

# **Pinellas County**

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



## **Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, January 16, 2024**

**9:30 A.M.**

**Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting**

## **Board of County Commissioners**

*Kathleen Peters, Chair*

*Brian Scott, Vice-Chair*

*Dave Eggers*

*René Flowers*

*Charlie Justice*

*Chris Latvala*

*Janet C. Long*

**ROLL CALL - 9:33 A.M.**

**Present:** 5 - Chair Kathleen Peters, Vice-Chair Brian Scott, Commissioner Dave Eggers, Commissioner René Flowers, and Commissioner Janet C. Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Charlie Justice, and Commissioner Chris Latvala

**Others Present:** Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Don Crowell, Chief Assistant County Attorney; Derelynn Revie, Board Records Manager; and Krista Johnson, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

**INVOCATION by Reverend J.C. Pritchett, Faith Church, St. Petersburg.****PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. Employee Recognition Award:  
- Financial Services Division, Safety and Emergency Services

Chair Peters invited employees from the Financial Services Division to the podium, and a video was played highlighting their accomplishments; whereupon, Mr. Burton and Safety and Emergency Services Financial Services Division Director Jodie Sechler expressed appreciation to the Financial Services staff and leadership team.

2. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Proclamation:  
- Gloria Campbell, Executive Director, Clearwater Urban Leadership Coalition

Chair Peters invited Ms. Campbell to join her at the podium and read a proclamation recognizing January 15, 2024, as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

3. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

Ron Englert, Dunedin  
Chris Peterson, Miami  
Lee H. Jacobs, Redington Beach  
Jeff Jaeger, Palm Harbor  
Annetta Speicher, Palm Harbor (submitted documents)  
Jeannette Crede, Palm Harbor  
Betsy Rutkowski, Palm Harbor  
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor  
Greg Pound, Largo

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**All public hearing items have been properly advertised. Affidavits of Publication have been received and are on file in the Board Records Department.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

- 4. Ordinance amending the Pinellas County Code, Chapter 86, related to the County Drug Paraphernalia Ordinance.

Ordinance No. 24-1 adopted approving the amendments. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**CONSENT AGENDA - Items 5 through 22 (Item No. 19 addressed under Regular Agenda)**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Vice-Chair Scott, that the Consent Agenda items be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER**

- 5. Minutes of the regular meeting held November 14, 2023.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

- 6. Vouchers and bills paid from November 12 through December 16, 2023.

Period November 12 - November 18, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$28,347,366.64

Payroll - None

Period November 19 - November 25, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$10,857,387.32

Payroll - \$5,179,547.11

Period November 26 - December 2, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$105,547,681.11

Payroll - None

Period December 3 - December 9, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$27,366,549.92

Payroll - \$4,607,121.01

Period December 10 - December 16, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$12,886,221.25

Payroll - None

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

Reports received for filing:

7. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2023-30 dated November 28, 2023 - Inspector General's Follow-up Audit of Air Quality Compliance Fee and Asbestos Fee Collection.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

8. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2023-31 dated December 20, 2023 - Audit of Cigna Medical Claims.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

9. Dock Fee Report for the month of November 2023.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

10. Report of Expenditures Incurred Under the Incentives, Awards and Recruitment Ordinance No. 07-26, Fiscal Years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

11. State of Florida Constitutional Officer Financial Report for 2022-2023 - Pinellas County Tax Collector, Post TD.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

12. Juvenile Welfare Board FY23 Q4 Financials.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

13. City of Clearwater Ordinance Nos. 9706-23, 9709-23, and 9718-23 adopted November 2, 2023, annexing certain properties.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

14. Correspondence from Florida Department of Revenue regarding acceptance of Truth in Millage (TRIM) certification.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

15. City of Largo Notice of Public Hearing to be held February 6, 2024, to consider proposed Ordinance Nos. 2024-13, 2024-14, 2024-15, 2024-16, and 2024-17.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

16. Forward Pinellas Notice of Public Hearing for proposed amendment of the Countywide Plan Map, to be held on January 10, 2024.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

### Administrative Services

17. Declare surplus and authorize the sale of County-owned equipment and vehicles.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

### Development Review Services

18. Dansville Phase 6, a replat of Pinellas Groves.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

20. Plat of Kotchman Estates; a private residential subdivision.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

### Solid Waste

21. Award of bid to MOR PPM, Inc. for the Waste-To-Energy structural steel replacement.

Contract No. 23-1161-ITB-C awarded in the amount of \$13,995,42.11 on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received. All work expected to be completed within 1,095 consecutive calendar days from issuance of the notice to proceed.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Business Technology Services

- 22. Ranking of firms and agreement with GPI Geospatial, Inc. for photogrammetric and digital aerial mapping professional services.

(Contract No. 23-623-CN) Ranking of firms and agreement approved with an upset limit over the five-year term of \$1,800,000.00. Contract replaces an existing contract, with the total not-to-exceed amount increasing the total contract amount by \$387,396.00.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Development Review Services

- 19. Plat of Estates at Eniswood; a private residential subdivision.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Building and Development Review Services Director Kevin McAndrew provided information regarding the proposed improvements to the Eniswood subdivision, noting that the plat has already gone through a full site plan approval process.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

- 23. Participant amendment with Bank of America, N.A. for electronic payment provider services.

Contract No. 24-0028-S approved in the annual amount of \$350,000.00 for a 12-month term. The request is fully budgeted for in the Fiscal Year 2024 Adopted Budget. Funding will be derived from the operating budgets of requesting departments and agencies, as detailed in the Staff Report.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Construction Services

- 24. Ranking of firms and agreement with Wannemacher Jensen Architects, Inc. for architectural design services for the Palm Harbor Community Services Agency Recreation Center project.

(Contract No. 23-0181-RFP-CCNA) Ranking of firms and agreement approved in the amount of \$1,237,913.62 for a term of 730 consecutive calendar days.

In response to queries by Commissioners Eggers and Scott, Building Design and Construction Senior Registered Architect Tim Lewallen provided information regarding the project’s timeframe, and Mr. Burton indicated that Penny for Pinellas funds will be used to finance the project.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

County Administrator

- 25. Municipal Services Taxing Unit funding for the Tierra Verde Community Association Tennis and Pickleball Court improvements.

Funding request approved in the one-time amount of \$11,517.02.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Economic Development**26.** Two applications for funding under the Penny for Pinellas Employment Sites Program.

Two applications for funding conditionally approved following completion of due diligence to comply with program guidelines. Authority delegated to the County Administrator to negotiate and execute all agreements and associated documentation, as set forth in the Staff Report, for the following projects:

- Mastry's Brewing Co Pinellas Park in the amount of \$1,624,000.00
- Amaratek in the amount of \$673,500.00

In response to the Chair's call for citizens wishing to speak, Matthew Dahm, St. Petersburg, indicated that he is the founder and CEO of Mastry's Brewing Co. and provided brief supportive comments.

In response to comments and queries by Commissioner Scott, Economic Development Manager Teresa Brydon provided clarifying comments and discussed due diligence conducted by staff to screen applications for program funding and the clawback mechanism in the agreement to ensure companies comply with the funding requirements; whereupon, Commissioner Flowers provided input.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

Housing & Community Development**27.** Affordable Housing Program project funding recommendation for Bayou Boulevard apartments by SPGRP IV, LLC.

Recommendation approved for funding in the amount of \$2.8 million for 60 multi-family affordable apartment units located in St. Petersburg. Total estimated project cost is \$17,077,560.00. County Administrator authorized to negotiate and approve the terms, conditions, and final funding amount not to exceed the BCC-approved amount. Staff will complete additional due diligence activities, as set forth in the Staff Report.

In response to comments and queries by Commissioners Scott and Eggers, Community Development Planning Division Manager Bruce Bussey, with input by Mr. Burton, discussed the developer's affordability commitment and funding source guidelines; whereupon, brief discussion ensued.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala



Public Works

28. Award of bid to Hubbard Construction Company for Fiscal Year 2024 Pavement Preservation - Package 2.

Contract No. 23-0832-ITB-C awarded in the amount of \$4,728,703.80 on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received. All work to be completed within 330 consecutive calendar days.

Public Works Director Kelli Hammer Levy related that residents can access information relating to the County's road resurfacing program on the County website. In response to comments and queries by Commissioners Scott and Eggers, Mr. Burton provided clarifying comments regarding carryforward funding and indicated that the County's road resurfacing webpage provides a timeline for each project.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

29. Award of bid to Waterfront Property Services, LLC d/b/a Gator Dredging Inc. for the Grand Canal Maintenance Dredging project.

Contract No. 23-1177-ITB-C awarded in the amount of \$1,394,301.00 on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received. All work to be completed within 120 consecutive calendar days.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

30. Amendment No. 2 to the Traffic Maintenance and Compensation Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation.

(FDOT Contract No. ARK91) Amendment approved revising terms and conditions to the 20-year agreement expiring on August 4, 2035.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

31. Grant funding agreement with the Tampa Bay Estuary Program for Joe's Creek Greenway Restoration Phase 2.

Grant Funding Agreement approved in the amount of \$454,900.00 for a term ending September 30, 2027. No County match is required.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

### Safety and Emergency Services

32. Resolution and application to receive Emergency Medical Services Trust Fund monies for pre-hospital emergency medical services.

Application and Resolution No. 24-1 approved certifying that monies received from the State will be used to improve and expand pre-hospital emergency medical services. Grant revenue in the amount of \$140,321.03 will be awarded upon application, with no matching funds required.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

### Utilities

33. Resolution providing a one-time grace period for applying the metered reclaimed water rates.

Resolution No. 24-2 approved allowing a four month one-time grace period for applying the metered reclaimed water rates.

Referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Utilities Director Jeremy Waugh compared the current and new online customer portal and bill for metered reclaimed water, reviewed the rate structure for reclaimed water consumption, and indicated that a grace period would allow customers time to get acclimated to usage and potential rates.

Responding to queries by the members, Utilities Business & Customer Service Division Director Isaiah Jackson, with input from Mr. Waugh, related that customers have been notified via several methods of communication regarding the new rate structure and grace period; that while no negative responses have been received, feedback is expected; that usage data provided through the online customer portal will be updated frequently; and that customers are being educated on their reclaimed water consumption and the costs associated with exceeding an allowance of 20,000 gallons per month.

In response to the Chair's call for public comment, David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, appeared and expressed his concerns.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

## COUNTY ATTORNEY

- 34.** Proposed ratification of initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Christopher Roiland; County Civil Case No. 23-009306-CI- petition for emergency temporary injunction to prevent the illicit discharge of sewage and for permanent injunction.

Action taken by the County Attorney's Office with the Chair's approval of authority to initiate litigation, ratified.

In response to a query by Commissioner Long, Attorney Crowell provided background information regarding the case and staff's efforts to rectify the issue.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

- 35.** County Attorney Reports

Attorney Crowell stated that the members should have received the updated Quarterly Litigation Report via email and welcomed them to reach out with any questions.

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- 36.** County Administrator Reports

Mr. Burton provided an update on the beach nourishment projects and negotiation efforts with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), noting that staff is waiting for the Water Resources Development Act Report that will be released at the end of January. He indicated that it is anticipated that the language within the report will compel the Corps to modify its procedures regarding beach access and easements; that discussions and meetings have taken place between numerous State representatives and agencies; that the County consultant has been working on a long-term approach to create viable options and alternatives, if needed; and that the appropriation request for beach nourishment relating to Hurricane Dahlia will be submitted to the State by Friday; whereupon, discussion ensued.

In response to a query by Commissioner Scott, Public Works Director Kelli Hammer Levy related that the sand dredged from the Grand Canal will be placed south of the snack shack on Pass-a-Grille Beach.

## COUNTY COMMISSION

### 37. Reappointment to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board.

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the reappointment of Dr. Jennifer Pearson, as one of four hospital administrators, for a two-year term ending December 2025.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

### 38. County Commission New Business:

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

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

#### Commissioner Eggers

- Crosswinds Bridge issue
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. events in Dunedin and Clearwater
- Pet store standards

#### Commissioner Long

- Pet store standards

#### Commissioner Flowers

- LIV Golf tournament
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebrations
- Affordable housing
- Florida Association of Counties Legislative Tracker

Commissioner Scott

- Circuit 6 Juvenile Justice Council meeting
- Palm Harbor Main Street Program

Commissioner Peters

- Appreciation to the security team covering the BCC meetings
- Pet store standards

Discussion ensued regarding pet store standards and regulations, wherein Animal Services Director Doug Brightwell provided brief comments; whereupon, the members directed Mr. Brightwell to review a report completed by Purdue University to determine whether improvements could be made to the County’s current standards for pet stores. Mr. Burton noted that the topic will be scheduled for a discussion at a future workshop.

Skyway Bridge Lighting Resolution

Resolution No. 24-3 approved supporting the annual request for the lighting of the Bob Graham Sunshine Skyway Bridge for previously approved organizations and causes as listed on the resolution.

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

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Peters, Vice-Chair Scott, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Long

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Latvala

**ADJOURNMENT - 11:48 A.M.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

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