

**MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING; HONORABLE PATRICIA M. GLASS CHAMBERS  
1112 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, Florida  
MARCH 9, 2021**

Meeting video link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUlgjuGhS-qV966RU2Z7AtA>

Present were:

Vanessa Baugh, Chairman  
George Kruse, First Vice-Chairman  
Kevin Van Ostenbridge, Second Vice-Chairman  
Reggie Bellamy, Third Vice-Chairman  
Misty Servia  
James A. Satcher III (entered during meeting)  
Carol Whitmore

Also present were:

Karen Stewart, Acting County Administrator  
William Clague, County Attorney  
Vicki Tessmer, Board Records Supervisor, Clerk of the Circuit Court



Chairman Baugh called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.


**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Invocation was delivered by Pastor Joe Martin, Bayside Community Church, East Bradenton Campus, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.




**AGENDA**

BC20210309DOC001

**AWARDS**

1.  Employee of the Month – Bryan Bellamy, Transit Attendant, Public Works Department  
BC20210309DOC002

**PROCLAMATIONS**

1.  A motion was made by Commissioner Bellamy, seconded by Commissioner Kruse, and carried 6-0, with Commissioner Satcher absent, to adopt the following Proclamations:
2.  Florida Surveyors and Mappers Week – March 21-27, 2021, accepted by Aaron Levine, Vice President (Listen) and Todd Boyle, Manatee County Surveyor and staff BC20210309DOC003  
(Enter Commissioner Satcher during presentations)
25.  Government Finance Professionals Week – March 15-19, 2021, accepted by Angelina Colonnese, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Jan Brewer, Financial Management Director, and Financial Management and Finance Department staff BC20210309DOC004

**AGENDA ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Time Certain

-  Item 22 – 11:00 a.m. Updates of CARES Act and Coronavirus Local Strategies  
Item 23 – 1:30 p.m. 2021 Legislative Platform Policy Statement for Emergency Water Treatment Options at Piney Point

Agenda Update Memorandum

BC20210309DOC005

- Item 3 – Citizen Comments; Written comments submitted through the online Public Comment form were added  
Item 7 – Budget Amendment Resolution B-21-053; updated and replaced to correct a

scrivener's error in the Batch ID number for Item 5

Item 20 –Ordinance 21-09 Establishing the Prosperity Lakes Community Development District; A typographical error in the Notice of Public Hearing advertised this ordinance as number 20-09. All other information was correct, the applicant is aware of the error and wished to proceed with the public hearing


Item 22 – Updates on CARES Act Strategies/Coronavirus Local Strategies; The following items were added:

- Governor's Executive Order 21-45 extending the State of Emergency for the State of Florida an additional 60 days; and
- Written comment submitted through the online public comment forum


Item 25 – Government Finance Professionals Week in Manatee County; Request to adopt proclamation added to the agenda


3. **CITIZEN COMMENTS** (Future Agenda Items)

BC20210309DOC006

 Pam Freni displayed a photograph and encouraged the Board to build the east County animal shelter.


BC20210309DOC007


 Christina Skepton opposed the way a vaccine pop up site in Lakewood Ranch was handled.

 Nathan Levinson submitted a newspaper article, spoke in support of a new animal shelter, suggested charter government be considered, and asked for the reinstatement of Cheri Coryea as County Administrator.


BC20210309DOC008


 Dr. Richard Conard requested a work session to address hunger and homelessness in the community.

 Tim Richey commented on the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (PRMRWSA) and Mosaic permits to pull water from the Florida aquifer.


 Michael Zarzano displayed an article from the Herald Tribune regarding water quality and pollution in Florid and requested a moratorium on phosphate mining.


BC20210309DOC009

 Cynthia Zarzano encouraged protecting water quality and opposed phosphate mining.

 Betty Sailes Rhodes thanked the Palmetto Youth Center for opening their facility to distribute vaccines to the underserved population and encouraged racial equality in leadership roles (including the Board).


 Missy Head encouraged the Commissioners to “do better” moving forward.


 Andra Griffin requested information about jobs advertised “to protect the inner workings of the ninth floor, the meeting on January 22 with Commissioners Whitmore and Kruse, and phosphate mining.


 Glen Gibellina commented on a renewable energy policy, temporary homeless shelters, phosphate mining, reclaiming property provided to the Visible Men Academy property to use for affordable housing, the need for a veteran's shelter as opposed to an animal shelter, vaccine pop up sites, and density bonuses.

BC20210309DOC010

There being no further citizen comments, Chairman Baugh closed citizen comments.


 Discussion ensued regarding the need to have a work session on homelessness and hunger, programs instituted for reaching out to the homeless, Feeding Hungry Little Tummys, ethics violations, the meeting on January 22 was open to the public and advertised, diversity when Gwen Brown was Chairman of the Board in the past, there is a HOT team with the Sheriff’s Office, and request information on Visible Men Academy.


 Commissioner Van Ostenbridge assured the Board he would not treat an African American Chairman differently.

 Discussion continued regarding Commissioners unaware if Mosaic made campaign contributions, and the Commission deals with difficult issues.


**CONSENT AGENDA**


4. **Citizen Comments** (Consent Agenda Items)

 Tim Richey, Michael Zarzano, and Cynthia Zarzano addressed Item 17 regarding water supply projections to the PRMRWSA and their management of the water supply related to Mosaic Fertilizer.

 Andra Griffin questioned why surplus vehicles (Item 14) are auctioned off rather than provided to people in need within the County.

There being no further citizen comments, Chairman Baugh closed citizen comments.

 Discussion ensued regarding surplus vehicles, Manatee County does not currently draw from PRMRWSA, but submit their annual projections with participation beginning in 2037, urged the Chairman to encourage order when citizens disrupt the meeting, and at times it is best to let citizens speak.

 William Clague, County Attorney, stressed that citizens have a right to speak, but not a right to personally attack the Board.

**MOTION/CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Commissioner Servia, seconded by Commissioner Kruse, and carried 7-0, to approve the Consent Agenda, with the changes incorporated in the Agenda Update Memorandum.

5. **CLERKS CONSENT AGENDA**

BC20210309DOC011

A. **MINUTES**

Approved the Minutes of February 9, 2020

B. **REFUNDS**

Approved the following Refunds:

- |    |   |                  |
|----|---|------------------|
| 1. | Blind Squirrel Investing LLC – Billing Adjustment, \$609.58 | BC20210309DOC012 |
| 2. | Meritage Homes of Florida, Inc. – Impact Fees, \$11,598     | BC20210309DOC013 |
| 3. | Mariah M. Reynolds – Billing Adjustment, \$970.02           | BC20210309DOC014 |
| 4. | Charles A. Roy – Billing Adjustment, \$1,269.32             | BC20210309DOC015 |
| 5. | Charles A. Roy – Billing Adjustment, \$930.02               | BC20210309DOC016 |

C. **REPORTS** Accepted the following Reports:

1. Water's Edge Community Development District – Annual Financial Audit Report for FY ended September 30, 2020 BC20210309DOC017

6. **BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES/FINAL PLAT/RIVERSIDE PRESERVE PHASE II**

- Executed and authorized recording of Final Subdivision Plat;
- Accepted, executed, and authorized recording of Third Amendment to The Community Declaration for Riverside Preserve;
- Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to Accept, Execute, and Record Agreement for Private Subdivision with Public Improvements for Riverside Preserve Phase II;
- Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to accept and execute Surety Bond for Performance of Required Improvements, Riverside Preserve Phase II, Surety Bond 1085584, \$239,782.47;
- Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to Accept, Execute, and Record Agreement for Private Subdivision with Private Improvements for Riverside Preserve Phase II;
- Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to accept and execute Surety Bond for Performance of Required Improvements, Riverside Preserve Phase II, Surety Bond 1085583, \$454,160.53;
- Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to accept and execute Surety Bond for Performance of Required Improvements, Riverside Preserve Phase II, Surety Bond 1085580, \$68,448.48; and
- Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to accept and execute Surety Bond for Performance of Required Improvements, Riverside Preserve Phase II, Surety Bond 1085582, \$29,926.00 BC20210309DOC018

7. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION**

- Adopted Budget Amendment Resolution B-21-053; and
- Adopt Budget Amendment Resolution for Infrastructure Sales Tax B-21-030 BC20210309DOC019

8. **FINANCIAL MANGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

Authorized the Procurement Official, or designee, to execute Amendment(s) 1 to Agreement 19-R070266BLS - Water and Wastewater Treatment Chemicals with Airgas Specialty Products, Inc., Allied Universal Corporation, Biosafe Systems LLC, Carus Corporation, Chemrite, Inc., Chemtrade Chemicals US LLC, Hawkins Water Treatment Group, Inc., Jacobi Carbons, Inc., Univar Solutions USA, Polydyne Inc., and Linde, Inc., removing the annual maximum not-to-exceed amounts on each of the agreements and renews the the Agreements from 5/1/21 - 4/30/2022, for an estimated aggregate Agreement total not-to-exceed amount of \$5,500,000 BC20210309DOC020

9. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

Authorized the Procurement Official, or designee, to execute Amendment 2 to Agreement 17-0995GD for Capital Improvement Project Management Software and Implementation with e-Builder, Inc., in the not to exceed amount of \$811,666.51 BC20210309DOC021

10. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

- Authorized the Procurement Official, or designee, to execute Change Order 2 to Work Assignment 7 for Agreement 16-2334CD with Carollo Engineers, Inc., for the Lake Manatee Water Treatment Plant (WTP) SCADA System Replacement project in the amount of \$430,746.23, for a revised not-to-exceed amount of \$831,413.23; and

- Adopted Budget Resolution B-21-055 amending the annual budget for Manatee County, FL, for fiscal year 2021. This budget amendment adjusts the FY21-25 CIP

BC20210309DOC022

11. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/DEEDS AND EASEMENTS**

Accepted and authorized recording Corrective Warranty Deed from Crossing Creek Village Homeowners Association, Inc., correcting the legal and sketch, for property located along 44th Avenue East

BC20210309DOC023

12. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/DEEDS AND EASEMENTS**

- Accepted previously recorded Warranty Deed from Richard Militana and Diana Militana for Parcel 162 of the Moccasin Wallow Road/U.S. 41 to Gateway Boulevard expansion project, CIP project 6092560 and
- Accepted previously recorded Affidavit of Ownership and Encumbrances from Richard Militana and Diana Militana

BC20210309DOC024

13. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

Executed Donation and License Agreement with Sugar Creek Country Club Association, Inc., for property located along 26th Avenue East for the 26th Avenue East sidewalk project

BC20210309DOC025

14. **PUBLIC WORKS/SURPLUS VEHICLES**

Authorized classifying vehicles which are uneconomical to operate as surplus per Florida Statute 274.05 to enable appropriate and authorized disposition of said property and authorization to thereafter dispose of such property

BC20210309DOC026

15. **PUBLIC WORKS/AGREEMENT**

Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to execute Construction and Maintenance Agreement between Manatee County and Fieldstone Community Development District for Right-of-Way Improvements for Fort Hamer Road - Segment A From Erie Road to Moccasin Wallow Road

BC20210309DOC027

16. **PUBLIC WORKS/AGREEMENT**

Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to execute Construction and Maintenance Agreement with Aqua One Community Development District for Right of Way Improvements for El Conquistador Parkway/Redbay Boulevard; El Conquistador Parkway/Safron Plum Drive; El Conquistador Parkway/White Mangrove Lane Intersections

BC20210309DOC028

17. **UTILITIES/PEACE RIVER MANASOTA REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY AUTHORITY**

Executed letter to the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (PRMRWSA) with revised water supply demands and supply needs from sources developed by the PRMRWSA beginning in the year 2037

BC20210309DOC029

18. **UTILITIES/SERVICE FEE WAIVER**


Authorized waiving a total of \$525 service fees that were assessed to utility customer accounts for returned bank item

BC20210309DOC030

(End Consent Agenda)


**PUBLIC HEARINGS** (Presentations upon request)


19. **ADMINISTRATOR/LDA-09-04(R5) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT**

 A duly advertised public hearing was held to consider executing proposed LDA-09-04(R5), Local Development Agreement for Summerwoods related to concurrency improvements, other transportation improvements around the periphery of the site, and

impact fees credit eligible transportation improvements was held. This is the first of two public hearings, the second of which will be on March 23, 2021.


Karen Stewart, Acting County Administrator, stated this is the first of two public hearings.

 Nicole Knapp, Impact Fee Administrator, read the request into the record and explained there is not action required.


 There being no public comment, Chairman Baugh closed public comment.


BC20210309DOC031


20. **BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES/ORDINANCE 21-09/ESTABLISHING THE PROSPERITY LAKES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

 A duly advertised public hearing was held to consider adopting proposed Ordinance 21-09 establishing the Prosperity Lakes Community Development District (CDD).

 Tracy Trahan, Planning Section Manager, was available for questions.

 Andra Griffin questioned the purpose of the ordinance.

 Kevin Realie, representing the applicant, explained the purpose of a CDD is to for financing so development improvements will be paid for by the residents in the subdivision, rather than the County providing financing.


 Discussion ensued regarding development taking financing into their own hands, and there are several CDDs in the County so there is nothing uncommon about the ordinance.


There being no further public comment, Chairman Baugh closed public comment.


A motion was made by Commissioner Van Ostenbridge, seconded by Commissioner Servia, and carried 7-0, to adopt Ordinance 21-09 establishing the Prosperity Lakes CDD.


BC20210309DOC032


21. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/RESOLUTION/INFRASTRUCTURE SALES TAX**

 A duly advertised public hearing was held to consider adopting proposed Resolution R-21-033 regarding the Infrastructure Sales Tax (IST) amending project scopes, removing projects from the project and equipment list, amending a projects subcategory, and amending a project's name.


 Jan Brewer, FMD, stated anytime there is a change to the IST there must be Board approval. She used a slide presentation to review the scope of changes.

 Discussion ensued regarding the purpose of removing the artificial turf projects from G.T. Bray and Lakewood Ranch parks, weather issues, and it being too hot to play on turf in the summer until there is a certain temperature outside.

 Charlie Hunsicker, Parks and Natural Resources Director, stated staff considered a full range of alternatives for the fields and it was determined natural grass is better due to temperature issues. Several fillers for turf fields can create the higher temperatures. Property Management will continue to maintain the fields. The Coquina Trail, Phase II project is being removed and he noted a trail on the east side would not serve a purpose, as it is not safe to cross Gulf Drive. The funds for this project can serve a better purpose.

 Ms. Brewer continued the slides to address category changes to keep funds in the proper category, and amending the Parks funding.


There being no public comment, Chairman Baugh closed public comment.


 A motion was made by Commissioner Servia, seconded by Commissioner Van Ostenbridge, and carried 7-0 to adopt Resolution R-21-033, approving changes to the project and equipment list. BC20210309DOC033

**RECESS/RECONVENE:** 10:31 a.m. – 10:42 a.m. All Commissioners present.


24. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/KINNAN PARK IMPROVEMENTS**


 Tom Yarger, Construction Services Manager, used a slide presentation to review the conceptual design of Kinnan Park including a walking trail, pickleball courts, dog parks, a pavilion, and parking spaces. The trail is a mile long. The stub-out for restrooms is included, and restrooms can be added at a later date. Additional landscaping will be required for the P25 radio tower, and pepper trees would need to be replaced to provide better buffers to neighbors along Prospect Road.

 Discussion ensued regarding the area has wanted a park such as this for a long time, restrooms are important, restrooms can be added to the conceptual design, park hours, lighting would be included if there is a restroom for security, consider filling sidewalk gap on west side of Prospect Road, could have temporary restrooms, until funding is available, drinking stations will be provided for the dog park, potentially increasing the size of the dog parks, there are small, passive parks throughout the County without restrooms, potential to alleviate stormwater runoff, and park projects are planned for District 1.


 A motion was made by Commissioner Servia, seconded by Commissioner Bellamy to direct staff to proceed with the conceptual design of Kinnan Park Improvements using the conceptual site plan presented as the basis of design and moving forward with adding restrooms.

 Charlie Bishop, Property Management Director, responded that there are small passive parks that do not have restrooms.

 Andra Griffin stated all parks need bathrooms, but with new parks comes the need for employees to manage the parks. She feels Infrastructure needs should be addressed prior to park projects.

 Glen Gibellina thanked the Board for proceeding with the park and encouraged adding the restrooms.


There being no further public comment, Chairman Baugh closed public comment.


 Discussion ensued that Manatee County does not need to lower taxes to the point that there are no services provided, people want parks and libraries to provide a balance of affordability and quality of life, and parks are built using impact fees.


 The motion carried 7-0.


BC20210309DOC034


22. ADMINISTRATOR/CARES ACT UPDATES/EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM/CORONAVIRUS LOCAL STRATEGIES


 Karen Stewart, Acting County Administrator, stated the County received approval for the amendment to CARES Act funding, and the extension is only through June 30, per the State. All of the food distribution funding has been used, but there are still funds for non-profits for re-opening and personal protective equipment (PPE). Small business applications are still being accepted. CARES mortgage assistance will open next week, and the Rental Assistance Program is currently accepting applications and processing is taking place. The Public information Office has designed flyers in English, Spanish, and Creole to distribute through the School Board and to other areas. Staff training is continuing, and there are dedicated areas to process applications and navigators to direct the public to the proper channels. The public should call 311 for further information. They feel confident all the funds will be distributed, and PPE funds also cover marketing costs for COVID related materials.


 Jacob Saur, Public Safety Director, used a slide presentation to review key data and indicators for Manatee County, 5.9 percent positivity rate, positive cases per date, downward trend for positive cases, hospitalizations, the Governor's Office actions and individuals who qualify for the vaccine, Manatee's distribution of vaccines at County sites and other facilities, the vaccine pool, federal retail pharmacy program, and 18 pharmacies in Manatee County offer vaccines.

 Discussion ensued regarding vaccine pop ups do not affect the number of vaccines provided to Manatee County, more vaccines are expected in April, opportunities for those eligible for vaccines, MCR is vaccinating School Board employees, the Department of Health Public Safety will help to vaccinate teachers over 50, first responders that qualify have been vaccinated, there are approximately 100,000 people left in the pool, how well the county vaccine sites are running, and thanking Public Safety for their hard work.


 Mr. Saur responded that the second dose can create more side effects than the first dose. There will be an announcement regarding when those 60 and older can sign up for the vaccine and as they move through the 65 and older pool, gaps can be filled with those 60 and older. The Everbridge system works in a specific way to take randomized groups, and will blast out to residents to fill every hour of available vaccines. He confirmed there is always a paramedic position advertised.

 Commissioner Whitmore confirmed that she is volunteering at the vaccine sites.

 Commissioner Satcher addressed health care workers, and suggested that since Commissioner Whitmore is a health care worker, she should be able to get the vaccine.

 Commissioner Whitmore does not want to abuse her position and will remain in the pool until it is her turn. Commissioners concurred that Commissioner Whitmore is qualified to receive the vaccine.

A motion was made by Commissioner Whitmore and seconded by Commissioner Van Ostenbridge, to extend the local state of emergency for an additional seven days.

 Andra Griffin questioned the productivity of the testing sites.

 Mr. Saur confirmed the testing sites are provided by the State.




There being no further public comment, Chairman Baugh closed public comment.

The motion carried 7-0.


BC20210309DOC035


**RECESS/RECONVENE:** 11:46 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. All Commissioners present except Commissioner Satcher.


23. **PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES/LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM POLICY**


 Charlie Hunsicker reviewed the history of this topic and the comparisons of the different methods for cleaning up Piney Point and the current Platform Policy Statement for Piney Point. He explained there is always a no action alternative. Manatee County is asking the state to tackle the problem, but not how to do the problem as the language is currently written.


(Enter Commissioner Satcher during the presentation)


 Discussion ensued regarding adding a sense of urgency and it was pointed out the legislation includes this is an emergency, have had presentations regarding different methods, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) does not have a recommendation, comparison charts reflect a long term care chart, surface water treatment would be extra, have to clear millions of gallons each year, do not support treatment that would cause runoff going into the bay, and have to go out for RFP no matter what.


 Mr. Hunsicker clarified the obligation DEP has as regulatory agency to uphold the law. There is a long term commitment to continually clean the water. The bill directs an appropriation to DEP to deal with the matter.


 Discussion ensued regarding the County not being responsible, giving \$6 million to get the cleanup started, and will future Boards be committed to continue fixing this problem.


 William Clague, County Attorney, explained the legislature could instruct DEP in any number of ways, including granting money to the property owner. It is unknown until the legislative process is complete.


 Discussion ensued that the Board does not know what they are getting into especially if they decide on the filtration process, too many question marks including financial obligations and time regarding the filtration process, language should include a preferred solution, property is in foreclosure, and a new property owner will have different desires to solve the problem, and the County should not take ownership, but the property is in Manatee County.


 Karen Stewart, County Administrator, stated the decision is up to the Board as to how they would like to go forward.

 Discussion ensued regarding not being specific in the request, DEP not having an opinion, firm up the Board's position, important to move forward, a deep well does not pose a danger to drinking water, preferred option would be to leave the window open, unknown as to what the future holds, reduce the last sentence to dispose in the best manner per Florida Statutes, make a decision today, prefer deep well, but open to DEPs recommendations, and DEP will not make a recommendation, and will look at State law to determine the action.


 Mr. Clague clarified it is still unknown how the State will move forward and assisted with language for a motion.

 A motion was made by Commissioner Van Ostenbridge to amend the 2021 State Legislative platform statement for the emergency water treatment for Piney Point to specify the County preference for utilizing underground injection well technology and to convey this information to Manatee County's legislative delegation and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Whitmore.


 Cynthia Zarzano read Bible verses to the Board regarding being proper stewards of the earth, expressed concern with toxins in the water, suggested working with surrounding counties on a solution.


 Michael Zarzano warned the Board of liability and opposed deep well injection.

 Tim Richey suggested the County go with the NClear solution.

 Glen Gibellina feels the legislature has failed Manatee County, suggested a lien be placed on the property, and questioned why Mosaic is not part of the discussion.

There being no further public comment, Chairman Baugh closed public comment.

 Mr. Hunsicker provided information regarding where phosphate is found in Florida. He clarified that Mosaic never had an ownership interest in the Piney Point property, and there was never a mining interest owner for this property. The water in southwest Florida moves east to west, and is gravity driven. The only thing west of Piney Point is the water. The deep well would be 3000 feet. There is a liner at the top of the stacks, but not at the bottom. Surface water treatment would go directly into the bay, and can increase nitrogen load. Piney Point only has a certain amount of discharge they can release.

 Discussion ensued that County has done its due diligence, but the risks are known with deep well injection, but not with surface water discharge, and water quality should always be considered.


The motion carried 6-1 with Chairman Baugh voting nay.


BC20210309DOC036

## COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Servia 


- Appreciated the 8:30 a.m. start time for awards and presentations
- Attended a building dedication on March 7 for the Harbor Life Church
- Received an update on the massage parlor ordinance from the Sheriff
- Noted the Sheriff is addressing the US 41 Pool Hall issues and the Oneco Rose business will have no loitering signs posted
- Thanked Karen Stewart, Directors and staff on keeping business going
- Announced the Feeding Tampa Bay drive-through food distribution event at DeSoto Mall will take place April 27 and encourage the Bboard to work together as team
- Possibility of pet vaccine pop up clinics put on by Animal Services and suggested Commissioners contact Samantha Brown to set up sites within their districts
- Noted Manatee County has a positive employee culture and staff enjoys working here

Commissioner Bellamy 

- Reported on progress with the installation of a traffic signal at Canal Road and U.S. 301
- He will be meeting with Florida Power and Light and will contact Peace River Electric regarding a Washington Park lighting project
-  Relayed discussions with Scott Hopes, School Board member, regarding sidewalks in conjunction with schools

Commissioner Satcher 

- Felt encouraged by Piney Point motion, positive news on parks, and progress with vaccines
- Announced the Parrish Heritage Day event was moved to March 20 due to weather this past weekend
- Announced Bradenton Hope Fest event in Pride Park will take place from March 31 to April 2

 William Clague, County Attorney, responded that a Resolution will be drafted asking the City of Palmetto to rename Lincoln Park after Coach Eddie Shannon.

Chairman Baugh 

- Thanked Commissioner Satcher for his participation in Hope Fest
- Stated she cannot attend the Feeding Tampa Bay event and noted Meals on Wheels and their reach being extended in the community
- Stressed that Piney Point needed to be addressed
- Thanked Public Safety and all those involved with COVID vaccine distribution


Commissioner Whitmore 


- Commented on discussions between Animal Services and local law enforcement agencies regarding a process for animals to be turned over to animal rescues when people are evicted from their homes
- Encouraged people to contact 211 for assistance with social services
- Met with two business owner who inquired how they could get involved in the Community
- Will attend a ribbon cutting for the new Coastal Orthopedics site on Lena Road
- Met with Tarnisha Cliatt Black Chamber of Commerce regarding hiring practices in Manatee County
- Discouraged Commissioners from travelling to the upcoming Florida Association of Counties (FAC) Legislative Day Conference in Tallahassee
- Mentioned that Karen Stewart agreed to stay on as Acting County Administrator a little longer, so the Board does not have to make a hasty decision


(Commissioner Comments continued to later in the meeting)


**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**


Motion


 A motion was made by Commissioner Whitmore to remove the current Chair from her position.


 William Clague, County Attorney, stated motions can be repeated, and the rules of procedure state the Chair can be removed from her position.


 Commissioner Bellamy urged the Board to focus on County business and to move forward, and requested this not be brought up again.


 Chairman Baugh reiterated that her only thought regarding the Lakewood Ranch vaccine pop up clinic, was to get 3000 citizens vaccinated. She would not go against the Governor, as he was bringing vaccines to this County. She has not been convicted of anything, stands by the Board and the citizens of Manatee County, and is proud to be the Chairman.

 Commissioner Servia, reiterated statements by Commissioner Bellamy, and respects that the motion failed.

 Commissioner Van Ostenbridge thanked Commissioners Bellamy and Servia for their thoughts, and he wants to move forward for the County.

 Commissioner Whitmore stressed that she appreciates the Governor for bringing the pop up clinic. She expressed concern that the Chairman sending direction directly to staff, and hopes things will change in the future.


 Chairman Baugh stated she will have a press conference regarding the VIP list, and she has yet to receive the vaccine.

 Discussion continued regarding using the April 27 event as a team building opportunity, opinions of the public about what they feel is right or wrong, and the Board sets policy, not one Commissioner.

Motion - Withdrawn


 Commissioner Whitmore withdrew her motion for lack of a second.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS** (Continued from earlier in the meeting)

 Commissioner Van Ostenbridge

- Commented on businesses coming to west Bradenton
- Questioned if a special meeting should be set for the selection of an Acting County Administrator

Discussion ensued to have a system to narrow down the applicants, Commissioners could short-list the applicants, possible dates to hold a special meeting and needing time to review the applicants.


 Kim Stroud, Human Resources Director, stated the schedule will be dependent on the number of applications received. Human Resources will do background check on top candidates to verify information is correct.


Following discussion it was the consensus of the Board that Commissioners each email to Kim Stroud up to three names as a short-list, in order of preference by Friday, March 19, and that Human Resources provide the Board with a summary ranking at the March 23 meeting.  
(Commissioner Comments continued to later in the meeting)


**HIRING PRACTICES**


Commissioner Van Ostenbridge asked if there should be a freeze on hiring management positions until an Acting County Administrator is selected.

Discussion ensued regarding a 30 day freeze, concern that projects would be delayed with managers, and the hiring practice for upper management.

 William Clague, County Attorney, stated the County Administrator would hire the new positions for Deputy County Administrator and Directors and managerial positions are hired by Department Directors.

 Chairman Baugh stated a book of resolutions is being put together for Commissioners regarding what powers the County Administrator has regarding guidance from the Board.  
BC20210309DOC037

 Ms. Stewart expressed it is her opinion that the permanent IT Director and Deputy County Administrator be hired by the permanent County Administrator. There are interim Directors in place.

 Discussion ensued regarding a hiring freeze for 30 days could pause projects, prefer motions when directing staff to take action, and once an Acting County Administrator is in place a decision can be made regarding hiring.

Upon request by Commissioner Van Ostenbridge, Ms. Stewart provided a suggested motion to have a hiring freeze on Director and Deputy County Administrator positions pending the hiring of an Acting County Administrator and that managerial positions that are critical be brought to the Board for review.

**Motion**

A motion was made by Commissioner Van Ostenbridge, and seconded by Commissioner Baugh to have 30 day freeze on hiring managerial, department heads and deputy county admin positions until an acting county administrator is hired.

 Ms. Stroud clarified that managerial positions are hired by Department Directors not the County Administrator. The open position regarding radio manager is a unique position.

**Motion - Amended**

Commissioner Van Ostenbridge amended his motion for a 30-day hiring freeze on Department Director and Deputy County Administrator positions. Chairman Baugh agreed to the amendment as the seconder.

There being no public comment, Chairman Baugh closed public comment.

**Motion - Carried**

The motion carried 5-2, with Commissioners Bellamy and Servia voting nay.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS** (Continued from earlier in the meeting)


Commissioner Whitmore

- Noted Commissioner Satcher is the representative the Coastal and Heartland National Estuary Partnership
- Stated a County employee is on a ventilator with COVID


- Requested the Board continue to practice social distancing and wear masks  
(Depart Whitmore)


Commissioner Kruse

- Looks forward to the FAC trip and encouraged attendance
- Meeting with Florida Power and Light regarding Washington Park lights
- Commented on the need for discussions regarding redistricting BC20210309DOC038
- Requested a discussion at an upcoming meeting regarding local preferences for procurement BC20210309DOC039
- Spoke about density bonuses and noted the Comprehensive Plan requires the County to maintain a density bonus system

 Discussion occurred on density bonuses and paying into an affordable housing fund, encourage local preference, but need a competitive bidding process and sometimes a wider net, and concern from farmers who have wells close to the aquifer.

### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

 Karen Stewart, County Administrator, stated METV has requested the work session on March 16 be moved to Chambers instead of the Manatee Room. Commissioners had no objections.

 Chairman Baugh thanked the Board for their faith in her and she strives to be an example for the Board. She hopes the Board works together.

### COUNTY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

William Clague, County Attorney, clarified that by emailing their short-list of candidates to the Human Resources Director, they are not eliminating any applicants from consideration for the Acting County Administrator position.

### ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Baugh adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Minutes Approved: April 6, 2021