

Pinellas County

*Pinellas County Cooperative Extension
12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo*



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

9:30 A.M.

Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting

Board of County Commissioners

*Dave Eggers, Chair
Charlie Justice, Vice-Chair
Rene Flowers
Pat Gerard
Janet C. Long
Kathleen Peters
Karen Williams Seel*

ROLL CALL - 9:32 A.M.

Present: 7 - Chair Dave Eggers, Vice-Chair Charlie Justice, Rene Flowers, Pat Gerard, Janet C. Long, Kathleen Peters, and Karen Williams Seel

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Katherine Carpenter, Board Records Manager; and Teresa Ribble, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION by Reverend Bob Scott, Peace Memorial Church, Clearwater.**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS****1. National Public Works Week Proclamation:**

- Cedric Pace, Crew Chief 2, Road and Bridge Section, Public Works
- Dale Laird, Construction Project Coordinator, Construction Division, Public Works

Chair Eggers read a proclamation recognizing the week of May 16 through May 22, 2021 as National Public Works Week, acknowledging the substantial contributions of the County's Public Works employees; whereupon, Mr. Laird made brief comments and thanked the Board for the recognition.

2. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week Proclamation:

- Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration
- Doug Frost, Critical Care Transport - Nurse Manager, Sunstar Paramedics

Reading a proclamation declaring May 16 through May 22, 2021 as Emergency Medical Services Week, Chair Eggers related that the week provides an opportunity to reflect on the efforts of EMS personnel. Safety and Emergency Services Director Jim Fogarty expressed his appreciation for the recognition and thanked the emergency services personnel for their dedication in helping the community through the pandemic.

3. EMS Professionals of the Year Award:

Emergency Medical Dispatcher

- Matt Albright, Pinellas County Regional 9-1-1 Center

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

- EMT/Field Training Officer Aaron Pearce, Sunstar Paramedics Paramedic

- Firefighter/Paramedic/Continuing Medical Education Instructor David Walker, St. Petersburg Fire Rescue

Pinellas Federal Credit Union

- Monika Lukasik, Marketing Specialist

Chair Eggers acknowledged that Pinellas Federal Credit Union has supported this award for 31 years and asked Ms. Lukasik to join him at the podium for the presentation. Following a video which highlighted the achievements of the award winners, Chair Eggers presented the awards. 911 Public Safety Center Manager Michelle Peterson accepted the award on behalf of Mr. Albright.

4. Business Partner Presentation:

- Martin Bischoff, President and Shareholder, KRAMSKI North America, Inc.

Following a video presentation which provided an overview of the company, Mr. Bischoff spoke briefly and indicated that KRAMSKI North America, Inc. is pleased to call Pinellas County home.

- Melissa McKinlay, President, Florida Association of Counties (FAC); Palm Beach County Commissioner

At the request of Chair Eggers, Commissioner Long introduced Ms. McKinlay and thanked her for her leadership during the last year. Ms. McKinlay provided brief remarks, thanked the Commissioners for their participation and leadership, and noted that large counties such as Pinellas make the work of FAC possible. Commissioner Flowers expressed her appreciation to Ms. McKinlay for her visit to Pinellas County and for the work being done by FAC staff.

PUBLIC HEARINGS**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - THIS ITEM HAS BEEN PULLED FROM THE AGENDA AND WILL NOT BE HEARD****5. Ordinance relating to indoor public safety requirements, mandating that individuals wear a face covering in public indoor places.**

This item was not discussed.

LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY - THIS ITEM HAS BEEN PULLED FROM THE AGENDA AND WILL NOT BE HEARD**6. Local State of Emergency.**

Noting that the item has been removed from the agenda, Chair Eggers requested an informational update. Mr. Burton noted that the County's COVID-19 percent positivity rate and vaccination demand continues to decrease; that there is an ample supply of vaccines available; and that due to the recent Governor's Executive Order, the County's Local State of Emergency (LSE) was allowed to expire. He related that the expiration of the LSE rescinds the mask mandate, social distancing requirements, restrictions involving bars and restaurants, and safety plans for large events. He indicated that work is being done to make vaccines more accessible to the community by creating specialized sites with convenient hours.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

7. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

Greg Pound, Largo
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor (documents provided)
Aden Barnes, Largo
Virginia Frizzle, Largo

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 8 through 16

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

8. Minutes of the in-person and virtual regular meetings held February 9 and February 23, 2021.

9. Vouchers and bills paid from March 28 through April 3, 2021.

Period: March 28 through April 3, 2021
Accounts Payable - \$61,304,960.55
Payroll - \$4,115,067.26

Reports received for filing:

10. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2021-06 dated March 31, 2021 - Follow-up Audit of Airport Concession Services Agreement with Republic Parking System.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

11. City of Oldsmar amended Ordinance No. 2021-02, adopted March 16, 2021, annexing certain properties.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

12. Quarterly report of claim settlements for the period of January 1 through March 31, 2021.

Economic Development

13. Award of bid to Advanced Engineered Systems Corporation for the STAR Center Fire Alarm System replacement project.

Contract No. 21-0199-CP (PID No. 004083A) in the amount of \$687,250.00 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received. All work to be completed within 248 consecutive calendar days.

Public Works

14. Cooperative Funding Agreement with the Southwest Florida Water Management District for the Starkey Road Watershed Management Plan update.

SWFWMD Agreement No. 21CF0003373 (PID No. 004937A) approved for a total contract of \$500,000.00 (County responsibility, \$250,000.00). Agreement is effective October 1, 2020 through October 31, 2024.

Solid Waste

15. Award of bid to David Nelson Construction Co. for the Bridgeway Acres Class I Landfill Ditch Slope Rehabilitation project.

Contract No. 21-0177-CP (PID No. 000752B) in the amount of \$1,348,200.00 awarded on being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received. All work to be completed within 305 consecutive calendar days.

Utilities

16. Ranking of firms and agreement with Benro Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a Rocha Controls, Inc. for professional design-build services pertaining to the Quantum and Unity Upgrades project.

Ranking of firms and Contract No. 190-0132-NC approved in the amount of \$866,365.00 for Phase 1 design-build and permitting services. Work to be completed within 180 consecutive calendar days from the notice-to-proceed date. Phase II construction services included in contract; staff to request BCC approval of Phase II costs with a Lump Sum Guaranteed Maximize Price at a later date.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA - None.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTSAdministrative Services

17. Change Order No. 9 to the contract with American Facility Services, Inc. for requirements of janitorial services at various County buildings.

(Contract No. 167-0450-B) Change Order approved for an increase of \$826,899.79, a revised contract total of \$15,985,187.34, and a revised average annual expenditure of \$3,197,037.47 effective through June 30, 2023, providing for services at four new locations, additional space or service at two current locations, and for enhanced cleaning and sanitizing COVID services at all locations through December 31, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seal

18. Transfer of installed assets from the Administrative Services Department to the Sheriff's Office for the Jail Campus Infrastructure Upgrade project.

This is a post-project informational item related to Contract No. 134-0308-NC. Transfer included furniture, fixtures, and equipment and was substantially completed in March 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seal

Economic Development

19. Resolution expressing support of C1012942751 as a qualified applicant for an Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption.

Resolution No. 21-29 adopted supporting C1012942751 as a qualified applicant pursuant to Section 196.1995, Florida Statutes, and authorizing the company to make improvements before an exemption ordinance is adopted.

Economic Development Business Development Division Director Suzanne Christman disclosed that the applicant is the Halkey-Roberts Corporation; that the company is considering an expansion of their St. Petersburg facility; and that the County is competing with locations in Alabama and Texas.

Responding to queries by Chair Eggers and Commissioner Peters, Ms. Christman indicated that approval of today's request would allow the company to move forward in the decision-making process for the project; that once the project has started, the company will submit an application for a tax exemption which will contain a fiscal impact study completed by the Property Appraiser's Office; and that Halkey-Roberts anticipates the creation of more than ten new jobs resulting from the project.

Commissioner Flowers thanked Chair Eggers for requesting additional information from the company and noted the competitiveness of the request. She related that manufacturing jobs will allow for continued economic growth; and that when additional financial data is received, a better projection of the expansion outcomes will be available.

Ms. Christman confirmed that the eventual tax exemption request would be for the added building only.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Peters

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Seel

Housing & Community Development

- 20.** Interlocal Agreement with the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County, Florida to define services provided for the implementation of County affordable housing programs.

Agreement approved, replacing the existing Interlocal Agreement executed on May 19, 2015. The Agreement will remain in full force and effect until terminated by either party and will be reviewed every ten years to address updates and amendments, as needed.

In response to a query by Commissioner Seel, Community Development Manager Bruce Bussey indicated that the revised Agreement contains specifications regarding payments per project and the addition of guidelines regarding use of Penny IV funds; and that the Agreement does not alter the administrative duties currently being performed by the Housing Finance Authority.

A motion was made by Commissioner Seel, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

21. Proposed resolution making a finding that conditions of blight exist in the North Greenwood study area, establishing the Community Redevelopment Area boundary, authorizing the preparation of the North Greenwood Redevelopment Plan, and delegating redevelopment authority to the City of Clearwater.

Public hearing held and Resolution No. 21-30 adopted finding that conditions of blight exist as defined in the Community Redevelopment Act of 1969, approving the establishment of area boundaries, authorizing the preparation of the redevelopment plan, and delegating certain power and authority to the City of Clearwater as the agency for the North Greenwood Community Redevelopment Area.

Planning Division Manager Evan Johnson related that County staff has continued to work with the City of Clearwater regarding the North Greenwood study area and conducted a review of the Finding of Necessity; that approval of the resolution will allow the City to begin the planning process for the CRA; and that any tax increment financing will be discussed and scored once the Redevelopment Plan is completed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Human Services

22. Notice of a grant award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources Services Administration, COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Funding for the Health Care for the Homeless program.

Notice of grant award approved providing one-time funding to support preparation, detection, and response to the COVID-19 pandemic; funding is in the amount of \$1,567,250.00 for a two-year period of performance from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2023. No County match required. The Health Care for the Homeless Governing Board will accept the grant award on April 13, 2021.

County Administrator Barry Burton introduced the item, indicating that the Florida Department of Health and the Health Care for the Homeless Co-Applicant Governing Board will be making guidelines regarding the use of the funds; whereupon, in response to a query by Chair Eggers, Interim Director of Human Services Karen Yatchum stated that primary health care would be provided to the homeless even without the grant; and that the grant will expand the availability of street medicine by bringing primary health care directly to those living on the streets.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Utilities

- 23.** Change Order No. 1 to the annual sanitary sewer repair contract for Fiscal Year 2019 - 2021 with Rowland, Inc.

Contract No. 189-0361-CP (PID No. 001272C) Change Order approved increasing the contract upset limit by \$1,200,000.00 for a revised total amount of \$5,515,619.80 and extending the contract term 100 calendar days through February 19, 2022.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

CareerSource Pinellas

- 24.** Subrecipient agreement between WorkNet Pinellas, Inc. d/b/a CareerSource Pinellas and Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to satisfy the requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (Pub. L. 113-128) and section 445.009(2)(C), Florida Statutes regarding memoranda of understanding and infrastructure funding agreements with one-stop partners.

Agreement approved incorporating new provisions governing workforce programs and establishing terms and conditions for the receipt of federal and state workforce funds for the period of May 15, 2021 through May 14, 2024. The agreement is contingent upon an annual appropriation by the Legislature of the State of Florida.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

- 25.** Appointment to WorkNet Pinellas d/b/a CareerSource Pinellas Board of Directors (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Economic Development Interim Director Kevin Knutson appointed to the Government, Economic, and Community Development category for a term expiring on June 30, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Seel, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Housing Finance Authority

- 26.** Resolution approving the issuance of Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds by the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County to finance the acquisition and rehabilitation of Palmetto Park Apartments.

Resolution No. 21-31 adopted approving the issuance of bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$14,250,000.00 for the benefit of Palmetto Preservation, Ltd, a Florida Limited Partnership. No County General Funds are required; all lendable funds are generated from the sale of tax-exempt housing bonds and the sale of low-income housing tax credits from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

Mr. Burton introduced the item, indicating that the funds will be used to rehabilitate 179 units of family rental housing, comprising of 16 units set aside for households at or below 30% area median income (AMI), 144 units at or below 60% AMI; and 19 units at or below 80% AMI.

In response to queries by the members, Pinellas County Housing Finance Authority Executive Director Kathryn Driver clarified that there is a mixture of income levels within the complex; that the units are fully occupied; and that tenants will not be required to move out during the rehabilitation of the apartments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

COUNTY ATTORNEY

- 27.** Proposed ratification of initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Stephanie Johnson - action for protection of animals.

Ratification of action taken by the County Attorney's Office, previously approved by the BCC Chair, granted.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Justice, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

28. County Attorney Reports:
- Redistricting Update

Referring to the creation of a Redistricting Board, Attorney White indicated that a consultant has been hired by the County to help with the redistricting process; that appointments to the Board will be made at the August 10 Commission meeting; and that the first meeting of the Board will likely occur on September 1; whereupon, she explained the redistricting process generally.

- Request for Enlargement of Time for Case Z/LU-14-09-19

Referring to the upcoming May 25 public hearing on Case No. Z/LU-14-09-19, Attorney White indicated that the applicant's representative, Joel Tew, has requested an enlargement of time to 45 minutes to present his case. She provided background information related to the case and recommended that if the Board decides to grant the enlargement of time, the Board should also grant the same amount of time to County staff; whereupon, she indicated that although the public hearing on May 25 is specifically addressing the land use designation and not the zoning, the Commission will see background materials related to both zoning and land use within the underlying case record.

In response to a query by Commissioner Seel, Attorney White clarified that approval of the project is a two-step process, with the first step being a determination at the Board's May 25 public hearing regarding whether to transmit the land use amendment to the State Land Planning Agency (Florida Department of Economic Opportunity) for comments and the second step being a public hearing in August on the proposed zoning change. Referring to the request for the enlargement of time, she explained that a similar request was granted for the applicant at the April 6, 2021 Local Planning Agency hearing; whereupon, discussion ensued regarding the following topics:

- Public participation in the hearing
- Limiting the length of other topics on the May 25 meeting agenda
- Other public hearings on the agenda
- Protocols for speaking on behalf of a group of individuals

A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Peters, that the applicant and County staff be allotted 45 minutes each for their presentations at the May 25 public hearing on Case No. Z/LU-14-09-19. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

29. County Administrator Reports:

- Spring Break Snapshot
- St. Petersburg/Clearwater Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Update

Mr. Burton introduced Convention and Visitors Bureau President and CEO Steve Hayes; whereupon, Mr. Hayes provided the Board with an update regarding tourism in the county and discussed COVID-19 impacts on occupancy rates, tourist development tax collections, and tourism generally. He highlighted that 2021 statistics are on track to meet or exceed 2019 statistics.

Mr. Hayes provided his input regarding the future of tourism in 2021, relating that in a recent study, 84% of individuals indicated that they would travel between the months of April and December; that vacation rental bookings are on track to exceed bookings in 2019; that there may not be a lull in individuals traveling between the spring and summer seasons; and that tourism in the summer of 2021 is expected to exceed previous years' tourism numbers.

Mr. Hayes provided information regarding the Rise to Shine campaign, which is a public relations effort to educate visitors about traveling safely and responsibly during COVID-19, indicating that the campaign was promoted through a variety of sources including television and radio; and that the campaign garnered attention from national news sources.

In response to queries by Commissioner Justice, Mr. Hayes described the status of international travel to and from Pinellas County, related that international and business travel has declined due to COVID-19, and provided information related to marketing efforts in the mid to lower Midwest and the Northeast.

- Upcoming Budget Information Sessions

Mr. Burton reminded the Commissioners that budget information sessions will be conducted in May and June, indicating that the final budget will reflect a prioritization of the various needs within the County. In response to comments by the Commissioners, Mr. Burton stated that he would ask staff to explore alternative formats and locations for future work sessions for when the Board of County Commissioners is no longer using the Magnolia Room for meetings.

COUNTY COMMISSION

- 30.** Appointments to the South St. Petersburg Community Redevelopment Area Citizen Advisory Committee (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Commissioner Eggers indicated that four individuals are eligible for appointment to the Committee; and that the Commission could vote by voice vote or by ballot; whereupon, Commissioner Justice moved that Erin L. McFarley, Steven Morrison, and Javan C. Turner be appointed to the Committee. Commissioner Flowers expressed concerns related to Mr. Turner's attendance at Committee meetings, and discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Justice, seconded by Commissioner Seel, that Erin L. McFarley, Steven Morrison, and Javan C. Turner be appointed to the Committee. The motion failed by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Vice-Chair Justice, and Commissioner Seel

Nay: 5 - Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Peters

In response to a query by Commissioner Seel regarding whether one applicant, Tracy Mater, has a conflict of interest since she is the Senior Vice President of Contemporary Housing Alternatives of Florida, Inc., Interim Planning Division Manager Evan Johnson related that his Department reviewed Ms. Mater's eligibility based upon the Committee qualifications described in the interlocal agreement, and Attorney White indicated that she would need to research whether a conflict exists.

Chair Eggers called for a ballot vote; whereupon, Erin L. McFarley, Tracy Mater, and Steven Morrison were appointed to three-year terms ending May 11, 2024.

- 31.** Appointments/reappointments to the County Council for Persons with Disabilities (Individual reappointment/appointments by individual Commissioners).

Ross Silvers, Linsey Grove, Deborah D. Figgs-Sanders, Keli Mondello, James Cleveland, and Kerry Carlisle reappointed and Aubrey Posey appointed for two-year terms ending on May 21, 2023.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Justice, seconded by Commissioner Seel, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

32. County Commission New Business: Pertinent and Timely Committee/Board Updates, Policy Considerations, Administrative/Procedural Considerations, and Other New Business

Commissioner Justice

- Availability of fuel
- Ransomware mitigation

Commissioner Long

- Florida Department of Transportation I-275 Bus on Shoulder Pilot Project
- Forward Pinellas
- Florida Association of Counties Annual Conference
- Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition Summit
- Annual Law Enforcement Fallen Officer Memorial

Commissioner Eggers

- Tampa Bay Water

ADJOURNMENT - 11:55 A.M.

Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By _____
Deputy Clerk