



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DRAFT

4/3/2020 9:00 AM

MINUTES

**JOHN F. ARMSTRONG WING OF THE BLAKE LIBRARY
2351 SE MONTEREY ROAD, STUART, FLORIDA 34996**

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

*Taryn Kryzda, County Administrator
Sarah W. Woods, County Attorney
Carolyn Timmann, Clerk of the Circuit Court and
Comptroller*

COVID-19 Update

CALL TO ORDER

Present: 5 - Chairman Harold E. Jenkins II
Vice Chair Stacey Hetherington
Commissioner Doug Smith
Commissioner Sarah Heard
Commissioner Edward V. Ciampi

1. MOMENT OF SILENCE
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Ciampi, for approval of the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Chairman Jenkins II, Vice Chair Hetherington, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Heard, and Commissioner Ciampi

COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC - PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES.

Ocean Breeze Park Mayor Karen Ostrand spoke about complaints they are getting in their community regarding RVs coming in from New York and New Jersey.

Kevin Flis spoke about the counties' ability to go above and beyond the governor's orders. He urged the Board to close golf courses, boat ramps, and parks.

House of Hope CEO Robert Ranieri thanked the Board for their efforts and urged them to use every tool in their toolkit to provide accurate and timely information to the public.

Paul Gardner spoke about the violation of constitutional rights via the Governor's executive orders. He voiced concerns about encounters between citizens and deputies when the laws are constantly changing. Sheriff Snyder responded that his office has three deputies per shift specially briefed and updated on any changes.

Council on Aging President/CEO Karen Ripper thanked the County Administrator Kryzda and the commissioners for their leadership and guidance. She spoke about the meals on wheels program and caregiver counseling.

2. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Heatherington inquired about the status of the County's I.T. network with so much staff working from home. County Administrator Kryzda responded that staff has already taken measures needed to expand the network and continue to monitor our systems.

Commissioner Ciampi spoke about the importance of these [COVID-19] meetings to inform the people at home. He reminded the public that they don't have to worry about their utilities being shut off, but cautioned that their bills are not being forgiven and will have to be paid at some point. He spoke about the County's inability to close private golf courses. He asked how employees would identify themselves as essential if they were stopped on the road. County Administrator Kryzda urged County employees to have their i.d. badges on them at all times and suggested that businesses could provide a letter on their company letterhead.

Commissioner Heard stressed the importance of having the COVID-19 update meetings. She spoke in support of hiring additional resources, if needed, and urged everyone to stay at home.

Commissioner Smith asked staff to schedule a presentation on the Payroll Protection Plan for the April 7th meeting. He asked where people should go for financial assistance information. United Way CEO Carol Houwaart-Diez urged everyone to call the House of Hope or Salvation Army for financial assistance information and to call 2-1-1 for all other questions/issues.

Commissioner Ciampi urged everyone to contact the IRS to register their banking information to have stimulus funds direct-deposited into their accounts.

Commissioner Jenkins spoke about the update meetings and shared that he was very

pleased with progress made by the Board.

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Administrator Kryda reminded the public to contact 2-1-1 or the County hotline (287-1652) for assistance with any questions they may have.

DEPARTMENTAL **ADMINISTRATION**

DEPT-1 CORONAVIRUS (AKA COVID-19) UPDATE

The Martin County Board of County Commissioners will hold a special meeting to discuss adopting a "Safer at Home" order in light of Governor Ron DeSantis updating and clarifying public access restrictions in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach and Monroe counties and actions being considered by other neighboring counties. Afterward, there will be a brief press conference to share more details about actions taken at the meeting, and possible impacts to residents and businesses.

Agenda Item: 20-0626

Chairman Jenkins provided a brief introduction to the meeting. County Administrator Kryzda recapped the County's efforts regarding the meetings, staggered work schedule, social distancing, and updates and information on the County's website.

Emergency Management Director Michele Jones provided a brief update on the Governor's Safer-at-Home initiative and shared the County's information hotline: 287-1652.

County Attorney Woods provided an explanation of Governor DeSantis' executive orders regarding essential services, essential activities, safer-at-home, and social distancing.

Sheriff Snyder explained the levels of response when dealing with social distancing violations: (1) friendly contact, (2) issuing a notice to appear, and (3) arrest.

The Board's discussion included the following issues:

- the need for daily, predictable updates
- daily information on the County's website
- press releases for essential information
- enforcement of social distancing
- expansion of Communications/MCTV staff
- need for a spokesperson to work with Emergency Management
- closure of beaches, parks, and golf courses
- Governor's order designating golf courses as essential recreation
- daily briefings to the public
- daily updates for the commissioners
- asking the governor for daily updates for the counties

ADJOURN

The Board of County Commissioners Emergency COVID-19 Update Meeting of April 3, 2020 adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

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

Harold E. Jenkins, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

Minutes approved:

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