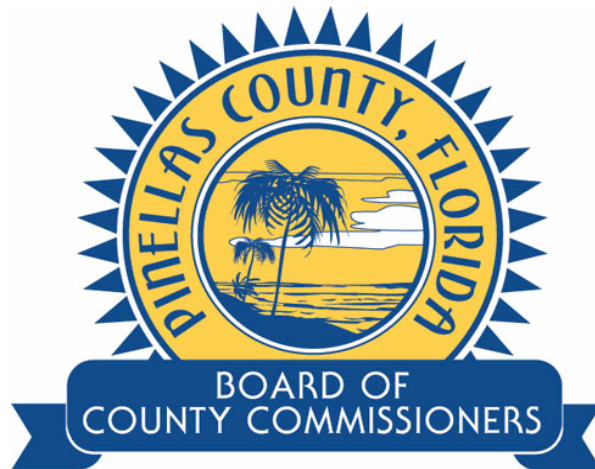


Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

www.pinellascounty.org



Virtual Regular Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

9:30 A.M.

Virtual Regular Meeting

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

Barry A. Burton, County Administrator
Jewel White, County Attorney
Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller

ROLL CALL

1. [20-734A](#) Local State of Emergency
2. [20-771A](#) Adopt Resolution Approving Pinellas CARES Financial Assistance Program.

Recommendation: Adoption of resolution (1.) approving the Pinellas CARES Financial Assistance program to support individuals and families impacted by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in Pinellas County; and (2.) authorizing the County Administrator to execute program amendments as needed for implementation.

* On April 16, 2020, The Board of County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 20-29 authorizing the County Administrator to certify eligibility for the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and directing the development or expansion of programs consistent with the CARES Act.

* Assistance program will provide one-time financial assistance to help stabilize individuals and families that have been impacted by loss of income due to the COVID-19 health emergency.

* Eligible residents would be able to receive assistance of up to \$4000.00 to help bridge financial gaps for overdue rent, mortgage payments and utilities.

A.) Eligibility criteria:

* U.S. citizenship and Pinellas resident

* Demonstrated loss of income due to COVID-19 employment impacts

* Income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines

* Less than \$4000.00 in liquid assets in the applicant's checking and savings accounts.

* Building on existing program infrastructure, Human Services will implement and deliver assistance for individuals and families in partnership with 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares (2-1-1).

A.) Residents will be able to text or call 2-1-1 for assistance request.

B.) 2-1-1 gathers information for preliminary screening and guides through documentation process.

C.) The completed case is reviewed for eligibility determination.

D.) Assistance is paid directly to the landlord, mortgage holder, utility company, or other service creditor upon approval.

* Funds used for Pinellas CARES Financial Assistance will be maintained and tracked as assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. [20-769A](#) Adopt Resolution Approving Pinellas CARES Small Business Grants Program.

Recommendation: Adoption of a resolution approving the Pinellas CARES Small Business Grants program to support eligible small businesses impacted by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

- * Grant program will provide emergency financial support for eligible small businesses negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic due to orders to close or limit operations.
 - o \$5,000.00 one-time payment per eligible small business.
 - o Eligibility criteria:
 - * Occupies commercial space within Pinellas County.
 - * Has at least 1, but no more than 25, full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, including the business owner. The firm can have many more part-time employees as long as the total weekly hours of all employees does not exceed 1,000 (25 FTE x 40-hour work week).
 - * Operating since at least October 1, 2019 and was still in operation on February 29, 2020.
 - * Firm is expected to return to full operations after local and state emergency guidelines during COVID-19 are rescinded.
 - * Eligible business types:
 - * "Food Service Establishments" as defined in Chapter 500, Florida Statutes, and "Public Food Service Establishments" as defined in Chapter 509, Florida Statutes.
 - * Bars, pubs and nightclubs as described in Governor's Executive Order 20-68.
 - * Short-term lodging establishments and vacation rental management companies that collect and remit Tourist Development Taxes.
 - * Non-essential businesses covered under Section 5 of the "State of Florida & Pinellas County 'Safer-at-Home' Guidance" document.
 - * Places of public and private assembly covered under Section 2 of the "State of Florida & Pinellas County 'Safer-at-Home' Guidance" document.
 - o Businesses that have already applied or received funding from municipal grant programs are eligible for this program.
 - o Owners with more than one eligible business may submit an application for each legal entity.
 - o Non-profit and home-based businesses and publicly traded companies are not eligible.
 - o Estimated 6,500 businesses will be eligible and sufficient funding exists for each of these firms to receive a \$5,000.00 grant.
 - o Secondary phase may be considered with expanded eligibility.
 - * Small businesses represent over 90% of all businesses in Pinellas County and are critical to the community.
 - * Payments would help cover expenses such as employee wages, vendor bills and rent. Payments can only be used to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures provided those costs are not paid by insurance or by another federal program.
 - * Program to be initially funded with up to \$35,000,000.00 from Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act payment.
 - o Total payment received from Treasury was \$170,129,283.40.
 - o Funds may be utilized for various programs.
 - o Budget resolution will be brought forward at May 5 meeting to recognize and appropriate these funds in the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget.
 - * Applications will be submitted using a digital online portal. Applicants will be required to digitally sign the application and attest, under penalty of perjury, that all information submitted is truthful.
 - * Program outreach and education will be conducted from April 28 to May 3 in support of opening the application portal on May 4. The application portal will remain open until June 1.
 - * Estimated time to issue payments will be dependent upon application volume. Review

and approval of each application is anticipated to require one hour with payment issuance within 10 business days after approval.

o Dedicated staff have been identified within Economic Development and other departments to support review and approval of applications as well as support for questions from applicants.

* Payments will be issued by check daily by the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller. The Clerk is dedicating staff to support timely payment processing.

4. [20-366A](#) Agenda Briefing
5. [20-367A](#) County Commission Board Reports and Miscellaneous Items

ADJOURNMENT

Special Accommodations

Persons with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations to effectively participate in this meeting are asked to contact Pinellas County's Office of Human Rights by e-mailing such requests to both pvalenti@co.pinellas.fl.us and to jlorick@co.pinellas.fl.us at least three (3) business days in advance of the need for reasonable accommodation. You may also call (727) 464-4882.

Public Participation Procedures

Persons wishing to comment regarding a specific agenda item should do so in advance in accordance with the instructions in the notice of this meeting, or on the virtual platform or phone will be instructed before each vote during the virtual meeting how to do so. At the scheduled section of the meeting when the item is before the Board of County Commissioners (Board), the Chairman will call on each individual, one by one to be heard. Each individual may speak for up to three minutes as may be modified by the Chairman. Comments or behavior that violate Pinellas County Commission Public Participation and Decorum Rules will be disconnected.

Public Hearing Procedures

The procedure used by the Board in conducting Public Hearings is to have a staff presentation followed by the applicant presenting the specific proposal. The Board will then hear comments from the proponents, the opponents and a staff summary. The applicant will then be given an opportunity to close and the Board will decide on the matter.

Public Hearings before the Board are governed by the provisions of Section 134-14 of the Pinellas County Land Development Code as may be modified by Pinellas County Emergency Order. That code provides that at the conclusion of each person's presentation, any speaker may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of staff. Specifically:

1. At the conclusion of the presentations by the applicant and any proponents, all affected parties may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of or seek clarification from the applicant and/or the proponents.
2. At the conclusion of the presentation by the opponents, all affected parties may seek the Chairman's permission to ask questions of or seek clarification from any opponent.

The applicant's closing comments will address testimony subsequent to his or her presentation. Continuing rebuttal of other than directly preceding testimony will not be allowed. Because much testimony has already been submitted in writing, the following guidelines accommodate efficient presentations:

1. The applicant should present his or her entire case, including rebuttal, in no more than 20 minutes.
2. Persons wishing to speak regarding a Public Hearing item may speak for up to three minutes each after virtually raising their hand as directed during the meeting.

Appeals

Persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at this meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceeding, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

If a Board meeting beginning at 9:30 A.M. has not concluded by noon, a recess will be taken from noon to 12:30 P.M., and the remainder of the meeting will continue at 12:30 P.M.

If a Board meeting beginning at 2:00 P.M. has not concluded by 5:30 P.M., a recess will be taken from 5:30 to 6:00 P.M. The remainder of the afternoon agenda will resume at 6:00 P.M., followed by Public Hearings.