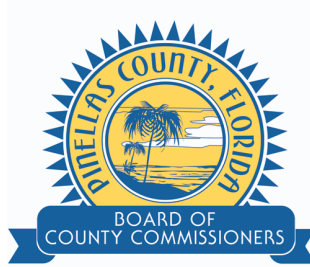


Pinellas County

*315 Court Street, 5th Floor Assembly Room
Clearwater, Florida 33756*



Minutes - Final

Thursday, June 2, 2016

9:30 AM

BCC Assembly Room

Board of County Commissioners **Budget Information Session**

*Charlie Justice, Chairman
Janet C. Long, Vice-Chairman
Dave Eggers
Pat Gerard
John Morroni
Karen Williams Seel
Kenneth T. Welch*

ROLL CALL - 9:30 A.M.

Members Present: Janet C. Long, Vice-Chairman; Dave Eggers; Pat Gerard; John Morroni; Karen Williams Seel; and Kenneth T. Welch.

Members Absent: Charlie Justice, Chairman.

Others Present: James L. Bennett, County Attorney; Mark S. Woodard, County Administrator; Bill Berger, Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB); and Lynn M. Abbott, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk. Minutes by Helen Groves.

1. Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Development:
Priority Needs and Funding Plan.

FINANCE FUNDING OPTIONS

Mr. Woodard conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Doing Things! - FY17 Budget Development, Priority Needs and Funding Plan* and provided charts titled (1) *FY17 Budget Development - Decision Package Requests* and (2) *FY17 Decision Package Requests and Proposed Funding Recommendations*, copies of which have been filed and made a part of the record. He stated that at the last Budget Information meeting, the Board was provided a list of the County's needs and staff received guidance regarding the Board's funding priorities; and that today, after taking into consideration the comments from the last meeting and from individual meetings with the members, he has provided a chart with proposed funding recommendations and is asking for further Board direction. He pointed out that today's decisions will not be final, as the budget can be changed up until the second public hearing in September.

Mr. Woodard reviewed the preparation of the budget, the steps taken so far, and how input was gathered from the public. He related that the balancing strategies used were to (1) retain Reserves at 15 percent and (2) increase investment in public safety from Penny for Pinellas; whereupon, he provided the following figures relating to the proposed budget:

PROPOSED BUDGET PLAN

Total Requested Funding	\$24.1 Million
Recommended Funding	\$15.7 Million
General Fund	\$9.0 Million
Penny for Pinellas	\$5.0 Million
Other Sources	\$1.7 Million

Mr. Woodard pointed out that the charts show some requests were fully funded, some were partially funded, some have alternative solutions, and some (18 totaling \$9.6

million) were not funded at all; whereupon, he requested input from the Board.

DISCUSSION

In response to query by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Woodard indicated that he will provide a breakdown regarding one-time funding items versus on-going, or recurring, items.

In response to queries by Commissioners Morroni and Seel, Mr. Woodard, with input by Mr. Berger, indicated that it is difficult at this time to determine the exact amount of General Revenue funds that will be available this year, relating that the Property Appraiser has until July 1 to provide the final certified value, and staff is required by Statute to use the certified value to develop the proposed budget. He related that the Property Appraiser periodically updates the forecast and staff recalibrates the budget numbers, noting that the most recent recalibration is not reflected in today's PowerPoint or in the charts.

Commissioner Welch commented that, once again, the Sheriff's requests represent about 60 percent of the budget; and in response to comments by him and Commissioner Long, Mr. Woodard confirmed that he has spoken with the Sheriff about the request for more budget transparency between the BCC and the Sheriff's Office; and related that the Sheriff has agreed to supply additional information regarding his current debt service schedule and provide details regarding the requests for the flight unit, helicopters and fixed-wing planes, and some technology; whereupon, Commissioner Gerard asked that the Sheriff's Office put the information in writing.

Mr. Woodard answered the Commissioners' questions regarding particular budget items and discussion ensued, as follows:

FUNDED REQUESTS

Item No. 1 - Pay and Classification Study (\$200,000)

Commissioner Seel cautioned that this would fiscally impact future budgets, noting that the County generally provides better benefits than the private sector.

Item No. 5b - Department of Health Program Enhancement (\$179,000)

Noting that the millage rate could be raised to enhance health in the schools, Commissioner Seel urged funding school nurses in the five failing schools in South County, and Commissioner Welch concurred. Commissioner Eggers asked for details, including where the School System's responsibility ends and the County's begins, where the present health funding for schools is derived, and a list of the needs. Mr. Berger provided information regarding the funding, indicating that money for the school nurses is not included in the recommendation. Dr. Michael Grego, Superintendent, Pinellas County Schools and Dr. Ulyee Choe, Director, Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County, provided input. Dr. Grego explained that the School District does not provide health professionals in the schools, saying it is the community's problem. He

asked that the Health Department's four clinics be opened after school hours. Dr. Choe provided an update on the Zika virus.

During discussion, Commissioner Long concurred with Commissioner Seel about keeping children healthy, and asked that Dr. Greco provide statistics regarding the number of nurses in the schools and a list of agencies he partners with, such as the Juvenile Welfare Board. Commissioner Welch asked that Dr. Grego provide a list of the seven schools he cited. Commissioner Seel suggested selling Belle Harbour Yacht and Marina in Tarpon Springs to make more money available.

Item No. 6 - Homeless System of Care (\$1,558,800)

Request is from the Homeless Leadership Board, and is on top of what they are already receiving but less than what they asked for. Purpose is to transition to a rapid rehousing model. Might be able to coordinate with Community Development Block Grant fund, as similar requests should not be funded in two places. Commissioner Gerard suggested balancing with the Health Department request for school nurses, as it is for the same population, noting there were not many transitional housing beds to begin with. Commissioner Welch requested detailed plans for each service named in request. Commissioner Seel concurred that a better tracking system is needed for homeless funding.

Item No. 7 - 2-1-1 After-Hours Staffing (\$75,000)

In response to queries by Commissioners Morroni and Seel, Mr. Woodard indicated that the executive director of 2-1-1 Tampa Bay Cares originally requested \$150,000 to staff two full-time positions, but has indicated that the \$75,000 recommended is feasible. The \$75,000 recommendation will fund one full-time equivalent position during the after-hours shift and would augment existing funding. The Board funded additional staff for a pilot program this fiscal year that should have freed up some staff.

Item No. 12c - Sheriff Academy Training Costs (\$2,500,000)

Commissioner Gerard suggested only funding 75 to 80 percent of request. Commissioner Long opined on the importance of the training, and Commissioner Eggers concurred. In response to query by Commissioner Gerard, Mr. Woodard confirmed that it is a recurring request and provided other information. Commissioner Seel queried whether this is a problem unique to the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office that the other large law enforcement agencies do not have.

Item No. 12d - Sheriff Vehicles (\$5 Million)

Noting that the funding is greater than the original request, Mr. Woodard proposed that \$5 million be taken from the Penny and the Sheriff be allowed to apply it to the purchase of the vehicles, not lease purchases, noting that the Sheriff supports the proposal. Staff did a survey and found that peer governments throughout the state apply a portion of their Penny to police, fire, and other vehicle purchases, as Commissioner Gerard suggested. Commissioner Seel stated she would like to see the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) list before making a decision to finance the vehicles, and Mr. Woodard explained that the \$1.3 million savings in annual debt

service would be recognized going forward, but not this budget year.

Item No. 19 - Anclote River Dredging Project (\$300,000)

Funding is currently shown in the proposed budget as the General Fund, but BP or Penny money could be used. Commissioner Eggers asked for full funding, and Commissioner Long reported that the amount needed is being provided, and asked that it not be funded by BP money as the project should start quickly. Mr. Woodard said that he is awaiting a formal request.

Item No. 25 - Black Business Investment Corporation (Alternative Solution)

Commissioner Welch requested that the item be funded somehow, noting the City of St. Petersburg is contributing \$75,000. Mr. Woodard indicated that Economic Development Director Mike Meidel plans to contact the group to get more information about the need; whereupon, at the request of Commissioner Long, he discussed the recommended approach.

Item No. 33 - Recreational Programming in Unincorporated Target Areas (\$253,000)

In response to queries by Commissioner Seel, Mr. Berger indicated that all the programs are being funded at the current level. He agreed to provide information regarding the increase the Police Athletic League (PAL) has requested. He indicated that the CDBG funding formerly used to fund the YMCA has been redirected to homeless activities.

UNFUNDED REQUESTS

Item No. 3 - Veterinary Services

Further discussion requested by Commissioner Seel will occur June 14 during user fee deliberations.

Item No. 23 - Youth Leadership Academy

Commissioner Morroni is still receiving emails regarding 4-H clubs. Mr. Woodard indicated that no funding is recommended and other sources should be pursued or current funding reprioritized.

Items Nos. 29, 30, 31, 32 - Assume Ownership of County-owned Facilities: Palm Harbor Roof Replacement; Shared Parking at East Lake Library; Funding for Palm Harbor Fields

Commissioner Eggers asked that the conversation begin re County-owned facilities. Mr. Woodard related that the other requests are for future needs and the issues need to be part of the Penny discussion. Commissioner Eggers suggested a survey of all the communities in the unincorporated area to learn how they want their tax money to be spent and discussed using economic development and Convention and Visitors Bureau monies to build additional soccer fields and community centers.

Item No. 40 - Business Continuity Management & Disaster Recovery

Commissioner Welch stated the item was unanimously recommended by the Business Technology Services (BTS) Board. In response to his query, Mr. Berger advised there would be a legal issue with using Penny 3 dollars for technology items, but the ballot language for Penny 4 could be crafted to allow the use

MISCELLANEOUS

BP ONLINE SURVEY

In response to query by Commissioner Welch, Mr. Woodard reported that the survey will be posted online as soon as he completes his review.

ST. PETERSBURG FERRY

In response to query by Commissioner Welch, Mr. Woodard reported that City of St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman is to provide the data requested sometime in June.

TAMPA BAY RAYS - COMMISSIONER WELCH TO SERVE ON ST. PETE FOREVER

Noting that the St. Petersburg mayor has asked him to serve on the new St. Pete Forever committee, Commissioner Welch recommended that Pinellas County ramp up its effort to keep the Rays here, at least as much as the effort Hillsborough County is making to get the team to move there, and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Morroni commented that his understanding of the unwritten rule that no votes will be taken in BCC Work Sessions is that votes are prohibited only on items that affect the budget; and that board selection votes have been taken in Work Sessions since the policy was enacted, and this would not set a precedent.

Thereupon, Commissioner Morroni moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that Commissioner Welch be selected to serve on the St. Pete Forever committee.

Commissioner Seel asked that all Pinellas County viable sites for the stadium be named, and everyone concurred. Commissioner Long suggested that the Rays leadership group be invited to a meeting to show the Board's strong support, and the majority of the members agreed. Commissioner Eggers recommended that a workshop be held regarding keeping the Rays in Pinellas County.

Thereupon, upon call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

GOING FORWARD

Mr. Woodard noted that next Tuesday's BCC agenda is light, and he will add a budget discussion under "County Administrator Reports." In response to query by Commissioner Seel, he indicated that the CIP discussion is scheduled for June 14 and

work on the budget cannot wait until then; whereupon, following discussion, he indicated that per today's staff direction, he will:

- Provide some funding for school-based nurses.
- Bring information re the Sheriff's Academy, including rate of staff turnover.
- Meet with BTS director re incremental improvements with disaster recovery.
- Indicate which requests are one-time and which are recurring.

ADJOURNMENT - 11:29 A.M.