

MEETING OF THE DISTRICTS
Tuesday, June 17, 2025
9:30 AM
600 S. Commerce Ave. Sebring, FL 33870

DISTRICTS LIST

AVON PARK ESTATES S. B. D.
ORANGE VILLA MOBILE HOME ESTATES S. B. D.
HIGHLANDS PARK ESTATES S. B. D.
PLACID LAKES S.B.D. HIGHWAY PARK S. B. D.
RED HILL FARMS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
LAKE HAVEN ESTATES S. B. D.
SEBRING ACRES S. B. D.
ORANGE BLOSSOM ESTATES S. B. D.
SEBRING COUNTRY ESTATES S. B. D.
ORANGE BLOSSOM UNIT 12 S. B. D.
SEBRING HILLS S. B. D.
COUNTYWIDE FIRE DISTRICT
THUNDERBIRD ROAD WASTEWATER S. B. D.
ISTOKPOGA MARSH WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
SUN 'N LAKES OF LAKE PLACID RECREATION DISTRICT
OAK MANOR AVENUE ROAD PAVING MUNICIPAL SERVICE BENEFIT DISTRICT

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

2. PRESENTATIONS:

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. CONSENT AGENDA

4.A *Request approval of the May 20, 2025 Special District Meeting Minutes.*
[052025SPC.pdf](#)

5. PUBLIC HEARING

5.A *Public hearing to consider proposed Resolution 24-25-110 pertaining to the re-imposition of Chapter 9, Article VII (7), Placid Lakes Special Benefit District special assessment.*
Rosa Morales, Budget Analyst II/NAV
The fiscal impact will be an increase to Fund 107 (Placid Lakes Special Benefit District) of approximately \$81,538 annually as the previous assessment collection was \$325,774 and will now be approximately \$407,312 if assessment is set at the requested rate of \$50 for FY 2025-26.

6. ACTION AGENDA

7. ADJOURN

Any person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board of Supervisors of any of the Special Districts of Highlands County, Florida, in a public hearing or quasi-judicial proceeding 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 Supervisors of the Special Districts in 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 the Highland County Human Resources Department, 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 later than 48 hours in advance of a public meeting to permit coordination of the service.

Please note our new website address: www.highlandsfl.gov

Any invocation that may be offered before the official start of the meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Special Districts of Highlands County shall be the voluntary offering of a private citizen. The views or beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by Highlands County, nor is Highlands County allowed by law to endorse the religious beliefs or views of any speaker.

**HIGHLANDS COUNTY
COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

DATE OF ACTION REQUEST: JUNE 17, 2025

PRESENTER:

SUBJECT/TITLE: Request approval of the May 20, 2025 Special District Meeting Minutes.

STATEMENT OF ISSUE

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Move to approve the May 20, 2025 Special District Meeting Minutes.

FISCAL IMPACT

Attachments: [052025SPC.pdf](#)

MEETING OF THE SPECIAL DISTRICTS, MAY 20, 2025

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:18 p.m. in the Highlands County Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, with the following members present:

**Commissioner Arlene Tuck
Commissioner Chris Campbell
Commissioner Kevin Roberts**

**Commissioner Don Elwell
Commissioner Scott Kirouac**

Also, present: Laurie Hurner, County Administrator; JD Langford, Assistant County Administrator, Sherry G. Sutphen, County Attorney; Sally B. Hood, Clerk of Courts Accounting & Finance Director; and Savannah R. Demeri, Deputy Clerk.

2. **PRESENTATIONS**

No presentations.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No participants.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Elwell moved approval of the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Request approval of the minutes from the February 18, 2025 and March 4, 2025 Meetings of the Special Districts. See Clerk of Courts Website.

B. Request approval of March 18, 2025, April 1, 2025, April 15, 2025 and May 6, 2025 Special District Meeting Minutes of the Board. See Clerk of Courts Website.

5. **PUBLIC HEARING**

No public hearings presented.

6. **ACTION AGENDA**

No action items presented.

7. **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Elwell moved to adjourn the Meeting of the Special Districts.

Chairman Tuck called for those in favor. The ayes have it and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

**HIGHLANDS COUNTY
COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

DATE OF ACTION REQUEST: June 17, 2025

PRESENTER: Rosa Morales, Budget Analyst II/NAV

**SUBJECT/TITLE: Public hearing to consider proposed Resolution 24-25-110
pertaining to the re-imposition of Chapter 9, Article VII (7), Placid
Lakes Special Benefit District special assessment.**

STATEMENT OF ISSUE

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Public hearing to consider proposed Resolution 24-25-110 pertaining to the re-imposition of Chapter 9, Article VII (7), Placid Lakes Special Benefit District special assessment.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact will be an increase to Fund 107 (Placid Lakes Special Benefit District) of approximately \$81,538 annually as the previous assessment collection was \$325,774 and will now be approximately \$407,312 if assessment is set at the requested rate of \$50 for FY 2025-26.

Attachments: [Preliminary Statement of Issue.pdf](#)
Attachments: [PL Preliminary Resolution 24-25-110.pdf](#)
Attachments: [PL Final Tear Sheet - Affidavit.pdf](#)

Statement of Issue:

On May 15, 2025, The Placid Lakes Home and Property Owners Association held a meeting and voted to recommend an increase of the non-Ad Valorem assessment to \$50. The current assessment is \$40 per lot or fraction thereof with a max rate of \$50. The members voted to increase to \$50 per lot or fraction thereof.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-25-110

(Preliminary Annual MSBU Assessment for Fiscal Year 2025-26)

A RESOLUTION OF THE PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT DISTRICT (“MSBU”), PERTAINING TO THE RE-IMPOSITION AND INCREASE OF THE MSBU ASSESSMENT; PROVIDING FOR LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT; PROVIDING FOR AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR PRELIMINARY RE-IMPOSITION AND INCREASE OF THE MSBU ASSESSMENT; PROVIDING FOR ASSESSMENT ROLE; PROVIDING AUTHORIZATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE BY PUBLICATION; PROVIDING FOR APPLICATION OF ASSESSMENT PROCEEDS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SCRIVENER’S ERRORS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Highlands County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 9, Article VII (7) Placid Lakes Special Benefit District (“County Code”), authorized the imposition of an assessment against the benefitted properties for the purpose of carrying out the projects of the MSBU, which include but are not limited to the ownership, construction, operation and maintenance of flood, erosion control, reclamation and irrigation facilities, water and sewer systems, public roads, fire protection, recreation and community center facilities, removal of nuisances, security services, mosquito control, signage, administrative costs to Highlands County and other benefits as determined by the MSBU Board (“MSBU Projects”); and

WHEREAS, the MSBU assessment is imposed each fiscal year in an equitable and efficient method of allocating and apportioning the same, in order to pay for the cost of providing for the ownership, construction, operation and maintenance of MSBU Projects; and

WHEREAS, the MSBU desires to re-impose and provide for increases in its annual assessment for the purpose of funding MSBU Projects; and

WHEREAS, by this Preliminary Assessment Resolution, the MSBU desires to re-impose and provide authorization for incremental increases in the annual assessment which is imposed by the MSBU against the benefitted lots and parcels of real property located in the area of the MSBU for the purpose of completing MSBU Projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT DISTRICT IN HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. The MSBU has complied with all requirements and procedures of Florida law in processing this Resolution. The above findings are hereby adopted.

SECTION 2. Authority. This Resolution is adopted pursuant to the provisions of the County Code and other applicable provisions of Florida law.

SECTION 3. Preliminary Re-Imposition and Increase of the MSBU Assessment. The lots and parcels of real property, or portions thereof, located in the area of the MSBU are hereby found to be

specially benefited by the provision of ownership, construction, operation and maintenance of flood, erosion control, reclamation and irrigation facilities, water and sewer systems, public roads, fire protection, recreation and community center facilities, removal of nuisances, security services, mosquito control, signage, administrative costs to Highlands County and other benefits as determined by the MSBU Board.

A. The following assessment shall be imposed against the benefitted lots and parcels of real property, or portions thereof, located in the area of the MSBU for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2025, and shall continue each year thereafter until discontinued or changed:

Property Category	Rate Per Parcel
Lot or portion thereof	\$50.00

B. The above stated Assessment rate may not be increased without conducting a public hearing for which notice has been provided by mail and publication in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 6 of this Resolution.

C. MSBU Assessments shall constitute a lien upon the benefitted property so assessed and shall be equal in rank and dignity with the liens of all state, county, district or municipal taxes and other non-ad valorem assessments. Except as otherwise provided by law, such lien shall be superior in dignity to all other liens, titles, and claims, until paid. The lien for a MSBU Assessment shall be deemed perfected upon the MSBU's adoption of this Assessment Resolution. Upon perfection, the lien for a MSBU Assessment collected under the Uniform Assessment Collection Act shall attach to the property included on the Assessment Roll as of the prior January 1, the lien date for ad valorem taxes imposed under the tax roll.

SECTION 4. Assessment Roll. The County Administrator is hereby directed to prepare, or cause to be prepared, a preliminary Assessment Roll for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2025. The preliminary Assessment Roll shall include all benefitted lots and parcels of real property, or portions thereof, located in the area of the MSBU.

SECTION 5. Authorization for Public Hearing. There is hereby established a public hearing to be held at 9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, in the Commission Chambers of the Highlands County Administration Building, 600 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring Florida, 33870, at which time the County will receive and consider any comments on the Final MSBU Assessment from the public and affected property owners and consider imposing the Final MSBU Assessment for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2025, collecting such assessments imposed on the benefitted lots and parcels of real property, or portions thereof, located in the area of the MSBU on the same bill as ad valorem taxes pursuant to the Uniform Assessment Collection Act.

SECTION 6. Notice by Mail and Publication. The County Administrator, or designee, shall cause notice of the public hearing authorized by Section 5, hereof, to be mailed to all of the property owners of the benefitted lands and property located in the area of the MSBU and shall also cause such notice to be published no more than 20 days prior to the hearing set for July 1, 2025. Such notices by mail and publication shall be in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"**.

SECTION 7. Application of Assessment Proceeds. Proceeds derived by the MSBU from this assessment will be utilized for the ownership, construction, operation and maintenance of flood,

erosion control, reclamation and irrigation facilities, water and sewer systems, public roads, fire protection, recreation and community center facilities, removal of nuisances, security services, mosquito control, signage, administrative costs to Highlands County and other benefits as determined by the MSBU Board. In the event there is any fund balance remaining at the end of the Fiscal Year, such balance shall be carried forward and used only to fund ownership, construction, operation and maintenance of flood, erosion control, reclamation and irrigation facilities, water and sewer systems, public roads, fire protection, recreation and community center facilities, removal of nuisances, security services, mosquito control, signage, administrative costs to Highlands County and other benefits as determined by the MSBU Board.

SECTION 8. Savings Clause. All prior actions of the MSBU pertaining to the assessment which is the subject of this Resolution, as well as any and all matters relating thereto, are hereby ratified and affirmed consistent with the provisions of this Resolution.

SECTION 9. Scrivener's Errors. Typographical errors and other matters of a similar nature that do not affect the intent of this Resolution, as determined by the Highlands County Administrator and County Attorney, may be corrected.

SECTION 10. Conflicts. All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict with any of the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed.

SECTION 11. Severability. If any Section or portion of a Section of this Resolution proves to be invalid, unlawful, or unconstitutional, it shall not be held to invalidate or impair the validity, force, or effect of any other Section or part of this Resolution.

SECTION 12. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

**PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT
DISTRICT**

ARLENE TUCK, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

Jerome Kaszubowski, Clerk of Court

Exhibit “A”

**NOTICE OF HEARING TO RE-IMPOSE AND PROVIDE
FOR AN INCREASE OF THE ASSESSMENT
OF THE PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT DISTRICT**

Notice is hereby given that the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners sitting in its capacity as the Board of Supervisors of the **PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT DISTRICT** will conduct a public hearing on **July 15, 2025**, to consider the re-imposition and increase of the Placid Lakes Special Benefit District Assessment imposed for the purpose of ownership, construction, operation and maintenance of flood, erosion control, reclamation and irrigation facilities, water and sewer systems, public roads, fire protection, recreation and community center facilities, removal of nuisances, security services, mosquito control, signage, administrative costs to Highlands County and other benefits as determined by the MSBU Board, against the benefitted lots and parcels of real property, or portions thereof, located within the area of the **PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT DISTRICT** for the **Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2025**.

The public hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, on July 1, 2025, in the Board Chambers at the Highlands County Administration Building, 600 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida, 33870, for the purpose of receiving public comment on the proposed assessments. This public hearing may be continued to a future date or dates. The times, places, and dates of any continuances of a public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing without any further published notice.

All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with Highlands County within 20 days of this notice. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board of Supervisors with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Human Resources, ADA Coordinator no later than seven (7) days prior to the proceedings: Telephone (Voice) (863) 402-6509 or by Florida Relay Service 711 or by E-mail to: HRManager@Highlandsfl.gov.

The following assessment shall be imposed against the benefitted lands or property located in the area of the **PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT DISTRICT** for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2025, and shall continue each year thereafter until discontinued or changed:

Property Category	Rate Per Parcel
Lot or parcel, or portion thereof	\$50.00

The above stated Assessment rate may not be increased without conducting a public hearing for which notice has been provided by mail and publication in accordance with the procedures set forth the adopting Resolution.

Copies of the Final Annual Assessment Resolution for Placid Lakes Special Benefit District, which is the subject of this hearing, and the assessment roll, and other documentation related to the

proposed re-imposition and increase of the annual assessment for the Placid Lakes Special Benefit District are available for inspection in the County Administrator's office located in the County Administration Building, 600 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The assessments will be collected on the ad valorem tax bill to be mailed in November 2025, as authorized by Florida Statutes, Section 197.3632. Failure to pay the assessment will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in a loss of title.

If you have any questions, please contact the County at (863) 402-6500 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION
HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN
Published Daily
SEBRING, HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No. NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA SITTING AS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT DISTRICT

**STATE OF FLORIDA,
COUNTY OF HIGHLANDS**

Before the undersigned authority, Janet Emerson, personally appeared who on oath says that she is the Classified Advertising Legal Clerk of Highlands News-Sun, a newspaper published at Sebring in Highlands County, Florida; that the attached copy or reprint of the advertisement, to the right, being a Public Notice, was published in said newspaper by print in the issues of or by publication on the newspaper's website, if authorized, on:

JUNE 6, 2025

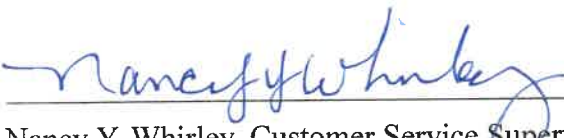
Affiant further says that the Highlands News-Sun newspaper complies with all legal requirements for publication in chapter 50, Florida Statutes.

SIGNED:



Janet Emerson

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of June, 2025
by Janet Emerson, who is personally known to me.



Nancy Y. Whirley, Customer Service Supervisor, Notary Number: HH 293555
Notary expires: July 26, 2026



NANCY Y. WHIRLEY
Notary Public
State of Florida
Comm# HH293555
Expires 7/26/2026

STATE NEWS

David Jolly, a Trump critic and former GOP congressman, to run for Florida governor as a Democrat

BY KATE PAYNE
Associated Press/Report for America

TALLAHASSEE (AP) — A former Republican congressman and vocal critic of Donald Trump says he wants to become governor in the president’s adopted home state of Florida, and that he’s running as a Democrat.

David Jolly formally announced his bid Thursday, becoming the latest party convert hoping to wrest back control of what had been the country’s premier swing state that in recent years has made a hard shift to the right. Under state law, term-limited Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis can’t run for reelection in 2026.

Even as Florida serves as a place for the Trump administration to poach staff and test policies, Jolly says he’s confident that issues such as affordability, funding public schools, and strengthening campaign finance and ethics laws will resonate with all voters in 2026. He predicts elections next year will herald nationwide change.

“I actually think Republicans in Tallahassee have gone too far in dividing us. I think we should get politicians out of the classrooms, out of the doctor’s offices,” Jolly said.

“I think enough people in Florida, even some Republicans, now understand that. That



CHRIS O’MEARA/AP PHOTO, FILE In this Oct. 20, 2015 photo, then-U.S. Rep. David Jolly speaks to media after showing up at a news conference for former Florida Gov. Charlie Crist in St. Petersburg.

the culture wars have gone too far,” he said.

Jolly was first elected to his Tampa Bay-area congressional seat during a 2014 special election, and was re-elected for one full term. The attorney and former lobbyist underwent a political evolution that spurred him to leave the Republican Party in 2018 to become an independent and then a registered Democrat. And he has built a national profile for himself as an anti-Trump political commentator on MSNBC.

Jolly said he has considered himself “part of the Democratic coalition” for five or so years, and believes in what he sees as the party’s “fundamental values” — that government can help people,

that the economy should be “fair” to all, and that immigrants should be celebrated.

“I struggled to exercise those values in the Republican Party,” Jolly said, continuing: “The actual registration as a Democrat wasn’t a pivot. It was a kind of a formality.”

Jolly has broken from his old party on immigration, as Florida lawmakers race to help Trump fulfill his promise of mass deportations. Jolly skewered Republicans who he said have “conflated immigration and crime,” which he described as wrong and immoral.

“If you were born here or if you immigrated here, or if you’re a Tallahassee politician who steals Medicaid money, we’re going to be tough on crime,” Jolly added, referring to a probe into the use of Medicaid settlement funds by a charity associated with first lady Casey DeSantis.

Jolly’s gubernatorial run as a Democrat draws comparisons to the failed bid of former Republican congressman-turned-independent-turned-Democrat Charlie Crist, who lost to DeSantis in 2022 by 19 points. It was Crist, running as a Democrat, who ousted Jolly from his congressional seat in 2016.

Jolly joined the Florida Democratic Party at what is arguably one of its most vulnerable

points in years. Florida currently has no Democrats elected to statewide office, and there are now 1.2 million more registered Republicans than Democrats, according to the state’s active voter rolls. The GOP has made significant inroads in formerly Democratic strongholds in the state, such as Miami-Dade County.

The day that Jolly announced his new affiliation, the-then

top Democrat in the Florida Senate, Jason Pizzo, revealed he was leaving the party, declaring that “the Democratic Party in Florida is dead.” Pizzo, a former prosecutor, has said he’ll launch his own run for governor as a candidate with no party affiliation.

On the Republican side, Jolly will face Trump-backed Rep. Byron Donalds, who is also a frequent pres-

ence on cable news as a surrogate for the president. Among the other names floated as potential GOP candidates are former Rep. Matt Gaetz and Casey DeSantis.

Kate Payne is a corps member for The Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a non-profit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on

Top DeSantis aide named next Florida education commissioner

BY KATE PAYNE
Associated Press/Report for America

TALLAHASSEE (AP) — The Florida Board of Education has tapped a top aide of Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis to be the state’s next education commissioner, a choice meant to influence K-12 and higher education policy in the state while bolstering a conservative legacy that could long outlast the governor’s time in office.



KAMOUTSAS

The board voted unanimously Wednesday to appoint Anastasios Kamoutsas, a deputy chief of staff to the governor.



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/AP PHOTO, FILE Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis speaks during a campaign event on May 31, 2023, in Salix, Iowa.

The job opened up after Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, a former Republican state lawmaker, was named interim president of the University of West Florida. Kamoutsas’ appointment is contingent on Diaz being named the permanent president of UWF.

“Student safety and achievement will be my top priorities,” Kamoutsas said. “Parents will continue to be empowered. And teachers, you have my word that I stand in support of you.”

Kamoutsas previously served as general counsel and chief staff at the state’s Education Department, before moving to the governor’s office.

“Stasi Kamoutsas has delivered on important issues like parental rights, school choice, and fighting back against radical ideologies in education,” DeSantis said in a statement. “I am confident that he will continue to serve our state well as the next Commissioner of Education.”

Kamoutsas is expected to help carry out DeSantis’ conservative

education agenda, from banning public funds for diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, to restricting how schools teach about race and history, and dramatically expanding the state’s school voucher system, which provides billions in public funds for scholarships to private and religious schools.

Among those who lauded Kamoutsas at Wednesday’s meeting was former Commissioner of Education Richard Corcoran, who has overseen what critics describe as the “hostile takeover” of New College of Florida. He’s among the slate of Republican former state lawmakers who are now helping state colleges and universities.

“Every single major decision, I don’t care if it was elimination of DEI, critical race theory, opening schools, demasking students, changing higher education, Stasi has been in that room, every single time,” Corcoran said. “And not just as a participant. He’s been in the room as a leader.”

Kate Payne is a corps member for The Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a non-profit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercovered issues.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA SITTING AS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE PLACID LAKES SPECIAL BENEFIT DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County, Florida, sitting as the Board of Supervisors of the Placid Lakes Special Benefit District will hold a public hearing to consider a proposed change in the assessment rate of the Placid Lakes Special Benefit District non-ad valorem assessment levied against each lot, or portion thereof, located within the District for the purpose of providing for the financing of projects for the District. This notice is given pursuant to the Highlands County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 9, Article VII (7), Placid Lakes Special Benefit District and Florida Statutes, Section 197.3632.

The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as can be heard, at the Government Center Boardroom, 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida. All affected property owners have the right to appear and be heard at the public hearing and the right to file written objections with the Board of Supervisors related to the proposed increase. Written objections should be sent to Highlands County Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Department, 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870.

Any person who decides to appeal any decision made by the Board of Supervisors of Placid Lakes Special Benefit District in a public hearing or meeting is hereby advised that he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based.

It is proposed that each lot, or portion thereof, in the special district described above will be subject to an annual Placid Lakes Special Benefit District non-ad valorem assessment in an amount not to exceed \$50.00 for each lot, or portion thereof, beginning October 1, 2025, which will be collected each year and will continue from year to year as provided in Florida Statutes, Section 197.3632(6).

The estimated total revenue expected to be collected from the proposed annual assessment of \$50.00 for each lot is \$407,312, for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

The assessments will appear on the annual tax bill and will be collected by the Tax Collector, as authorized by Florida Statutes, Section 197.3632. Failure to pay the assessment will cause a tax certificate to be issued against the property which may result in loss of title to the property.

If you have any questions, please contact the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Department at (863) 402-6500; Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

The Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County, Florida, does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual’s disability status. This non-discriminatory 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 Florida Statutes, Section 286.26, should contact Human Resources, ADA Coordinator at 863-402-6509 (Voice) Via Florida Relay Service 711, or by e-mail: HRmanager@highlandsfl.gov. Address: 600 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870. Request for cart or interpreter services should be made at least 24 hours in advance to permit coordination of the service.



Eye Specialists of Mid-Florida, P.A. announces that Dr. Nader Moinfar, M.P.H., will be leaving the practice effective July 31, 2025. Patients wishing to continue care with Eye Specialists of Mid-Florida please call 800.282.3937. All patients’ records will be retained by Eye Specialists of Mid-Florida, P.A. However, if you wish to obtain a copy you may do so at 5032 US Hwy 27 N, Sebring, FL 33870.