



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

March 15, 2024 – 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 Minutes
- V. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair
- VI. Progress and Fiscal Reports
 - a) Monthly Progress Report – Virginia Barker, Director
 - b) Outreach and Engagement Report – Brandon Smith, Environmental Specialist
 - c) Monthly Revenue Graph & Financial Statements – Molly Bryan, Fiscal Analyst
- VII. Other Reports and Special Presentations
 - a) Lessons Learned from Pond Watchers – Dr. Ernesto Lasso De La Vega, Water Quality Laboratory Manager & Founder and Director of Pond Watch, Lee County Hyacinth Control District
 - b) The Role of Floating Treatment Wetlands in Reducing Nutrient Pollution - Steve Beeman, President, Beemats Floating Wetlands
 - c) Benefits of Solar Powered Lake Circulators – Terry Williamson, Environmental Section Supervisor, Brevard County Natural Resources, Stormwater
 - d) Engaging Homeowners Associations as Citizen Scientists to Improve Stormwater Pond Management - Melanie Howarter, Associate Environmental Specialist, Brevard County Natural Resources, Save Our Indian River Lagoon
 - e) Video - Draa Field Managed Aquatic Plant System
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business
- X. General Public Comments
- XI. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members
- XII. Adjournment

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

February 16, 2024 – 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	No	Laurilee Thompson	Yes
Real Estate	Barbara Wall-Scanlon	Yes	Eric Mannes	Yes
Lagoon Advocacy	John Windsor	Yes	Terry Casto	Yes

Staff Present:

Virginia Barker, Brevard County Natural Resources Management Director
Heather Balsler, Assistant County Attorney
Brandon Smith, Environmental Specialist III
Anthony Gubler, Environmental Specialist III
Jeanne Allen, Engineer III
Cole Stubbe, Engineer I
Molly Bryan, Fiscal Analyst
Beb Sebastian, Associate Environmental Specialist
Abbey Gering, Associate Environmental Specialist
Melanie Howarter, Associate Environmental Specialist
Ashley Postlewait, Associate Environmental Specialist
Jaculin Watkins, Executive Secretary

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. Roll Call

A quorum was established.

III. Approval of the Agenda

Stephaney Eley moved to approve the Agenda; seconded by Vinnie Taranto.

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 Barbara Wall-Scanlon.

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 for February was given by Virginia Barker. Discussion ensued. Ms. Barker responded to the Committee's questions.

b. Monthly Revenue Graph and Financial Statements – Molly Bryan, Fiscal Analyst

The Monthly Revenue Graph and Financial Statement were reviewed by Molly Bryan.

c. Quarterly Financial & Grant Statements – Molly Bryan, Fiscal Analyst

The Quarterly Financial & Grant Statements were reviewed by Molly Bryan.

d. Quarterly Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Performance Table Update – Anthony Gubler, Environmental Specialist III

The Quarterly Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Performance Table Update was presented by Anthony Gubler. Discussion ensued. Staff responded to the Committee's questions.

VI. Other Reports and Special Presentations

a. Internal Nutrient Cycling: Benthic Fluxes from Muck and Sediments in the IRL – Dr. Austin Fox, Assistant Professor, Florida Institute of Technology

Dr. Austin Fox gave a PowerPoint presentation on Benthic Fluxes from Muck and Sediments in the Indian River Lagoon (IRL). Discussion ensued. Staff and Dr. Fox responded to the Committee's questions.

b. Cocoa Beach Jr./Sr. High School Aqua Science Program – Cole Mannes, Assistant Principal, Cocoa Beach Jr./Sr. High School

Mr. Cole Mannes gave a PowerPoint presentation on the school's Aqua Science program, which engages youth in high school to become involved in their newly formed Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program in the aqua sciences. Discussion ensued. Mr. Mannes responded to the Committee's questions.

c. Videos:

- i. Muckrete pavers. A video was presented on the repurposing muck into concrete pavers. Discussion ensued. Staff responded to the Committee's questions.

Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee Meeting
MINUTES – February 16, 2024

- ii. Septic to Sewer Quick Connects. A video was presented, showing the process of connecting a home to sewer.

VII. Old Business

No old business was heard.

VIII. New Business

No New Business was heard.

IX. General Public Comments

General public comments were heard.

X. Final Comments by Chair and Committee Members

Final comments were heard.

XI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.



Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan March 2024 Progress Report

WORK COMPLETED THIS MONTH:

- The 2024 Save Our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan Update was approved by the County Commission
- Leaky Lateral Repairs – 660 of 681 code enforcement cases for detected private sewer leaks have been resolved; 71 grant applications have been received; 69 payments have been processed
- Quick Connects – 38 more reimbursements processed of 265 to date; 404 agreements executed
- Septic Upgrades – 8 more reimbursements processed of 242 to date; 426 total agreements executed
- Derelict Vessels Removed: 3
- University of Central Florida conducted 3-month monitoring at the Rainwater oyster bar, finding an estimated 2,500 to 4,800 oysters per square meter in corral modules and 4.5-7% of measured oysters having reached reproductive size
- Federal Appropriations - Requested for Quick Connects & Sykes Creek Muck Removal
- Contracts – INV43 Ultrasonic Algae Treatment Project Contract Executed

WORK UNDERWAY THIS MONTH:

- South Central C Septic-to-Sewer –30 homeowner connections completed
- Micco Sewer Line Extension – 95% complete; final segment of sewer line installation is awaiting FDOT clearance; preparing for lift station start-up, then send connection notifications to owners
- Brevard County Septic-to-Sewer – South Banana Zone B and Merritt Island Zone F in permitting; preparing Sykes Creek Zone N and South Beaches Zones O & P for bidding; 90% design underway for Merritt Island Zone C; 75% design review complete for North Merritt Island Zone E; 75% design under review for Sykes Creek M; 75% design underway for Micco Zone B, Sykes Creek Zones R & T; 30% design under review for South Central D; 30% design underway for Sharpes Zones A & B, Cocoa Zone C, and Merritt Island Zones G
- Basin 958 Pioneer Rd Stormwater project ready to bid
- Basin 71 Flounder 90% plans under staff review
- Basin 1387 Kingsmill 90% plans expected this month
- Basin 2258 South Babcock 60% plans reviewed and approved
- Stormwater – water quality samples indicate 2 possible project locations due to nutrient impairments; an additional 3 projects are being studied for feasibility
- SJRWMD Grants awarded for Flounder Creek (\$157,500); Basin 1387 Kingsmill (\$1,200,000); Basin 1398 Sand Dollar (\$1,500,000); Basin 958 Pioneer Rd (\$645,000)
- Grand Canal Muck Dredging – DMMA site preparation underway for March 15th dredging startup
- Sykes Creek Phase 2 Muck Dredging –Contractor Bid package preparation in progress
- Eau Gallie Muck Dredging – Pre-bid meeting with contractors scheduled for 3/22
- Canaveral South Muck Dredging – Kick-off meeting held 2/27 on sediment management alternatives
- Patrick SFB/Pineda BRL-Task Order preparation for muck deposit investigation in progress
- Titusville Causeway Multitrophic Restoration Project – bid awarded and contracting underway
- Contracts – Titusville Osprey Basin Smoke Testing with entity for signature; Sand Point Amendment 1 with entity for signature; Cocoa Forrest Ave Stormwater Improvement Project out for signature; Willow Lakes and Lucky Clover Amendment 1 out for signature; Public Outreach Campaigns out for bid



PRESENTATIONS THIS MONTH:

February 20 – Eau Gallie Yacht Club - Abbey
February 21 – University of Florida Water Institute Symposium – Virginia
February 24 – Melbourne Beach Environmental Day – Virginia and Abbey
February 29 - County Commission Budget Workshop – Virginia
March 1 – Brevard Zoo World Seagrass Day – Jenny and Abbey
March 5 – Cocoa Rotarians – Virginia
March 16 – Thousand Islands Fest– Virginia, Brandon, and Anthony
March 23 – Florida Friendly Landscaping Seminar – Aleah
March 23 – League of Women Voters - Terri

UPCOMING LAGOON SCIENCE FORUMS AND PUBLIC EVENTS:

March 15 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Introduction to Citizen Science Projects](#)
March 18 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Learn about Data Jam Competition](#)
March 12 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Land to Sea Buffered and Living Shorelines](#)
March 13 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Lab Technique Training Pipetting & Dilutions](#)
March 19-April 4 – University of Florida Extension Brevard [Florida Master Naturalist Program Coastal Class](#)
March 19 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Lab Technique Training: Particle Analysis](#)
April 11 - [ShORE Symposium: A Changing Estuary](#)

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES:

March 12 & 25 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association Fish Processing - [Register with Missy Weiss](#)
March 13 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association Fish Homogenization – [Register with Missy Weiss](#)
March 27 – Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Native Plant Nursery - Email Wyatt To Register](#)
April 5 – Marine Resources Council [First Friday Litter Patrol](#)
April 20th Ocean Research & Conservation Association [Riverside Park Living Shoreline Installation](#)
Space Coast Surfrider Foundation Blue Water Task Force Monitoring – [Email Chis Baker for more information](#)
Florida Horseshoe Crab Watch – [Email Holly Abeels for more information](#)
Ocean Research & Conservation Association pollution mapping equipment cleaning – [Email Veronica](#)
Marine Resources Council Litter Removal and Concrete Creations Program volunteers – [Email Caitlin Bagnall](#)
Rotary Park rain garden maintenance or storm drain marking in Cocoa – [Email Carlos Cuevas](#)
Pineda Waterway Warriors Cleanup – Every 2nd & 4th Saturday at multiple locations – [Email Sherill](#)

WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA, NEWSLETTER, AND REPORT LINKS:

[Lagoon Loyal Outreach & Engagement Landing Page](#) [Save Our Indian River Lagoon YouTube](#)
[Save Our Indian River Lagoon Website](#) [Sign up for our Monthly Newsletter](#)
[Save Our Indian River Lagoon Facebook](#) [Sign up for our Weekly Harmful Algal Bloom Reports](#)
[Save Our Indian River Lagoon Instagram](#) [Visit Lagoon Loyal for home pollution reduction tips](#)

FUTURE TOPICS FOR SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

1. Ecosystem Restoration Projects – Oysters, Clams, Seagrass and Shoreline Plantings
2. Wastewater Plant Upgrades and Associated Nutrient Load Reductions in Reclaimed Water
3. Regional Wastewater Treatment Feasibility Study by the Economic Development Commission
4. Septic Upgrade Rules & Inground Nitrogen Reducing Bioreactor Septic Drain Field Pilot Project Findings

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 2024 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2024 Projection	Actuals 2024	State EDR 2023 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2023 Projection	Actuals 2023	State EDR 2022 Projection Straight-lined *	County's 2022 Projection	Actuals 2022
BOY	\$357,633,208	\$357,633,208	\$357,633,208	\$290,732,361	\$290,732,361	\$290,732,361	\$226,821,943	\$226,821,943	\$226,821,943
Oct	\$362,984,166	\$362,138,073	\$361,824,622	\$295,416,432	\$296,370,595	\$294,991,249	\$231,352,441	\$231,515,310	\$230,665,218
Nov	\$368,335,124	\$366,476,167	\$366,098,349	\$300,100,502	\$302,008,829	\$299,092,473	\$235,882,939	\$236,208,677	\$234,614,208
Dec	\$373,686,082	\$375,361,146	\$374,419,168	\$304,784,573	\$307,647,063	\$307,492,311	\$240,413,437	\$240,902,044	\$242,347,634
Jan	\$379,037,039	\$379,731,879		\$309,468,644	\$313,285,297	\$311,773,147	\$244,943,935	\$245,595,411	\$246,260,610
Feb	\$384,387,997	\$384,302,369		\$314,152,715	\$318,923,531	\$316,249,631	\$249,474,432	\$250,288,778	\$250,342,140
Mar	\$389,738,955	\$393,126,019		\$318,836,785	\$324,561,765	\$324,891,795	\$254,004,930	\$254,982,145	\$258,706,447
Apr	\$395,089,913	\$397,793,163		\$323,520,856	\$330,199,999	\$329,462,945	\$258,535,428	\$259,675,512	\$263,179,622
May	\$400,440,871	\$402,313,719		\$328,204,927	\$335,838,233	\$333,890,522	\$263,065,926	\$264,368,879	\$267,470,408
Jun	\$405,791,829	\$410,178,239		\$332,888,998	\$341,476,467	\$341,593,283	\$267,596,424	\$269,062,246	\$275,034,484
Jul	\$411,142,786	\$414,778,122		\$337,573,068	\$347,114,701	\$346,098,557	\$272,126,922	\$273,755,612	\$279,374,282
Aug	\$416,493,744	\$419,010,706		\$342,257,139	\$352,752,935	\$350,244,084	\$276,657,419	\$278,448,979	\$283,600,235
Sept	\$421,844,702	\$426,555,004		\$346,941,210	\$358,391,169	\$357,633,208	\$281,187,917	\$283,142,346	\$290,732,361

FY 2024 Monthly Financial Statement

Save Our Indian River Lagoon

Date Range 01 October 2023 – 04 March 2024

*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	\$ 68,724,435	\$ 16,785,960	24.43%
Interest Earned	\$ 8,448,058	\$ 2,589,750	30.65%
Other Federal Grants	\$ 8,516,345	\$ -	0.00%
Other State Grants	\$ 33,567,147	\$ -	0.00%
Tourism Development Council Grants	\$ 263,158	\$ -	0.00%
Other Physical Environmental Grants	\$ 67,596	\$ 257,562	381.03%
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ 2,907,840	\$ -	0.00%
Statutory Reduction	\$ (5,979,339)	\$ -	0.00%
Balance Forward	\$ 296,802,384	\$ 303,180,205	102.15%
Total	\$ 413,317,624	\$ 322,813,477	78.10%

Expenditures (Roll-Up)	Budget	Total Assigned YTD*	Actuals
Compensation & Benefits	\$ 1,400,177	\$ 1,395,945	\$ 476,645
Operating Expenses	\$ 266,244	\$ 99,011	\$ 61,430
Capital Outlay	\$ 114,502	\$ 98,122	\$ -
SOIRL Projects funded under Operating Expenses (Non-Capital County Project & Programs)	\$ 3,229,978	\$ 1,333,345	\$ 347,803
SOIRL Projects funded under Capital Improvement (County Projects over \$35K)	\$ 123,519,363	\$ 24,412,276	\$ 3,746,094
SOIRL Projects funded under Aid to Gov't Agencies (Cities & Water Management Districts)	\$ 83,955,565	\$ 21,237,849	\$ 273,379
SOIRL Projects funded under Aid to Private Organizations (Property Owners & Non-Government Organizations)	\$ 57,594,266	\$ 6,402,975	\$ 2,931,976
Contingency	\$ 71,351,790	\$ -	\$ -
Reserves (for approved projects scheduled beyond this fiscal year)	\$ 71,885,739	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 413,317,624	\$ 54,979,523	\$ 7,837,327