

Pinellas County



Minutes - Final

Friday, June 19, 2020

9:30 A.M.

Virtual Budget Information Session

Board of County Commissioners - Budget Information Session

Pat Gerard, Chair
Dave Eggers, Vice-Chair
Charlie Justice
Janet C. Long
Kathleen Peters
Karen Williams Seel
Kenneth T. Welch

ROLL CALL - 9:30 A.M.

Members Present: Pat Gerard, Chair; Dave Eggers, Vice-Chair; Charlie Justice; Janet Long; Kathleen Peters; and Karen Williams Seel.

Members Absent: Kenneth T. Welch.

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; and Teresa Adkins, Board Reporter.

Information Technology Manager Dana Zordan, Office of Technology and Innovation, introduced himself and announced that he will be the Technology Moderator for the virtual meeting; whereupon, he conducted a roll call of the members.

Budget summary documents pertaining to each presentation and copies of all PowerPoint presentations provided to the Clerk's Office have been made a part of the record.

1. State Attorney

Referring to various documents, Office of Management and Budget Analyst Jim Abernathy provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget request. Mr. Abernathy and Adam Ross, Office of the State Attorney, indicated that the overall budget request is less than Fiscal Year 2020; that the request includes funding for new laptops; that the majority of the State Attorney's Office funding comes from the State of Florida; and that the office is also partially funded by dedicated revenue, including recording fees.

2. Judiciary

Referring to various documents, Office of Management and Budget Analyst Jim Abernathy provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget request. Mr. Abernathy and Sixth Judicial Circuit Chief Judge Anthony Rondolino related that the overall budget has increased from Fiscal Year 2020 due to technology requests such as equipment and subscription upgrades; and that the Judiciary will be adding just under one full-time-equivalent position, which is funded by a Federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

3. Public Defender

Referring to various documents, Office of Management and Budget Analyst Jim Abernathy provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget request. He indicated that the Public Defender's Office has one decision package for two crossover case managers who

support juvenile offenders transitioning out of foster care; that these two positions were added in Fiscal Year 2018 as part of a pilot program; that they are funded initially through the State; and that the County is required to reimburse the State for the cost of the positions.

Public Defender Bob Dillinger provided information regarding the various programs that are funded by the County, including jail diversion programs and the recovery program for individuals with addictions; whereupon, he discussed the efforts of his office to keep individuals out of the criminal justice system, and the members thanked Mr. Dillinger for his work.

4. District Six Medical Examiner

Referring to various documents, Office of Management and Budget Analyst Don Mello introduced Medical Examiner Dr. Jon Thogmartin and provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget request, indicating the budget increase is due largely to increased operating expenditures; whereupon, he related that the Medical Examiner's Office has an interlocal agreement with Pasco County for the use of its facility that will expire September 30, 2022.

Dr. Thogmartin provided statistics regarding the number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 and information regarding medical examiner cases in 2020 so far; whereupon, he responded to queries by the members regarding the following topics:

- Fentanyl-related deaths
- COVID-19 efforts
- Potential mask policies
- Pasco County's use of the medical examiner facility

5. Florida Department of Health, Pinellas County

Referring to various documents, Office of Management and Budget Analyst Don Mello provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget request. He indicated that the budget reflects a decrease in operating expenses; that the grants and aids expenditure category is increasing due to expenses in core services and school nurse funding; and that the reserve funds are anticipated to rise in Fiscal Year 2021.

Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Director Dr. Ulyee Choe provided an overview of the Department, COVID-19 response efforts, and the initiative to put a nurse in every school in Pinellas County; whereupon, the Commissioners thanked Dr. Choe for his work.

6. Human Services

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Project Coordinator Kristen Kerr discussed the Department's performance management system, provided updates regarding the adult behavioral health system evaluation by KPMG Consulting, and described COVID-19 impacts on the Department; whereupon, OMB Analyst Don Mello provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget request.

Mr. Mello related that Human Services submitted two decision packages; that the first decision package requests the creation of a Street Medicine Team to provide basic behavioral health care to people experiencing homelessness; and that the second package requests funding to renovate an existing space to accommodate a denture lab at the St. Petersburg Department of Health location.

In response to queries by the members, Human Services Director Daisy Rodriguez, with input from Mr. Burton, provided additional information regarding the following topics:

- Street Medicine Team, including the cost of the program, the homeless population, program details, and anticipated outcomes
 - Collaboration with the Emergency Management Department regarding shelter space during the hurricane season
 - The development of a minimum data set and coordinated access model with KPMG Consulting
 - Digital communications efforts
 - Meetings with the 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares staff regarding process improvements
- Timeline for funding proposals for social action grants

7. Article V - Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Information Session (Information Only)

Mr. Burton related that the documents provided as part of the agenda packet are informational only; that they include a summary of court-related functions; that the Sheriff's Office is working with the court system to determine how to conduct temperature checks during COVID-19; and that the County is providing personal protective equipment to assist with the reopening of courthouses; whereupon, he indicated that he will be meeting with Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri next week.

ADJOURNMENT - 10:55 A.M.