The Board unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 PM.

Attest:



M. Erpenbeck