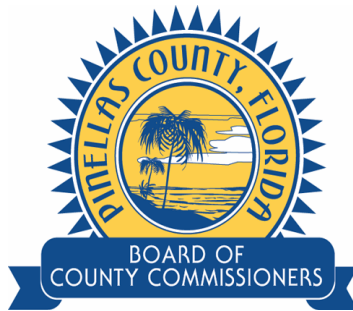


Pinellas County

*315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756*



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

9:30 A.M.

BCC Assembly Room

Board of County Commissioners - Work Session

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

ROLL CALL - 9:31 A.M.

Present: Kenneth T. Welch, Chairman; Dave Eggers; Pat Gerard; Charlie Justice; and Janet C. Long

Absent: Karen Williams Seel, Vice-Chairman

Others Present: Mark S. Woodard, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Other Interested Individuals; and Lynn M. Abbott, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

1. State Government Relations Services Oral Presentations:
Dean, Mead, Egerton, Bloodworth, Capouano & Bozart, P.A.
- Peter Dunbar
Southern Strategy Group of Tampa Bay
- Laura Boehmer
GrayRobinson, P.A.
- Dean Cannon

Mr. Woodard provided background information regarding the item. He related that the members had previously selected three firms to provide oral presentations regarding proposals that were submitted concerning local legislative priorities; that the members will have an opportunity to ask questions following the presentations; and that representatives for each of the firms are presently sequestered in a nearby office.

Dean, Mead, Egerton, Bloodworth, Capouano & Bozart, P.A.
- Peter Dunbar

Mr. Dunbar introduced Dean Mead team members and presented background information regarding the law office and its long-term relationship with Pinellas County. He reported that Dean Mead and two subcontracting firms have comprised the BCC legislative team since 2002, and related the importance of a collaborative approach; whereupon, he discussed how his team identifies priorities and advocates for and monitors legislative program projects and initiatives.

In response to comments and queries by the members, Mr. Dunbar provided information regarding the following:

- Communication
- Public policy positions
- Appropriations process
- Fee structure breakdown
- Understanding the political climate
- Strategic advocacy and conflict resolution
- Anticipating important leadership changes
- Maintaining Pinellas County as a top priority
- Active representation and forging effective relationships
- Handling political dynamics affecting a bill's passage or veto

Southern Strategy Group of Tampa Bay

- Laura Boehmer

Ms. Boehmer and Managing Partner Seth McKeel introduced themselves and presented an overview of Southern Strategy Group, indicating that the professional lobbying firm was established twenty years ago; that it is based in Tallahassee with statewide regional offices; and that local government is an important part of its practice; whereupon, they indicated that the Tampa Bay team has developed relationships at the state and local government levels; and that its teamwork approach provides the ability to craft a legislative agenda with the highest chance of success.

Responding to queries by Chairman Welch, Mr. McKeel indicated that the associate who had represented an offshore oil drilling client is no longer with the firm, and Ms. Boehmer related that she does not foresee Southern Strategy Group experiencing any conflicts with issues related to oil drilling, preemption, or home rule.

During discussion and in response to comments and queries by the members, Ms. Boehmer and Mr. McKeel provided information regarding the following:

- Client prioritization and retention
- Navigation of the appropriations process
- Strategies used to avoid the governor's veto pen
- Conflict identification, resolution, and recusal process
- Systems in place for creating and sustaining relationships
- Success in obtaining transportation and water project funding
- Advantages of hiring a lobbying firm with dedicated regional offices
- Staffing changes in the face of a changing and more youthful legislature
- Homestead Exemption Constitutional Amendment
- Strategic relationships that present unique opportunities to address problematic transportation statutes and sustainable funding for TBARTA
- Importance of statewide advocacy groups to provide data regarding issues that impact local governments

In response to queries by Chairman Welch, Mr. McKeel provided statistical information regarding lobbyists and support staff and discussed matters relating to diversity and recruitment efforts; whereupon, he presented information regarding the cities and counties that his firm serves.

GrayRobinson, P.A.

- Dean Cannon

Mr. Cannon introduced himself and Government Consultant Chris Spencer and presented an overview of GrayRobinson, P.A., relating that the firm has offices throughout the State of Florida, employs over 20 lobbyists and 300 lawyers, and specializes in local government

representation; whereupon, he discussed his employment experience as a lawyer, legislator, and lobbyist.

Mr. Cannon indicated that even though his firm does not intend to use a subcontractor, it has collaborated with Dean Mead and Southern Strategy Group in the past; and that he would be happy to collaborate with either firm should the Board choose to go in that direction; whereupon, he provided the following information regarding the GrayRobinson legislative team:

- Knowledge of the appropriations process
- Political and/or legal experience and qualifications
- Expertise in completing work for similar clients
- Understanding the unique role of state and local governments
- Familiarity with/ties to the Tampa Bay region and statewide legislative delegations

During discussion and in response to comments and queries by the members, Messrs. Cannon and Spencer provided information regarding the following:

- Firm's conflict resolution policy
- Providing effective lobbying advocacy
- Developing a strategy to navigate the legislative process
- Team's approach to identifying and understanding Pinellas County priorities
- Plans to address Pinellas County priorities and important issues in the upcoming session, including home rule, water issues, and regional transportation and funding
- Importance of building relationships and engaging champions in all branches of local and state government

Thereupon, Mr. Cannon addressed Chairman Welch's concerns regarding offshore oil drilling, indicating that environmental protection is a top priority.

Discussion

Chairman Welch suggested that the Board discuss the three firms' proposals, come to a consensus, and present a recommendation to Mr. Woodard. Mr. Woodard requested that the Board provide direction as to which firm it would like staff to engage with and if there are any specific terms or conditions to be discussed so that staff can begin negotiations and bring back an agreement at a future meeting.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Woodard summarized the current funding agreement with Dean Mead, and Intergovernmental Liaison Brian Lowack provided the proposed funding arrangements and terms for Dean Mead and its subcontractors, noting that it is the only firm to utilize subcontractors; and that the Request for Proposal presented the terms as a 24-month agreement with a 36-month renewal option.

Mr. Woodard discussed Florida House and Senate term limits and recommended that the members consider a two-year agreement with a two-year renewal option, noting that it would synchronize with the leadership changes in Tallahassee, and discussion ensued regarding leadership changes in the House, Senate, and Governor's office, and the importance of legislative relationships in the appropriations process.

During discussion, the members provided input regarding their ranking of the three firms.

Following query by Commissioner Long, Mr. Woodard reiterated that the purpose of today's presentations was to provide the Board an overview of the three top-ranked proposals. He clarified that each proposal called for one firm to provide the entire suite of representative services on behalf of Pinellas County; that the prospect of engaging all three firms in a collaborative relationship is a different path than was originally considered; that while a hybrid model may be possible, it potentially brings an added level of complication; and that the firms may not be interested in such an arrangement. He related that he will explore the idea if the members so desire; that he can meet with the three firms to see if there is a logical way to parse out the scope and divide the representation activities; and that it would be subject to their agreement to the arrangement.

Chairman Welch polled the members, and noted the following:

- He supports Dean Mead as submitted
- Commissioners Justice and Eggers support Southern Strategy Group as submitted
- Commissioner Long supports a hybrid model
- Commissioner Gerard supports Dean Mead with some negotiation on price

Following discussion regarding the lack of member consensus, Chairman Welch commented that this is the first time that oral presentations for state government relations services were given to the Board. Commissioner Long requested time over the lunch hour to consider the presentations, and Chairman Welch indicated that the matter will be taken up after lunch; whereupon, Mr. Woodard provided information regarding the next item and recommended that the Board break for lunch.

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The meeting was recessed at 11:49 A.M. and reconvened at 12:31 P.M.

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Chairman Welch summarized the discussion that took place before the recess, and Commissioner Long indicated that she will support Southern Strategy Group.

Chairman Welch indicated that the Board has selected Southern Strategy Group as its State Government Relations Services representative and authorized staff to begin negotiations; whereupon, Mr. Woodard related that staff will meet with Southern Strategy Group and return with a contract for Board approval at a future meeting.

Chairman Welch thanked the teams for their presentations; whereupon, he related that he has to leave at 2:00 P.M. to attend a Florida Association of Counties Audit Committee meeting; and that Commissioner Long will preside as Chair during the approximately 15 minutes he is away from the dais.

2. Dunedin Causeway and San Martin Bridge Sea Level Rise Analysis

Mr. Woodard introduced the item and related that the Board had asked the consultants to evaluate the impacts of sea level rise on the Dunedin Causeway and San Martin Bridge, approaching roadways, and areas served; that staff will present the findings of the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) studies and seek Board consensus on a preferred alternative for each of the bridges; and that formal action on the recommendations will be taken at a future Board meeting.

Assistant County Administrator Rahim Harji presented background information relative to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and PD&E processes and funding requirements, noting that the Board's approval today would give staff direction on which bridge to use to finalize the PD&E study for both projects; that completed studies would move the process forward and allow the County to begin applying for federal and state funding assistance; and that selection of the preferred alternatives does not obligate the County.

Sea Level Rise Evaluations

Nancy McKibben, Public Works Transportation Engineering, provided information regarding sea level rise, the need to evaluate its impacts to the Tampa Bay region, and data collection and analyzation to implement effective planning and policy-making strategies; whereupon, she conducted a presentation titled *Doing Things! San Martin Boulevard over Riviera Bay & Dunedin Causeway Bridges Sea Level Rise (SLR) Evaluations*, and discussed the following:

- Tampa Bay Climate Science Advisory Panel (CSAP)
- Tampa Bay Regional Projections
- Bridge Projects Evaluation
- Guidance for Incorporating Sea Level Rise into Capital Projects

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Ms. McKibben referenced the chart on Slide 5 and identified the four relative sea level change scenarios, and Mr. Woodard discussed bridge service life and asset value.

San Martin Bridge/North Bay Trail

Marlon Register, Consultant Project Manager, provided a project update, conducted a presentation titled *Doing Things! San Martin Boulevard over Riviera Bay Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study - Update*, and discussed the following:

- Project Location and Limits
- Overview of Alternatives
- Build Replacement Alternatives
- North Bay Trail Extension Evaluation
- Alternatives Comparison Matrix
- Sea Level Rise Base Conditions (1 Foot to 6 Foot Inundation)
- Sea Level Rise Projections Summary
- Current Project Status
- Moving Forward

During the presentation and in response to queries by the members, Mr. Register, with input by Mr. Woodard, discussed existing infrastructure, design standards, evaluation criteria, profile benefits and deficits, study metrics, local and regional inundation impacts, mean sea level trends and projections, traffic count and capacity, and proposed construction funding.

Mr. Register presented the No-Build, Considered but Eliminated, and Proposed Build Replacement Alternatives; whereupon, he indicated that the stakeholders considered traffic maintenance operations and aesthetic considerations in their selection of the East Alignment alternative for the San Martin Bridge.

Mr. Register presented the three alternatives for the North Bay Trail project; whereupon, he indicated that the stakeholders preferred the second alternative, the Eastern Trail Alignment, noting that the number of trail crossings was the biggest consideration.

Dunedin Causeway

Megan McKinney, AECOM Technical Services, Inc., and Transportation Division Director Ken Jacobs conducted a presentation titled *Doing Things! Dunedin Causeway Bridges Project Development & Environment (PD&E) Study - Update*, and discussed the following:

- Project Location and Limits
- Bridge Options
- Alternatives Cost/Service Life
- Land Use
- Existing Conditions
- Land Use Impact: 1 to 6 Foot Sea Level Rise

- Sea Level Rise Projections Summary
- Current Project Status
- Moving Forward
- Process for Next Steps
- Options to Consider - San Martin/Dunedin Causeway

In response to comments and queries by the members, Ms. McKinney described how the proposed improvements to the multi-use trail would meet long-term recreational needs, and Mr. Woodard discussed the importance of Honeymoon Island as a tourism draw to the area, noting that just four to five feet of sea level rise would devastate the state park.

Responding to further queries by the members, Mr. Jacobs discussed recent changes to the state's bridge assignment process and formula, federal funding guidelines, grant resources, the remaining timeframe for completion, and tourist-based economic impact considerations; whereupon, Mr. Harji reviewed bridge options, service life projections, cost considerations, and community support, and related that there are contracts in place for the completion of both PD&E studies, which have been budgeted in Penny for Pinellas 3.

Responding to the Chairman's call for persons wishing to be heard, the following individuals presented their comments and concerns:

Jackie Nigro, Dunedin,
Julie Ward Bujalski, Dunedin
Mitch Lee, Dunedin

In response to query by Commissioner Justice, Attorney White discussed federal funding requirements pertaining to bridge design and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Chairman Welch expressed his concerns with making a generational decision on a 75-year project involving sea level rise and discussed forecast trends, funding eligibility, and the difference in cost between the high-level fixed and mid-level movable bridge alternatives for the Dunedin Causeway. Responding to his queries, Mr. Woodard indicated that the County would pursue federal and state funding for both projects, and Mr. Jacobs provided financial information regarding current and projected operations and maintenance costs.

Commissioner Eggers provided input regarding community support, bridge costs, and funding options, noting that he supports moving forward to finish the PD&E, and Chairman Welch related that he supports proceeding with the community-supported preferred alternatives, contingent upon federal funding eligibility; whereupon, Commissioners Long and Gerard recommended moving forward with the PD&E studies.

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At 1:53 P.M., Chairman Welch left the meeting;
Commissioner Long assumed the gavel.

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Mr. Woodard stated his understanding of the wishes of the Board, indicating that staff will proceed with the preferred alternative that has been recommended by the stakeholders regarding the Dunedin Causeway and San Martin Bridge/North Bay Trail, and Commissioner Justice provided input; whereupon, Mr. Harji reiterated that the item will be brought back at a future Board meeting for formal action by the members.

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The meeting was recessed at 1:58 P.M. and reconvened at 2:08 P.M.

At 2:14 P.M., Chairman Welch returned to the meeting and assumed the gavel;
Commissioner Long left the meeting.

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3. Enterprise Asset Management (EAM)

Following introduction of the item by Mr. Woodard, Assistant County Administrator Paul Sacco related that he is addressing the members as the Coordination Chairman for the Enterprise Asset Management program and introduced his department liaisons, project managers, and team leaders and members, noting their direct and supporting roles and dedication and passion for the project; whereupon, he recognized Jim Fletcher for his program sponsorship and 44 years of service, noting that Mr. Fletcher will retire at the end of the month.

Mr. Sacco presented background information regarding the Asset Management Program and provided an EAM Project update, noting that the staffing component will be addressed today; and that the balance of the decision package will be brought before the Board on Thursday; whereupon, he and Assistant County Administrator Rahim Harji conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Doing Things! ISO 55000 Asset Management System, June 12, 2018*, a copy of which has been filed and made a part of the record, and discussed the following:

- What is the issue?
- What is the problem to be solved?
- What is the Board being requested to consider?
- Pinellas County's Strategic Plan: Doing Things to Serve the Public
- Benefits of an Asset Management Program
- ISO 55000 Framework
- Asset Management Categories
- Critical Success Factors
- Best Practices - People
- Technology Refresh - Cityworks AMS
- Departments Overview; Departments' Current State
- Program Targeted Outcomes
- How We Define Success
- The Decision Package - ISO 55000 - Asset Management Program
- Decision Packages - Requested Funding/Organization and Staffing/Funding Sources
- Business Case
- Keeping it in Perspective
- What is the Board being requested to consider?

Responding to queries by Chairman Welch, Mr. Fletcher discussed the journey to get departmental buy-in to adopt and embrace a new organizational system of asset management, noting that the process will transform how the County transacts business and set the standard for public service in America; whereupon, the members thanked Mr. Fletcher for his leadership on the project and Mr. Sacco for his engaging presentation, and discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT - 3:09 P.M.