Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

333 Chestnut Street, Palm Room
Clearwater, FL 33756
pinellas.gov

Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 10, 2026

2:00 P.M.

Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.

Dave Eggers, Chair
Chris Latvala, Vice-Chair
Rene Flowers
Vince Nowicki
Kathleen Peters
Chris Scherer
Brian Scott

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

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

1. 26-1366A Remembrance Day Proclamation:
- Rick Graham, Fire Chief, Lealman Fire Rescue
- Andrew Hughes, Fire Chief, Pinellas Park Fire Department
- Chad Pittman, Fire Chief, Clearwater & Fire Rescue
- Scott Sanford, Fire Chief, Palm Harbor Fire Rescue

2. 26-1365A Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation:
Intercultural Advocacy Institute - Hispanic Outreach Center
- Amanda Markiewicz, Chief Executive Director
- Mica Julian, Director of Advocacy and Support Services
- Liz Mendez, Director of Community Impact and Development

3. 26-1435A Find the Good Day Proclamation:
Junior League of Clearwater - Dunedin
Malena Allison, President
Beth Cardenas, President Elect
Felicia Marinan, Vice President of Membership

4. 26-1367A National Vascular Disease Proclamation

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

5. 26-1179A Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 6 through 12

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

6. 26-1437A Minutes of the regular meeting held July 21, 2026.

7. 26-1438A Vouchers and bills paid from July 26 through August 15, 2026.

Reports received for filing:

8. 26-1439A Report of Expenditures Incurred Under the Incentives, Awards, and Recruitment Ordinance No. 07-26, Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 3.

9. 26-1440A Division of Inspector General, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Report No. 2026-24, dated August 14, 2026 - Audit of Mitigating Controls for the Fastpath Application.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

10. 26-1441A Clearwater Cay Community Development District Annual Appropriation Resolution 2026-08.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Construction and Property Management

11. 26-1260A Declare surplus and authorize the sale or donation of miscellaneous County-owned equipment.

Recommendation: Declare miscellaneous County-owned office furniture, computers, and programmatic equipment (Equipment) transferred from Board of County Commissioners departments, constitutional offices, and appointing authorities (Departments) as surplus. This declaration of surplus will enable the County to donate or sell at auction Equipment, not otherwise repurposed, listed in the attached files (Auction Items).

- The owning Department has determined the Auction Items are at end of its intended purpose or useful life and has transferred to Construction and Property Management's (CPM) surplus warehouse.
- There are 53 lots to be sold in this auction:
  - Assets: Tire Balancer, Scanner, Folder Inserter, Solar Power Unit, Queuing System
  - Non-Assets: Traffic Control Equipment, Computer monitors, desktop computers, docking stations, IT accessories, battery backups, printers, printer ink, mailing equipment, bicycles, bicycle trailers, rolling shelves, and commercial appliances.
- At commencement of the auction cycle, a list of the Auction Items is sent to various agencies, other governmental entities, and non-profits (Agencies) for possible donation before listing for sale at auction.
- During non-auction cycles, prior to becoming Auction Items, the Equipment is available through CPM's Surplus SharePoint website for all other Departments to view and repurpose.
- GovDeals.com will conduct the public auction in accordance with the County's agreement.
- This declaration, by itself, has no fiscal impact on Pinellas County. The total estimated revenue is unknown at this time because the final sale will be conducted via a public auction.
- These revenues are not budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2026 Adopted Budget and will generate unanticipated revenue for the funds that owned the sold or donated asset.

Public Works

12. 26-0972A Award of bid to Cathcart Construction Company - Florida, LLC for Philippe Park Wastewater Collection System improvements.

Recommendation: Approval of the award of bid to Cathcart Construction Company - Florida, LLC, for Philippe Park Wastewater Collection System improvements (PID 000341G).

- This contract will provide for installation of a new wastewater collection system consisting of approximately 2,800 linear feet of force main and four wastewater pumping stations in Philippe Park that will replace four onsite septic collection systems. The new system will connect to the City of Safety Harbor's wastewater collection system through the existing Lift Station No. 614.
- Two bids were received with an award recommendation to Cathcart Construction Company - Florida, LLC in the amount of $3,795,860.00 as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, with all work to be completed within 365 consecutive calendar days from issuance of notice to proceed.
- The Small Business Enterprise commitment for this project is 10%.
- Funding for this project is available under Philippe Park Wastewater Collection System Improvements project (000341G) and CW Park Utility Infrastructure project (000341A), included in the Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Plan, funded by the Capital Projects Fund, in the amount of $3,795,860.00. Funding sources include Local Infrastructure Sales Surtax (Penny for Pinellas) and State grant with Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

Contract No. 26-0275-ITB-C, in the amount of $3,795,860.00, with all work to be completed in 365 consecutive calendar days; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Airport

13. 26-1147A Airline Operating and Use Agreement with Allegiant Air, LLC for the operation of scheduled commercial air service at the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport.

Recommendation: Approval of the Airline Operating and Use Agreement (Agreement) with Allegiant Air, LLC (Allegiant) for operation of scheduled air service at the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE).

- The new five-year Agreement for Fiscal Years (FY) 2027 through 2031 will provide PIE revenues of approximately $22.8M representing a 61% increase over the prior Agreement for FY20-25 (FY25-26 was a second amendment extension) valued at approximately $14.2M.
- PIE has an estimated $3.4B annual regional economic impact as a result of this increased passenger growth (by Florida Aviation Economic Impact Study - 2022).
- In 2025, Allegiant transported 2.8M passengers to/from PIE. In 2026 so far, Allegiant has transported 1.4M passengers and now services 65 non-stop destinations.
- This Agreement is not budgeted for in the FY26 Adopted or FY27 Proposed Budget of PIE in the Airport Revenue and Operating Fund. Upon approval of this item, OMB will recommend a change to the FY27 Proposed Budget and user fees to include the figures in the Agreement. This agreement adds approximately $1.042M of new revenue and reserve expenditures to the FY27 Proposed Budget for PIE. Following approval of this agreement, Airline revenue will have a FY27 Budget of $4.211M and Reserves for Future Years will have a FY27 Budget of $86.874M for future CIP. Based on projections and key assumptions in the Airport Revenue and Operating Fund Forecast, the revenue proposed in this agreement maintains fund solvency and ensures planned CIP projects are funded through at least FY31. Subject to future fiscal year budgets, the County maintains the authority to terminate this agreement.

Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

14. 26-1369A Award of bid to Hubbard Construction Company for Fiscal Year 2026 Airfield Pavement Rehabilitation.

Recommendation: Approval of the award of bid to Hubbard Construction Company for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Airfield Pavement Rehabilitation.

- The objective of the project is to use the air-pavement maintenance budget for FY26 to effect repairs to distressed pavement on the airfield.
- Four bids were received and provided to Mohsen Design Group Incorporated, the Engineer of Record (EOR), for evaluation and recommendation. The EOR has confirmed that Hubbard Construction Company is the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, qualified and acceptable for this project in the amount of $522,183.40, with all work to be completed within 45 consecutive calendar days.
- The Small Business Enterprise commitment for this project is 8%.
- This request is budgeted for in the FY26 Budget for the St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport Revenue and Operating Fund. In the event that future fiscal year funding is not available for this agreement, the County maintains the authority to terminate this agreement.

Contract No. 26-0722-ITB-C in the total not-to-exceed amount of $522,183.40, for a duration of 45 consecutive calendar days from issuance of notice to proceed; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

County Administrator

15. 26-1402A First Amendment to the Municipal Services Taxing Unit Special Project Funding Agreement with Whispering Souls African American Cemetery, Inc. to support the establishment of irrigation infrastructure and the acquisition of a storage shed.

Recommendation: Approval of the First Amendment to Whispering Souls Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) project funding request, extending the project timeline to support the establishment of irrigation infrastructure and the acquisition of a storage shed.

Additionally, delegate authority to the County Administrator to execute the amendment.

- The amendment will extend the grant project timeline from September 30, 2026, until September 30, 2027.
- The Project has been delayed due to issues with a contractor. Given these delays, the Project will require a contract extension to allow sufficient time to complete the work.
- This amendment has no fiscal impact because Whispering Souls Cemetery has already received an allocation of $6,625.00. Including this already approved project, a total of $312,861.25 remains available in FY26 for additional Board-approved MSTU projects.

16. 26-1403A First Amendment to the Municipal Services Taxing Unit Special Project Funding Agreement with Keep Tierra Verde Beautiful for median enhancements located within the Monte Cristo, Entrada, East Shore, and West Shore neighborhoods in Tierra Verde.

Recommendation: Approval of the First Amendment to the Keep Tierra Verde Beautiful (KTVB) 2026 Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU) Funding Agreement, extending the project timeline for the nonprofit's Median Enhancements project through September 30, 2027.

Additionally, delegate authority to the County Administrator to execute the amendment.

- The amendment will extend the grant project timeline from September 18, 2026, until September 30, 2027.
- The previous award was designated to irrigate and plant Florida-Friendly plants in the County-owned medians. A portion of the funding has been used to support the irrigation, however, the project has put on hold to allow the County and nonprofit time to create a collaborative plan for the medians.
- The approval of this extension will allow the nonprofit to work in conjunction with Public Works to provide additional Florida-Friendly plantings and allow community input into the project.
- This amendment has no fiscal impact because KTVB has already received an allocation of $20,000.00. Including this already approved project, a total of $312,861.25 remains available in Fiscal Year 2026 for additional Board-approved MSTU projects.

17. 26-1300A Resolution designating and approving an updated list of Code Inspector job titles.

Recommendation: Adoption of a resolution designating and approving an updated list of Code Inspector job titles. Florida Law authorizes the designation or authorization of those employees or agents whose duty it is to ensure code compliance (code inspectors).

- This resolution updates code inspector job titles previously designated in Resolution No. 25-42 and confirms employees holding job titles designated as code inspectors to administer provisions of Chapter 705, Florida Statutes.
- In addition to designating job titles, the resolution restates the delegated authority to the County Administrator to modify job titles due to internal reorganization/rebranding and remove job titles, though wholly new job titles must be designated by the Board.
- This year's resolution includes delegated changes to job titles, as well as the proposed addition of wholly new titles to be designated by the Board. A redline/blueline version identifying the changes is provided as an attachment, along with a clean version of the resolution for adoption.
- Department directors are required to identify employees who hold designated job titles and perform code enforcement functions, so those employees receive a protected class designation from Human Resources, as previously stated in Resolution 20-144.
- Current and former designated code inspectors are entitled to an exemption under Florida's Public Records Law (Ch. 119, Florida Statutes). Specifically, their home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs are exempt. The names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of their spouses and children, as well as the names and locations of schools and daycare facilities attended by their children, are also exempt.

Human Services

18. 26-1311A Agreement with 211 Tampa Bay Cares d/b/a First Contact for the administration of the Adult Emergency Financial Assistance Program.

Recommendation: Approval of the agreement with 211 Tampa Bay Cares d/b/a First Contact for the administration of the Adult Emergency Financial Assistance Program.

- This contract provides for the administration and disbursement of financial assistance for adults without minor children facing a qualifying emergency need.
- Two firms submitted proposals. Following written evaluations, First Contact was the highest-ranked firm and is recommended for the award.
- The initial term of the agreement is for five years with a not-to-exceed amount of $7,261,217.00.
- Funding for this agreement is included in the Fiscal Year 2027 Proposed Budget for Human Services within the General Fund. Funding for future years is dependent on approval in the annual County Operating Budget.

Contract No. 26-0291-RFP; in the not to exceed amount of $7,261,217.00, effective for five years; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

19. 26-0788A Agreements with St. Vincent de Paul CARES, Inc. and 211 Tampa Bay Cares d/b/a First Contact for Rapid Rehousing Service Provider and Rapid Rehousing Fiscal Administration Collaborative Rapid Rehousing Program, respectively.

Recommendation: Approval of agreements with St. Vincent de Paul CARES, Inc. and 211 Tampa Bay Cares d/b/a First Contact for the Rapid Rehousing Service Provider (RRSP) and Rapid Rehousing Fiscal Administration (RRFA) services for the County's collaborative Rapid Rehousing Program, respectively.

- These agreements will provide RRSP services, including housing navigation and case management services for individuals and families with minor-aged children experiencing homelessness, and RRFA services to administer the collaborative direct assistance funding pool established by the Human Services Department (County) and the City of St. Petersburg (City).
- Five firms submitted proposals. Following written evaluations, the two top-ranked firms are recommended for the award to continue partnerships with the City, the Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas, and the local Continuum of Care governing body.
- The initial term of both agreements is thirty-six months, with a service start date of October 1, 2026, in the total contract amount of $3,999,303.74 including the County's direct service funding pool.
- Funding for this agreement is included in the Fiscal Year 2027 Proposed Budget for Human Services within the General Fund. Funding for future years is dependent on approval in the annual County Operating Budget.

Contracts 26-0449-RFP for a combined total amount of $3,999,303.74, effective October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2029; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

20. 26-1262A Funding recommendations from the Substance Abuse Advisory Board for the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Trust Fund.

Recommendation: Approval of funding recommendations from the Substance Abuse Advisory Board (SAAB) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Alcohol and Drug Abuse Trust Fund (Trust Fund) program, and delegation of authority to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to sign all associated agreements and documentation.

- Only July 16, 2026, the SAAB recommended four nonprofit licensed substance use treatment providers to receive an FY27 Trust Fund award totaling $35,000:
  - WestCare - Therapeutic Environment Project $7,389.75
  - PAR - Largo Campus Kitchen Equipment $8,252.25
  - ELEOS - Client Safety Project $9,358.00
  - Boley - Safe Haven Facility Improvement $10,000.00
- Human Services administered a competitive, online grant application which opened May 20, 2026, and closed June 17, 2026. Five applications were received totaling $47,599.05 in requested funding.
- Trust Fund provides funding to licensed substance use service providers for non-recurring expenditures such as equipment, special projects, training, renovations, and formalized prevention activities. Annual funding for the Trust Fund is provided through assessment and court fees for alcohol and drug-related charges.
- Funding is budgeted in the Human Services Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget within the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Trust Fund. No match is required.

21. 26-1421A Letters of Agreement and questionnaires in substantially similar forms as required to allow participation in hospital supplemental pay programs for local hospitals for the new program year.

Recommendation: Approval of the Letters of Agreement (LOA) and LOA questionnaires in substantially similar form as required to allow participation in hospital supplemental pay programs for local hospitals for the new program year.

Additionally, delegate authority to the County Administrator for the execution of amendments to the LOA and questionnaires during the program year.

- Executed LOA agreements are required to be submitted to the State Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) by October 1, 2026, to participate in the 2026-2027 State Fiscal Year.
- Due to the anticipated timing of receipt for final agreements, this item seeks approval of the LOA and delegation to the Chair to execute the final LOA when received from AHCA.
- In addition, in order to allow responsiveness during the program year, this item seeks delegated authority to the County Administrator to execute amendments to the initial LOA and questionnaires when changes are required.
- A resolution will still be required on a future Board agenda to establish a non-ad valorem special assessment on specific non-public hospital properties for use as Intergovernmental Transfers (IGTs) under the supplemental payment enhancement programs. The resolution will be presented to the Board for review and adoption upon final model approval at the federal and state level in the coming months.
- The LOA will precede the resolution for the new program year necessitating execution prior to Board resolution adoption. IGTs will not exceed the total available funding in the Local Provider Participation Fund (LPPF) following adoption of the assessment resolution.
- Funding in the amount of $364,273,450.00 is included in the Fiscal Year 2027 Proposed Budget appropriation request as a pass-through payment to AHCA for the LPPF. The County will receive up to $150,000.00 for administration of this program.

Authorize the Chairman to sign the LOA and LOA questionaries.

Utilities

22. 26-1321A Revised Authorizing Agent Approval Form for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application with the Florida Division of Emergency Management for the North Booster Pump Station Hardening project.

Recommendation: Approval of the revised Authorizing Agent Approval Form for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application with the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) for the North Booster Pump Station Hardening project.

- Grant application for project originally submitted July 25, 2025 (Legistar item 25-0867A) due to damage caused by Hurricane Milton in Clearwater.
- Total project costs at that time were estimated at $11,500,000.00, with a federal share request of $8,625,000.00. Chairman Brian Scott signed the original Authorization Form.
- Project was re-scoped and re-submitted with revised total estimated cost of $5,343,273.00, with Federal share request of $4,007,454.75 with a local match of $1,335,818.25.
- FDEM is requiring a revised Form with signature of the 2026 Chairman, with revised total project costs, before recommending funding to Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- Match funding is available under North Booster Pump Station Hardening project 005218A, included in the Proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2027-FY32 Capital Improvement Plan, funded by the Water Renewal and Replacement Fund.

PID No. 005218A; Project estimated total cost is $5,343,273.00, including federal share of $4,007,454.75 and local match of $1,335,818.25; Authorize the Chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Circuit Court to attest.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

23. 26-1454A Amendment to Legal Services Agreement in the case of Pinellas County v. American Empire Builders, Inc., et al. - Circuit Civil Case No. 24-005416-CI.

Recommendation: Approval of Amendment to the Legal Services Agreement in the case of Pinellas County v. American Empire Builders Inc., et al. - Circuit Civil Case No. 24-005416-CI, increasing the total not-to-exceed amount by $435,000.00.

- Funding for this item is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 and FY27 budget in General Government in the General Fund.

24. 26-1181A County Attorney Reports.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

25. 26-1180A County Administrator Reports.

COUNTY COMMISSION

26. 26-1327A Appointments to the Pinellas County Youth Advisory Committee (by the Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Recommendation: Approve appointments to the Youth Advisory Committee. These appointments are made by the Board of County Commissioners as a whole and will begin on September 10, 2026, once approved by the BCC.

- Applicant's names can be viewed on the attached ballot.
- A voice vote to approve applicants listed on the ballot will suffice.

27. 26-1316A Appointments/reappointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.

Recommendation: Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, approve the following appointments/reappointments to the Emergency Medical Services Authority Council (EMSAC) for two-year terms starting September 2026 and ending August 2028.

- Appoint Chief Bill Gorham as the City of Clearwater Fire Chief's primary representative. Chief Gorham is the EMS Chief.
- Reappoint Fire Chief Chad Pittman as the City of Clearwater Fire Chief's alternate representative.
- Appoint Dr. Deanna Stentiford as the St. Petersburg College (SPC) President's primary representative. Dr. Stentiford is SPC's Dean College of Health Sciences.
- Appoint Ralph Sibbio as SPC's President's alternate representative. Mr. Sibbio is SPC's Director of EMS Education & Training.
- A voice vote will suffice.

28. 26-1182A County Commission New Business:
Pertinent and timely Committee/Board updates, policy considerations, administrative/procedural considerations, and other new business:

- County Attorney Contract Negotiations

6:00PM

PUBLIC HEARINGS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

29. 26-1000A Amendment to Ordinance 24-16 adjusting Section 110 Article III to allow exemption from assessment requirements for certain non-public hospital facilities that are granted waivers by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to participate in supplemental pay programs supported by the Local Provider Participation Fund.

Recommendation: Conduct a public hearing and adopt the proposed amendment to Ordinance 24-16 adjusting Section 110 Article III to allow exemption from assessment requirements for certain non-public hospital facilities that are granted waivers by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to participate in supplemental pay programs supported by the Local Provider Participation Fund (LPPF).

- Pinellas County adopted Ordinance 24-16 on April 23, 2024, to establish procedures for Pinellas County Hospitals to participate in the Hospital Directed Payment program and other supplemental Medicaid reimbursement programs established within the State of Florida to help reduce local Medicaid reimbursement gaps.
- This amendment to the ordinance allows for an exemption from assessments for certain facilities when authorized by a waiver requested by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration and granted by the CMS. The waiver process provides flexibility for pursuing annual assessments in alignment with federally defined program guidelines while accounting for service levels and utilization across facility types.
- The amendment will also position the LPPF to support new and evolving supplemental payment and enhanced funding programs as established by CMS and the State of Florida. Currently, the state is exploring a new Managed Care Organization Incentive Program to enhance hospital quality strategies under LPPF programs.
- Pinellas County has facilitated assessments and LPPF Intergovernmental Transfers for local hospital partners for three program years. A separate Legistar item is anticipated on a later Board agenda to bring forward a new assessment resolution for continued participation in year four.
- This amendment by itself has no fiscal impact on Pinellas County.

30. 26-1375A Resolutions adopting tentative millage rates and budgets for Fiscal Year 2027 (First Public Budget Hearing).

Recommendation: Following a public hearing, adopt the resolutions approving the tentative millage rates and budgets for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027.

- On August 11, 2026, the County Administrator delivered the FY27 Proposed Budget to the Board of County Commissioners (Board). The resolutions presented for approval match the budget as proposed, because the Board has not had a formal opportunity to amend until this hearing.
- The maximum ad valorem millage rates were certified to the Property Appraiser on July 28, 2026, for inclusion in the Truth in Millage Notices.
- These notices, which were mailed to all county property taxpayers on August 17, 2026, also contained the notice of the time and place of this public hearing.
- In accordance with Florida Statutes, the percentage increase in the millage rate for all budgets over the rolled-back rate, based upon the maximum rates on the TRIM Notice and subsequent decreases to such rates, to fund the FY27 Tentative Budget is a 0.48% increase over the aggregate rolled-back rate of 6.1284 mills.
- This structurally balanced proposal totals $5.14B across all funds, including $1.125B in the General Fund (growing 0.8% from $1.116B in the FY26 Adopted Budget to $1.125B in the FY27 Proposed Budget) and $1.094B in the Capital Budget, including reserves and transfers.

ADJOURNMENT