

Pinellas County

*315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756*



Minutes - Final

Thursday, September 12, 2019

2:00 P.M.

Budget Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.

BCC Assembly Room

Board of County Commissioners

Karen Williams Seel, Chair

Pat Gerard, Vice-Chair

Dave Eggers

Charlie Justice

Janet C. Long

Kathleen Peters

Kenneth T. Welch

ROLL CALL - 2:01 P.M.

Present: 6 - Chair Karen Williams Seel, Vice-Chair Pat Gerard, Dave Eggers, Charlie Justice, Kathleen Peters, and Kenneth T. Welch

Absent: 1 - Janet C. Long

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Clareth N. Harris, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Chris Bartlett, Senior Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION

Commissioner Eggers reflected on the Veterans Honor Flight program, September 11 remembrance ceremonies, the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian, and the passing of Board Reporter Michael Schmidt.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award:
- Bill Berger, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Chair Seel presented Mr. Berger and the Office of Management and Budget staff with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the development of the 2019 fiscal year budget, noting that extensive qualification criteria had to be met; that the achievement reflects a commitment to practicing the highest principles of governmental budgeting by the County; and that the standards of transparency and trustworthiness have been consistently elevating over the years; whereupon, Mr. Berger introduced his staff and acknowledged the Board, partners, and staff for their support and contributions.

2. National Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation:
- Jaclyn Boland, CEO, InterCultural Advocacy Institute

Chair Seel invited Ms. Boland, staff, and the Board of Directors of the InterCultural Advocacy Institute to introduce themselves; whereupon, she read a proclamation recognizing September 2019 as Hispanic Heritage Month. Ms. Boland thanked the Board for the honor and discussed the role of Hispanic families in creating strong and diverse communities.

3. Mattie Williams Neighborhood Family Center 25th Anniversary Proclamation:
- Janet Hooper, Executive Director

Chair Seel invited Ms. Hooper and the Board of Directors of the Mattie Williams Neighborhood Family Center to introduce themselves; whereupon, she read a proclamation celebrating 25 years of social services provided by the organization to low-income families, and a video about the Center was played.

4. Doing Things! Employee Recognition Award:

- Stephen Parker, Code Enforcement Officer, Development Review Services

Chair Seel and Mr. Burton recognized Officer Parker for his innovative job approach and dedication to keeping the county safe, and a video was shown highlighting his work.

5. Partner Presentation:

- Steve Cleveland, Executive Director, Florida Dream Center

Referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Cleveland provided background information regarding the Center and the array of community volunteer-based services it provides in low-income areas through the following programs:

Adopt-a-Block

Mobile Food Pantry

Resident Advocacy

Work Readiness Training

Tiny Home Building

In response to queries and comments by the members, Mr. Cleveland discussed the costs and future plans to build more Categories 3 and 5 tiny homes, and educational opportunities provided to ex-offenders and others wishing to learn the construction trade.

The members commended Mr. Cleveland on the organization's life-changing impact on the community by attacking poverty and helping people improve their lives, and he emphasized the role of volunteers and partners in the organization's success; whereupon, Commissioner Justice recognized the Center's Director of Programs, Zelda O'Connell, present in the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 6 through 13

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER**6. Minutes of the regular meeting held August 6, 2019.**

Reports received for filing:

7. Report of Expenses Incurred under Incentives, Awards, and Recruitment Ordinance No. 07-26 for the quarter ended June 30, 2019.
8. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2019-24 dated August 21, 2019 - Follow-Up Audit of Pinellas County Capital Improvement Program and Infrastructure - Utilities.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

9. City of Clearwater Ordinances Nos. 9279-19, 9287-19, and 9290-19 adopted July 18 and August 1, 2019, annexing certain properties.
10. City of Dunedin Ordinances Nos. 19-16, 19-17, and 19-18 adopted July 25, 2019, annexing certain property and amending its land use designation and zoning classification.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Human Services

11. Resolution supplementing the Fiscal Year 2019 General Fund Budget for unanticipated revenue to the Human Services Department and the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida.

Resolution No. 19-62 adopted appropriating unanticipated grant revenue in the total amount of \$465,000.00.

(See discussion under Item No. 16.)

Public Works

12. Ranking of firms and agreement with Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. for engineering, planning and environmental services for the South Creek Watershed Management Plan.

Ranking of firms and Contract No. 178-0465-NC approved in the amount of \$456,218.40 (including \$41,474.40 contingency) for a term of 48 consecutive calendar months from the notice to proceed date. Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Utilities

13. Award of bid to Rowland Inc. for Fiscal Years 2019-2021 annual sanitary sewer repair and extension projects.

Bid No. 189-0361-CP (PID No. 001272C) in the amount of \$4,315,619.80 awarded on the basis of being the only responsive bid received meeting specifications; all work is expected to be completed within 730 consecutive calendar days. Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, appeared and provided comments relating to Rowland's pipe replacement on the Dunedin Causeway.

Commissioner Welch praised Mr. Burton for offering opportunities to small businesses, and Commissioner Eggers gave background information regarding the Dunedin Causeway pipe replacement and the role of Rowland in that project.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA - None.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Airport

14. Grant Application for Federal Assistance submission to the Federal Aviation Administration for the Fiscal Year 2019 Capital Improvement Program project for the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport. (Companion to Item No.15)

Item deferred to the September 24 meeting.

Referring to Items Nos. 14 and 15, Mr. Burton indicated that the Federal Aviation Administration did not meet a self-established deadline for issuing the grant.

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be deferred. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

15. Award of bid to Ajax Paving Industries of Florida, LLC for the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport Runway 18-36 Rehabilitation project. (Companion to Item No.14)

Item deferred to the September 24 meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be deferred. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Human Services

16. Agreement with Gulfcoast Legal Services, Inc. to provide legal aid to eligible Pinellas County residents.

Agreement to provide legal assistance to eligible residents whose household income does not exceed 150 percent of the federal poverty guidelines approved in the amount of \$379,430.00, payable in 12 monthly payments of \$31,619.17 each.

At the request of Commissioner Eggers, Human Services Director Daisy Rodriguez provided information regarding the grants for the Pinellas County Adult Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court programs, noting that they pertain to Item No. 11; and that both are performing well; whereupon, she briefly discussed services provided by Gulfcoast Legal Services.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

17. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Trust Fund program recommendations and agreement to fund non-profit agencies.

Recommendations submitted by the Substance Abuse Advisory Board approved for distribution of \$53,000.00 among seven projects, as set forth in the Staff Report. Grant agreement with the listed agencies approved.

Commissioner Gerard stated that she would abstain from discussion and voting on the item, and in accordance with the provisions of the Standards of Conduct Law, a Memorandum of Voting Conflict form has been filed and made a part of the record.

Mr. Burton noted that the funding is generated from court fees, and Ms. Rodriguez indicated that it will be used by the agencies for non-recurring expenditures such as equipment or renovations.

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

Aye: 5 - Chair Seel, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Abstain: 1 - Vice-Chair Gerard

- 18.** First Renewal and First Amendment to the Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals with Operation Par, Inc., Directions for Living, and Westcare Gulfcoast-Florida, Inc.

First Renewal and First Amendment to the Agreements approved providing funding in an amount not to exceed \$683,520.00 for mental health and substance use treatment of individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness. Agreements are effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

Ms. Rodriguez provided background information regarding the Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) program, relating that it is intended to give recently-housed homeless individuals tools for sustainability. She noted that the funding has been included in the Fiscal Year 2020 Tentative Budget through the CABHI Decision Package and responded to queries by Commissioner Eggers concerning previous program funding.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

- 19.** First Option of Renewal Agreement with BayCare Home Care, Inc. for home healthcare for clients of the Pinellas County Health Program and Health Care for the Homeless program.

Agreement approved providing funding in an amount not to exceed \$550,000.00 for a period of 12 months, effective October 1, 2019.

Kay-Ann Kennedy, St. Petersburg, appeared and spoke in favor of the program; whereupon, Ms. Rodriguez provided background information, noting collaboration with the Department of Health and the services offered.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

20. First Option of Renewal and Fourth Amendment to the agreement with Neighborly Care Network, Inc. for food and nutrition services.

First Option of Renewal and Fourth Amendment approved providing funding in an amount not to exceed \$296,000.00, effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

Mr. Burton introduced the item, and Ms. Rodriguez provided background information regarding the agreement.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

21. Funding Agreement with 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares, Inc. for call center operations.

Agreement approved providing funding in an amount not to exceed \$536,250.00, effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2022, with one two-year renewal option.

Commissioner Welch referred to a metrics report included in the agenda package, and responding to his queries, 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares President/CEO Micki Thompson indicated that significant reductions in 2-1-1 calls and emails for the month of June were attributed to a reporting issue caused by a change in an online database vendor; that a survey was instituted to improve the call center customer experience; that texting is being encouraged instead of emailing and its use has dramatically increased; and that the best ways to contact the center are by calling, texting, or researching non-urgent issues online.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Ms. Thompson provided information concerning the suicide prevention network providers; whereupon, she agreed to supply additional data requested by Commissioners Welch and Eggers.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

22. Second Option of Renewal Agreement with Personal Enrichment Through Mental Health Services, Inc. for the Crisis Stabilization Unit and Pinellas Integrated Care Alliance.

Agreement approved providing total funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,193,066.00, effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 (Crisis Stabilization Unit funding not to exceed \$1,693,066.00; Pinellas Integrated Care Alliance funding not to exceed \$500,000.00).

Ms. Rodriguez provided background information regarding the providers, program, and services, and Commissioner Eggers noted that the program has been a life-saver for the participants; whereupon, Mr. Burton provided input, indicating that a chart representing various programs and services offered through the Human Services Department is being developed to clarify how they integrate.

At the request of Commissioner Welch, Ms. Rodriguez indicated that a *Doing Things Define-Measure-Analyze-Improve-Control* model provided for Item No. 19 can be provided for other programs.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Planning

23. Resolution granting ad valorem tax exemption for a historic property located at 823 10th Avenue South, within the City of St. Petersburg.

Resolution No. 19-63 adopted granting a 10-year exemption for 100 percent of the value of qualifying improvements, beginning on January 1, 2019 and ending on December 31, 2028. Chairman authorized to sign the Historic Preservation Property Tax Exemption Covenant and the Clerk to attest.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Public Works

24. Local Agency Program Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation and associated authorizing resolution for funding of construction and construction engineering inspection services for Hercules Avenue Sidewalk II from Sherwood Street to Sunset Point Road.

Resolution No. 19-64 adopted approving the agreement (FDOT Financial Project No. 424564 7 58/68 01; County PID No. 002686A) providing for construction grant funding in the amount of \$1,443,956.00. Construction is anticipated to commence in early 2020 and be completed in one year.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

- 25.** Resolution requesting inclusion of County beach erosion control projects in the Florida Beach Management Funding Assistance Program Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Long-Range Budget Plan of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Resolution No. 19-65 adopted requesting funding in an estimated amount of \$932,500.00. Staff authorized to submit grant application.

Mr. Burton noted that the project would provide for nourishment of the Pass-A-Grille Beach region of the Long Key Segment.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

- 26.** Road Transfer Interlocal Agreement with the City of Tarpon Springs for the transfer of specific roadway segments.

Agreement approved transferring roadway segments on Lillian Avenue as set forth in the Staff Report. Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest the agreement; Clerk authorized to record the agreement and the corresponding right-of-way map.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Safety and Emergency Services

27. Fiscal Year 2019 Board Budget Amendment No. 4 to realign appropriation from the Fire Districts Fund Reserves Program to the Unincorporated Fire Districts Program within the Clearwater, Largo, and Tierra Verde Fire District budgets.

Amendment approved realigning appropriation in the amount of \$220,560.00 for reimbursement of unanticipated capital expenses.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Solid Waste

28. Annual certificate of the Lealman Solid Waste Collection and Disposal District Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll.

Sitting as the governing body of the Lealman Solid Waste Collection and Disposal District, the Board approved the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2019. Chairman authorized to certify the roll to the Tax Collector prior to September 15, 2019.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Utilities

29. Agreement with Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. for the development of a water, sewer and reclaimed water policy manual.

(Contract No. 189-0286-P) Agreement approved in the amount of \$185,315.00 for a 12-month term from the effective date. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

30. Change Order No. 1 to the contract with TLC Diversified, Inc. for the Pump Station 018 replacement project.

(Contract No. 178-0478-CP, PID No. 003206A) Change Order approved increasing the contract amount by \$151,249.00 for a revised total of \$728,649.00 and providing an extension of 91 calendar days. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

31. Increase to the purchase authorization with Graybar Electric Company for requirements of electrical, lighting, data communications, security products and services.

Authorization granted to increase Contract No. 178-0181-PB by \$1,525,000.00 for a revised sixty-month total amount not to exceed \$2,202,281.79 through January 31, 2023 (estimated annual amount, \$440,456.40).

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

32. Appointments to the Emergency Medical Services Medical Control Board.

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the reappointments and appointments of the following individuals for two-year terms ending in August 2021:

- Reappointment of Mr. Jake Fisher as Hospital Administrator representative
- Appointment of Mr. Jonathan Ashford as Hospital Administrator alternate representative
- Reappointment of Dr. Stephen Haire as Emergency Physician representative
- Reappointment of Dr. Brian Charity as Emergency Physician alternate representative
- Appointment of Dr. Jose Barquin Jr. as Emergency Physician representative
- Reappointment of Dr. Jeremy White as Emergency Physician alternate representative
- Reappointment of Dr. Krista Gillis as Emergency Physician representative
- Appointment of Dr. Andrea Apple as Emergency Physician alternate representative

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Human Resources

- 33.** Proposed Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners Exempt Pay Plan, covering all exempt positions under the Board of County Commissioners, County Administrator, County Attorney, Business Technology Services, Human Resources, Human Rights, and Forward Pinellas.

Exempt Pay Plan adopted, effective September 29, 2019, or the date the Unified Personnel Board adopts the Classification Plan covering exempt positions within the Unified Personnel System, whichever is later. Plan will remain in effect until or unless changed by action of the Board.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

COUNTY ATTORNEY

- 34.** Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Marie and James Parker v. Villa Del Mar of Clearwater Condominium Association, Inc.; HUD Case No. 04-19-5671-8; PC Case No. 19-021 - alleged housing discrimination.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

35. Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Francis Dandrea v. Lakeview of Largo Condominium Association, Inc., et al.; HUD Case No. 04-19-6988-8; PC Case No. 19-053 - alleged housing discrimination.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

36. County Attorney Reports.

Attorney White reported that Assistant County Attorneys Kelly Vicari and Chelsea Hardy have become certified by the Florida Bar in local government law, noting that it requires a rigorous peer review followed by a difficult examination; and that her office is now above 50 percent certified.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

37. County Administrator Reports:
- Hurricane Dorian Update

Mr. Burton expressed his appreciation of County staff and partners for their efforts and emergency preparation related to the hurricane, and recognized Emergency Management Director Catherine Perkins for developing a team approach that addresses all aspects of the emergency planning process; whereupon, he showed a video highlighting the behind-the-scenes work that occurred in preparation for the storm and indicated that an after-action review will be conducted to discuss lessons learned in order to refine and strengthen plans for future events.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

38. Public Comment.

Todd Watson, Seminole, re disposal fees

Chuck Watson, Seminole, re septic rate fee

C. Kenneth Warrington, Largo, re bus route changes

Aleksander Bame, Clearwater, re liens

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re "sellers of the dream," Lincoln's "temperance" address

Later in the meeting, Commissioner Eggers encouraged Mr. Warrington to address his concerns directly with the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) Board, indicating that as a PSTA board member, he has expressed concerns to staff regarding Mr. Warrington's neighborhood; and that he understands PSTA is working on a solution to serve the residents who live farthest from the existing bus stop.

COUNTY COMMISSION

- 39.** Appointment to the Greater Seminole Area Special Recreation District (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

The Board appointed John D. Veale to complete a current four-year term set to expire on October 31, 2022.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

- 40.** Appointment/reappointment to the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

The Board reappointed Commissioners Gerard and Justice for three-year terms beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2022.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

- 41.** County Commission New Business Items - None.

- 42.** County Commission Board Reports and Miscellaneous.

The members collectively thanked retiring Chief Deputy Director, Finance Division, Clareth Harris for her 26 years of service to Pinellas County, provided updates regarding their assigned boards and committees, and commented on various topics, as follows:

Commissioner Eggers

- Forward Pinellas, MyVA Community Engagement Board, Tampa Bay Water, Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group, Pinellas Schools Collaborative, Council of North County Neighborhoods
- Community Health Centers of Pinellas County recognized as one of the top seven most cost-efficient health centers in the country
- Youth Advisory Committee recruitment

Commissioner Gerard

- CareerSource Pinellas, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative Committee, Child Care Licensing Board, Public Safety Coordinating Council
- County's use of property liens

Commissioner Justice

- Homeless Leadership Board, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, Tampa Bay Estuary Program
- RISE: Whiskey and War Stories and Remember Honor Support events
- Upcoming Farm Share event

Commissioner Peters

- Youth Advisory Committee, Pinellas County Fusion Group, Economic Mobility Leadership Network
- Redington Long Pier demolition
- Hurricane Dorian preparation efforts

Commissioner Welch

- Forward Pinellas, Creative Pinellas, Pinellas County Complete Count Committee
- Remember Honor Support event
- Youth Advisory Committee expansion from 25 to 32 members
- Violent Crime Task Force efforts related to criminal activity near the St. Pete Country Club
- Hurricane Dorian preparation efforts

Chair Seel

- Tourist Development Council

Discussion ensued regarding a citizen's email which questioned the placement of the Citizens to Be Heard section of a meeting in the agenda order, and several members

stated that their preference would be to move the section closer to the start of a meeting.

Commissioner Welch related that at times, the Board has heard from dozens of citizens at a meeting who were concerned about a common issue; that at other times, commenters became confrontational or abusive; and that there is good cause to maintain a balance for all participants in a meeting; whereupon, he suggested that the decision of where to include the section should be at the discretion of the Chair year to year, and the members concurred.

Noting that there is a consensus from the Board, Chair Seel stated that going forward, the Citizens to Be Heard section would follow Presentations for 2:00 P.M. meetings, and follow Presentations and Public Hearings for 9:30 A.M. meetings, and discussion ensued.

Meeting recessed: 4:34 P.M.

Meeting reconvened: 6:02 P.M.

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

- 43.** Resolution supplementing the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget for the Contractor Licensing Department within the Construction Licensing Board Fund.

Resolution No. 19-66 adopted appropriating additional revenue from citations and fees received during Fiscal Year 2019 in the amount of \$857,270.00.

Chair Seel thanked Contractor Licensing Department Director Gay Lancaster, noting that the additional revenue recognizes her leadership and hard work.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

- 44.** Resolutions adopting tentative millage rates and budgets for Fiscal Year 2020 (first public hearing).

Public hearing was held regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 tentative millage rates and budgets for Pinellas County; resolutions adopted approving tentative millage rates (No.

19-67) and budgets (No. 19-68) for the Pinellas County General Fund and Pinellas County Health Department Fund; resolutions adopted approving tentative millage rates (No. 19-69) and budgets (No. 19-70) for the Emergency Medical Services Authority, Pinellas Planning Council, Unincorporated Area Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU), Public Library Services District MSTU, Palm Harbor Community Services District, Feather Sound Community Services District, East Lake Library Services District, East Lake Recreation Services District, and the Belleair Bluffs, Clearwater, Dunedin, Gandy, High Point, Largo, Pinellas Park, Safety Harbor, Seminole, South Pasadena, Tarpon Springs, and Tierra Verde Fire Protection Districts.

Ms. Harris reported that no correspondence has been received regarding the tentative millages and budgets.

Chair Seel indicated that a representative of the Property Appraiser's Office is available to respond to anyone having questions or concerns about the assessed value of their property or the information that appears on the Truth in Millage (TRIM) Notice.

Chair Seel reviewed the sequence of events for the evening's proceedings, relating that even though Florida Statutes provide that a taxing authority may adopt tax levies and budgets of all its dependent special taxing districts and municipal service taxing units by a single unanimous vote, members of the general public can request that the Board discuss and adopt any of those items separately; whereupon, in response to her queries, no citizen requested that an item be separately reviewed.

Thereupon, Chair Seel opened the first public hearing on the tentative millage rates and budgets for Fiscal Year 2020.

Ms. Harris reported that the public hearing is being held in accordance with Chapters 129 and 200 of the Florida Statutes; and that the meeting has been duly noticed by the Property Appraiser's mailing of the TRIM notice.

Chair Seel announced that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), as taxing authority for the BCC Countywide, the Dependent Special Districts, and the Municipal Service Taxing Units, as listed above, will now proceed with the public hearing.

Mr. Burton related that the percentage increase in the millage rate for all budgets, over the rolled-back rate, based on the maximum rates on the TRIM Notice, to fund the Fiscal Year 2020 Tentative Budget is a 4.61-percent increase over the aggregate rolled-back rate; whereupon, he indicated that the primary purposes for the increase in millage over the rolled-back rate are as follows:

- In the General Fund including Unincorporated Area MSTU, Health Department Fund, and the Emergency Medical Services Authority, revenue increases are required to support personnel and operating expenditure levels that are driven by inflationary factors.

- In the Public Library Services District MSTU, the Palm Harbor Community Services MSTU, the Feather Sound Community Services MSTU, the East Lake Library Services MSTU, the East Lake Recreation Services MSTU, and seven Fire Protection Districts, revenue increases are needed to support increased expenditures by the agencies providing services for those districts.
- In five Fire Protection Districts, revenue decreases are due to those districts having sufficient reserve levels to provide for future planned capital along with property values that can support annual operations at a lower millage rate.

Mr. Burton indicated that a schedule of changes to the proposed budget was distributed to the Board on August 29, 2019; and that modifications include both Board-directed changes approved at BCC meetings or work sessions and technical adjustments related to accounting presentation, updated information, corrections, and other minor changes; whereupon, Office of Management and Budget Director Bill Berger conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Doing Things! Fiscal Year 2020 Tentative Budget*, a copy of which has been made a part of the record.

Following the presentation and in response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Berger provided information with regard to the six-year forecast, the health of County funds, and the net increase in full-time equivalent positions within the budget.

Thereupon, Chair Seel announced that the Board of County Commissioners will continue the hearing as the taxing authority for the BCC Countywide, Dependent Special Districts, and MSTU levies, as previously referenced, by taking public comment from citizens who wish to be heard regarding the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget.

No one appeared in response to the Chair's call for persons wishing to speak.

Chair Seel announced that resolutions will now be considered to set the tentative millage rates and budgets; and that the amounts will not be finalized until the public hearing on September 24, 2019; whereupon, Mr. Burton announced each of the resolutions separately, which have been made a part of the record.

Resolution No. 19-67 adopted approving the tentative millage rates for Fiscal Year 2020 for the Pinellas County General Fund and the Pinellas County Health Department Fund.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Resolution No. 19-68 adopted approving the tentative budgets for Fiscal Year 2020 for the Pinellas County General Fund and the Pinellas County Health Department Fund.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Resolution No. 19-69 adopted approving the tentative millage rates for the Emergency Medical Services Authority, Pinellas Planning Council, Unincorporated Area Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU), Public Library Services District MSTU, Palm Harbor Community Services District, Feather Sound Community Services District, East Lake Library Services District, East Lake Recreation Services District, and the Belleair Bluffs, Clearwater, Dunedin, Gandy, High Point, Largo, Pinellas Park, Safety Harbor, Seminole, South Pasadena, Tarpon Springs, and Tierra Verde Fire Protection Districts.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

Resolution No. 19-70 adopted approving the tentative budgets for the Emergency Medical Services Authority, Pinellas Planning Council, Unincorporated Area Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU), Public Library Services District MSTU, Palm Harbor Community Services District, Feather Sound Community Services District, East Lake Library Services District, East Lake Recreation Services District, and the Belleair Bluffs, Clearwater, Dunedin, Gandy, High Point, Largo, Pinellas Park, Safety Harbor, Seminole, South Pasadena, Tarpon Springs, and Tierra Verde Fire Protection Districts.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

At this time, Chair Seel closed the first public hearing on the tentative millage rates and budgets for Fiscal Year 2020.

Mr. Burton stated that the County will advertise the Budget Summary and Notice of Tax Increase in advance of the second public hearing to be held on September 24; and that the notice will be published in the Tampa Bay Times on September 20.

ADJOURNMENT - 6:34 P.M.

Karen Seel
Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By Nancy D. Loy
Deputy Clerk

