

# **Pinellas County**

*333 Chestnut Street, Palm Room  
Clearwater, FL 33756*



## **Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2024**

**9:30 A.M.**

**Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting**

## **Board of County Commissioners**

*Kathleen Peters, Chair*

*Brian Scott, Vice-Chair*

*Dave Eggers*

*René Flowers*

*Charlie Justice*

*Chris Latvala*

*Janet C. Long*

**ROLL CALL - 9:31 A.M.**

**Present:** 6 - Chair Kathleen Peters, Vice-Chair Brian Scott, Commissioner Dave Eggers, Commissioner René Flowers, Commissioner Charlie Justice, and Commissioner Chris Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Janet C. Long

**Others Present:** Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Derelynn Revie, Board Records Manager; and Tammy Burgess, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

**INVOCATION by Captain Milton Smith, All First Responders Matter, Palm Harbor****PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS****1. Fair Housing Proclamation:**

- Ronisha Jackson-Taylor, Wage Theft Coordinator, Office of Human Rights

Chair Peters invited Ms. Jackson-Taylor to join her at the podium and read a proclamation recognizing April 2024 as Fair Housing Month.

**2. Water Conservation Month Proclamation:**

Utilities Department

- Frank Roberson, Water Conservation Coordinator

- Charles Richards, Program Coordinator

- Shane McGahan, Water Conservation Compliance Officer

- Amanda Knoblock, Wastewater Plant Operator 3

- Keith Jakacky, Wastewater Plant Operator Trainee

Chair Peters invited Messrs. Roberson, Richards, McGahan, and Jakacky and Ms. Knoblock to join her at the podium and read a proclamation recognizing April 2024 as Water Conservation Month.

**3. National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week Proclamation:**

- Michelle Peterson, Operations Manager, Regional 911 Division

- Dillon Bean, Lead Public Safety Telecommunicator, Regional 911 Division

Chair Peters invited Department of Safety and Emergency Services Director James Fogarty and Emergency Communications Supervisor Kate Belniak to join her at the podium and read a proclamation recognizing April 14 through 20, 2024, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

**4. Employee Recognition Award:**

- Adam Pedzich, Health and Human Services Program Lead, Emergency Management

- Jessica Geib, Emergency Disaster Preparedness Manager, Human Services

Chair Peters invited Mr. Pedzich and Ms. Geib to join her at the podium, recognized them for their exemplary work and dedication, and introduced a video which highlighted the value of the services that each of them provides.

## CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

### 5. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

Trisha Kirby, Clearwater  
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor (submitted documents)  
Gregg Meens, Largo  
Greg Pound, Largo  
Mack Johnson, Largo

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

**All public hearing items have been properly advertised. Affidavits of Publication have been received and are on file in the Board Records Department.**

## AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

### Countywide Planning Authority

### 6. Case No. CW 24-05 - City of Tarpon Springs (continued from March 5, 2024) Countywide Plan Map amendment from Retail and Services to Public/Semi-Public, regarding 0.88-acre more or less, located at 1201 Gulf Road.

Ordinance No. 24-9 adopted approving Case No. CW 24-05. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, and the Planners Advisory Committee recommended approval of the amendment. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

### 7. Case No. CW 24-06 - City of Safety Harbor Countywide Plan Map amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Residential Low Medium, regarding 0.8-acre more or less, located at 675 Elm Street.

Ordinance No. 24-10 adopted approving Case No. CW 24-06. Forward Pinellas, in its role

as the Pinellas Planning Council, and the Planners Advisory Committee recommended approval of the amendment. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

**8. Case No. CW 24-07 - City of Safety Harbor**

Countywide Plan Map amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Recreation/Open Space, regarding 5.07 acres more or less, located west of Elm Street and south of Cedar Street.

Ordinance No. 24-11 adopted approving Case No. CW 24-07. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, and the Planners Advisory Committee recommended approval of the amendment. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Latvala, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

**9. Case No. CW 24-08 - City of St. Petersburg**

Countywide Plan Map amendment from Residential Medium to Multimodal Corridor, regarding 1.35 acres more or less, located at the southeast corner of Hartford Street North and 32nd Avenue North.

Ordinance No. 24-12 adopted approving Case No. CW 24-08. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, and the Planners Advisory Committee recommended approval of the amendment. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

**10. Case No. CW 24-09 - City of St. Petersburg**

Countywide Plan Map amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Residential Medium, regarding 5.24 acres more or less, located at 7045 Burlington Avenue North

Ordinance No. 24-13 adopted approving Case No. CW 24-09. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, and the Planners Advisory Committee recommended approval of the amendment. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Justice, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

### **CONSENT AGENDA - Items 11 through 18 (Item Nos. 17 and 18 addressed under Regular Agenda)**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Justice, that the Consent Agenda items be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

### CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

11. Minutes of the regular meeting held March 5, 2024.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

12. Vouchers and bills paid from March 3 through March 16, 2024.

Period March 3 - March 9, 2024

Accounts Payable - \$21,664,946.28

Payroll - None

Period March 10 - March 16, 2024

Accounts Payable - \$32,656,320.48

Payroll - \$4,580,989.89

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

Reports received for filing:

13. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2024-03 dated March 6, 2024 - Audit of Sunstar Ambulance Contract.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

14. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Annual Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2023.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

15. Correspondence from the City of Dunedin regarding voluntary annexation of certain property.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

### Administrative Services

16. Declare surplus and authorize the sale or donation of miscellaneous County-owned equipment.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

## REGULAR AGENDA

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

### Public Works

17. Award of bid to Gibbs & Register, Inc. for the Raymond H. Neri Community Park - American Rescue Plan Act.

Contract No. 24-0191-ITB-C awarded in the amount of \$8,469,352.00 on the basis of being the only responsive bid received. All work to be completed within 510 consecutive calendar days.

Responding to a query from Commissioner Scott, Mr. Burton noted that the contract amount is 7.8% more than the engineer's estimate. At the request of Mr. Burton, Office of

Management and Budget Director Chris Rose confirmed that the contracts for Item Nos. 17 and 18 contain not-to-exceed amounts, and indicated that staff anticipated this and budgeted appropriately. Thereupon, Commissioner Justice expressed appreciation to staff involved in the project.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

- 18.** Award of bid to Keystone Excavators, Inc. for the Roosevelt Creek Channel 5 improvements - American Rescue Plan Act.

Contract No. 23-0814-ITB-C awarded in the amount of \$7,668,068.00 on the basis of being the only responsive bid received. All work to be completed within 440 consecutive calendar days.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

### Administrative Services

- 19.** Purchase authorization and agreements for requirements of heavy and light duty vehicles and equipment pursuant to the pricing of each cooperative contract.

(Contract No. 24-0226-PB) Purchase authorization and agreements approved in the not-to-exceed amount of \$12,047,068.26.

Responding to a query by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Burton, with input from Administrative Services Director Joe Lauro, indicated that there was a delay in ordering certain vehicles due to a supply backlog; and that funds were carried over from last year to allow for the fulfillment of purchases as supply chains caught up.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

Convention and Visitors Bureau

20. Recommendation from the Tourist Development Council to revise the Pinellas County Tourist Development Council Bylaws.

Revisions to the Pinellas County Tourist Development Council (TDC) Bylaws approved, including miscellaneous clarifications and a provision for the Board of County Commissioners Vice-Chair to be a non-voting member of the TDC.

Commissioner Eggers provided positive remarks regarding the proposed revisions.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

21. Revisions to the Elite Event Funding Program Guidelines from the Tourist Development Council.

Revisions approved as outlined in the Staff Report.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

County Administrator

22. Municipal Services Taxing Unit Special Project funding for the Seminole Junior Warhawks Athletic Association Sports Complex Improvements.

Funding request approved in the one-time amount of \$16,980.00.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long



Housing & Community Development

23. Resolution approving the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Local Housing Assistance Plan for State Fiscal Years 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 for submission to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

Resolution 24-20 adopted approving the Plan; authorizing the Chair to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest any necessary documents and certifications needed by the State; authorizing the Housing and Community Development Department Director to submit reports, certifications, and other necessary documents needed by the State; and authorizing submission of the Plan for review and approval by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation. Estimated total funding allocation over the three-year period is \$14,449,701.00, once approved by the State.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Justice, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

Management and Budget

24. Grant funding agreement with the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management regarding a Federal Emergency Management Agency public assistance grant for disaster relief funding associated with Hurricane Idalia.

Grant Funding Agreement approved for execution in order to receive reimbursement in the requested amount of approximately \$2,600,000.00 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Hurricane Idalia emergency response, resident sheltering, and debris cleanup, and 87.5% of approximately \$105,000.00 from FEMA and the State for eligible permanent repair expenses.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

Public Works

25. Air Pollution Control Specific Operating Agreement with the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Agreement approved through August 31, 2027, as detailed in the Staff Report.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

## COUNTY ATTORNEY

26. County Attorney Reports - None

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

27. County Administrator Reports

Meet and Greet and Community Impact Meeting in Lealman

Mr. Burton indicated that a meet and greet was recently held for Assistant to the County Administrator Amy Davis; whereupon, he provided brief comments related to a recent community impact meeting held in the Lealman community.

Citizens University Kickoff

Mr. Burton stated that the next Pinellas Citizens University will begin this week.

Meeting with Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri and Cities

Mr. Burton related that he will be holding a meeting regarding House Bill 1365 and Senate Bill 1530; whereupon, he provided brief comments regarding the impacts of the legislation.

## COUNTY COMMISSION

28. Appointment to the Lealman Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Committee (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Kenneth Williams appointed for a three-year term, beginning on the date of appointment.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

**29. County Commission New Business:**

Pertinent and timely Committee/Board updates, policy considerations, administrative/procedural considerations, and other new business:

1.) BCC appointment of City of Clearwater TDC representative

Commissioner Flowers provided brief comments regarding the newly formed Tampa Bay CareerSource and indicated that she is requesting a ratification of a nomination and vote for Commissioner Latvala to serve on the Tampa Bay CareerSource Board of Directors.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Scott, that the appointment of Commissioner Latvala to the Tampa Bay CareerSource Board of Directors be ratified. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

Chair Peters indicated that the City of Clearwater has nominated its newly elected Mayor, Bruce Rector, to the Tourist Development Council; whereupon, she noted that she would entertain a motion to approve the nomination.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Latvala, seconded by Commissioner Scott, that the City of Clearwater's appointment of Mayor Bruce Rector to the Tourist Development Council be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Long

Commissioner Flowers

- Congratulations to those recognized as First Ladies in African American History by The Woodson African American Museum of Florida
- Town hall meeting hosted by Senator Darryl Rouson
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
- Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition Steering Committee

- Agency on Bay Management
- Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority closure

#### Commissioner Justice

- Health and Human Services Leadership Board
- Habitat for Humanity annual gala
- Children's Home Society of Florida annual dinner
- Oldsmar Days and Nights festival parade
- Dunedin Highland Games & Festival
- Feeding Tampa Bay Cereal for Summer food drive
- Condolences to the family and friends of former St. Petersburg City Councilmember and former Pinellas County School Board member Bill Dudley

#### Commissioner Scott

- Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber of Commerce Legislative Wrap Up
- Habitat for Humanity home dedication in Lealman
- Swearing in ceremony for newly elected City of Clearwater officials
- Tour of the Palladium Theater
- Lunch with Tarpon Springs Mayor Costa Vatikiotis
- Meet and Greet for Assistant to the County Administrator Amy Davis
- Dunedin Highland Games & Festival parade
- Lunch with newly elected Pinellas Park City Councilmember Ricky Butler
- Met with St. Petersburg City Councilmember Richie Floyd
- Retirement event for former Clearwater Mayor Brian Aungst Sr.

#### Commissioner Eggers

- Conversations with staff regarding raising standards for pet stores
- Positive impacts of the Assistant County Administrators
- Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay Innovators Showcase
- Charter Review Committee
- Upcoming work sessions in St. Petersburg regarding the Tampa Bay Rays deal
- Dunedin Highland Games & Festival
- Clearwater City Council

#### Commissioner Latvala

- Hillsborough/Pinellas Workforce Development Consortium meeting
- Retirement event for former Clearwater Mayor Brian Aungst Sr.
- Swearing in ceremony for newly elected City of Clearwater officials
- City of Clearwater Neighborhood Day
- Health and Human Services Leadership Board

- Condolences to the family and friends of former St. Petersburg City Councilmember and former Pinellas County School Board member Bill Dudley
- Commended Public Works Director Kelli Hammer Levy for her assistance with addressing resident concerns
- St. Petersburg Committee of the Whole

Responding to a query by Commissioner Latvala, Attorney White provided information regarding Sunshine Law requirements related to two or more Commissioners attending meetings outside of the Sunshine.

Chair Peters

- Mayors' Council appointment of its representative to the Tourist Development Council scheduled for May 1
- Commended staff for posting signs to educate residents regarding rip currents
- Global Tampa Bay quarterly meeting
- Visit to Jabil Inc.
- Treasure Island City Hall ribbon-cutting event

Chair Peters noted that, following a short recess, Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator Deanne Criswell will be presenting an award to the Board recognizing the County's community floodplain management activities.

**ADJOURNMENT - 10:59 A.M.**

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Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk