



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DRAFT

1/9/2024 9:00 AM

MINUTES

COMMISSION CHAMBERS

2401 SE MONTEREY ROAD, STUART, FLORIDA 34996

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Harold E. Jenkins II, Chairman
Stacey Hetherington, Vice Chair
Doug Smith
Sarah Heard
Edward V. Ciampi

Don G. Donaldson, P.E., County Administrator
Sarah W. Woods, County Attorney
Carolyn Timmann, Clerk of the Circuit Court and
Comptroller

CALL TO ORDER

Present: 4 - Commissioner Doug Smith
Chairman Harold E. Jenkins II
Commissioner Sarah Heard
Commissioner Edward V. Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Stacey Hetherington

1. INVOCATION ~ Pastor Aaron Meehan, Higher Purpose Pentecostal Church
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE ~ Valerie Rutter, US Air Force Gulf War Veteran
3. ADDITIONAL ITEMS
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Ciampi, to approve the agenda, with the consent agenda and two proclamation presentations. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Smith, Chairman Jenkins II, Commissioner Heard,
and Commissioner Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hetherington

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Supervisor of Elections Vickie Davis addressed the Board to provide updates on the upcoming election season and precinct changes.

PROC-1 PRESENT A PROCLAMATION PREVIOUSLY APPROVED VIA THE CONSENT AGENDA

The Chairman will present the proclamation declaring January 19, 2024 Arbor Day in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 24-0430

Communications Manager Laura Beaupre presented the proclamation to the Board.

The Garden Club of Stuart President Rosita Aristoff accepted the Arbor Day proclamation.

PROC-2 ADOPT AND PRESENT A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH IN MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

The Board is asked to adopt and present a proclamation recognizing Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Martin County, Florida. Lynne Barletta with Florida Faith Alliance and Visionary School of Arts will make a brief presentation.

Agenda Item: 24-0431

Communications Manager Laura Beaupre presented the proclamation to the Board.

Florida Faith Alliance and Visionary School CEO Lynne and Tony Barletta and Martin County Sheriff Office Chief Budensiek accepted the proclamation Recognizing Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Tony Barletta introduced and acknowledged their supporters in attendance.

Lynne Barletta shared a video called "Don't Take the Bait". Chief Budensiek addressed the Board.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Heard, to adopt the proclamation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Smith, Chairman Jenkins II, Commissioner Heard, and Commissioner Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hetherington

COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC - PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES.

Michael Syrkus addressed the Board regarding items in the proposed 2024 budget.

Linda Smith (Sierra Club Loxahatchee Group) congratulated and thanked the Board for their efforts to acquire conservation lands [DEPT-4].

Tom Haas spoke regarding a federal initiative through HUD, that assist seniors with paying bills; he stated all funding has been exhausted and requested the Board's assistance to seek additional funding. Mr. Haas addressed concerns regarding the failing seawall at Bathtub Beach and the impact the dredging has on sea life spawning cycles.

Tom Pine shared his expectations of the County for fiscal year 2024. He also suggested the Board partner with Palm Beach County regarding legislative efforts to prohibit gun use on residential property.

Jeff Wittmann urged the Board to purchase additional land to assist with panther population and habitats.

Amy Pritchett shared she attended a Neighborhood Advisory Committee meeting and requested the Board to continue to allow the residents to voice their opinions on how and where they would like monies spent.

Michael Bell addressed the Board to notify them of an on-going neighbor issue pertaining to the noise ordinance.

2. COMMISSIONERS

AM

Commissioner Smith shared that he recently attended a tour of the SPAM School Board facility and highlighted some of their successes; he asked School Board Member Amy Pritchett to share additional information. School Board Member Amy Pritchett provided insights into the program and provided contact information to those interested in touring the facilities.

PM

Commissioner Ciampi referenced public comment regarding Palm Beach County's legislative efforts to prohibit gun use on residential property without proper protection from stray bullets. He stated he is not opposed to participating in the efforts. Commissioner Jenkins requested additional information from the Legal Department detailing the law on this subject.

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

AM

None at this time.

PM

County Administrator Don Donaldson requested a Chair letter of support to Sedron Technologies supporting a regional biosolids processing facility in Indiantown. Mr. Donaldson stated there is an interest in having the County Administrator, Commissioner Smith and Utilities and Solid Waste Director tour a facility.

Commissioner Jenkins requested a presentation from Sedron Technologies showcasing this technology. Commissioner Heard inquired about verifying compliance.

County Attorney Sarah Woods addressed false statements, made on various social media platforms pertaining to members of the Board not following ethical rules of conduct for voting conflicts. She assured the public that there is a process to ensure compliance.

Commissioner Smith encouraged the public to contact the County Attorney if there is a claim of violation.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Heard, to allow staff to present a letter, with the Chair's signature, to the Village of Indiantown and travel to tour the biosolids facility. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Smith, Chairman Jenkins II, Commissioner Heard, and Commissioner Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hetherington

CONSENT

ADMINISTRATION

CNST-1 CONTRACTS THAT MEET THE THRESHOLD FOR BOARD APPROVAL

This item is a placeholder on all Board meeting agendas to streamline the process for items that meet the Board approval threshold. Specific items requiring approval, if any, will be provided by Supplemental Memorandum. If there are no items, a Supplemental Memorandum will not be attached.

Agenda Item: 24-0396

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

CNST-2 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL OF WARRANT LIST FOR DISBURSEMENT VIA CHECKS AND ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS TO COMPLY WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to Chapter 136.06, Florida Statutes, checks and electronic payments issued by the Board of County Commissioners are to be recorded in the Board meeting minutes. In compliance with statutory requirements, the Warrant List is added to the Consent Agenda for approval by the Board of County Commissioners. This Warrant List is for disbursements made between November 27, 2023 and December 24, 2023. Additional details related to these disbursements may be viewed in the office of the Martin County Clerk of Court and Comptroller or on the Clerk's website.

Agenda Item: 24-0402

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

CNST-3 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

The Board is asked to approve minutes from the June 15, 2023 joint meeting.

Agenda Item: 24-0426

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

**CNST-4 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION DECLARING JANUARY 22-26, 2024
CELEBRATE LITERACY WEEK IN MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

The Board is asked to adopt a proclamation declaring January 22-26, 2024 Celebrate Literacy Week in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 24-0434

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

**CNST-5 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH IN MARTIN COUNTY,
FLORIDA**

The Board is asked to adopt a proclamation recognizing Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 24-0450

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

**CNST-6 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION DECLARING NATIONAL CERTIFIED
REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETISTS WEEK IN MARTIN COUNTY,
FLORIDA**

The Board is asked to adopt a proclamation declaring National Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Week in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 24-0465

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

**CNST-7 TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL MUNICIPAL
APPOINTMENTS**

The Board is asked to confirm the appointment of Mayor John Tompeck as the Town of Sewall's Point primary municipal appointment and Mayor Susan Gibbs Thomas as the Village of Indiantown's alternate municipal appointment to the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council (TCRPC).

Agenda Item: 24-0272

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

**CNST-8 MODIFY ELECTION PRECINCTS AT THE REQUEST OF THE MARTIN
COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS**

The Supervisor of Elections periodically amends voting precincts for a variety of reasons such as polling location changes, population adjustments, voting trends, among others. Chapter 101.001 FS provides a requirement that the Board of County Commissioners approve changes to precinct creation and boundaries.

Agenda Item: 24-0383

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

CNST-9 REQUEST TO RELEASE THE UNITIES OF TITLE FOR LOT 3, AND THE WEST 20 FEET OF LOT 4, BLOCK D, A REPLAT OF A PORTION OF GRAN PARK AT PORT SALERNO PHASE I

McCarthy, Summers, Wood, Norman, Melby & Schultz, P.A., on behalf of Michael Prudhomme, as Trustee of the Revocable Living Trust of Michael Prudhomme, dated July 11, 2019, has requested the release of Unities of Title affecting the subject property located at 3063 SE Gran Park Way in Stuart.

Agenda Item: 24-0394

RESOLUTION NO. 24-1.1

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS

CNST-10 REQUEST THAT THE COUNTY GRANT A UTILITY EASEMENT TO VILLAGE OF INDIANTOWN (VOI) ON COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY FRONTING SW FARM ROAD IN INDIANTOWN

The Village of Indiantown (VOI) has requested approval of an easement on County owned property, along SW Farm Road, for the purpose of completing a water main looping project that will provide water related services to properties within the Village of Indiantown.

Agenda Item: 24-0433

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

CNST-11 ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A UTILITY EASEMENT FROM MARKETPLACE AT STUART CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, INC., A FLORIDA NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION, ALONG SE MARKET PLACE IN STUART

This is a request for the adoption of a Resolution approving and accepting a Utility Easement from Marketplace at Stuart Condominium Association, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation, to allow for water and sewer service connection along SE Market Place in Stuart.

Agenda Item: 24-0454

RESOLUTION NO. 24-1.2

This item was approved by the first motion of the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

PH-1 PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 1, REGULATION OF MOORING FIELDS, CHAPTER 8, ANCHORING AND MOORING

The Parks and Recreations Department requests that Chapter 8 of the County Ordinances be amended to add certain terms in the definitions and to provide for the

authority of the Harbormaster, and his/her designee, or any law enforcement officer, to authorize the removal and towing of certain vessels and floating structures within the Jensen Beach and Manatee Pocket mooring fields.

Agenda Item: 24-0456

ORDINANCE NO. 1216

Senior Assistant County Attorney Melissa Pietrzyk presented the item to the Board. Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Abbate and County Administrator Don Donaldson assisted with Board questions.

Commissioner Smith requested staff to research the amendments, regarding enforcement beyond the 100 feet limit outside of the mooring fields. County Administrator Don Donaldson advised staff will report back with an update.

Chairman Jenkins solicited public comment; none was heard.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Heard, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Smith, Chairman Jenkins II, Commissioner Heard, and Commissioner Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hetherington

DEPARTMENTAL QUASI-JUDICIAL

PUBLIC WORKS

DPQJ-1 REQUEST FOR A VARIANCE TO ALLOW THE ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT ON A LEGAL LOT OF RECORD THAT DOES NOT FRONT AN OPEN ROAD BUT HAS ACCESS VIA AN EASEMENT

Pursuant to Section 4.843.K.1.c., Land Development Regulations, Martin County Code this is a request from Giangrande Engineering & Planning for a variance to allow the issuance of a building permit on a legal lot of record that does not front an open road but has access to an open road established by a recorded easement no more than ¼ mile (1,320 feet) long.

Agenda Item: 24-0448

RESOLUTION NO. 24-1.3

Ex parte communication disclosures were provided by the commissioners. Return receipts were filed for the record. There were no interveners. The participants were sworn in by the deputy clerk.

COUNTY: County Surveyor Tom Walker presented staff's presentation to the Board. Deputy County Attorney Elysse Elder assisted with Board questions.

The following County exhibits were filed for the record: (1) agenda item/staff report and (2) Tom Walker's resume.

Chairman Jenkins solicited public comment; none was heard.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Ciampi, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Smith, Chairman Jenkins II, Commissioner Heard, and Commissioner Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hetherington

DEPARTMENTAL

ADMINISTRATION

DEPT-1 OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ITEMS WHICH REQUIRE BOARD APPROVAL

This is a placeholder on all Board meeting agendas to streamline the process for grant applications, awards, budget resolutions, budget transfers from reserves, and CIP amendments. Specific items requiring approval, if any, will be provided by Supplemental Memorandum.

Agenda Item: 24-0414

RESOLUTION NOs. 24-1.4 through 24-1.8

OMB Director Stephanie Merle presented the items to the Board. County Administrator Don Donaldson assisted with Board questions.

The following items were approved: (1) Florida Department of Transportation Airfield Signage Replacement Grant Amendment, (2) Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Public Transit Block Grant Program, (3) Florida Department of Transportation Local Agency Program (on behalf of the City of Stuart) for Riverside Park neighborhood improvements and (4) Budget Resolution for FY24 Federal Highway Administration for the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Chairman Jenkins solicited public comment; none was heard.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Ciampi, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Smith, Chairman Jenkins II, Commissioner Heard, and Commissioner Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hetherington

DEPT-2 CONTRACTS THAT MEET THE THRESHOLD FOR BOARD APPROVAL \$1 MILLION OR GREATER

This item is a placeholder on all Board meeting agendas to streamline the process for items that meet the Board approval threshold. Specific items requiring approval, if any, will be provided by Supplemental Memorandum. If there are no items, a Supplemental Memorandum will not be attached.

Agenda Item: 24-0420

Chief Procurement Officer Krysti Brotherton presented the item to the Board.

The following item was approved: (1) Stormwater Pipe Lining.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Heard, to approve this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Smith, Chairman Jenkins II, Commissioner Heard, and Commissioner Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hetherington

DEPT-3 DISCUSS 2024 PRIORITIES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The County Administrator has asked the Board of County Commissioners to submit their priorities lists for discussion during the regular meeting scheduled for January 9, 2024.

Agenda Item: 24-0449

County Administrator Don Donaldson introduced the item to the Board. The Commissioners each shared and discussed their 2024 priorities.

Commissioner Smith

1. Fiscal Policies (Resolution agreement with Sheriff regarding new revenues and allocate 50% of new revenue generated from rural lifestyle projects towards land acquisitions)
2. Pal Mar (establish wildlife corridor)
3. Historic Champion Tree Ordinance
4. Coral Reef Restoration Strategy and Plan
5. Adopt Bio-solids agreement with Indiantown

Commissioner Hetherington

1. Ascertain new grant funding for El Camino Trail (Phase 2)
2. Complete Sandsprit Park Boat Ramp renovations
3. Continue review of procurement procedures (septic to sewer)
4. Reduce and maintain current taxes
5. Explore County's options to enforce vaping and smoking ordinances

Commissioner Jenkins

1. Housing (Community Land Trust and affordable/workforce housing)
2. Enhancing customer service in all departments of the County Government
3. Maintaining CRAs momentum
4. Environmentally sensitive land acquisitions (Pal Mar/Loxa-Lucie)
5. Loxahatchee tributary restoration

Commissioner Heard

1. Stop overdevelopment in Martin County

2. Acquisition of natural lands component for completion of Indian River Lagoon South
3. Port Salerno CRA
4. Cease gunfire and illegal activity in Pal Mar
5. Green building

Commissioner Ciampi

1. Correct broadband connectivity
2. Palm City Farms drainage correction projects
3. Construct and open dog park in Palm City
4. Begin construction on septic to sewer conversion project

Commissioner Jenkins requested an agenda item to be brought back before the Board regarding the rural lifestyle tax.

PUBLIC WORKS

DEPT-4 ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A SPECIAL WARRANTY DEED FOR THE ACQUISITION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE VACANT LAND IN INDIANTOWN

This is a request for the adoption of a resolution approving and accepting a Special Warranty Deed for the acquisition of 245 vacant lots, totaling approximately 252 acres of environmentally sensitive vacant land in Indiantown for conservation purposes.

Agenda Item: 24-0427

RESOLUTION NO. 24-1.9

Real Property Manager Carla Segura presented the item to the Board. Senior Assistant County Attorney Sebastian Poprawski assisted with Board questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Heard, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Smith, Chairman Jenkins II, Commissioner Heard, and Commissioner Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Vice Chair Hetherington

PUBLIC - PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES.

None was heard.

ADJOURN

The Board of County Commissioners January 9, 2024 meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Carolyn Timmann, Clerk of the
Circuit Court and Comptroller
/lp

Harold Jenkins II, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes approved:

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