

Pinellas County

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



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

9:30 A.M.

Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting

Board of County Commissioners

*Dave Eggers, Chair
Chris Latvala, Vice-Chair
René Flowers
Brian Scott
Vince Nowicki
Kathleen Peters
Chris Scherer*

ROLL CALL - 9:35 A.M.

Present: 7 - Chair Dave Eggers, Vice-Chair Chris Latvala, Commissioner René Flowers, Commissioner Brian Scott, Commissioner Vince Nowicki, Commissioner Kathleen Peters, and Commissioner Chris Scherer

Others Present: Jill Silverboard, Deputy County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Derelynn Revie, Board Records Manager; and Ashley Pabilonia, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

Chair Eggers indicated that Commissioner Peters will be attending today's meeting virtually. Upon his request for a motion, Commissioner Latvala made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Scott and carried unanimously.

INVOCATION by Commissioner Flowers**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Commissioner Scherer****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS****1. Black History Month Proclamation:**

- Jacqueline Hayes, Board President, Whispering Souls African American Cemetery

Chair Eggers invited Ms. Hayes and volunteers of the Whispering Souls African American Cemetery to the podium and read a proclamation recognizing February 2026 as Black History Month; whereupon, Ms. Hayes expressed her appreciation to Chair Eggers, Commissioner Scott, and County staff for their support and provided background information related to the restoration of the cemetery.

2. Tampa Bay Community Water Wise Awards:

- Michele Burt and David Kulp, Tierra Verde

- Doris Heitzman, Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program Coordinator, Pinellas County Extension

Chair Eggers invited Ms. Burt and Mr. Kulp to the podium, provided details regarding efforts that they have made to transform their yard into a water-wise landscape, and presented them with the 2025 Tampa Bay Community Water Wise Award; whereupon, Mr. Kulp expressed appreciation for the recognition. Ms. Heitzman also provided brief comments regarding the Tampa Bay Water Wise program and commended Ms. Burt and Mr. Kulp for their great work.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

3. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

Chris Peterson, Miami
Chris Nard, Miami
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor
LJ Tucker, Oldsmar (submitted documents)
Greg Pound, Largo
Giancarlo Planzo, Palm Harbor

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.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

4. Amendment by resolution supplementing the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget recognizing unanticipated fund balance and adjusting revenue for requesting departments and funds (Carryforward Amendment).

Resolution No. 26-11 adopted, recognizing unanticipated fund balance and adjusting revenue for requesting departments and funds, as outlined in the Staff Report. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

At the request of Commissioner Scott, Office of Management and Budget Director Chris Rose provided information regarding the proposed amendment and explained that since certain anticipated funds were not spent in Fiscal Year 2025, the liability and funding will carry forward into Fiscal Year 2026; and that there are no personnel costs associated with the proposed amendment.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Latvala, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

5. Amendment by resolution supplementing the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget recognizing unanticipated revenue and realigning appropriations for requesting departments and funds.

Resolution No. 26-12 adopted, recognizing unanticipated revenue and realigning appropriations for requesting departments and funds, as outlined in the Staff Report. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

At the request of Chair Eggers, Ms. Silverboard clarified that this amendment relates to revenue that was not anticipated when the Board approved the budget in September; whereupon, Office of Management and Budget Director Chris Rose provided additional information regarding the revenue sources and appropriations associated with the proposed amendment.

Responding to a query by Commissioner Nowicki, Mr. Rose provided brief comments regarding receiving a specific unanticipated grant, which is now proposed to be recognized and spent.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Latvala, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 6 through 8

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Latvala, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

6. Vouchers and bills paid from December 21, 2025 through January 10, 2026.

Period - December 21 through December 27, 2025

Accounts Payable - \$21,586,247.22

Payroll - None

Period - December 28, 2025 through January 3, 2026

Accounts Payable - \$117,268,897.25

Payroll - \$5,032,029.27

Period - January 4 through January 10, 2026

Accounts Payable - \$68,642,270.07

Payroll - None

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

7. Grant agreement with the United States Department of Transportation for the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant for the Pinellas Impaired Pedestrian-Bicycle Evaluation and Demonstration project.

Agreement approved in the amount of \$2,500,000.00 (County match, \$625,000.00; total project cost, \$3,125,000.00). Agreement term expires August 31, 2030.

In response to a query by Commissioner Nowicki, Ms. Silverboard indicated that accepting the grant does not commit the County to future capital or operating expenditures related to the implementation of recommendations or other findings which may arise from this work. She also related that there could be certain operational expenses associated with execution of the grant which would not rise to the level of needing Board approval, but would require supplemental approval depending on the cost; whereupon, in response to comments by Chair Eggers, Ms. Silverboard confirmed that newly identified projects or projects which are within the scope of the grant, but are above a certain cost, would be brought to the Board for approval.

Responding to additional queries by Commissioner Nowicki, Public Works Director Kelli Hammer Levy discussed the scope of the work and provided brief comments regarding safety improvements that can be achieved through crowd control barriers, passive pedestrian safety measures, and pedestrian detection technology.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Utilities

8. Ranking of firms and agreement with CHA Consulting, Inc. for the Highland Lakes Forcemain Replacement - Professional Engineering Services project.

(Contract No. 25-0210-RFQ-CCNA) Ranking of firms and agreement approved in the amount of \$1,356,439.00. Agreement is effective for 400 consecutive calendar days from the issuance of the Notice to Proceed from the County.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA - None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

9. First Amendment to the 2020 Interlocal Agreement between Pinellas County and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Co-Permittees for the Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment program.

Amendment approved, extending the current agreement term to December 31, 2030.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Latvala, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

10. Resolution dedicating a County-owned parcel in St. Petersburg as public right-of-way.

Resolution No. 26-13 adopted, dedicating County-owned property in St. Petersburg, identified as Parcel ID No. 27-31-16-15408-003-0162, as public right-of-way.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Latvala, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

Utilities

11. Interlocal Agreement with the City of Pinellas Park for the transmission, treatment, and disposal of wastewater to serve the City's wastewater service area.

Agreement approved, effective for a term of 20 years from the date of execution.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Latvala, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

COUNTY ATTORNEY

12. County Attorney Reports - None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

13. County Administrator ReportsStrategic Planning Session on February 12, 2026

Ms. Silverboard noted that the Board's upcoming Strategic Planning Session has been rescheduled to February 12; and that the meeting will be held in the Magnolia Room.

COUNTY COMMISSION

14. County Commission New Business:

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

Commissioner Scherer indicated that there is an opening within the Feather Sound Community Services District; whereupon, he requested approval of Sean Williams as his nominee.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Eggers, Vice-Chair Latvala, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

The members provided updates regarding their assigned boards and committees and discussed various topics, as follows:

Commissioner Scherer

- City of Seminole Fire Rescue Department meeting
- Palm Harbor Community Services Agency 40th anniversary celebration
- Visit to the County's Emergency Medical Services and Fire Administration Division building
- Tampa Bay Days in Tallahassee

Commissioner Flowers

- 40th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Awards Breakfast
- Selection as grand marshal of the St. Pete MLK Power Of A Dream Parade
- Florida Association of Counties Legislative Day
- Testimony before the United States House Committee on Ways and Means
- Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
- Receipt of award from Pittman Law Group
- Wearing African attire during Black History Month
- 2026 National Association of Counties Legislative Conference
- Conversations regarding the metropolitan planning organization merger
- Florida Department of Government Efficiency report regarding Pinellas County

Commissioner Latvala

- Tourist Development Council
- Tour of Baseball City St. Pete
- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
- Recognition of constituent and injured Hillsborough County Sheriff's Deputy Carlos Brito
- Selection of Juvenile Welfare Board CEO

Commissioner Scott

- Historic Preservation Board
- Meeting with Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District Fire Chief Ken Grimes
- Tampa Bay Days in Tallahassee
- Palm Harbor Community Services Agency 40th anniversary celebration
- Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve annual meeting
- Fourth Annual Lealman Honey and Arts Festival
- Remarks made during public comment regarding the need for certified arborists in Pinellas County
- Appreciation to Commissioner Flowers for historical explanation of African attire

Commissioner Nowicki

- Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! 2026 events with Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County
- Suncoast Tiger Bay Club State of the Bay 2026
- Town hall meeting in Lealman
- Delivery of a recovery check from the People First Hurricane Recovery Programs
- Meeting with Tierra Verde residents regarding proposed boat slip and median
- Suggestion to conduct a workshop regarding the Comprehensive Plan

Commissioner Peters

- Tour of Pinellas Park with City Manager Bart Diebold and Councilman Ricky Butler
- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
- Tampa Bay Water

Commissioner Eggers

- Meeting with Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District Fire Chief Ken Grimes
- Appreciation to Commissioner Latvala for serving as Chair at the January 20 Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Meeting
- Appreciation to Russ Kimball for serving as Chair at the last Tourist Development Council meeting
- Tampa Bay Days in Tallahassee

- Heritage Oaks ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Meeting with United States Army Corps of Engineers
- Pinellas County Animal Services' canine/Commissioner photo shoot with Commissioner Latvala
- City of Dunedin Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
- Tampa Bay Water
- Palm Harbor Library Ninth Annual artPHL Evening fundraiser
- Conversations regarding future of the Health and Human Services Board


Chair Eggers indicated that he would like to discuss the topic of offshore drilling off the coast of Florida; whereupon, Commissioner Scott indicated that an email regarding the topic was distributed to elected officials throughout the State. Commissioner Scott also noted that the congressional delegation previously composed a letter to President Donald Trump, which encouraged him to not violate a moratorium banning oil drilling in the Gulf. Commissioner Flowers related that she believes that sending a letter on behalf of the Board would be appropriate, if the members agree to do so; whereupon, Chair Eggers indicated that he will attempt to obtain a copy of a letter which has been sent so that the members can discuss the topic further.

ADJOURNMENT - 11:15 A.M.



 Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By 

 Deputy Clerk

