

# **Pinellas County**

*315 Court Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756*



## **Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2023**

**9:30 A.M.**

**Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting**

**5th Floor Assembly Room**

## **Board of County Commissioners**

*Janet C. Long, Chair  
Kathleen Peters, Vice-Chair  
Dave Eggers  
Rene Flowers  
Charlie Justice  
Chris Latvala  
Brian Scott*

**ROLL CALL - 9:31 A.M.**

**Present:** 7 - Chair Janet C. Long, Vice-Chair Kathleen Peters, Dave Eggers, Rene Flowers, Charlie Justice, Chris Latvala, and Brian Scott

**Others Present:** Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Derelynn Revie, Board Recorders Manager; and Shirley Westfall, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

**INVOCATION****PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. Engineers Week Proclamation:
  - Craig Osanski, Engineer 3, Utilities
  - Nancy Lamagna, Engineer 3, Public Works

Chair Long read a proclamation recognizing the week of February 12 through 18, 2023 as Engineering Week; whereupon, Mr. Osanski and Ms. Lamagna provided brief remarks.

2. Partner Presentation:
  - Mike Sutton, President and Chief Executive Officer, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties

Mr. Sutton conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Pinellas County Partnership* and provided an overview of the organization, including details regarding the populations and areas served, the requirements customers must fulfill in order to qualify for assistance, and other matters.

Deviating from the agenda, Chair Long indicated that Commissioner Peters wishes to attend the meeting virtually and asked for the will of the Board.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Eggers, that Commissioner Peters be allowed to participate virtually. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Long, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

**Absent:** 1 - Vice-Chair Peters

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

3. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

Steve Cleveland, no address given  
Angela Taylor Sweet, St. Petersburg  
David Happe, Tarpon Springs  
Jabril Omar Kidd, Largo  
Greg Pound, Largo  
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor  
Mack Johnson, Largo

Members offered their thanks to Mr. Cleveland regarding the work done in Lealman for the upcoming Honey and Arts Festival.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**All public hearing items have been properly advertised. Affidavits of Publications have been received and are on file in the Board Records Department.**

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Countywide Planning Authority

4. Case No. CW 23-01 - City of St. Petersburg  
Countywide Plan Map amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Residential Low Medium, regarding 4.4 acres more or less, located at 2624, 2642, 2702, 2710, 2714, 2720, and 2730 Union Street and Lakewood Estates Section H, Block B, Lots 6-11 and Block C Lots 6-12 and Lots 20-26.

Ordinance No 23-1 adopted approving Case No. CW 23-01. 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 that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

**CONSENT AGENDA - Items 5 through 13 (Item No. 10 addressed under Regular Agenda)**

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

**CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER**

- 5. Minutes of the regular meeting held December 13, 2022.  
**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**
- 6. Vouchers and bills paid from January 1 through 21, 2023.

Period January 1 - 7, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$86,792,214.87  
Payroll - \$4,242,481.23

Period January 8 - 14, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$12,248,196.32  
Payroll - None

Period January 15 - 21, 2023

Accounts Payable - \$11,017,715.06  
Payroll - \$4,305,285.63  
**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

Reports received for filing:

- 7. Quarterly Donation Listing of \$1,000 or more for the quarter ended December 2022.  
**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**
- 8. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2023-01 dated January 16, 2023 - Observation of the Surplus Department's Annual Physical Inventory of Fixed Assets.  
**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**
- 9. Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2023-02 dated January 20, 2023 - Follow-up Audit of the Observation of the Utilities South General Maintenance Division's 2021 Annual Physical Inventory of Fixed Assets.  
**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

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

Surplus declared and 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.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

12. Quarterly report of claim settlements for the period of October 1, through December 30, 2022.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

Public Works

13. Award of bid to Temple, Inc. for Uninterruptible Power Source Batteries and Traffic Solar Flashers.

Contract No. 23-0148-ITB-Goods awarded in a total not-to-exceed amount of \$331,820.00, on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid. Agreement is effective for a 12-month period, includes four 12-month extensions beyond the primary term to allow for price adjustments, and replaces the current contract, as detailed in the Staff Report.

**The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

10. Award of bid to Smith Industries, Inc. d/b/a Smith Fence Company for fencing, gate operators, and handrails.

Contract No. 23-0054-ITB in a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,540,868.20 (County expenditure) for a 36-month term awarded on the basis of being the only responsive, responsible bid received. Contract replaces the current contract and contains a provision for price adjustments annually, to commence one year from the date of the award, as set forth in the Staff Report. This is a Tampa Bay Area Purchasing Cooperative contract.

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, appeared and expressed his concerns.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

- 14. Purchase authorization with ServiceWear Apparel Inc. for requirements of uniforms.

Contract No. 23-0380-Piggyback approved in an estimated total expenditure amount of \$356,250.00 (estimated annual expenditure, \$285,000.00), effective through May 31, 2024. The contract replaces a prior contract.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

- 15. Resolution approving the establishment and formation of the Auditor Selection Committee for the new external auditor contract.

Resolution No. 23-11 adopted.

Mr. Burton noted that the committee is required by Florida Statute; and that it would consist of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, and an appointment from the BCC; whereupon, responding to a query by Chair Long, Administrative Services Director Joe Lauro indicated that Timothy Shoby was appointed at the last BCC meeting to represent the Board on the committee.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

Public Works

- 16. Purchase authorization with Control Technologies, Inc. for traffic signal electrical facility parts related to the State Road 60 Smart Corridor Project.

Contract No. 22-0347-Piggyback approved in the not-to-exceed amount of \$943,249.20, effective through April 5, 2023.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

17. Transportation Regional Incentive Program Agreement and corresponding Resolution with the Florida Department of Transportation for the construction of the Advanced Traffic Management System/Intelligent Transportation System on I-175/I-375/Bayshore Drive Downtown St. Petersburg Project.

(FDOT Financial Project No. 436678 1 54 01; County PID No. 002599A) Agreement approved in the amount of \$1,532,860.00 provided by FDOT (total construction cost, \$6,470,266.00; County portion, \$4,938,406.00) for a term expiring June 24, 2026. Resolution No. 23-12 adopted authorizing the BCC Chairman to execute and the Clerk to attest the agreement.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

### Utilities

18. Grant agreement with Florida Department of Environmental Protection for reliability improvements at four County Utilities Department facilities.

Mr. Burton requested that the item be removed and addressed at a later meeting.

**A motion was made that the item be withdrawn. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

## AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

### Emergency Medical Services Authority

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

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the following appointments and reappointments for two-year terms ending December 2024:

#### Appointments

- Brent Burish as a Hospital Administrator representative
- Dr. Adam Copher as a Hospital Administrator alternate representative

Reappointments

- Dr. Stephen Feilinger as an Emergency Physician representative
- Dr. Matt Nelson as an Emergency Physician alternate representative

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

## COUNTY ATTORNEY

- 20.** Arbitration determination in the case of Pepper Contracting Services, Inc. v. Pinellas County; Circuit Civil Case No. 19-004542-CI.

County Attorney White indicated that no action by the Board is requested at this time, as the arbitration decision has not been received from the court; and that the matter will be brought back at a later time.

**No action taken.**

- 21.** County Attorney Reports. - None.

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- 22.** County Administrator Reports.
- \$10 million received from the State for Septic to Sewer Program
  - Insurance Renewal Costs

Septic to Sewer Program funding update

Mr. Burton reported that \$10 million in funds received from the State toward the program will be matched with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and used toward providing more residents with access to the public sewer system.

Insurance Renewal Costs

Mr. Burton informed the members that the County's property and liability insurance renewal is due soon; and that in spite of making policy limit adjustments, the cost will increase from approximately \$12 million to \$14 million due to rising prices across the board, and discussion ensued.

Responding to queries by the members, Department of Administrative Services Insurance Manager Richard Kahler provided information regarding the County's insurance coverage, carriers, and the aforementioned adjustments. He noted that the County's insurance loss history is stellar and reiterated that the cost increase is due to the insurance market.



Commissioner Peters encouraged the members to join National Association of Counties (NACo) for educational purposes and indicated that there are actions the Congress can take to relieve some insurance-related burden on the citizens, noting the issues with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and Chair Long provided input; whereupon, in response to comments by the members, Mr. Burton indicated that discussions about the County's reserve levels and various inflationary increases, including insurance costs, will be included in the BCC budget sessions later in the year.

## COUNTY COMMISSION

- 23.** Appointment to the Lealman Community Redevelopment Area Advisory Committee (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Dominic Howarth appointed for a term of three years, beginning January 1, 2023 and expiring December 31, 2025.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

- 24.** County Commission New Business: Pertinent and Timely Committee/Board Updates, Policy Considerations, Administrative/Procedural Considerations, and other New Business:  
- Skyway Lighting Resolutions

The Commissioners provided updates regarding their assigned boards and committees and discussed various issues, as follows:

### Commissioner Latvala

- Commemorated five years after the Parkland shooting
- ARPA funding for non-profit organizations

**A motion was made by Commissioner Latvala, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that ARPA funding for African People's Education and Defense Fund in the amount of \$36,801 be revoked; whereupon, Commissioner Latvala accepted a friendly amendment by Commissioner Flowers, adding that the funding would go back into the same pool of funds it came from. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

### Commissioner Eggers

- Forward Pinellas
- Successful recent event by the John Morroni Foundation, recognizing first responders
- The City of Dunedin welcomed back the Toronto Blue Jays for spring training
- 2023 Governor's Baseball Dinner to be held on February 16 at TD Ballpark in Dunedin

- Gladys E. Douglas Preserve trail opening on February 25
- Appreciation of the engineering profession
- Happy Valentine's Day wishes

#### Commissioner Scott

- Continuing the County "listening tour" by visiting the Fleet Management and Animal Services departments
- Walking tour of West Klosterman Preserve
- Walking history tour in the City of Tarpon Springs

#### Commissioner Flowers

- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
- Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Leadership Summit on May 3-5
- CareerSource Pinellas Board
- Tampa Bay Water
- ARPA funding

#### Commissioner Justice

- Visit St. Pete/Clearwater marketing update at Ruth Eckerd Hall's 2023 Annual Partner Meeting

#### Commissioner Long

- Resignation of BCC Executive Assistant Nicole Coats
- BCC office operations discussion
- Invitation to the White House and meeting with President Joe Biden
- Beach renourishment
- Skyway bridge lighting resolutions
- Recommendation of appointment of Commissioner Peters to the Human Rights Board

Later in the meeting, Attorney White stated that the members must vote to confirm the appointment.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Justice, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, that Commissioner Peters be appointed to serve on the Human Rights Board. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

Skyway Lighting Resolution

Resolution No. 23-13 approved supporting the Florida Department of Transportation lighting of the Bob Graham Sunshine Skyway Bridge in support of Mental Health Awareness month during May 21 - 28, 2023.

Responding to a query by Chair Long, County Attorney White clarified that the master Skyway Bridge resolution approved by the Board at the previous BCC meeting did not include certain organizations and/or causes; that any upcoming resolutions addressing those omitted will contain language indicating that they are approved for the future; and that the organizations would be added to the master list resolution, which will be brought for the Board's consideration annually.

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

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Long, Vice-Chair Peters, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Justice Commissioner Latvala, and Commissioner Scott

**ADJOURNMENT - 11:28 A.M.**

*Janet C. Long*  
Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By *Deborah Lewis*  
Deputy Clerk

