



# Martin County Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting Minutes

Commission Chambers, Martin County-Admin Building  
2401 South East Monterey Road, Stuart, Florida

**Monday, January 26, 2026**

## PRESENT

Position	Name	Term Expiration
Chair	Michael Readling	January 13, 2029
Vice Chair	Cindy Hall	January 13, 2029
Members	Saadia Tsafarides	January 13, 2029
	Robert Krebs	January 27, 2027
	Jamie Rolle Taylor	December 31, 2027
	Rex Sentell	January 13, 2029
	Chuck Smith	January 13, 2027

## ABSENT

Position	Name	Term Expiration
N/A	N/A	N/A

## STAFF PRESENT

Position	Name
CRA Director	Susan Kores
CRA Assistant Manager	Jordan Pastorius
CRA Specialist	Dianne Racek
CRA Program Manager	Joy Puerta
CRA Coordinator	Elise Raffa
Assistant County Attorney	Frank Moehrle
Assistant County Administrator	George Stokus

\* Indicates a motion

\*\* Indicates a vote

\*\*\* For the record comment

**CALL TO ORDER** Meeting was called to order at 3:02 PM.

**DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST** None

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Agenda Item: 26-0444**, Draft Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2025

## **MOTION**

\* S. Tsafarides motioned to approve the proposed December 1, 2025; meeting minutes as presented.

\*\* C. Hall seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY

## **COMMENTS**

PUBLIC-

J. George- We live on Southwest Conch Cove Lane at the base of the Palm City Bridge. Since the “No Left Turn” sign was installed, residents have had to use a narrow alley to access Reilley Avenue, which is unsafe due to high-speed traffic coming off the bridge. We are asking the County to consider traffic control measures or safety improvements. The current situation puts residents at serious risk.

S. Kores- We can investigate possible solutions. Do you have any specific recommendations you would like implemented?

J. George- Yes, we would like a traffic light installed at the bottom of the bridge.

M. Reading- Have you spoken with Commissioner Ciampi?

J. George- Yes, we have been in contact.

C. Romero- Career Connect Martin is a free program available to Martin County residents who are seeking employment or a new career path. We provide coaching, job preparation, support, and we work to understand each applicant’s skill set. We also partner with local businesses to offer trial employment opportunities, with the potential for full-time hire afterward.

J. Rolle Taylor- What is the minimum age requirement to participate in the program?

C. Romero- 18 years old.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Agenda Item: 26-0445**, CRA - CAPITAL PROJECTS REVIEW, JANUARY 26, 2026

Susan Kores provided a monthly review of active capital projects, focusing on Hobe Sound, Golden Gate, Jensen Beach, and Rio.

## COMMENTS

R. Krebs-Has the contract been awarded for the Streetscape Drainage project?

S. Kores- We are negotiating the scope. We should have it by mid-February. It is a large project, and there are a lot of elements to consider.

R. Krebs- Plus the new required process for projects.

S. Kores- Yes. Once the scope is finalized, we will proceed with the CMAR process.

J. Rolle Taylor- Are we still at 90% plans for the unpaved roads in New Monrovia?

J. Puerta- We have now reached 100%.

S. Tsafarides- What is the status of the landscaping project on Birch?

S. Kores- There will be a presentation at the NAC meeting next week. You will be able to see some of the proposed landscape elements, review available options, and provide input. We do plan to conduct community outreach, but on a smaller scale.

S. Tsafarides- Will the community garden on El Camino be fenced?

J. Puerta- Yes, it will be.

C. Smith- Do you have any updates on the park by the rowing club?

J. Pastorius- It is a Public Works project being managed by Capital Projects and is expected to be finished by April or May.

**Agenda Item: 26-0446** CRA - LOT MATCH, UNDERUTILIZED PROPERTY PROGRAM

Susan Kores presented a new program, Lot Match, designed to assist underutilized properties—vacant lots or properties with vacant buildings—and their owners by matching these assets with residents, businesses, or entrepreneurs to encourage redevelopment and revitalization of these properties and communities.

Frank Moehrle reviewed the legal requirements of the Lot Match Program, including the Lot Match Advertising Waiver and Authorization Agreement and its provisions.

## **COMMENTS**

S. Tsafarides- What is going to be done with the Golden Gate properties?

S. Kores- The county surplus properties?

S. Tsafarides- No, the ones inside Golden Gate.

S. Kores- The ten lots that are possibly for housing?

S. Tsafarides- Some of them are smaller lots, not big enough for housing.

S. Kores- This program is focused on commercial lots only. If you provide me with a list, we can review it with Joy and see what we can do.

R. Krebs- How will the Lot Match process begin?

S. Kores- Our staff will handle the marketing and go out and promote it. We can start with Dixie Hwy in Rio. This would be a similar process to the investment program.

R. Krebs- If we know someone who might be a good fit, would you contact them?

S. Kores- Yes. If you know the property owner or the real estate agent, we will reach out to them.

J. Rolle Taylor- This program is set up for properties that may be rented or sold. Are we replacing the realtor?

S. Kores- No.

J. Rolle Taylor- Are we acting as a liaison?

F. Moehrle- We are kind of like Zillow or Redfin—another place for people to go to look for property.

J. Rolle Taylor- What is the cost?

S. Kores- The program is low cost. The only costs would be for marketing materials and signage.

J. Rolle Taylor- And web design?

S. Kores- That will be done in-house. We will be applying to have our own social media account through the County. This will help market the properties better and provide additional justification for controlling our social media.

R. Sentell- This will benefit the County by bringing in additional tax dollars.

A brief further discussion ensued among the Board members and staff over the inner workings of the process, the benefits to the community and the marketability of the program.

## **MOTION**

\* R. Sentell motioned to move forward with the Lot Match Program and to obtain a dedicated social media account through the County.

\*\* S. Tsafarides seconded, and the motion carried UNANIMOUSLY

## **COMMENTS**

1. Public- None

2. Members-

R. Sentell- The Lot Match program is going to benefit all the CRAs and will be great for the community.

J. Rolle Taylor- The trees in Port Salerno still have not been trimmed, and I think we should suggest getting a new contractor.

S. Kores- We can look at the existing contract and see if anything can be done.

J. Rolle Taylor- When will the community meeting be for the sewer project?

S. Kores- We will get a status update.

S. Tsafarides- There is a Greek festival this weekend, starting on Friday and running through Sunday until 6:00 p.m. I invite everyone to come out and enjoy the food and festivities.

C. Smith- The lower plants on Mapp Road that were planted four or five years ago have died. We need a replanting plan.

S. Kores- We can talk with Field Operations and have a plan drawn up. Although, at this time it would not be a funded project.

C. Smith- Is there anyone in-house who could come up with a list and go to the businesses along the road?

S. Kores- We could come up with a plan and determine what it is going to cost.

R. Krebs- The Hobe Sound Art Fest is this weekend.

M. Reading- The Restore is having a ribbon cutting on February 18 at 9:30 am and a grand opening on Saturday, February 21. Come in and eat and shop.

3. Staff- None

**ADJOURN** – Meeting adjourned at 3:51PM.

Recorded and prepared by:

Dianne Racek, Community Development Specialist

Michael Reading, Chair

Date

Date

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