

Pinellas County



Minutes - Final

Monday, April 13, 2020

12:00 P.M.

Virtual Emergency Meeting

Board of County Commissioners

Pat Gerard, Chair
Dave Eggers, Vice-Chair
Charlie Justice
Janet C. Long
Kathleen Peters
Karen Williams Seel
Kenneth T. Welch

ROLL CALL - 12:00 P.M.

Present: 7 - Chair Pat Gerard, Vice-Chair Dave Eggers (late arrival), Charlie Justice, Janet C. Long, Kathleen Peters, Karen Williams Seel, and Kenneth T. Welch

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller; and Amelia Hanks, Board Reporter

Office of Technology and Innovation Director Bryan Zumwalt introduced himself and announced that he would be the Technology Moderator for the virtual meeting; whereupon, he conducted a roll call of the members.

1. Local State of Emergency

Mr. Burton related that the purpose of today's meeting is for the Board to extend the Local State of Emergency declaration adopted on March 13, 2020 by seven days. He indicated that work sessions will now be considered as regular meetings, which will allow the Board opportunity to take action to extend emergency orders or on other matters, as needed; and that all meetings will continue to be held online through the Zoom virtual platform.

Attorney White discussed the County's ability to delegate certain authority to the Chair or Administrator and related that the proposed resolution ratifies, restates, and extends the Local State of Emergency and all prior related resolutions and orders; whereupon, responding to queries by Chair Gerard and Commissioner Seel, she indicated that the term "readopted" will be added to the resolution; and that the requirement that all persons in the county comply with the emergency orders of the *Governor or the County* will be changed to read *Governor and the County*.

Responding to the Chair's call for members of the public wishing to speak, the following individuals appeared and expressed their concerns:

Tom Rask, unincorporated Pinellas County
Shelby Harbachuk, South Pasadena
Scott Schuyler, St. Petersburg
Sharon Calvert, Tierra Verde
Axl David, Clearwater

Commissioner Eggers entered the meeting at 12:20 P.M.

Following public comment, Commissioner Peters opined that pools and beaches should be reopened for exercise and health purposes; whereupon, Commissioners Eggers and Long indicated that guidelines to ease restrictions on recreational activities and businesses should be determined to support a safe reopening of Pinellas County. Discussion ensued, and the Commissioners requested that the Sheriff provide input for discussion of reopening strategies at the April 16 meeting.


A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the emergency order be extended as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch


Resolution No. 20-27 adopted ratifying, restating, readopting, and extending the local state of emergency established in Resolution No. 20-16, as well as all resolutions and orders issued pursuant thereto, until 3:00 P.M. on April 17, 2020.

Thereupon, in response to query by Commissioner Eggers, Attorney White indicated that the Commissioners will discuss extending the emergency orders at all future meetings to avoid a lapse between resolutions, and Mr. Burton noted that the Commissioners will be informed of any changes in the Governor's orders, and meetings will be scheduled accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT - 12:31 P.M.


Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By 
Deputy Clerk

