

Pinellas County

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



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

9:30 AM

BCC Assembly Room

Board of County Commissioners

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

ROLL CALL - 9:35 A.M.

Present: 6 - Vice-Chairman Kenneth T. Welch, Dave Eggers, Pat Gerard, Charlie Justice, John Morroni, and Karen Williams Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Janet C. Long

Others Present: James L. Bennett, County Attorney; Mark S. Woodard, County Administrator; Claretha N. Harris, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Tony Fabrizio and Christopher Bartlett, Board Reporters, Deputy Clerks.

INVOCATION by Attorney Bennett**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS****1. Consumer Protection Week Proclamation.**

Proclamation presented to Human Services Director Lourdes Benedict, and Operations Manager Doug Templeton and Investigator and Outreach Coordinator Anna Marie Millett of the Consumer Protection Division.

Mr. Templeton thanked the Board for its support, noting that his department aims to help citizens become savvy consumers while exposing frauds and scams. Ms. Millett discussed the activities and displays that staff has planned in conjunction with Consumer Protection Week.

2. Florida Surveyors and Mappers Week Proclamation.

Proclamation presented to Susan Scholpp, Survey and Mapping Division of Public Works, and several surveyors and mappers from the County and private industry.

Vice-Chairman Welch discussed the history, importance, and high standards of surveying and mapping, and Ms. Scholpp expressed appreciation for the Board's recognition on behalf of Public Works, the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Florida Surveying and Mapping Society, and all members of the profession.

3. Partner Presentation:

Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research and Education, Inc. - John Arthur, Ph.D., President.

Dr. Arthur conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Doing Things! Partner Presentation, AWIARE*, a copy of which has been made part of the record. He highlighted the background, purpose, and activities of the organization and discussed the history, beauty, and educational value of the preserve, as well as a five-year strategic plan.

Mr. Woodard expressed appreciation for the partnership and indicated that the Marketing and Communications Department will work to promote the preserve and the research being done there.

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.

COUNTYWIDE PLANNING AUTHORITY

4. Case No. CW 17-1 - City of Largo
Countywide Plan Map amendment from Public/Semi-Public to Residential Low Medium, regarding 1.35 acres more or less, located at 1685 Belcher Road (regular amendment).
Ordinance No. 17-08 adopted. 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 Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Seel, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:
- Aye:** 5 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Seel
- Absent:** 2 - Chairman Long, and Commissioner Morroni

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

5. Petition of Wainscott Properties, LLC to vacate a portion of a drainage easement on Lot 14, Block F, Coral Heights Subdivision in Plat Book 31, Pages 71 through 73 in section 1-30-15, Pinellas County, Florida (quasi-judicial hearing).
Resolution No. 17-09 adopted granting the petition to vacate approximately seven feet of a 20-foot drainage easement to release an existing encroachment and clear the title. Authority granted for the Clerk to record the resolution. Letters of no objection were received from all appropriate parties. Affected property owners were notified as to the date of the public hearing. Staff indicated no objection to the petition being granted. No correspondence has been received. No citizens appeared to be heard.
A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:
- Aye:** 5 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Seel
- Absent:** 2 - Chairman Long, and Commissioner Morroni

6. Ordinance amending Section 6-29 of the County Code relating to the closing hours of business establishments dealing in alcoholic beverages.

Ordinance No. 17-09 adopted modifying the hours of alcohol sales to 8:00 A.M. across all days of the week. The change applies countywide to package sales, bars, and restaurants. One email and a letter from the Mayors' Council expressing support were received. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Responding to queries by Vice-Chairman Welch, Mr. Woodard related that alcohol sales are currently allowed between 8:00 A.M. and 3:00 A.M. on all days except Sundays, on which they cannot begin before 11:00 A.M.; that the change establishes consistency through all days; and that a provision in the ordinance allows cities to adopt hours that are more restrictive.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

7. Ordinance amending Chapter 70 of the County Code relating to Human Relations to create an advisory board for persons with disabilities.

Ordinance No. 17-10 adopted creating the County Council for Persons with Disabilities to help identify issues of accessibility to facilities, programs, and services, as well as potential instances of discrimination impacting persons with disabilities. A letter from the Mayors' Council expressing unanimous support for such a board was received in 2016. No citizens appeared to be heard.

Responding to a request by Vice-Chairman Welch for an overview of the item, Mr. Woodard indicated that several peer counties in Florida have such committees; that the Council will include 13 members; and that seven will be appointed by the BCC and six by nonprofit advocacy organizations. Director of Human Rights Paul Valenti related that the Council will provide input and feedback for the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan that the Office of Human Rights is updating.

Commissioner Eggers applauded the effort to establish the Council, and Mr. Valenti cited the help received from the Disability Achievement Center and persons with disabilities in the community for moving the ordinance forward.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Seel, Mr. Valenti confirmed that his office has the resources necessary to provide primary staffing to the Council while remaining within its current and forecasted budgets; and that he would let the Board know if the demands become overly burdensome.

Jody Armstrong, Grants and Community Outreach Coordinator with the Disability Achievement Center, thanked the Board for supporting the effort to establish the Council, which she noted will provide a forum for people with disabilities to help advance the County in areas of inclusion and accessibility.

Commissioner Justice noted that the Board can address its appointments at a later date.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 8 through 19 (Item 14 addressed under Regular Agenda)

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

8. Minutes of the regular meeting held February 7, 2017.
9. Vouchers and bills paid from January 29 through February 4, 2017.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

10. City of Clearwater Ordinance No. 8982-17 adopted January 19, 2017, annexing certain property.
11. City of Oldsmar Ordinance No. 2017-03 adopted February 7, 2017, annexing certain property.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Development Review Services

12. Plat of Martins Glen Subdivision for approval and recording.

Management and Budget

13. Grant Funding Agreement with the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management regarding a Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance Grant for disaster relief funding associated with Hurricane Hermine.

Public Works

15. Authority to advertise a public hearing to be held on April 11, 2017 regarding a proposed ordinance amending the County Land Development Code by revising Section 170-266 relating to placement of vertical structures for the mounting of antennae, revising Section 170-267 relating to utility work definitions, and creating Section 170-277 relating to wireless communication facilities.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

16. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Timothy Gazica and Francine Gazica v. Green Conversion Systems, Inc. and Pinellas County Board of Commissioners - Circuit Civil Case No. 16-007751-CI - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.
17. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Thomas Brannick v. City of Largo and Pinellas County - Circuit Civil Case No. 16-000760-CI - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.
18. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Annette Stafford v. Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services, d/b/a Sunstar Paramedics, d/b/a Sunstar EMS a/k/a Sunstar Ambulance, a municipal entity, and Customer Service Center, Inc., a Florida for-profit corporation - Circuit Civil Case No. 17-000357-CO - allegations of negligence resulting in damages.
19. Notice of new lawsuit and defense of the same by the County Attorney in the case of Jonathan Goulish v. Pinellas County Board of Commissioners - Circuit Civil Case No. 16-008161-CI - allegations of negligence resulting in personal injuries.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Public Works

14. Local agency program agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for the Keystone Road shoulder and resurfacing project.

Resolution No. 17-10 adopted approving the agreement (FDOT Financial Project No. 436011 1 58 01; County PID No. 001769A). Grant amount. \$1,159,792.00; total estimated cost, \$2,461,551. Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

Commissioner Eggers questioned whether the investment should be made before determining the future of Keystone Road, noting that north county residents are concerned that adding a shoulder for a multi-use trail will constrain future widening for a middle turn lane; that traffic backups east of East Lake Road are a safety concern because the Fire Department needs east-west access; and that he hoped the problem might be addressed through a future Penny for Pinellas project.

Mr. Woodard, with input by Public Works Director Rahim Harji, responded as follows:

- The project encompasses resurfacing and widening of Keystone Road to the Hillsborough County line, with four additional feet of pavement providing for a five-foot pathway after lane remarking. The trail portion came about in large part because of public demand for safe pedestrian and cyclist access into Brooker Creek Preserve.
- The base that is being put down as part of the shoulder work could eventually support traffic; therefore, the project will not hinder future widening to accommodate a turn lane.
- The project was driven by the opportunity to receive FDOT funding for safety improvements to do the roadway resurfacing, which the County was planning to undertake anyway, and the additional width meets the public's request for safer access to the park.

Discussion ensued; whereupon, Mr. Woodard, with input by Mr. Harji, responded to queries and comments by Commissioner Seel as follows:

- A Keystone Road widening project would have to go to Forward Pinellas; in part, because of the road's connectivity with Hillsborough County.
- Widening East Lake Road with a middle lane is under consideration as a potential Penny for Pinellas project; widening Keystone Road is not, but it could be added.

- Discussions are underway with Transportation and Traffic Engineering staff about traffic signal preemption in the area of the fire station.

Commissioner Eggers clarified that his vision for widening Keystone Road is to add a middle turn lane, but not a lane in each direction; whereupon, at Commissioner Seel's request, Mr. Harji agreed to check with Hillsborough County to ensure that there is coordination on trail connectivity.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Real Estate Management

- 20.** Award of bid to Southern Roofing Company, Inc. for the roof replacement project at 315 Court Street in Clearwater.

Bid No. 156-0449-CP (PID Nos. 000861A and 000886A) in the amount of \$1,299,558.00 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications; all work is expected to be completed within 120 consecutive calendar days. Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

Responding to query by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Woodard related that the section of roofing has been patched repeatedly and has now failed; that its current state will begin to create damage to the building's infrastructure if left unrepaired; and that it received renovation and some repairs in the early 1990s after suffering damage in a storm; whereupon, he discussed options and ideas for a future public service complex in Clearwater.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

Public Works

21. Authority to advertise a public hearing to be held on March 21, 2017 amending Chapter 166, Article VI of the County Land Development Code, relating to the administration of surface water assessments and fees.

A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Commissioner Morrone, that authority be granted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morrone, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

22. Recommended projects for submittal to the Gulf Consortium for inclusion in the State Expenditure Plan.

The following projects totaling \$30.9 million were approved for submittal:

1. Lake Seminole Sediment Removal: \$5.2 million
2. Wastewater Collection System Improvements: \$18.2 million
3. Vulnerable Property Acquisition for Floodplain and Environmental Restoration: \$5 million
4. Public Access to Waterways: \$2 million
5. Artificial Reef Program: \$500,000

Referring to a PowerPoint presentation, Kelli Levy, Environmental Management Division Manager, provided background information on the Gulf Consortium and its various funding pots, noting that the Florida Consortium's State Expenditure Plan (SEP) provides funding from the Federal government, which is then distributed equally to the 23 gulf coast counties.

Ms. Levy noted that the selected projects must be consistent with several elements of the RESTORE Act; that water quality projects are higher priority; and that the proposed projects total more than the initial funding in order to leverage a number of other funding options. She related that the list of projects must be submitted by March 31; whereupon, she discussed the details of each of the five projects.

Responding to queries by the members, Director of Utilities Engineering Kevin Becotte stated that \$3.5 million a year is budgeted for pipelining projects; and that the SEP funding would supplement the budget, allowing the County to review private collection systems that have a major impact on the County systems during storm events. Ms. Levy indicated that the County would receive a total of \$12.8 million over 15 years; that the list is not prioritized; that some projects are eligible for more than one funding pot; and that a project would drop off the list should it receive funding from one of the other sources.

In response to query by Commissioner Eggers, Ms. Levy noted that the County would ultimately decide how to spend the \$12.8 million; that the Gulf Consortium helps the County leverage the many funding sources; and that there is an opportunity every year

to revisit the list of projects as part of the annual update to the SEP.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

23. County Administrator miscellaneous: None.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

24. Proposed settlement in the matter of United States ex rel. Dean v. Paramedics Plus, LLC, Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority, et al., 4:14-cv-203 (E.D. TX).

Settlement approved in accordance with the confidential memorandum from County Attorney James L. Bennett dated February 22, 2017.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

Following the vote, Attorney Bennett made a brief statement noting that the proposed settlement is not complete or effective until executed by the other parties; that the ongoing litigation does not end at this point; and that once the settlement is properly signed, it and other documents surrounding the litigation will be made public, and a discussion of the facts will be placed on the agenda of the next available Board meeting.

25. County Attorney miscellaneous: None.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

26. County Administrator reports: None.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

27. Public comment.

Charles Destro, Clearwater, re code enforcement (staff to follow up)

Lenore Faulkner, Madeira Beach, re common core - critical thinking (submitted document)

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re evil's divine and provident? (submitted document)

Greg Pound, Largo, re truth

COUNTY COMMISSION

28. Appointment to the Historical Commission (Commissioner Long) and adjustment of Historical Commission members' terms.

Chairman Long's individual appointment of Michael Aquilia approved and terms for all Commissioner appointees adjusted to run concurrently with the terms of the appointing Commissioner.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

29. Appointment to the Board of Adjustment (Commissioner Welch).

Vice-Chairman Welch's individual appointment of Vincent Cocks approved.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

30. County Commission Board Reports.

Commissioner Morroni

- Human Rights Board: The Human Rights Executive Director was given a positive performance review. The members received a presentation on foreign residents in the county and laws the governments must abide by.
- Forward Pinellas: The Board will meet on March 8 and does not have any public hearings scheduled.

- Value Adjustment Board: The final meeting will be held at the end of the month or early in April.

Commissioner Eggers

- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA): Members voted unanimously to retain the Jolley Trolley service, and there is a possible dispute with a company that did not receive the contract. Members voted to purchase two electric buses and will purchase 15 new buses later this year. A revision was made to the Memorandum of Understanding between PSTA and the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART) which includes minor clarifications of intent.
- Tampa Bay Water: An Executive Board meeting has been scheduled for March 20 and a budget meeting will be held in April.
- Canvassing Board: Meetings have begun and will continue over the following several weeks.
- Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group: The next meeting will be held on April 7.

Commissioner Justice

- Area Agency on Aging: The annual meeting will be held on March 20.

Commissioner Seel

- American Manufacturing Skills Initiative: A progress report has been sent to each Commissioner and the next Board meeting will be held in April.
- Early Learning Coalition: A fundraiser run will be held on April 1.
- Homeless Leadership Board: The members received a presentation on the Pinellas County Schools' HEAT program.
- Health and Human Services Leadership Board: Commissioner Seel provided a Homeless Leadership Board summary sheet titled *Status of Homelessness for Families with Children in Pinellas County*, a copy of which has been made a part of the record, which was presented to the Board at its last meeting. The members also discussed the need to increase funding for school nurses.
- Juvenile Welfare Board: A regular meeting will be held on March 9. The Cooperman-Bogue Kids First Awards luncheon will be held on March 10.

- Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority: Legislation was filed and a copy can be provided to the members upon request.

Commissioner Gerard

- Health and Human Services Leadership Board: The members received a presentation on the discovery of a gap between boys' and girls' achievements in the school system and what can be done about it.
- Pinellas County Child Care License Board: The Executive Director is retiring and the Board is working to hire her replacement.
- PSTA Nomination Committee: The Committee met yesterday, March 6.

31. County Commission miscellaneous:

- Business Technology Services Update - Budget Support
- County Attorney Oversight Committee
- Mayors' Council - Associate Membership.

Business Technology Services Update - Budget Support

Vice-Chairman Welch related that the Board received an update from Chief Technology Officer Martin Rose on Friday as requested; that Mr. Rose is unavailable today due to health issues; and that BTS staff will provide an update on the situation.

In response to queries by Vice-Chairman Welch, BTS Finance and Administration Manager Linda Morrill stated that BTS is working with Office of Management and Budget (OMB) staff to resolve the data issues; that per the recent update, the team is on track with having data in the budget by Thursday; and that the Hyperion to Business Intelligence (BI) interface is on track for Friday. She noted that three full-time Oracle contractors are part of the team.

Mr. Woodard referred to documents on the monitor and stated that there are two main questions to address: What is the current status? What will be done to manage and mitigate the situation? He indicated that as of Friday's update, the budget process is six weeks behind schedule; that the update estimated an additional two weeks are needed to complete the pending tasks; and that assuming there is no slippage in the timeline, the County will be a minimum of eight weeks behind schedule upon the tasks' completion.

Mr. Woodard stated that there are four mitigation strategies and discussed the associated risks and impacts of each, as follows:

1. Implement a temporary and more limited instance of Hyperion budgeting.

Mr. Woodard indicated that a temporary system would be less accurate, would use appropriations and not positions, and would be based on the current-year budget and

not built upon the newest information; that positions would not be allocated to future or current grants; and that there would likely be an increase in budget amendments next year to correct the budget.

2. Transition the data from the limited instance to a completed full-featured instance of Hyperion.

Mr. Woodard indicated that the transition of data would involve an increase in work and potential costs and errors; and that previous decisions would have to be revisited.

3. Departments and agencies will have less time to prepare the budget requests.

Mr. Woodard indicated that having less time to prepare would result in less item detail than in previous years and a higher error rate; and that justifications in the budget will be less comprehensive.

4. Less time to incorporate the Board's input and decision packages.

Mr. Woodard indicated that the Board's decision packages would have to be incorporated as an amendment after the proposed budget is first delivered; and that significant changes to the proposed budget would be expected before it is finalized.

Mr. Woodard noted that there are statutory deadlines for setting the maximum millage rates; and that should the budget be delayed past the deadline, it may preclude the Board's option to propose an increase; whereupon, he stated that despite all of the risks and impacts, staff will get the job done as expected. Vice-Chairman Welch thanked staff for their actions, noting that the situation is unacceptable; and that issues with BTS leadership will have to be addressed.

In response to queries by Vice-Chairman Welch, Mr. Woodard indicated that the first strategy will allow OMB staff to work with little to no reliance on BTS so as not to impact their mission-critical deliverable due in two weeks; and that the work will be done by existing staff although work hours will be expanded. He noted that under the third strategy, departments under the Board would likely have four weeks less to prepare their budgets; and that copies of the schedule will be made available to the members.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Seel, Mr. Woodard stated that the statutory deadline for setting the millage rate is August 4; that not using a temporary system and waiting two more weeks would make the situation completely unmanageable; and that keeping budget sessions on the current schedule will give the best chance for staff to provide as much information as possible; whereupon, the members thanked those involved for their continuing efforts.

County Attorney Oversight Committee

Vice-Chairman Welch stated that the members should have received copies of a proposed agreement with Vose Law Firm, LLP for legal services to the County Attorney

Oversight Committee in the amount of \$10,000; whereupon, noting that some members still needed a copy, he called for discussion of the next item to allow time for copies to be made and distributed.

Later in the meeting, Attorney Bennett reviewed the newly provided document and stated that it was the County's standard form agreement. Commissioner Eggers related that he had an earlier conversation with the County Administrator concerning whether a Request for Proposal (RFP) was needed; and that an RFP process was completed earlier for the Charter Review Commission; whereupon, Commissioner Morrone noted that the hourly rate provided by the firm is very competitive.

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

Aye: 6 - Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morrone, and Commissioner Seel

Absent: 1 - Chairman Long

Mayors' Council - Associate Membership

Commissioner Eggers provided background information on the item, and indicated that the Mayors' Council has provided an Associate Membership to the Board as an invitation for the Board to provide input and exchange ideas with the Council; and that an alternating schedule for one Board member to attend each meeting has been proposed.

Commissioner Gerard stated that she would prefer an annual appointment be given to a member to attend the meetings; and that this would ensure the Board remains consistent in its attendance, and discussion ensued.

Vice-Chairman Welch noted that there is consensus among the members to attend the Mayors' Council meetings; and that Chairman Long's office will be asked to create the corresponding schedule.

County Commission miscellaneous

Commissioner Seel

- Congratulated Commissioner Justice on being selected as Chairman of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program.

Commissioner Justice

- Attended the Hillsborough County League of Women's Voters meeting last week where Senator Arthenia Joyner and Holly Greening were honored for Lifetime Achievement and Civic Leadership, respectively.

- Congratulated WSTP Reporter Mike Deeson on announcing his retirement.
- Noted that Pinellas County is at a high level on the Observed Fire Danger Index; whereupon, Assistant County Administrator John Bennett provided input.

Commissioner Eggers

- Attended the Palm Harbor Museum function with Commissioners Gerard and Seel on Saturday, and congratulated its Board and Chair, Susan Latvala, on their related efforts.
- Noted that the County’s education presentation concerning the Penny for Pinellas is traveling to Dunedin, Palm Harbor, and other locations over the next several months.
- Indicated that an Economic Innovation Symposium has been scheduled for April 20 and 21.

ADJOURNMENT - 11:34 A.M.

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By _____
Deputy Clerk

Chairman