

Pinellas County

*Pinellas County Cooperative Extension
12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo*



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

2:00 P.M.

Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting

Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.

Board of County Commissioners

Dave Eggers, Chair

Charlie Justice, Vice-Chair

Rene Flowers

Pat Gerard

Janet C. Long

Kathleen Peters

Karen Williams Seel

ROLL CALL - 2:03 P.M.

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

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Katherine Carpenter, Board Records Manager; and Sitara Coyle, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION by Reverend Clarence Williams, Greater Mt. Zion AME Church, St. Petersburg.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. Florida Surveyors and Mappers Week Proclamation:
 - Jared Phillips, Professional Surveyor & Mapper, Survey and Mapping Division, Public Works
 - Susan Scholpp, Division Director, Survey and Mapping Division, Public Works

Chair Eggers read a proclamation recognizing the week of March 21 through 27, 2021 as Florida Surveyors and Mappers week, and invited Ms. Scholpp and Mr. Phillips to the podium where they provided input and thanked the Board.

2. Water Matters Month Proclamation:
 - Alexandra Mauer, Environmental Specialist 2, Environmental Management Division, Public Works
 - Robert Kacinko, Electronic Equipment Technician 3, Plant Operations Division, Utilities

Chair Eggers invited Ms. Mauer and Mr. Kacinko to the podium and read a proclamation recognizing April 2021 as Water Matters Month; whereupon, they provided monitoring and equipment updates and thanked the Board.

3. Partner Presentation:
 - Amanda Rice, P.E., Assistant Executive Director, Southwest Florida Water Management District

Referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Rice provided information in regard to the District's mission and strategic plan and discussed future large-scale projects and funding.

4. Business Partner Presentation:
 - Claudia Johnson, CEO, Grand Hacienda

Ms. Johnson provided background information regarding her three businesses and thanked Pinellas County for assistance during the pandemic.

LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

5. Local State of Emergency.

Mr. Burton introduced the item, indicating that the proposed resolution would extend the Local State of Emergency through March 19; whereupon, Department of Health (DOH) in Pinellas County Director Dr. Ulyee Choe provided a one-year overview of COVID-related data, indicating that the cumulative number of cases and deaths in Pinellas County over the last year is 68,085 and 1,432, respectively.

Dr. Choe provided an update regarding current COVID-19 data trends, noting that there has been improvement in case counts and the number of COVID-occupied hospital beds over the past week; and that DOH is monitoring all cases with variants, especially those that occur after being fully vaccinated. He advised the continuation of preventive measures, such as wearing a face covering and practicing social distancing.

In regard to COVID vaccine distribution efforts, Dr. Choe noted that 52 percent of the 65 years of age and older population are fully vaccinated, which is about 17 percent of the total population of Pinellas County; and that an additional 10,000 veterans have been vaccinated through the Bay Pines VA Medical System. He related that the Governor has expanded the priority groups to include law enforcement officers, firefighters, and K-12 school employees 50 years of age and older, and reduced barriers for the medically vulnerable to receive vaccinations.

Dr. Choe provided information regarding the County partnerships with emergency management, fire, paramedics, DOH staff, and community groups, and responding to queries and comments by the members, he and Mr. Burton discussed the following pertaining to the vaccine and other related matters:

- Locations for administration
- Availability of appointments
- North county vaccination site
- State reporting system
- Decrease in demand for vaccinations within current priority groups
- Health equity initiatives

Upon call by the Chair for public comment, the following individuals expressed their opinions:

Jill Gibbs, Clearwater
Dawn Bohler, St. Petersburg
Shannon Brooks, Clearwater
Greg Pound, Largo
Lisa O'Donnell, St. Petersburg
Laura Bradshaw, Palm Harbor

Bruce Feldman, Dunedin
David Happe, Tarpon Springs
Dawn Lechner, Clearwater

Discussion ensued, with input from Mr. Burton, pertaining to the mask ordinance and concerns regarding spring break visitors.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Justice, seconded by Commissioner Peters, that the order extending the Local State of Emergency be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Resolution No. 21-17 adopted extending the Local State of Emergency established in Resolution No. 20-16 until 3:00 P.M. on March 19, 2021.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

6. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor (submitted documents)
Greg Pound, Largo
Pastor Mack Johnson, Largo
David Lee, St. Petersburg

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 7 through 19 (Item 16 addressed under Regular Agenda)

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

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

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

7. Minutes of the in-person and virtual regular meeting held January 12, 2021.

8. Vouchers and bills paid from January 24 through February 13, 2021.

Period: January 24 through January 30, 2021

Accounts Payable - \$29,630,155.26

Payroll - None

Period: January 31 through February 6, 2021

Accounts Payable - \$50,313,236.93

Payroll - \$4,111,868.75

Period: February 7 through February 13, 2021

Accounts Payable - \$16,945,361.10

Payroll - None

Reports received for filing:

9. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2021-03 dated February 16, 2021 - Audit of Building & Development Review Services - Phase II.
10. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2021-04 dated February 17, 2021 - Audit of Risk Management Driver License Transcript Data Exchange.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

11. City of Tarpon Springs Ordinance No. 2020-32 adopted January 26, 2021, annexing certain property.
12. Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue Public Facilities Annual Notice of Change Report.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

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

Authorization granted. Assets to be liquidated through public auction conducted by Tampa Machinery Auction and Royal Auctions under provisions of existing contracts. Distribution of proceeds approved as recommended in the Staff Report.

County Administrator

14. Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending February 19, 2021.

Public Works

15. Joint Project Agreement with the City of Pinellas Park for development of an updated Roosevelt Creek Watershed Management Plan.

(County PID No. 004238A) Agreement approved for shared project costs of \$356,772.50, with the County portion being 58 percent, or \$206,928.00. Total project costs of \$713,545.00 include an additional \$356,772.50 to be funded by SWFWMD.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

17. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney, or counsel provided through insurance, in the case of Paulina Perez-Allende v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 20-004779-CI-11 - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Housing Finance Authority

18. Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County: 2020 Annual Report.
19. Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County: 2020 Annual Report on the Pinellas County Housing Trust Fund Program.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Utilities

16. Ranking of firms and agreement with Wade Trim, Inc. for professional engineering services pertaining to the Wastewater Collection System master plan.

Ranking of firms and Contract No. 190-0063-NC approved in an amount not to exceed \$9,410,160.00; project to be completed within 1,826 consecutive calendar days.

In response to queries by the members, Utilities Director Megan Ross, with input from Director of Administrative Services Joe Lauro, explained that the original project in the amount of \$284,000 was de-scoped to reduce costs and fees lowering the project to \$75,000; that nine sub-consultants were affected by this reduction, not only Small Business Enterprise (SBE) firms; and that additional details regarding this capital project will be presented at the May 6 workshop.

Referring to members' concerns regarding the process for utilizing SBE, Mr. Burton explained that this agreement differs from construction and is dictated by State law.

Upon call by the Chair for public comment, David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, expressed his concerns.

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

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

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Flowers

Attorney White left the meeting at 4:31 P.M.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

At this time, 4:48 P.M., Chair Eggers left the meeting and Vice-Chair Justice assumed the gavel.

20. Honorary and Philanthropic Naming Rights Policy.

Mr. Burton introduced the item, relating that staff is requesting direction on the policy in consideration of the renaming requests recently received from the Fred G. Minnis Sr. Bar Association and Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives Chris Sprowls.

Upon Acting-Chair Justice's call for public comment, the following individuals expressed their opinions:

Jack Latvala, Dunedin
Jason Minnis, Brooklyn, New York
Danielle Weaver-Rogers, Largo
Jack Day, St. Petersburg
Jeannine Williams, Largo
Leon Jackson, St. Petersburg
Senator Darryl Rouson, St. Petersburg

In response to query by Commissioner Gerard, Chief Assistant County Attorney Don Crowell indicated that the Pinellas County Law Library has consolidated to one location, which is in the Old Historic Courthouse.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that the Pinellas County Law Library be renamed in honor of Fred G. Minnis, Sr. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

During lengthy discussion regarding alternative renaming options relating to the request seeking that the Pinellas County Justice Center be renamed after the late State Attorney Bernie McCabe, Commissioner Seel moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the State Attorney's Wing within the Pinellas County Justice Center be renamed in his honor.

In response to query by Acting-Chair Justice, Attorney Crowell advised that the motion should include waiving the policy restriction that limits naming to individuals that have been deceased for at least five years; whereupon, Commissioner Seel amended her motion and Commissioner Peters expressed her support concerning the original request to name the Justice Center in honor of Bernie McCabe, and discussion continued.

A motion was made by Commissioner Seel, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the Board waive the policy restriction and rename the State Attorney's Wing within the Pinellas County Justice Center in honor of Bernie McCabe. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Seel

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Peters

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

Acting-Chair Justice indicated that there is consensus among the members to defer a discussion regarding amending the policy to a later date.

Airport

21. Airport accounts receivable write-off.

In accordance with Resolution No. 05-61, the Board approved a write-off totaling \$12,000 for the period of October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

Economic Development

22. Resolution and First Amendment of Joinder to Interlocal Agreement approving the issuance of not-to-exceed \$1,200,000.00 for projects located in Pinellas County, of Industrial Development Revenue Bonds by Florida Development Finance Corporation.

Resolution No. 21-18 adopted approving the amendment, clarifying that the \$1,200,000.00 limit is regarding the total funding for projects in Pinellas County and not the total amount of the entire FDFC bond being issued. Issuance of the bond to Waste Pro USA provides financing for the acquisition, construction, and equipping of solid waste disposal facilities.

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

Aye: 5 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 2 - Chair Eggers, and Commissioner Flowers

Human Services

23. Amendments to the Health Care for the Homeless Co-Applicant Board Bylaws and Co-Applicant Agreement and the Co-Applicant Board roster.

The Board approved amendments to the bylaws, agreement, and roster as noted in the Staff Report.

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

Aye: 5 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 2 - Chair Eggers, and Commissioner Flowers

Parks and Conservation Resources

24. Interlocal agreement with the City of Dunedin for purchase of the Gladys Douglas property.

In accordance with Resolution No. 21-6, the Board ratified the agreement providing funding in the amount of \$3,500,000.00, with \$1,500,000.00 eligible for reimbursement to the County from the Florida Communities Trust Grant.

In response to a comment by Commissioner Gerard regarding the grant, Mr. Burton indicated that the grant will be awarded in July.

Commissioner Seel thanked staff and the community for their efforts in acquisition and preservation of the property; whereupon, in response to her query, Mr. Burton related that the County applied for the grant in an amount up to \$2,400,000.00, with \$900,000.00 allocated for future capital improvements on the property.

With regard to the expected timeline for the property to be open to the public, Commissioner Seel expressed her concerns.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Business Technology Services

25. First Amendment to the Agreement with Bourntec Solutions, Inc. for additional services pertaining to the continued effort to upgrade the County's Oracle Enterprise Resource Planning system.

(Contract No. 190-0719-G) Amendment approved increasing the contract amount by \$1,030,800.60 for a revised not to exceed total of \$1,580,800.60, effective through September 2, 2023.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

CareerSource Pinellas

26. Appointment to the WorkNet Pinellas d/b/a CareerSource Pinellas Board of Directors (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Lisa Cane appointed to serve as representative of the Pinellas County School Board for an indefinite term.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

Emergency Medical Services Authority

27. Appointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the following appointments for terms ending August 2022:

- Pinellas Park Mayor Sandra Bradbury as the Mayor's Council representative
- Captain Eric Dinan as the City of St. Petersburg Fire Chief alternate representative

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

COUNTY ATTORNEY

28. Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority v. AvMed, Inc. d/b/a AvMed Health Plans - action for recovery of damages.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

29. County Attorney Reports.

- County Redistricting Board Update

Chief Assistant County Attorney Don Crowell related that the County is currently in the process of hiring a consultant; and that appointments to the Board are delayed until late summer; whereupon, in response to query by Commissioner Peters, he indicated that the applicants have been notified of the delay.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

30. County Administrator Reports - None.

COUNTY COMMISSION

31. Appointment to the County Council for Persons with Disabilities (Individual appointment by Commissioner Peters).

Kerry Carlisle appointed for the balance of a two-year term ending May 21, 2021.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

32. Reappointment to the Historic Preservation Board (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Claire Cohn reappointed as an alternate for a three-year term ending December 31, 2023.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chair Eggers

33. County Commission New Business: Pertinent and Timely Committee/Board Updates, Policy Considerations, Administrative/Procedural Considerations, and Other New Business.

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

Commissioner Long

- Request to send a letter to the Secretary of Transportation regarding bridge funds

Commissioner Seel

- Council of North County Neighborhoods (CNCN) meeting
- Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Commissioner Seel provided comments regarding the virtual CNCN meeting scheduled for March 15 and in response to her query, Ms. Carpenter explained what the board reporter's role is in recording the meeting and writing minutes; whereupon, Chief Assistant County Attorney Don Crowell advised the Board on best practices during the meeting, in compliance with Sunshine Law.

Continuing, Commissioner Seel thanked Aubrey Phillips for her hard work on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, and in response to her query, Mr. Burton affirmed that staff will provide the Commissioners with more information pertaining to the vendor.

Acting-Chair Justice

- Condolences to the family of Belleair's late Mayor Gary Katica
- Sympathies to Tampa Bay Police Department for their loss of Master Patrol Officer Jesse Madsen
- Deputy Michael J. Magli Memorial Fund and local Police Benevolent Association contribution efforts on behalf of the Magli family

Meeting Recessed: 5:40 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.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Countywide Planning Authority

34. Case No. CW 21-04 - City of Largo
Countywide Plan Map amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Office, regarding 7.39 acres more or less, located at 6021 142nd Avenue North.

Ordinance No. 21-07 adopted approving Case No. CW 21-04. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, recommended approval of the amendment, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

Aye: 5 - Vice-Chair Justice, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 2 - Chair Eggers, and Commissioner Long

ADJOURNMENT - 6:03 P.M.

Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By _____
Deputy Clerk