

Pinellas County

*315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756*



Minutes - Final

Thursday, September 14, 2017

11:30 AM

BCC Assembly Room

Board of County Commissioners

*Janet C. Long, Chairman
Kenneth T. Welch, Vice-Chairman
Dave Eggers
Pat Gerard
Charlie Justice
John Morroni
Karen Williams Seel*

REGULAR AGENDA**ROLL CALL - 11:30 A.M.**

Present: 5 - Chairman Janet C. Long, Vice-Chairman Kenneth T. Welch, Dave Eggers, Pat Gerard, and Charlie Justice

Absent: 2 - John Morroni, and Karen Williams Seel

Others Present: Mark S. Woodard, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Norman Loy, Manager, Board Records; and Tony Fabrizio, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

Chairman Long called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for pulling together during Hurricane Irma; whereupon, at her request, Commissioner Welch provided the Invocation, and the Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Discussion on the extension of Resolution 17-58 declaring a local state of emergency.

Mr. Woodard related that the purpose of the meeting is for the Board to consider staff's recommendation that it extend the Local State of Emergency declaration adopted on September 7, 2017 by seven days, noting that the initial declaration would expire today at 12:01 P.M.

Assistant County Administrator John Bennett discussed the basis for the extension, citing the need for the County to maintain continuity of authority in order to meet Federal Emergency Management Agency reimbursement guidelines, keep protections against price gouging in place, and coordinate with partners under Florida's State of Emergency declaration. He indicated that County staff and the Sheriff's Office have worked closely together through the Emergency Operations Center, noting that 34 percent of county residents are still without power and the outages and other storm-related issues are impacting traffic intersections, shelters, and other facilities that are coming back online.

Mr. Woodard related that staff will provide the Board with a comprehensive update on the recovery efforts at its regular meeting later in the day; whereupon, Sheriff Gualtieri praised the collaboration of County agencies and municipal partners and indicated that the biggest challenge his department faces from a public safety standpoint is managing the traffic intersections that lack power, noting that the county had more than 300 intersections without power at one point, including 197 as of this morning. Chairman Long requested that Sheriff Gualtieri convey her thanks on behalf of the Board to his personnel for their service and dedication, and he cited the sacrifices made by the families of all those who were called to work.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that Resolution 17-59 be adopted extending the Local State of Emergency declaration by seven days. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, and Commissioner Justice

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Morrone, and Commissioner Seel

ADJOURNMENT - 11:45 A.M.

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By _____
Deputy Clerk

Chairman