

# **Pinellas County**

*315 Court Street, 5th Floor Assembly Room  
Clearwater, Florida 33756*



## **Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, June 7, 2016**

**1:30 PM**

**BCC Assembly Room**

## **Board of County Commissioners**

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

**ROLL CALL - 1:34 P.M.**

**Present:** 7 - Charlie Justice, Janet C. Long, Dave Eggers, Pat Gerard, John Morroni, Karen Williams Seel, and Kenneth T. Welch

**Others Present:** James L. Bennett, County Attorney; Mark S. Woodard, County Administrator; Clarethia N. Harris, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Christopher Bartlett and Lynn Abbott, Board Reporters, Deputy Clerks.

**INVOCATION by Reverend Bette-Jo Foster with Curlew United Methodist Church in Palm Harbor**

In the absence of Reverend Foster, Commissioner Long provided the Invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

**1. Presentations and Awards:**

Ralph Marsicano Award Presentation

Thank You for Doing Business Recognition: Mercury Medical

Doing Things Employee Recognition:  
Jason Stuck, Entomology Technician, Mosquito Control

National Mosquito Control Awareness Week Proclamation

Mosquito Control Presentation

Partner Presentation:  
Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority - Joseph Waggoner, Executive Director

**Ralph Marsicano Award Presentation**

The Ralph A. Marsicano Award, presented annually by the City, County, and Local Government Law Section of the Florida Bar, was presented on May 6 to County Attorney James Bennett in recognition of his significant contribution to the practice of local government law. Chief Assistant County Attorney Jewel White highlighted Attorney Bennett's many accomplishments and read a statement from Janine Williams, Chief Assistant City Attorney for the City of St. Petersburg stating that Pinellas County, the Tampa region, and the state all benefit from his lifetime dedication to local government issues; whereupon, Attorney Bennett thanked his family and others for their support and confidence.

**Thank You for Doing Business Recognition: Mercury Medical**

The item was removed from the agenda.

**Doing Things Employee Recognition: Jason Stuck, Entomology Technician, Mosquito Control**

**National Mosquito Control Awareness Week Proclamation  
Mosquito Control Presentation**

Proclamation presented to Vegetation Management and Mosquito Control Manager Brian Lawton, Public Works.

Mr. Lawton conducted a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, providing an overview of the County's mosquito control program and the threat of mosquito-borne illnesses. In response to query by Commissioner Welch, he indicated that areas prone to flooding are monitored regularly for breeding and other issues; and that anyone noticing standing water lasting more than three to five days should contact the department for a technician to investigate and take appropriate measures.

**Partner Presentation: Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority - Joseph Waggoner, Executive Director**

Mr. Waggoner conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled Driven to Make a Difference, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, and provided background information on the organization and its current projects; whereupon, he responded to queries by the members regarding financing costs, bus toll lanes, and the possibility of working with the County on future projects, and brief discussion ensued.

## **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.**

### **COUNTYWIDE PLANNING AUTHORITY**

2. Case No. CW 16-14 - Pinellas County  
Countywide Plan Map amendment from Residential Low Medium (RLM) to Office (O), regarding 0.7 acre more or less, located at 1003 Virginia Avenue (subthreshold amendment).

Ordinance No. 16-32 adopted. Pinellas Planning Council recommended approval of the proposal, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morrone, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

3. Case No. CW 16-15 - City of Safety Harbor

Countywide Plan Map amendment from Residential Low Medium to Recreation/Open Space, Preservation, regarding 8.4 acres more or less, located south of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, east of McMullen Booth Road (subthreshold amendment).

Ordinance No. 16-33 adopted. Pinellas Planning Council recommended approval of the proposal, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard. Chairman Justice noted that City of Safety Harbor Community Planner/GIS Analyst Michael Schoderbock is in the audience and available to answer questions.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

4. Case No. CW 16-16 - City of Safety Harbor  
Countywide Plan Map amendment from Public/Semi-Public and Preservation to Recreation/Open Space, Public/Semi-Public, and Preservation, regarding 10 acres more or less, located west of the intersection of Green Springs Drive and Marshall Street (regular amendment).

Ordinance No. 16-34 adopted. Pinellas Planning Council recommended approval of the proposal, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

#### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

5. Resolution approving the Lealman Community Redevelopment Area Plan.

Resolution No. 16-40 adopted. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

6. Ordinance establishing a Redevelopment Trust Fund for the Lealman Community Redevelopment Area.

Ordinance No. 16-35 adopted. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

7. Ordinance amending Ordinance No.15-29 to rename the Lealman Community Redevelopment Agency.

Ordinance No. 16-36 adopted changing the name to Pinellas County Community Redevelopment Agency. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

In response to comment by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Woodard stated that Items Nos. 5 through 7 are the last actions required to establish a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district for the Lealman Community Redevelopment Area (CRA).

Planning Director Renea Vincent provided an overview of each item, indicating that the CRA plan provides the framework for how the TIF revenue will be spent; that it is broad and will become more specific before the first TIF payment in January; that 2016 will be set as the base year of the TIF; and that the trust fund will operate similar to redevelopment trust funds in other municipalities. She stated that the name change would properly align the agency to work with future CRAs in unincorporated areas.

Noting Lealman Fire District Chief Rick Graham's presence in the audience, Mr. Woodard related that the CRA TIF will not affect other taxing districts or authorities, including the Lealman Fire District.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Planning Department Principal Planner Rachel Booth discussed the initial outreach activities related to the plan, and indicated that staff is starting to identify projects that will engage the community while managing overall expectations, and discussion ensued.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

8. Ordinance amending County Code Chapter 58 (Environment) by adding Article IX (Oil and Gas Well Stimulation), which provides for a ban on Oil and Gas Well Stimulation, including, but not limited to Acid Fracturing, Hydraulic Fracturing, and Matrix Acidizing.

Ordinance No. 16-37 adopted as amended. One letter of support has been received.

Attorney Bennett discussed the proposed ordinance, and noted that it was prepared at the Board's direction; that it has been amended with an additional *whereas* clause in anticipation of any future action of the state legislature; and that the amended ordinance is ready for the Board's consideration and would accomplish the Board's intent to ban fracking within the county.

Responding to query by Commissioner Welch, Attorney Bennett stated that the ordinance will become effective ten days after it is received by the Secretary of State; and that he will inform the Board of the specific effective date when it is known, and discussion ensued.

Chairman Justice called for persons wishing to speak on the item, and the following citizens appeared and noted their support for the ordinance:

Susan Glickman, Indian Rocks Beach, spoke on behalf of others in attendance

Jennifer Webb, Gulfport

Lawrence Potter, Seminole

Jennifer Rubiello, St. Petersburg, representing Environment Florida

Michelle Allen, St. Petersburg, representing Food and Water Watch

Marybeth Dunn, Belleair Bluffs, representing Physicians for Social Responsibility

Dayna Lazarus, St. Petersburg

Diane Lebedeff, Clearwater

Guy Hancock, Largo, representing the Democratic Environmental Caucus of Florida

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

## CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

### 9. Public comment.

Greg Pound, Largo, re truth

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re religion as qualified in Article 6, as requisite in Article 1, Section 2 (submitted documents)

Gail Conroy, Redington Shores, re beekeepers, Travatine Island, vegetation control

Gerald Goen, Tarpon Springs, re climate change - spoke on behalf of others in attendance (submitted documents)

Responding to concerns expressed by Ms. Conroy, Mr. Woodard indicated that the County endeavors to control exotic and nuisance-type vegetation while not harming native species; and that staff will examine the mangroves on Travatine Island and report any findings back to the Board.

## CONSENT AGENDA - Items 10 through 15 (Item 12 withdrawn by the City of Belleair Beach.)

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

## CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

### 10. Minutes of the regular meeting held May 10, 2016.

Reports received for filing:

11. Pinellas Planning Council Basic Financial Statements and Regulatory Reports (annual audit) for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2015.
12. City of Belleair-Beach Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2015.

The item was withdrawn from the agenda.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

13. Eastlake Oaks Community Development District minutes of the meeting held February 11, 2016.

#### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

##### Safety and Emergency Services

14. Award of bid to Carousel Industries of North America, Inc. for the maintenance and repair services of 9-1-1 equipment.

Bid No. 156-0302-M in the amount of \$3,113,188.87 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications; contract term is 60 months commencing July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2021.

#### COUNTY ATTORNEY

15. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Kharmarion Brown v. Pinellas County, et al. - Circuit Civil Case No. 16-002770-CI - Allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

#### REGULAR AGENDA

#### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

None.

#### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

##### Convention and Visitors Bureau

16. Amendment to the Capital Projects Funding Program Guidelines as recommended by the Tourist Development Council.

Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) Executive Director David Downing read into the record a statement submitted by Tourist Development Council (TDC) member Phil Henderson regarding the proposed guidelines approved by a unanimous vote of the TDC, noting that setting aside a 20 percent minimum for each funding category would ensure that the bed tax revenue would be spread across many uses; and that allocating percentages would prevent all of the money from going to one expenditure and provide maximum flexibility; whereupon, Chairman Justice related that he and Board members Russ Kimball and Mayor Cretekos had concerns, and clarified that approval of the guidelines was really more a sign of unanimity than a true 100-percent consensus.

Managing County Attorney Michael Zas provided a brief history of the Tourist Development Plan and the guidelines, noting that the Board amended the plan whereby 60 percent of the eligible funds will go to promotion, advertising, and marketing; that the remaining 40 percent can be used for capital-type projects that fall under certain categories; and that Capital Funding Guidelines were put in place to establish an application process. He indicated that the guidelines need to be updated to reflect the recent levy of the sixth percent and the adoption of the 60/40 plan.

In response to queries by Commissioner Long, Attorney Zas related that the TDC had created the guidelines to outline the application cycle and the criteria needed for capital funding requests; and that the guidelines paralleled the process for other funding agreements; whereupon, Chairman Justice indicated that a process was needed so that cities or entities could apply for capital funding, noting that the TDC's decision to include the 20-percent allocation necessitated Board approval.

Attorney Zas explained that there is nothing wrong with the current guidelines; and that the guidelines are not statutorily required and are not law, as is an ordinance, noting that a simple majority vote by the Commission could override the guidelines and waive their requirements.

Mr. Downing indicated that the thresholds for changing the guidelines and the plan are different, and in response to comment by Commissioner Long, stated that although the plan is confusing, it is relatively simple as compared to other Tourist Development Plans across the state. He related that the TDC's intention to revise and simplify the language actually went further to ensure that monies were available for different types of projects; and that there would be some portion left that could be applied to other uses, opining that the changes crafted by the TDC had been in response to 20-something years of having its resources tied down primarily for one type of expenditure.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Welch regarding beach nourishment, Attorney Zas, with input by Mr. Woodard, clarified that the TDC's proposal locks in \$3.7 million at 8 percent; that \$3.5 million had previously been dedicated; that the formula for the total levy of the sixth percent actually equals 8.3 percent; that the residual amount locked in at 20 percent for Categories C, D, and E remains in the categories going forward; and that Category E can only be used for debt service.

Commissioner Welch indicated that there is less flexibility with the proposed



amendment; that the power of cash funding would be lost; and that \$15 million over four years would be locked away that could otherwise be used for capital projects before a commitment to debt service is made; whereupon, Attorney Zas agreed that the guidelines are more restrictive.

Commissioner Gerard expressed her concerns and her disappointment that the proposal contains more restrictions, noting that the Board was clear that it wanted flexibility; whereupon, Mr. Downing reiterated that the TDC was trying to prevent the money from being spent on one project or in one area.

Commissioner Seel expressed her concerns regarding the proposed guidelines, noting that beach nourishment and flexibility were listed as important issues; that it is important to retain the ability to do marketing and advertising; and that the TDC wanted a return of "heads in beds" on capital projects. She discussed previous meetings where it was agreed that the process was to be fair, equitable, open, and flexible, noting that a consultant was hired to ensure that any business plans or economic development reports would be vetted by an independent professional and safeguard a return on the investment.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Attorney Zas indicated that an applicant could come forward with an ask that exceeded the guidelines, even though the guidelines in effect right now do not reflect the adoption of the sixth percent and the 60/40 plan, and the TDC could make a recommendation that the Board waive the requirements, noting that the process would not change even if the proposed amendment is approved; whereupon, Commissioner Eggers discussed his concerns, noting that he does not understand the intent of the TDC to apply another level of restriction that would inhibit applications from moving forward; and that the process already vets the applications.

Commissioner Long related that flexibility is an important consideration because the extent of the requests are unknown, and concurred with Commissioner Gerard regarding the restrictions, noting that she does not understand why the constraints are necessary. In response to query by Commissioner Long, Mr. Downing clarified that the TDC discussed the need for flexibility and indicated that the BCC holds the power and would ultimately choose where the money goes, thereby making sure that all needs are met.

In response to the Chairman's call for public comment, City of Dunedin Mayor Julie Ward Bujalski appeared on behalf of a group of four persons and provided historical background information on the 60/40 revenue split and expressed concerns related to the guidelines' requirement for a business plan and economic impact studies; whereupon, she pointed out that caps on the categories clearly limit flexibility and requested that the 20/20/20 caps be removed from consideration.

Responding to query by Commissioner Welch, Mayor Bujalski indicated that neither she nor City of St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman discussed the issues with the TDC, CVB staff, or Attorney Zas; that citizen input is not received until after the vote and at the end of a TDC meeting; and that staff did not feel comfortable discussing an issue that had

yet to be approved by the Commission.

Commissioner Morroni disagreed, noting that the BCC members received a letter from Mayors Bujalski and Kriseman and a copy of the response from Mr. Henderson; and that Mayor Kriseman has previously been absent when similar issues arose; whereupon, he suggested that the guidelines be sent back to the TDC so that the issue can be properly discussed and a revote taken, noting that the issue was not properly vetted.

Commissioner Morroni indicated that the mayors' letter objecting to the guidelines was not received until last Friday, which left little time for consideration; and that neither Mayor Kriseman nor Mr. Henderson are present, and Commissioner Welch concurred; whereupon, Mayor Bujalski apologized for the late mailing of the letter and reiterated her concerns about the timing for submitting applications and the related paperwork required. She asked the Board to accept the Blue Jays' application without delay, noting that the relationship has been in existence for decades, and in response to query by Commissioner Long, Attorney Zas indicated that the application may be accepted.

Referring to comment by Mayor Bujalski, Mr. Downing related that Visit St. Pete-Clearwater does not have guidelines regarding the acceptance of applications, so talking to a potential applicant about guidelines does not make sense; and that the TDC meeting regarding the guidelines was properly noticed.

Attorney Zas suggested that the Board move the guidelines forward with the removal of two paragraphs and the change in the Required Documentation section from "will disqualify" to "may disqualify," as requested by the mayors, and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Seel expressed surprise that dollar figures were offered for each sample project and commented that the proposed funding scheme listed beach nourishment in last place, noting that one-half of one percent should be reserved and equals the maximum amount of dollars under the historic formula. She agreed that the guidelines should be returned to the TDC, and Commissioner Long concurred.

In response to queries by Commissioners Seel and Welch, Mr. Downing related that the rationale behind the point system was that an applicant would be eligible to give a presentation if they received a threshold score of 500 during the review; and that the applicant would proceed further if they received a 700 or above for their presentation, and Attorney Zas agreed that the length of funding time should equal the lease period. Referring to the criteria requirements, he indicated that whether the process for an existing facility or entity should differ from a new application would be a policy call for the Board; and that changing the guideline language from "will" to "may" disqualify would provide flexibility with respect to automatic disqualification.

Commissioner Morroni requested that Mr. Downing meet with the TDC chairman to rearrange the agenda so that citizen comments can be heard earlier in the meeting and to inform the TDC that beach nourishment is the number one issue, with flexibility close behind. He noted the BCC's great relationship with both mayors and the TDC, relating that the amended guidelines should respectfully be sent back to be properly vetted, and

the members concurred; whereupon, Chairman Justice related that the issue would be put on the July TDC agenda, and discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Morroni, seconded by Commissioner Seel, that the item be denied. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

17. Second amendment to the agreement with Birdsall, Voss & Associates, Inc. for requirements of tourism marketing services on behalf of the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Second amendment to Contract No. 123-0268-P approved, increasing the contract amount by \$3,639,235.00 through the end of Fiscal Year 2016 and executing the first and final term extension of 24 months (amendment total, \$33,639,235.00; total estimated expenditure not to exceed \$69,639,235.00). Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director David Downing indicated that the increase represents a "truing up" of the estimated amount for the current three-year contract; that the extension sets a \$15 million cap for each of the next two years; and that increased bed tax revenue and BP Oil Spill grant money have been injected into the advertising budget to cover the expenditure.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Morroni, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

### Real Estate Management

18. Lease Agreement with Northside Square, LLC for leased space at 29399 U.S. Highway 19 North.

Agreement approved for relocation of the Tax Collector's Processing Operations Department; lease term is 60 months with three one-year renewal options.

In response to query by Commissioner Eggers, Real Estate Management Director Andrew Pupke indicated that the relocation from the Young-Rainey STAR Center will provide increased square footage for the Tax Collector, as well as office space to relocate the Code Enforcement satellite office from the North County Service Center across the street; and that a driver license test course will be constructed at the current Service Center location.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Morroni

19. Resolution authorizing the conveyance of six surplus parcels of vacant County-owned land in the Dansville area to Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County for the construction of affordable housing.

Resolution No. 16-41 adopted pursuant to Florida Statutes §125.38. County Administrator authorized to execute the legal instruments necessary for the conveyances; Chairman authorized to execute the County Deeds and the Clerk to record the deeds and resolution.

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

**Aye:** 6 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Morroni

#### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

20. County Administrator miscellaneous.

Mr. Woodard stated that the web page for the public to submit suggestions on how to allocate the BP Oil Spill settlement money is now available and will remain open until the end of the month, and provided statistics relating to the County's efforts during the recent weather emergencies due to Tropical Storm Colin.

#### COUNTY ATTORNEY

21. County Attorney miscellaneous.

None.

#### AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

##### Human Rights

22. Authority to advertise a public hearing to be held on June 21, 2016, regarding a proposed ordinance amending Chapter 94, Article III of the County Code relating to an Affirmative Action Plan.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Vice-Chairman Long, that authority be granted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chairman Justice, Vice-Chairman Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Morroni

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

### 23. County Administrator reports:

Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Development: Priority Needs and Funding Plan.

Mr. Woodard presented an overview of the previous week's budget session and noted that discussions included priorities, needs, the funding plan, achieving the vision through alignment with the strategic plan, best practices, and continual improvement in the budget process. He indicated that he is seeking the Board's guidance on priority items to be included within the proposed budget, relating that the final public hearing is scheduled for September.

Mr. Woodard indicated that the Board requested additional information on the decision packages for the Homeless System of Care Resources, the Police Athletic League, and the Sheriff's Academy and Training program, noting that packets have been distributed to the members.

#### Homeless System of Care Resources

Mr. Woodard referred to the Homeless System of Care Resources PowerPoint presentation and indicated that approximately \$2.1 million has been requested; and that the recommended level of funding for the proposed budget is \$1.6 million but can be increased or reduced by Board action.

Referring to last Friday's Homeless Leadership Board (HLB) meeting, Commissioner Seel related that the emergency situation involving homeless families has not improved; and that the HLB is requesting that the Board allocate up to \$180,000 for staffing at 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares for the Emergency Family Shelter Assistance Program. She indicated that 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares originally had responsibility for the program; that the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) had transferred the service and funding for staff to Personal Enrichment Mental Health Services with the thought that warm placement could be provided in conjunction with other services; and that the issue now is homeless families rather than families in risk of losing their homes.

During discussion and in response to queries by the members, Commissioner Seel explained that the supportive housing services and case management request would support housing facilities being built by Boley Centers and Catholic Charities; that financial assistance would be provided for the first and last months' rent, security deposits, and other permanent housing expenses; and that new positions to be funded would be for local not-for-profit organizations; whereupon, she suggested that the HLB

Executive Director be invited to make a presentation to the Board.

Human Services Director Lourdes Benedict discussed the homeless assistance programs, including the Family Housing Assistance and Adult Emergency Financial Assistance Programs (AEFAP), Rapid Re-Housing, and Supportive Housing. She related that Rapid Re-Housing will use emergency funds from Community Development to quickly locate permanent housing for the homeless going through a financial crisis; and that Supportive Housing utilizes social services and community programs, such as the Boley Centers and Catholic Charities, coupled with case management to assist the homeless with persistent issues and/or disabilities, noting that Rapid Re-Housing and Supportive Housing are different models.

Responding to query by Commissioner Eggers regarding the budget, Office of Management and Budget Director Bill Berger related that the requested \$2.1 million could not realistically be achieved in Fiscal Year 2017; that the idea is to have an incremental increase to get the \$1.6 million for Fiscal Year 2017 by pulling from one area of Rapid Re-Housing; and that the \$1.6 million would potentially grow into \$2 million based on results seen from performance measures, and Mr. Woodard noted that staff would work to develop performance-based contracts with partners to ensure accountability and realize positive outcomes and successful results.

Commissioner Welch related his support, pointing out that there is a long-standing shortage of low-income housing, and commented on the issues with projects such as the Mosley Hotel. Ms. Benedict indicated that programs such as the AEFAP provide assistance with the first and last months' rent and the security deposit needed to assure landlords of tenants' financial stability, and provided information regarding the average costs in dollars per family.

In response to request by Commissioner Welch, Mr. Woodard related that the proposed budget summary will have a section identifying changes to the budget and decision packages and, within that narrative, will indicate how many families or individuals would be assisted at the proposed funding level. Commissioner Seel reiterated that permanent housing and working with the Housing Finance Authority are strong goals of the HLB; whereupon, Mr. Woodard indicated that the Homeless System of Care Resources will be included in the proposed budget with detailed information on service levels, noting that the budget can be amended or changed at the direction of the Board.

#### Police Athletic League (PAL)

Mr. Woodard discussed the PAL funding request, as described in the PowerPoint presentation.

In response to queries by Commissioner Seel, Mr. Woodard related that the Sheriff provides annual support to PAL from his Fines and Forfeitures Fund; and that he would inquire whether the fund could be used to support the request.

Commissioner Seel indicated her support for PAL, noting that it is making a significant

impact in Lealman, and the members concurred; whereupon, Mr. Woodard related that the Commissioners' goal to take action in Lealman was a deciding factor in his inclusion of the request in his budget recommendation.

#### Sheriff's Academy Request

Mr. Woodard related that the information the Board had asked for regarding the Sheriff's request is included in the agenda packet, along with the Sheriff's response and statistics for the attrition rates.

Commissioner Long commented that the attrition rates are troubling; whereupon, Commissioner Seel indicated that the Sheriff stated that the rates are comparable to other agencies in the Tampa Bay region; that the Cities of St. Petersburg and Clearwater use the St. Petersburg College Law Enforcement Academy as well as the Sheriff; and that local and statewide agencies are also struggling to retain officers and attract millennials to the occupation.

Mr. Woodard related that the Sheriff supports long-range financial planning that would allow a greater level of clarity for present and future needs in order to visualize those requests for the annual budgeting process, and Commissioner Eggers agreed with the need for planning, noting that there will be shortages of various talents in the county; and that he would rather be ahead of the curve, as public safety is the Board's number one responsibility. Mr. Woodard related that the Board's investments in addressing pay equity and compression issues and making entry level wages more competitive during the last two budget seasons may not be reflected in the statistical information because it takes time to see the full benefit in terms of retention rates, noting that there are costs associated with continual improvement.

Commissioner Gerard indicated that many police departments do not put applicants through the academy anymore; that they usually hire experienced people; and that being able to choose worthy candidates and pay for their training is expensive but will ensure a bigger employment pool, noting that the attrition rates may increase as there is a certain percentage of people who drop out because they simply do not like the field or are not fit for it; whereupon, Mr. Woodard related that the item will be included within the proposed budget.

#### Medical Examiner

Mr. Woodard indicated that Pinellas County Medical Examiner Jon Thogmartin requested a change to his decision package as it relates to the DNA labs; and that he has adjusted the recommended funding level from \$140,000 to \$176,000, which will increase the level of service and decrease the processing time for rape kits and other DNA evidence submitted during an investigation, and no objections were noted.

#### School Nurses

Mr. Woodard referred to last week's workshop discussion regarding the placement of

nurses in seven schools, noting that funding for the request was not included in his budget recommendation; whereupon, he requested guidance from the Board, noting that there is still time to incorporate any changes deemed appropriate by the members.

Commissioner Eggers indicated that information has been requested regarding the current nursing program and the present system of funding. Referring to comments by Pinellas County Schools Superintendent Michael Grego and Health Department Director Ulyee Choe, Mr. Woodard related his understanding that there are nurses in some but not all of the schools; and that there is a question as to the level of qualification of the existing personnel. Acknowledging the need, he related that he did not provide a recommendation because the item has not traditionally been funded by the County; and that there are likely other potential funders, including the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County, the Pinellas County School Board, and the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB), noting that the school district is funded by a property tax levy, which is not currently at the maximum.

In response to query by Commissioner Welch, Commissioner Seel indicated that the cost for nurses at seven schools would be \$264,089. She related that she will bring the issue up at the next JWB meeting and will apprise the Commissioners of its decision whether to provide funding for school nurses, the dental sealant program, or both, noting that she strongly supports the item, and Commissioner Welch suggested that the Board compose a letter to the JWB, and Chairman Justice agreed.

In response to query by Commissioner Seel, Mr. Woodard related that the dental sealant program was included in the recommendations, and Office of Management and Budget Director Bill Berger indicated that there has been a 7.1 percent increase in property tax values; that the likely recommendation is for the additional capacity to be applied to the dental sealant program; and that Dr. Choe could make the decision whether to reprioritize funding already planned for something else. He stated that another option would be a millage increase.

Following discussion, Commissioner Eggers suggested that discussion take place between the Health Department and the School Board; and that criteria be established for each school's need. Commissioner Long indicated that Dr. Grego was asked to provide information regarding present and possible future partners, how many nurses are presently assigned to schools, and how many are actually needed, noting that it has been a long time since joint meetings with the JWB and the School Board have taken place, and Commissioner Welch agreed that the JWB should be included in the discussions.

Commissioner Seel related that she will ask that the Health and Human Services Leadership Board reconvene to discuss the issue, as it is encompassed under their role; and that she will contact Dr. Grego for pertinent information. Mr. Woodard indicated that there is no recommendation for the item in the proposed budget. Noting that the BCC is the taxing authority for the Health Department, he indicated that a decision to fund the request may require a small millage increase, the amount of which would depend on the magnitude of the schools' needs; whereupon, he related that the proposed millage rates



must be certified by August 4, and the members provided input.

## COUNTY COMMISSION

### 24. County Commission miscellaneous.

#### Commissioner Long

Attended a ribbon cutting for the Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital Great Explorations Exhibit grand opening.

Participated in a Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) town hall meeting last week at a Countryside Mall bus stop.

Related that Senator Brandes gave an interesting presentation regarding transformational technology for autonomous automobiles at the PSTA Legislative Committee meeting yesterday, and invited members to attend the Autonomous Mobility Summit to be held at the Don Cesar Hotel on St. Pete Beach on July 20.

Related that the final meeting of the Charter Review Commission will be held on June 15 at 6:00 P.M. in the County Commission Chambers.

#### Commissioner Welch

Thanked County staff for their actions over the weekend during the tropical storm.

Requested a workshop regarding safety during hurricanes and tropical storms, and Mr. Woodard discussed the Alert Pinellas notification tool.

#### Commissioner Eggers

Attended the Florida Veterans Memorial ribbon cutting in Clearwater, and thanked the Florida veterans' organizations that created the facility.

Reminded everyone that the Honor Flight is arriving tonight at the St. Pete-Clearwater Airport at 8:30 P.M.

Attended the University of South Florida Keel Laying Ceremony at Duckworth Steel Boats in Tarpon Springs.

Congratulated Oldsmar for its commitment to eco-tourism, and announced that there is a new zip line adventure activity in Oldsmar.

Thanked the members for their discussion of the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program and Attorney Bennett for arranging a meeting with the organization.

Related that the MyVA organization is holding a Veterans Group Summit on June 10 at

the EpiCenter at St. Petersburg College.

Commissioner Seel

Discussed a request by the Homeless Leadership Board to support and adopt the standards of Housing First by adopting a resolution.

Requested that the Board consider providing emergency funding for actively homeless families through 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares.

Chairman Justice

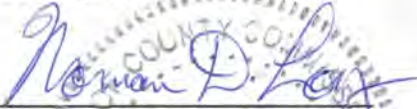
Thanked Duke Energy workers for their efforts to restore power during the storm.

Congratulated Attorney Bennett on receiving the Ralph Marsicano Award, and the members concurred.

**ADJOURNMENT - 6:20 P.M.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

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

