

Pinellas County

*315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756*



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

9:30 AM

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 - 9:31 A.M.

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

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Clarethia N. Harris, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Jenny Masinovsky, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION by Reverend Ryan R. Whitley, St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, St. Petersburg.**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS****1. Partner Presentation:**

- #PurePinellas by Commissioner Justice

Following introduction by Commissioner Justice, Chase Farrell and Jordan Bolds of the Northside Christian School Royal Ambassador Marching Band in St. Petersburg, a several-time state championship winner, performed an instrumental rendition of the National Anthem. Thereafter, the school's Fine Arts Director, Nathan Farrell, discussed the band's history, philosophy, and achievements, including participation in community events, such as those honoring veterans. The students introduced themselves and shared their future aspirations with the members, who expressed appreciation to them for the performance and to Commissioner Justice for arranging the presentation.

2. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week Proclamation:

- Dr. Eric Carver, Chairman, Pinellas County EMS Advisory Council
- Craig A. Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration

Chair Seel read a proclamation recognizing May 19 through 25 as Emergency Medical Services Week; whereupon, Dr. Carver and Mr. Hare accepted a plaque, noting that it honors over 1,900 county EMS professionals.

3. EMS Professionals of the Year Award:

Emergency Medical Dispatcher

- Kathryn Boucher, 911 Quality Assurance Specialist, Pinellas County Emergency Communications/Regional 911

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

- Kyle Turner, EMT, Sunstar Paramedics
Paramedic

- Maya Daniels, Field Training Officer/Paramedic, Sunstar Paramedics
Pinellas Federal Credit Union

- Lauren Weiser, AVP, Branch Operations

- Monica Lukasik, Marketing Specialist

Following a video highlighting the achievements of the award winners, Chair Seel introduced them and presented the awards, thanking all EMS professionals for their contribution to the community; whereupon, Pinellas Federal Credit Union representatives provided the winners with monetary gifts, and Chair Seel noted that the Credit Union has been a supporter of EMS professionals for 29 years.

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

Countywide Planning Authority

4. Case No. CW19-07 - City of Clearwater

Countywide Plan Map amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Residential Low Medium, regarding 4.88 acres more or less, located at 1625 Union Street, Clearwater.

Ordinance No. 19-10 adopted approving Case No. CW 19-07. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, recommended approval of the proposal, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

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

5. Case No. CW 19-08 - Pinellas County

Countywide Plan Map amendment from Residential Low Medium and Preservation to Recreation/Open Space, regarding 1.61 acres more or less, located at the southwest corner of Alternate U.S. Highway 19 and Wai Lani Road; approximately 400 ft. west of Alternate U.S. Highway 19 and Harry Street.

Ordinance No. 19-11 adopted approving Case No. CW 19-08. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, recommended approval of the proposal, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

6. Proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article V of the Pinellas County Code related to Purchasing.

Ordinance No. 19-12 adopted revising Section No. 2-165 pertaining to the Small Business Enterprise (SBE) program. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Commissioner Welch referred to the ordinance, copies of which were distributed to the members, and indicated that per his request, staff added language reflecting the importance of the County's commitment to equal opportunity, supplier diversity, and equity with regard to small business enterprises. At Commissioner Eggers' suggestion, he agreed to incorporate an additional change in the language. No objections were heard, and Chair Seel read the modified language into the record.

During discussion and responding to query by Commissioner Justice, Attorney White provided information relating to bidder eligibility provisions, indicating that the intent is to promote small business participation in the procurement of goods and services for the County; and that the associated proposed code amendments are minor and meant to bring the ordinance in line with the current standards, and Mr. Burton provided input regarding the SBE program's safeguards.

Commissioner Welch recognized the leadership of Mr. Burton and Senior Economic Development Manager Dr. Cynthia Johnson with regard to current small business practices, and Dr. Johnson expressed her enthusiasm in spearheading the SBE initiative and thanked the members for their support; whereupon, Chair Seel thanked Commissioner Welch for championing the issue.

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

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

7. Petition of Philip F. Melson and Bonnie J. Melson to vacate a portion of a 15 foot private drainage easement lying within Lot 7, Block 1, Manning Oaks subdivision, Plat Book 124, Page 80, lying in Section 13-28-15, Pinellas County, Florida. (Quasi-Judicial Hearing)

Resolution No. 19-25 adopted granting the petition. Clerk authorized to attest and record the resolution. Letters of no objection have been received from the appropriate parties. Interested property owners were notified as to the date of the public hearing. Staff indicated no objection to the petition being granted. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

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

8. Petition of Avik K. Ganguly and Paromita C. Ganguly to vacate a portion of a drainage, utility and/or natural area easement lying in Lot 8, Block A, Lake St. George - Unit 1, Plat Book 78, Page 65, lying in Section 8-28-16, Pinellas County, Florida. (Quasi-Judicial Hearing)

Resolution No. 19-26 adopted granting the petition. Clerk authorized to attest and record the resolution. Letters of no objection have been received from the appropriate parties. Interested property owners were notified as to the date of the public hearing. Staff indicated no objection to the petition being granted. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 9 through 12 (Item 11 addressed under Regular Agenda)

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

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

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

9. Minutes of the regular meeting held April 9, 2019.

Reports received for filing:

10. Southwest Florida Water Management District Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2018.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Business Technology Services

12. Award of bid to Extensys, Inc. for Rubrik appliances and support.

Bid No. 189-0199-B in the amount of \$1,446,281.00 (annual amount, \$482,093.67) awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications. Contract is for a 36-month term and includes a provision for one 24-month term extension with price adjustments as set forth in the Staff Report.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Airport

11. Ranking of firms and agreement with SSP-Hudson PIE Concessions, LLC for Airport Concessionaire Services (food, beverage, and retail) at the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

Ranking of firms and Contract No. 178-0481-P approved in an estimated minimum annual revenue amount of \$1,224,700.00 (minimum anticipated ten-year revenue amount not to exceed \$14,039,813.00). Contract shall be effective for a period of ten years from the date of beneficial occupancy, as defined in the Staff Report, and includes a provision for an additional five-year term extension. Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Yvette Aehle, Deputy Director, St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) Finance and Administration, provided background information regarding the project and terms of the agreement, including the participating parties, timeline, and anticipated revenue. She noted that the project is of great financial benefit to the Airport; that SSP-Hudson PIE Concessions, LLC is a single concessionaire that will be investing over \$4 million in capital improvements to the space; that staff held a public information meeting regarding the project; and that airport operations will continue as normal during the course of redevelopment and construction, with temporary food, beverage, and retail service being available to the customers.

Ms. Aehle indicated that the concessions will include 3 Daughters Brewing, Mazzaro's Italian Market, and Dunkin' (formerly Dunkin' Donuts), noting a strong desire for craft beer expressed at the public information meeting. Responding to query by Commissioner Justice, Ms. Aehle confirmed that the above-referenced vendors have signed contracts.

During discussion and responding to queries and concerns by Commissioners Welch and Long, Mike Blakely, Hudson Group, and Michael Caveny and John Clark, SSP America, provided information regarding the selected concessions and the rationale for choosing them, stressing the importance of having a balance by combining local and regional, as well as nationally-recognized brands, where 3 Daughters Brewing and Mazzaro's Italian Market represent the local flavor, Dunkin' offers a well-known national brand, and The District Pub restaurant brings a proprietary brand presence, noting that the latter two concessions would

be run by the partnership. They explained that the combination would be best suited for the Airport and the travelers and help ensure a return on investment and subsequent revenue for the Airport; that the market was measured by various criteria, including the use of space, number of passengers, and high level of service; and that the balance is weighted toward the local brands.

Commissioner Welch indicated that he is largely supportive of the presented concept and package, but expressed great concern that local coffee vendors, such as Kahwa Coffee Roasting Company, have not been given consideration and an opportunity to participate in the bid process, and Commissioner Long voiced similar concern with regard to food vendors, noting that in the early stages of the project, the members explicitly requested that the concessions be selected based on a strong local focus. Responding to query by Commissioner Welch as to the Board's ability to state a preference for a local versus national vendor at this time, Purchasing Director Joe Lauro indicated that while that is not outside of purchasing procedures, the fact that there is a deal in place should be taken into consideration.

Commissioner Eggers expressed support for the agreement, emphasizing that it provides the necessary balance; and that Dunkin's recognition would bring credibility and visitor traffic more so than a local coffee company would. He stated that the investors need to be able to protect their investment and guarantee a return; therefore, if the concessions package is changed, they should be allowed to re-evaluate their numbers. Commissioners Justice, Gerard, and Peters also stated their support and provided input; whereupon, the members compared the current proposal to concessions offered at Tampa International Airport.

Commissioner Welch reiterated his earlier concerns, noting that they are not based on his personal preference; that Dunkin's deciding role in the transaction is questionable; and that he will not be voting in support of the agreement. Following discussion, Commissioner Long indicated that she will vote in support reluctantly; whereupon, the members expressed hope that based on the aforesaid concerns, the concessionaire will involve more local vendors in the future.

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 Long, and Commissioner Peters

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Welch

Convention and Visitors Bureau

13. Compliance and eligibility review of current Tourist Development Tax Capital Project Funding Program applications.

Mr. Burton introduced the item, relating that the following applications were received in a timely manner for consideration, and Chair Seel noted that the last three applications have not yet been reviewed by the Board:

1. City of Clearwater's retained Spring Training Facility (Phillies)
2. Dali Museum
3. American Craftsman Museum
4. St. Petersburg Museum of History
5. Tampa Bay Watch-Discovery Center

American Craftsman Museum

Chair Seel indicated that the application represents a request for \$2 million; whereupon, she noted that it lacks data showing any changes in potential tourism impact since the last award to justify additional funding, and the members elaborated on the reasons to deny the request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, that the application for the American Craftsman Museum be denied. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

St. Petersburg Museum of History

At the request of Commissioner Gerard, Attorney White referred to a letter from City of St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman dated May 6, 2019 and provided information pertaining to the application, including the museum's inability to meet the minimum lease length requirements set by the Capital Funding Guidelines. She indicated that the City will enter into a new 10-year lease with the museum this spring, prior to the current lease expiring in 2022; and that it plans to have a referendum to allow for longer leases in the future, noting that while the guidelines call for a 20-year lease minimum, the museum has been a tenant on the site for nearly 100 years.

Discussion ensued, and Chair Seel urged the members to consider the museum being subject to waterfront property lease restrictions as a special circumstance; whereupon, she explained the application review and approval process, indicating that today the members are deciding which requests will be forwarded for a consultant's review and determination of economic impact, after which they will return for the Board's final approval. Responding to query by Commissioner Eggers, she confirmed that any museum located in the County is eligible to apply under the program.

During discussion and responding to queries by Commissioner Welch, St. Petersburg Museum of History Executive Director Rui Farias, Board of Directors President J. Howard Johnston, and Treasurer Lee Allen provided information pertaining to the tourist attendance and one-to-one match requirements, indicating that the museum will meet the criteria for both.

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the application for the St. Petersburg Museum of History be approved for further review. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Tampa Bay Watch-Discovery Center

At the request of Chair Seel, Attorney White provided information regarding the application, indicating that the requested funds would be applied toward constructing the tenant portion of the St. Petersburg Pier project; that there are private contributions involved in the undertaking; and that similar to the St. Petersburg Museum of History, the Discovery Center's lease is shorter than required by the guidelines, noting that the Board can choose to waive them. Responding to queries by Commissioner Peters, she added that unlike the museum, the applicant is a new tenant, and there is no information suggestive of future changes to the current ten-year lease term.

During discussion and in response to queries by the members, Peter Clark, President of Tampa Bay Watch, introduced Mary Ann Renfrow, Chair of the Tampa Bay Watch Board of Directors, and provided information relating to the bid process, project costs, expenses intended to be covered by the organization and under its fundraising program, proposed capital and other improvements, and room night projections, emphasizing that any improvements paid for by the requested funds will become permanent additions to the building. Commissioner Welch suggested considering the possibility of using the City's Community Redevelopment Area Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds for the project instead of the Tourist Development Tax. Commissioner Eggers agreed, and Chair Seel requested that staff look into the matter, cautioning that other Pier tenants might come forward requesting TIF funds for their building improvements.

Commissioner Welch remarked that data for room nights reported by the applicant is confusing and needs to be clarified to ensure that the project meets the threshold requirement, and Managing Assistant County Attorney Michael Zas indicated that staff will review the numbers and report back, noting that the Board could approve the application to move forward in the process subject to the room night criteria being met.

A motion was made by Commissioner Justice, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the application for the Tampa Bay Watch - Discovery Center be approved for further review subject to meeting room night criteria. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Human Services

14. Resolution approving submission of the Age Friendly Pinellas Action Plan to the American Association of Retired Persons.

Resolution No. 19-27 adopted approving submission of the plan to the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) in alignment with Age Friendly Community designation.

Chair Seel thanked Assistant County Administrator Lourdes Benedict, Human Services Director Daisy Rodriguez, and staff for their efforts with regard to the plan, and Mr. Burton provided input; whereupon, Ms. Rodriguez reported that she made presentations regarding the plan to the Mayors' Council and the City Managers offering her support, should they choose to participate. She noted the timeliness of the plan, given that Governor Ron DeSantis has recently announced that Florida has entered into the AARP network.

Commissioner Eggers commended Ms. Rodriguez on her leadership in organizing the first meeting of the Veteran Services Coalition, relating that it generated great feedback.

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

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

Real Estate Management

15. First Amendment to the Lease Agreement with EJB Fairways, LLC for office space at 8200 Bryan Dairy Road, Largo.

Mr. Burton introduced the item and stated that staff is asking that it be deferred to a future meeting, in order for the lease terms to be renegotiated. In response to comments by the members, he noted that staff would seek to amend the terms to a three-year lease with one-year renewals.

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

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

16. Resolution and First Amendment to the Lease Agreement with Pinellas Opportunity Council, Inc. for office space at 501 First Avenue North, St. Petersburg.

Resolution No. 19-28 adopted approving the amendment, modifying the method for calculating rent and increasing the base rent by three percent annually upon renewal, for an additional nine years, as set forth in the Staff Report.

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

17. County Administrator Miscellaneous.

Mr. Burton made the following announcements:

- The County will advertise a Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) hearing to be conducted May 21 on behalf of Pinellas Preparatory Academy.
- Hank Hodde has been hired to serve as the County's new Sustainability and Resiliency Coordinator. His first day will be July 1.
- The three finalists for Visit St. Pete/Clearwater (VSPC) President and CEO are current Visit Tucson President/CEO Brent DeRaad, current Lee County Visitor and Convention Bureau Executive Director Tamara Pigott, and current VSPC Chief Operating Officer Tim Ramsberger. A reception will be held on May 15 at the Sheraton Sand Key Resort.
- The County is partnering with several local organizations to participate in the Cereal for Summer food drive. Food will be collected through May 17, to be distributed to local food pantries by Feeding Tampa Bay.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

18. Proposed settlement in the case of Lisa Eutize v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Court Case No. 18-005998-CI.

Settlement approved in accordance with the confidential memorandum dated May 7, 2019.

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

19. County Attorney Miscellaneous.

Attorney White indicated that the Florida Second District Court of Appeal has rendered its opinion in the appellate case of Gary Joiner, successor to Mike Wells, as Pasco County Property Appraiser vs. Pinellas County, Florida, a Political subdivision of the State of Florida; et al., reversing the trial court's earlier decision, which had found Pinellas County immune from taxation.

Attorney White stated that the case relates to the Cross Bar and Al Bar properties owned by Pinellas County and located in Pasco County; and that several years earlier, following an Inspector General's report questioning whether the County should continue paying Ad Valorem taxes on the properties, Pinellas County stopped paying the related taxes.

Attorney White discussed the appellate court's majority opinion and aspects of the dissenting opinion. She indicated that the opinions were rendered by a panel of three judges; and that the County will immediately file several motions as follows:

- The County will seek a rehearing en banc, in order to be heard by the entire court of 16 judges.
- The County will seek to have the issue certified as a question of great public importance to the Florida Supreme Court, which was supported in the dissenting opinion.
- The County will seek clarification of certain language related to the case.

Commissioner Long requested that the Board receive regular status reports regarding the property, and Chair Seel concurred.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

- 20.** Emergency Medical Services Advanced Life Support First Responder Growth Management Agreement with four municipalities and one independent fire district. (Companion to Item No. 21)

Sitting as the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Authority, the Board approved the amendment applying to the Cities of Clearwater, Largo, Safety Harbor, and Seminole, and the Lealman Special Fire Control District, providing opt-in options for any Advanced Life Support provider's participation. Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Mr. Burton stated that the Growth Management Agreement is also known as Priority Dispatch; and that the agreement is a result of a cooperative effort by the Data Driven Focus Group at the request of some of the larger municipalities in the county.

Director of Safety and Emergency Services Jim Fogarty provided information on the program and an example of an issue it will help address. He noted that Human Services Director Daisy Rodriguez and Assistant County Administrator Lourdes Benedict have joined in the discussion with service providers regarding Priority Dispatch and whether to partner with the County through the program; that many incidents do not involve patient care, only needing the fire department to respond; and that the two highest reasons people call for assistance are falls and sickness.

Responding to query by Commissioner Welch, Mr. Fogarty indicated that the growth in calls has impacted the long-term forecast of the EMS Fund; that many factors contribute to the

increased number of calls; and that Priority Dispatch will help manage calls that could be addressed by social- and community-type services but end up as 911 calls as part of the county safety net.

In response to queries by Commissioner Peters, Mr. Fogarty related that two advanced life support (ALS) units are sent out currently to a location; that under Priority Dispatch, only one ALS unit would be dispatched in a non-emergency, freeing up the second unit for other calls; and that in a non-emergency, the response time would average 10 minutes and not be longer than 20 minutes. He indicated that call statistics would be kept on the participating providers and periodically shared with the members, and discussion ensued.

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

21. Resolution of the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority establishing Advanced Life Support First Responder Foundational Units. (Companion to Item No.20)

Sitting as the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board adopted Resolution No. 19-29 establishing the Authority's commitment to maintain funding for existing units providing a reduced number of responses due to growth management strategies and confirming a list of Foundational Units. Resolution applies to the Cities of Clearwater, Largo, Safety Harbor, and Seminole, and the Lealman Special Fire District.

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

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

22. Reappointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.

Sitting as the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the reappointments of the following individuals for two-year terms ending April 2021:

- Ms. Karen Mullins as District 1 citizen representative
- Mr. Jorge Mercado as District 7 citizen representative
- Dr. Eric Carver as St. Petersburg College representative

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

23. County Administrator Reports:
- Hurricane Season 2019 Preparedness

Emergency Management Director Cathie Perkins conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Hurricane Preparedness*, noting that the week of May 5 has been declared National Hurricane Preparedness Week.

Ms. Perkins related that Emergency Management has recently trained over 500 people in its Incident Command and Damage Assessment Systems; and that 88 percent of the disaster essential jobs have been filled by County department employees. She discussed the preparation of the Executive Policy Group and noted that the Superintendent of Schools, Sheriff's Office, and County Attorney, among others, engaged in several activities to ensure that all are prepared for the coming season.

Ms. Perkins stated that regardless of the number of storms each year, it is the storm that directly impacts Pinellas County that matters; whereupon, she discussed the four key messages that Emergency Management shares with the community, as follows, and highlighted several tools available on the County website or through its mobile app:

- Know Your Risk
- Make a Plan
- Stay Informed
- Get Involved

Ms. Perkins discussed the need for citizens to prepare and secure their homes and the growing need for people to open their homes to others who may have to evacuate, and related that a Media and Community Day event will be held on June 2.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

24. Public Comment.

Lawrence Rose, Palm Harbor, re Palm Harbor Community Services Agency
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re #2 as a 2nd Amendment right?
Greg Pound, Largo, re truth

COUNTY COMMISSION

25. Appointment to the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Pinellas County Building Services Division Manager Evelyn Spencer appointed as the County Building Official.

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

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

26. County Commission New Business Items:

- MSTU Funding Proposal (Commissioner Gerard)
- "Pinellas County Legislative Day"/Joint Tampa-Bay Legislative Day (Commissioner Long)
- Appointment to the Youth Advisory Committee (Commissioner Seel)
- PSTA Grant Application (Commissioner Seel)
- Culinary Proposal (Commissioner Seel)

MSTU Funding Proposal

Commissioner Gerard presented the Seminole Junior Warhawks Athletic Association's request in the amount of \$17,495.00 for software related to its lightning prediction system and for repairs to the chain-link fence throughout the complex.

In response to query by Commissioner Welch, Office of Management and Budget Director Bill Berger stated that prior to the request, the Municipal Services Taxing Unit fund had a balance of \$356,000 available, and Mr. Burton indicated that a running balance will be provided with each future request.

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

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

Appointment to the Youth Advisory Committee

Chair Seel related that Commissioner Peters has agreed to be appointed to the Committee, effective June 1, 2019, and thanked Commissioner Gerard for her past service.

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

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

Pinellas County Legislative Day/Joint Tampa Bay Legislative Day

Commissioner Long discussed her proposal to coordinate a Pinellas County Legislative Day in Tallahassee on the same day as Pasco and Hillsborough Counties, enabling all three counties to participate in a joint Tampa Bay Legislative Day during the next State Legislative Session in order to advocate on behalf of issues of mutual concern throughout the region.

Commissioner Long provided background information and discussed how a Legislative Day might work; whereupon, Chair Seel indicated that research will continue, and a proposed program will be brought to the Board for approval at a future meeting.

PSTA Grant Application

Referring to a draft letter included in the agenda package, Chair Seel related that the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority has requested that the Board send a letter in support of its Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment Program grant request to Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator K. Jane Williams.

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

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

Culinary Proposal

Referring to information included in the agenda package, Chair Seel discussed a proposal for a feasibility study regarding the creation of a Culinary and Arts Institute and master plan for the former Gulf Coast Art Museum property. She provided background information and stated that she would like to present the proposal to the Tourist Development Council (TDC) at their May 15 budget meeting. Commissioner Gerard noted that she has concerns with the proposal and does not want it presented to the TDC at this time, and discussion ensued concerning the best ways to utilize the property.

Responding to query by Commissioner Long, Chair Seel stated that the feasibility study would cost up to \$100,000; and that a \$2.5 million grant has been secured which would require a \$2.5 million cash match and \$2.5 million in kind. She indicated that her focus is on the feasibility study, which must be completed before identifying where the matching funds would come from and other tangible information; and that the study would focus on whether the idea has any merit, taking into account the needs of the Botanical Gardens and Heritage Village, operating costs and budget, potential partners in the culinary institute, and other matters.

Following lengthy discussion, Chair Seel stated that work will continue on the proposal so that it can be brought back to the Board for approval at a later meeting; and that she would present it to the Tourist Development Council.

27. County Commission Board Reports and Miscellaneous Items.

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

Commissioner Welch

- Florida Local Government Investment Trust
- Hepatitis A outbreak

Commissioner Peters

- Early Learning Coalition
- Tours of various county organizations

Commissioner Justice

- Stormwater/Wastewater Task Force, Gulf Consortium, AmSkills
- Area Agency on Aging luncheon, Knights of Columbus dinner, Superintendent's roundtable luncheon
- USF William Heller Hall, Vincent House, and Palms of Pinellas dedications
- Space use study timetable

Commissioner Gerard

- CareerSource Pinellas Board, Public Safety Coordinating Council, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
- Area Agency on Aging luncheon
- Habitat for Humanity and other dedications

Commissioner Eggers

- Forward Pinellas, Tampa Bay Water, Transportation Management Area Leadership Group, Pinellas County Collaborative
- Memorial Day ceremonies
- Veterans Counseling Veterans suicide forum and related study
- Florida Healthy Kids Corporation
- Pinellas County law enforcement memorial
- Curlew Creek/Smith Bayou public meeting, Federal Aviation Administration workshop

Commissioner Long

- Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority, Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
- Sugar Sand Festival, Earth Day press conference
- Mental Health central receiving facility
- Harvard Business School climate summit

Chair Seel

- Community gardens
- Florida Holocaust Museum security concerns
- Area Agency on Aging award recipient Sally Parks

ADJOURNMENT - 12:59 P.M.

Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By _____
Deputy Clerk