



DeSoto County

Board of County Commissioners

Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

6:30 PM

Final Budget Hearing

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner JC Deriso
Commissioner Steven Hickox
Commissioner Elton Langford
Commissioner Jerod Gross

Absent: Commissioner Judy Schaefer

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC HEARING @ 6:30PM

1. PowerPoint Presentation of the 2025-2026 Budget

Attachments: [Final Budget Hearing \(09-23-2025\) For Final Adoption \(09-13-2025\) FINAL](#)

Brian Wagner present the county's proposed final budget of \$178,312,046 which is about \$35,000 less then the tentative version after a few adjustments. The county is also set to receive \$37,852,736 in grant funding. Within the total budget, the general fund accounts for \$66,698,309, with \$24.5 million allocated to constitutional officers. the proposed millage rates include 6.8675 for AD Valorem and 2.9406 for the law enforcement MSTU, along with a 15 percent fire and EMS assessment. Compared to the current year rollback rate of 7.3879, the proposed aggregate millage of 9.4508 is 0.35 percent lower. Reserves remain in the good condition, with a contingency reserve of \$9 million, which together would allow the county to operate for about five months based on average monthly expenses. With these numbers in place, the request made before the board is to adopt the millage, and the capital improvement plan for fiscal year 2025-2026.

2. Resolution-Final Millage Rates FY 2025-2026

Attachments: [FINAL Millage Resolution 2025-2026](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hickox, seconded by Commissioner Langford, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

Absent: Schaefer

Enactment No: 2025-089

3. Resolution-Final Budget FY 2025-2026

Attachments: [FINAL Budget Resolution 2025-2026](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Langford, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

Absent: Schaefer

Enactment No: 2025-090

4. Capital Improvement Plan FY 2025-2026

Attachments: [CIP Book FINAL FY25-26 09-08-2025 Short Version](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hickox, seconded by Commissioner Gross, to approve the Capital Improvement Plan for fiscal year 2025-2026 . The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

Absent: Schaefer

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business before the Board, Chairman Deriso adjourned the meeting at 6:41PM

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA

MANDY HINES
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

J.C. DERISO
CHAIRMAN

SUPPLEMENTAL BOARD DOCUMENTS

NOTE: For quasi-judicial matters, any party desiring a verbatim record of the proceeding of this hearing for the purpose of an appeal is advised to make private arrangements for the production of a record and anyone wishing to present documents or other written evidence to the Board must provide eight (8) copies of the written material . If special accommodations are required in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals should contact the County Administrator's Office by calling 863-993-4800 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.