

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BOARD APPOINTMENT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: August 19, 2025

Department: County Library System

Advisory Board Name: Library Advisory Board

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: **Staff recommends motion to approve:** Reappointment of the following At-large member of the Library Advisory Board (LAB) to a term of three (3) years, effective October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2028.


<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Seat No.</u>	<u>Requirement</u>	<u>Nominated by</u>
Linda Knox	15	Resident of PBC Library District	Mayor Marino Commissioner Weiss Commissioner Woodward

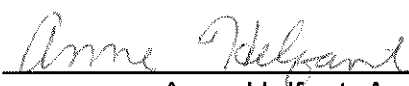
Summary: Chapter 2000-405, Laws of Florida establishes a requirement for a Library Advisory Board consisting of 15 members; one (1) at large and 14 district appointees. Ms. Knox is eligible to serve and has expressed a desire to be reappointed. Ms. Knox is a graduate of Palm Beach Atlantic University; served in the United States Army and is retired from a career with the United States Postal Service. She is active in her community including mentorship to young people.

A memo was distributed to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on May 5, 2025 requesting reappointment for Ms. Knox. No additional At-Large nominations were submitted.

Background and Justification: The LAB reviews programs and policies of the Library System, as well as budgetary requirements to finance the system and works with the Library Director to improve and expand Library service throughout the County.

- Attachments:**
- 1. Board/Committee Application Form
 - 2. Resume for Linda Knox
 - 3. Memo dated May 5, 2025 requesting reappointment
 - 4. Current List of Board Members
 - 5. Chapter 2000-405 Laws of Florida

Recommended by:  7-18-2025
Douglas Crane, Department Director Date

Legal Sufficiency:  7-21-25
Anne Helfant, Assistant County Attorney Date

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BOARDS/COMMITTEES APPLICATION

The information provided on this form will be used in considering your nomination. Please **COMPLETE SECTION II IN FULL**. Answer "none" or "not applicable" where appropriate. Please **attach a biography or résumé to this form**.

Section I (Department): (Please Print)

Board Name: LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD Advisory ☒ Not Advisory ☐

☒ At Large Appointment or ☐ District Appointment /District #: _____

Term of Appointment: 3 Years. From: 10/01/2025 To: 09/30/2028

Seat Requirement: Resident of Palm Beach County Taxing District Seat #: 15

☒ *Reappointment or ☐ New Appointment

or ☐ to complete the term of _____ Due to: ☐ resignation ☐ other

Completion of term to expire on: _____

***When a person is being considered for reappointment, the number of previous disclosed voting conflicts during the previous term shall be considered by the Board of County Commissioners: _____**

Section II (Applicant): (Please Print)

APPLICANT, UNLESS EXEMPTED, MUST BE A COUNTY RESIDENT

Name: Knox Linda
Last First Middle

Occupation/Affiliation: N/A
Owner ☐ Employee ☐ Officer ☐

Business Name: _____
Business Address: N/A
City & State _____ Zip Code: _____

Residence Address: 17422 38th Lane North
City & State Loxahatchee, FL Zip Code: 33470
Home Phone: (561) 282-8802 Business Phone: () Ext.
Cell Phone: _____ Fax: ()
Email Address: chinalmk@aol.com

Mailing Address Preference: ☐ Business ☒ Residence

Have you ever been convicted of a felony: Yes ☐ No ☒
If Yes, state the court, nature of offense, disposition of case and date: _____

Minority Identification Code ☐ Male ☒ Female
☐ Native-American ☐ Hispanic-American ☐ Asian-American ☒ African-American ☐ Caucasian

Section II Continued:

CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS: Pursuant to Article XIII, Sec. 2-443 of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, advisory board members are prohibited from entering into any contract or other transaction for goods or services with Palm Beach County. Exceptions to this prohibition include awards made under sealed competitive bids, certain emergency and sole source purchases, and transactions that do not exceed \$500 per year in aggregate. These exemptions are described in the Code. This prohibition does not apply when the advisory board member's board provides no regulation, oversight, management, or policy-setting recommendations regarding the subject contract or transaction and the contract or transaction is disclosed at a public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. To determine compliance with this provision, it is necessary that you, as a board member applicant, identify all contractual relationships between Palm Beach County government and you as an individual, directly or indirectly, or your employer or business. This information should be provided in the space below. If there are no contracts or transactions to report, please verify that none exist. Staff will review this information and determine if you are eligible to serve or if you may be eligible for an exception or waiver pursuant to the code.

<u>Contract/Transaction No.</u>	<u>Department/Division</u>	<u>Description of Services</u>	<u>Term</u>
Example: (R#XX-XX/PO XX)	Parks & Recreation	General Maintenance	10/01/00-09/30/2100
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
(Attach Additional Sheet(s), if necessary)			
OR			
NONE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOT APPLICABLE/ (Governmental Entity)	<input type="checkbox"/>

ETHICS TRAINING: All board members are required to read and complete training on Article XIII of the Palm Beach Code, the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics. Training on the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics can be found on the web at: <http://www.palmbeachcountvethics.com/training.htm>. Ethics training is on-going, and pursuant to PPM CW-P-80 is required before appointment, and upon reappointment. All board members must also be familiar with the State of Florida Code of Ethics, (Chapter 112, part III of the Florida Statutes), and the Florida Sunshine Law.

By signing below I agree to abide by the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, and acknowledge that I have received the required Ethics training (in the manner checked below):

☒ By watching the training program on the Web, DVD or VHS on 3-16-2025, 2025

☐ By attending a live presentation given on _____, 2025

AND

By signing below I acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Florida Sunshine Law and the State of Florida Code of Ethics, Chapter 112, part III of the Florida Statutes:

*Applicant's Signature: Linda Knox Printed Name: Linda Knox Date: 3-16-2025

Any questions and/or concerns regarding Article XIII of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, please visit the Commission on Ethics website www.palmbeachcountvethics.com or contact us via email at ethics@palmbeachcountvethics.com or (561) 233-0724.

Return this FORM to:
Giselle L. Badillo, Library Administration
3650 Summit Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33406
badillo@pbclibrary.org

Section III (Commissioner, if applicable):

Appointment to be made at BCC Meeting on: _____

Commissioner's Signature: Maria G. Mann Date: 5-19-25

Section II Continued:

CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS: Pursuant to Article XIII, Sec. 2-443 of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, advisory board members are prohibited from entering into any contract or other transaction for goods or services with Palm Beach County. Exceptions to this prohibition include awards made under sealed competitive bids, certain emergency and sole source purchases, and transactions that do not exceed \$500 per year in aggregate. These exemptions are described in the Code. This prohibition does not apply when the advisory board member's board provides no regulation, oversight, management, or policy-setting recommendations regarding the subject contract or transaction and the contract or transaction is disclosed at a public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. To determine compliance with this provision, it is necessary that you, as a board member applicant, identify all contractual relationships between Palm Beach County government and you as an individual, directly or indirectly, or your employer or business. This information should be provided in the space below. If there are no contracts or transactions to report, please verify that none exist. Staff will review this information and determine if you are eligible to serve or if you may be eligible for an exception or waiver pursuant to the code.

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Example: (R#XX-XX/PO XX)	Parks & Recreation	General Maintenance	10/01/00-09/30/2100
(Attach Additional Sheet(s), if necessary) OR			
NONE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOT APPLICABLE/ (Governmental Entity)	<input type="checkbox"/>

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- ☐ By attending a live presentation given on _____, 2025

AND

By signing below I acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Florida Sunshine Law and the State of Florida Code of Ethics, Chapter 112, part III of the Florida Statutes:

*Applicant's Signature: Linda Knox Printed Name: Linda Knox Date: 3-16-2025

Any questions and/or concerns regarding Article XIII of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, please visit the Commission on Ethics website www.palmbeachcountyethics.com or contact us via email at ethics@palmbeachcountyethics.com or (561) 233-0724.

Return this FORM to:
Giselle L. Badillo, Library Administration
3650 Summit Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33406
badillog@pbclibrary.org

Section III (Commissioner, if applicable):

Appointment to be made at BCC Meeting on:

Commissioner's Signature: [Signature] Date: 5/16/25

Section II Continued:

CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS: Pursuant to Article XIII, Sec. 2-443 of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, advisory board members are prohibited from entering into any contract or other transaction for goods or services with Palm Beach County. Exceptions to this prohibition include awards made under sealed competitive bids, certain emergency and sole source purchases, and transactions that do not exceed \$500 per year in aggregate. These exemptions are described in the Code. This prohibition does not apply when the advisory board member's board provides no regulation, oversight, management, or policy-setting recommendations regarding the subject contract or transaction and the contract or transaction is disclosed at a public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. To determine compliance with this provision, it is necessary that you, as a board member applicant, identify all contractual relationships between Palm Beach County government and you as an individual, directly or indirectly, or your employer or business. This information should be provided in the space below. If there are no contracts or transactions to report, please verify that none exist. Staff will review this information and determine if you are eligible to serve or if you may be eligible for an exception or waiver pursuant to the code.

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Example: (R#XX-XX/PO XX)	Parks & Recreation	General Maintenance	10/01/00-09/30/2100
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
(Attach Additional Sheet(s), if necessary) OR			
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By signing below I acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Florida Sunshine Law and the State of Florida Code of Ethics, Chapter 112, part III of the Florida Statutes:

*Applicant's Signature: Linda Knox Printed Name: Linda Knox Date: 3-16-2025

Any questions and/or concerns regarding Article XIII of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, please visit the Commission on Ethics website www.palmbeachcountyethics.com or contact us via email at ethics@palmbeachcountyethics.com or (561) 233-0724.

Return this FORM to:
Giselle L. Badillo, Library Administration
3650 Summit Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33406
badillo@pbclibrary.org

Section III (Commissioner, if applicable):

Appointment to be made at BCC Meeting on: _____

Commissioner's Signature: Marcia Woodward Date: 7-2-25

Pursuant to Florida's Public Records Law, this document may be reviewed and photocopied by members of the public.

Revised 06.14.24

LINDA KNOX

17422 38TH Lane North, Loxahatchee, FL 33470 · (561) 792-7758
ChinaImk@aol.com

EXPERIENCE

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8

SUPPLY SERGEANT, US ARMY

Order equipment and supplies according to Army guidelines. Maintained accurate and up-to-date inventory records for all company-level equipment, supplies, and materials.

EDUCATION

2
3
4

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, PALM BEACH ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Library Advisory Board Member, **At Large Member**
- The Young at Heart Club, **Member**
- Indian Trail Improvement District, **Recreational Advisor**

ACTIVITIES

My personal interests include reading, walking, and frequent visits to libraries, reflecting a dedication to continuous learning and well-being. I also find great satisfaction in mentoring young people within my community.



**Palm Beach County
Library System**

3650 Summit Boulevard
West Palm Beach, FL 33406-4198
(561) 233-2600
www.pbclibrary.org



**Palm Beach County
Board of County
Commissioners**

Maria G. Marino, Mayor

Sara Baxter, Vice Mayor

Gregg K. Weiss

Joel Flores

Marci Woodward

Maria Sachs

Bobby Powell, Jr.

County Administrator

Verdenia C. Baker

*"An Equal Opportunity
Affirmative Action Employer"*

Official Electronic Letterhead

TO: Members of the Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Douglas Crane
Library Director

DATE: May 5, 2025

RE: **Library Advisory Board
At-Large Reappointment**

Linda Knox's term on the Library Advisory Board will expire on September 30, 2025. Ms. Knox is eligible and has expressed interest in continuing to serve on this Board.

Ms. Knox received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Palm Beach Atlantic University. She served as a Skills Supply Sergeant in the United States Army, and is a retired Letter Carrier/Clerk from the United States Postal Service.

Ms. Knox has served as a Recreational Advisor for the Indian Trail Improvement District and is a member of the Young at Heart Club in Royal Palm Beach. Linda's hobbies include reading and mentoring young people. She is a long time library supporter, making frequent visits to her local branches.

Since her original appointment in 2017, Ms. Knox has consistently maintained monthly meeting attendance standards and has declared no voting conflicts.

Enclosed you will find a Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners Boards/Committees Application with verification of Code of Ethics training completed by Ms. Knox, along with an updated resume for your consideration. A current LAB roster is also enclosed.

In support of this At Large reappointment for Linda Knox, please email your response to me by Friday, August 1st, 2025 and include my Administrative Assistant, Giselle L. Badillo. We intend to advance this appointment as a consent item for the September 16, 2025 BCC Meeting.

cc: Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator

Library Advisory Board

BCC		Term		BCC		Term	
District #	Name	Expires	Seat #	District#	Name	Expires	Seat #
1	Lisa Seymour 110 Alegria Way Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 561-627-5516 (home) 561-379-8204 (cell) lisaseymour@me.com	9/30/26	(1)	5	Lainey Brooks 12343 Cascade Valley Lane Boynton Beach, FL 33473 561-806-5422 (home) 305-978-5146 (cell)	09/30/27	(9)
1	Abby Baker 108 Alegria Way Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 561-306-3738 AbbyBaker561@gmail.com	9/30/26	(2)	5	Jody Mindell 9863 Savona Winds Drive Delray Beach, FL 33446 561-865-5727(home) 561-862-7866 (cell) JodyMindell@gmail.com	9/30/26	(10)
2	Virginia Savietto 5345 Mendoza Street West Palm Beach, FL 33415 561-906-9158 virginiasavietto@gmail.com	9/30/26	(3)	6	Julia Matthews 5301 Cedar Lake Road Apt 933 Boynton Beach, FL 33437 561-524-5927 Juliamatt995@gmail.com	9/30/26	(11)
2	Perri McDowell-Demps 5269 Tiffany Anne Circle West Palm Beach, FL 33417 561-584-4781 (cell) pdemps@email.com	9/30/27	(4)	6	Antoinita "Annie" Ifill 907 Belle Glade Gardens Belle Glade, FL 33430 (561) 692-1063 (cell) (561) 685-4829 (business) Annie.glades@htpbc.org	09/30/27	(12)
3	John McGovern 9200 Belvedere Road, Suite 102 Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411 561-242-9030 (home) 561-385-4817 (cell) jtmwellington@gmail.com	09/30/25	(5)	7	Dale Blanton 3545 Amalfi Drive West Palm Beach, FL 33417 561-318-0418 (cell) daleblan@gmail.com	9/30/26	(13)
3	Maria Martinez-Rivera P.O. Box 211746 Royal Palm Beach, FL 33421 561-970-6252 (cell) mariac@hriveralaw.com	09/30/25	(6)	7	Sherry Albury 5712 Elmwood Street Mangonia Park, FL 33407 561-848-1235 Ext.116 (work) 561-308-7396 (cell) salbury@tompfl.com	9/30/26	(14)
4	Kathryn Gundlach 121 Park Lane East Hypoluxo, FL 33462 561-588-8298 (home) 561-358-4217 (cell) pgundlach@aol.com	9/30/27	(7)	At- Large	Linda Knox 17422 38 th Lane North Loxahatchee, FL 33470 561- 282-8802 (home) chinalmk@aol.com	9/30/25	(15)
4	►► Megan Bob 21539 Hollandaire Dr. Boca Raton, FL 33433 317-797-7005 (cell) mbob@literacypbc.org	9/30/25	(8)		Douglas Crane , Library Director Palm Beach County Library System craned@pbclibrary.org 561-233-2799		

►► Chair
► Vice Chair

July 2025

Ch. 2000-404

LAWS OF FLORIDA

Ch. 2000-405

~~Section 5. Liberal interpretation.—The provisions of this act shall be liberally construed in order to effectively carry out the purposes of this act in the interest of the public and safety.~~

~~Section 6. Chapters 85-454, 88-488, 90-455, 91-398, 93-395, 94-417, and 95-461, Laws of Florida, are repealed.~~

~~Section 7. Repeal of conflicting laws.—All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.~~

~~Section 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.~~

~~Approved by the Governor May 22, 2000.~~

~~Filed in Office Secretary of State May 22, 2000.~~

CHAPTER 2000-405

House Bill No. 971

An act relating to Palm Beach County; providing for codification of special laws regarding special districts pursuant to Chapter 189, Florida Statutes, relating to the Palm Beach County Library District, a dependent special taxing district in Palm Beach County; amending, codifying, and repealing chapters 67-1869, 76-460, and 86-431, Laws of Florida; ratifying and confirming the creation and establishment of the Palm Beach County Library District; providing definitions; providing for a library advisory board; providing operating rules and procedures; providing for budget and reports; providing for contractual service; providing for title of library to be in county; providing for receipt of gifts and bequests; providing for taxation and contracts; providing for a county library fund; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Pursuant to chapter 189, Florida Statutes, this act constitutes the codification of all special acts relating to the Palm Beach County Library District. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this law to provide a single, comprehensive special act charter for the district, including all current legislative authority granted to the district by its several legislative enactments.

Section 2. Chapter 67-1869, Laws of Florida, chapter 76-460, Laws of Florida, and chapter 86-431, Laws of Florida, relating to the Palm Beach County Library District, are codified, reenacted, amended, and repealed as herein provided.

Section 3. The Palm Beach County Library District is re-created and reenacted to read:

Section 1. Short title.—This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Palm Beach County Library District Act."

> Section 2. Palm Beach County Library District Charter.—It is the intent of this act to create a Palm Beach County Library District for which the governing body will be the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, for the purpose of establishing, operating, and maintaining a free public library or providing for contractual library services for the benefit and use of the residents of Palm Beach County, who are taxed for such library or library service. This taxing district shall be subject to chapter 120, Florida Statutes, as it pertains to the Florida Administrative Procedure Act, when applicable.

A. Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the following words and terms shall have the following meanings, unless some other meaning is clearly indicated:

(1) "Library advisory board" shall refer to a board of citizens, which shall represent the board of county commissioners in matters pertaining to county free public libraries or free public library service. This shall include, but not be limited to, matters of policy, budgeting, and employment of the head librarian.

(2) "Commission" shall mean the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County.

(3) "Contractual library service" shall refer to the library service provided by the county to its residents by means of a contractual arrangement.

> (4) "District" shall refer to the Palm Beach County Library District which shall include all taxable property within the county not already taxed for library purposes by a municipality.

(5) "Palm Beach County Library System" or "library system" shall refer to the entity created by the district to provide free public library services.

B. Organization for administration of the library system.—The responsibility for operating and maintaining the library system shall be delegated to a head librarian, qualified according to standards established by the library advisory board.

C. Library advisory board.—The commission shall appoint a citizens advisory board to represent them in administering the library system. The library advisory board shall select the head librarian, and make policy and budget decisions subject to the approval of the commission. The commission shall appoint the library advisory board to consist of at least seven (7) and not more than fifteen (15) citizens of the district, and establish qualifications and terms for membership. The library advisory board shall serve without pay, but may be reimbursed for actual expenses subject to the approval of the commission.

D. Operating rules and procedures.—The library advisory board may establish such rules, regulations, and procedures as are deemed necessary

for the operation of the library system; provided, however, that no such rule, regulation, or procedure shall conflict with any law, statute, or regulation established by the Legislature of this state or the commission of the county.

E. Budgets; reports.—Budgets and reports shall be prepared and filed by the head librarian in accordance with instructions and regulations of the commission, but in no case shall the budget be filed later than July 1 of each year or the annual report later than January 1 for the preceding fiscal year.

F. Contractual library service.—In carrying out the provisions of this chapter, the commission may either acquire and provide for the maintenance and operation of a free public library for the county, or may provide free library service to the citizens of the county by entering into a contract therefor with any municipality or municipalities, or both, with any nonprofit library corporation or association in Palm Beach County owning a free public library, or with any other county or municipality in the state owning a free public library. Any municipality or any nonprofit library corporation or association owning a free public library in Palm Beach County may enter into a contract with the county to receive services including, but not limited to, library materials and technical assistance from the library system upon such terms as may be agreed upon by the county and the governmental body of the library contracting therewith.

G. Title of library to be in the county.—The title and ownership of all land, buildings, facilities, equipment, and library materials constructed or acquired by or on behalf of the library system shall be in Palm Beach County.

H. Gifts and bequests.—The commission is authorized to receive on behalf of the district any gift, bequest, or devise for the library system or for use in the county contractual library service.

I. Taxation and contracts.—

(1) In order to establish and maintain a free public library or to provide contractual library services, the commission may levy an annual tax, in the same manner and at the same time as other county taxes, upon all taxable property within the district, and may thereafter enter into a contract with any municipality in Palm Beach County to furnish free public library service upon terms to be agreed upon by the county and the governing body of the library contracting therewith.

(2) Any municipality owning or operating a public library, or any nonprofit library corporation or association in Palm Beach County owning a free public library, may enter into a contract with the commission to furnish or receive any library service upon terms to be agreed upon by the parties thereto, or any municipality without a free public library may enter into a contract with the commission to receive library service upon the terms to be agreed upon by the county and the governing body of the municipality.

J. County library fund.—

(1) All funds of the district, whether derived from taxation or otherwise, shall constitute a separate fund to be known as the county library fund, and

shall be expended only for library purposes. The expenses incurred by the library system shall be paid by warrants drawn by the commission, payable out of the county library fund. At the end of each fiscal year, all moneys unexpended in the county library fund shall be appropriated as part of this fund for the subsequent fiscal year.

(2) The commission shall not make expenditures in any year in excess of the amount available for library purposes.

(3) Library capital improvements may be funded by:

(a) A multi-year levy; or

(b) Bonds issued by the commission; or

(c) As part of the annual tax; or

(d) Any appropriate public funding source.

(4) The commission is hereby authorized to submit a referendum for library capital improvements to the voters of the district.

(5) Upon approval of a majority of the voters of the district voting, the commission shall levy the voter approved millage for the number of years likewise approved, or authorize the issuance of bonds and necessary millage for debt service.

(6) Library capital improvements may include:

(a) Acquisition of library sites.

(b) Acquisition, construction, or renovation of buildings.

(c) Acquisition of bookmobiles.

(d) Acquisition of initial furniture and equipment.

(e) Acquisition and processing of initial library material collections.

(7) If any municipality not a part of the district chooses to enter the district, that municipality must transfer resources currently being used to provide public library service and/or such other resources as would be required for the library system to provide to the residents of the entering municipality comparable library service to that provided throughout the district.

Section 4. The provisions of this act shall be liberally construed in order to carry out effectively the purposes of this act.

Section 5. It is declared to be the legislative intent that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or provision of this act is held invalid, the remainder of this act shall not be affected.

Section 6. Chapters 67-1869, 76-460, and 86-431, Laws of Florida, are repealed.

Section 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 22, 2000.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 22, 2000.

CHAPTER 2000-406

House Bill No. 985

An act relating to Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District, Lee County; providing legislative intent; providing for codification of the special acts relating to the district pursuant to s. 191.015, F.S.; codifying, reenacting, and amending all prior special acts; re-creating the district; correcting district boundaries; providing status as an independent special district and purpose; providing for amendment of the charter; providing for election of the governing board; providing for officers and powers; providing for ad valorem taxation and non-ad valorem assessments; providing planning requirements; providing for annual review of user fees for emergency medical services; providing for policies and regulations; providing for public disclosure; authorizing per diem; providing for the budget; revising provisions relating to taxing authority, assessment and collection of taxes, financing, tax collector's responsibility, expenses, treasurer's bond, and financial reports; providing for liberal construction; repealing all prior special acts relating to the district; providing severability; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Pursuant to section 191.015, Florida Statutes, this act constitutes the codification of all special acts relating to Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this law to provide a single, comprehensive special act charter for the district, including all current legislative authority granted to the district by its several legislative enactments and any additional authority granted by this act. It is further the intent of this act to preserve all district authority, including the authority to annually assess and levy against the taxable property in the district a tax not to exceed 3.5 mills on the dollar of assessed valuation, except as provided in chapter 191, Florida Statutes, or chapter 97-340, Laws of Florida, as amended from time to time.

Section 2. Chapters 63-1546, 65-1825, 67-1633, 76-406, 79-498, 81-416, 81-417, 83-453, 85-444, 87-432, 90-387, 91-384, 94-456, and 96-460, Laws of Florida, and section 1 of chapter 83-454, Laws of Florida, are codified, reenacted, amended, and repealed as herein provided.

Section 3. The Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District is re-created, and the charter for such district is re-created and reenacted to read: