

Highlands County Board of County Commissioners
Thursday, January 22, 2026
9:00 AM
600 S. Commerce Ave. Sebring, FL 33870

- 1. Meeting Called to Order: Invitation to fill out "Comments by the Public" forms**
Please silence all cell phones and devices.

- 2. Invocation**

- 3. Pledge of Allegiance**

- 4. Announcements**

The Highlands County Health Facilities Authority will meet on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 12:00 p.m., in the Sebring City Council Chambers at Sebring City Hall, 368 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring

The Tourist Development Council will hold a Regular Meeting on Thursday, January 29, 2026, at 8:15 a.m., in the Board Room, 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring

- 5. Constitutional Officers - Announcements**

- 6. Recognitions, Presentations and Proclamations**

- A. Eagle Scout Project to install or replace fishing line receptacles throughout Highlands County boat ramps.

Dawn Ritter, Natural Resources Manager

There is no fiscal impact.

- B. Recognition of Traffic Ops Lead Technician Richard Crawford on his retirement after 27 years of service to the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners.

Laura Borgesi, County Engineer, PE, PSM, MPA

No Fiscal Impact.

- C. Request approval of a Proclamation recognizing "National Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Week" in Highlands County.

Laurie Hurner, County Administrator

There is no fiscal impact.

- D. Request approval of a Proclamation recognizing "Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month"

James Duppenthaler, Fire Chief

There is no fiscal impact.

- 7. Public Comment**

8. Consent Agenda

- A. Request approval of Agreement between Highlands County and Tetra Tech, Inc. from RFP 25-012-RDV for Disaster Debris Monitoring Services.

Robert Diefendorf, Project Engineer

There is no fiscal impact to the County until the County is adversely impacted by a disaster that would require the activation of this contract.

- B. Request approval of the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers (FNCAC) Bridge the Gap (BTG) Grant Award.

- C. Request approval of Agreement between Highlands County and Sunshine Staffing

Sherri Bennett, Human Resources Manager

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

- D. Request approval of ITB 23-007 Renewal Jack's Lawn & Landscaping

Jonathan Harrison, Road & Bridge Director

Fiscal Impact is approximately \$95,000.00. The budget is provided for mowing maintenance in Fund (110), Cost Center 4110 (Sebring Parkway Maintenance) for 2025/2026 with a 50% reimbursement from the City of Sebring. This item is already budgeted within the adopted 2025/2026 budget.

- E. Request approval of the minutes from the December 2, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Board.

Pamela Gamez, Official Records Manager

No fiscal impact.

- F. Request approval of an Amendment to DMS-P2-25-07-16 Agreement between Florida Department of Management Services and Highlands County for grant funding related to Public Safety Answering Points upgrades

Paul Blackman, Sheriff

There is no fiscal impact.

- G. Request Adoption of Resolution 25-26-077 for Budget Amendment 25-26-042 to appropriate awarded VOCA FY 25/26 grant/project funds.

Paul Blackman, Sheriff

The fiscal impact is an increase to Fund 005 (General) and the overall budget in the amount of \$11,218.49. This grant was anticipated and budgeted in the amount of \$80,000.00 but was awarded at \$91,218.49 and is being appropriated in cost center 3101 Sheriff-005, Project 25031 VOCA 25-26 (SO).

- H. Request approval of ITB 24-018 Renewal Consolidated Resource Recovery

Mark Lawrence

Fiscal Impact is approximately \$174,300.00. The budget is provided for mulching and yard waste processing in Fund (401). Cost Center 4210 (Yard

waste Processing) for 2025/2026. The item is already budgeted within the adopted 2025/2026 budget.

- I. Request approval on Marmer Amendment 3, Road and Bridge New Building Project #22030

Jonathan Harrison, Road & Bridge Director

Fiscal impact is \$4,897.65 already appropriated in Project 22030, R&B New Building. Fund (151).

- J. Request acceptance and chair signature of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG-C) Agreement for FY 25-26

Paul Blackman, Sheriff

There is no fiscal impact with the signing of the agreement. This grant has already been anticipated and budgeted.

- K. Request approval of the Agreement between Highlands County and Crowdriff, Inc.

Reagan Fultz, Tourism Project & Marketing Mgr., Casey Hartt, Lead Marketing Consultant

The fiscal impact is \$16,000 annually. The expense is included in the adopted FY 2025/26 for Fund 152 (Tourist Development Trust), but will be \$4,000 below the budgeted amount. There is no fiscal impact to Fund 005 (General Fund).

- L. Request Approval of ITB 25-016-RDV Memorial Drive Multi-Use Path Highlands County Project No. 17034

Kenya Anderson, Senior Project Manager

No fiscal impact

9. Committee Assignments

10. Public Hearing

- A. Request approval of Resolution #25-26-075 of Amendment #2 of the 2022-2025 Local Housing Assistance Plan.

Ingrashere Gardner, Community Programs Director, Kimberly Wean, Housing Program Manager

No fiscal impact.

11. Action Agenda

- A. Request adoption of Resolution 25-26-076 for Budget Amendment 25-26-041 to transfer \$100,000 from Fund 005 (General) to Fund 152 (Tourist Development) Cost Center 5309 (Asset Development/Enhancement), to be earmarked for the Highlands County Sports Complex property purchase.

Leah Sauls, Development Services Director

The fiscal impact is a decrease of \$100,000 to Fund 005 (General) and an

increase of \$100,000 to Fund 152 (Tourist Development Trust), Cost Center 5309 (Tourist Development Asset Development/Enhancement). These funds will be earmarked to pay a portion of the matching funds required for that grant received from Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Florida Communities Trust program for the Highlands County Sports Complex property purchase.

12. County Attorney and County Administrator

- A. County Attorney Status Report
Maya Wiseman, Legal Assistant
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- B. County Administrator Status Report
Laurie Hurner, County Administrator
No fiscal impact.

13. Commissioners

14. Informational

- A. Board payables from January 23, 2026, to February 2, 2026

15. Adjourn

Any person who decides to appeal any decision made by this Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County, Florida, in public hearing or meeting is hereby advised that he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record will include the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

The Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County, Florida, does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of the Board's functions, including one's access to, participation, employment or treatment in its programs or activities. "Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans With Disabilities Act or Section 286.26 Florida Statutes should contact Human Resources, ADA Coordinator at: 863-402-6509 (voice), or via Florida Relay Service 711, or by e-mail: hrmanager@highlandsfl.gov." Requests for CART or interpreter services should be made as soon as possible but no less than 48 hours in advance to permit coordination of the service.

Any invocation that may be offered before the official start of the Commission meeting is a voluntary offering by a private citizen. The views or beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been reviewed or approved by the Commission, and the Commission is not allowed by law to endorse the religious beliefs or views of this, or any other speaker.

A person desiring to provide public comment related to an item on the Consent Agenda of this meeting, must fill out a Speaker Card and submit the same to the County Administrator or Chairperson by 8:50 a.m. All Speaker Cards received after 8:50am, will be called during the regular Public Comment.