

Pinellas County

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



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, May 9, 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 Morrone
Karen Williams Seel*

ROLL CALL - 9:31 A.M.

Present: 7 - Chairman Janet C. Long, Vice-Chairman Kenneth T. Welch, Dave Eggers, Pat Gerard, Charlie Justice, John Morroni, and Karen Williams Seel

Others Present: Jewel White, Chief Assistant County Attorney; Mark S. Woodard, County Administrator; Claretha N. Harris, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Jenny Masinovsky and Michael Schmidt, Board Reporters, Deputy Clerks.

INVOCATION by Reverend D. Dean Young with the Pinellas Chaplains Association**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. American Public Works Association Awards:
 - Fort De Soto Bridge
 - Curlew Creek Channel A
 - Public Works Stormwater Operations
 - Scholarship Awards.

Noting that Pinellas County was included in the seven out of 67 counties receiving the prestigious awards, Chairman Long and Mr. Woodard presented them to the following Pinellas County employees:

- Nancy McKibben, Ivanetta Dorsey, David Brown, and Stephen Robinson (Curlew Creek Channel A)
- Dennis Grizzell and Eric Fehrmann (Public Works Stormwater Operations)
- Lyle Fowler and Ivanetta Dorsey for (Fort De Soto Bridge)

Ms. McKibben indicated that Curlew Creek Channel A was an ambitious flood control and creek stabilization project, in the course of which the creek and its habitat were restored, and Ms. Dorsey related that the Fort De Soto Bridge project helped address silt buildup, improve the flow of the water, and clean up a portion of the bay. Mr. Woodard pointed out that the projects were funded by the Penny for Pinellas tax; whereupon, a video displaying the projects was presented.

Later in the meeting, Chairman Long recognized Public Works Department employees Joseph Boggs, Josephine Benwell, and William Logan for receiving the American Public Works Association Scholarship Awards.

2. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week Proclamation.

Proclamation presented to EMS Division Director Craig Hare.

3. EMS Professionals of the Year.

Professional of the Year Awards presented to:
Richard Sherman, Emergency Medical Dispatcher of the Year.
David Sims, Paramedic of the Year.
Reilly Nolan, Emergency Medical Technician of the Year.

Chairman Long remarked on the highly skilled EMS Department professionals and introduced a video showing their stories and accomplishments; whereupon, Pinellas Federal Credit Union Vice President of Administration Gina Signor presented Messrs. Sherman, Sims, and Nolan with monetary awards.

Thereupon, Chairman Long informed the audience that the Commissioners are wearing blue ribbons today in honor of National Police Week which begins May 14.

4. Partner Presentation:

EMS Advisory Council: Dr. David Weiland, Chairman.

Dr. Weiland referred to a PowerPoint presentation titled Doing Things! Partner Presentation: Pinellas County EMS Advisory Council EMS System Update, which has been made a part of the record, and discussed the Council's membership, mission, and goals; status of the EMS system, including improvements and challenges; ambulance transport trends; and increased service demand and its evaluation by the Council; whereupon, he responded to queries by the members.

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**5. Case No. CW 17-2 - City of Pinellas Park**

Countywide Plan Map Amendment from Retail & Services and Target Employment Center to Employment and Target Employment Center, regarding 1.9 acres more or less, located at 11425 66th Street North (regular amendment).

Ordinance No. 17-13 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.

Forward Pinellas Program Planner Alicia Parinello referred to aerial and street-level photographs and the land use map, pointed out the subject parcel, described surrounding land uses, and provided an overview of the proposal, indicating that the purpose of the amendment is to accommodate the granite fabrication and manufacturing proposed for the site; whereupon, she stated that staff has found the proposal

consistent with the Countywide Rules and recommends approval.

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

6. Case No. CW 91-13 (SAP Change No. 5-2017) - City of Pinellas Park
Countywide Plan Map amendment of an existing Activity Center (governed by the Pinellas Park Community Redevelopment Plan) for a 1.7 acres more or less parcel located at 7651 U.S. Highway 19, increasing the permitted density from 12.5 to 24 units per acre, decreasing the permitted floor area ratio from 0.65 to 0.55, and changing permitted uses to allow for predominantly commercial uses (regular amendment).

Ordinance No. 17-14 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.

Referring to aerial and street-level photographs and the land use map, Forward Pinellas Program Planner Alicia Parinello pointed out the location of the subject area, described surrounding land uses, and provided a brief overview of the proposal. She indicated that the Crown Honda automobile dealership, located on the adjacent property to the north, plans to expand its area to the subject parcel; that the existing Activity Center category will remain the same with regard to the Countywide Plan Map; and that the proposed amendment would change the density and intensity.

Ms. Parinello stated that staff has found the proposal consistent with the Countywide Rules and recommends approval; whereupon, responding to queries by Commissioner Justice, she provided clarification regarding the changes occurring under the amendment.

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

7. Petition of A.D. Morris Properties, Inc. to vacate portions of Haines Road North and 34th Street rights-of-way adjacent to 6901 U.S. Highway 19 North, Pinellas Farms, in Section 34/30/16, Pinellas County, Florida (legislative hearing).

Resolution No. 17-27 adopted granting the petition with regard to the 34th Street North right-of-way only. Authority granted for the Clerk to record the resolution. Letters of no objection have been received from all appropriate parties. Interested property owners were notified as to the date of the public hearing. Staff had no objection to vacation of the 34th Street North right-of-way and recommended that vacation of the Haines Road North right-of-way be denied. No correspondence has been received.

Referring to a PowerPoint presentation which has been made a part of the record, Real Estate Management Director Andrew Pupke indicated that the hearing was properly advertised and provided historical background information regarding the petition. Responding to queries by Mr. Woodard and Commissioner Welch, he confirmed that the petitioners' property is located between the two right-of-ways; whereupon, he identified them on the map and provided a detailed explanation of staff's position concerning their use and vacation, noting that two separate resolutions have been created for the Board's consideration.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Assistant General Counsel Rodney Wade and Project Manager Lillian Escalera referred to a map and an aerial photograph of the section of U.S. Highway 19 located near the petitioners' property and the subject right-of-ways and discussed the ongoing Project Development and Environmental Study to improve safety and accommodate various traffic types on U.S. Highway 19, including auxiliary and buffer bike lanes, pedestrian refuge in the median, and enhancement of sidewalks. Indicating that the Haines Road right-of-way portion will be utilized for improvements, they requested that the members deny its vacation, and discussion ensued.

Commissioner Morroni observed that FDOT has been planning to improve the area since 2013 and inquired about the project timeline; whereupon, Ms. Escalera indicated that the design phase is scheduled for Fiscal Year 2019; and that the main focus of the improvements is for the intersection of Gandy Boulevard and U.S. Highway 19. Commissioner Seel pointed out that problems in the area were recognized and prioritized by the Metropolitan Planning Organization when she chaired it, and the FDOT representatives and Mr. Pupke confirmed that the project is dependent on the Haines Road right-of-way; however, there are no objections to vacating the 34th Street right-of-way portion.

During discussion concerning ownership of the Haines Road right-of-way, Mr. Pupke noted that subsequent to the State's transfer to the County, the County issued a utilization permit to Pinellas Park, which entered into a landscape and maintenance agreement with the petitioners. Chief Assistant County Attorney Jewel White explained that vacating the right-of-way would be releasing it without making a determination as to the ownership, which may then be decided by a court of law and would likely be divided between the County and the petitioners.

In response to the Chairman's call for persons wishing to be heard, Attorney Matt Weidner, St. Petersburg, appeared and stated that he represents the petitioners. He provided background information regarding the petition, and referring to photographs of the Haines Road right-of-way, related that it is blighted and abandoned, and will get worse if not vacated. He noted that the FDOT letter dated February 24, 2017, which was made part of the record, and the meetings with FDOT representatives have indicated to the petitioners that, up until yesterday, FDOT did not object to the vacation; and that the U.S. Highway 19 improvement project is not definite.

Responding to queries by the members, Mr. Weidner discussed the petitioners' difficulties in maintaining the right-of-way and the need to have access to U.S. Highway 19 from their property. He stressed that they are seeking any positive alternative to status quo, such as a transient or conditional use enabling utilization of the right-of-way for parking; whereupon, Attorney White indicated that if the right-of-way is not vacated, it would remain public; therefore, any potential conditional use should be nominal. Mr. Pupke noted that the County does not normally allow right-of-way utilization permits for permanent structures.

In response to queries by the members, Mr. Wade indicated that he is not familiar with the aforementioned letter of no objection; that FDOT plans to proceed with the project, contingent on the outcome of the public hearings; and that while it will be determined through FDOT's access management program, access to U.S. Highway 19 is possible, based on the circumstances.

In rebuttal, Mr. Weidner expressed concern that the meeting agenda packet did not include pertinent documentation; and that he had no opportunity to fully investigate FDOT's new position with regard to the Haines Road right-of-way and the upcoming project facts presented today; whereupon, Commissioner Welch requested information relating to the documentation, and Mr. Pupke indicated that information regarding the FDOT project was relayed to the petitioners during a meeting in April.

In response to the Chairman's call for persons wishing to be heard, the petitioners, Donald and Alice Morris, St. Petersburg, appeared, stated their concerns, and provided letters in support of the petition, which have been made part of the record. They described the dire condition of the Haines Road right-of-way due to the County's abandonment and their efforts to clean it at a cost of \$30,000, noting that they won an award for their property improvements; whereupon, the following individuals spoke in support of the petition:

Dennis Hoffman, Pinellas Park
David Hoffman, Pinellas Park

Thereupon, the members discussed partial vacation of the Haines Road right-of-way, the need for the petitioners' and other nearby properties to have access to U.S. Highway 19, and balancing the County's long-term infrastructure needs with support for the petitioners' request. Commissioner Eggers expressed concerns regarding neglect of the County property; whereupon, Messrs. Woodard and Pupke pointed out that notwithstanding the property's condition upon transfer from the State, it has been maintained according to the County's level of service; that issues of inadequate water or electricity supply to the site should be addressed by Pinellas Park, as the County is not party to the maintenance agreement; and that the matter at hand concerns ownership of land for the public benefit.

A motion was made by Commissioner Morrone, seconded by Vice-Chairman Welch, that the resolution granting the petition to vacate be approved with regard to the 34th Street North right-of-way only. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

A motion was made by Commissioner Seel, seconded by Commissioner Morroni, that the petition be denied with regard to the Haines Road North right-of-way; and that a letter be sent by the BCC Chairman to the Florida Department of Transportation requesting that in planning of U.S. Highway 19 improvements, great consideration be given to providing access onto U.S. Highway 19 for the petitioners' as well as adjoining properties. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

CONSENT AGENDA - Items 8 through 19 (Item 16 addressed under Regular Agenda)

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

8. Minutes of the regular meeting held April 11, 2017.
9. Vouchers and bills paid from March 19 through April 8, 2017.

Period March 19 through March 25, 2017

Payroll - \$3,299,362.36

Accounts Payable - \$25,085,017.96

Period March 26 through April 1, 2017

Payroll - None

Accounts Payable - \$24,455,139.55

Period April 2 through April 8, 2017

Payroll - \$3,427,556.45

Accounts Payable - \$38,126,161.27

Reports received for filing:

10. City of Dunedin Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2016.
11. City of Tarpon Springs Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2016.

12. Tampa Bay Water Annual Financial Report and Audited Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2016.
13. Juvenile Welfare Board Quarterly Financial Statements for the period ending March 31, 2017.
14. Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending December 31, 2016.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

15. City of Oldsmar Ordinance No. 2017-04 adopted April 4, 2017, annexing certain property.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

17. Joint Project Agreement with the City of St. Petersburg for utility work associated with the Haines Road improvement project from 60th Avenue North to U.S. Highway 19.
County Project No. 002106A. Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.
18. County Incentive Grant Program Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for the Northeast Coachman Road and Old Coachman Road intersection improvement project.
Resolution No. 17-28 adopted approving the agreement (FDOT Financial Project No. 437041 1 54 01; County PID No. 001020A) (grant amount, 535,823.00; County cost, \$635,522.00; total estimated cost \$1,171,345.00). Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

Utilities

19. Ranking of firms and agreement with Gresham, Smith and Partners for professional engineering services for the South Cross Bayou Water Reclamation Facility bio-solids dewatering system improvement project.
Contract No. 156-0151-NC approved for a total expenditure not to exceed \$1,383,378.00; contract term is 48 consecutive calendar months from the notice-to-proceed date. Chairman authorized to sign the agreement and the Clerk to attest.

REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Parks and Conservation Resources

16. Award of bid to Rick Richards, Inc. for a contract pertaining to the restoration of flatwoods in Brooker Creek Preserve.

Bid No. 167-0248-B in the amount of \$1,629,375.00 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications, for a contract period of 60 months. Bid from Tampa Contracting Services, Inc. rejected on the basis of being non-responsive for not meeting bid requirements.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Mr. Woodard discussed a recent request made by the *Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve* that Pinellas County purchase a Fecon Mower to help maintain the property. He related that such a mower is used to remove invasive species and reduce fire hazards; that using a private company to provide mowing services is less expensive than bringing those services in-house; and that while habitat-oriented activities as brought forward by the *Friends* will be considered, the first and foremost objective is fire protection, and discussion ensued.

Assistant County Administrator John Bennett, with input by Managing Assistant County Attorney Don Crowell, provided information regarding the current open burn prohibition ordinance and a separate ordinance pertaining to local parks and preserves; whereupon, he discussed administrative capabilities, emergency management powers, and public service announcements, and Mr. Woodard provided input.

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

20. Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey for the Water Discipline Data Collection Program.

Agreement approved for the period of May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018 (total project cost, \$253,000.00; Pinellas County contribution, \$195,574.00; United States Geological Survey contribution, \$57,426.00). Chairman authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

In response to query by Commissioner Seel, Mr. Woodard agreed to provide information regarding the locations to be monitored.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Gerard

Solid Waste

21. Purchase authorization with Humdinger Equipment, Ltd. to acquire a bulk waste shredder.

Contract No. 167-0295-PB in the amount of \$793,180.00 approved pursuant to the pricing, terms, and conditions of Houston-Galveston Area Purchasing Cooperative Contract No. EM06-15.

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

22. County Administrator miscellaneous - Introduction of the Solid Waste Department Section Manager, Robert Mills, to the BCC.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

23. Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County, on behalf of Pinellas County Animal Services, v. Devonte Harvey; County Civil Case No. 17-00XXXX-CO; Pinellas County Animal Services Case No. C04300674.

Attorney White reported that due to the urgent and deplorable condition in which the animal was found, litigation was filed and the dog seized; whereupon, she related that the item is before the members for ratification; and that the dog is recovering well under the care of Animal Services.

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

Emergency Medical Services Authority

24. Amendments to the Bylaws of the EMS Advisory Council (companion to item no. 25).

Sitting as the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Authority, the Board approved amendments to the EMS Advisory Council Bylaws as noted in the Staff Report and backup materials.

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

25. Appointments to the EMS Advisory Council (EMS Authority) (companion to item no. 24).

Sitting as the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Authority, the Board approved the following appointments and reappointments for two-year terms ending in May 2019:

- Chief Ian Womack and Captain Eric Dinan as the City of St. Petersburg Fire Chief representative and alternative representative, respectively
- Chief Rob Angell and Chief Terry Tokarz as the EMS Coordinator representative and alternative representative, respectively

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

Housing Finance Authority

26. Resolution of the Housing Finance Authority for the issuance of its Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds to finance a multifamily residential rental housing project.

Resolution No. 17-29 adopted approving the issuance of the bonds in a principal amount not to exceed \$8,200,000.00 for the benefit of SP Trail, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, or its affiliate; no County general funds are required; all lendable funds are generated from the sale of tax-exempt housing bonds.

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

Aye: 7 - Chairman Long, Vice-Chairman Welch, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Morroni, and Commissioner Seel

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

27. County Administrator reports: None.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

28. Public comment.

C. Kenneth Warrington, Largo, re pedestrian and bicycle safety David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re Constitutional convention Otto Fox, Seminole, re save the water tower
Kristen Oliphant, Largo, re save the water tower
Sue Etter, Seminole, re water tower
Sandy Holloway, Seminole, re save the water tower (submitted 294 post cards)
Jeffrey Etter, Seminole, re Seminole Water Tower
W. Fred Petty, Seminole, re Seminole Water Tower
Bob Matthews, Seminole, re Seminole Water Tower
Mary Hoegstrom, Seminole, re Seminole Water Tower preservation

In response to comments and queries by the citizens, Mr. Woodard provided historical background information regarding the Seminole Water Tower, including the age and ownership of the structure, maintenance and operating costs, decommission date, and plans for demolition; whereupon, he reported that he has had numerous conversations with the City of Seminole; that favorable terms were presented for purchase/lease of the land and tower; that the City Council was provided an engineering report and advised of upkeep costs; and that while Pinellas County has delayed demolition efforts, the Council continues to vote against acquisition of the property.

In response to comments and queries by the members, Mr. Woodard discussed property acquisition costs, deferred maintenance costs, appraised values, liability and safety issues, correspondence and meetings, and reluctance by Seminole to purchase the parcel. Commissioner Gerard requested that Seminole be approached one more time and presented an option to lease the land, and Commissioners Seel and Eggers agreed; whereupon, Chairman Long and Commissioner Morrone questioned why Seminole did not apply for BP Oil Spill Funds or utilize Penny for Pinellas dollars, indicating that even though several people have spoken today in favor of saving the tower, many residents are opposed to the idea; and that Pinellas County cannot frivolously donate assets, and Commissioner Welch provided input.

In response to query by Chairman Long, Mr. Woodard confirmed that he will contact the City Manager, ensure that a lease option is presented, and report back to the members at a future date.

COUNTY COMMISSION

29. County Commissioner Board Reports.Commissioner Morroni

- Human Rights Board: The next meeting is scheduled for June 7.
- Forward Pinellas: The next meeting is scheduled for May 10. Commissioner Morroni provided correspondence from Forward Pinellas Executive Director Whit Blanton on behalf of the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee requesting member support of the Pinellas Trail Loop.

Commissioner Eggers

- Forward Pinellas: A workshop for the Regional Transportation Planning and Coordination Best Practices Study is scheduled for May 12.
- Tampa Bay Water: Discussed the potential for a Drought Alert/Drought Warning in the near future, indicating that the agency is well positioned to respond to drought conditions and water demands.

Commissioner Welch

- Business Technology Services: Chief Information Officer (CIO) Martin Rose tendered his resignation; Chief Technology Officer Jeff Rohrs was appointed Interim CIO. Recruitment efforts for a permanent CIO will be discussed at the May BTS Board meeting. The need for a Deputy CIO was identified as well as the realignment of vertical applications.

Commissioner Gerard

- Pinellas County Child Care Licensing Board: She was elected Chairman. The Board plans to hire a new Executive Director.
- Public Safety Coordinating Council: The Council approved a grant request to come before the BCC regarding establishing assessment and treatment services for persons who have been taken into custody under the Marchman Act.

Commissioner Justice

- Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas: Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services Chief Operating Officer Ann Marie Winter has accepted the position of Executive Director.

Commissioner Seel

- American Manufacturing Skills Initiative: Discussed her conversation with

CareerSource President and CEO Ed Peachey and AMskills Hernando County Site Coordinator Tom Mudano. She requested that Economic Development Director Mike Meidel and his staff be allowed to bring together the manufacturing community for a roundtable discussion in the near future, and provided information regarding an expansion of college programs for adults and veterans.

- Homeless Leadership Board: The members approved funding for *The Source for Housing Solutions*, a consultant to provide supportive housing projections.

Chairman Long

- Bus Rapid Transit: Millions of dollars have been appropriated by the Legislature for bus rapid transit between Tampa International Airport and Clearwater Beach.
- Tampa Bay Area Regional Transportation Authority: Senator Jack Latvala helped to pass legislation that will provide for a new governing model in the region. Discussed representation on TBARTA.
- Tampa Bay Partnership: The Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority has been leading a Feasibility Study on behalf of the Tampa Bay Partnership, and has requested that Pinellas County take a more active role in trying to move it forward.
- American Craftsman Museum: The Capital Project Funding request was temporarily deferred at a previous meeting. Chairman Long requested that the item be agendaed for the next Commission meeting, and no objections were noted.
- Joint Commission Meeting: Provided information regarding the prospect of Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties engaging in joint meetings to discuss issues of mutual concern.

30. County Commission miscellaneous.

Commissioner Welch

- Asked how the County Administrator plans to address the prospect of an additional homestead exemption. Mr. Woodard related it would be premature to begin making reductions to existing levels of service at this time, but that it would be prudent to begin reviewing areas where County dollars are funding State responsibilities.

Commissioner Eggers

- Reported that the Law Enforcement Memorial Service will commence at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, May 10, in front of the Sheriff's Administration Building, 10750 Ulmerton Road, Largo.
- Requested that as staff negotiates Tourist Development Council projects, each project return before the members in a timely manner for discussion and approval.

- Related that he met with Mr. Woodard and Director of Utilities Randi Kim regarding the availability of reclaimed water in the northern part of the county.

Commissioner Justice

- Extended condolences to Representative Ben Diamond on the passing of his father.

Chairman Long

- Requested that a brief lunch break be taken during long meetings.

ADJOURNMENT - 1:09 P.M.

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

Chairman

By _____
Deputy Clerk