

# **Pinellas County**

*333 Chestnut Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756*



## **Minutes - Final**

**Thursday, June 12, 2025**

**9:30 A.M.**

**Budget Information Session / Agenda Briefing**

**Palm Room**

## **Board of County Commissioners**

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

**ROLL CALL - 9:30 A.M.**

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

**Others Present:** Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Don Crowell, Chief Assistant County Attorney; and Tammy Burgess, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

**1. Article V (Information Only)**

Presentation and review of Article V.

Presenter: Chris Rose, Office of Management and Budget Director

Document displayed: *Article V and Court Support Overview*

**2. Judiciary / Chief Judge - including Law Library**

Presentation and review of the budget summary and a request related to an additional position and discussion of various topics, including Mental Health Court, prorated costs shared between Pinellas and Pasco Counties, and the Pinellas County Law Library.

Presenter: Shawn Crane, Sixth Judicial Circuit Chief Judge

Input provided by: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator

**3. Public Defender**

Presentation and review of the budget summary, efficiencies and successes, Mental Health Court, and decision packages and discussion of various topics, including staffing, decision package related to the Axon Digital Evidence Management System, and translation costs.

Office of the Public Defender, Sixth Judicial Circuit presenters: Sara Mollo, Public Defender; and Ashley Roura, Senior Assistant Public Defender

Input provided by: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator

**4. State Attorney**

Presentation and review of the budget summary and software related to evidence management.

Presenter: Bruce Bartlett, State Attorney

**5. Supervisor of Elections**

Presentation and review of the budget summary, integrity of the election process, costs

associated with elections, voter education and outreach efforts, physical security and cybersecurity measures and discussion of various topics, including cost per vote, mail ballots, and staffing.

Presenter: Julie Marcus, Supervisor of Elections

Input provided by: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator

**Meeting Recessed: 11:09 A.M.**

**Meeting Reconvened: 11:19 A.M.**

**6. Animal Services**

Presentation and review of the budget summary, efficiencies and cost-saving measures, budget drivers, and proposed user fee changes.

Office of Management and Budget presenter: Ksheera Hegde, Budget and Financial Management Analyst

Document displayed: *Animal Services*

Presentation and review of accomplishments, work plan, and performance measures and discussion of various topics, including the spay and neuter voucher program and related funding, the Animal Welfare Trust Fund, and collaboration with law enforcement and other entities.

Presenter: Jennifer Renner, Animal Services Director

**7. Utilities - including Capital Improvement Projects**

Presentation and review of the budget summary, efficiencies and cost-saving measures, budget drivers, the Capital Improvement Plan report, decision packages, and proposed user fee changes and discussion of various topics, including purchases from Tampa Bay Water, the current rate structure, and debt service.

Office of Management and Budget presenters: Shane Kunze, Budget and Financial Management Analyst; and James Lewis, Budget and Financial Management Analyst

Input provided by: Linda Benoit, Utilities Section Manager; Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Chris Rose, Office of Management and Budget Director; and Jeremy Waugh, Utilities Director

Document displayed: *Utilities*

Presentation and review of accomplishments, work plan, and performance measures and discussion of underground water and sewer mapping, staffing, and the potential for collaboration with municipalities regarding funding for a pelletizer plant.

Presenter: Jeremy Waugh, Utilities Director

Input provided by: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator

**Meeting Recessed: 12:33 P.M.**

**Meeting Reconvened: 1:05 P.M.**

**8. Solid Waste - including Capital Improvement Programs and Lealman Solid Waste**

Presentation and review of the budget summary, efficiencies and cost-saving measures, budget drivers, decision packages, proposed user fee changes, and the Capital Improvement Plan report and discussion of various topics, including power brokering, tipping fees, and waste-to-energy facility operations.

Office of Management and Budget presenter: James Lewis, Budget and Financial Management Analyst

Input provided by: Cassie Hartman, Solid Waste Department Section Manager; Chris Rose, Office of Management and Budget Director; and Jill Silverboard, Deputy County Administrator

Document displayed: *Solid Waste*

Presentation and review of accomplishments and work plan.

Presenter: Jill Silverboard, Deputy County Administrator

Input provided by: Cassie Hartman, Solid Waste Department Section Manager

**Lealman Solid Waste**

Presentation and review of budget drivers and proposed user fee changes.

Office of Management and Budget presenter: James Lewis, Budget and Financial Management Analyst

Document displayed: *Lealman Solid Waste*

Presentation and review of accomplishments and discussion of the Lealman Solid Waste Collection and Disposal fund and the Lealman Community Redevelopment Area.

Presenter: Jill Silverboard, Deputy County Administrator

Input provided by: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Cassie Hartman, Solid Waste Department Section Manager; and Jewel White, County Attorney

**9. Parks and Conservation Resources**

Presentation and review of efficiencies and cost-saving measures, the budget summary, budget drivers, and decision packages and discussion of the Tree Bank Fund.

Office of Management and Budget presenter: Veronica Ettel, Budget and Financial Management Analyst

Input provided by: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; and Paul Cozzie, Parks and Conservation Resources Director

Document displayed: *Parks and Conservation Resources*

Presentation and review of Fiscal Year 2025 accomplishments, work plan, and performance measures and discussion of projects and programs, preservation of environmental lands, and maintenance of park monuments.

Presenters: Paul Cozzie, Parks and Conservation Resources Director; and Spencer Curtis, Parks and Conservation Resources Deputy Director

#### 10. Forward Pinellas

Presentation and review of the budget summary.

Office of Management and Budget presenter: Veronica Ettel, Budget and Financial Management Analyst

Document displayed: *Forward Pinellas*

Presentation and review of the of the Pinellas Planning Council and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) merger, accomplishments, collaboration with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and regional MPOs, the budget overview, and plans for Fiscal Year 2026 and discussion of reserves and the partnership with FDOT.

Presenter: Whit Blanton, Forward Pinellas Executive Director

Document displayed: *Pinellas Planning Council (PPC) FY26 Budget Information Session*

#### 11. Business Technology Services

Presentation and review of the budget summary, efficiencies and cost-saving measures, budget drivers, and decision packages.

Office of Management and Budget presenter: Chris Rose, Director

Document displayed: *Business Technology Services*

Presentation and review of accomplishments and performance measures and discussion of investment in technology, plans to replace the County Assignment Tracking System, and a previous decision package related to security testing.

Presenter: Jeff Rohrs, Business Technology Services Chief Information Officer

Input provided by: Dana Zordan, Business Technology Services Information Technology Senior Manager

**12. Agenda Briefing**

Referring to the agenda of the June 17 BCC meeting, Mr. Burton and staff, along with Attorney White, provided information regarding the agenda items and responded to comments and queries by the members.

**ADJOURNMENT - 3:15 P.M.**

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

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

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Chair