



## Levy County Board of County Commissioners

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## Proposed 2026 Legislative Priorities

### 1. Replacement of University Oaks Water System Mains

Levy County owns the University Oaks Water System. The system serves 160 customers. Replacement of the water mains will:

- Reduce water loss / leaks - The existing system has aging, deteriorated mains and leaking pipes, which lead to water loss and inefficiencies. Replacing old mains helps conserve water, lower operational costs, and reduce waste.
- Improve reliability & service quality - Upgrading to new pipe (e.g. 6-inch PVC) and replacing deficient segments helps ensure continuous, safe, dependable water delivery to customers.
- Meet Regulatory / Environmental Goals - Because the University Oaks system is a public water system, maintaining system integrity is crucial for meeting water quality and regulatory standards. Also, conserving water and reducing unnecessary withdrawals helps protect aquifer resources and reduce environmental stress. The project is tied to cost-share programs for “repair/replace leaking infrastructure.”
- Support Growth / Future Capacity - As demand grows, a stronger infrastructure is needed to accommodate more customers or higher usage. Upgrading capacity and reducing weak links is part of preparing for future needs.

The county has secured a cost-share agreement with the Suwannee River Water Management District for more than \$300,000 to support this project. Final engineered plans have been accepted by the County and the project is shovel-ready.

**Request: \$850,000**

**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$1,160,000**



### Commissioners

Charlie Kennedy, District 1

Rock Meeks, District 2

Desiree Mills, Chair, District 3

Tim Hodge, Vice Chair, District 4

Johnny Hiers, District 5

## 2. Landfill

Levy County operates a Class III Landfill. The County must open an additional cell specifically for construction & demolition (C&D) debris because the existing cell is reaching capacity and was stressed by recent hurricane events.

**Request: \$3,000,000**

**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$5,000,000**

## 3. Installation of a Generator for the Levy Country Government Center

The Levy County Government Center is a central node for county administration, emergency coordination, public records, and essential services. In recent storms and outages, the facility has experienced interruptions in function, delaying critical decisions, hampering service delivery, and increasing public risk. To ensure resilience and continuity of government operations under all conditions, the installation of a modern standby generator is warranted.

**Request: \$1,000,000**

**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$2,000,000**

4. Amend provisions of the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program to expand purchase assistance eligibility to include mobile, modular, and manufactured homes by allowing the purchase of homes manufactured after 1994 that are regulated under HUD Code and governed by the Florida Building Code, meeting Wind Zone III certification with installed slab foundations including hurricane resistant anchoring to increase homeownership affordability.

**Request: Expand the allowable uses for SHIP Funding**

**Estimated Total Project Cost: Within existing appropriations**

5. The State Investment in Rescue & Emergency Medical Act would guarantees one fully staffed ambulance in every county in Florida and provides state funding for salaries, benefits, operating costs, and replacement of that single unit with a prioritization of fiscally constrained counties first.

**Request: Funding of a fully staffed ambulance to include salaries, benefits, operating costs and replacement of that unit.**

**Estimated Total Project Cost: \$35,000,000 - \$50,000,000 Statewide**