

Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

*315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
pinellas.gov*



Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 11, 2023
9:30 A.M.

Janet C. Long, Chair
Kathleen Peters, Vice-Chair
Dave Eggers
Rene Flowers
Charlie Justice
Chris Latvala
Brian Scott

Barry A. Burton, County Administrator
Jewel White, County Attorney
Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

ROLL CALL**INVOCATION by Pastor Keturah Pittman, Greater Mt Zion AME Church, St. Petersburg.****PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. [23-0249A](#) Water Conservation Month Proclamation:
 Utilities Department
 - Franklin Roberson, Water Conservation Coordinator
 - Frank Quarterman, Water/Wastewater Plant Operator 1
 - Nathan Hickerson, Chemist 1
 - Robert Pawlikowski, Chemist 1
2. [23-0250A](#) National Community Development Week Proclamation:
 Housing and Community Development
 - Brook Gajan, Compliance Manager
 - Joe Riddle, Grants Program Manager
3. [23-0318A](#) Department of Solid Waste Accreditation Award:
 - Paul Sacco, Director, Solid Waste
 - Rick Clarke, Solid Waste Program Supervisor, Solid Waste
4. [23-0319A](#) Employee Recognition Award:
 - Rick Clarke, Solid Waste Program Supervisor, Solid Waste
 - Dan Schutzsmith, Web Team Leader and Sarah Powell, Graphics and
 Digital Project Coordinator, Communications

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

5. [23-0251A](#) Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

6. [23-0317A](#) Amendment to the ordinance of the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board. (Companion to Item No. 7 and 8)

Recommendation: Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority (Authority), conduct a public hearing for a proposed amendment to the ordinance of the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board (MCB).

* The MCB is an advisory body to the Authority and to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Director.

* The MCB is given specific review and approval authority pursuant to Section 54-60 of the Pinellas County Code subject to overriding Florida Law.

* The Pinellas County Medical Association was recently dissolved.

* This item amends the ordinance of the MCB to change the Pinellas County Medical Association seat to add a pediatric physician member that would represent a hospital with pediatric services within Pinellas County.

7. [22-2089A](#) Amendment to the bylaws of the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board. (Companion to Item No. 6 and 8)

Recommendation: Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority (Authority), approve the amendment to the bylaws of the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board (MCB).

* The MCB is an advisory body to the Authority and to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Director.

* The MCB is given specific review and approval authority pursuant to Section 54-60 of the Pinellas County Code subject to overriding Florida Law.

* This item amends the bylaws of the MCB to add a pediatric physician member that would represent a hospital with pediatric services within Pinellas County. This seat replaces the Pinellas County Medical Association seat as that organization was recently dissolved.

8. [23-0239A](#) Appointments to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board.
(Companion to Item No. 6 and 7)

Recommendation: Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority (Authority), approve the following appointment/reappointments to the EMS Medical Control Board for a two-year term ending February 2025.

* Appointment of Dr. Meghan Martin as a Pediatric Physician to represent a hospital with pediatric services within Pinellas County. Dr. Martin is a Pediatric Emergency Physician at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital.

* Reappointment of Ms. Amelia Russell as a Hospital Administrator primary representative for HCA Largo Medical Center. Ms. Russell is a Chief Nursing Officer at HCA Largo Medical Center.

* Appointment of Ms. Lacey Rains as a Hospital Administrator alternate representative for HCA Largo Medical Center. Ms. Rains is an Assistant Chief Nursing Officer at HCA Largo Medical Center.

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 9 through 18

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

9. [23-0436A](#) Minutes of the regular meeting held February 28, 2023.
10. [23-0437A](#) Vouchers and bills paid from March 5, 2023 through March 18, 2023

Reports received for filing:

11. [23-0440A](#) Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Annual Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2022

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

12. [23-0441A](#) Juvenile Welfare Board Quarterly Financial Statements for the period ended September 30, 2022.
13. [23-0442A](#) Juvenile Welfare Board Quarterly Financial Statements for the period ended December 31, 2022.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

14. [22-2252A](#) Award of bid to NDL, LLC d/b/a Natural Designs Landscaping for roadway medians, rights of way, ponds and outparcels maintenance services.

Recommendation: Award of bid to NDL, LLC d/b/a Natural Designs Landscaping for roadway medians, rights of way, ponds and outparcels maintenance services.

* This contract provides grounds maintenance services of landscaped roadway medians, adjoining rights-of-way, related storm water mitigation ponds and County-owned outparcels on a cyclical basis, as request by the Public Works Department.

* Three bids were received with NDL, LLC d/b/a Natural Designs Landscaping recommended for award as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder.

* This contract is effective for an initial twenty-four-month term with two, twenty-four-month extensions. Term extensions allow for price adjustments once every twenty-four months in an amount not to exceed the average of the Consumer Price Index or 5%, whichever is less.

* This contract replaces contract no. 178-0178-B. On average, rates have increased 19.6% in comparison to the prior contract.

* Funding is budgeted in the Public Works Department General Fund operating budget.

Contract No. 23-0208-ITB in the total not to exceed expenditure of \$1,540,561.12, effective for a period of twenty-four-months; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

15. [23-0358A](#) Award of bid to Wholesale Landscape Supply d/b/a Big Earth Landscape Supply and Southern Landscaping Materials for requirements of Roadway and Landscape materials - a Tampa Bay Area Purchasing Cooperative contract.

Recommendation: Award of bid to Wholesale Landscape Supply d/b/a Big Earth Landscape Supply and Southern Landscaping Materials for requirements of Roadway and Landscape materials - a Tampa Bay Area Purchasing Cooperative contract.

* This Cooperative contract, administered by the County, is for roadway and landscape materials necessary for roadway improvements and various improvements to grounds and landscapes including the requirements for the cities of Clearwater, Dunedin, Oldsmar, St. Petersburg, and Tarpon Springs.

* Each participating agency is responsible for facilitating their own contract award.

* Three bids were received with Wholesale Landscape Supply dba Big Earth Landscape Supply recommended for award in the amount of \$812,780.00 for delivered line items 2, 7-9, 11-15, 17, 18 and pickup line items 1, 2, 4-12, 14, 15, 17-19 and Southern Landscaping Materials recommended for award in the amount of \$452,095.00 for delivered line items 1, 3-6, 10, 19, 20 and pickup line items 3, 13, 20 on the basis of being the lowest, responsive, and responsible bids received meeting specifications for County requirements.

* In comparison to the prior contract, pricing has increased an estimated amount of 23.7% for picked-up materials and 38.4% for delivered materials.

* Funding for this twelve-month agreement is derived from requisitioning department's operating budgets. Cooperative participants are responsible for their own funding.

Contract No. 23-0077-B in the total not to exceed amount of \$1,264,875.00 for the County, effective for a period of twelve months; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

Solid Waste

16. [23-0226A](#) Ranking of firms and agreement with NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC for Solid Waste and Waste Diversion Consulting Services.

Recommendation:

Approval of the ranking of firms and agreement with the number one ranked firm, NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC (NewGen) for Solid Waste and Waste Diversion Consulting Services.

* This contract provides technical assistance with Solid Waste and waste diversion programs, contract development, program evaluation, waste audits, composition studies, and market evaluations.

* Two submittals were received with an award recommendation to the top ranked firm NewGen in the amount of \$1,849,100.00 over sixty months; this agreement contains provision for one twenty-four-month extension.

* This contract replaces Contract No. 167-0463-P, which expired on February 28, 2023. The not-to-exceed amount of the 60-month contract was \$1,233,750.00.

* Solid Waste will assign work to NewGen using individual task orders.

* While this agreement will create purchasing availability, it does not guarantee that a contract amount will be spent. The Solid Waste Department may use up to the full amount.

* Funding is budgeted in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Adopted Budget and preliminarily in the FY24 departmental budget request.

Contract No. 22-0644-P in an annual estimated expenditure of \$369,820.00 for a not to exceed amount of \$1,849,100.00, effective for 60-months; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

Utilities

17. [23-0172A](#) Award of bid to Ring Power Corporation for electrical switchgear maintenance and repair services.

Recommendation: Award of bid to Ring Power Corporation for electrical switchgear maintenance and repair services.

* This contract provides electrical testing, preventative maintenance, and repair services for switchgear, transfer switches, breakers, switchboards, and associated components, on an as-needed basis.

* This contract ensures certified maintenance of essential electrical equipment as established by the original equipment manufacturers for the drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities.

* One responsive bid was received, with Ring Power Corporation recommended for award as the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder in the amount of \$1,359,129.00 for a thirty-six-month term or estimated annual expenditure of \$453,043.00.

* No prior on-going contract for these services has been awarded. This is a new contract effective for a period of thirty-six months with provision for two twelve-month extensions.

* The contract provides price increases/decreases after the initial thirty-six-month contract period not to exceed the average of the Consumer Price Index or 5%, whichever is less.

* Funding is derived from the Sewer and Water Operating Fund.

Contract No. 22-0590-B in a total amount not to exceed \$1,359,129.00 for a term of thirty-six months; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

18. [22-2272A](#) Joint Project Agreement with the City of Largo for the relocation and replacement of County's water system infrastructure in conflict with the City's proposed roadway and drainage system improvements along Valencia Drive North, South, West, and East.

Recommendation: Approval of the Joint Project Agreement (JPA) with the City of Largo for the relocation and replacement of County water system infrastructure in conflict with the City's proposed roadway and drainage system improvements along Valencia Drive.

* The County's existing 2" galvanized water main and 6" cast iron water distribution mains with an approximate total length of 1,800 linear feet, including fire hydrants, valves, fittings, blow offs, and miscellaneous incidentals to construction, must be relocated and replaced to accommodate the City's proposed road and drainage improvements due to being located in the City of Largo's right of way jurisdiction.

* The City's contractor will perform the County's water system infrastructure relocations and replacements as part of the project to achieve expedited repair, minimize maintenance of traffic, and minimize staging area and mobilization costs due to the contractor already being onsite.

* The City will invoice the County for reimbursement of construction costs.

* The preliminary JPA estimated project cost was \$715,000.00 as of June 2022.

* New JPA estimated project cost is \$1,100,000.00 based on recently received Utilities and Public Works bids, current inflation, long wait times on materials procurement, and higher construction costs.

* This joint project process is the most efficient option to complete the relocation and replacement of County infrastructure located in the City's project areas.

* Target Construction Date: October 2023 to September 2024.

* Project 005063A Water Main Relocation and Improvements City of Largo's Valencia Drive, is in the Capital Improvement Program, funded by the Water Renewal and Replacement Fund. The budget is being updated during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget process to reflect the new estimate.

PID No. 005063A; Agreement amount is \$1,100,000.00; Agreement in place for the duration of construction; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

19. [23-0355A](#) Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the Pinellas County Shore Protection Project at Long Key/Upham Beach.

Recommendation: Approval of the Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for the Pinellas County Shore Protection Project at Long Key/Upham Beach.

* Per the Agreement, cost share is \$4,744,633.00 (64%) federal, \$1,325,000.00 (18%) FDEP, and \$1,325,000.00 (18%) County match, including monitoring. FDEP will reimburse County up to 50% of eligible non-federal costs.

* Through this Agreement, FDEP will fund a maximum of \$1,325,000.00 for design, construction, and monitoring activities, which represents 50% of the estimated non-federal cost obligation.

* Pinellas County is responsible for 50% of the non-federal cost share, which is budgeted in CIP Project 004487A - Long Key-Upham 2024 Beach Nourishment in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 - FY28 Capital Improvement Program plan. The County share is funded by Tourist Development Tax.

* There is sufficient budget in the FY23 - FY28 CIP plan to support the latest project estimates.

FDEP Project No. 23PI1; County project number 004487A - Long Key-Upham 2024 Beach Nourishment; FDEP award of \$1,325,000.00 and County match of \$1,325,000.00; term January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2025; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

20. [23-0320A](#) Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for reimbursement of non-federal costs spent on the Pinellas County Shore Protection Project at Treasure Island.
- Recommendation:** Approval of the Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) for reimbursement of non-federal costs spent on the Pinellas County Shore Protection Project at Treasure Island.
- * Per the Agreement, cost share is \$6,960,000.00 (58%) federal, \$2,540,000 (21%) FDEP, and \$2,540,000 (21%) County match.
 - * The full award of \$2,540,000 was not needed to complete this project.
 - * Through this Agreement, FDEP will reimburse up to 50% of the actual non-federal costs, totaling approximately \$1,400,000.
 - * The project was constructed in 2018 and funded by Tourist Development Tax, through the Coastal Management Program.
 - * The original agreement expired before FDEP could provide reimbursement.
- FDEP Project No. 18PI2, formerly 18PI1; County project number 001515A Treasure Island Shore Protection Agreement; FDEP award of \$2,540,000.00 and County match of \$2,540,000.00; term January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2026; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.
21. [23-0352A](#) Resolution dedicating a County-owned property as public right-of-way.
- Recommendation:** Recommend the adoption of Resolution dedicating a County-owned property lying in a portion of Lot 1, Block C, of "Inness Park" according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 13, Page 1, of the public records of Pinellas County, Florida lying in Section 11, Township 27 South, Range 15 East, as public road right-of-way for Gulf Road.
- * A County-owned property, Pinellas County Parcel ID # 11-27-15-43056-003-0011 (Property), has been improved by the County, which includes an existing roadway.
 - * It is necessary for the County to dedicate the Property as public right-of-way.
 - * There is no cost for declaring a County-owned property to be a public right-of-way.
- Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest and record the resolution declaring County-owned right-of-way in the public records of Pinellas County.
22. [23-0403A](#) National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System Annual Report.
- Recommendation:** Accept the receipt and file of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) Annual Report.
- * This plan is in accordance with the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Maintaining this plan helps the County meet the eligibility for Federal hazard mitigation grants.
 - * These plans are developed through a multi-agency effort.
 - * Submittal of annual updates of these plans to the Board of County Commissioners are required as part of the County's participation in the CRS.
 - * No signatures required.

Safety and Emergency Services

23. [23-0336A](#) Resolution adopting countywide minimum standards for radio frequency testing in new and existing high-rise structures; and providing for effective dates.

Recommendation: Approval of a resolution adopting a countywide minimum signal strength of -102dBm for all new and existing high-rise buildings in all critical and non-critical areas with a Delivered Audio Quality of 3.4 or better and the submission of proof of compliance to Pinellas County Safety and Emergency Services to obtain authorization to retransmit the radio signal.

* Chapter 633, Florida Statutes, the updated Florida Fire Prevention Code, deemed the authority having jurisdiction shall determine the minimum radio signal strength for fire department communications in all new and existing buildings.

* Article II, Chapter 62 of the Pinellas County Code, the Pinellas County fire protection authority shall exercise specific powers, including determining minimum service levels, for each municipal and volunteer fire department and fire protection district within the county, and to compel such departments to take any action necessary to ensure that they are operating at the minimum level prescribed by the authority.

* Existing high-rise buildings are not required to comply with this minimum radio signal strength for fire department communications until January 1, 2025. However, by January 1, 2024, an existing high-rise building that is not in compliance, must apply for an appropriate permit for the required installation of a two-way radio communication enhancement system with the local government agency having jurisdiction and must demonstrate that the building will become compliant by January 1, 2025.

* This standard will provide for consistent enforcement across all jurisdictions and provide guidance for requiring signal enhancements when needed as it pertains to the Pinellas County Radio System.

This item has no fiscal impact upon Pinellas County.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

CareerSource Pinellas

24. [23-0366A](#) Appointment to WorkNet Pinellas d/b/a CareerSource Pinellas Board of Directors (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Recommendation: Approval of the appointment to WorkNet Pinellas d/b/a CareerSource Pinellas Board of Directors.

* Replacement of the position as representative of Education and Training, effective July 1, 2023.

* This position is required by federal law.

* The local board must include representatives from four categories: Business, Workforce, Education and Training, Government, Economic and Community Development, Other.

* The name of the applicant can be viewed on the attached worksheet.

25. [23-0382A](#) Subsequent designation of local workforce area and continued charter of WorkNet Pinellas, Inc. d/b/a CareerSource Pinellas, under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Recommendation: Approval of the local workforce area designation and continued charter of CareerSource Pinellas under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, as requested by the Local Workforce Board Executive Director.

* CareerSource Pinellas has met or exceeded levels of performance and sustained its fiscal integrity.

* The subsequent designation will cover for a two-year term, beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025.

Countywide Planning Authority

26. [23-0407A](#) Joint Forward Pinellas/Countywide Planning Authority Resolution designating Forward Pinellas as the forum to guide implementation of the Advantage Pinellas Housing Action Plan.

Recommendation: Sitting as the Countywide Planning Authority, adopt a resolution designating Forward Pinellas as the forum to guide implementation of the Advantage Pinellas Housing Action Plan.

* The Advantage Pinellas Housing Action Compact will commit municipal and countywide partners to developing a common set of policies and dedicating resources to address affordable housing in Pinellas County.

* A dedicated forum is needed to guide the implementation of the Advantage Pinellas Housing Action Plan and it has been agreed that Forward Pinellas will serve as that forum.

* Joint Resolution 2023-1 will officially designate Forward Pinellas as the forum to guide the implementation of the Advantage Pinellas Housing Action Plan.

Economic Development Authority

27. [23-0387A](#) Pinellas County Industrial Development Authority (d/b/a the Pinellas County Economic Development Authority) Resolution Regarding Modification of the Variable Rate Index on Certain Outstanding Obligations from Certain London Interbank Offered Rates to a substitute variable interest rate index.

Recommendation: The Pinellas County Industrial Development Authority (d/b/a the Pinellas County Economic Development Authority) (the Issuer) adopt a Resolution delegating authority to Authorized Officers named therein to execute and deliver amendments to outstanding bonds and related documents in order to replace the London Interbank Offered Rates (LIBOR) Variable Rate Index with a substitute variable interest rate index.

* Certain bonds issued by the Issuer bear interest at a variable rate and established on the basis of a formula utilizing LIBOR.

* The Intercontinental (ICE) Benchmark Administrator has announced that it will cease publishing certain LIBOR rates after June 30, 2023.

* At the request of applicable borrowers, this resolution will allow the Issuer to make certain amendments to the bonds and related agreements in order to substitute references to the LIBOR Variable Rate Index with a substitute variable interest rate index.

Emergency Medical Services Authority

28. [23-0173A](#) Amendment to the bylaws of the EMS Advisory Council. (Companion to Item No. 29)

Recommendation: Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority (Authority), approve the amendment to the bylaws of the EMS Advisory Council (EMSAC).

* The EMSAC is an advisory body to the Authority and to the EMS Medical Director.

* The EMSAC is given specific review and approval authority pursuant to Section 54-30 of the Pinellas County Code subject to overriding Florida Law.

* This item amends the bylaws of the EMSAC to add a mental health professional or similar representative to its membership. This seat replaces the Pinellas County Medical Association seat as that organization was recently dissolved.

29. [23-0259A](#) Appointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.
(Companion to Item No. 28)

Recommendation: Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority (Authority), approve the following appointments/reappointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council for terms ending in February 2025.

- * Reappointment of Ms. Becca Tieder as Citizen Representative for Commission District 5.
- * Reappointment of Mr. Jorge Mercado as Citizen Representative for Commission District 7.
- * Appointment of Ms. Siomara Bridges-Mata as representative for the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Ms. Bridges-Mata is the Executive Director for NAMI.
- * Reappointment of Chief Chad Pittman as primary representative for Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association. Chief Pittman is the Fire Chief for Largo Fire Rescue.
- * Reappointment of Chief Scott Young as alternate representative for Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association. Chief Young is the Fire Chief for Tarpon Springs Fire Rescue.
- * Reappointment of Commissioner Kevin Kenney as primary representative for Independent Fire Districts. Commissioner Kenney is a Fire Commissioner for the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District.
- * Appointment of Commissioner Casey Cane as alternate representative for Independent Fire Districts. Commissioner Cane is a Fire Commissioner with the Palm Harbor Special Fire Control & Rescue District.
- * Appointment of Dr. Zachary Zimko as a Mental Health Professional or similar representative. Dr. Zimko is a psychiatrist with Gracepoint Wellness.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

30. [23-0431A](#) Arbitration determination in the case of Pepper Contracting Services, Inc. v. Pinellas County; Circuit Civil Case No. 19-004558-CI - claims arising from a work order contract.

Recommendation: Consideration of the arbitration determination in the case of Pepper Contracting Services, Inc. v. Pinellas County.

31. [23-0254A](#) County Attorney Reports.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

32. [23-0252A](#) County Administrator Reports.

COUNTY COMMISSION

33. [23-0338A](#) Appointment to the Pinellas County Housing Authority (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Recommendation: Approve one appointment to fill a current term vacancy on the Pinellas County Housing Finance Authority beginning on April 12, 2023 and ending on January 31, 2026.

- * Approve one citizen appointment to the Housing Finance Authority.
- * Names can be viewed on the attached list.
- * Ballot/worksheet is provided; however, the Clerk may request a verbal vote.

34. [23-0255A](#) County Commission New Business:
Pertinent and timely Committee/Board updates, policy considerations,
administrative/procedural considerations, and other new business.

ADJOURNMENT

Special Accommodations

Persons with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations to effectively participate in this meeting are asked to contact Pinellas County's Office of Human Rights by e-mailing such requests to accommodations@pinellas.gov at least three (3) business days in advance of the need for reasonable accommodation. You may also call (727) 464-4882.

Public Participation Procedures

Persons wishing to comment regarding a specific agenda item should do so:

In person - by preregistering at <https://comment.pinellas.gov> or by filling out a comment card with the County staff person in the meeting room; or,

Virtually - in advance in accordance with the instructions in the notice of this meeting, or on the virtual platform or phone after preregistering.

Members of the public wishing to make comments on the virtual platform or by phone must preregister by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting. At the scheduled section of the meeting when the item is before the Board of County Commissioners (Board), the Chairman or Clerk will call on each individual, one by one, to be heard. Each individual may speak for up to three minutes as may be modified by the Chairman. Comments or behavior that violate Pinellas County Commission Public Participation and Decorum Rules will be disconnected. Members of the public who cannot attend at the time an agenda item is before the Board may offer comments during the Citizens to Be Heard section near the beginning of the meeting. More information is available at <https://pinellas.gov/participating-in-a-BCC-meeting> or by calling (727) 464-4400.

Public Hearing Procedures

The procedure used by the Board in conducting Public Hearings is to have a staff presentation followed by the applicant presenting the specific proposal. The Board will then hear comments from the proponents, the opponents and a staff summary. The applicant will then be given an opportunity to close and the Board will decide on the matter. Public Hearings before the Board are governed by the provisions of Section 134 -14 of the Pinellas County Land Development Code as may be modified by Pinellas County Emergency Order. That code provides that at the conclusion of each person's presentation, any speaker may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of staff.

Specifically:

1. At the conclusion of the presentations by the applicant and any proponents, all affected parties may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of or seek clarification from the applicant and/or the proponents.
2. At the conclusion of the presentation by the opponents, all affected parties may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of or seek clarification from any opponent.

The applicant's closing comments will address testimony subsequent to his or her presentation. Continuing rebuttal of other than directly preceding testimony will not be allowed. Because much testimony has already been submitted in writing, the following guidelines accommodate efficient presentations:

1. The applicant should present his or her entire case, including rebuttal, in no more than 20 minutes.
2. Persons wishing to speak regarding a Public Hearing item may speak for up to three minutes each.
3. Persons wishing to attend virtually must preregister at <https://comment.pinellas.gov> by 5 p. m. the day before the meeting.

Appeals

Persons are advised that, if they decided to appeal any decision made at this meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceeding, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

If a Board meeting beginning at 9:30 A.M. has not concluded by noon, a recess will be taken from noon to 12:30 P.M., and the remainder of the meeting will continue at 12:30 P.M.

If a Board meeting beginning at 2:00 P.M. has not concluded by 5:30 P.M., a recess will be taken from 5:30 to 6:00 P.M. The remainder of the afternoon agenda will resume at 6:00 P.M., followed by Public Hearings.