

**Official Minutes of
MARION COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

September 23, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The Marion County Board of County Commissioners met in a special session in Commission Chambers at 5:53 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2024 at the Marion County Governmental Complex located in Ocala, Florida.

INTRODUCTION OF PUBLIC HEARINGS BY CHAIRMAN MICHELLE STONE:

Chairman Stone advised that the Public Hearing is scheduled tonight to consider adoption of the final millage rate and budget for the Rainbow Lakes Estates Municipal Service District (RLE MSD) Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country.

ROLL CALL:

Upon roll call the following members were present: Chairman Michelle Stone, District 5; Vice-Chairman Kathy Bryant, District 2; Commissioner Craig Curry, District 1, and Commissioner Matthew McClain, District 3. Commissioner Carl Zalak, III, District 4, was absent due to a prior commitment. Also present were Clerk Gregory C. Harrell, County Attorney Matthew G. Minter, County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes, and Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Angel Roussel, ACA Tracy Straub, ACA Amanda Tart, and Director of Internal Services Mike McCain.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION:

Deputy Clerk Mills-McAllister presented two Proofs of Publication, the first is a display ad No. 10574987 entitled, "Notice of Proposed Tax Increase"; and the second is a display ad No. 10575005 entitled, "Budget Summary Rainbow Lakes Estates Municipal Service District Fiscal Year 2024-25", both were published in the Star Banner Newspaper on September 19, 2024. The notices state the Board, duly constituted as the District Board of the RLE MSD, will hold a public hearing to consider adopting the final millage rate and budget for FY 2024-25.

STAFF PRESENTATION – Audrey Fowler, Budget Director

1. PUBLIC Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Final Millage Rate and Budget for the Rainbow Lakes Estates Municipal District Fiscal Year 2024-25

Budget Director Audrey Fowler presented a 7 page Agenda packet. She then read into the record a letter dated September 23, 2024, from Clerk Harrell presenting the District's proposed budget. The letter stated tonight's public hearing is the second of two public hearings required to be held pursuant to the provisions of Section 200.065(2), Florida Statutes, prior to the adoption of a budget and millage rate for RLE MSD. As such, this is a final budget Public Hearing, and final adoption of the fiscal year 2024-25 millage rate and budget will be considered at this hearing.

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The RLE MSD fiscal year 2024-25 final budget totaling \$1,434,510.00 is scheduled for consideration by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners (BCC), duly constituted as the District Board of the RLE MSD at tonight's budget hearing.

Ms. Fowler provided a brief overview of the procedures to be followed for this public hearing.

Ms. Fowler announced the percent increase over the rolled back rate of 9.22 percent (%). She stated the specific purpose for the tax increase is an increase in operational expenditures of \$21,676.00 and a decrease in Fund Balance Carry Forward of \$43,016.00. The proposed millage is the same as the current FY.

Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

There being none, Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

Ms. Fowler announced the rolled back millage rate is 1.1445 mills, the percentage increase over the rolled back rate is 9.22% and the proposed millage rate to be levied is 1.2500 mills.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to adopt Resolution 24-R-419 adopting the final millage rate of 1.2500 mills for FY 2024-25 for RLE MSD. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (4-0).

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to adopt Resolution 24-R-420 adopting the final budget in the amount of \$1,434,510.00 for FY 2024-25. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (4-0).

Ms. Fowler announced the percentage increase over the rolled back rate is 9.22%.

BOARD DISCUSSION: None.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

Ms. Fowler advised that the requirements for the RLE MSD public hearing have been met and the hearing is concluded.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting thereupon adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Michelle Stone, Chairman

Attest:

Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk