

Pinellas County

315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

2:00 PM

Public Hearings at 6:00 PM

BCC Assembly Room

Board of County Commissioners

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

ROLL CALL - 2:00 P.M.

- Present:** 5 - Chairman Kenneth T. Welch, Vice-Chairman Karen Williams Seel, Dave Eggers, Pat Gerard, and Charlie Justice
- Absent:** 2 - Janet C. Long, and John Morroni

Others Present: Jewel White, County Attorney; Mark S. Woodard, County Administrator; Claretha N. Harris, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Jenny Masinovsky, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk.

INVOCATION by Commissioner Dave Eggers**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. Animal Care Appreciation Week Proclamation:
Pinellas County Animal Services
- Doug Brightwell, Director
Friends of Strays
- Mari Salls
Humane Society of Pinellas
- Stacey Efaw
MEOW Now
- Dan Hester
- Chad Thompson
SPCA Tampa Bay
- Brent Bardell

Chairman Welch thanked Mr. Brightwell, his staff, and the other organizations for providing the essential community functions of enforcing laws, sheltering animals, providing emergency support, protecting citizens from diseases such as rabies, and educating the public on the proper care of their pets and other animals, and several of the representatives provided input.

2. Doing Things! Employee Recognition Award:
- Kara Crabtree, Animal Services

Chairman Welch recognized Animal Care Assistant Kara Crabtree for her dedication and commitment to the welfare of animals in Pinellas County; whereupon, a video was shown highlighting the services she provides, and Mr. Woodard provided input.

3. Partner Presentations:
Update on Investment Program
- John Grady, Public Trust Advisors

- Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
2017 Audit Results
- John Weber, Partner, Crowe Horwath LLP
- Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

Update on Investment Program

Mr. Burke introduced the Finance Division Management Team in attendance and presented information regarding the Investment Program. noting that at its peak during the past year, the County's investment holdings were valued over \$1 billion for the first time. He addressed common misconceptions regarding the program, stating that the County has had no money invested in certificates of deposit for over 25 years; and that there is some risk in terms of the interest rate of return, but minimal to no risk as far as the preservation of capital; whereupon, he discussed ways the County monitors the market, the fluctuation of interest rates, and investments in local government pools.

Mr. Grady referred to a presentation titled *Investment Portfolio Review* and provided a review and summary of the information. He indicated that the County's investment policy is in compliance with Florida Statute 218; that the policy limits investments in order to mitigate rate and security risks and ensure safety; and that the investment portfolio is diversified so that the County can meet its cash-flow requirements, and he explained how a ladder investment portfolio is beneficial to the County.

Mr. Grady discussed characteristics of the portfolio and noted that its year-to-year book value is fairly stable; that year-to-date earnings show a significant increase; and that the securities allocation was near 64 percent at the end of February, which meets the established target. He related that the Federal Reserve is expected to raise interest rates by a quarter of a point; whereupon, he provided information regarding inflation and its relationship to the county's strengthening job market.

Referring to the County's partnership with Public Trust Advisors, Mr. Grady highlighted the team's use of ongoing discussions concerning interest rate decisions, the economy, and upcoming maturities, and Public Trust Advisors' role of providing additional resources, advice and commentary relating to market yields, and a continuing cash-flow analysis.

Responding to query by Chairman Welch, Mr. Woodard explained that when there is a surplus of earnings in a given year, a projection for earned interest is determined within each of the budgetary funds; and that any surplus is part of the overall resources which help balance the budget each year.

In response to queries by the members, Mr. Grady indicated that his firm is paid \$5,000 per month based on an annual flat fee of \$60,000; and that this is the first year of the contract; whereupon, Mr. Woodard related that the contract was a decision package in the fiscal year budget and Mr. Burke indicated support for continuing the funding on a recurring basis.

2017 Audit Results

Mr. Burke presented information regarding the Fiscal Year 2017 audit and noted that the Pinellas County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, as prepared by the Clerk's Office Finance Division, includes an unmodified opinion letter and analysis of the financial statements; and that individual financial statements of each Constitutional Officer will also be included in a report to be submitted to the State of Florida.

Mr. Weber conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Pinellas County Fiscal Year 2017 Audit Results* and provided a summary of the report noting that it presents an unmodified, or clean, opinion; and that no material weaknesses in internal controls were found; whereupon, he discussed new pronouncements issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and how they might affect the County's future statements, and compared the County's data to the most recent available results from other large Florida counties.

Following discussion, Mr. Burke stated that the County's pension liability is determined by the Florida Retirement System; that the Legislature has jurisdiction over the rates and calculation of the liability; and that the County must record the pension liability amount provided by the Legislature.

Mr. Burke indicated that the current contract with Crowe Horwath is in its final year; that the Audit Committee is working to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a new contract; and that the Committee consists of a representative from each Appointing Authority and Constitutional Officer, and the Board of County Commissioners; whereupon, in response to query by Chairman Welch, he noted that the RFP would be seeking a five-year contract, and discussion ensued.

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 4 through 17 (Items 10 and 15 addressed under Regular Agenda)

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

Aye: 5 - Chairman Welch, Vice-Chairman Seel, Commissioner Eggert, Commissioner Gerard, and Commissioner Justice

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

4. Vouchers and bills paid from February 4 through February 24, 2018.

Period: February 4 through February 10, 2018

Payroll - \$3,391,892.60

Accounts Payable - \$12,327,062.45

Period: February 11 through February 17, 2018

Payroll - None

Accounts Payable - \$10,178,833.22

Period: February 18 through February 24, 2018

Payroll - \$3,465,015.94

Accounts Payable - \$9,250,113.07

Reports received for filing:

5. Dock Fee Report for the month of February 2018.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

6. Eastlake Oaks Community Development District minutes of the meeting held December 14, 2017.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Convention and Visitors Bureau

7. Award of bid to various firms for requirements of limousine, bus and taxi services for the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Contract No. 167-0481-B in the annual amount of \$478,582.00, for a 60-month term total of \$2,392,910.00, awarded to the following companies on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bids, per line item, received meeting specifications:

- Ambassador Group of North America, LLC - Group 1, line item A; Group 2, line items A, B, C, and E
- Escot Bus Lines, LLC - Group 1, line item E; Group 2, line item F
- First Class Coach Company, Inc. - Group 1, line item F
- LimoSouth, Inc. d/b/a Carey Limousine of Tampa Bay - Group 1, line items B, C, and D; Group 2, line item D

Contract Section E, Subsection B, Item No. 2 stricken from the bid document and bids rejected from award consideration. Contract provides for one price adjustment at 36 months as set forth in the Staff Report.

County Administrator

8. Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending February 28, 2018.

Human Services

9. Resolution supplementing the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) General Fund Budget for unanticipated revenue to the Human Services Department.

Resolution No. 18-11 adopted appropriating \$328,120.00 in unanticipated revenue from two grant awards earmarked for increased mental health and substance abuse services. No local funding match required.

Public Works

11. Ranking of firms and agreement with Aptim Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. for coastal management environmental consulting services.

Ranking of firms and Contract No. 167-04486-CN approved in the annual amount of \$250,000.00 for a five-year total of \$1,250,000.00. County Administrator has delegated authority to increase the upset limits of contract purchase orders, provided negotiated rates remain the same. Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

12. Cooperative funding agreement with the Southwest Florida Water Management District for the Roosevelt Creek stormwater facility improvements.

SWFWMD Agreement No. 18CF0000947 (County PID No. 000296A/003130A) in the amount of \$350,510.00 approved; total estimated project cost, \$701,020.00. Contract period is from October 1, 2017 through July 1, 2021. Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Management and Budget

13. Resolution supplementing the FY18 General Fund Budget for unanticipated grant revenue.

Resolution No. 18-12 adopted appropriating \$217,970.00 in unanticipated grant revenue earmarked for the Administrative Office of the Courts. No local funding match required.

Real Estate Management

14. Award of bid to American Facility Services, Inc. for requirements of janitorial services at various County buildings.

Contract No. 167-0450-B in an annual amount of \$2,014,720.80 (total amount, \$10,073,604.20) awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications. Contract is for a 60-month term beginning July 1, 2018 and provides for price adjustments as set forth in the Staff Report.

Utilities

16. Award of bid to Polydyne, Inc. for requirements of wastewater polymers.

Bid No. 178-0044-B in an annual amount of \$287,554.00 (total amount, \$862,662.00) awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications. Contract is for a 36-month term and provides for price adjustments at 12-month intervals and one 24-month term extension.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

COUNTYWIDE PLANNING AUTHORITY

17. Official acceptance of the Countywide Plan Map adjustment submitted by the City of Safety Harbor.

Map adjustment received and accepted, as recommended by Forward Pinellas in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Public Works

10. Ranking of firms and agreement with Cone & Graham, Inc. for design build services pertaining to the Pinellas Trail Loop North Segment - Shared Use Non-Motorized Trail Program.

Ranking of firms and Contract No. 167-0071-NC approved in the amount of \$1,599,461.80 for phase one design services. Contract is for a term of 320 consecutive calendar days from the Notice to Proceed date. Contractor to submit a Guaranteed Maximum Price proposal to complete the construction phase of the project. Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

Responding to query by Commissioner Seel as to how the Pinellas Trail would cross Enterprise Road, Mr. Woodard provided background information on the project and Pinellas County Transportation Manager Ken Jacobs related that the County will utilize an at-grade signalized crossing at Enterprise Road; and that the trail will follow easements owned by Duke Energy and then continue along Countryside Boulevard to McMullen-Booth Road and beyond, and discussion ensued.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

Utilities

- 15.** Ranking of firms and agreement with The Forestry Company for Ecosystem Management pertaining to the Al-Bar and Cross Bar Ranches.

Ranking of firms and Contract No. 167-0365-P approved in the annual amount of \$695,903.60 (total amount, \$3,479,518.00). Contract is for a term of five years from the Notice to Proceed date and includes a provision for four five-year extensions pending approval of the County Administrator. Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

Commissioner Seel stated that she is concerned about the length of the contract, which could reach up to 25 years; and that a financial analysis and review of the vendor's performance should be completed each time an extension of the contract is to be considered for approval by the Commission.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Airport

- 18.** Award of bid to Manhattan Construction (Florida), Inc. for the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport Ticketing "A" In-Line Check Baggage Inspection System Project. (Companion to item #19)

Bid No. 178-0003-CP (PID No. 002111A) in the amount of \$10,185,999.68 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications. All work to be completed within 657 consecutive calendar days. Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

- 19. Other Transaction Agreement with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration regarding constructing a new In-Line Checked Baggage Inspection System at St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport. (Companion to item #18)

Resolution No. 18-13 adopted approving an Other Transaction Agreement to provide 90 percent of the construction costs, or up to \$6,656,900.00 (estimated total cost, \$10,185,999.68). Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

- 20. Award of bid to Walbridge Aldinger LLC for the Terminal Improvements - Phase 3 project (Gates 7-10 addition) at the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

Bid No. 178-0135-CP (PID No. 001544A) in the amount of \$8,458,000.00 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications. All work is expected to be completed within 220 consecutive calendar days from the Notice to Proceed for a construction completion date in October 2018. Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

Contract was originally awarded on March 15, 2016 to The Artec Group and subsequently terminated on October 31, 2017 for breach of contract. Project expenditures to be offset by recoveries received in pending litigation.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

Economic Development

- 21. Resolution approving B7101650108 as a qualified applicant for the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program.

Resolution No. 18-14 adopted approving Project B7101650108 as a qualified applicant pursuant to Section 288.106, Florida Statutes, and identifying sources of local county financial support (total local contribution amount, \$186,000.00, all of which will be paid by Pinellas County, to be paid over a series of fiscal years as determined by the State).

Mr. Woodard related that the project seeks to relocate its headquarters to the unincorporated area of Pinellas County, creating 155 jobs with annual pay scales of at least 150 percent of the average annual wage for the State of Florida; and that the company is also considering sites in Kentucky and Georgia.

In response to queries by Commissioners Justice and Eggers, Mr. Woodard explained that a confidential application was filed through the State of Florida; and that certain County employees who have signed the required confidentiality agreement are fully aware of the related details. He noted that the Staff Report identifies the company as an information technology-centric firm; and that the company must meet certain milestones before any public money can be spent, which would then be paid out over a five-year period.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

22. Resolution expressing support of Jabil, Inc. as a qualified applicant for an Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption.

Resolution No. 18-15 adopted expressing support of Jabil, Inc. as a qualified applicant pursuant to Section 196.1995, Florida Statutes, and authorizing the company to make improvements and/or tangible personal property additions before an Exemption Ordinance is adopted.

Responding to queries and comments by the members, Economic Development Director Mike Meidel provided historical background information related to the establishment of incentives for companies that are expanding and making capital investments, noting that the County has been working with Jabil for over ten years, and it is now ready to move forward. He related that it has been determined that Jabil qualifies under Florida Statutes to receive some form of ad valorem tax exemption; that only the taxable value above and beyond the current property value would be subject to any abatement; and that the details will be negotiated using computer financial models in order to understand the non-tax benefits of the proposal, such as new jobs, higher-than-average wages, and sales tax on new equipment.

Discussion ensued, and responding to queries by Chairman Welch and Commissioner Justice, Mr. Meidel indicated that a similar agenda item will go before the St. Petersburg City Council in April; that the City has already contributed real estate for the expansion; and that following negotiations, a formal ordinance will be presented to the Board for approval.

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

Aye: 4 - Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, and Commissioner Justice

Nay: 1 - Vice-Chairman Seel

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

23. County Administrator Miscellaneous.

School Resource Officers

Mr. Woodard related that a bill was recently signed into law by the Governor requiring that all public schools have at least one trained, certified teacher or faculty member guardian or a sworn School Resource Officer (SRO) on campus to assist with school safety; that the Pinellas County School Board has voted to not support the use of guardians within public schools; and that the requirement applies to every charter, elementary, middle, and high school within the county.

Mr. Woodard stated that the School Board has indicated it does not have the capacity to fund the mandate within its current millage levy; that a referendum would be required to increase the millage rate; and that, if approved, the funding would not be in place for two fiscal years; whereupon, Chairman Welch invited Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri to comment and help frame the discussion.

Sheriff Gualtieri stated that the cost to implement the provision in Pinellas County is substantial; that for many reasons, it should be implemented as soon as possible; and that smaller and medium-sized counties have already implemented their programs. He discussed the public's expectations of the County to comply with the mandate and highlighted the following:

- No officers are currently assigned to any elementary school in the county. Many charter schools do not have an officer and many high schools fall below the appropriate ratio of officers to students.
- 156 new law enforcement officers are needed to cover the needed positions.
- \$12.4 million is needed annually in order to staff the positions.

- An additional one-time cost of \$11.2 million is needed to properly supply the new officers.

Sheriff Gualtieri discussed state funding and its acceptable use, noting that the funding is approximately \$162 million of what is likely a \$400 million need; and that a portion of the funding is for the exclusive use of guardians, which cannot be used to alternatively fund SROs. He related that additional requirements to create threat assessment teams and monthly active-shooter drills for each campus will increase the responsibilities put on law enforcement; that officers will be allowed to seize firearms related to Baker Act mental health issues; and that new and additional funding is required in order to implement each of the new requirements.

Discussion ensued regarding the State Legislature's responsibility to fund the mandate and the Commission's agreement with the School Board that utilizing SROs is preferred over using guardians for several reasons.

In response to queries by the members, Sheriff Gualtieri indicated that \$100 million has been set aside for hardening school facilities; that if a guardian program is authorized, participants would be required to attend over 140 hours of training on firearms, defensive tactics, and more; and that a guardian program could be an effective supplement to utilizing SROs, but only in a secondary or backup role.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Justice, Sheriff Gualtieri reported that city police departments would provide officers to schools within their city limits contingent upon funding; that recent changes to the Florida Retirement System will allow a retired officer to be rehired after only six months of retirement; that many retired officers have expressed interest in returning; and that the bulk of the staffing will initially be provided through overtime. He indicated that there is nothing in the bill that provides a penalty for non-compliance; and that the penalty would be having to inform the families of victims that their loved ones were not protected, effectively holding all public officials accountable.

In response to queries by Commissioner Seel, Sheriff Gualtieri provided information on the extensive requirements for a school employee to join a guardian program and stated that law enforcement has ways to quickly identify non-uniformed officers in an emergency situation; and that similar methods would be employed to help protect and identify individuals serving as guardians.

Discussion ensued concerning the Sheriff's cost projections, and in response to queries by Commissioner Gerard, Sheriff Gualtieri indicated that vehicles are needed for patrols, transports, and to properly store a deputy's rifle; and that each vehicle is installed with necessary equipment for the deputy to complete his or her regular tasks.

Following discussion, Chairman Welch provided input and noted that a formal request for funds from the School Board has not been presented to the Board but is likely coming in the near future; whereupon, he provided the following thoughts for future consideration:

- Could the one-time equipment costs be funded through the Penny for Pinellas surtax?
- Does the School Board have any reserves that could be used to cover part or all of the costs?
- Could the County structure some type of loan to help provide the first two years of funding?

Thereupon, Chairman Welch suggested that the Commission host a joint workshop with the School Board and include the Sheriff and Police Chiefs of the major cities.

Responding to final comments by the members, Sheriff Gualtieri discussed the importance of implementing the new program by July 1 in order to be ready for the start of the new school year, and the ineffectiveness of changing waiting periods to purchase firearms, which often only affect federally-licensed dealers and not the other existing alternatives for gun purchases.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

- 24.** Initiate litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Harvard Jolly, Inc. and Lendlease (US) Construction, Inc., f/k/a Bovis Lend Lease, Inc. - action to recover damages.

County Attorney authorized to initiate litigation. Action may include other defendants as determined during discovery.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morrioni

- 25.** Proposed settlement in the case of Jonathan Goulish v. Pinellas County; Circuit Civil Case No. 16-008161-CI-11.

Settlement approved in accordance with the confidential memorandum dated March 20, 2018.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morrioni

26. Proposed settlement in the case of Joseph Bavlsik and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission v. Pinellas County Business Technology Services; EEOC Charge No. 511-2016-02938.

Settlement approved in accordance with the confidential memorandum dated March 20, 2018.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

27. County Attorney Miscellaneous - None.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

28. Second Amendment to the contract acknowledging acquisition of Paramedics Plus L.L.C. by Paramedics Logistics Florida, LLC for requirements of ambulance services.

Sitting as the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the second amendment to Contract No. 134-0452-P. Contract is in an amount not to exceed \$246,443,154.00 through September 30, 2020 and allows for two consecutive three-year extensions. No fiscal impact is associated with the amendment. Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

In response to query by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Woodard stated that the item is an assignment of contractual responsibility to the newly formed Paramedics Logistics Florida, which has acquired the original vendor, Paramedics Plus.

Director of Safety and Emergency Services Jim Fogarty provided details of the second amendment, the history of the existing contract, and the subsequent sale of Paramedics Plus from the County's perspective. He stated that the contract is well written and is not changing; that the County has completed its due diligence and, as a result, has added eight precedents necessary to complete the assignment; that the contract will expire in 18 months; and that any negative behavior on the part of Paramedics Logistics Florida would be discovered very quickly under the performance metrics of the contract, and discussion ensued.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

29. County Administrator Reports:

- Citizen Values Survey - Sarah Lindemuth, HCP Associates

Ms. Lindemuth conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Pinellas County Citizen Research: Telephonic Study of Citizen Values, 2018 Survey Results*, which has been made a part of the record. Noting that no significant changes have been made to the survey since last year, Ms. Lindemuth reported that a total of 800 interviews with local citizens were completed in the beaches, north county, mid county, and south county regions with a 3.5-percent margin of error; and that telephonic methodology that included land line and cellular phone numbers was utilized to ensure a random sampling and capture demographic and geographic characteristics of the respondents; whereupon, she provided an overview of the results, highlighting the following:

- Nine out of ten respondents indicated that they would recommend Pinellas County as a place to live and retire.
- The recommendations of the county as a place to work and raise children, while still presenting positive numbers of 77 and 82 percent, respectively, have declined as compared to 2017 due to shifts in the rating level from “definitely/probably” to “unsure” reported by certain demographic segments. The weakest recommendations were based on factors such as job availability, career opportunities for children, quality education, traffic, and cleanliness of public spaces.
- Top citizen priorities/expectations across the regions included personal safety, traffic flow, public infrastructure, aging population services, and cleanliness of public spaces.
- Overwhelming commonalities were observed among different regions, with *presence of parks and public spaces* being the highest met expectation among the respondents, and *traffic flow on major roads*, the least.
- *Availability of mental health resources and services for disadvantaged residents*, while largely based on an indirect experience, reflected the second largest expectation gap; whereas, the *sense of personal safety* rating indicated that a high level of expectation was met.
- Pinellas County ranked second most recommended among comparable counties and municipalities in the state.
- An increasing majority of residents, 74 percent, perceive quality of life to be better or just as good compared to five years ago, and 88 percent are optimistic that the next five years will be better or just as good as the present.

- Eight percent of the residents viewed *sea level rise* as impacting the quality of life, and 34 percent as impacting it to a certain extent.
- The overall expectations ratings improved from 83 percent in 2015 to 88 percent in 2018, indicating that Pinellas County is working to meet citizens' expectations.
- The high level of trust and confidence in Pinellas County Government, reported at 93 percent in 2017, was maintained in 2018, significantly exceeding the national level of 70 percent for local governments.
- The high rating levels of *place to live* and *trust and confidence in the local government* appear to translate to stability in the resident base, with less than two percent of the residents reporting plans to move from the county within the next year.

Mr. Woodard reiterated that the ratings for the *work* and *raise children* recommendations changed from the positive to the unsure, rather than to the negative.

In response to comment by Commissioner Welch with regard to the *level of trust* survey question, Ms. Lindemuth noted the value of a trending survey, indicating that some years may reflect an anomaly.

Commissioner Welch thanked Ms. Lindemuth for the presentation and opined that the survey reflects the uncertainty present at the moment in the nation. Commissioner Eggers stressed the importance of increasing job availability, noting the possibility of merging the needs of companies in the manufacturing industry with residents seeking alternative work path opportunities; whereupon, Ms. Lindemuth briefly discussed the link between employment and transportation.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

30. Public Comment.

Linda McDowell, Seminole, re save Baypointe Golf Course

Kate LaVanche, Seminole, re Baypointe Golf Course

Walter Donnelly, St. Petersburg, re south county utilities undergrounding - spoke on behalf of others in attendance

Dean Jarvis, Largo, re unlicensed enforcement

Charles Fazio, Tierra Verde, re unlicensed activity

John Rodriguez, St. Petersburg, re introduction

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re King Edward VI - submitted documents

In response to queries by Chairman Welch and Commissioner Seel regarding the Baypointe Golf Course property, Ms. McDowell indicated that the community wants the land use and zoning to remain recreational greenspace and avoid future development, noting

that the property is in a state of extreme deterioration. Mr. Woodard confirmed that staff has enforced the code violations to the extent of the law; and that the property is currently on the market; whereupon, he recommended that Assistant County Administrator Jake Stowers provide Mses. McDowell and LaVanche with an update on the state of affairs with regard to property, noting that further public discussion may affect the market process.

In response to comments by Messrs. Jarvis and Fazio regarding unlicensed contractor activity, Chairman Welch indicated that pursuant to the recent legislation, the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board will soon be a department under the County Administrator and the matter will be handled; that the Sheriff's Office has already started enforcing the law with regard to the violators; and that County staff will follow up with Mr. Fazio regarding unlicensed activity in his neighborhood.

Chairman Welch and Commissioner Justice welcomed the new City of St. Petersburg Government Affairs Director, John Rodriguez, and congratulated him on the position.

COUNTY COMMISSION

31. Appointment to the Pinellas County Housing Finance Authority (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Robyn Fiel reappointed for a four-year term following a ballot vote.

32. Appointment to the Pinellas County Historical Commission (Individual Appointment by Commissioner Justice).

Cathy Salustri appointed for a term concurrent with that of Commissioner Justice.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morrone

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

Adrian LaTrace appointed for a term expiring June 30, 2019.

Economic Development Director and CareerSource Pinellas board member Mike Meidel remarked on the complexity of the CareerSource board composition requirements and related that a new business member, replacing one who had resigned, is needed in order to have the required number of business board members for the board to vote; and that Adrian LaTrace is a fully qualified candidate.

Responding to query by Chairman Welch, Mr. Meidel discussed the current board appointment process, indicating that a list of candidates will be brought to the Commissioners for consideration at a future meeting.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

- 34. County Commission New Business Items:**
- Upham Beach Nourishment Funding Letter of Support (BCC)
 - CareerSource Pinellas Update (Commissioner Gerard)

Upham Beach Nourishment Funding Letter of Support (BCC)

Mr. Woodard related that Representative Charlie Crist had indicated a desire to advocate for the additional \$2.1 million in federal funding needed to include the Upham Beach portion in the Sand Key beach nourishment project upon receipt of a proper request; and that Coastal Resources Manager Andy Squires will be meeting with him in Washington later this week; whereupon, responding to query by Chairman Welch, Mr. Woodard clarified that staff is asking that the Board authorize the Chairman to execute the draft funding support letter to Representative Crist, which has been made a part of the record.

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

Aye: 4 - Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, and Commissioner Justice

Absent: 3 - Vice-Chairman Seel, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

CareerSource Pinellas Update (Commissioner Gerard)

Commissioner Gerard related that tomorrow the CareerSource Board will consider (1) former President and CEO Ed Peachey's continued employment and settlement demand equaling five months' salary and benefits and (2) the organization's governance structure; whereupon, she requested the Commissioners' feedback on whether CareerSource Pinellas and CareerSource Tampa Bay of Hillsborough County should fully merge under the control of one board and one executive director; completely detach having its own organization, board, and executive director; or keep the current structure where the executive director and certain services are shared.

Commissioner Gerard indicated that the Hillsborough County Commission already had the discussion and prefers to have a separate organization and director with the possibility of service sharing between the counties. She recapped the recent CareerSource Ad Hoc Committee meeting and displayed the current organizational chart, indicating that with many employees working for both organizations, there is disorder and confusion; and that the organizations are not on the same page. Referring to the current state of affairs, she advocated against having the two organizations under one executive director and recommended that CareerSource Pinellas be separate from Tampa Bay; whereupon, responding to query by Chairman Welch, she stated that the agreement between the organizations has expired.

During discussion, Commissioner Justice asserted that given a million-resident base, the County should have its own CareerSource organization, board, and executive director for more local influence and oversight. Chairman Welch concurred, noting that the organizations ought to resolve the problems prior to pursuing a merger, and Attorney White provided input, indicating that approval by the State would be needed for a merger. Commissioners Seel and Eggers disagreed with Commissioner Justice's position and discussed the benefits of working together, including savings and flow of jobs across the bay, and the strides made towards regionalization with regard to the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority and Metropolitan Planning Organizations, agreeing, however, that the current issues should be addressed under proper management before moving forward on a regional basis.

Referring to a letter from CareerSource Counsel Charlie Harris to Attorney White requesting the BCC's position and recommendation as to payment of any severance and/or settlement to Mr. Peachey in exchange for a release of claims, Chairman Welch indicated that in view of the last letter from Mr. Peachey's Attorney, Marion Hale, threatening personal lawsuits against the Commissioners, he sees no reason for additional exposure and recommends that the Commission not state a position on the matter, other than what has already been stated by him and Commissioner Gerard at CareerSource Board meetings, and no objections were noted; whereupon, he requested that Attorney White relay the response to Mr. Harris.

Thereupon, Chairman Welch stated for the record that Ms. Hale's contention that the matter concerning Mr. Peachey and CareerSource has been fully investigated is erroneous in light of the ongoing investigations at the federal and state levels; and that the organization needs a new attorney going forward, whereas Mr. Harris, who had been the attorney when issues of concern were occurring, including an instance of an external audit firm being fired without the knowledge of the Audit Committee, should not be allowed to conduct the investigations.

Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Harris' recent reports to the CareerSource Board, the ongoing investigation of the organization by various governmental entities, and intimidation attempts by Ms. Hale, and responding to query by Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard confirmed that Mr. Peachey is an at-will employee.

35. County Commission Board Reports and Miscellaneous Items.

The members reported on the activities of their assigned Boards and Committees and related or discussed the following items:

Commissioner Eggers

- The last Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) Leadership Group meeting included consideration of various transportation service initiatives and alternatives and a discussion about improving the dialogue among the members. A summary will be provided to the Commissioners.
- The Tampa Bay Water Board met yesterday and held a discussion about the master plan, which includes the water supply project. Wholesale prices for water remain the same for the eighth year.
- The Pinellas Schools Collaborative had a presentation regarding a system to track children from destination to destination for safety purposes, and the School Board members were interested in piloting the program. Commissioner Seel expressed enthusiasm regarding the pilot opportunity, noting that Hillsborough County is ahead of Pinellas County in that regard.
- Thanked Mr. Woodard and his staff for (1) an informative meeting with Lakeshore Estates residents regarding a complicated public works project and (2) a discussion and presentation at the City of Dunedin regarding the Causeway Bridge project and sea level rise.
- A Meals on Wheels annual event is coming up.
- A ribbon-cutting for the new Clearwater free clinic is forthcoming.

Commissioner Seel

- The Homeless Leadership Board met yesterday and discussed prevention and diversion as alternative methods of addressing the need for shelters.
- Provided an update with regard to proposals and plans for emergency family shelter service, resulting from the Task Force on Emergency Family Shelter, better known as Family Bridge Shelter.
- Expressed sympathies to the family of James R. "Jim" Rolston, Jr., a former Pinellas County Utilities employee, mentor, and an artist, noting his many contributions to the community.

Commissioner Justice

- The Historic Preservation Board will meet tomorrow to consider another approval of a

Certificate of Appropriateness in Palm Harbor; a certificate was approved last month to convert an old noncontributing structure into a restaurant.

- The Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas annual luncheon and installation of officers will be held on April 27 at Ruth Eckerd Hall.
- He was in Washington last week with the Tampa Bay Estuary Board, meeting with legislators. The Environmental Protection Agency staff praised the work and success of the estuary program and the organization's board.
- Thanked Congressman Crist, Regional Director Shahra Anderson of Senator Bill Nelson's Office, and the County Planning Department staff for touring the Lealman Community Center, noting that Representative Crist and Ms. Anderson were enthusiastic about the possibilities and grant opportunities in Lealman.
- Requested an official narrative by the County's professional lobbying team, Dean Mead, with regard to Governor Rick Scott's veto of the County's million-dollar request for the Lealman Community Center, comparing it with a similar funding request for another organization, which was approved. Mr. Woodard indicated that the request will be made.

Commissioner Gerard

- The Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, CareerSource Pinellas, Pinellas County (Child Care) License Board, and Youth Advisory Committee will meet tomorrow.

Commissioner Welch

- The Tourist Development Council will meet tomorrow.
- He was honored to join the Commissioners yesterday at the Faith and Action for Strength Together (FAST) meeting regarding affordable housing.
- Habitat for Humanity opened a south county office on the Deuces in St. Petersburg.
- The Forward Pinellas Board discussed repurposing Interstate 375 and Interstate 175 in St. Petersburg.

Meeting Recessed: 5:50 P.M.

Meeting Reconvened: 6:08 P.M.

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

- 36.** Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) resolution for issuance by the Pinellas County Industrial Development Authority (d/b/a the Pinellas County Economic Development Authority) of its Industrial Development Revenue Bonds in an aggregate principal amount of not-to-exceed \$15,900,000.00 on behalf of Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Inc. (Companion to Item # 37)

Resolution No. 18-16 adopted approving the issuance of the bonds pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

- 37.** Approval of resolution for issuance of Industrial Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2018, in an aggregate principal amount of not-to-exceed \$15,900,000.00, on behalf of Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Inc. (Regular Agenda) (Companion to Item # 36)

Resolution No. 18-17 adopted authorizing issuance of the bonds.

Mr. Woodard introduced the item, indicating that issuance of the bonds will not represent debt of Pinellas County.

Chief Assistant County Attorney Don Crowell noted for the record that the Board is taking action on the item in its capacity as the Pinellas County Industrial Development Authority; whereupon, at the request of Attorney White, the members signed a Certificate As To Public Meeting, which has been made a part of the record, indicating compliance with the Florida Sunshine Law.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

- 38.** Q Z/LU-04-02-18 (J J Killingsworth)

A request for a zoning change from R-R, Rural Residential to IL-CO, Institutional Limited-Conditional Overlay with the Conditional Overlay limiting the use of the property to an assisted living facility and a land use change from Residential Suburban to Institutional on

approximately 1.9 acres located at 10380 131st Street North in the unincorporated area of Seminole.

Resolution No. 18-18 adopted approving the zoning change with the Conditional Overlay, and Ordinance No. 18-13 adopted changing the land use designation. The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the request, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Mr. Woodard provided background information, indicating that the subject property is currently under contract with the property owner to the north, who is seeking to expand the existing assisted living facility.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

39. Q Z-03-02-18 (Pinellas County)

A request for a zoning change from C-2, General Retail Commercial and Limited Services to M-1, Light Manufacturing and Industry on approximately 1.95 acres located on the west side of 58th Street North approximately 1,500 feet south of Ulmerton Road in unincorporated Largo.

Resolution No. 18-19 adopted approving the zoning change. The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the request, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Mr. Woodard indicated that the subject property represents a portion of the former landfill escheated to the County approximately three years ago; and that the requested zoning designation would provide for the highest and best use of the parcel.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

40. Q Z/LU-05-02-18 (Educational Partnership of St. Petersburg, LP)

A request for a zoning change from R-4, One, Two, and Three Family Residential to RM-12.5, Residential Multiple Family, 12.5 units per acre and a land use change from Institutional and Residential Urban to Residential Medium on approximately 1.34 acres located at 4500 43rd Street North and 4312 46th Avenue North in Lealman.

Resolution No. 18-20 adopted approving the zoning change and Ordinance No. 18-14 adopted changing the land use designation. The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the request, and staff concurred. One letter of objection has been received.

Planning Department Zoning Manager Glenn Bailey conducted a PowerPoint presentation and, referring to photographs and the land use and zoning map, pointed out the location of the subject property, described surrounding land uses, and provided background information about the property. He indicated that the proposal is to demolish the existing educational facility comprised of four buildings and develop multifamily housing of up to 17 residential units; that the subject property is located within the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA); and that approval of the project would be subject to site plan review.

Mr. Bailey indicated that the proposal meets the CRA goal of achieving a mix of diverse housing stock and encourages reinvestment in the area; and that it is consistent with the Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Bailey provided additional information relating to surrounding land uses and zoning, indicating that the R-4 zoning designation allows for three-unit structures.

Upon Chairman Welch's call for the applicant, Joe Lettelleir, St. Petersburg, appeared and indicated that he represents Contemporary Housing Alternatives of Florida; and that the proposed project will be a standout that should be well-received by the community and would greatly support the Lealman resurgence.

Responding to the Chairman's call for persons wishing to be heard, the following individuals presented their comments and concerns and responded to queries by the members:

Barbara Kiefner, St. Petersburg
Eric Truong, St. Petersburg
Tina Mosher, St. Petersburg

In response to comments by the speakers, Jacob Stowers, Contemporary Housing Alternatives of Florida, provided background information regarding the organization, noting that it currently manages 14 multifamily affordable housing and mixed income properties in the county, and described the proposed construction.

Responding to queries by Chairman Welch and Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Stowers indicated that the proposed project would include a property across 45th Avenue that does not require rezoning; that the additional acreage and an affordable housing density bonus would provide for up to 28 units, 12 affordable and 16 market rate; and that the maximum building height would be three stories, or 45 feet, as currently allowed, and Mr. Woodard provided input, clarifying that the subject property would have up to 17 units.

During discussion and responding to further queries by Chairman Welch and Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Bailey indicated that he is not aware of publicly documented

restrictions on the property and explained the approvals required in order to increase building height; whereupon, he referred to a copy of the Local Planning Agency meeting notice for February 8 and provided information with regard to notification of the surrounding property owners, and Mr. Stowers discussed the public outreach effort conducted by the applicant.

Later in the meeting, noting that residents continue to be confused as to whether Local Planning Agency Board meetings are public, Chairman Welch requested a copy of the LPA meeting notification letter, and Commissioner Seel suggested that "public meeting" be written on it in bold letters; whereupon, Commissioner Justice commented on the commitment to affordable housing in the County.

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

Aye: 4 - Chairman Welch, Vice-Chairman Seel, Commissioner Gerard, and Commissioner Justice

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Eggers

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Countywide Planning Authority

41. Case No. CW 18-04 - City of Largo

Countywide Plan Map amendment from Residential Low Medium to Residential Medium, regarding 2.9 acres more or less, located at 2704 & 2706 Roosevelt Boulevard (regular amendment).

Ordinance No. 18-15 adopted approving Case No. CW 18-04. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, recommended approval of the proposal, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Mr. Woodard provided geographical and background information with regard to the property, relating that the current request entails a 43-unit expansion of the existing adjacent 224-unit apartment complex onto the subject property.

Chairman Welch indicated that two comment cards in support of the application have been submitted; and that Forward Pinellas staff is present to answer any questions.

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

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

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Morroni

ADJOURNMENT - 6:40 P.M.

Karen Williams Seel
Vice Chairman

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By *Arline L. Smith*
Deputy Clerk

