

**MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, HONORABLE PATRICIA M. GLASS CHAMBERS  
1112 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, Florida  
May 5, 2026**

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


Present were:

Tal Siddique, Chairman District 3  
Amanda Ballard, First Vice-Chairman District 2  
George Kruse, Second Vice-Chairman, District 7  
Dr. Bob McCann, District 5, attending by Zoom  
Jason Bearden, District 6  
Mike Rahn, District 4


District 1 seat is vacant.

Present were:


Charlie Bishop, County Administrator  
Pamela D'Agostino, County Attorney  
Robin Toth, Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Circuit Court

 Chairman Siddique called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### **INVOCATION**

 Reverend Brock Patterson, Longboat Island Chapel, delivered the invocation.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

 Commissioner Bearden led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **AGENDA**

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Generic Public Comments were included with the Agenda   | BC20260505DOC001 |
| Agenda Update Memorandum 1 (4/28/26)  | BC20260505DOC002 |
| • Item 45, Onsite visit and report from the University of Florida concerning the Bishop Kennels – Added to the Agenda   | BC20260505DOC003 |
| Agenda Update Memorandum 2 (4/29/26)  | BC20260505DOC004 |
| • Item 46, Approval of Agreement with State College of Florida to provide last-dollar Financial Assistance Program – Added to the Agenda  |                  |
| Agenda Update Memorandum 3 (4/30/26)  | BC20260505DOC005 |
| • Item 5, Small Business Week Proclamation – Updated to reflect it will be presented  |                  |
| • Item 14, Adoption of Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-063; and Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-071 for Infrastructure Sales Tax – Updated with revised Budget Amendment Resolution R-26-063  |                  |
| • Item 31, Execution of Non-Residential Optional Supplemental Power Services Agreement and Execution of the Statement of Work with Florida Power & Light Company for 9000 Town Center Parkway – Updated to delete Assistant County Attorney Hodges' name from the Reviewing Attorney Section and add Supplemental Background Information as an attachment |                  |
| • Item 39, Adoption of Resolution R-26-051, approving Mortgage Modification for Legacy Village 1 held with Community Assisted and Supported Living, Inc., (CASL), and Adoption of Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-XXX – Deferred to no date set  | BC20260505DOC006 |

- Item 44, Tingley Library – Updated with a public comment
- Item 46, Approval of Agreement with State College of Florida to Provide Last-Dollar Financial Assistance Program – Updated to revise the Title from Approval of Agreement with State College of Florida to Provide Last-Dollar Financial Assistance Program to Suncoast Prosper

Agenda Update Memorandum 4 (5/1/26)

BC20260505DOC007


- Generic Public Comments – Updated with additional generic comment BC20260505DOC002
- Item 19, Execution of Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) Addendum 1 to Agreement 25-TA005866JH, for Blake Hospital Alternate Water Line, and Adoption of Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-075 – Updated with a revised Action Requested to include accepting and dating the Public Construction Bond (in strikethrough/underline format)
- Item 46, Suncoast Prosper – Updated with a revised Coversheet and Agreement and additional attachments

Agenda Update Memorandum 5 (5/4/26)


BC20260505DOC008

- Generic Public Comments – Updated with additional generic comments BC20260505DOC009
- Item 42, Naming of King Middle Park to Nick Bolletieri Park – Updated to correct the Title to reflect Nick Bollettieri Park (it was misspelled)
- Item 45, Onsite visit and report from the University of Florida concerning the Bishop Kennels – Updated with public comments
- Item 46, Suncoast Prosper – Updated with a further revised Tentative Agreement


**ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES TO THE AGENDA**

 Charlie Bishop, County Administrator, stated all updates were published with the online Agenda. Additional public comments were received after the publishing of the Agenda.

**CHARLES KENNETH “KEN” BURTON, SR.**


 A moment of silence was observed in memory of former County Commissioner, Charles Kenneth Burton, Sr., who passed away in April.




**AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS**


1.  May Team Employee of the Month Award was presented to Chris Zitzow, Senior Engineering Specialist, Public Works, by Chad Butzow, Public Works Director.

BC20260505DOC010

**PROCLAMATIONS**

 A motion was made by Commissioner Ballard, seconded by Commissioner Rahn, and carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom, to approve the following Proclamations:

2.  Proclamation designating May 2026, as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month. BC20260505DOC011
4.  Proclamation designating May 2026, as National Drug Court and Opioid and Stimulant Use Disorder Awareness Month, was accepted by clients of the Program. BC20260505DOC012
3.  Proclamation designating May 17-23, 2026, as Emergency Medical Services Week, was accepted by Jodie Fiske, Public Safety Director, and Public Safety staff. BC20260505DOC013

5.  Proclamation designating May 3-9, 2026, as Small Business Week, was accepted by Justin Phillips, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. BC20260505DOC014


**ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA** 

Items 30 and 31 were pulled by Commissioner McCann.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** (Consent Agenda Items Only)

There being no citizen comment, Chairman Siddique closed citizen comment.

 A motion was made by Commissioner Rahn, and seconded by Commissioner Ballard, to approve the Consent Agenda, with the changes incorporated in the Agenda Update Memorandum, with deletion of Items 30 and 31 (separate action). The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom.

6. **CLERK'S CONSENT** BC20260505DOC015

A. **MINUTES**

Approved the Minutes of March 24, 2026

B. **REFUNDS**

Approved:

1. Cabpie Investment Group Corp. – Billing Adjustment, \$1,354.12 BC20260505DOC016
2. Delesline Construction Inc. – Billing Adjustment, \$2,175.13 BC20260505DOC017
3. Homes by West Bay – Utility Fees, \$5,588 BC20260505DOC018
4. Linda S. Coleman – Billing Adjustment, \$2,398.69 BC20260505DOC019
5. Lou D. Joyal – Billing Adjustment, \$1,227.15 BC20260505DOC020
6. Taylor Morrison – Utility Fees, \$5,588 BC20260505DOC021

C. **REPORTS**

Accepted:

1. Annual Report of Audited Financial Statement for Fiscal Year (FY) ended September 30, 2025, by Carr, Riggs & Ingram LLC BC20260505DOC022

7. **COUNTY ATTORNEY/RENEWAL OF GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICIES**

- Approved renewal of Manatee County's Boiler and Machinery insurance coverage in the amount of \$73,393, Crime insurance coverage in the amount of \$5,939.35, and Railroad General Liability insurance coverage in the amount of \$53,795, for a total cost of \$133,127.35, and authorized the County Attorney, or her designee, to execute all related, required documents in connection with each respective renewal; and
- Authorized County Attorney, or her designee, to approve any related amendments and/or endorsements to the respective Boiler and Machinery, Crime, and Railroad General Liability Insurance policies, provided such amendments and/or endorsements do not materially alter the scope of coverage, do not result in the total aggregate cost for the foregoing premiums exceeding \$141,000, or otherwise conflict with the Self-Insurance Program, Article VII, Chapter 2-2, Manatee County Code of Ordinances, and to authorize the County Attorney, or her designee, to execute all related, required documents BC20260505DOC023

8. **COUNTY ATTORNEY/RENEWAL OF EXCESS PROPERTY AND TERRORISM INSURANCE POLICIES**

- Approved renewal of Manatee County’s Excess Property and Terrorism insurance coverage for properties owned by Manatee County in an amount not to exceed \$5,569,200, inclusive of term premium and all Federal/State mandated fees, as shown in the attached proposal from First Florida Insurance Brokers, and authorized the County Attorney, or her designee, to execute all related, required documents in connection with each respective renewal; and
- Authorized County Attorney, or her designee, to approve any related amendments and/or endorsements to the Excess Property and Terrorism insurance policy, provided such amendments and/or endorsements do not materially alter the scope of coverage, do not result in the total aggregate cost for the foregoing premiums exceeding \$5,599,000, or otherwise conflict with the Self-Insurance Program, Article VII, Chapter 2-2, and authorized the County Attorney, or her designee, to execute all related, required documents

BC20260505DOC024

9. **COUNTY ATTORNEY/STORAGE TANK LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY**

- Authorized the purchase of storage tank liability insurance on behalf of the County in the amount of \$16,139, pursuant to a proposal from First Florida Insurance Brokers, and authorized the County Attorney, or her designee, to execute all related, required documents; and
- Authorized County Attorney, or her designee, to approve any related amendments and/or endorsements to the storage tank liability insurance policy, provided such amendments and/or endorsements do not materially alter the scope of coverage, do not result in the total aggregate cost for the foregoing premium exceeding \$17,100, or otherwise conflict with the Self-Insurance Program, Article VII, Chapter 2-2, and authorized the County Attorney, or her designee, to execute all related, required documents

BC20260505DOC025

10. **COMMUNITY AND VETERANS SERVICES/NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROJECTS**

- Approved three, FY25-26 Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Projects to the recipients listed below and their respective project funding amounts; and
- Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to approve and execute reimbursement agreements for these projects funded through the FY 25-26 Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program
  - Rosedale Master Association – Neighborhood Entrance Beautification – up to \$10,000;
  - Braden Castle Association – Landscaping Beautification – up to \$3,975; and
  - Bayview Community Emergency Response Team Equipment – up to \$999.50

BC20260505DOC026

11. **COMMUNITY AND VETERANS SERVICES/AGREEMENT**

- Executed Amendment 002 to ADI-25/26-MAN Agreement with Senior Connection Center, Inc., for the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative (ADI) Program, increasing the funding amount by \$10,000; and
- Adopted Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-076, amending the annual budget for FY26

BC20260505DOC027

12. **COMMUNITY AND VETERANS SERVICES/AGREEMENT**

- Executed Amendment 002 to CCE-25/26-MAN Agreement with Senior Connection Center, Inc., for the Community Care for the Elderly (CCE) Program, increasing the funding amount by \$73,529.51, and
  - Adopted Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-077, amending the annual budget for FY26
- BC20260505DOC028

13. **COMMUNITY AND VETERANS SERVICES/AGREEMENT**

Executed Amendment 002 to HCE-25/26-MAN Agreement with Senior Connection Center, Inc., for the Home Care for the Elderly (HCE) Program, adding two additional service categories in order to aid in spending down the additional funds

BC20260505DOC029

14. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTIONS**

Adopted Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-063; and Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-071 for Infrastructure Sales Tax

BC20260505DOC030

15. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

Authorized Purchasing Official, or designee, to execute Change Order 1 to Agreement 24-TA005049JH with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., for Professional Design Services Desoto Bridge Watermain Replacement, in the amount of \$65,610, for a revised, not-to-exceed amount of \$957,199.72

BC20260505DOC031

16. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

Authorized Purchasing Official, or designee, to execute Change Order 2 to Agreement 24-TA005632LP with Traffic Control Devices LLC, for Rye Road at Fire Station 3 Emergency Signal, authorizing an additional 66 calendar days to the construction schedule, for a new completion date of March 13, 2026

BC20260505DOC032

17. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

Authorized Purchasing Official, or designee, to execute Change Order 3 to Work Assignment 3 for Agreement 21-R077057DJ with Wannemacher Jensen Architects, Inc., for PSD Emergency Medical Services Logistics Facility Project, for an additional amount of \$3,183, for a revised, not-to-exceed total of \$675,073

BC20260505DOC033

18. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

Authorized Purchasing Official, or designee, to execute Change Order 5 to Agreement 21-TA003596CD with Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., for Professional Utility Engineering Design Services for Parametric Sub-Bottom Profiling and Multi-Beam Bathymetric Survey for Cortez Road and Manatee Avenue West Bridge Replacement Projects, in the amount of \$130,220, for a revised, not-to-exceed amount of \$1,961,122.69

BC20260505DOC034

19. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

- Authorized Purchasing Official, or designee, to execute GMP Addendum 1 to Agreement 25-TA005866JH with Woodruff & Sons, Inc., for Construction of Blake Hospital Alternate Water Line, at a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,897,346.52; and
  - Adopted Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-075, amending the annual budget for FY26. This budget amendment adjusts the FY26-30 CIP
- BC20260505DOC035

20. **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS/FUNDING ASSISTANCE AWARDS**

- Authorized acceptance of two Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Grant Awards, for a total of \$30,000 (\$15,000 – Gopher Tortoise Duette; and \$15,000 – Gopher Tortoise Perico); and
- Authorized the County Administrator, or designee, to sign all

BC20260505DOC036

21. **NATURAL RESOURCES/RESOLUTION**

Adopted Resolution R-26-047, adopting changes to the Natural Resources Department Fee Schedule (adding the new Resolution number to page one of the Fee Schedule, and adding a new fee for use of the Coquina commercial loading dock)

BC20260505DOC037

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

Accepted and authorized recording of Permanent Utilities Easement for Dynamic Manufacturing Group LLC, (including Consent and Joinder from ServisFirst Bank), for property located at 11845 31st Terrace East, Palmetto, in accordance with Final Site Plan (FSP) requirements for a commercial development

BC20260505DOC038

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

Accepted and authorized recording of Permanent Utilities Easement from Oneco 51 Senior Apartments, LTD., (including Consent and Joinder from Citibank, N.A.), for property located at 1315 301 Boulevard East, Bradenton, in accordance with FSP requirements for a commercial development

BC20260505DOC039

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

Accepted and authorized recording of Permanent Utilities Easement from Oneco 51 Family Apartments, LTD., (including Consent and Joinder from Citibank, N.A.), for property located at 1205 45th Drive East, Bradenton, in accordance with FSP requirements for a commercial development

BC20260505DOC040

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

Accepted and authorized recording of Permanent Utilities Easement from Oneco Development Holdings LLC, for property located at 12th Street Court East, Bradenton, in accordance with FSP requirements for a commercial development

BC20260505DOC041

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

Accepted and authorized recording of Special Warranty Deed from LF Manatee LLC, for a portion right-of-way at 5175 75th Street West, Bradenton, in accordance with FSP requirements for a commercial development

BC20260505DOC042

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

Accepted and authorized recording of Warranty Deed from Red Cast Lake Flores LLC, for a portion of 4402 75th Street West, Bradenton, in accordance with FSP requirements for a commercial development

BC20260505DOC043

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


Executed and authorized recording of Easement (Business) to Florida Power and Light, for property located at 3011 8th Avenue East, Palmetto, required for installation of a three-phase transformer for the Washington Park Preserve Project


BC20260505DOC044


29. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**  
Executed Commercial Right of Entry Agreement with Charter Communications Operating LLC, for the installation of a fiber optic data circuit for the Manatee County Sheriff's Office Detention Facility, located at 2705 County Line Road, Palmetto BC20260505DOC045
32. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT/PETROLEUM RESTORATION PROGRAM**  
Executed Site Access Agreement with State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), concerning the Petroleum Restoration Program for the County Administration Building, located at 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton BC20260505DOC046
33. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/DEEDS AND EASEMENTS**  
Accepted, executed and authorized recording of Cross Drainage and Access Easement Agreement with East Manatee Fire Rescue District, for property located at 10207 Wauchula Road, Myakka City, agreeing that each Party agrees to maintain and repair the portion of the drainage system located within each Party's property at each Party's expense BC20260505DOC047
34. **PUBLIC WORKS/AGREEMENT**  
Executed First Amendment and Reinstated Agreement with Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), for the Cow Pen Slough Watershed Management Plan (Q148), extending the expiration date of December 31, 2025, to June 30, 2028, for completion of the Watershed Study (In conjunction with the original agreement [10/1/2020], the County will reimburse SWFWMD for 50 percent of all allowable cost associated with the project budget, maximum cost not to exceed \$270,000) BC20260505DOC0048
35. **PUBLIC WORKS/AGREEMENT**  
Executed First Amendment and Reinstated Agreement with SWFWMD, for the North Manatee County Watershed Management Plan (Q191), extending the expiration date of December 31, 2025, to June 30, 2029, for completion of the Watershed Study (In conjunction with the original agreement [10/1/2020], the County will reimburse SWFWMD for 50 percent of all allowable cost associated with the project budget, maximum cost not to exceed \$767,250) BC20260505DOC049
36. **PUBLIC WORKS/AGREEMENT**  
Executed First Amendment and Reinstated Agreement with SWFWMD, for the South Manatee County Watershed Management Plan (Q151), extending the expiration date of December 31, 2025, to June 30, 2029, for completion of the Watershed Study (In conjunction with the original agreement [10/1/2020], the County will reimburse SWFWMD for 50 percent of all allowable cost associated with the project budget, maximum cost not to exceed \$744,000) BC20260505DOC050
37. **PUBLIC WORKS/AGREEMENT**  
Executed Amendment 6 to Master Research Agreement C-23-023 Task Order No. 1 with Florida Atlantic University, extending the period of performance to complete the obligations under the FDEM Grant from September 30, 2025, to June 30, 2026, maximum cost not to exceed \$200,000 (The FDEM Grant is for \$200,000, with a County 25 percent match of \$50,000) BC20260505DOC051
38. **UTILITIES/JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT**  
Executed Joint Funding Agreement for FY26/27 with U.S. Geological Survey, Caribbean-Florida Water Science Center, for data collection at three stations (Manatee River near

Myakka Head, Little Manatee River at Duette, and Manatee River at Rye Bridge), for the period from October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027  
(End Consent Agenda) BC20260505DOC052

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** (Future Agenda Items Only, and Generic Comments submitted online)


 Patricia Simmons commented about programs for disabled individuals.

 Ron Numberger, President of the Bradenton Shuffleboard Club, stated the City of Bradenton has not renewed the Club's lease, and the Club is being forced to relocate. He asked the County Commission and the City work together to find a replacement facility for the Shuffleboard Club.

 Heidi Minihkeim voiced concern of the critical water shortage and wells in Myakka are running dry. SWFWMD has implemented a Modified Phase III Extreme Water Shortage Order for Manatee County and other areas due to severe regional drought.

 Anderson Stillman commented about abuse and violations by Code Enforcement staff.


Donna Keisler stated the water shortage is critical and her well is running dry.


 Mike Meehan submitted a Budget Summary and believes the County's surplus funds are excessive. BC20260505DOC053

(Depart Commissioner Kruse)


 By telephone, Andra Griffin spoke about Manatee County employment, on-line bullying, wasteful spending in Manatee County, and government censorship.

(Enter Commissioner Kruse during Mr. Nelson's comments)

 By telephone, Dalton Nelson commented about flooding and impacts of development to the County's water source. He called the County but did not get a response.


 By telephone, Glen Gibellina urged the Board to listen to the citizens on water issues, and citizens are not getting responses to their telephone calls.


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


 Discussion ensued that G.T. Bray was considered to accommodate shuffleboard but it is not on plans for facilities improvements at this time, the Board does not regulate how water permits are handled or how water supply is regulated, encouraged citizens to relay water concerns to SWFWMD, and asked the public to abide by the code of conduct in Chambers.


**ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

30. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**


 By telephone, Commissioner McCann pulled this item to question why the County would reimburse the City of Bradenton \$9,500 for its attorney's fees.


 Peter Morrow, Property Acquisition Division Manager, stated the Action Requested is to approve the execution of a Non-Binding Letter of Agreement (LOA) between the City of Bradenton and Manatee County, for property located at 5502 33rd Avenue Drive West, Bradenton, otherwise known as G.T. Bray Park. By way of executing this LOA, the County agrees to reimburse the City for its attorney's fees in an amount not to exceed \$9,500. The reimbursement request was made by the City and included in the Non-Binding LOA.

 Upon question by Commissioner McCann if the payment of the City's attorney's fees was a deal breaker if this provision was removed, Mr. Morrow stated this is something he would have to address with the City. Commissioner McCann stated he would like this done.


 Discussion ensued that some costs are worth reimbursement, the City agreed to and completed a survey, legal description, and sketches for the easements and reservations referenced in this application, it is \$9,500 of work the County would have to perform and pay for anyway, the City is going to keep the easements, the easements are to ensure the County does not encroach the City's property, the LOA does not expire until 2028, the Board can table this and go back and try to waive or negotiate the attorney's fees and bring back to the Board.

Motion to Table


 A motion was made by Commissioner McCann, to table the execution of the Non-Binding Agreement with the City of Bradenton. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kruse.

 Commissioner Kruse stated it should be to table it, to direct staff to go back to the City of Bradenton to negotiate the payment of the attorney's fees.

It was suggested that a different word, other than table, be used.

 Chairman Siddique stated his recommendation would be to give staff authorization and direction to negotiate the elimination of the fees. He asked to add this caveat to the motion.

Amendment

 For clarification of the motion beyond tabling, Chairman Siddique asked Commissioner McCann if he would accept an amendment to direct staff to negotiate the elimination of the fees as well.


 Commissioners McCann and Kruse accepted the amendment.


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


 The amended motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom.


BC20260505DOC054


31. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

 By telephone, Commissioner McCann pulled this item to question if this item involves the purchase of a back-up generator.

 Cary Knight, Property Management Director, explained the request is for the back-up power system for the building located at 9000 Town Center Parkway, removal of two existing diesel generators nearing the end of their lifespan, the installation of two, new natural gas generators to supply power to the building during a power outage, replace and relocate the automatic transfer switches outside for easier maintenance, and bring the gas line onto the property. Also included is the cost of a temporary generator on site until the permanent system is operational, not to exceed 12 months. The proposed Agreement also establishes a 20-year term under which FPL will design, procure, install and fully maintain the generator system, and eliminates the need for County staff to troubleshoot or service the generators. The building will be used as a pre- and post-storm rally point for Public Works, Property Management, and Utilities to assess County buildings and infrastructure.

 Staff is working to have back-up generators at facilities across the County. Staff plans to return to the Board after summer recess with a complete power back-up plan for the Jail at the Port.

 Discussion ensued on the benefit of using natural gas versus diesel, past issues at the Port on the inability to fuel, and there are less disruptions with natural gas.

 A motion was made by Commissioner Kruse, and seconded by Commissioner Rahn, to execute Non-Residential Optional Supplemental Power Services Agreement for 9000 Town Center Parkway between Manatee County and Florida Power & Light Company, and execute Statement of Work for 9000 Town Center Parkway between Manatee County and Florida Power & Light Company.


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

 The motion carried 5-1, with Commissioner McCann voting nay by Zoom.


BC20260505DOC055

**RECESS/RECONVENE:** 10:23 a.m. – 10:33 a.m. All Commissioners were present, including Commissioner McCann by Zoom.

40. **COMMUNITY AND VETERANS SERVICES/AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**


 Deborah Ash, Housing and Community Development Coordinator, requested the appointment of an individual to Seat 11 of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC), and adoption of Resolution R-26-52 to confirm seat appointment. One application was received from Samantha Patterson, who meets the qualifications to serve on Seat 11.


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


 A motion was made by Commissioner Rahn, and seconded by Commissioner Kruse, to appoint Samantha Patterson to Seat 11 of the AHAC, and to adopt Resolution R-26-52. The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom.


BC20260505DOC056


41. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND CONSERVATION FINANCE FEASIBILITY STUDY 2026**


 Kara Koenig, Environmental Lands Program Section Manager, utilized a slide presentation to provide an overview of the Trust for Public Land (TPL) Conservation Finance Feasibility Study 2026.

 Will Abberger, Vice-President and Director, Conservation Finance, continued with slides regarding Manatee County results by District, Manatee County Technical Assistance Request, and Key steps for Successful Ballot measures. The intent is for TPL to come back before the Board on June 16 to present recommendations.


 Jessica Welch, Senior Conservation Research Analyst, continued with slides on feasibility research, the Study and Table of Contents, four options of Local Funding Strategy (Bonds, Bond with additional Property Tax, Property Tax and Sales Tax), considerations for the Sales Tax, and Revenue and the Sales Tax option is for infrastructure only.


 Mr. Abberger concluded addressing other potential 2026 Conservation Finance Measures, the Next Step – Public Opinion Survey, and if this was something voters would support.


 Commissioner Kruse pushed to put a referendum on the ballot in 2024 to increase the bonding capacity because a lot of money is being collected, if an analysis has been done that just showed the realistic maximum bonding capacity based on the existing millage, and he did not see any proposal to the citizens to better use the money citizens already pay in.

 Mr. Abberger stated the existing 0.15 mill voters approved in 2020 is tied to the \$50 million bond issuance. The County is bound to use whatever portion of the 0.15 mill is necessary to pay down the debt on the bond issuance.


Discussion ensued that the balance of the fund is for the operations maintenance of those properties that have been acquired, voters would have to approve obtaining additional bonding authority in addition to the millage that would be necessary to serve those bonds, the .15 millage is only sufficient to cover debt service on the \$50 million bond, excess millage after the debt service of the bond, the County can bond up to \$125 million with .15 millage, new bonding authority would be required, these are assumptions, if the public would change the current millage being collected, Bonding was the general recommended approach by the Environmental Lands and Management Committee (ELMAC) in their recent meeting while the sales tax approach was quickly shot down, it is an option that could be revisited in the future, in 2028 the School Board is going to work to reauthorize their millage which could cause some challenges, whatever portion of the .15 mills is necessary to serve the debt on those bonds is pledged, the collection would come on what is left over after the debt is paid off and how the County wants to use it, and one option would be an additional millage.


 Chairman Siddique stated the live video streaming is down, and issues are being addressed.

 Mr. Abberger explained they received positive feedback and a vote of confidence at last night's ELMAC meeting.

 Further discussion continued that there was debate at the ELMAC meeting whether existing Infrastructure Sales Tax (IST) Funds could be leveraged, and it is not the intent of the voters, informing the public on the success of this program, looking forward to what data shows, a lot of the people do not fully understand how the County quickly purchased so much property and bonded out since 2023, and how many acres the County has preserved, and suggestion to staff to put a web page on the County 's site to explain fee-simple acquisition of properties with the bond plus the actual conservation easements, to show how much land the County has purchased.

**RECESS/RECONVENE:** 11:03 a.m. – 11:08 a.m. The meeting recessed for staff to resolve streaming issues. All members were present including Commissioner McCann by Zoom.

 Ms. Koenig stated that staff is looking to put language on the ballot to incorporate environmental lands and to purchase conservation lands with a funding mechanism. There are potential changes due to a severe budget cut.

 By telephone, Anthony Scullo stated this is a fantastic program. He requested ELMAC meetings be live video streamed.

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


No action is required.


BC20260505DOC057


**COMMISSIONER AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**


46. **AGREEMENT WITH STATE COLLEGE OF FLORIDA TO PROVIDE LAST-DOLLAR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**


Chairman Siddique requested approval of Suncoast Prosper Agreement with The District Board of Trustees of State College of Florida (SCF), Manatee-Sarasota. This Agreement establishes a partnership to provide last-dollar financial assistance to eligible students, covering remaining tuition and required expenses after other aid is applied. The program reduces financial barriers to education and workforce training, supporting access to high-demand careers and strengthening the local talent pipeline.


 Tommy Gregory, SCF, spoke about the college's internal curriculum committee and surveys done on challenges including what the community is asking for, the demand on the student side, and the local job market. The most recent degree program added was a cyber security curriculum and artificial intelligence.

 Jamie M. Smith, Associate Vice-President of Government Relations/PIO, SCF, used a slide presentation to give an overview of the Suncoast Prosper Initiative, which is an SCF-County collaboration designed to remove financial barriers for post-secondary education and workforce training. She provided SCF Quick Facts, SCF remains affordable to students, tuition has not increased in 15 years, graduation rate is 40 percent, 50 percent of students who drop out stated financial hardship as the primary reason, Community References, the Suncoast Prosper Program has demonstrated results, return on investment, and SCF generates \$507.2 million annually in regional economic impact.

 Ms. Smith presented a minimum three-year recurring investment to support a cohort of newly enrolled and continuing SCF-eligible students seeking an AA or AS degree, or certificate. The request is \$1,498,150 for Year 1, \$2,996,300 for Year 2, and \$2,994,300 for Year 3. Suncoast Prosper would contribute 12 percent of tuition and fees for Year 2.


 Discussion ensued this is a great program, making sure this is not being started and then stopped as there is a measure of uncertainty, it may be premature to bring this back to the Board on July 28, is there any requirement for a student to commit to stay with SCF to benefit from the funding, ensuring the dollars spent by Manatee County will benefit Manatee County, SCF is Manatee County's workforce college, SCF continues to graduate more students every year, can SCF establish a pledge by graduate students to seek work and stay in Manatee County, how funding would be distributed, and how to determine if the funds have been spent.


 Ms. Smith stated students have been asked to graduate within three years with the required courses associated with their degree.


 Discussion ensued that time is needed to see how other programs work, Chairman Siddique would like to see this program in the budget, it is important for the Board to create reasons and incentives for students to live and work in Manatee County, leveraging a program to attract and retain a young workforce, too much focus on asking students to stay in Manatee County if there are no job opportunities, and offer mentorship programs.

 The Clerk read the motion under the Action Requested on the agenda cover sheet.


(Gavel passed to First Vice-Chairman Ballard; presiding)

 A motion was made by Commissioner Ballard, and seconded by Chairman Siddique, to direct staff to (1) prepare a formal agreement for the July 28 Board meeting, with all reviews by the CAO and staff completed, and (2) incorporate a budget for Suncoast Prosper for all appropriate fiscal years within relevant Decision Units.

 By telephone, Andra Griffin endorsed a pledge from students committing to live and work in Manatee County; otherwise, there is no return on investment.

 By telephone, David Daniels stated people cannot be forced to stay in Manatee County where there may be limited opportunities.


There being no further public comment, First Vice-Chairman Ballard closed public comment.

 Commissioner McCann stated that based on the motion, there will be an opportunity to vote on this at the July 28 Board meeting.

 The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom. BC20260505DOC058


(Gavel returned to Chairman Siddique; presiding)


44. **TINGLEY LIBRARY**

 Chairman Siddique requested direction for staff to negotiate with the City of Bradenton Beach regarding a plan for Manatee County Government's future contributions to the needs and support of Tingley Memorial Library.

The Library opened in 1994 after a \$500,000 bequest from Beulah Tingley to the City of Bradenton Beach led to the construction of the Tingley Memorial Library. Today the library is operated by an independent library advisory board and staffed by a single librarian. The City of Bradenton Beach owns the land and retains ownership of the building. The nonprofit entity, Bradenton Beach Public Library, Inc., administers the remaining funds from the original bequest supporting the library.

The foundation currently maintains slightly more than \$100,000 in remaining funds, which are used to support both capital and operating expenses. The City of Bradenton Beach has requested County assistance of approximately \$350,000 in capital improvement need for the replacement of an A/C unit, ducts, front stairs, and rear stairs. The City is continuing to review their contributions to the property by considering ideas such as incorporating the library parcel into their CRA. Under this proposed framework, the Library would continue to operate independently in accordance with the intent of the original public bequest.

 Discussion ensued regarding wanting to see the numbers and the options, would the library become a County library, if the County would be paying staffing and operating expenses, more information is needed on what the County would be supporting, and there is potential for staff to have conversations.

 A motion was made by Commissioner Kruse, to direct staff to negotiate with the City of Bradenton Beach, regarding a plan for Manatee County Government's future contributions to the needs and support of Tingley Memorial Library. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rahn.


 Debbie Scaccianoce, Vice-Mayor of Bradenton Beach, thanked the Board for support.

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


 The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom. BC20260505DOC059


(Gavel passed to First Vice-Chairman Ballard; presiding)

42. **NAMING OF KING MIDDLE PARK TO NICK BOLLETTIERI PARK**


 Chairman Siddique stated that with the future opening of a park adjacent to King Middle School, residents have requested that the park generally located north of Martha B. King Middle School be named Nick Bollettieri Park. Residents in Northwest Bradenton have long referred to the tennis courts at this location as the Bollettieri Tennis Courts. This request recognizes Nick Bollettieri's contributions to the sport of tennis and his connection to the local community.

Because the property is owned by the School District of Manatee County, the naming process must follow District procedures. The process begins with a formal request from the Board of County Commissioners.


 A motion was made by Chairman Siddique, to approve a formal letter from the Board of County Commissioners to the Chair of the Manatee County School Board (MCSB), requesting that the park generally located north of Martha B. King Middle School be named Nick Bollettieri Park, and to authorize the Chair to sign and transmit said letter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kruse.


 By telephone, Andra Griffin opposed the renaming of the park.

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


 The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom. BC20260505DOC060


43. **TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT FOR FEDERAL LOBBYING SERVICES**


 Chairman Siddique recommended termination of Agreement 23-TA004640JE, between Manatee County and Ballard Partners, Inc., for Federal Lobbying Services. Under the agreement, Ballard Partners was tasked with advocating for the County's priorities in Washington, D.C., in consultation with the Board and County staff.

 The Board should provide the 30-day notice of termination without cause, then put out an RFP (Requests for Proposal) for a new lobbyist partner. Termination of the agreement will allow the County to

- Reassess its federal legislative strategy;
- Ensure all work products and federal filings are formally closed out to maintain compliance with federal lobbying disclosure laws; and
- Provide a clean transition for any future lobbying representation or internal government relations strategy.


 Commissioner Kruse agreed the Board is not getting its money's worth on this contract or any federal lobbying contract. The County has a full staff that is building relationships, and he is of the opinion the County can accomplish federal matters internally. None of the local lobbyists are present at this meeting to advocate keeping their contract. He fully supports this action and agrees 100 percent that the Board should terminate this contract immediately with or without cause.


 Chairman Siddique clarified that federal lobbying is very distinct from State lobbying, focus with lobbyists on appropriations help, Governmental Relations staff is overtaxed, and there is value in having a smaller firm to work with the Board to build relationships with other organizations and members of Congress who can make connections.

 A motion was made by Chairman Siddique, and seconded by Commissioner Kruse, to approve the Action Requested in the three-part motion on the agenda cover sheet, to direct:


1. The County Administrator, or his designee, to prepare a written notice of intent to terminate Agreement No. 23-TA004640JE between Manatee County and Ballard

- Partners, Inc., for federal lobbying services, as contemplated by Article 9.B., and send same once in a form deemed legally sufficient by the County Attorney's Office.
2. The County Administrator, or designee, to coordinate with Ballard Partners, Inc., to ensure a smooth transition and closeout, including collection of all deliverables, final reports, and outstanding records of work performed on behalf of the County.
  3. The County Administrator or his designee to take all necessary administrative actions to formally conclude the contract, including verifying that all federal lobbying disclosures and filings listing Manatee County as a client have been properly terminated and documented.

 Discussion ensued that Manatee County does not know what a good federal lobbyist is, a previous contract focused on building relationships with appropriations committees and transportation committees, the Board should revisit that type of structure, desire for better briefings tailored to the relevant committees, member briefings that are pertinent to Manatee County, refine deliverables, focus in on approach, and advocate for the Board to have more meetings or conversations with committee staff.

 By telephone, David Daniels agreed with Commissioner Kruse.


There being no further public comment Chairman Siddique closed public comment.


 The motion carried 5-1, with Commissioner McCann voting nay by Zoom.


BC20260505DOC061

(Gavel returned to Chairman Siddique; presiding)


45. **ONSITE VISIT AND REPORT FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CONCERNING THE BISHOP KENNELS**

 Commissioner McCann stated that after the Board learned the University of Florida's (UF) Shelter Medicine team did not actually visit the new kennels, the public asked that the Board direct staff to schedule an onsite evaluation. When this item was previously placed on the agenda, assurances were provided that a site visit was planned and that a full report would be released to the public for full transparency. This did not happen.


 A motion was made by Commissioner McCann, to instruct staff to schedule an onsite visit by University of Florida (UF) and publicize the date as soon as it is available. Require a full, written, and unaltered report that will be released to the public for review as soon as that report is completed. The motion was seconded by Chairman Siddique.

 Kathy Bridwell, Shelter volunteer, stated the problems at the Bishop Kennels have not gone away, but have intensified. She displayed photos of dogs and stated there is an increase in kennel stress.

 By telephone, David Daniels urged the Board to approve the motion on the floor.


 By telephone, Dena Sabou encouraged the Board to approve this motion and commented on the capacity of care one person can handle at the kennel. She requested the Board increase the budget to allow for the hiring of a substantial number of staff to care for the dogs at the shelter. In the interim, she asked the Board to put temporary staff at the shelter until the Board decides the best way to move forward, because the dogs cannot wait.

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

 Discussion ensued regarding the Board reached out to the University of Florida by public request, UF said they could not be here until August, the results of the visit by UF and the report will be public record, staff reached out to UF about moving up the meeting in June, and two individuals who called in are on the Animal Services Advisory Board, which falls under Sunshine Laws and should not be speaking with other Advisory Board members on matters of County business.

 The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom. BC20260505DOC062

**CITIZEN COMMENTS** (Continuation of consideration for Future Agenda Items) 

 There being no further citizen comment, Chairman Siddique closed citizen comment.


**COUNTY ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Pamela D'Agostino, County Attorney, had no comments.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS**

Charlie Bishop, County Administrator, had no comments.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

 Commissioner Ballard announced the ribbon cutting for Washington Park will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chairman Siddique adjourned the meeting at 12:23 p.m.

Minutes Approved: June 2, 2026