Levy County Board of County Commissioners Agenda Item Summary Form

1. **Name and Title:** Mary-Ellen Harper, County Manager
2. **Department:** Board of County Commissioners
3. **Meeting Date:** Tuesday, November 17, 2026
4. **Requested Action:**

Public Hearing: Approve RESOLUTION NO. 2026-57: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE PUBLICATION OF LEGALLY REQUIRED ADVERTISEMENTS AND PUBLIC NOTICES ON THE COUNTY'S PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 50.0311, FLORIDA STATUTES; MAKING FINDINGS REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE INTERNET; DESIGNATING THE COUNTY'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE FOR PUBLICATION OF SUCH NOTICES; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR EXCEPTIONS WHEN OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY LAW; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

5. **Cost & Funding Source:**

During Fiscal Year 2026, Levy County paid approximately $8,915.73 to publish legal notices in newspapers. There is no additional publication charge associated with posting notices on the County's existing website.

Accordingly, website publication would result in a direct annual cost savings to the County based on current publication expenses.

6. **Justification of Request:**

Pursuant to § 50.0311, Florida Statutes, Levy County may publish legally required advertisements and public notices on its publicly accessible website instead of in a newspaper, provided statutory requirements are met. This transition would reduce publication costs while maintaining public access to legally required notices.

Approximately 80.8% of Levy County households have broadband Internet subscriptions, and additional Internet access is available through public libraries and other facilities. The County will ensure notices are searchable, identify their initial publication dates, and establish a registry for residents requesting notices by mail or email.

Transitioning to website publication would promote fiscal responsibility, improve online accessibility, and reduce recurring newspaper advertising expenses while maintaining required public notification procedures.