



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DRAFT

5/6/2025 9:00 AM

MINUTES

COMMISSION CHAMBERS

2401 SE MONTEREY ROAD, STUART, FLORIDA 34996

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Sarah Heard, Chair

Edward V. Ciampi, Vice Chairman

Eileen Vargas, District 1

Stacey Hetherington, District 2

J. Blake Capps, District 3

Don G. Donaldson, P.E., County Administrator

Sarah W. Woods, County Attorney

Carolyn Timmann, Clerk of the Circuit Court and

Comptroller

CALL TO ORDER

Invocation ~ Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance ~ Chris Counsellor, U.S. Navy & Retired Coast Guard

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Hetherington, seconded by Commissioner Vargas, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

PROC-1 PRESENT PROCLAMATIONS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED VIA THE CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair will present proclamations declaring Mental Health Awareness Month, Stamp Out Hunger Day, honoring Nurses Week, and commending Ruby C. Miller upon the achievement of the Girl Scout Gold Award in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 25-0785

Senior Communications Coordinator Martha Ann Kneiss presented the proclamations to the Board.

Hibiscus CEO Matt Markley accepted the Mental Health Awareness Month proclamation.

House of Hope CEO Rob Ranieri and Jeffrey Wagner with the National Association of Letter Carriers accepted the the proclamation declaring Stamp Out Hunger Day.

FNA Southeast Region Director Maritess Quinto accepted the Nurses Week proclamation.

Ruby Miller accepted the proclamation commending her upon the achievement of the Girl Scout Gold Award.

PROC-2 ACKNOWLEDGE THOSE CITIZENS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN CLASS 67 OF THE MARTIN CARES PROGRAM

Class 67 brings the number of residents who have experienced the Citizens Academy and Resource Education Series (Martin CARES) to over 3,200. The Martin CARES program is offered two times per fiscal year.

Agenda Item: 25-0926

Assistant County Administrator George Stokus presented the Martin CARES Program 67th class to the Board.

COMMENTS

Public (9:05 AM) - Please limit comments to three minutes.

Arthur Ring [commercial fisherman] addressed a 1974 Martin County Code [Section 83.36 (A)] prohibiting the use of more than 2 fishing rods on County beaches. He shared a personal encounter with FWC resulting in a citation. Mr. Ring requested that the Board reconsider Section 83 for consistency with FWC.

Commissioner Capps commented on FWC procedures; he requested an agenda item be brought back.

Tom Pine spoke about the consent agenda, County parks, and the sale of property on SW Martin Highway.

Commissioners

AM

Commissioner Hetherington congratulated IRSC for receiving a \$4 million Florida Job Growth Fund. She shared on May 15, 2025 Saadia Tsaftarides will be honored as the Preservationist of the Year at the Elliot Museum.

Commissioner Capps addressed the state parks bills that were recently passed in legislature. He spoke about the scrub habitat at JD [Jonathan Dickinson] Park and SB 1080.

Commissioner Vargas announced she is hosting a District 1 Open House on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 from 4:30 pm until 6:30 pm at the Mansion at Tuckahoe.

PM

Commissioner Vargas commented on the upcoming budget season and importance of evaluating the County's financial health.

Vice Chair Ciampi wished all mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

County Administrator

AM

County Administrator Don Donaldson shared that the Utilities Department was awarded the Florida Department of Environmental Protection 2024 Plant Operations Excellence Award.

PM

County Attorney Sarah Woods announced her intention to retire in mid July. She recommended Deputy County Attorney Elysse Elder be designated as Interim County Attorney. County Administrator Don Donaldson will bring an agenda item to discuss the transition of the County Attorney

Commissioner Capps congratulated County Attorney Sarah Woods and thanked her for her service.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Consent Agenda

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Capps, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas,
Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

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: 25-0352

This item was approved.

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 April 7 and April 20, 2025. 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: 25-0363

This item was approved.

CNST-3 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

The Board is asked to approve minutes from the March 25 and April 8, 2025 regular meetings.

Agenda Item: 25-0941

This item was approved.

CNST-4 CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LICENSING BOARD APPOINTMENT

After Administration staff solicited applicants, the Board is asked to make the necessary appointment to the Construction Industry Licensing Board.

Agenda Item: 25-0558

RESOLUTION NO. 25-5.1

This item was approved.

CNST-5 DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AWARENESS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The Board is asked to confirm and make the necessary appointments to the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness Committee.

Agenda Item: 25-0728

RESOLUTION NO. 25-5.2

This item was approved.

CNST-6 TREASURE COAST HEALTH COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

After solicitation of applicants, the Board is asked to make the necessary appointment to the Treasure Coast Health Council.

Agenda Item: 25-0729

This item was approved.

CNST-7 NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

After solicitation of applicants due to vacancies for some time, the Board is asked to make the necessary appointments to the Golden Gate and Rio Neighborhood Advisory

Committees (NAC).

Agenda Item: 25-0730

RESOLUTION NO. 25-5.3

This item was approved.

CNST-8 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION DECLARING MEMORIAL DAY IN MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

The Board is asked to adopt a proclamation declaring Memorial Day in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 25-0770

This item was approved.

CNST-9 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING FAMILY ABDUCTION AWARENESS DAY IN MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

The Board is asked to adopt a proclamation recognizing Family Abduction Awareness Day in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 25-0858

This item was approved.

CNST-10 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING PUBLIC WORKS WEEK IN MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

The Board is asked to adopt a proclamation recognizing Public Works Week in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 25-0897

This item was approved.

CNST-11 ADOPT A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SAFE BOATING WEEK IN MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

The Board is asked to adopt a proclamation declaring Safe Boating Week in Martin County, Florida.

Agenda Item: 25-0922

This item was approved.

PARKS AND RECREATION

CNST-12 TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SCHOOL BOARD OF MARTIN COUNTY

The Transportation Services Agreement with the School Board of Martin County is for the use of school buses to transport after school and summer camp participants for educational field trips, special events, and activities from July 2025 through June 2026.

Agenda Item: 25-0907

At the request of Commissioner Vargas, Recreation Administrator Savannah Richmond presented the item to the Board. Senior Assistant County Attorney Melissa Pietrzyk assisted with Board questions. This item was approved.

PUBLIC WORKS

CNST-13 FINAL APPROVAL OF A VACANT LAND CONTRACT AND ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A QUIT CLAIM DEED FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THREE PARCELS OF VACANT LAND IN PALM BEACH HEIGHTS FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES

This is a request for final approval of a Vacant Land Contract and adoption of a Resolution approving and accepting a Quit Claim Deed from Be a Man Buy Land, LLC, for the acquisition of three (3) noncontiguous parcels of vacant land totaling 2.52 acres, located in Palm Beach Heights (Pal-Mar) for conservation purposes, totaling \$47,880.00.

Agenda Item: 25-0899

RESOLUTION NO. 25-5.4

This item was approved.

CNST-14 APPROVAL OF A RELEASE OF A DRAINAGE, ACCESS, AND MAINTENANCE EASEMENT FROM MCARTHUR GOLF CLUB, L.L.C.

This is a request for the approval of a Release of Drainage, Access and Maintenance Easement (Easement) recorded in OR Book 3332, Page 1111 as it is no longer needed as a part of the McArthur Golf Club Administrative Amendment.

Agenda Item: 25-0904

This item was approved.

CNST-15 ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ACCEPTING A UTILITY EASEMENT FROM RICHARD RASTRELLI AND KATHY L. RASTRELLI, HUSBAND AND WIFE, ALONG SW KANNER HIGHWAY NEAR SW LOCKS ROAD

This is a request for the adoption of a Resolution approving and accepting a Utility Easement from Richard Rastrelli and Kathy L. Rastrelli, husband and wife, to allow for utility related services and equipment on SW Kanner Highway near SW Locks Road.

Agenda Item: 25-0914

RESOLUTION NO. 25-5.5

This item was approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

PH-1 PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1.98.B., GENERAL ORDINANCES, MARTIN COUNTY CODE, REGARDING DELEGATION OF APPROVAL AUTHORITY FOR RELEASE AND REDUCTION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT LIENS

This is a request to consider approval of an ordinance amending Section 1.98.B, General Ordinances, Martin County Code, to delegate the Board's decision-making authority for final approval of code enforcement lien releases and reductions to the

Code Enforcement Special Magistrate.

Agenda Item: 25-0699

ORDINANCE NO. 1259

Building Official Jeffrey Dougherty presented the item to the Board. Senior Assistant County Attorney Sebastian Poprawski and County Attorney Sarah Woods assisted with Board questions.

Chair Heard solicited public comment; none was heard.

MOTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Hetherington, to approve this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

Nay: 1 - Commissioner Capps

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: 25-0382

RESOLUTION NOs. 25-5.6 through 25-5.10

OMB Director Stephanie Merle presented the items to the Board. Public Works Director Jim Gorton and County Administrator Don Donaldson assisted with Board questions.

The following items were approved: (1) Permission to Apply for the Waterways Assistance Program FY2025 Grant for Manatee Park Seawall Restoration at Bayview Street, (2) Permission to Accept the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) FY22 Section 5339- Bus and Bus Facilities Urbanized Formula Grant, (3) Permission to Accept the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Public Assistance Grant #Z4560 for Hurricane Milton, (4) Permission to Accept the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Grant for Martin County Shore Protection Project, and (5) Permission to Accept the FY2024 Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Project Funding (CPF) Legislative Appropriations Grant for the Southeast County Line Road Bridge Replacement Project.

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

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

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

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Agenda Item: 25-0393

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

The following items were approved: (1) Manhole Rehabilitation & Sewer Cleaning and (2) Martin Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Planning Services.

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

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Hetherington, Commissioner Vargas, Commissioner Capps, Chair Heard, and Vice Chair Ciampi

PARKS AND RECREATION

DEPT-3 HIDDEN OAKS MIDDLE SCHOOL PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Over the past few years, Martin County Parks and Recreation and the McNicholas Family Foundation have worked together to revitalize the baseball fields at Hidden Oaks Middle School, transforming a facility that had fallen into disrepair into a safe, high-quality space for youth baseball and community use.

Agenda Item: 25-0944

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Abbate provided the item to the Board. Tom McNicholas addressed the Board.

PUBLIC - PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES.

There were none.

ADJOURN

The Board of County Commissioners May 6, 2025 meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Carolyn Timmann, Clerk of the
Circuit Court and Comptroller

Sarah Heard, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

/lp

Minutes approved:

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