

Pinellas County



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

2:00 P.M.

Public Hearings at 6:00 P.M.

BCC Assembly Room

Board of County Commissioners

Pat Gerard, Chair
Dave Eggers, Vice-Chair
Charlie Justice
Janet C. Long
Kathleen Peters
Karen Williams Seel
Kenneth T. Welch

ROLL CALL - 2:01 P.M.

Present: 7 - Chair Pat Gerard, Vice-Chair Dave Eggers, Charlie Justice, Janet C. Long, Kathleen Peters, Karen Williams Seel, and Kenneth T. Welch

Others Present: Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Jeanette Phillips, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Teresa Adkins, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk

INVOCATION by Pastor Dieter Randolph, Water and Stone Church, St. Petersburg.**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

Supervisor Deborah Clark Day Proclamation:

- Pat Gerard, Chair, Board of County Commissioners

Chair Gerard invited Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark to the podium, praised her for her 42 years of service to the county, and read a proclamation declaring March 10, 2020, as Deborah Clark day; whereupon, Ms. Clark thanked the Commissioners for their continued support of her office through the years.

1. Government Finance Professionals Week Proclamation:

- Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Pinellas County

Chair Gerard read a proclamation recognizing the week of March 16 through March 20, 2020, as Government Finance Professionals Week. Noting that the Finance Department has received many prestigious awards, she thanked the staff for their contributions and hard work, and Mr. Burke provided input.

3. Florida Surveyors and Mappers Week Proclamation:

- Susan Scholpp, Division Director, Survey and Mapping Division, Public Works

Deviating from the agenda, Chair Gerard invited Ms. Scholpp and Chris McLaughlin, MacSurvey, Inc., to the podium and provided background information on the work performed by surveyors and mappers; whereupon, she read a proclamation recognizing the week of March 15 through March 21, 2020, as Florida Surveyors and Mappers Week, and Ms. Scholpp and Mr. McLaughlin provided input and thanked the Board.

2. Read Across Pinellas County Month Proclamation:

- Lynne Tucker, Director of Strategic Initiatives, R'Club Child Care, Inc. and Supervisor of the ReadStrong Pinellas Initiative

- Amy Shore, Director of Development and Marketing, R'Club Child Care, Inc.

- Dr. Julie D. Mastry, Program Officer, Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County

- Ellen Zinzeleta, Director of Educational Strategies, United Way Suncoast

- Pang Thao, Literacy Chair, Pinellas County Council PTA
- Michael Feeney, Executive Director of Elementary Education, Pinellas County Schools
- Danielle Hintz, Community Project Manager, Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County and the Pinellas Campaign for Grade-Level Reading

Chair Gerard read a proclamation recognizing the month of March 2020 as Read Across America Month and March 2, 2020, as Read Across America Day; whereupon, Ms. Tucker made brief comments and thanked the Board for the recognition.

4. Water Matters Month Proclamation:

- Megan Ross, Director, Utilities
- Kelli Levy, Director, Public Works

Chair Gerard invited Mses. Ross and Levy to the podium and read a proclamation recognizing March 2020 as Water Matters Month; whereupon, they discussed ways to protect water resources and thanked the Board.

5. "I Am Pinellas" Employee Recognition Award:

- Michael A. Butts, Chief Plant Operator, Keller Water Treatment Facility, Utilities

Chair Gerard and Mr. Burton invited Mr. Butts to the podium; whereupon, they recognized him for his dedication and hard work in the Utilities Department, and a video was shown highlighting the services he provides.

6. Partner Presentation:

- Robin Grantham, Lead Communications Coordinator, Southwest Florida Water Management District

Referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Grantham provided information regarding the Florida Water Star rebate program offered through Southwest Florida Water Management District and Tampa Bay Water for new building and development projects, and highlighted the key points and required criteria.

7. Partner Presentation:

- #PurePinellas by Commissioner Justice

Toffee to Go founders Lisa and Jim Schalk provided background information regarding their business and distributed samples to the Commissioners, and Commissioner Justice provided input.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

8. Public Comment.

Edie Darling, Tarpon Springs, re proposal for Ambassador of Peace
Loretta Riquetti, Tarpon Springs, re West Klosterman Preserve
Don Richter, Palm Harbor, re purchase of School Board property
Lee Wilkerson, Indian Rocks Beach, re public park maintenance

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re birth is a nautical term (submitted document)
Greg Pound, Largo, re families

In response to comments by Mr. Wilkerson and Commissioner Long, Assistant County Administrator Rahim Harji discussed a Level of Service analysis currently underway with regard to the park system.

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 9 through 18 (Item 12 addressed under Regular Agenda)

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

9. Minutes of the regular meeting held February 11, 2020.

10. Vouchers and bills paid from January 19 through February 15, 2020.

Period: January 19 through January 25, 2020

Accounts Payable - \$9,678,892.07

Payroll - \$3,848,164.36

Period: January 26 through February 1, 2020

Accounts Payable - \$20,839,182.77

Payroll - None

Period: February 2 through February 8, 2020

Accounts Payable - \$42,693,838.92

Payroll - \$3,991,889.13

Period: February 9 through February 15, 2020

Accounts Payable - \$11,193,090.29

Payroll - None

Reports received for filing:

11. Dock Fee Report for the month of February 2020.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

County Administrator

13. Receipt and file report of non-procurement items delegated to the County Administrator for the period ending February 21, 2020.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

14. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Carlos Quesada and Sabrina Kremin v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 17-002734-CI-19 - claim for alleged damages.
15. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Alexssandra Lopes Da Silva v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 20-000355-CI-21 - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.
16. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Robert Chester v. Pinellas County, et al.; Circuit Civil Case No. 20-000594-CI-11 - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Housing Finance Authority

17. Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County: 2019 Annual Report.
18. Pinellas County Housing Trust Fund Program: 2019 Annual Report.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

12. Tampa Bay Water Annual Financial Report and Audited Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2019.

Commissioner Eggers discussed the continued efforts that Tampa Bay Water is making in maintaining its facilities and planning for long term investments; whereupon, he summarized the auditor's findings, and the members thanked him for his leadership and congratulated him on being elected Chair of the Tampa Bay Water Board.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Administrative Services

- 19.** Resolution granting status to Seminole Junior Warhawks Athletic Association for donation of surplus personal property and declare surplus and authorize the donation of miscellaneous County-owned materials.

Resolution No. 20-12 adopted pursuant to Section 274.05, Florida Statutes; 400 feet of fiber cable declared as surplus and authorization granted for its donation to the Seminole Junior Warhawks Athletic Association.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

Convention and Visitors Bureau

- 20.** Revisions to the Elite Event Funding Guidelines from the Tourist Development Council.

Revisions approved, as outlined in the Staff Report and accompanying documentation.

At the request of Commissioner Long, Visit St. Pete/Clearwater President and CEO Steve Hayes provided an update of the Salvador Dali Museum, Inc. request for funding. Discussion ensued, and the members indicated that the application was previously given preliminary approval.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

- 21.** Third Amendment to the contract with Miles Partnership, LLLP for requirements of digital marketing services.

Amendment to Contract No. 156-0447-P approved increasing the amount by \$2,000,000.00 for a revised total expenditure in the amount of \$22,850,000.00 through December 31, 2021 (revised annual expenditure, \$5,550,000.00). Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Responding to queries by Commissioners Welch and Long, Visit St. Pete/Clearwater Digital and Communications Vice President Leroy Bridges provided a brief overview of the amendment request and discussed the effects that the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is having on hotel bookings and scheduled events in the area.

In response to query by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Bridges discussed the evolving nature of technology and the need for potential increases throughout the contract.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

Nay: 1 - Vice-Chair Eggers

Human Services

- 22.** Public Safety Coordinating Council's program recommendation for the Florida Department of Children and Families' 2020 Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant.

Recommendation approved for continuation of the 2016 CJMHSA Reinvestment Grant - Jail Diversion Expansion project with WestCare Gulfcoast-Florida, Inc. and the Office of the Public Defender, Sixth Judicial Circuit. Grant No. RFA02L04GN1 is for \$400,000.00 per year for three years.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

Public Works

- 23.** Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to the Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for funding to complete the north end of the Pinellas Trail Loop.

Supplement to FDOT Financial Project No. 440093 1 54 01 approved increasing the amount from \$5,700,000.00 to \$6,200,000.00 and extending the agreement term from June 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Responding to query by Commissioner Eggers, Public Works Director Kelli Hammer Levy provided a brief update on the project and indicated that additional feedback will be provided at the April 7 BCC meeting to clarify the funding breakdown.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

Utilities

- 24.** Purchase authorization with CUES, Inc. for a television inspection vehicle for the Utilities Department.

Contract No. 190-0269-PB approved for a total expenditure in the amount of \$298,670.00 pursuant to the pricing, terms, and conditions of State of Ohio Contract No. 800489.

Responding to queries by Commissioners Justice and Eggers, Utilities Director Megan Ross related that the life span of the television inspection vehicle is five years; that it is a mobile assessment computer; and that the engineering data obtained is used to deploy maintenance teams to identified areas of concern. She noted that the vehicles are used daily; and that a vehicle sharing or rental interlocal agreement to allow smaller cities to utilize the vehicles is in contract review.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Seel

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

- 25.** Reappointments to the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, the Board approved the following reappointments for two-year terms ending in February 2022:

- Mike Jones as a Citizen Representative for District 4.
- Tom Jamison and David Mixson as the Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association representative and alternate representative, respectively.
- John Peterson and Richard Schomp as the Sunstar Paramedics representative and alternate representative, respectively.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Seel

Housing Finance Authority

- 26.** Resolution approving the issuance of Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds by the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County to finance the acquisition and rehabilitation of multifamily residential rental housing known as Creekside Manor.

Resolution No. 20-13 adopted approving the issuance of the bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$13,000,000.00 for the benefit of Creekside Manor VOA Affordable Housing, LP, a Florida Limited Partnership, or its affiliate. No County General Funds are required; all lendable funds are generated from the sale of tax-exempt housing bonds and the sale of low-income housing tax credits from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Seel

- 27.** Resolution approving the issuance of Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds by the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County to finance the acquisition and rehabilitation of multifamily residential rental housing known as Clear Bay Terrace.

Resolution No. 20-14 adopted approving the issuance of the bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$14,000,000.00 for the benefit of Clear Bay Terrace VOA Affordable Housing, LP, a Florida Limited Partnership, or its affiliate. No County General Funds are required; all lendable funds are generated from the sale of tax-exempt housing bonds and the sale of low-income housing tax credits from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Seel

COUNTY ATTORNEY

- 28.** County Attorney Reports - None.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

29. County Administrator Reports.

Mr. Burton acknowledged Assistant County Administrator Rahim Harji, noting that he is moving out of state, and thanked him for his dedication and hard work during his tenure with Pinellas County.

Mr. Burton introduced Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Director Dr. Ulyee Choe, Emergency Medical Services Medical Director Dr. Angus Jameson, and Emergency Management Director Catherine Perkins and provided an update on the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19); whereupon, he stressed the importance of collaboration between County partners and the need for preparation.

Dr. Choe provided background information pertaining to COVID-19 and statistical information regarding the current number of cases identified. He discussed studies pertaining to antivirals and countermeasures, and related that public health's primary focus is on containment and mitigation.

During discussion and in response to comments and queries by Commissioners Eggers and Welch, Dr. Choe discussed messaging, social distancing, and infographics currently available and in development. He indicated that a local hotline number is available for residents with concerns or symptoms; and that testing is becoming more accessible; whereupon, with input by Mr. Burton, he noted that Pinellas County Schools Superintendent Michael Grego is part of the Executive Policy Group and related that contingency plans for local schools and jails are being addressed.

Responding to query by Chair Gerard, Mr. Burton indicated that Marketing and Communications Director Barbra Hernandez will provide the Board with an itemized list of the key points that Dr. Choe discussed and what measures the County is taking to flatten the curve.

In response to queries by Commissioner Peters, Mr. Burton, with input by Dr. Choe, discussed the efforts being made to convey appropriate messaging to residents and visitors regarding scheduled events and travel in the area; whereupon, Visit St. Pete/Clearwater President and CEO Steve Hayes indicated that current marketing efforts have not changed; and that as the situation progresses, each phase will be addressed with the appropriate reaction.

Ms. Perkins and Dr. Jameson reported that their departments are working with County partners and beyond to communicate information concerning COVID-19 and its impact on Pinellas County, and described measures being taken to keep first responders and health care workers safe through infection control procedures.

In response to query by Commissioner Welch, Dr. Choe clarified that infection control policies are in place for Emergency Room screenings and high-risk testing.

COUNTY COMMISSION

- 30.** Appointment to the Greater Seminole Area Special Recreation District (Board of County Commissioners as a whole).

Richard Masi appointed to complete a current four-year term set to expire on October 31, 2022, following a ballot vote.

- 31.** County Commission New Business Items.

The members commented on various topics, as follows:

Commissioner Welch

- 2020 U.S. Census

Commissioner Eggers

- Pinellas County Behavioral Health Systems zero suicide efforts

Commissioner Justice

- Board and committee assignment requirements

Commissioner Long

- Ethics training for boards and committees

Chair Gerard

- Sadowski affordable housing funds

Meeting Recessed: 4:39 P.M.

Meeting Reconvened: 6:01 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.

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Countywide Planning Authority

- 32.** Case No. CW 20-04 - Pinellas County
Countywide Plan Map amendment from Residential Low Medium to Residential Medium, regarding 1.69 acres more or less, located at 4700 46th Avenue North.

Ordinance No. 20-07 adopted approving Case No. CW 20-04. Forward Pinellas, in its role as the Pinellas Planning Council, recommended approval of the proposal, and staff concurred. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

Aye: 6 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Long

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

- 33.** Resolution supplementing the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget for unanticipated fund balances in the General Fund, Emergency Medical Services Fund, and Fire Districts Fund.


Resolution No. 20-15 adopted recognizing unanticipated beginning fund balances within the various funds identified and increasing the total appropriation within each fund accordingly. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

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

Aye: 7 - Chair Gerard, Vice-Chair Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, Commissioner Seel, and Commissioner Welch

ADJOURNMENT - 6:02 P.M.

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By 
Deputy Clerk




Chair