No Action was taken

October 20, 2026 - Regular Meeting

Subject
Administrator Contract

Category
COMMISSIONER AGENDA/COMMENTS

Briefings
None

Contact and/or Presenter Information
Commissioner Jason Bearden At-Large Constitutional Officer

Action Requested
Discussion to terminate County Administrator Contract and his employment with Manatee County Government.

Enabling/Regulating Authority
N/A

Applicable Advisory Board
NA

Background Discussion
Concerns have been raised regarding the County Administrator's communication, responsiveness, professional conduct, leadership, and working relationship with members of the Board of County Commissioners.

Some of the documents and information that I previously requested from County Administration have now been provided. Accordingly, this agenda item is not based upon a continuing failure to provide those requested documents. Concerns regarding the timeliness and process associated with responding to requests from an individual Commissioner nevertheless remain relevant to the Board's consideration of administrative performance.

Florida Statute §125.74 establishes the powers and duties of the County Administrator, including responsibilities associated with providing the Board, or individual members thereof upon request, with data or information concerning county government.

A separate concern involves the County Administrator's conduct toward a member of the Board during an official public meeting. The interaction raised concerns regarding

professional conduct, judgment, leadership, workplace behavior, and the Administrator's ability to maintain an appropriate and professional working relationship with members of the governing body.

Florida Statute §784.011 establishes the statutory elements of assault, including an intentional and unlawful threat by word or act to do violence, coupled with the apparent ability to carry out the threat and an act creating a well-founded fear that such violence is imminent. This memorandum does not allege or determine that a criminal violation occurred. The statute is referenced solely as potentially applicable law concerning threatening conduct, with any determination regarding criminal liability reserved for the appropriate legal authorities.

Regardless of whether any conduct constitutes a criminal offense, the Board has separate authority concerning the County Administrator's continued employment. Florida Statute §125.73 provides the applicable statutory framework for removal of a county administrator where Part III applies.

Based upon the foregoing concerns, I request that the Board discuss the County Administrator's professional conduct, leadership, working relationship with members of the Board, performance of administrative responsibilities, and continued employment, and take whatever action the Board determines appropriate under the Administrator's employment agreement and applicable law.

Attorney Review
Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Instructions to Board Records
N/A

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name
N/A

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs
N/A

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 04:35PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Michel **Last Name:** Adams
Email	cgmike2324@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Termination of the County Administrator.
Comment	I support the termination of County Administrator Charlie Bishop. His disrespect on the dais towards commissioners during county meetings. Bishop Animal Shelter fiasco. Purchase of the new county administration building that is not suitable for workers without significant remodeling. Wasteful spending for a service contract to an outside source for a once a month testing of a new generator which staff should easily be able to do.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 06:57PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Donna **Last Name:** Sweiss
Email	dsasu@aol.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishops contract
Comment	As a Manatee county resident I strongly urge you to NOT renew Charlie Bishops contract. Mr Bishop does NOT demonstrate honesty, and is NOT trustworthy. He awards contracts to friends, clearly doesn't listen to the community that he WORKS FOR and lacks integrity. Is there integrity in politics anymore? Hard to find in Manatee County. LETS START TO CHANGE THAT BY NOT RENEWING HIS CONTRACT.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 07:54PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Tracey **Last Name:** Hooper
Email	Lostcat44@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop
Comment	Get rid of him, wasted tax payer dollars.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 10:37PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** John **Last Name:** Taylor
Email	rtnjohntaylor@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	2
Comment	To start, the contract of county administrator was pushed so that the new board could vote on who they want in this position. That is the will of the board, it's what the board voted for, it's what we should be doing and the current discussion should be tossed out. When it comes to our county administrator, I have not seen many other individuals in our local government show up, care, fight for our county day in and day out. When members of our county come forth with ideas, opportunities and solutions, Charlie Bishop is attentive, supportive and engaged. Charlie represents Manatee County very well and we should be able to negotiate a new contract for him when we have a full board, not one with vacant seats and outgoing members.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 08:02PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Sylvia **Last Name:** Brauler
Email	sylvia8464@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Bishop's Contract & Moratorium
Comment	I am writing to formally request that Charlie Bishop be terminated from his position and to urge the Board to support a moratorium on data center development in Manatee County. My request for Mr. Bishop's termination is based on my concerns regarding his actions and leadership and whether they reflect the accountability, transparency, and responsibility that residents should expect from county leadership. I ask the Board to review these concerns carefully and take appropriate action. I am also asking you to support a moratorium on data centers while the County carefully evaluates their long-term impact on our community—including infrastructure, water and energy demands, land use, environmental concerns, taxpayers, and quality of life. Seaflower is enough. We have already sold too much of our land to development. Do we really want to continue down a path that turns Manatee County into a concrete jungle? Our county is blessed with beautiful natural habitat, plants, trees, and wildlife. We have a responsibility to preserve these areas for the wildlife that depends on them and for the generations who will come after us. Once natural land is developed, we cannot simply get it back. Growth should not mean sacrificing everything that makes Manatee County special. Please do not allow financial interests and greed to take priority over our land, natural resources, wildlife, and quality of life. There must be a point when we say enough is enough. Before approving additional developments that could permanently change our community, residents deserve transparency, careful

	planning, and a meaningful opportunity to be heard. Preserve our land. Protect our natural habitat. Protect our wildlife. Respect your residents. Protect our future. I urge you to listen to the people who live here and take action before more of our irreplaceable land is gone.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 08:13PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Leroy **Last Name:** Washington
Email	leroyjwashington@hotmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Commissioner Agenda Items: #2 Administrator Contract
Comment	October 5, 2026 To the Board of County Commissioners: My name is Leroy J. Washington, a Manatee County District 1 resident. I respectfully submit this public comment for inclusion in the record for the October 6, 2026, Regular Meeting, Agenda Item No. 2, under Commissioner Comments: Administrator Contract. I am writing in support of County Administrator Charlie Bishop and, equally important, in support of a fair, measured, and performance-based process when considering the future of the County's chief administrative officer. I have known Mr. Bishop for more than 17 years in several capacities—as a subordinate, colleague, supervisor, and friend. During that time, I have watched him serve Manatee County as a line employee, department director, Deputy County Administrator, and ultimately County Administrator. That history has given me the opportunity to observe not only the positions he has held, but the seriousness with which he has approached public service. Very few employees I have encountered during my time with Manatee County have taken their responsibilities more seriously or approached their work with greater diligence. For that reason, I believe any discussion regarding his continued service should focus first and foremost on his performance as County Administrator and his execution of the responsibilities assigned to him by this Board. Much of the public discussion I have heard surrounding this issue appears to involve matters outside of his current job performance or events that occurred before his appointment as County Administrator. I do not believe those matters should overshadow an objective evaluation of how he has performed the job the Board selected him to do. I also have concerns when discussions regarding an employee's contract become intertwined with public appeals to debate that individual's character rather than his professional performance. Oversight of the County Administrator is unquestionably the responsibility of this Board. However, that oversight should be exercised through an orderly, consistent, and professional process that

gives appropriate weight to performance, contractual obligations, organizational needs, and the best interests of Manatee County.

Over the past six years, County employees have worked under five individuals serving as County Administrator, whether permanently or on an interim basis. That level of turnover matters. While leadership may change, the responsibilities of County government do not. Employees are still expected to serve residents, implement Board policy, manage projects, deliver services, and maintain continuity across the organization.

Charlie Bishop has carried out the policies, priorities, and initiatives approved by this Board and has worked to implement the direction provided to him. His ability to consider the County's long-term needs has benefited strategic planning, the implementation of major initiatives, and efforts to keep employees focused on delivering results for the public. His tenure also represents the longest period of continuity in the administrator's position during the past six years.

If there are legitimate concerns regarding his performance, accountability requires that those concerns be identified, documented, and addressed when they occur. An employee should be given clear expectations and a fair opportunity to respond to concerns about his or her performance. If significant performance deficiencies existed, I believe those issues should have been raised and addressed through the appropriate process rather than emerging for the first time during an already polarizing election season.

Under Mr. Bishop's leadership, the County has continued efforts to centralize and strengthen business practices, improve organizational consistency, and advance major community initiatives. The County has also developed a broader strategy to address homelessness among veterans, women and families, and single adults experiencing housing instability. Employees are increasingly being given the opportunity to perform within their professional responsibilities while receiving recognition for the work they do on behalf of this community.

Those accomplishments do not mean that every decision has been perfect, nor should any County Administrator be beyond scrutiny. Rather, they demonstrate why decisions concerning the administrator should be based on a complete assessment of performance and organizational impact.

Having previously served in that position, I also understand that while the County Administrator functions as the chief executive officer of the organization, that authority is not unlimited. The Board of County Commissioners establishes policy and provides direction, while the administrator is responsible for implementing that direction through the organization. It is therefore important that responsibility for County decisions be evaluated within the proper roles of both the Board and the administration.

I cannot speak to every concern expressed by every resident, nor would I suggest that all criticism is misplaced. I can say, however, that many of the challenges and instability Manatee County has experienced over the past several years involve policy and governance

decisions that extend beyond the authority of any one administrator. Most importantly, the organization and its employees need stability. Changes in executive leadership carry consequences throughout County government, affecting employees, institutional knowledge, ongoing projects, strategic initiatives, partnerships, and ultimately the residents who depend upon County services.

If Mr. Bishop's contract provides for a decision regarding extension or renewal in February, I believe that established process provides the appropriate opportunity for the Board to evaluate his performance, discuss expectations for the future, and determine whether the contractual relationship should continue.

Accordingly, I respectfully ask the Board to take no action on the Administrator's contract at this time, to vote down any motion seeking premature action, and to allow consideration of the contract to occur at the time and in the manner contemplated by its provisions.

This is not an argument against accountability. It is an argument for accountability exercised through a fair process, based upon performance, with appropriate consideration given to the stability of the organization and the long-term interests of Manatee County.

Thank you for your time and for including these comments in the public record.

Respectfully,

Leroy J. Washington
Manatee County District 1 Resident

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 05:26PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Amanda **Last Name:** Parrish
Email	AParrish@FawleyBryant.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	G2 Administrator Contract
Comment	My name is Amanda Parrish. I am a Manatee County resident, business owner, and Partner and COO of Fawley Bryant Architecture. Through my role at Fawley Bryant, I have had the opportunity to work with Manatee County for approximately ten years. Most recently, I had the privilege of serving as Interim CEO of the Bradenton Area Economic Development Corporation while continuing in my full-time role at Fawley Bryant. Taking on that responsibility was a significant commitment, and candidly, it would have been very easy to decline. Instead, Charlie Bishop made me feel welcomed, supported, and genuinely valued as someone who could help Manatee County and our broader region through an important period of transition. That experience gave me an even greater appreciation for Charlie's leadership. One of the clearest reflections of that leadership is the team surrounding him. In my ten years working with the County, I have never seen such a strong group of professionals across the organization. That starts with Deputy County Administrators Stephanie Garrison and Bryan Purnell and extends to people like Aimee Johnson, Nicole Knapp, Carrie Knight, Molly White, and many others who bring tremendous skill, commitment, and passion to their work on behalf of Manatee County. Great leaders do more than lead themselves. They identify talented people, empower them, give them visibility, and create an environment where they can make an impact. That has been my experience watching Charlie lead the County team. From the perspective of both a resident and a business that works with Manatee County, I have found this team to be responsive, collaborative, professional, and genuinely enjoyable to work with. I hope you will consider my experience and perspective as you evaluate Charlie's continued service to Manatee County.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 10:36PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Susan **Last Name:** Stickle
Email	susanjstickle@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County Administrator Contract
Comment	Another dog (Woody) died because of the kennel Trailers/Sheds - 34" x 57" (a crate) at the Bishop property. Who authorized this purchase and why weren't we (the public) invited to be involved in the discussion?? And why is there no signature on the purchase order? This NEVER should have happened, Woody should still be alive and looking for his forever home. This condition is called "Containment Anxiety". It is much like Claustrophobia in humans, it is not something that is the fault of the Dog in any way, shape or form. I blame personally Charlie Bishop and the entire BOCC for this death. Shame on ALL of you! Do better like our tax dollars pay you to. TERMINATE CHARLIE BISHOP'S CONTRACT IMMEDIATELY! Susan Stickle Manatee County resident and Voter.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 05:01PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Becky **Last Name:** Brothers
Email	thebeckybrothers@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop - Contract terminate
Comment	I am asking the Board of County Commissioners to terminate County Administrator Charlie Bishop's contract and conduct a national search for a qualified replacement. I am making this request based on job performance. I don't need to get into the other controversies surrounding this administration. From where I sit, it is clear that the County can and should be doing better. We need a County Administrator who understands the responsibilities of this position and consistently fulfills them—someone who leads with integrity, transparency, accountability, sound judgment, and respect for the people they serve. We need a forward-thinking, solution-oriented leader who doesn't cut corners, follows County policies and procedures, listens to the community, works collaboratively, manages projects effectively, embraces technology and innovation, and takes responsibility for results. Just as importantly, we need someone who creates an inclusive culture where County employees can develop, grow, contribute, and feel valued. When our employees are supported and engaged, our community benefits. Let's set a higher standard for Manatee County. Terminate the current contract, conduct a transparent national search, and find a County Administrator who will do the job, do it well, and do it the right way—for the employees, the community, and the future of Manatee County.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 07:37PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Jonna **Last Name:** Koellhoffer
Email	jkoellhoffer@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Contract/Bishop
Comment	Commissioners: Charlie Bishop needs to be released from his contract immediately. He is not the right person to lead Manatee County, and the continued pattern of questionable decisions, unprofessional conduct, and lack of accountability should be deeply concerning to every member of this Commission. There have been far too many issues involving Mr. Bishop for the Commission to continue looking the other way. As the County Administrator, he is entrusted with overseeing county operations, employees, policies, and millions of dollars in taxpayer funds. His conduct should reflect the professionalism, integrity, transparency, and accountability expected of someone in that position. It does not. The recent paperwork involving the kennel trailers is just one of the latest examples. We are talking about thousands and thousands of dollars in county expenditures and a purchase order that apparently has no signature. How does the county procure a purchase, authorize it, and ultimately pay for it without the required documentation and signatures? Who authorized it? Who approved it? Who was responsible for ensuring the proper procurement process was followed? And perhaps most importantly, where is the accountability? Then there is Mr. Bishop's conduct at a recent Board meeting. A sitting commissioner made a request, and Mr. Bishop flatly refused. Disagreement is one thing. A County Administrator openly refusing a request from a member of the governing body he ultimately reports to is

another.

And asking a sitting commissioner if he "wants to take this outside" is completely unacceptable behavior for a County Administrator. There were countless professional ways he could have handled a disagreement. That was not one of them.

That kind of behavior should not be normalized or excused.

There are also serious concerns about the promotion of an individual who was allegedly not qualified for the position, followed by Mr. Bishop winking at her while making his recommendation. Whether intentional or not, that type of conduct creates an appearance of favoritism and undermines public confidence in the county's hiring and promotion processes.

Manatee County deserves better.

We need a County Administrator who understands that the position is a public trust—not a personal fiefdom. We need someone who respects the Board of County Commissioners, follows county policies and procedures, understands proper procurement and financial controls, treats employees professionally, and understands that every decision is ultimately accountable to the taxpayers.

Instead, we continue to see questions surrounding Mr. Bishop's decisions and conduct.

At what point is enough enough?

Commissioners, you have the authority and responsibility to address this. You are the elected officials ultimately accountable to the citizens of Manatee County. You should not wait for another controversy, another questionable expenditure, another personnel issue, or another confrontation before taking action.

I am asking each of you to seriously consider whether Charlie Bishop has earned the continued confidence of this Commission and the citizens you represent.

I believe the answer is no.

His contract should be terminated, and Manatee County should begin the process of finding a County Administrator who can be trusted to put the interests of this county, its employees, and its taxpayers first.

Jonna J Koellhoffer
Manatee county resident and voter

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 07:25PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Veronica **Last Name:** DeMaggio
Email	gaflygirl7@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Administrator Contract
Comment	I would like to see Charlie Bishop’s contract terminated. His dealings in his position are highly suspect. Starting with how the Manatee Shelter situation was handled. He was part of the trailer idea and funding along with moving the dogs over from palmetto before it was ready. It has been pointed out he has barely worked in months and fires his assistant without giving cause as I believe she may have been honest with people asking where he was. He has given his partner and friends favors in contracts and used his privilege in places for favoritism. He is nit an asset for this county and is literally bringing it down. He looks like he awoke from an all night bender when he is at the commissioner meetings. Appoint someone enthusiastic, honest and ready to make a difference for the county for the positive.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 6, 2026, 04:59AM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Veronica **Last Name:** Thames
Email	veronica.lequeux@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County administrator Charlie Bishop‘s contract renewal
Comment	Dear Chair and Commissioners. My name is Veronica Thames. I’m here tonight as a private citizen, not representing any organization. I’m speaking in support of renewing the County Administrator’s contract. At the same time, I encourage the Commission to consider engaging an external consultant—or potentially convening a community task force with the appropriate expertise—to conduct a comprehensive regional and national compensation analysis for this position. I say that as someone with leadership, board, and professional experience in human resources. One thing I have learned is that we cannot reasonably expect any governing body to collectively possess every specialized skill set and every piece of market knowledge necessary to make the many complex decisions that come before it. That is not a criticism of this Commission. It is a recognition of the enormous responsibility you carry. Compensation for a County Administrator is particularly complex. It requires consideration of the scope and complexity of the organization, the responsibilities of the position, comparable counties, total compensation and benefits, and the increasingly competitive market for experienced public-sector leadership talent. Given that reality, I believe the Board would benefit from an independent, objective analysis before making a long-term compensation commitment. I am certainly not suggesting that an outside consultant or task force make the decision. That responsibility belongs to the elected Board of County Commissioners. The purpose of the analysis would simply be to provide the Board with the best available information to inform its decision.

We ask our County Administrator to make sophisticated decisions every day on behalf of a rapidly growing and increasingly complex community. I believe the Board should have access to the same level of expertise when evaluating the compensation and retention of the person leading that organization.

So my request is two-fold: support the renewal of the County Administrator’s contract, while also considering an independent compensation analysis to help inform the appropriate terms to support your decision.

I believe those two things are entirely compatible—and ultimately serve the best interests of the County and its residents.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our community.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 06:56PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Carol **Last Name:** Whitmore
Email	andreart@aol.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Administrator
Comment	No Commissioner has asked for the termination of the county administrator except for the outgoing commissioner. A last ditch effort, he should have done this the three years and eleven months he has been in office.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 05:37PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Stu **Last Name:** Henderson
Email	SHenderson@FawleyBryant.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County Administrator Contract
Comment	Chair and Commissioners, My name is Stu Henderson, and I am a Partner at Fawley Bryant Architecture. Our firm has worked throughout Manatee County for many years, and I want to share my support for Charlie Bishop. Charlie brings a deep understanding of Manatee County—its history, its challenges, its people, and where the community is headed. That knowledge is incredibly valuable in a County Administrator. From our firm's perspective, Charlie has also been a consistent and accessible presence. He is always willing to listen, have a conversation, and provide a clear and thoughtful voice on the issues affecting the County and the business community. He also brings a calm, steady demeanor that attracts good people and gives them confidence to do their jobs well. Just as importantly, Charlie is genuinely loved and respected by the people who know him well. To me, that says a great deal about his character. The care and loyalty he shows to the people around him translates directly into the way he serves this community. That combination of institutional knowledge, accessibility, character, and steady leadership matters. I strongly support his continued service as Manatee County Administrator. Thank you for the opportunity to provide my perspective. Stu Henderson Partner Fawley Bryant Architecture

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 06:39PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** David **Last Name:** Otterness
Email	davidotterness@hotmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County Administrator Contract
Comment	What is a leader? A leader is someone who guides, inspires, and influences a group of people toward a shared goal. They have a vision and mission to better the organization. A true check of leadership is hearing from the individuals underneath whom help with this goal. Listen to them.....their stories, ambitions, and involvement with-in the community along with the departments in which they serve. I truly believe you will hear, Charlie Bishop fits the category of an excellent leader for Manatee County.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 06:54PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Susan **Last Name:** Stickle
Email	susanjstickle@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County Administrator Contract
Comment	Due to the many known issues with County Administrator Charlie Bishop, I am requesting that his contract be terminated effective immediately. In addition to all other known past transgressions, more recently he turned off public comments on the social media broadcasts in an effort to silence constituents. Also, promoting an employee to Deputy County Administrator who wasn't qualified, without interviewing any other potential candidates who may have had proper qualifications. Charlie Bishop then lied and said that he did. There is no public record or evidence that he even took resumes for this position. Furthermore, with regards for the kennel trailers/sheds at the Bishop facility, there is no signature on the purchase order. However, the trailers were delivered, installed and paid for. Who authorized this purchase order and why was there no signature? What are you hiding? Susan Stickle Manatee County Resident 973.885.3203

From: Tammy Schrader <tammyschrader75@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2026 1:24 PM
To: Tal Siddique <tal.siddique@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>
Subject: Our County Administrator feedback.

CAUTION:This email originated from an external source.
Be suspicious of Attachments, Links and Request for Login Information and utilize the REPORT MESSAGE Button in Outlook if you feel this is a Phishing email.

Dear Honorable County Commissioners:

Janice Crane and I both feel we would be remiss if we did not share my feelings about our county administrator's job performance.

Neither Janice nor I have first-hand knowledge as a member of the public, except one.

All we can go on is what we see from out here. Here is what has been seen:

First, when we read that our county administrator could not keep from using his personal cell phone to conduct County business. I just started shaking my head, but policy may be set purposely. That should not be grounds for termination. We have had to use our personal phone for business calls!

Then, Bishop Animal Shelter Prefab Fiasco

Paying $60,000 for an animal art report that was basically hidden from the public and obviously not even remotely considered, which plainly stated prefab kennels were not recommended. Waste of money!

Yet, somehow prefabs were allowed to replace the concrete block kennel facility, without going out for bid that was originally planned after being budgeted and approved and brought to the public, AND the public raising what we heard was over $2 million dollars for said concrete kennel.

A pitiful amount of money was allocated toward Animal Services from the 2016 infrastructure sales tax; 10 years ago now, on recall of the new Animal Shelter was supposed to be built with that money and is a big reason why it even passed!

Prefabs -

Sufficient shade not planned for.

Sufficient drainage for rain not ensured prior to moving the dogs.

Sufficient drainage for dirty mop, water not planned for

No dog bathing area in the kennels.

Dogs being moved too soon before improvements were made, after the public was told (promised) they WOULD NOT be moved until after the UF report was completed and improvements were made! Laundry facilities not centrally located making it a hard ship to get to them and NO HOT WATER!

Then they were moved!!! They have been in crisis survival mode ever since! Problem after problem .

This week, a puppy named Woody had to be euthanized because he went crazy in that environment! A puppy! THE DOGS ARE NOT ACCLAMATED BUT SEGREGATED FROM PEOPLE MAKING THEM MORE TIMID OR FEARFUL INSTEAD OF SOCIAL INTERACTION NEEDED FOR THE WELL BEING OF STAFF, PUBLIC AND ANIMALS.

And lastly, and very shocking the geossly blatant insubordination towards Commissioner Bearden at a meeting!

Sir, you are not in any position to deny request of a BOCC member! Telling any commissioner “no,” to a request is highly contentious! It is your obligation to ensure all requests from BOCC who are acting on behalf of every citizen in 17,000 square miles of this county is not beneath your job grade znd its not being a tesm player in helping to resolve an important requirement quint essential involving animals lives or anything pertaining the taxpayers! If someone asks you for a report from you that is your job?

Employees of this county go well beyond our job descriptions often because its what team players do!

The fact you ignore and clearly lack concern for substandard facilities is outrageous for staff and animals is gross abuse by state law!

Hearing the exchange what are your employees supposed to think when they hear these things?

This is not professional behavior. The facilities with flooding, temperatire issues. Laundry issues, lack of ability to hire sufficient staff for animals is gross neglect!

As someone who did HR, that is gross insub-

bordination!

County policy is very clear on definition of insubordination and the consequences of said act are clearly outlined.

In shorty, too many promises made have NOT been kept!

This may or may not be in part be fully your fault, but your position is the shoulder key position of responsibility to see it thru!

A county administrator does not tell the BOCC NO. THEY ADDRESS THE REQUEST AS INSTRUCTED!

The operations of our county fall directly on your shoulders! You have the obligation to see to it needs are met. This is not and should not be too much to expect from you.

With the salary that goes along with your job title, we wholly and fully expect much, much more from you than insubbordination and gross neglect.

We fully support the contract termination without benefits or perks. His la k of attention were beyond neglectful and no one should ever expect insolence and insubbordination of Bocc Members and gross neglect of Bishop' s Animal Shelter we feel merits the firing of our County Administrator. Failure to follow policy, failure to meet needs and failure to carry out directive from ANY BOCC MEMBER is definitive insubbordination and frankly the State should be looking into his arrest of the Bishop's fiasco.

Sincerely,

Tammy Schrader

Janice Crane

Bradenton, Florida

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 04:11PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Diana **Last Name:** Adams
Email	dadamm@aol.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County Administrator Termination
Comment	I support the termination of County Administrator Bishop. I do not feel that the county is moving in a positive direction and would like to see new leadership as promised.

From: Gmail <kaycee426@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 11:04 AM

To: Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>

Subject: Clarification

[You don't often get email from kaycee426@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification]

CAUTION:This email originated from an external source.

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Just to clarify my earlier email, I also think Charlie Bishop should be terminated.

Sent from my iPhone

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Sep 24, 2026, 09:45AM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Susan **Last Name:** Stickle
Email	susanjstickle@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	September 24, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County Administrator
Comment	Dear Manatee County Commissioners, I am writing to formally request the immediate termination of County Administrator Charlie Bishop. His recent conduct demonstrates a clear lack of ethics and professionalism. Specifically, he awarded a county drone contract to his then-girlfriend and engaged in conduct so unprofessional that he effectively challenged a county commissioner to a physical altercation. As a concerned constituent, I believe new leadership is urgently needed in the best interests of Manatee County and its residents. I urge you to address this matter promptly at the next commission meeting. Thank you for your time, attention, and service to our community. Sincerely, Susan Stickle Bayshore Gardens, Manatee County resident, voter and volunteer at MCAW973.885.3203

From: Susan Stickle <hooffoto62@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2026 9:46 AM
To: George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Tal Siddique <tal.siddique@mymanatee.org>; Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>
Subject: County Administrator

You don't often get email from hooffoto62@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

CAUTION:This email originated from an external source.
Be suspicious of Attachments, Links and Request for Login Information and utilize the REPORT MESSAGE Button in Outlook if you feel this is a Phishing email.

Dear Manatee County Commissioners,

I am writing to formally request the immediate termination of County Administrator Charlie Bishop.

His recent conduct demonstrates a clear lack of ethics and professionalism. Specifically, he awarded a county drone contract to his then-girlfriend and engaged in conduct so unprofessional that he effectively challenged a county commissioner to a physical altercation.

As a concerned constituent, I believe new leadership is urgently needed in the best interests of Manatee County and its residents. I urge you to address this matter promptly at the next commission meeting.

Thank you for your time, attention, and service to our community.

Sincerely,

Susan Stickle
Bayshore Gardens, Manatee County resident, voter and volunteer at MCAW

973.885.3203

From: ROBERT CUSICK <robertcusick@cs.com>

Sent: Friday, September 25, 2026 3:42 PM

To: Amanda Ballard <amanda.ballard@mymanatee.org>; Tal Siddique <tal@mymanatee.org>; Mike Rahn <mike.rahn@mymanatee.org>; Robert McCann <drbob.mccann@mymanatee.org>; Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>; George Kruse <george.kruse@mymanatee.org>; Public Comments <public.comments@mymanatee.org>

Cc: Mark Vanderee <vanderee2@gmail.com>; Greg Marino <gregorymarino77@gmail.com>; Laurie Cusick <lccusick@cs.com>

Subject: Re: County Administration

CAUTION:This email originated from an external source.

Be suspicious of Attachments, Links and Request for Login Information and utilize the REPORT MESSAGE Button in Outlook if you feel this is a Phishing email.

Dear Commissioners,

Given the litany of issues, missteps violations, and ethical concerns surrounding Charlie Bishop's employment with our county, don't you think it's time to move on and find somebody to fill that position who has integrity and capability?

Sincerely,

Bob Cusick

13910 18th Pl E

Bradenton, Fl. 34212-9184

+1-914-282-4809

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Sep 29, 2026, 05:13AM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Glen GADFLY **Last Name:** Gibellina
Email	glengibellina@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop contract
Comment	Performance Report: Opposition to the Renewal and Continued Employment of County Administrator Charlie Bishop Executive Summary The upcoming October 6, 2026 Board of County Commissioners meeting brings forward a critical agenda item regarding the employment contract of Manatee County Administrator Charlie Bishop. Evaluating leadership performance requires weighing statutory compliance, transparency, administrative conduct, and governance standards. Significant concerns regarding accountability, public trust, and operational transparency point toward the conclusion that Administrator Bishop's contract should not be renewed, and that immediate termination should be considered by the Board. Key Grounds for Termination and Non-Renewal Financial and Legal Liabilities: Court rulings establishing that administrative sunshine law violations resulted in substantial taxpayer-funded legal fees—such as the $75,000 plaintiff fee penalty—demonstrate a severe failure in upholding open government standards and statutory compliance. Erosion of Board Relations and Responsibilities: Under Florida Statute §125.74, the County Administrator is tasked with providing the Board and its individual members transparent, timely access to data and government information. Delays, obstructions, or friction in fulfilling legitimate commissioner requests directly hinder elected officials in executing their governance duties. Conduct and Professionalism in Public Settings: Official public meetings require a standard of decorum and respect. Contentious exchanges and public blowups on the dais undermine institutional integrity, project a poor image of county governance to the public, and distract from critical community business. Internal Personnel Management: Decisions surrounding staff turnover and the abrupt removal or departure of personnel who challenge or disagree with administration directives raise serious questions about workplace culture, employee retention, and whether leadership fosters an open, objective administrative environment. Responsiveness to Transparency and Public Scrutiny: Public

administration must answer to the citizens and their elected representatives. Actions perceived as stonewalling, delaying information briefings, or bypassing collaborative oversight break down the essential trust required between top-tier appointed leadership and the community.

Conclusion and Action Recommendation

The role of County Administrator demands uncompromising adherence to Florida’s public records laws, transparent communication with the Board of County Commissioners, and respectful engagement with both staff and the public. Given the history of legal costs to taxpayers, friction regarding information access, and public leadership clashes, continuing this tenure fails to serve the best interests of Manatee County residents. The Board of County Commissioners should utilize the October 6, 2026 agenda discussion to terminate the County Administrator's contract, charting a new course toward accountable, transparent, and professional leadership.

For the record

GADFLY

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Sep 29, 2026, 12:07PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** David **Last Name:** Daniels
Email	davidd4300@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop Contract/Termination
Comment	The fact that Charlie Bishop promoted a convicted felon dirty sheriff deputy to lead Code Enforcement, a quasi law enforcement department, tells us more about Bishop than it does about Wooten. Wooten's crimes weren't just an error in judgement. For years, he and other members of Manatee's Delta Squad planted evidence on innocent people. They falsified reports. They stole money. They used excessive force. They conspired to lie to the FBI and internal investigators. In one case, they planted evidence in order to seize a new Ford Mustang, which then became one squad member's official vehicle per Florida's contraband seizure laws. In another case, Wooten and other Delta agents raided the duplex home of Sarah Smith. Agents planted crack cocaine in her home and later lied about it in court. As a result, Smith was convicted of possession of rock cocaine. Her 1-year old daughter was placed in foster care. She spent over a month in jail. Her record was later cleared and she received $275,000 from the Sheriff's Office to prevent a lawsuit. Wooten was facing a long prison sentence but ratted out his fellow dirty deputies and received a 1-year sentence. He was released after serving less than half a year. But, as recent reporting shows, it's not like Wooten had changed his ways. He was placed on leave for the Myakka case. He was the Supv who told whistleblower Tonya Shaw to look the other way. Wooten communicated directly with KVO and allowed code enforcement to be used as KVO's campaign police. Wooten's promotion is part of the organizational rot that comes when that organization's leader has no integrity. County Administrator Charlie Bishop, as a Department head, awarded a no-bid county contract to his girlfriend. As Deputy Administrator over Property Management - he failed to pull building permits for county construction projects. As Deputy Administrator, he violated county public records laws, costing county taxpayers $75K in legal fees. As Administrator, he promoted Wooten. He also promoted Sarah Brown after she intentionally asked for a shelter evaluation "by phone" in order to avoid making a public record. He called the mayor of Bradenton Beach seeking a favor for his

party (himself, his girlfriend and her daughter) to cut in line at a busy island restaurant. He vindictively sought felony charges against a shelter volunteer for exposing the prefab kennels. Instead of allowing the county's own wetland experts, Bishop hired Carlos Beruff's environment consultant (using taxpayer money) to present the policy eliminating wetland buffers - which the BoCC approved in 2023 and is still official county policy.

Charlie Bishop has not once been questioned by Commissioners. Instead, Commissioner Siddique negotiated a fat new contract for Bishop. Actually, Siddique negotiated that contract with Bishop's personal attorney. And yes, taxpayers paid Bishop's attorney fees. Manatee County will never be trusted under Bishop. He has proven over and over that he does not have integrity, he does not stand for principle. He should have been terminated after the wetland orchestrated fraud - a fraud that Manatee county is still paying for.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Sep 30, 2026, 10:44AM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Kerri **Last Name:** Hughes
Email	kerrih44@aol.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop’s contract
Comment	Charlie is corrupt and needs to go. If you do not deny him an extended contract, you are all complicit in his ongoing activities.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 3, 2026, 09:28AM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Jamie **Last Name:** Kahns
Email	jamieleekahns@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop
Comment	Charlie you are a genuine leader putting others first. Thank you again for the time you took educating and meeting with my son last year. He is now setting a record in his Troop looking to rank to an Eagle Scout before he is 15!! Your leadership, your care, and hard work is noticed and appreciated. You are truly collaborative and go above and beyond. I've seen first hand how you take the time to listen and great vision you have for our county to grow in a sustainable manner. Thank you for your unwaivering leadership and I hope the people that don't know you or think they know you take the time to learn you are legit a great caring person. You're a big brother working tirelessly to ensure Manatee County and it's people come first! Thanks for all you do!

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 4, 2026, 04:51PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Richard **Last Name:** Krause
Email	Rich@rprpros.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop
Comment	I've worked in and around Manatee County facilities for years doing plumbing and electrical work, and I've had the opportunity to deal directly with the County Administrator many times. From what I have personally seen, he is someone who gets results and truly cares about making Manatee County a better place. Under his leadership, I've seen a lot of positive changes throughout the county. Many of the decisions and improvements I've witnessed have made county facilities operate better, improved the appearance of our community, and made things more efficient overall. From the perspective of someone who regularly works inside county buildings and sees some of these changes firsthand, the decisions he makes seem practical, well thought out, and focused on improving the way the county operates. One of the things I respect most about him is how involved he is. He answers his phone. He responds when there is a problem. He is willing to get directly involved in situations and work toward a solution. Every time I have dealt with him, I have seen someone who works extremely hard and takes his responsibility to Manatee County very seriously. I have also always found him to be a man of tremendous integrity. In my experience, his decisions are based on what he believes is best for Manatee County. He is passionate about this community, and it is very clear to me that he wants Manatee County to be one of the best places possible to live, work, and raise a family. Results matter, and from what I have personally witnessed, his leadership has produced real results. I believe Manatee County is better because of the work he has done, and I strongly support him continuing to serve as County Administrator. Thank you.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 11:01AM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Brad **Last Name:** Crossan
Email	brad@rprpros.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop
Comment	I want to take a moment to personally recognize Charlie Bishop and thank him for the outstanding job he has done serving as Manatee County Administrator. Knowing Charlie and seeing the responsibility he carries in this position has given me a tremendous amount of respect for the work he does. Being responsible for the day-to-day operations of a county like Manatee is not an easy job. There are difficult decisions to make, problems that need immediate attention, and countless people depending on strong leadership every single day. Through it all, Charlie has shown dedication, professionalism, and a genuine commitment to Manatee County and the people who call it home. What I appreciate most about Charlie is that he is the kind of person who cares about getting things done the right way. He understands this community, he understands the people who work for the County, and he understands the responsibility that comes with public service. He has spent many years serving Manatee County, and that experience shows in the way he approaches his job. It is easy for people to criticize from the outside, but very few truly understand the amount of work, pressure, and responsibility that comes with a position like County Administrator. Charlie deserves credit for stepping up, taking on that responsibility, and continuing to work hard for this community. On a personal level, I am proud to know Charlie and grateful for what he has done for Manatee County. Good leadership is about more than a title. It is about showing up, taking responsibility, treating people with respect, and doing your best to leave the community better than you found it. Charlie, thank you for your hard work, your leadership, and your years

	of service. Your dedication to Manatee County has not gone unnoticed, and I truly appreciate everything you have done for our community. You should be proud of the work you have accomplished and the difference you have made.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 5, 2026, 11:05AM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Maria **Last Name:** Crossan
Email	Bradcrossan84@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 06, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop
Comment	I would like to take a moment to recognize Charlie Bishop for his service and leadership as Manatee County Administrator. Charlie has dedicated more than two decades to serving Manatee County, beginning his career with the County in 2001 and working his way through several leadership positions before being appointed County Administrator in 2023. His career also reflects a strong commitment to public service, including 20 years of service in the United States Air Force. In a position that carries tremendous responsibility, Charlie has demonstrated steady leadership, professionalism, and a genuine commitment to the community. When he was selected as County Administrator, commissioners specifically recognized his communication with county staff and elected officials, as well as his leadership during Hurricane Idalia. Managing a growing county like Manatee is no small responsibility. The County Administrator must oversee county departments, manage major operating and capital budgets, and turn the policies and direction of the Board of County Commissioners into action. Charlie's extensive experience within Manatee County government gives him a valuable understanding of the organization and the community it serves. Charlie Bishop deserves recognition for his many years of public service and for the dedication he has brought to the County Administrator's office. His commitment to getting the job done, supporting county employees, and serving the residents of Manatee County is greatly appreciated. Thank you, Charlie, for your leadership, your service, and your continued commitment to Manatee County.

Kelli OMalley

From: Jacob Erickson
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 3:55 PM
To: Kelli OMalley
Subject: Recollection

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Kelli,

I apologize for the follow up email but as I was introverting on the elevator ride back down to the 7th floor, I neglected to mention a key point of the conversation. Just in case it does get skewed into "Procurement gave the direction", I did explicitly say on our phone call that the Commissioners are more than welcome to meet with whoever they want given they are the elected officials of the County, but they are not obligated to meet with anyone. With the extremely limited information I had, I did express caution that whoever this individual or company is likely needed to be vetted and that it would likely not come through Procurement but in no way, shape or form say that a Commissioner should not participate in a meeting as that is surely not my place within this organization (unless it is a meeting to discuss a publicly advertised solicitation which would violate the lobbying limitation).

Again, just wanted to make sure the accurate information is on the record.

Thank you much!

Jacob Erickson, MBA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP
Purchasing Official
Manatee County Government
941-748-4501 Ext. 3053

Manatee County Procurement Division
Awarded NPI *Achievement of Excellence in Procurement*
2014 - 2023 and the
FAPPO *Award for Excellence in Public Procurement*
2015 - 2023

BCC EXHIBIT JB
#26
DOCS 10/8/26

From: Jacob Erickson <Jacob.Erickson@mymanatee.org>

Sent: Wednesday, 21 May 2025 12:01:16

To: Jason Bearden <jason.bearden@mymanatee.org>

Cc: Sheila McLean <sheila.mclean@mymanatee.org>

Subject: Agreement No. 23-R081782SAM - Solar Street Lighting

Good Morning Commissioner,

As a result of our conversation this morning, I do need to clarify one item. I misspoke regarding the requesting Department for the StreetLeaf contract. It was not Public Works, but Property Management that initiated the non-competitive request to Procurement.

Please see the following documents attached:

Gig Fiber, LLC's SunBiz record – Date filed = 7/10/2024

23-R081782SAM Single Source Approval Memo

StreetLeaf Notice of Intent to Award (link to the County's Bids and Proposals website listed below)

https://public.mymanatee.org/rfp_post/controller?rfp_id=23-R081782SAM&action=details&view=home

It was uploaded to the public site on April 27, 2024 with a close date of May 3, 2024.

Board-approved Gig Fiber, LLC / StreetLeaf Agreement No. 23-R081782SAM

Thus far, there have been three (3) Work Assignments issued against this Blanket Term Agreement (also attached for reference):

Solar Security Park Lighting at Buffalo Creek - $18,200.00

Solar Security Park Lighting at GT Bray Park - $18,200.00

Solar Security Park Lighting at Lakewood Ranch Park - $33,600.00

Again, this is not an exclusive contract. Hopefully this helps. If there is anything else, please feel free to let me know.

Jacob Erickson, MBA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP | Purchasing Official

Manatee County Government

Financial Management Department | Procurement Division

1112 Manatee Avenue West

Bradenton, FL 34205

941-749-3014

2.

Bids and Proposals

Solicitation Details

You can review the detailed information about the solicitation here. If there are any files available to be downloaded they will appear at the bottom of the page.

Reference number: 23-R081782SAM
Category: NC
Status: Awarded
Contact person: Sherri Adams Meier
Contact phone: 941-749-3042
Information conference date & time:
Solicitation opening date & time: Thursday April 27, 2023 11:00 AM

Commodity or Service description:

SINGLE SOURCE # 23-R081782SAM

SOLAR STREET LIGHTING

Awarded To: Gig Giber, LLC
Award Amount: $600,000.00

File Downloads

One item found.1

File name	Size(bytes)	Upload date	Reference number
23-R081782SAM Notice of Intent to Award, Single Source.pdf	236277	Apr 27, 2023	23-R081782SAM

One item found.1

Manatee County Procurement Division

Adobe PDF Reader

Email

Disclaimer

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Solicitation Details

You can review the detailed information about the solicitation here. If there are any files available to be downloaded they will appear at the bottom of the page.

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Status: Awarded
Contact person: Sherri Adams Meier
Contact phone: 941-749-3042
Information conference date & time:
Solicitation opening date & time: Thursday April 27, 2023 11:00 AM

Commodity or Service description:

SINGLE SOURCE # 23-R081782SAM

SOLAR STREET LIGHTING

Awarded To: Gig Giber, LLC
Award Amount: $600,000.00

File Downloads

One item found.1

File name	Size(bytes)	Upload date	Reference number
23-R081782SAM Notice of Intent to Award, Single Source.pdf	236277	Apr 27, 2023	23-R081782SAM

One item found.1

Manatee County Procurement Division

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Disclaimer

3

Sunbiz.org DIVISION of CORPORATIONS an official State of Florida website

Detail by Entity Name

Foreign Limited Liability Company
GIG FIBER, LLC

Filing Information

Document Number	M14000004908
FEI/EIN Number	30-0825777
Date Filed	07/10/2014
State	DE
Status	ACTIVE

Principal Address

2502 N ROCKY POINT DR, STE 1050
TAMPA, FL 33607

Changed: 04/28/2021

Mailing Address

2502 N ROCKY POINT DR, STE 1050
TAMPA, FL 33607

Changed: 04/28/2021

Registered Agent Name & Address

XYZ REGISTERED AGENT LLC
2502 ROCKY POINT DRIVE STE 1050
TAMPA, FL 33607

Name Changed: 05/01/2023

Authorized Person(s) Detail

Name & Address

Title MGR

RYAN, JOHN M
2502 ROCKY POINT DRIVE STE 1050
TAMPA, FL 33607

Annual Reports

Report Year	Filed Date
2021	04/28/2021

2022	04/15/2022
2023	05/01/2023

Document Images

05/01/2023 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/15/2022 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/28/2021 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
06/30/2020 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/22/2019 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/12/2018 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/17/2017 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
04/12/2016 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
03/19/2015 -- ANNUAL REPORT	View image in PDF format
07/10/2014 -- Foreign Limited	View image in PDF format

S

MANATEE COUNTY
Purchasing Division

1112 Manatee Ave. W., Ste. 803
Bradenton, FL 34205
(941) 749-3014

Work Assignment #: W2400404
Term-Agreement #: T2400498
Date: 08/01/24
Requested by: DAVID S x3996/TRACY

VENDOR

V031801 (813) 800-5323
GIG FIBER LLC
2502 N ROCKY POINT DR STE 1050
TAMPA, FL 33607

liam@streetleaf.com

DESCRIPTION	DOLLAR AMOUNT

PRICING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SINGLE SOURCE AGREEMENT NO. 24-R084359SAM FOR SOLAR LIGHTING APPROVED BY THE BCC MAY 14, 2024 AND PROJECT AGREEMENT (WORK ASSIGNMENT) FOR G T BRAY PARK.
....
VENDOR SHALL CONTACT PROJECT MANAGER TO COORDINATE STARTUP OF THE PROJECT.
....
CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE NAMING MANATEE COUNTY AS ADDITIONAL INSURED SHALL BE IN PLACE PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORK.

0001	SOLAR SECURITY PARK LIGHTING AT GT BRAY PARK 26 STREETLEAF SOLAR LIGHTS SECURITY DEPOSIT PER LIGHT POLE	
	106-0012400-531000	2,600.00
0002	LIGHTING SERVICE $1,300.00 PER MONTH / $50.00 PER MONTH PER LIGHT 12 MONTHS OF SERVICE	
	106-0012400-531000	15,600.00

Work Assignment Total 18,200.00

Request #: WA009464
Reference #: 24WA009464SAM
Buyer: SHERRI ADAMS-MEIER PROC MGR (941) 749-3042

Approved By:

Sherri D. Adams-Meier

See Agreement for Remittance Instructions

Kelli OMalley

From: Charlie Bishop
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2026 3:41 PM
To: Jason Bearden; Claudia Campos; Kelli OMalley; Stephanie Garrison; Bryan Parnell; Amanda Ballard; George Kruse; Mike Rahn; Robert McCann; Tal Siddique; Pamela DAgostino
Subject: RE: Procurement / County Administrator Spending

Please don't respond to all on this email:

Commissioner Bearden,

Thank you for your kind words recognizing Claudia's hard work and dedication.

Regarding your request for procurement records and the tight deadline, (September 18th) I want to make sure we manage expectations and staff resources effectively. Given the scope of your request, particularly the detail required for purchases involving fiscal/procurement, it will take far more than the two-hour limit of dedicated staff time. This is similar to the COA standards.

In addition to your latest request with regards to fiscal spending and year-end closeout activities, Claudia is also preparing for a presentation at the chamber retreat and working through exercises related to the potential November 3 tax referendum. With these priorities, I do not believe it is feasible to complete your request by September 18th. In fact, it may take a month or two before Procurement and Fiscal can perform this task thoroughly.

With this in mind, I ask that you bring this request to a future board meeting for a vote, ensuring the proper allocation of staff time and resources as needed.

Charlie Bishop, PMP
County Administrator
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida 34205
Office: 941-749-3004
Cell: 941-526-9037
E-mail: charlie.bishop@mymanatee.org

DocuSign Envelope ID: 75B30CE4-7026-4828-8DB3-9D5E3FC6C739

Financial Management Department
Procurement Division
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803, Bradenton, FL 34205
Telephone number: (941) 749-3014

MEMORANDUM

To: Jacob Erickson, MBA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP, Purchasing Official

From: Simona Brinkman

Date: 4/12/2023

Subject: Single Source Approval Request

DEFINITION: Single-source purchases are the acquisition of commodities or services from a specific source or provider based upon standardization, warranty, compatibility, safety considerations and other similar factors where other competitive sources (suppliers) may be available

Requisition No: R081782

Background (1-2 paragraphs) indicate the purpose of this item/how it will be used, the uniqueness of the item/service that precludes full and open competition; why this item/service is important to the County, and consequences if the purchase of this item/service is not approved.

Streetleaf's unique solar and battery powered system is a hardware, software and services solution that allows fast deployment of resilient infrastructure at lower cost than grid tied lights. They are solar powered which means no trenching and no conduit. This allows the streetlights to be cost effective and be installed in less than 15 minutes. This will allow the County to provide safe and equitable outdoor light that is 100% renewable powered. Based in Tampa with over 4,000 systems in the State, Streetleaf is the only company in Florida that has the scale, supply chain and local service and maintenance teams to provide the product and services the county needs. As an added benefit, Streetleaf is a Carbon Neutral certified company, and each Dark Sky complaint light saves over 300lbs of coal per year.

This kind of product and service is important to the County as it aligns with ongoing green, safety and technology-based initiatives. Streetleaf's solar powered lighting systems furthers the County's Florida Green Building Coalition's Platinum Certification as well as promotes the Destination Zero action plan to reach 0 roadway deaths. The consequence of not deploying Streetleaf's systems would be hindering the County's goal to expand green and technology initiatives for its citizens that are reliable and affordable.

Justification: (1-2 paragraphs) why this particular service/product is required for County's requirements. For example, evidence of compatibility with existing equipment, safety considerations, standardization, warranty, or other similar factors. Attach any other supporting documentation.

Streetleaf's systems are resilient to power outages and extreme weather events, promoting safety as well as equity in the County. Streetlights are a standard solution to nighttime pedestrian and vehicle roadway incidents but, historically, have not been deployed equally across different economic groups (Graphs of cited evidence attached). Streetleaf's system and service model

JAMES SATCHER District 1 | AMANDA BALLARD District 2 | KEVIN VAN OSTENBRIDGE District 3 | MIKE RAHN District 4 | VANESSA BAUGH District 5 | JASON BEARDEN At Large | GEORGE W. KRUSE At Large

DocuSign Envelope ID: 75B30CE4-7026-4828-8DB3-9D5E3FC6C739

removes the upfront barrier and ongoing maintenance costs that typically restrict deploying streetlights in high pedestrian-vehicle conflict areas or underserved communities. Aging infrastructure and a strained power grid are growing concerns, especially during extreme weather events. Recently Streetleaf's systems on the West coast of Florida withstood Hurricane Ian. This was especially important in communities where the power was out for over a week, the streetlights stayed on and safely illuminates the streets at night.

Market Research: (3-4 sentences) describe any previous solicitations, current market research has been performed to support this request.

Streetleaf operates and maintains over 4,000 solar lighting systems in Florida. This is comparable to the 4,843 streetlights currently under control of the County (according to Fiscal Year 2023 Adopted Budget). Streetleaf is also the only solar streetlighting company in the US who has partnered with a Utility company to deploy over a 1,500+ solar streetlighting systems in their territory.

Pricing: (2-3 sentences) describe your efforts to obtain the best price/value.

Streetleaf offers a flexible pricing model for their product and services that eliminates the need to use County resources to operate and maintain streetlights. They offer a monthly payment model where the reoccurring payment covers all installation, maintenance, and remote monitoring services. There is also an option to purchase the full systems while offering a separate service and maintenance agreement. Streetleaf best aligns with the goals and objectives of the County.

****

☒ Approved. This single-source approval is valid for 60 months from date of approval. This Approval must be attached /referenced for all requisitions for this item/service during the approved term.

☐ Need Additional Information (see below) ☐ Not Approved (see below)

Comments:

_____

By: Jacob Erickson, MBA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP Digitally signed by Jacob Erickson, MBA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP Date: 2023.04.27 07:58:27 -04'00'

Jacob Erickson, MBA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP, Purchasing Official Date: April 27, 2023

8.

MANATEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD
A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT

SUBJECT/TITLE	Manatee County Outdoor Solar Lighting	**DATE POSTED**	MC Website 4/26/24
PROCUREMENT REPRESENTATIVE	Sherri Meier	**DATE CONTRACT SHALL BE AWARDED**	May 13, 2024
DEPARTMENT	Property Management	**REQUISITION NO.**	R084359
AUTHORIZED BY	Jacob Erickson, Purchasing Official	**SIGNATURE DATE**	Jacob Erickson, MBA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP Digitally signed by Jacob Erickson, MBA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP Date: 2024.04.26 15:15:54 -04'00'

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT

The Manatee County Procurement Division provides notice of its intent to award a single source contract with a value of $750,000.00 with Gig Fiber, LLC for the provision of outdoor solar lighting

ENABLING/REGULATING AUTHORITY

Federal/State law(s), administrative ruling(s), Manatee County Comp Plan/Land Development Code, ordinances, resolutions, policy.

Manatee County Code of Laws

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Manatee County Procurement Division has completed a due diligence review and intends to procure outdoor solar lighting from Gig Fiber, LLC without conducting a competitive solicitation process for the following reason(s):

Gig Fiber, LLC provides a solar and battery powered system that is a hardware, software and maintenance services solution. The solution allows fast deployment of resilient infrastructure at lower cost than grid tied lights. Solar power means no trenching, and no conduit. Gig Fiber's system and service model removes the upfront barrier and ongoing maintenance costs that typically restrict deploying streetlights in a high pedestrian-vehicle conflict areas or underserved communities.

The flexible pricing model for the product and services eliminates the need to use County resources to operate and maintain streetlights. Gig Fiber, LLC best aligns with the goals and objectives of the County.

Any company that believes it can provide this good/service, must submit detailed information about its good/service to the Manatee County Procurement Division at purchasing@mymanatee.org no later than May 3, 2024 for evaluation and consideration.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 7, 2026, 04:50PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** David **Last Name:** Daniels
Email	davidd4300@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 08, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop Contract/Termination
Comment	COURT CASE 2022-CA-3276 PUBLIC RECORD VIOLATIONS 1. On 8-9-2022, Michael Barfield and The Florida Center for Government Accountability (FCFGA) filed a lawsuit against Manatee County for failing to provide public record text messages. Link to original complaint: https://drive.google.com/.../1LgD5yxL0iayJ0dOpWMh.../view... The complaint reads on page 6 : "…on June 23, 2022, Plaintiff made a third records request seeking…All texts sent to or from Charlie Bishop between January 2, 2022, through June 23, 2022, including on any personal, nongovernmental account." … "To date, the COUNTY has been unable to fully comply with the record requests … The COUNTY has failed to perform mandatory duties under the Public Record Act On 8-25-2022, County attorney Doug Polk filed the county response. Link to County response to complaint: https://drive.google.com/.../1Ac5s3FgUKidRMm6Gk9M.../view... From page 5 of the county response: "Manatee County acknowledges that the records requested were not timely produced… Manatee County is in the process of acquiring new phones for County staff… and anticipates that process to be completed by the end of 2022." On pg 3 the county attorney tells the court that Mr. Bishop had been issued a county-own cell phone but that: "Charlie Bishop did not use his County issued phone until after June 23, 2022." 2. OFFICIAL COUNTY POLICY PROHIBITING THE USE OF PERSONAL DEVICES The record in court case 2022-CA-3276 includes the under-oath depositions of county technology specialist Ron Hardy and former Records Dept. Manager Debbie Scaccianoce. In those depositions we learn that in October, 2023, the county established a new county-wide policy that prohibited the use of personal phones for county business. Here is a link to a screenshot of county IT specialist Ron Hardy's deposition, pgs 19-20, confirming county policy prohibiting personal phones for county business: https://drive.google.com/.../1fnjCNmJKqeoiDhBqCc5.../view... And near the end of former Records Mgr Scaccianoce's deposition, county attorney Doug Polk, in cross examination, informs Scaccianoce

about the new county policy:
https://drive.google.com/.../1N2URMx.../view...
3. MANATEE COUNTY TRAINING WEBINAR: GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE At least since 2021, the county attorney has trained top county officials on the requirements of the Public Records law. Here is a Link to County Training webinar on Government in the Sunshine:
https://drive.google.com/.../1msxh5gvLs6ADU2C4RPc.../view...
Specifically, the training warns repeatedly against the use of personal devices. For example, page 126 warns: “Don’t use private accounts to engage with constituents on matters that are county business”
https://drive.google.com/.../1oYcVfo61QU.../view...
More warnings on Pg130:
https://drive.google.com/.../1Bzo7lg4VhuzjhcZ0JG1.../view...
From Pg 39: “Public Records can include electronic communication like email, IM, Facebook posts, Snapchat, Twitter and text messages.”
https://drive.google.com/.../1DRroG72zA6NHZt5Yu9Q.../view...
Pg 70: “Destruction and Disposal of Electronic Records may only occur in accordance with rules of the Department of State’s Division of Library and Information Services.”
https://drive.google.com/.../14OubN763yvSnFVx1FSl.../view...
Pg 72: lays out the civil and criminal penalties for violating the Public Records Act. Civil penalty is up to a $500 fine. Criminal penalty for knowingly violating is up to 1 year imprisonment and $1000 fine.
https://drive.google.com/.../1eUtk9aF.../view...
From pg 47: “If an individual uses a private email account (or other social media platform) to conduct public business, he or she becomes personally responsible for complying with the Public Records Law.”
https://drive.google.com/.../15fmDPqI.../view...
4. TO RECAP WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS
Charlie Bishop was given a county cell phone prior to June 23, 2022 (records will show it was on June 14, 2022)
On August 25, 2022, county attorney Doug Polk told the court that Mr. Bishop started using only his county-issued phone for official business starting on June 23, 2022.
In October, 2023 after Bishop became the Administrator, the county announced an official county-wide policy prohibiting county employees from using personal phones for official business
As far back as 2021, The County has formally trained and advised high level and elected officials against the use of any personal accounts or devices to conduct county business.
5. RECORDS THAT CONFIRM BISHOP’S NON COMPLIANCE - Request #35314 and 35309.
On Feb 16, 2024, I submitted record request 35314 for “all text records from Mr. Bishop’s county-issued cell for period January 15 - 19, 2024.” (I chose a short period of time to avoid fees)
The County records dept responded: “There are no responsive records…”
https://docs.google.com/.../11KTXyZL0dgo5XODJl67C.../edit...
The response also included the monthly bill for Bishop’s county-issued

phone for period Jan 10 - Feb 9 2024. The bill confirms Bishop's county cell phone account was established almost 2 years earlier on June 14, 2022. The bill shows no charges for phone or text usage.
Link toBishop's monthly county cell phone bill for period Jan 10-Feb 9, 2024.
https://drive.google.com/.../1SH5PZYyMZ.../view...
On the same day, Feb 16, 2024, I submitted request #35309 asking for Bishop's text records on any device, personal or county issued, for the same period, Jan 15-19, 2024. On March 22, I received a list of texts from Bishop's personal phone (ending in 9037). Link to request 35309:
https://drive.google.com/.../1pQAH7VJxJwSMb.../view...
Link to list of texts that Bishop provided from his personal phone in response to request 35309:
https://drive.google.com/.../16S.../view...
The record requests 35314 and 35309 confirm that, as of February 9, 2024, Mr Bishop continues to use only his personal phone to conduct county business.
6. ADDITIONAL CONFIRMATION OF NON COMPLIANCE: PANTHER SIGHTING FB POST REQUEST 37635
A closer look at the texts that Bishop provided from his personal phone (in response to Request 35309 above) shows just 3 conversations. The last conversation takes place on the morning of 1/17/24 and starts with an "attachment" sent to Bishop's inbox from either KVO or KVO's assistant Jorge. The attachment was followed by messages: "That was quick!"; "5200 views"; and "Channel 10 and 13 running it tonight." All of these messages are in Bishop's inbox, sent by KVO or Jorge.
https://drive.google.com/.../16S.../view...
Initially, I wasn't concerned about the attachment, but on 5/29/24 I submitted a separate request #37635 asking for the attachment.
Keep in mind that this "attachment" is on Bishop's personal phone. The response I receive from my request for the attachment is that "the requested attachment does not constitute county business."
https://drive.google.com/.../1dk6AK9CxMbT6mWULmZ7.../view...
The reality is that we know the attachment sent the morning of Jan 17 was, in fact, related to county business. On 1/16/24 at 3:17pm, Manatee County posted a video on FB of a panther strolling through Duette preserve.
Link to County FB post on 1/16/24:
https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3313700005592954&ref=sharing
and
https://drive.google.com/.../1qAfsX8Z7ML.../view...
The text "5200 views" that Bishop does produce surely describes the FB post. Additionally, "Channel 10 and 13 running tonight" is also about that FB post. It was actually channel 8 (not 10) and 13 that ran the story on the evening of 1/17/24.
Link to screenshot of 1/17/24 Channel 13 report on panther sighting at Duette Preserve:
https://drive.google.com/.../1X3SVnk2d3GoCupXU3cx.../view...
Link to screenshot of 1/17/24 Channel 8 report on panther sighting:

https://drive.google.com/.../1St5qtbuf71WQDoVA3PW.../view...
Deleting, or not producing a public record upon request is a violation of public records law 119.07
7. ADDITIONAL NON COMPLIANCE, FAILURE TO PRODUCE SATCHER TEXT RECORDS
In further research, I found other public record text messages sent to or from Charlie Bishop that he should have provided in response to my request 35309 but he did not. For example, I requested the public record text messages of James Satcher for the same short period of time - Jan 15-19, 2024.
Link to request 35327 asking for texts of James Satcher on any device:
https://drive.google.com/.../15osRmzT.../view...
In response, Satcher screen printed text messages from his phone, emailed them to himself, then emailed that email to commissioner aide Kelli O'malley, who emailed the screenshots to records manager Lacy Pritchard, who then emailed the email of the email of the email with the phone screen shots to me.
It takes a close look, but that lone text conversation that Mr. Satcher provided was a conversation with Charlie Bishop, dated 1-16-24 at 8:58 pm. The conversation is about a water shut off reported in multiple neighborhoods including Prosperity Lakes, Regency Oaks, Moccasin Wallow Fairways and 2 more.
Link to Satcher's response to my request 35327:
https://drive.google.com/.../1JG.../view...
Again, here is the list of all of Charlie Bishop's reported texts during the period Jan 15-19, 2024:
https://drive.google.com/.../16S.../view...
We know the Satcher text conversation is not listed by Bishop, but it should have been.
Here is a request I made for texts on Bishop's county-issued cell phone for the period August 5 - 6, 2024 (Hurricane Debby). The response was that there were "no responsive records."
https://drive.google.com/.../10Q1lulL6KEg2ymti7ui.../view...
10. THE FINAL JUDGMENT IN COURT CASE 2022-CA-3276
On Sept 17, 2024, the court entered its Final Judgment.Some of what the court ordered:
- a written policy that prohibits employees from conducting official county business on any personal electronic device.
- Plaintiff is awarded its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in the amount $75,000.
Link to Final Judgment 2022-CA-3276
https://drive.google.com/.../1c7o-H2mAiJKlPkeEz.../view...

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 7, 2026, 04:19PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Laura **Last Name:** Liddell
Email	thx4jesus@live.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 08, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Administrator contract
Comment	I feel I would be remiss not to tell you how I felt about Charlie Bishop's job performance. Dear Commissioners; I would be remiss if I did not tell you. I am in full agreement with either the termination of Charlie Bishop's contract or not renewing it for repeated poor judgment, lack of integrity, loss of trust and poor leadership decisions that I have become aware of. He has been a huge disappointment and frankly for someone in that position making that kind of salary, Manatee County deserves better. Some Reasons: 1. First, the fact that he would not use his county cell phone for County business to comply with public records laws. This just left me shaking my head. What kind of example does this set for lower level administrators and other employees? This is a basic requirement. 2. Then, that lapse in judgement ultimately cost taxpayers $75,000 in legal fees, which does not even include work time wasted. Honestly, had he been terminated then for this serious lapse in judgement, we would be much better off now. 3. His very questionable hiring of Tom Wooten for code enforcement and more recently, moving him to animal welfare. 4. His part in the Bishop Animal kennel prefab fiasco. I feel he did not have the taxpayers, employees or dogs best interests at heart, by allowing this project to move forward with extremely poor design including but not limited to insufficient shade, insufficient drainage, prefabs deemed unsafe for volunteers, and much more. He missed the most fundamental aspect of a project like this, which is employee input. 5. A $60,000 animal arts report that was basically hidden from the public and was obviously not even remotely considered, which plainly stated prefab kennels were not recommended. 6. For not making sure appropriate money was found to fund the concrete kennel facility, as was promised and expected. 7. Only a pitiful amount of funds have been allocated from the

infrastructure sales tax for the new shelter which were supposed to come from this tax, passed in 2016.
8. He did not make a clear trail of objection to protect the tax payers from bad decisions regarding the prefab kennels, which were never even brought to the public or even put out for bid.
9. And one of my biggest complaints of all, is that the Dogs were moved too soon, after the public was TOLD, ASSURED and PROMISED they would NOT be to moved until after improvements were made, in a meeting he was present at. And then POOF! The next thing we hear, the dogs were moved!! And he admitted to making this decision because it was “time!?” An avalanche of problems, unanswered messages, emails and a huge loss of public trust ensued, and continues.
10. The prefab kennels have been in crisis mode ever since, with problem after problem. Then just last week, a puppy named Woody had to be euthanized because he went crazy in that environment! A puppy! This is heartbreaking and shameful!
11. And lastly, the very shocking disrespectful and unprofessional way he conducted himself when he answered Commissioner Bearden, when refusing a records request at meeting. This could’ve been handled so differently; instead it was behavior unbecoming for a county administrator, and another very poor example for the other employees. 0 integrity, and a blatant disregard for professionalism.

These are but a few of past transgressions that I feel have outweighed the good things I’m sure he has done. There is going to be good with the bad; however, this is a top level County Administrator position who has basically lost a lot of public trust because poor decisions, inappropriate behavior, lapses in judgment and overall lack of leadership. I do feel this contract should be terminated / not renewed in favor of protecting future county projects with integrity and better leadership. Thank you.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 7, 2026, 04:17PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** David **Last Name:** Daniels
Email	davidd4300@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 08, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Charlie Bishop Contract/Termination
Comment	TWELVE documented events as evidence to terminate Charlie Bishop: 1. In 2022, despite the county having its own drone department, then Deputy Administrator Charlie Bishop awarded a no-bid contract to Drone Effects LLC, owned by Melissa Matisko, who was Bishop's girlfriend at the time. The Bradenton Times reported Bishop didn't follow the county's procurement procedures and likely violated Florida's ethical business statutes. Link to Report: https://thebradentontimes.com/.../drone-contract-may... 2. Also in 2022, Bishop, who oversaw Property Management, failed to obtain building permits from the City of Bradenton for the major renovations to the 2nd and 9th floor at the downtown administration building. Link to report: https://thebradentontimes.com/.../more-unpermitted... 3. In September 2024, in public records case 2022-CA-3276, the county was ordered to pay the plaintiff $75K in legal fees as part of the Final Judgement against the county.The court determined that Hopes and Bishop's use of their personal phones to conduct county business was a violation of the public records law. Link to report: https://www.yourobserver.com/.../manatee-county-public.../ 4. In 2024, now Administrator Charlie Bishop allowed commissioner VanOstenbridge to communicate directly to Thomas Wooten, the head of County Code Enforcement, a clear violation of county policy. Records show that in May, 2024, a code enforcement officer was illegally directed to remove a "Hell No KVO" sign from private property. Link to reports: https://floridatrident.org/code-enforcement-controversy.../ https://wslr.org/bradenton-times-exclusive-did-signs.../.... 5. Re: Code Enforcement Director Thomas Wooten: Charlie Bishop is responsible for promoting Wooten, a convicted felon - dirty cop, to lead Manatee County Code Enforcement. In September 2021, code enforcement supervisor Tom Wooten was put on administrative related to an internal investigation into alleged construction violations on a 50-acre, agriculturally-zoned property in Myakka City.

Link to report:
https://thebradentontimes.com/.../chaos-at-the-county...
Wooten has a history of unethical public service. Wooten was a Manatee County Sheriff deputy and a member of the infamous Delta squad. One typical case involved a custom built Ford Mustang that the officers saw and coveted. They stopped the vehicle, planted cocaine, and seized the car. The Mustang soon became one officer's work vehicle through forfeiture laws.
Link to report:
https://www.orlandosentinel.com/.../ex-agent-i-planted.../
In another case, Wooten planted crack cocaine. A woman visiting the home was arrested, her one year old child was placed in foster care. Before her encounter with the Delta squad, she had no criminal record. Taxpayers settled with her for $275K
Link to report:
https://drive.google.com/.../1tIwUt2xPzZYv3UdRPzm.../view...
Wooten was fired as a deputy in August 1998. He pleaded guilty to four federal criminal charges including conspiracy, witness tampering and failing to report a felony. He faced up to 28 years in prison. Wooten lied to sheriff investigators, he lied to internal affairs, he lied to the FBI. These facts alone should have been enough for anyone with a shred of integrity to have the judgement to not have Wooten lead a quasi law enforcement organization like code enforcement.
Link to report:
https://www.tampabay.com/.../crime-in-the-name-of-the-law/
6. In July, 2024, Bishop used his Administrator position to call in a favor from the mayor of Bradenton Beach, John Chappie, asking the mayor to call the owner of the Daiquiri Deck so that Charlie Bishop, his girlfriend and her daughter could be seated ahead of everyone else. What you do when you think nobody is watching - This is who Charlie Bishop is.
Link to report:
https://amisun.com/county-administrator-seeks-favor-from.../
7. Charlie Bishop helped eliminate our wetland buffers. Bishop used public funds to hire developer consultant Daniel Delisi to recommend weakening local wetland protections in an August 2023 BoCC meeting. In the face of intense opposition from residents and environmental scientists that packed the chambers, Delisi argued that the county's 30 to 50-foot buffer requirements were "redundant." After Delisi's presentation of what Bishop called a "county-initiated" new policy, the board voted 6-1 for elimination of wetland buffers. Link to report:
https://www.wusf.org/.../manatee-county-advances-plan-cut...
8. Bishop faced no accountability for the decision to open the Dam and the subsequent massive flooding in August 2024. The flooding outraged homeowners who received conflicting and uncoordinated alerts. Some residents reported rescue teams arriving in dry neighborhoods, while others reported they didn't get an alert to leave until all roads leading out were closed due to the rising waters. Link to report:
https://thebradentontimes.com/.../lake-manatee-dam...

Michael Barfield reported in The Florida Trident:
“Manatee County officials have known for years that an aging dam at Lake Manatee posed a threat to public safety, but reduced outflow 48 hours before Debby instead of increasing it ahead of forecasted rainfall…“By Monday morning, officials decided to take drastic action, allowing millions of gallons of water to flow from the lake, Residents were given no warning about the release of water. Hundreds had to be evacuated afterwards and numerous homes were destroyed. Link to report:
https://floridatrident.org/residents-uninformed-of-lake.../
9. County managers (staff) understand and mimic his leadership. Sarah Brown has also played fast and loose with public records. By asking for the 2022 Univ of Fl Shelter evaluation by phone, she circumvented public records law. Links to the email exchange can be found about halfway into the below article:
https://thebradentonjournal.substack.com/.../guest-column...
Development Services Manager Nicole Knapp also follows Bishop’s lead. In March, 2024, Nicole Knapp stepped in to personally fast-track the illegal building permit for Carlos Beruff’s oversized Additional Dwelling . Link to report:
https://thebradentontimes.com/.../records-show-knapp...
10. Knapp and Brown aren’t the only employees who understand that rules don’t apply to everyone. In September 2025, a Clerk of Court audit found that a Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) department manager abused his position when he closed the Powel Crosley Estate without paying for a reservation. Link to report
https://thebradentontimes.com/.../inspector-general...
11. The shelter kennel fiasco includes a long line of decisions that are not in the public interest. Link to report:
https://thebradentontimes.com/.../charlie-bishop-is...
12. At a recent BoCC meeting, Commissioner Amanda Ballard falsely claimed the Mr. Bishop’s appointment to Administrator was part of the board’s “national search” for a new administrator to replace indicted felon Scott Hopes. Bishop was not part of that search. He didn’t even apply.
Link to report:

https://thebradentontimes.com/.../bishop-named-permanent...

CONCLUSION:Is Charlie Bishop the kind of person we want setting the example for 2300 county employees? Is he the kind of leader that inspires honesty and integrity? Is he the kind of person we can trust to act ethically?

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 7, 2026, 04:43PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Brenda **Last Name:** Glasbrenner
Email	smdbrenda@yahoo.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 08, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	26, Bishop Performance
Comment	Commissioners, Evaluate Charlie Bishop's performance against the official requirements of the County Administrator position and, if the Board determines that confidence has been lost, begin the process of appointing new leadership for Manatee County. This request rests on a documented pattern of concerns involving public-records compliance and taxpayer liability, supervision of enforcement operations, professional judgment in wetland policy, Animal Services oversight, communication with elected officials and accountability for administrative decisions. The issue is not whether a criminal violation has been proven. It is whether Mr. Bishop's record demonstrates the judgment, transparency, integrity, supervision and competence required of the County Administrator. The Board should identify the governing job description, employment agreement and applicable policies; review the decisions and oversight systems involved in these matters; require an independent and transparent evaluation; and determine whether Mr. Bishop continues to meet the standards of the position. The official job description for the County Administrator should be the starting point for that evaluation. As the County's chief administrative officer, the County Administrator is responsible for carrying out the policies and directives of the Board of County Commissioners; directing, coordinating and supervising county departments and administrative operations; preparing and administering the county budget; overseeing the use of public funds and county property; ensuring compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, policies and procedures; appointing, supervising and evaluating department directors and other personnel as authorized; maintaining effective internal controls; coordinating emergency, public-safety and public-health operations; communicating accurately and promptly with the Board and the public; and providing professional, impartial and

accountable leadership for the County's approximately 450,000 residents.

The County Administrator's responsibilities also include ensuring that county employees follow lawful procedures, that enforcement operations are administered fairly, that professional staff recommendations are properly considered, that public records are preserved and produced as required by law, that contracts and expenditures are responsibly managed, and that significant administrative decisions are documented and subject to appropriate oversight.

Those duties are not merely aspirational. They define the standard against which the County Administrator's performance should be measured.

The public interest is direct: Manatee County residents and taxpayers are entitled to lawful, impartial and professionally managed government, responsible stewardship of public resources, protection of public health and safety, and confidence that county decisions are made transparently and without improper influence.

Specific Action Requested

I respectfully ask the Board to:

1. Place the County Administrator's continued employment and the Board's confidence in his leadership on a properly noticed public agenda.
2. Identify and publish the official job description, employment agreement and governing standards applicable to the County Administrator position.
3. Evaluate Mr. Bishop's performance against those official requirements, including his responsibility to:
* Carry out the policies and directives of the Board of County Commissioners;
* Direct, coordinate and supervise county departments and administrative operations;
* Appoint, supervise and evaluate department directors and other personnel as authorized;
* Ensure compliance with Florida law, county ordinances, Board policies and administrative procedures;
* Protect public records and ensure timely, lawful and transparent responses to public-records requests;
* Maintain effective internal controls and prevent unnecessary taxpayer liability;
* Prepare, administer and responsibly manage the county budget and public resources;
* Ensure that enforcement operations are impartial, professional and

free from improper political influence;
* Consider and follow the recommendations of qualified professional staff;
* Protect public health, safety, environmental resources and animal welfare;
* Communicate accurately and promptly with elected officials, county employees and the public;
* Document significant administrative decisions and maintain appropriate accountability;
* Establish effective policies, training, supervision and corrective measures; and
* Provide ethical, competent, transparent and accountable leadership for Manatee County.
4. Require a complete accounting of the decisions, recommendations, communications and oversight systems involved in the public-records, code-enforcement, wetland-policy, promotion, employment and Animal Services matters described above.
5. Direct an independent review of those matters, with appropriate safeguards for impartiality and compliance with applicable law.
6. Determine whether county policies, procedures, training, internal controls and supervision are sufficient to prevent similar failures in the future.
7. Conduct the evaluation transparently and provide the public with a clear explanation of the Board's findings.
8. Determine whether Mr. Bishop has fulfilled the core duties of the County Administrator, including lawful administration, ethical leadership, supervision, fiscal responsibility, professional judgment, communication, transparency and accountability.
9. If the Board determines that its confidence has been lost, begin the process of appointing new leadership for Manatee County.

Commissioner Bearden has given this Board an opportunity to address these concerns directly and responsibly.

The public deserves a clear process, established facts and accountable leadership. I ask the Board to evaluate Mr. Bishop against the official requirements of his position, explain its findings publicly and, if confidence has been lost, act decisively to appoint new leadership.

Put the interests of Manatee County's approximately 450,000 residents ahead of personalities and politics.

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 7, 2026, 08:30PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Susan **Last Name:** Stickle
Email	susanjstickle@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 08, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County Administrator Contract
Comment	Due to the many known issues with County Administrator Charlie Bishop, I am requesting that his contract be terminated effective immediately. In addition to all other known past transgressions, more recently he turned off public comments on the social media broadcasts in an effort to silence constituents. Also, promoting an employee to Deputy County Administrator who wasn't qualified, without interviewing any other potential candidates who may have had proper qualifications. Charlie Bishop then lied and said that he did. There is no public record or evidence that he even took resumes for this position. Furthermore, with regards for the kennel trailers/sheds at the Bishop facility, there is no signature on the purchase order. However, the trailers were delivered, installed and paid for. Who authorized this purchase order and why was there no signature? What are you hiding? Susan Stickle Manatee County Resident 973.885.3203

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 7, 2026, 08:42PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Susan **Last Name:** Stickle
Email	susanjstickle@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 08, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	County Administrator Contract
Comment	Another dog (Woody) was euthanized because of the size of the kennel Trailers/Sheds - 34" x 57" (a crate) at the Bishop property which causes Containment Anxiety in dogs and changes their behavior. This is a disgrace to every Manatee County resident who counts on MCAW to take care of the animals at the Bishop shelter. Who authorized this purchase and why weren't shelter staff invited to be involved in the discussion and the decision about the trailers?? Why is there no signature on the purchase order for these kennel trailers/shed? What are you hiding?? I personally blame Charlie Bishop and the entire BOCC for this failure that caused Woody to lose his life. Shame on ALL of you! Do NOT renew Charlie Bishop's contract, in the meantime, there absolutely needs to be more oversight on his actions. Susan Stickle Manatee County resident and Voter. 973.885.3203

Public Comment

Manatee County Government

Submitted On:
Oct 7, 2026, 06:50PM EDT

Full Name	**First Name:** Jonna **Last Name:** Koellhoffer
Email	jkoellhoffer@gmail.com
Which meeting is this public comment for? (Please select date of meeting)	October 08, 2026
Topic/Agenda Item	Bishop Contract
Comment	Commissioners: Charlie Bishop needs to be released from his contract immediately, if not immediately then his contract should not be renewed. He is not the right person to lead Manatee County, and the continued pattern of questionable decisions, unprofessional conduct, and lack of accountability should be deeply concerning to every member of this Commission. There have been far too many issues involving Mr. Bishop for the Commission to continue looking the other way. As the County Administrator, he is entrusted with overseeing county operations, employees, policies, and millions of dollars in taxpayer funds. His conduct should reflect the professionalism, integrity, transparency, and accountability expected of someone in that position. It does not. The recent paperwork involving the kennel trailers is just one of the latest examples. We are talking about thousands and thousands of dollars in county expenditures and a purchase order that apparently has no signature. How does the county procure a purchase, authorize it, and ultimately pay for it without the required documentation and signatures? Who authorized it? Who approved it? Who was responsible for ensuring the proper procurement process was followed? And perhaps most importantly, where is the accountability? Then there is Mr. Bishop's conduct at a recent Board meeting. A sitting commissioner made a request, and Mr. Bishop flatly refused. Disagreement is one thing. A County Administrator openly refusing a request from a member of the governing body he ultimately reports to is

another.

And asking a sitting commissioner if he "wants to take this outside" is completely unacceptable behavior for a County Administrator. There were countless professional ways he could have handled a disagreement. That was not one of them.

That kind of behavior should not be normalized or excused.

There are also serious concerns about the promotion of an individual who was allegedly not qualified for the position, followed by Mr. Bishop winking at her while making his recommendation. Whether intentional or not, that type of conduct creates an appearance of favoritism and undermines public confidence in the county's hiring and promotion processes.

Manatee County deserves better.

We need a County Administrator who understands that the position is a public trust—not a personal fiefdom. We need someone who respects the Board of County Commissioners, follows county policies and procedures, understands proper procurement and financial controls, treats employees professionally, and understands that every decision is ultimately accountable to the taxpayers.

Instead, we continue to see questions surrounding Mr. Bishop's decisions and conduct.

At what point is enough enough?

Commissioners, you have the authority and responsibility to address this. You are the elected officials ultimately accountable to the citizens of Manatee County. You should not wait for another controversy, another questionable expenditure, another personnel issue, or another confrontation before taking action.

I am asking each of you to seriously consider whether Charlie Bishop has earned the continued confidence of this Commission and the citizens you represent.

The answer is no.

His contract should not be renewed, and Manatee County should begin the process of finding a County Administrator now, one who can be trusted to put the interests of this county, its employees, and its taxpayers first.

	Jonna J Koellhoffer Manatee county resident and voter