

**Regular Meeting of County Commissioners**  
**Wednesday April 26, 2023 (Legislative Day)**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Commissioners was convened in hybrid format, virtually and in person, at 5:03 p.m. with the following persons in attendance:

Reuben B. Collins II, Esq., President, County Commissioner  
Ralph Patterson, II, M.A., Vice President, County Commissioner  
Gilbert O. Bowling, III, County Commissioner  
Thomasina O. Coates, M.S., County Commissioner  
Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed., County Commissioner  
Mark Belton, County Administrator  
Deborah Hall, Deputy County Administrator  
Wes Adams, County Attorney  
Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

**Call to Order/Pledge**

Commissioner Collins called the meeting to order and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

**Meet and Confer with the Town of La Plata and the Town of Indian Head: FY2023 Tax Differential**

Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Director, and Mr. Jacob Dyer, Chief of Budget, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, Mr. Brandon Poulin, Mayor, Town of Indian Head, and Ms. Jeanine James, Mayor of the Town of La Plata, joined the Commissioners to meet and confer. Ms. Ellin provided an overview of the requirement to meet and confer based on state law and explained the history of the tax differential and an overview of the proposed FY2024 Tax Differential for the Town of LaPlata and for the Town of Indian Head.

The proposed rate calculation for the Town of Indian Head for the Fiscal Year 2024 would be zero point zero three one (0.031) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed value. For FY2023, the Commissioners approved the rate of zero point zero three zero (0.030) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) assessed value. Mr. Brandon Paulin, Mayor, Town of Indian Head, requested that the Commissioners approve the rate as proposed.

The Commissioners reached a consensus to the rate calculation at the calculated rate of zero point zero three one (0.031) as proposed.

The proposed rate calculation for the Town of LaPlata for the Fiscal Year 2024 would be zero point one three two (0.132) for the residents of LaPlata. For FY2023, the Commissioners approved the rate of zero point one three six (0.136) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) assessed value.

The Commissioners reached a consensus to keep the rate calculation at the at the zero point one three two (\$0.132) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed value.

*\*Break 5:14 p.m. – 6:01 p.m.*

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**Roll Call**

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

**Public Hearing: Fiscal Year 2024 Constant Yield-In Person**

The Commissioners conducted an in person and virtual public hearing on the FY2024 Constant Yield. Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Director, and Mr. Jacob Dyer, Chief of Budget, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, explained that this public hearing was a State requirement. It is a hypothetical tax rate to generate the same tax revenue for the next year.

There was one (1) in person comment provided by the community.

The Commissioners agreed to continue this public hearing after the in-person portion of the public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budgets, the Fiscal Year 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program, and Proposed Fees, Rates, and Charges. The virtual public hearings were held later this day.

**Public Hearing: Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budgets, the Fiscal Year 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program, and Proposed Fees, Rates, and Charges-In Person**

The Commissioners conducted an in person then virtual public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget and the Fiscal Year 2024 through Fiscal Year 2028 Capital Budget. Ms. Jenifer Ellin, Director, and Mr. Jacob Dyer, Chief of Budget, Department of Fiscal and Administrative Services, presented an overview of the proposed budget. She reviewed what was included in the proposed budget and the considerations taken to reach this budget. Mr. Dyer reviewed the Enterprise Funds, which include: Water and Sewer Fund, Landfill Fund, Environmental Service Fund, and Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund. Ms. Ellin presented the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) proposed budget overview. Mr. Dyer concluded with the review of the Fees and Charges.

There were fifteen (15) in person comments provided by the community.

*\*Break 7:13 p.m.-7:25 p.m.*

*After the break, the public hearings continued in a virtual format in order to hear virtual comments.*

**Roll Call**

A roll call was taken. All Commissioners were present.

**Public Hearing: Fiscal Year 2024 Constant Yield-Virtual (continued)**

There was one (1) virtual comment provided by the community.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Stewart and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to keep the record open until May 5, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor of closing this public hearing.

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A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Stewart and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to set the tax rate on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 between 9:30 am – 11:30 am during the BOCC Hybrid meeting.

**Public Hearing: Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budgets, the Fiscal Year 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Program, and Proposed Fees, Rates, and Charges- Virtual**

There were two (2) virtual comments provided by the community.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to keep the record open until May 5, 2023.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Bowling and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to close this public hearing.

At 7:38 p.m., a motion was made by Commissioner Bowling, seconded by Commissioner Patterson and passed, with all Commissioners present, voting in favor to adjourn.

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Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

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Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President