

Pinellas County

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



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

2:00 P.M.

Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting

Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.

Board of County Commissioners

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

ROLL CALL - 2:00 P.M.

Present: 5 - Chair Brian Scott, Vice-Chair Dave Eggers, Commissioner Chris Latvala, Commissioner Vince Nowicki, and Commissioner Chris Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner René Flowers and Commissioner Kathleen Peters

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Derelynn Revie, Board Records Manager; and Tammy Burgess, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

1. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment

- Matthew David, Palm Harbor
- Susan Sudra, Lithia
- Rose Hart, Clearwater
- Dara Worthington, St. Petersburg
- Dan Cohn, Largo
- Ron Walker, Largo
- Michele Guttilla, Port Richey
- Belinda Blease, Largo
- Anna Cooke, Safety Harbor
- Emma Keopraseuth, St. Petersburg
- Elisabeth Schwartz, Clearwater
- Darryl Henderson, Largo
- Alexandria Julian, Largo (submitted documents)
- Greg Pound, Largo
- David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor
- Connie Aguero, St. Petersburg
- Chris Steiner, Clearwater
- Pat Metcalf, Lutz
- Timothy Taylor, Coral Gables

CONSENT AGENDA- Items 2 through 13 (Items No. 4 and 11 addressed under Regular Agenda)

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

2. Minutes of the regular meetings held January 28 and February 11, 2025.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

3. Vouchers and bills paid from February 2 through March 1, 2025.

Period February 2 - February 8, 2025

Accounts Payable - \$54,583,248.19

Payroll - None

Period February 9 - February 15, 2025

Accounts Payable - \$123,341,116.45

Payroll - \$4,867,397.01

Period February 16 - February 22, 2025

Accounts Payable - \$7,220,970.19

Payroll - None

Period February 23 - March 1, 2025

Accounts Payable - \$31,263,242.78

Payroll - \$4,873,170.51

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Reports received for filing:

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

5. East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District Public Facilities Annual Notice of Change.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

6. City of Clearwater Ordinance No. 9802-25 adopted January 16, 2025, annexing certain properties.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

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

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Building and Development Review Services

8. Plat of Casa Bella Subdivision, a 3-lot subdivision.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

9. Plat of Gooden Crossing, a 4-lot subdivision.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

County Administrator

10. Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending February 28, 2025.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Public Works

12. Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey, Department of Interior for the Caribbean-Florida Water Science Center Water Resource Investigations.

Agreement No. 25MCJFA0029 approved in the amount of \$318,400.00 for the period of May 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026 (County responsibility, \$246,674.00).

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

13. Receipt and file report of civil lawsuits filed against Pinellas County as delegated to the County Attorney.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

4. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2025-01 dated February 4, 2025 - Audit of Utilities' Meter Installation and Repair Process.

Referring to the *Audit of Utilities' Meter Installation and Repair* report, Commissioner Eggers commended staff from the Division of Inspector General's office for their work, noting that eight opportunities for improvement were cited; and that management completely concurred with seven and partially concurred with one.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

11. Award of contract to Cone & Graham, Inc. for the Oakwood Drive Bridge Replacement project.

Bid No. 25-0411-ITB-C awarded to Cone and Graham, Inc. in the amount of \$4,760,158.59 on the basis of being the lowest responsible, responsive submittal, with a duration of 400 consecutive calendar days.

Referencing comments made by a speaker earlier in the meeting, Attorney White stated that the County is actively litigating this matter and encouraged the members to contact her with any questions outside of the public meeting.

Responding to a query by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Burton confirmed that staff is comfortable with moving forward with approval of the contract.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTSAirport**14. Public Transportation Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for the design and construction associated with Passenger Terminal Improvements at the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.**

Agreement approved in the amount of \$6,000,000.00, with an expiration date of June 30, 2028.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Scherer, St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport Deputy Director of Finance and Administration Yvette Aehle, with input from Mr. Burton, provided information regarding the grant agreement, indicating that it is an amendment to a previously approved agreement; that it funds multiple upgrades and improvements; and that design is currently underway.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

Construction and Property Management

15. First Amendment to the agreement with Mason Blau and Associates, Inc. for the North County Service Center Replacement - Increased Professional Engineering Design Services.

(Contract No. 21-0592-NC) Amendment approved, increasing the contract amount by \$947,874.80 for a revised total not to exceed \$3,956,609.26, effective through February 28, 2027.

Responding to a query by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Burton provided clarifying details regarding the expansion of the North County Service Center Replacement project.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

Convention and Visitors Bureau

16. Recommendation from the Tourist Development Council to fund five Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Projects Funding Program applications.

Recommendation approved, as amended, for a total of up to \$26,400,000.00.

Upon the Chair's call for public comment, the following individuals appeared and provided brief comments:

Howayda Affan, St. Petersburg
Daniel Slaughter, Clearwater
Susan Castleman, Seminole
Terry Marks, St. Petersburg
Bill Harvard, St. Petersburg

Commissioner Nowicki made a motion to increase the funding for the Clearwater Beach Municipal Marina and the Arts Center and Chihuly Collection to \$10,000,000.00 and \$4,350,000.00, respectively.

Responding to queries and comments by Commissioners Eggers, Latvala, and Nowicki, Visit St. Pete/Clearwater President and CEO Brian Lowack provided detailed information regarding the guidelines and scoring process utilized to determine the funding amount for each project; whereupon, Commissioner Nowicki withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Eggers made a motion to increase the funding for the Clearwater Beach Municipal Marina and the Arts Center and Chihuly Collection to \$7,850,000.00 and \$2,250,000.00, respectively.

Responding to comments and a query by Chair Scott, Mr. Lowack confirmed that entities which requested funding may apply again in the future; whereupon, Commissioner Nowicki seconded the motion.

Chair Scott and Commissioners Eggers and Latvala provided additional remarks related to the scoring and approval process.

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

Aye: 4 - Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Nay: 1 - Chair Scott

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

County Administrator

17. East Lake Community Library Fiscal Year 2025 Municipal Services Taxing Unit special projects funding request.

Funding request approved in the one-time amount of \$20,000.00.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

Housing & Community Development

18. First Amendment to the agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associations, Inc., for the Joe's Creek Industrial Park Master Plan.

(Contract No. 24-0461-RFP) Amendment approved, increasing the contract amount by \$70,000.00 for a revised total not to exceed \$320,000.00 and extending the contract for four months through August 24, 2025.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

19. Ranking of firms for the development of four residential County-owned parcels and authorize conveyance to Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County, Inc.

(Contract No. 22-0765-RFN) Ranking of firms approved with Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County, Inc. as the successful bidder to purchase four County-owned parcels. Execution of four deeds by the Board of County Commissioners approved. Resolution No. 25-25 adopted, authorizing conveyance and delegating authority to the County Administrator to execute instruments necessary for completion of the transaction.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

20. Ranking of firms for the development of two residential County-owned surplus parcels and authorize conveyance to Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County, Inc.

(Contract No. 24-0962-RFN) Ranking of firms approved with Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County, Inc. as the successful bidder to purchase two County-owned surplus parcels. Execution of two deeds by the Board of County Commissioners approved. Resolution No. 25-26 adopted, authorizing conveyance and delegating authority to the County Administrator to execute instruments necessary for completion of the transaction.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

Human Services

21. Grant award for continuation funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources Services Administration for the Health Care for the Homeless Program.

Grant award for the continuation of federal funding approved in the amount of \$1,926,977.00 for a budget period of March 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026. No cash match required.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

Public Works

22. Change Order No. 1 with RJP Enterprises, Inc. for sidewalk and underdrain replacement Fiscal Year 2023-2026.

(Contract No. 23-0067-ITB-C) Change order approved, increasing the agreement amount by \$5,000,000.00 for a revised total not-to-exceed amount of \$15,383,780.00.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Public Works Director Kelli Hammer Levy provided clarifying information regarding the purpose and scope of the changes.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

23. Contract for Sale and Purchase with Liftmasters, Inc., for the acquisition of real property.

Contract for Sale and Purchase approved for a purchase price of \$324,500.00.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

24. Road Transfer Interlocal Agreement with the City of Pinellas Park for the transfer and acceptance of specific roadway segments, easements, and deeds.

Agreement approved, transferring operation and maintenance responsibilities, including stormwater facilities, as set forth in the Staff Report.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

25. State funded County Incentive Grant Program Agreement and corresponding Resolution with the Florida Department of Transportation for construction activities for Intelligent Transportation System/Advanced Traffic Management System on Alderman Road from US Alternate 19/Palm Harbor Boulevard to US 19/State Road 55 project.

(FDOT Financial Project No. 448510 1 54 01; County PID No. 004543A) Agreement approved in the total amount of \$1,296,700.00 (FDOT, \$648,350.00; County, \$648,350.00). Term ends January 29, 2027. Resolution No. 25-27 adopted, authorizing the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners to sign and the Clerk to attest.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

Solid Waste

26. Agreement with Trojan Technologies Corp for the Department of Solid Waste's Industrial Water Treatment Facility Microfiltration System Module Replacement.

(Contract No. 25-0131-N) Agreement approved for a contract total not to exceed \$696,936.98, until project completion or September 30, 2025, whichever is sooner.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

Utilities

27. United States Environmental Protection Agency Community Grants Sustainable Water Infrastructure Program Notice of Award for the Pinellas Park Interceptor Collection System Improvements project design.

(Project No. 003147A) Acceptance of the Notice of Award approved, providing funding in the amount of \$700,000.00. Award costs allowable beginning July 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025. Total cost for design estimated at \$2,500,000.00. County match of \$175,000.00 is required.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Business Technology Services

28. First Amendment to the purchase authorization for Information Technology Equipment Software and Services with Level 3 Telecom Holdings LLC.

(Contract No. 190-0330-G) Amendment approved in the total amount not to exceed \$7,008,612.00, through October 5, 2028.

Commissioner Latvala made a motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Nowicki.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Business Technology Services Chief Information Officer Jeff Rohrs indicated that the amendment extends the contract through October 2028 and provides the required funds to continue services; and that Level 3 Telecom Holdings LLC is one of three carriers that provides data, internet, and telephone services to the County; whereupon, he pointed out that the amendment also consolidates circuits that have traditionally been handled by Safety and Emergency Services, which provides efficiencies and cost avoidance.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

COUNTY ATTORNEY

29. Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Estate of Daryl Donahey; all heirs known and unknown - action for foreclosure of Special Magistrate lien.

Initiation of litigation approved.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

- 30.** Selection of law firm(s) to provide Special Counsel Services relating to litigation regarding firefighting foam and approval and authorization to initiate litigation.

Selection of Special Counsel and authorization to initiate litigation approved.

Attorney White clarified that this is a request to authorize a contract with a law firm; and that this litigation pertains to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and firefighting activities; whereupon, in response to a query by Chair Scott, she provided brief comments regarding a different lawsuit pertaining to the County's water system.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

- 31.** County Attorney Reports - None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- 32.** County Administrator Reports

Referring to a document titled *Substantial Damage Assessment and Permitting Update: March 25, 2025*, Building and Development Review Services Director Kevin McAndrew presented statistical information related to the substantial damage assessment and reassessment processes; whereupon, he provided details related to permitting and reassessments for various structures and discussed the number of permits issued.

In response to comments and queries by Chair Scott and Commissioner Eggers, Mr. McAndrew discussed various topics, including the completion timeframe for reassessments and housing options for residents living in substantially damaged manufactured homes.

COUNTY COMMISSION

- 33.** Appointment to the Educational Facilities Authority Board (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

David Monroe and Christian Moriarty appointed to fill vacant terms expiring on November 10, 2025, and October 25, 2027.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

34. Appointment to the Unincorporated Seminole Sports Association (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Appointment of Rob Williams approved for a two-year term, beginning on the date of appointment and expiring in April 2026.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

35. County Commission New Business:

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

The Commissioners reported on the activities of their assigned boards and committees and discussed various topics, as follows:

Commissioner Nowicki

Commissioner Nowicki indicated that Lieutenant Colonel William "Bill" Henderson passed away on March 10; and that he would like to obtain consensus from the members to draft a document recognizing Lieutenant Colonel Henderson's military service.

Thereupon, Commissioner Nowicki discussed his attendance at the St. Pete-Clearwater UK Roadshow.

Referencing a proposed resolution that has been circulating, Commissioner Nowicki discussed a recent meeting of the Palm Harbor Community Services Agency (PHCSA) and conversations with the Agency's Board members regarding the children's section of the Palm Harbor Library; whereupon, he requested the Board's input regarding whether or not to pursue adoption of the resolution. Discussion ensued wherein Commissioners Latvala and Eggers provided information regarding conversations held with members of the PHCSA and an emergency meeting held by the Palm Harbor Library Advisory Council to address concerns raised pertaining to displays in the children's section of the library.

In response to a comment by Commissioner Scherer, Attorney White confirmed that Chief Assistant County Attorney Don Crowell reviewed the proposed resolution.

Following additional discussion, and in response to queries by Commissioner Nowicki, Palm Harbor Library Director Matthew David indicated that sexual identity stickers will be removed from books in the children's section of the library; and that flags promoting sexual identity will not be displayed; whereupon, Commissioner Nowicki related that he will table the proposed resolution while continuing to monitor the Palm Harbor Library.

Commissioner Eggers

- Upcoming FEAST Food Pantry Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony on April 7
- Pinellas County Animal Services' canine/Commissioner photo shoot
- Visit to Suncoast Primate Sanctuary Foundation, Inc.
- Reappointment to Florida Healthy Kids' Board of Directors
- Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Tampa Bay Water
- Upcoming St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Memorial Garden Dedication Ceremony
- Potential removal of trees in Highland Lakes Village and Cobbs Landing

Commissioner Scherer

- Tours of St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport, Palm Harbor Library, and various Pinellas County parks
- National Association of Counties Legislative Conference
- Federal highway and infrastructure funding seminars
- Meetings with White House legislative assistants and directors and representatives from Congress regarding beach renourishment
- Meeting with PHCSA
- Consolidated Justice Information Systems
- Forward Pinellas

Brief discussion ensued regarding Forward Pinellas' plans to improve Alternate U.S. 19.

Commissioner Latvala

- Clearwater Sea-Blues Festival
- Youth Advisory Committee
- Canvassing Board
- Habitat for Humanity home dedication
- Meeting with Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt
- Pinellas County School Board mentorship program

Commissioner Latvala related that a local law firm submitted a public records request to the County regarding its communications with Major League Baseball, the Tampa Bay Rays, and other entities. Following confirmation by Mr. Burton that the Tampa Bay Rays have not sent an official termination of the stadium deal, Commissioner Latvala expressed interest in attempting to recoup the County's expenses; whereupon, brief discussion ensued.

Chair Scott

- Canvassing Board
- Meeting with Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
- Evara Health Institute Grand Opening
- Valspar Championship golf tournament
- HCA Florida Countryside Emergency groundbreaking ceremony
- John Morroni Legacy Foundation 29th Annual Law Enforcement and First Responder Appreciation Dinner
- First Priority of Tampa Bay luncheon
- Habitat for Humanity home dedication
- Friends of the Pinellas Trail annual volunteer appreciation day picnic
- Belleair Women's Republican Club
- Interview on Florida's Voice Radio
- Tours of Community Dental Clinic and First Contact
- Launch of Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority's Grouper Airport Express shuttle
- Upcoming 75th Anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
- Potential future discussion regarding eliminating the fifth floor shared budget

Chair Scott related that his office received a Department of Government Efficiency letter from the executive offices of the Governor; that the letter indicated that a response was required from the County to confirm that it is not in default of various criteria; and that while he has been working with Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller Ken Burke regarding drafting a response, he would like to acquire consensus for him and Mr. Burke to reply on behalf of the County; whereupon, he confirmed that there is a consensus.

Meeting Recessed: 5:48 P.M.

Meeting Reconvened: 6:01 P.M.

PRESENTATIONS**36. Clearwater For Youth Scholarship Recognition**

Chair Scott provided brief opening comments and invited Clearwater for Youth (CFY) Executive Director Kevin Dunbar to join him at the podium. Mr. Dunbar discussed the accomplishments of CFY; whereupon, following comments regarding the ranking process by CFY Board of Trustees Vice-Chair Hoyt Hamilton, he introduced the scholarship recipients in attendance.

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.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

- 37.** Case No. CW 25-02 - City of Tarpon Springs (to be continued to April 8, 2025)

Item continued to the May 6 Board of County Commission meeting.

Mr. Burton indicated that Item No. 37 will be continued; whereupon, Attorney White requested that the Board take a vote to continue the item to the May 6 meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Scherer, seconded by Commissioner Latvala that the item be continued to the May 6 meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

- 38.** Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act Resolution for the issuance by the Pinellas County Health Facilities Authority of its Healthcare Facilities Revenue and Revenue Refunding Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 on behalf of St. Mark Village, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation for a project to be located in Palm Harbor, Florida.

Resolution No. 25-28 adopted. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

39. Petition of Pinellas County to vacate that portion of Roberts Road Extension (County Road Number 36); Declared to be a Public Road in Board in Board of County Commissioners Minutes book 18, page 464, filed on August 15, 1944, being 40 feet in width, lying between a line 20 feet east of the west line of lot 57 section 24-27-15, Tampa & Tarpon Springs land company subdivision, PB H1, page 116, Pinellas County Public records, and the north and south center line of section 24-27-15, Pinellas County, Florida; and that portion of Macks Way Road (County Road Number 86), declared to be a public road in Board of County Commissioner's Minutes book 6, page 41, filed on May 18, 1926, being 66 feet in width, lying south of the east and west centerline of section 24-27-15, along the north and south center line of section 24-27-15, and lying east of Palm Harbor Boulevard (US Highway 19A), along the south boundary of sections 23-27-15 and 24-27-15, Pinellas County, Florida. (Legislative)

Resolution No. 25-29 adopted, granting the petition to vacate the portions of the unimproved Roberts Road extension and Macks Way Road. No correspondence has been received.

Upon the Chair's call for public comment, Nicole Lynn, Tampa, and Patricia Lollis, Palm Harbor, appeared and provided brief comments.

Zoning Division Manager Michael Schoderbock referred to a PowerPoint presentation containing photographs and maps and provided information regarding the petition, noting that, if granted, the petition would facilitate the development of Innisbrook Parcel L; that no County departments or utilities providers have objections to the vacation; and that staff recommends approval.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers and Chair Scott, Mr. Schoderbock indicated that the vacation would not negatively impact any properties; whereupon, referring to concerns expressed by Ms. Lollis, Mr. Burton provided clarifying details regarding the proposed development.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

40. Case No. LDR-24-04 (Second Public Hearing)
An ordinance of Pinellas County, Florida, providing for the amendment of the Pinellas County Land Development Code, Chapter 138 - Zoning, related to definitions, a certificate of use program, standards, and inspections for consistency with the Florida Building Code and Florida Fire Prevention Code for Short Term Rentals. (Legislative) (Companion to Item No.41)

Ordinance No. 25-9 adopted, as amended, approving Case No. LDR-24-04 and amending Chapter 138 of the Pinellas County Land Development Code, as outlined in the Staff Report. The Local Planning Agency recommended approval of the amendment. Four emails of concern, one voicemail of concern, eight emails in opposition, and two emails in support have been received by the Clerk.

At the request of Chair Scott, Building and Development Review Services Director Kevin McAndrew referenced a PowerPoint presentation titled *Short-Term Rentals* and reviewed five ordinance provisions, as listed below, which were updated following the first public hearing:

- Maximum occupancy rate of ten individuals will be maintained, with no exemptions for children.
- Quiet hours of 10:00 P.M. to 9:00 A.M. will be maintained.
- The definition of “bedroom” was modified to adhere to Florida Building Code and Pinellas County Code requirements.
- Vesting Language has been modified to incorporate that lease agreements in place prior to March 25, 2025, will be accepted.
- Short-term rental owners are responsible for confirming if any guests are registered sex offenders.

Mr. McAndrew briefly discussed potential future regulations, indicating that staff is in the process of evaluating them; and that a Public Works traffic management program policy is currently in place related to the restriction of on-street parking; whereupon, in response to queries by Chair Scott and Commissioner Eggers, he, with input by Attorney White, provided further details related to the policy.

Mr. McAndrew reviewed various planned education, registration, and compliance monitoring efforts related to the short-term rental (STR) program, noting that the certificate of use program will be activated on March 31. He related that, if adopted, a companion agenda item will establish a fee schedule to financially support the STR program; and that the program would be self-sustaining through revenue generated from fees.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Attorney White, with input by Mr. McAndrew, provided information regarding numerous topics, including considerations related to special events, the County’s noise ordinance, enforcement options, and fines.

In response to Chair Scott’s call for public comment, the following individuals appeared:

Kristian Kreger, Clearwater
Ericka Hering, Seminole (submitted documents) (spoke on behalf of others)
Nicole Poot, St. Petersburg
Linda Dentici, Seminole
Hillary Simpson, Seminole
Andria Stark, St. Petersburg
Helene Goergen, Seminole
Ken Goergen, Seminole
Jake Stowers, Largo

Commissioner Eggers provided brief comments regarding enforcement of the proposed ordinance; whereupon, in response to his queries, Attorney White provided information related to fines and evidence which may be utilized to prosecute a case.

In response to a query by Commissioner Nowicki, Mr. McAndrew indicated that it is estimated that the noise ordinance will be brought back to the Board in June or July.

Commissioner Nowicki made a motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Eggers.

Referring to comments by Commissioner Eggers related to special events, Attorney White indicated that, if the will of the Board is to require consultation of the Zoning Code regarding specific activities, then she would suggest that the maker of the motion include this in their motion, as well as authorization for the County Administrator and County Attorney to develop the language; whereupon, Commissioner Nowicki amended his motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Eggers.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

- 41. Resolution relating to Short Term Rental Fee Schedule to support a proposed ordinance of Pinellas County, Florida providing for the administration, management, and enforcement of a Short Term Rental program inclusive of the Certificate of Use requirement within Section 138-3232. (Regular Agenda Item that is companion to Item No. 40).

Resolution No. 25-30 adopted.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, and Commissioner Scherer

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Flowers, and Commissioner Peters

ADJOURNMENT - 7:37 P.M.

Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By _____
Deputy Clerk