Pinellas County

333 Chestnut Street, Palm Room
Clearwater, FL 33756

Minutes - Final

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

2:00 P.M.

Hybrid In-Person and Virtual Regular Meeting

Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.

Board of County Commissioners

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

ROLL CALL - 2:01 P.M.

Present: 7 - Chair Brian Scott, Vice-Chair Dave Eggers, Commissioner René Flowers, Commissioner Chris Latvala, Commissioner Vince Nowicki, Commissioner Kathleen Peters, and Commissioner Chris Scherer

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Derelynn Revie, Board Records Manager; and Jessica Oakes, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION by Commissioner Peters

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Vice-Chair Eggers

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

1. Citizens To Be Heard - Public Comment.

Ralph Hoffman, Palm Harbor
Rob Roberts, Seminole
Ron Walker, Largo
David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor
Greg Pound, Largo

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 2 through 12

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

2. Vouchers and bills paid from July 6 through July 26, 2025.

Period - July 6 through July 12, 2025
Accounts Payable - $10,745,309.96
Payroll - None

Period - July 13 through July 19, 2025
Accounts Payable - $21,399,407.36
Payroll - $4,930,584.60

Period - July 20 through July 26, 2025
Accounts Payable - $25,639,655.70
Payroll - None

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Reports received for filing:

3. Report of Expenditures Incurred Under the Incentives, Awards, and Recruitment Ordinance No. 07-26, Fiscal Year 2025 Quarter 3.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

4. Quarterly Donation Listing of $1,000 or Greater for the quarter ending June 30, 2025, Resolution No. 21-117/Donation Policy.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

5. Affidavit of Publication of Legal Notice published in La Gaceta regarding Notice of Forfeiture of Unclaimed Money pursuant to Section 116.21, Florida Statutes (Circuit/County Court of the Sixth Judicial Circuit in and for Pinellas County, Florida).

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

6. Juvenile Welfare Board FY25 Q3 Financials.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

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

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

County Administrator

8. Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending July 31, 2025.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

Utilities

9. Award of bid to Ace Septic Tank Service of Tampa Inc., Enviroserve Inc., Envirowaste Services Group Inc., Flotech Environmental LLC, Garner Environmental Services Inc., and T. Wayne Hill Trucking Inc. for emergency storm response tanker and pump truck services as needed or required.

Contract 25-0200-ITB awarded to Ace Septic Tank Service of Tampa Inc., Enviroserve Inc., Envirowaste Services Group Inc., Flotech Environmental LLC, Garner Environmental Services Inc., and T. Wayne Hill Trucking Inc. in the total combined amount of $7,726,272.50 on the basis of being the six responsive, responsible contractors who submitted a bid. Contract term of 36 months with a provision for two additional 12-month term extensions. Bid from Republic Services rejected on the basis of being non-responsive to the bid requirements.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

10. Receipt and file report of civil lawsuits filed against Pinellas County as delegated to the County Attorney.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Sheriff's Office

11. Receipt and file report of Sheriff's Office grants received and service contracts for the quarter ending June 30, 2025.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

12. Receipt and file report of the Law Enforcement Trust Fund for the quarter ending June 30, 2025.

The item was approved as part of the Consent Agenda.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA - None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Human Services

13. Agreement with BKN Creative, LLC for marketing services as requested by Human Services.

Contract No. 25-0812-N approved in the not-to-exceed amount of $600,000.00. Contract term of 12 months, with a provision for two 12-month renewals.

Chair Scott indicated that he has had many questions regarding the fiscal effectiveness of the Care About Me (CAM) Program; and that he will reluctantly support the item with the hope that the Program is successful. He also related that he had a recent discussion with Assistant to the County Administrator Matthew Spoor pertaining to establishing metrics for the CAM Program.

Commissioner Eggers indicated that there is a need in the county for this service; whereupon, Commissioner Latvala also provided brief comments regarding the State's interest in the Program.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

14. Funding recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2026 Human Services Social Action Grant Program

Recommendations approved, awarding funding to 18 community agencies in an amount not to exceed $1,705,610.00. Authority delegated to the County Administrator to execute all associated agreements and documentation.

In response to a query by Commissioner Eggers, Human Services Director Karen Yatchum provided details regarding the number of applications recommended for funding by the Social Action Funding Advisory Board. Responding to an additional query by Commissioner Eggers regarding whether Neighborly Senior Care Network applied for funding, Ms. Yatchum related that while she does not see them on the list of applicants, the organization's Meals on Wheels Program is funded through the General Fund; and that Neighborly has reported an additional funding gap; whereupon, Commissioner Flowers indicated that Neighborly received some additional State funding for the Program.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

Parks and Conservation Resources

15. Annual agreement with Pinellas County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services by Environmental Lands Unit Deputies.

Contract approved in the amount of $397,430.00 for a contract period of October 1, 2025, through October 1, 2026.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

Public Works

16. National Resources Conservation Service Emergency Watershed Protection Program Grant Agreement for tree debris removal from various channels throughout unincorporated County.

(PID 90019B4 Task 14) Agreement approved in the amount of $5,968,649.50. No County match required.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

17. Resolution providing authority for the use of golf carts within the Autumn Woods subdivision in Palm Harbor.

Resolution No. 25-65 approved, providing for golf cart use on all community streets within the Autumn Woods subdivision in Palm Harbor.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

18. Resolution providing authority for the use of golf carts on all community streets within the Eniswood subdivision in unincorporated Palm Harbor.

Resolution No. 25-66 approved, providing for golf cart use on designated roadways within the Eniswood subdivision in unincorporated Palm Harbor.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

19. Resolution supporting the honorary designation of United States 92/State Route 600/Gandy Boulevard from Southwest Shore Boulevard in Hillsborough County to 4th Street North in Pinellas County is designated as Senator James A. Sebesta Memorial Highway.

Resolution No. 25-67 adopted.

Chair Scott and Commissioner Latvala provided brief comments regarding the late Senator James A. Sebesta.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

20. Transfer of three vehicles from the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority to the Pinellas County Sheriff.

Transfer of vehicles approved, as outlined in the Staff Report.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

COUNTY ATTORNEY

21. Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Steven E. Jordan; all heirs known and unknown - action for foreclosure of Special Magistrate lien.

Initiation of litigation approved.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

22. Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. United Wealth Builders, LLC - action for foreclosure of Special Magistrate liens.

Initiation of litigation approved.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

23. County Attorney Reports

Information regarding two law firms being considered for the County's State lobbying contract

Attorney White indicated that two firms currently under consideration for the County's State lobbying contract, Shumaker Advisors and GrayRobinson, are also law firms; that Shumaker Advisors serves as the County's outside counsel for a contract associated with a Department of Transportation project; and that GrayRobinson has active litigation against the County; whereupon, Commissioner Flowers related that GrayRobinson also provides legal services for the Hillsborough/Pinellas Workforce Development Consortium.

Death of an employee in the County Attorney's Office

Attorney White provided brief comments related to the death of an employee in the County Attorney's Office.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

24. County Administrator Reports

Reminder regarding September budget hearings

Mr. Burton reminded the members that public hearings regarding the budget will be held on September 4 and September 18; and that final adoption of the budget will occur on September 18.

Potential rescheduling of the September 11 joint BCC meeting with the Tourist Development Council

Mr. Burton indicated that the joint Board of County Commissioners meeting with the Tourist Development Council is scheduled for September 11; and that, due to various 9/11 ceremonies taking place on the same day, he would like to inquire as to whether the members wish to reschedule the meeting to a later time.

Following brief discussion, Mr. Burton indicated that he will provide an update regarding the time of the meeting.

COUNTY COMMISSION

25. 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 discussed various topics, as follows:

Commissioner Scherer

- Astaras, Inc. manufacturing facility grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Pinellas County Deaf Fest 2025
- Tour of Clearwater Aquarium and meeting with CEO Joe Handy

Commissioner Latvala

- Astaras, Inc. manufacturing facility grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Public hearing in Belleair Beach regarding the 2025 Pinellas County Beach Nourishment Project
- Clearwater Brewing Company grand opening
- City of Largo Fire Station 39 ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Youth Advisory Committee
- Club event in Seminole
- Passing of Juvenile Welfare Board Mid-County Community Council Member Carol Bumiller

Commissioner Peters

- Appreciation to Business Technology Services staff for efforts to replace County Assignment Tracking System software
- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Legislative Committee
- Public hearing in Belleair Beach regarding the 2025 Pinellas County Beach Nourishment Project
- Opioid Abatement Funding Advisory Board
- Tampa Bay Water
- Tampa Bay Estuary Program

Commissioner Flowers

- Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
- Astaras, Inc. manufacturing facility grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Tampa Bay Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Kick-Off
- The Ruby Table: Real Talk on Resilience panel

- Pastor Anniversary Celebration for New Faith Free Methodist Church Senior Pastor Elizabeth Siplin
- Caution against scams targeting seniors
- Statistics regarding home sales and renting among seniors
- Florida League of Cities Annual Conference

Commissioner Eggers

- City of Dunedin Purple Heart Recognition Ceremony
- Astaras, Inc. manufacturing facility grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony
- St. Mark Village VIP Event
- Tampa Bay Water
- City of Largo Fire Station 39 ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Passing of Juvenile Welfare Board Mid-County Community Council Member Carol Bumiller
- Condolences to the family and friends of a County Attorney's Office employee

Chair Scott

- Meeting with new Tampa Bay Innovation Center President and CEO Rebecca Brown
- Meeting with Allegiant Air staff
- Participation in Pinellas Trail safety video
- Tampa Bay Regional Infrastructure Accelerator Kick-Off
- Meeting with new Treasure Island City Manager Charles Van Zant
- Pinellas Beaches Chamber 11th Annual Monte Carlo Casino Night
- City of Largo Fire Station 39 ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Astaras, Inc. manufacturing facility grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Tourist Development Council
- Habitat for Humanity 1,000th home dedication
- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Clearwater Station groundbreaking
- Pinellas County Animal Services' canine/Commissioner photo shoot
- Congratulations to Pinellas County Communications Department for multiple 2025 Golden Image Awards from the Florida Public Relations Association

Meeting Recessed: 3:07 P.M.

Meeting Reconvened: 6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

26. Petition of Apartments at Gateway II LLC to vacate the portion of 34th Street North Extension(County Road Number 265), Declared to be a public road in Board of County Commissioners minutes book 23, page 253, filed on April 12,1949, being 100 feet in width, lying within property owned by Apartments at Gateway II LLC, as recorded in official records book 17960, page 495, and within property owned by Apartments at Gateway II,LLC, as recorded in official records book 17960, page 512, all in sections 22,23,26, and 27-30-16, Pinellas County, Florida. (Legislative)

Resolution No. 25-68 adopted, granting the petition to vacate the portion of 34th Street North Extension (County Road Number 265). No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

27. Resolution adopting the Joe's Creek Industrial Park Master Plan.

Resolution No. 25-69 approved, adopting the Joe's Creek Industrial Park Master Plan, as outlined in the Staff Report. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

28. Ordinance amending Pinellas County Code, Chapter 122-3, related to the Dori Slosberg Driver Education Safety Act.

Ordinance No. 25-16 adopted, approving the amendment. No correspondence has been received.

In response to a request by Commissioner Flowers, Pinellas County Schools Superintendent Kevin Hendrick briefly discussed driver education programs offered in Pinellas County high schools and related operational expenses, noting that the proposed ordinance will provide an opportunity to continue funding the programs; whereupon, Chair Scott and Commissioners Latvala and Peters expressed their support for the item.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

29. Pinellas Park Planning Area Interlocal Agreement with the City of Pinellas Park.

Agreement approved, as outlined in the Staff Report. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Scott, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Flowers, Commissioner Latvala, Commissioner Nowicki, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Scherer

ADJOURNMENT - 6:08 P.M.

_____
Chair

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By_____
Deputy Clerk