



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FINAL MINUTES
5/29/2020 9:00 AM

MINUTES

JOHN F. & RITA M. 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: 4 - Vice Chair Stacey Hetherington
Commissioner Doug Smith
Commissioner Sarah Heard
Commissioner Edward V. Ciampi

Absent: 1 - Chairman Harold E. Jenkins II

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

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

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

Absent: 1 - Chairman Jenkins II

COMMENTS

1. PUBLIC - PLEASE LIMIT COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES.

Boys and Girls Club Chief Advancement Officer Angela Hoffman spoke about the importance of childcare and spoke about the 'COVID Slide' regarding schooling and academic performance. She thanked the Board for their vote regarding School District facilities (DEPT-1).

Assistant County Attorney George Stokus read public comment emails into the record.

Chief Information Officer Michael Merker informed the public about the ZOOM video conferencing system. Martin County resident Theo (via ZOOM) asked the Board to reopen summer camps. County Attorney Sarah Woods responded that the County did not close summer camps.

2. COMMISSIONERS

At Vice Chair Hetherington's request, Fire Rescue Chief Bill Schobel explained the Alert Martin weather alert system.

Commissioner Ciampi spoke about the littering of personal protective equipment (gloves and masks). He also spoke about emails he had received from local swim teams and requested that Parks work with those teams to allow them to return to the lap pool. He encouraged people looking for work to check Congressman Brian Mast's website.

Commissioner Smith asked County Attorney Kryzda to keep updating the public on Board actions that were generating email inquiries.

Commissioner Hetherington spoke about access to state parks and requested that staff contact the state and find out when they would be reopening. She also spoke about the amount of trash and debris being left on our beaches.

3. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Administrator Taryn Kryzda asked the Board to send a letter to the governor asking for his assistance and support in making funds available for counties that are not eligible for funding under the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act).

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Ciampi, to authorize staff to send a letter for that request on CARES funding. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Chairman Jenkins II

DEPARTMENTAL

ADMINISTRATION

DEPT-1 CORONAVIRUS (AKA COVID-19) UPDATE

The Board of County Commissioners will hold a special meeting to discuss County matters relating to the Coronavirus. Staff will provide an update on local efforts and coordination taking place.

Agenda Item: 20-0718

Cleveland Clinic Martin Health President Rob Lord provided the hospital's update to the Board: the growth rate for positive COVID patients was about 2.6% for the previous week, compared to 8.3% the week before; there were 16 hospitalized patients but they were not seeing a lot of fatalities. He warned against falling back into old habits and stressed the importance of washing your hands frequently. He urged everyone to continue to wear masks and practice social distancing. He reassured everyone that it is safe to go to the hospital and the clinics if you are sick. He also provided the phone number for testing: 772-419-3360.

County Administrator Taryn Kryzda provided the Department of Health update to the Board: 53,285 positive cases in the state of Florida, 557 positive cases in Martin County (6,912 negative), Martin County has tested 4.72% of its population, DOH contact tracing continues, the governor has asked DOH to redirect their focus to the pediatric issue and complete the long-term care facilities and short-term care facilities testing. She announced that Cleveland Clinic Martin Health and Florida Communities Health CCMH continue to do testing and there is a focus on education in Indiantown. She provided contact information for the DOH local call center: 772-221-4000 (option 9) or flhealthcovid.gov. She announced that 207 of the 557 positive cases were in Indiantown, masks were being distributed, and they continued to focus on educating the community.

Fire Rescue Chief Bill Schobel and Public Information Officer Bethany Alex provided the Emergency Management update to the Board. Chief Schobel informed the Board that Public Safety was out on the water over the weekend making sure everyone was safe, with emergency medical services, fire suppression, and law enforcement working together on the same boats. He spoke about preventive measures being taken, including decontaminating ambulances after each transport and wearing masks in the stations and out in public when necessary. He announced that Emergency Management had received approximately 5,000 pounds of rice, beans, and flour, which they provided to House of Hope to be distributed to the Indiantown community and pantries. He also announced that they were distributing supplies to County departments and supporting the County's reopening initiatives. He provided the number for the Community Information Center: 772-287-1652.

United Way CEO Carol Houwaart-Diez spoke about the need for space for childcare and summer camps for our community. She reported that the school district will continue to provide breakfast and lunch through the summer and the Treasure Coast Food Bank will continue to have sites for families to pick up food. She informed the Board that their volunteers had sewn over 6300 masks, which were available to the community. She announced that the funding consortium had provided over \$810,000 to local agencies and the United Way COVID fund had provided resources to over 60 families so they could stay in their homes and remain solvent. She urged seniors or shut-ins that need help to contact the United Way (283-4800) or call 2-1-1.

Business Development Board Executive Director Joan Goodrich spoke about current economic challenges, including 11.9% unemployment (8,212 Martin County residents out of work) and local businesses having to reduce staff. She spoke about their efforts to save local businesses, save local jobs, and advocate for local hiring and local buying. She also spoke about the importance of child care as a crucial part of our economic infrastructure.

Children's Services Council Executive Director David Heaton spoke about efforts to establish childcare space and summer camp space. He also spoke about the impact of virtual schooling and the need to provide academic assistance in some of our summer camps.

Economic Council CEO Ted Astolfi thanked the Board for their support of the business community. He suggested adding the words 'businesses and economy' to the County's recovery phase statement. He spoke about the 8,000 residents out of work whose families are in need and in crisis right now. He spoke about the critical need for physical space for childcare, daycare, and summer camps and urged the Board to make a formal request to the School Board to open their facilities for summer activities. He also informed the Board that he would be bringing back an item to request the Board's participation in a study of our community's perception on various issues (education, business, health care, art, etc.).

Commissioner Ciampi made a motion to send a formal request to the School Board regarding their facilities (below). Commissioner Smith requested that staff send a copy of the letter to the governor's office, our legislative delegation, and the Department of Education.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Ciampi, to request our staff to collaborate with the School District staff to create opportunities to utilize those facilities and make a formal request from the County Commission to both the Superintendent and the School Board itself. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Chairman Jenkins II

Agenda Item: 20-0718

The following member of the public addressed the Board: Frank Kalinowski (5K Property Maintenance), who asked that the parks and baseball fields be opened for practices and games.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Ciampi, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to ask staff, when possible, for the fields that are physically able to be open, be open today. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Chairman Jenkins II

ADJOURN

The Board of County Commissioners COVID-19 Update meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

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

Harold E. Jenkins, Chairman
Board of County Commissions

Minutes approved:

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