

**DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
RESOLUTION 2026- ____**

A RESOLUTION OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FINDINGS AND AMENDING THE RATES AND CHARGES APPLICABLE TO THE RECEIPT AND TREATMENT OF LIQUID WASTE (SEPTAGE) FROM IN-COUNTY AND OUT-OF-COUNTY SOURCES AT THE COUNTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT; AMENDING SCHEDULE B OF THE DESOTO COUNTY UTILITY RATES AND CHARGES; PROVIDING FOR REPUBLICATION AND INCORPORATION OF THIS AMENDMENT INTO SCHEDULE B OF THE DESOTO COUNTY UTILITY RATES AND CHARGES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 125.01, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 12, Article II of the DeSoto County Code of Ordinances, the Board of County Commissioners of DeSoto County, Florida ("Board") is authorized to establish, amend, and revise rates and charges relating to the County wastewater system; and

WHEREAS, Section 12-74.5(i) of the Code of Ordinances provides that the rates, fees, and charges applicable to liquid waste transporters shall be set forth in Schedule B of the County Utility Rates and Charges, and Section 12-74.5(j) expressly authorizes such fees to be adopted and amended by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Board previously adopted Resolution 2018-____ on June 12, 2018, updating the rates and charges applicable to the receipt and treatment of liquid waste (septage) from in-county and out-of-county sources at the County wastewater treatment plant; and

WHEREAS, the rates established in 2018 have remained unchanged for approximately eight (8) years despite increases in operational, maintenance, treatment, labor, equipment, and regulatory compliance costs associated with the acceptance and treatment of transported liquid waste; and

WHEREAS, County Utilities staff have conducted a review of rates charged by surrounding and comparable jurisdictions and have performed due diligence regarding the costs associated with the County's acceptance and treatment of transported liquid waste; and

WHEREAS, based upon that review, the Board finds that an increase in the transported liquid waste discharge rates is reasonable, necessary, and appropriate, and that the amended rates remain commensurate with those charged by surrounding counties and similarly situated utility systems; and

WHEREAS, the Board further finds that the remaining fees and charges associated with transported liquid waste disposal remain appropriate and should remain unchanged at this time; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the amendments set forth herein promote the public health, safety, and welfare and ensure the continued efficient operation of the County wastewater treatment system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. Findings. The foregoing recitals are hereby adopted and incorporated herein as the legislative findings of the Board.

Section 2. Liquid Waste Transport Rates and Charges.

Schedule B of the DeSoto County Utility Rates and Charges is hereby amended as follows:

(a) Transport Waste Discharge Rates:

54.i.2. - Transport Waste Discharge Rate (In-County Sources) shall be increased from \$0.06 per gallon to \$0.12 per gallon.

54.i.3 - Transport Waste Discharge Rate (Out-of-County Sources) shall be increased from \$0.08 per gallon to \$0.15 per gallon.

(b) All other liquid waste transport rates, fees, deposits, permit charges, after-hours charges, and related fees contained within Schedule B shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

Section 3. Incorporation and Republication. The provisions of Section 2 of this Resolution shall be incorporated into DeSoto County Utility Rates and Charges, Schedule B, which shall thereafter be republished. Any provision of Schedule B that conflicts with this Resolution is repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the Board of County Commissioners of DeSoto County, Florida.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED in DeSoto County, Florida, this 14th day of July, 2026.

ATTEST:

**DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

BY: _____
Mandy Hines,
County Administrator

By: _____
Steve Hickox,
Chairman

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:

By: _____
Valerie Vicente,
County Attorney