MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, HONORABLE PATRICIA M. GLASS CHAMBERS
1112 Manatee Avenue West
Bradenton, Florida
June 2, 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

Reneé Medina, U.S. Coast Guard Veteran, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA BC20260602DOC001

Agenda Update Memorandum 1 (5/29/26) BC20260602DOC002
Generic Public Comments – Updated with additional generic comments BC20260602DOC003

- Item 6, Approval of Revised 2026 Board of County Commissioners Meeting Calendar – Updated to add a Joint Meeting between the Board of County Commissioners and Manatee County School Board on September 16, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
- Item 11, Execution of Change Order 9 to Agreement 19-TA002970CD, Lake Manatee Water Treatment Plant Filter Upgrade; and Adoption of Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-074 – Updated to correct the presenter from Albert Rosentstein, Project Manager, to read Patrick Shea, Utilities Director

Agenda Update Memorandum 2 (6/1/26) BC20260602DOC004
Generic Public Comments – Updated with additional generic comments BC20260602DOC005

- Item 11, Execution of Change Order 9 to Agreement 19-TA002970CD, Lake Manatee Water Treatment Plant Filter Upgrade; and Adoption of Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-074 – Updated with a public comment
- Item 13, Approval of Economic Development Incentive Programs and establishing an authorized program list – Updated to correct the Attorney Review Section and Background Discussion in strikethrough/underline format
- Item 22, Adoption of Resolution R-26-043, vacating two portions of right-of-way and Acceptance of a Permanent Utilities and Drainage Easement from Terry and Nancy Noll for property located adjacent to 7104 9th Avenue Northwest, Bradenton, Florida 34209 – This

agenda item was updated with a revised Permanent Utilities and Drainage Easement from Terry and Nancy Noll

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charlie Bishop, County Administrator, stated all updates were published with the online Agenda. Additional generic comments and changes were received after the publishing of the last Agenda on Item 12, adoption of Resolutions. BC20260602DOC006

Commissioner McCann verbally confirmed that he was present by Zoom.

AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS

1. June Team Employee of the Month was presented to Shannon Cox, G.I.S. Analyst, Public Safety. BC20260602DOC007

PROCLAMATIONS

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

2. Proclamation designating July 4, 2026, as America's 250th Anniversary, was accepted by Molly Boardman and The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). BC20260602DOC008

3. Proclamation designating June 2026, as Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Awareness Month, was also accepted by Molly Boardman. BC20260602DOC009

Chairman Siddique commended Commissioner Bearden on the development of the Manatee County Veterans Memorial Park, and the Fire Watch Veterans Safe Place (VSP) Training Program to identify warning signs of trauma.

Commissioner Kruse encouraged citizens and veterans to reach out to the OperationWarriorResolution.org website, which works with families. The County also offers free, on-demand transit service for any Veteran in the County, to go to the VA Hospital.

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Item 21 pulled by Chairman Siddique
Items 11 and 13 pulled by Commissioner McCann

CONSENT AGENDA
CITIZEN COMMENTS (Consent Agenda Only)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bearden and seconded by Commissioner Kruse, to approve the Consent Agenda, with the changes incorporated in the Agenda Update Memorandum, with deletion of Items 11, 13, and 21 (separate action).

Ken Piper commented on Item 19.

Glen Gibellina submitted written comments on Items 7, 8, 10, 15, and 16, and was advised that he could speak on Item 11 when it is addressed. BC20260602DOC010

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

The motion to approve the Consent Agenda carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom.

Due to public comments received, Chairman Siddique stated the Mulholland Road extension is not being built.

4. **CLERK'S CONSENT** BC20260602DOC011

A. **MINUTES**

Approved the Minutes of April 23, and May 5 and 6, 2026

B. **REFUNDS**

Approved:

1. Atlantic Pro – Impact Fees, Withdrawn Application, $5,700 BC20260602DOC012
2. Pape Dawson – Application Type, $6,000 BC20260602DOC013
3. Lennar Homes LLC – Transportation Impact Fees, $54,470 BC20260602DOC014
4. Lennar Homes LLC – Transportation Impact Fees, $56,970 BC20260602DOC015
5. Lennar Homes LLC – Transportation Impact Fees, $59,470 BC20260602DOC016
6. Guybin Mazariegos – Lot Split Application, $4,000 BC20260602DOC017

C. **REPORTS**

Accepted:

1. Copperstone Community Development District (CDD) – Proposed FY26/27 Budget BC20260602DOC018
2. North River Ranch Improvement Stewardship District – Proposed FY27 Budget BC20260602DOC019

5. **COUNTY ATTORNEY/WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Approved Third Addendum to Agreement for Workers' Compensation Claims Third-Party Administrator with Commercial Risk Management, Inc., (CRM), and authorized the County Attorney, or her designee, to execute same on behalf of the County BC20260602DOC020

6. **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES/REVISED 2026 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING CALENDAR**

Approved the Revised 2026 Board of County Commissioners Calendar BC20260602DOC021

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

Adopted Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-072; and Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-078 for Infrastructure Sales Tax BC20260602DOC022

8. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/PIGGYBACK PURCHASE ORDER**

Authorized Purchasing Official, or designee, to issue Piggyback Blanket Purchase Order Agreement for Smoke Testing and Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Services to USSI LLC (estimated annual expenditure $524,000) BC20260602DOC023

9. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/PURCHASE ORDER AGREEMENT**
Authorized Purchasing Official to issue Purchase Order Agreement to SHI International Corp., for the provision of Microsoft subscriptions and subscription renewals for Manatee County Government in accordance with Sourcewell Contract 121923-SHI (3/20/24)
BC20260602DOC024

10. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**
Authorized Purchasing Official, or designee, to execute Change Order 3 to Agreement 22-R078920SAM with SEMA Construction Inc., for 44th Avenue East, from I-75 to Lakewood Ranch Boulevard and East Lake Expansion Project, authorizing an additional 365 calendar days to the construction schedule, for a new final completion date of April 17, 2027
BC20260602DOC025

12. **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS/RESOLUTIONS**
    1. Adopted Resolutions (10) approving and authorizing submission of FY26/27 West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND) Grant Applications:
        - R-26-061: Longboat Key Fire Boat/Boating Safety & Education, $22,727.14;
        - R-26-062: Longboat Key Channel Markers/Public Navigation $10,000;
        - R-26-063: Longboat Key Police T-Top Replacement/Marine Law Enforcement, $15,000
        - R-26-064: Bradenton Beach Derelict Vessel/Public Navigation, $25,000
        - R-26-065: Holmes Beach Marine Law Enforcement/Marine Law Enforcement, $250,432;
        - R-26-066: Bradenton Police Department Boat Operations/Marine Law Enforcement, $41,600;
        - R-26-067: City of Palmetto Boat Ramp/Boater Recreation, $20,000
        - R-26-068: City of Palmetto Derelict Vessel/Public Navigation, $10,000;
        - R-26-069: Manatee Sail and Power Squadron Boating & Safety Education, $900; and
        - R-26-070: USCG Auxiliary District 7 Flotilla Boater Safety, Education & Community Outreach, $1,257
          (Total WCIND Grant Funding: $396,916.14);
    2. Authorized Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners to sign any and all agreements with WCIND upon approval of said applications; and
    3. Authorized County Administrator, or designee, to sign extensions and subrecipient agreements with those agencies that are not County departments BC20260602DOC026

14. **NATURAL RESOURCES/AGREEMENT**
    1. Executed Amendment 1 to Agreement 25PLN36 with Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Resilient Florida Program, to accept an additional $275,000, to support Manatee County's Adaptation Plan; and
    2. Authorized Chairman, County Administrator, Deputy County Administrator, Grant Division Manager, or any of their Designees, to execute all necessary documents related to the grant acceptance and all relevant documents required for grant administration and any non-monetary amendments BC20260602DOC027

15. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/DEEDS AND EASEMENTS**
Accepted and authorized recording of Permanent Drainage Easement from CC Manatee Land Investments LLC, for property located at 8110 Manatee Bayou Glen, Palmetto, required from CC Manatee Land Investments LLC, in accordance with Final Site Plan (PLN2303-0168) requirements for a residential development BC20260602DOC028

16. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/DEEDS AND EASEMENTS**
Accepted and authorized recording of Permanent Utilities Easement from TI Investors of Harrison Ranch Apartments LLC, along with Consent and Joinder by Zilber, Ltd., for property located at 10671 Eddy, Parrish, in accordance with Final Site Plan (PLN2409-1067) requirements for commercial development BC20260602DOC029

17. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/SUBORDINATION OF COUNTY UTILITY INTERESTS TO FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**
Executed Corrective Subordination of County Utility Interests to Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), to correct the legal description, as the original Subordination for FDOT Parcel 502.4, located on Cortez Road and 75th Street West, Bradenton (approved 10/21/25), did not include Tract 1014 within Seaflower Phase I, Subphases 1A and 1B-1 Plat as recorded in Plat Book 82, Page 60 of the Public Records of Manatee County
BC20260602DOC030

18. **PUBLIC WORKS/SURPLUS PROPERTY**
- Authorized to classify property, which is uneconomical to upgrade or repair, as surplus per Florida Statute 274.05, to enable appropriate and authorized disposition of said property; and authorized to thereafter dispose of such property; and
- Adopted Resolution R-26-053, authorizing donation to Manatee County Ad Litem

BC20260602DOC031

19. **PUBLIC WORKS/AGREEMENT**
Executed Mangrove Point Mitigation Bank Purchase Agreement with Mangrove Point Mitigation Bank LLC, for .57 Dual Estuarine Forested UMAM (Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method) Credits and .08 Dual Estuarine Herbaceous UMAM Credits, for a total of .65 Credits from the Mangrove Point Mitigation Bank, for the Fort Hamer Bridge Four-Lane Project located in the Manatee River Basin BC20260602DOC032

20. **SPORTS AND LEISURE SERVICES/INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT**
Executed First Amendment to Interlocal Agreement between Manatee County and School Board of Manatee County regarding Joint Use of Portions (Parcel B) of Martha B. King Middle School Site (2/28/23), to allow the County to construct a separate restroom facility with separate access apart from the School Board's existing restroom facility, for the community park BC20260602DOC033

(End Consent Agenda)

CITIZEN COMMENTS (Future Agenda Items Only)

Patricia Simmons displayed a photograph and spoke about special accommodation for handicapped individuals.

Andrew Stillman commented about County government and citizen rights.

Richard Metz called the Sheriff's office several times regarding two single-family, short-term rental properties causing excessive noise and disruption in his neighborhood.

Jeannie Nelson commented on noise and late-night activity from short-term rentals.

John Egross, resident of The Springs of Palma Sola Apartments, requested relief from the sound of an extremely disruptive, non-stop vibration from a pump at the 66th Street Water Treatment facility.

John Copenhay asked the Board for guidance on the process to become a non-profit foundation to run a licensed apothecary. Chairman Siddique encouraged Mr. Copenhay to contact him and he would share resources.

Ken Piper requested the Board hold a work session on ethics.

RECESS/RECONVENE: 9:49 a.m. – 9:58 a.m. All Commissioners were present, including Commissioner McCann by Zoom.

Glen Gibellina displayed information on Form-Based Code (FBC), and the Property Record Card for Memphis Cemetery, noting that Manatee County has been receiving tax bills on this property since 1988.

Chairman Siddique reminded citizens of public comments at regular meetings and maintaining decorum in Chambers.

Ken Piper resumed comments on Chinese Walls and State Representative William Conerly's support of Senate Bill 180.

By telephone, Dalton Nelson stated the Board's Rules on decorum in Chambers should be revised.

By telephone, Andra Griffin commented on Board Rules and Procedures and requested a work session on political favoritism.

By telephone, Dena Sabou requested the Animal Services Advisory Board be placed on the June 16, 2026, agenda.

By telephone, David Daniels commented on Chairman Siddique's conduct and cutting off Mr. Piper's public comments.

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

Discussion ensued regarding the upcoming Animal Services Advisory Board meeting on Wednesday, June 17 at 1:00 p.m. in the Administrative Center, 5th Floor, this first meeting will be an organizational-type meeting, Commissioner Kruse is liaison to this Advisory Board, short-term rental regulations, Code Enforcement is involved, citizens urged to reach out to the fire districts on regulations/enforcement and Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, First Amendment Right violations, Board Rules and Procedures for orderly meetings, Form-Based Code, and the rewrite of the Comprehensive Plan (Draft 2045 Envision Manatee). BC20260602DOC034

11. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/AGREEMENT**

Commissioner McCann pulled Item 11 for a presentation.

Chris Collins, Deputy Director, Utilities, stated Change Order 9 provides an additional $92,837.43, to allow for an accelerated schedule for the membranes in Bays 11 and 12 and covers unforeseen operational issues at the water treatment facility requiring Veolia environmental services company to maintain staff on-site longer than anticipated. Change Order 9 also represents the complete, final payment to PCL Construction, Inc., and closes out the construction portion of the project.

Ken Piper commented about the discrepancy between the amount of Change Order 9 and associated Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-074.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Rahn, seconded by Chairman Siddique, and carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom, to approve the request as presented:

- Authorize Purchasing Official, or designee, to execute Change Order 9 to Agreement 19-TA002970CD, Lake Manatee Water Treatment Plant Filter Upgrade with PCL Construction, Inc., providing an additional $92,837.43, for a revised, not-to-exceed amount of $53,551,936.92; and
- Adopt Budget Amendment Resolution B-26-074, amending the annual budget for FY26. This Budget Amendment adjusts the FY26-30 CIP BC20260602DOC035

13. **GOVERNMENT RELATIONS/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAMS**

Commissioner McCann pulled Item 13 for more information.

Aimee Johnson, Economic Development Manager, stated Item 13 is an update to provide clear direction regarding the County's available economic development incentives and to ensure the programs remain current, consistent, and aligned with the County's Economic development goals.

Commissioner Kruse stated he understood that the Program would benefit the entire community and eliminate a list of authorized programs.

Discussion ensued that this program is intended for small businesses, Commissioner Kruse is open to dialogue with SCF on their program, further discussion is desired, Board may not have funds to offer with property tax elimination discussions underway, any funds offered should be specific and targeted for Suncoast Prosper Scholarship Program, UpSkill Manatee, Tax Increment Financing (TIF) needs to be protected, disagreement with staff about using the funds in an open-ended manner, using the funds to stabilize the Sheriff's reserve is not an appropriate use, Board should not be funding Law Enforcement, TIF is meant for redevelopment incentives, affordable housing, gap for financing programs for median beautification, warrant staff to not address the boundaries because the State sees this as creating a new TIF, the TIF does not collect as much money as it would with existing boundaries, existing boundaries are good but amended language is needed, comfortable with just approving the three incentive programs minus the Community Character Grant Program, the Customized Catalytic Projects Program and Targeted Job Creation Grant.

Motion to Defer

A motion was made by Commissioner McCann, to defer this to a time uncertain, to be rewritten and further explained. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kruse.

Glen Gibellina displayed information on estimated annual deductions based on Manatee County's annual wage threshold of $60,771.

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

Discussion continued that the Board held a detailed work session on April 21, 2026, on this exact topic.

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

BC20260602DOC036

21. **UTILITIES/AGREEMENT/BUCKEYE PRETREATMENT AND UIC WELL FACILITY**

Chairman Siddique pulled and recommended tabling Item 21, Amendment 1 to Agreement 24-R083613CD with Chemical Injection Partners LLC, d/b/a CIP Solutions, adopting the Revised Fee Rate Schedule effective May 1, 2026, for operation of Buckeye Pretreatment and UIC (Underground Injection Control) Well Facility. A lot of information is missing, there has been no legal review, there is an Exhibit A – Revised Fee Rate Schedule, but the original Fee Schedule is missing, there are internal inconsistencies with the document, and the Action Requested reflects an effective date of May 1, 2026, but the Revised Fee Schedule states this Agreement is not retroactive. He questioned why taxpayers are paying for the treatment and cleanup of a facility the County does not own or have responsibility over. The court transferred the ownership of the property to the receivership, and it is the receivership's problem. There also seems to be an agreement alluded to between Manatee County Government and the Receivership to do treatment. Lastly, the costs come from General Funds, and he does not see treating Piney Point or someone else's environmental disaster as a core function of Manatee County Government. Pulling $15.6 Million from the General Fund is not responsible, and this is not something the County should be paying for. He wants to understand the legal structure of the agreement and what the County is entitled.

Chris Collins, Deputy Director, Utilities, stated the stacks are essentially empty, and CIP Solutions is in the long-term seepage phase, which could last for decades. The receivership oversees everything and is holding the funds to continue the operation of the well. Currently, there is approximately $6.5 million that could be pulled and used to pay CIP Solutions for the operation of the well. This is a request from CIP to recognize the transition to the long-term seepage phase and to adjust compensation prospectively to reflect operational conditions associated with this phase.

Chairman Siddique stated the question remains as to why Manatee County is paying for this, and the money the receivership is paying the County is well below the actual cost of treatment.

Corey Stutte, Deputy County Administrator, stated the information presented is a straightforward issue with continuing into the seepage phase, and there is $6.5 million to pay CIP Solutions. Continued discussions are needed with Tallahassee to determine how the County is to pay for this after the $6.5 million runs out in the long-term phase. It is currently being paid for by the General Fund outside of the $6.5 million set aside for the long-term phase. The contractor is doing good work, and staff is of the opinion that the County needs to continue moving forward.

Claudia Campos, Interim Chief Financial Officer, stated that to date, total revenues received is $19.5 million, and total expenditures including CIP and operating funds are $42.8 million. This project has shown to be more expensive than originally thought, leaving a shortage of $23.4 million the County has absorbed, and all costs to date have been paid by the General Fund.

Commissioner Kruse provided a historical overview of the Piney Point and Manatee County trying to stay out of the liability chain. At some point, this deep well must be capped.

Commissioner Rahn commented on the maintenance and operational changes. He questioned what the receivership owes the County and how it can be obtained.

Ms. Campos stated that currently, the receivership owes the County zero dollars. The County is in full compliance with the receivership agreement, as well as an additional O&M Agreement of $2+ million. Total revenues received are $19.5 million, but the County has spent $42.8 million. The County needs to determine how to get reimbursed for the additional $23.4 million spent to date on maintenance care.

Discussion continued that the County should go to the State and request the $23.4 million, continue discussions with Tallahassee to recoup money, Manatee County cannot walk away from Piney Point, and continue to monitor and work with CIP Solutions.

Chairman Siddique stated all of this information would have been helpful but it was not included with the agenda item, looking to tie up liability of $15.6 million, this is a fundamental question of fairness, the receivership maintains closure over the site, Manatee County should not be tying up $15.6 million, the State has far more resources than the County, the County is already short $23.4 million, this is a serious problem and there is not enough information or funds, this item should be tabled in order to get more information, this is the State's responsibility, Manatee County has not received any funding to date from the State, Utilities has concern if the County does not move forward to continue operating and putting water down the well, CIP Solutions could walk away because they are not getting paid, another bidding process would be required, how long this could take is uncertain, Manatee County is in a tough situation, not going forward with this and losing CIP Solutions could cause more damage, Commissioner McCann is in agreement with Chairman Siddique to table this to get more information, continue to work with CIP Solutions, and have meaningful discussion with the State.

<u>Motion to Approve</u>:

A motion was made by Commissioner Kruse, and seconded by Commissioner Rahn, to authorize the Chairman to execute Amendment 1 to Agreement 24-R083613CD between Manatee County with Chemical Injection Partners Florida LLC, dba CIP Solutions, adopting the Revised Fee Rate Schedule effective May 1, 2026, for operation of the Buckeye UIC Pretreatment and Well Facility.

Discussion ensued that the Board is moving forward with very little information, bring information back on June 16 and then take action, and the public will question why the Board is proceeding.

Glen Gibellina stated he does not want his tax dollars going toward this and suggested more pressure be put on the State.

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

Motion to Approve failed

The motion to approve failed by a 3-3 tie vote, with Commissioners Ballard, Kruse and Rahn voting aye, and Chairman Siddique, and Commissioners McCann and Bearden voting nay.

Motion to Defer

A motion was made by Commissioner McCann, to defer this to June 16, until such time that staff can gather all the information the County has in its possession and try to contact the State to find out where the money is to come from. The motion was seconded by Chairman Siddique.

Mr. Stutte stated this could be brought back at the end of July to also address receivership, additional documents, and review the fee schedule, timeline, best effort on a response from FDEP, or other State agencies about future funding.

Commissioner Rahn stated there is a contract right now with CIP Solutions. Inasmuch as CIP Solutions is moving into the next phase, what happens to the operation regarding the County/vendor relationship and revised fee schedule to offset the additional cost to pump the water.

Mr. Collins stated that on emptying the stacks, CIP Solutions had a rate to pump as much water as they could down the well and it took the same amount of equipment and people, but their pumping rates have now changed.

Discussion continued that the original receivership was $17.1 million which is an ongoing cost, the $6.5 million long-term phase is allocated from the receiver to pay, whether there is a way to do the contract as is and insert a 12-month termination clause with 90 days advanced notice that Manatee County has enough funds to cover the termination period without spending any further money, the $6.5 million could be used to pay CIP Solutions, staff suggestion to move forward, if the County does not get the money from the State in the next session, Manatee County can then have more meaningful conversation with the State next year, CIP Solutions has vested interest to collect for their services, bring back strategy solutions on June 16, not knowing the details or the proposal, this is a reasonable arrangement, the receivership has funds and the County simply draws down the amount of years for any agreement to present on June 16, without assuming any negotiation of the rates perhaps something can be brought back that leverages the receivership money, start conversations with the State and identify other funding sources, protect the General Fund, perhaps the General Fund is the best solution, Manatee County will continue to incur cost, there is a difference between long-term care and closure, and return to the Board in two weeks.

Commissioner McCann wants to see the documents in two weeks.

The motion to defer this item to June 16 carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom. BC20260602DOC037

RECESS/RECONVENE: 11:41 a.m. – 1:01 p.m. All Commissioners were present, including Commissioner McCann by Zoom.

ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARINGS – LEGISLATIVE (Presentations Upon Request)

22. **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/RESOLUTION**

A duly advertised public hearing was held to consider adoption of Resolution R-26-043, vacating two portions of right-of-way, and acceptance of a Permanent Utilities and Drainage Easement from Terry and Nancy Noll, for property located adjacent to 7104 9th Avenue Northwest, Bradenton.

Lisa Crabtree, Senior Real Property Specialist, summarized the request.

Commissioner McCann questioned the plan with the vacation of this property.

Peter Morrow, Property Acquisition Division Manager, stated Mr. and Mrs. Noll own the property and are providing County easements over all of the infrastructure that is currently in the right-of-way. The Nolls have been made aware that the County is not moving any of the infrastructure at its cost, and the Nolls are looking at their options. It was made clear to them that part of this vacation is not to move any infrastructure, and that is why they are providing the County the easements over the entire area.

Mr. Morrow stated that a change to the legal description sketch was made by the Nolls' surveyor. The survey was reviewed by County staff and meets County Standards, and was attached to the easement.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Rahn, seconded by Commissioner Ballard, and carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom to adopt Resolution R-26-043. BC20260602DOC038

23. **RESOLUTION/INFRASTRUCTURE SALES TAX**

A duly advertised public hearing was held to consider adoption of Resolution R-26-059, approving changes to the Infrastructure Sales Tax (IST) Project and Equipment List, to add one (1) project and amend one (1) project rationale in the Transportation category, and Adoption of Budget Amendment Resolutions B-26-081 and B-26-082.

Commissioner McCann requested a presentation on this item.

Claudia Campos, Interim Chief Financial Officer, summarized the two changes:

- Project being added:
  301 Boulevard East – U.S.41 to 51st Avenue East – Sidewalk - IST TRSW09227, $231,500
- Project rationale change:
  Amend the project rationale of the University Parkway at Covenant Way Roundabout - IST TRII04926, $890,788

Sidewalk projects are being added because funding is available and needs to be spent. The rationale is that the funding is being returned to IST funds, because a Reimbursement Agreement for Roundabout Participation with Lakewood Ranch Stewardship District (Item 25) will cover the cost.

Upon question, Chad Butzow, Public Works Director, stated a public hearing was not held on the University Parkway/Covenant Way Roundabout. This is a long-term plan on University Parkway, from Lorraine Road to Bourneside Boulevard. Numerous points have growing need for intersection and access control, and roundabouts were proposed to accomplish those items and selected to move forward. Agenda Item 25 is the agreement that participates within that roundabout at the intersection of Covenant Way, which is a very difficult intersection due to its close proximity to Lorraine Road.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kruse, and seconded by Commissioner Rahn, to adopt Resolution R-26-059, approving changes to the Infrastructure Sales Tax Project and Equipment List, to add one (1) project and amend one (1) project rationale in the Transportation category, and Budget Amendment Resolutions B-26-081 and B-26-082.

By telephone, Glen Gibellina asked what Sarasota's position is on these changes, and neighborhood meetings should have been held in both Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

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

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

BC20260602DOC039

24. **COMMUNITY AND VETERANS SERVICES/FY2026-2027 HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) ACTION PLAN**

Tracie Adams, Deputy Director, Community and Veterans Services, utilized a slide presentation to address FY26/27 Community Development Funding Recommendations, 2026 Annual Action Plan, project funding timeline, review committee, 2026 Applications and Scoring, and 25 projects were evaluated, totaling $6.14 million in grant requests, which is more than what is available for allocation.

Based on priority needs and available funding, the Review Committee recommends funding for 11 CDBG-eligible activities ($1,981,290), three HOME-eligible activities ($623,460.88), and one ESG-eligible activity ($161,149). Staff also identified an additional $357,227 of prior-year CDBG funds and recommended the funding be reallocated to three projects:

- Manatee County Government – Public Works – Sidewalk Expansion – CDBG Target Areas, $207,227 (2024/25);
- Manatee County Government – Property Management – Under One Roof Kitchen Rehabilitation, $100,000 (2025/26); and
- The Salvation Army – Shelter Rehabilitation, $50,000 (2025/26)

The FY 2026/27 Annual Action Plan will be presented to the Board for approval on July 28, 2026, and will include the approved recommended programs. The deadline to submit the FY 2026/27 Annual Action Plan to HUD is August 16, 2026.

P.J. Brookes, Community Assistance and Supported Living (CASL), stated that although CASL was not recognized as one of the grant award recipients, he thanked the County for partnering on the development of a portal for affordable and homeless housing.

By telephone, Glen Gibellina questioned the total amount of the Emergency Solutions Grant and why funding was not recommended for Turning Points.

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

Discussion ensued if there is a way this could have been done differently to serve more families to prevent homelessness.

Julia Vieira, Community Development Project Manager, stated three programs were recommended and program funding is up to 12 months.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rahn, seconded by Commissioner Ballard, and carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom, to approve proposed projects and activities for inclusion in the Draft FY26/27 Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Action Plan. BC20260602DOC040

25. **PUBLIC WORKS/REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT/LAKEWOOD RANCH STEWARDSHIP DISTRICT FOR UNIVERSITY PARKWAY AT CONVENANT WAY ROUNDABOUT PARTICIPATION**

Chad Butzow, Public Works Director, stated Lakewood Ranch Stewardship District is proceeding with widening University Parkway, from Lorraine Road to Bourneside Boulevard, expanding from two lanes to four (District Improvements). Traffic requirements leading up to the widening is due to additional development on the Sarasota side of the road. Currently, there are no agreements with the County and the developer to compensate them for the widening. To ensure safe and efficient traffic circulation with the District Improvements, the County seeks to install a roundabout at the intersection of Covenant Way and University Parkway (Covenant Way Roundabout).

With this Reimbursement Agreement, the Parties agree that the County will participate in 35 percent of construction costs for the Covenant Way Roundabout, in an estimated amount of $832,511, with a 20 percent contingency. Contingent upon County participation, the District is willing to construct a two-lane roundabout at the intersection.

Discussion ensued on why the County did not hold a public hearing on this issue.

Mr. Butzow stated he was not aware of a requirement in Manatee County Standards to hold a public hearing on an intersection improvement.

By telephone, Glen Gibellina stated that just because a public hearing is not required does not mean it is the right thing to do.

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

Discussion continued regarding limited staff time, what is the threshold, there is no residential development on the other side of this area, delaying action at taxpayer's expense, and trust staff on what is necessary.

Motion to Deny

A motion was made by Commissioner McCann, that we deny this because it did not have a public hearing, or defer it until such time that a public hearing can be held.

Chairman Siddique asked Commissioner McCann if he preferred denial or deferral pending a public hearing.

Mr. Butzow noted that a slide presentation was shown during the All Things Lakewood Ranch work session (5/18/24), which included several diagrams of upcoming roundabouts on State roads and planned on County roads.

Commissioner McCann preferred deferral pending a public hearing.

Chairman Siddique restated the motion by Commissioner McCann to defer this pending a public hearing, which died due to lack of a second.

Motion to Approve

A motion was made by Commissioner Kruse, to approve execution of Reimbursement Agreement with the Lakewood Ranch Stewardship District, for University Parkway at Covenant Way Roundabout participation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rahn, and carried 5-1, with Commissioner McCann voting nay by Zoom. BC20260602DOC041

(COMMISSIONER AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION)

26. **OLD MEMPHIS CEMETERY DESECRATION AND COUNTY RESPONSE**

Commissioner Ballard thanked everyone for attending the clean-up of Old Memphis Cemetery on Memorial Day weekend, and presented a four-part Requested Action:

1. Motion to request staff to conduct GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) on Old Memphis Cemetery site, if it can be done internally with existing staff and equipment – to determine if the County's GPR equipment is sensitive enough to do this kind of work and get a report back;
2. Motion to direct Government Relations staff to connect with the office of Minority Leader, Fentrice Driskell, on grant opportunities for long-term preservation – would like staff to work with Ms. Driskell on grant opportunities;
3. Motion to direct staff to work with Freedman Reparations Fund Trust on grant opportunities for preservation of Old Memphis Cemetery and other historic black cemeteries; and
4. Motion to direct staff to explore the process for National Historic Designation for Old Memphis Cemetery, as well as other historic cemeteries in Manatee County, and report back on findings.

Commissioner Ballard stated it is important to explore grant opportunities to make sure we have long-term preservation under control at this cemetery. She does not want to expend a large amount of funds on GPR equipment and determine if this can be done with internal resources. The American Legion across the street is interested in placing a memorial for Veterans interred at the Cemetery in a respectful way, and that they are not inadvertently placing the memorial on someone's remains.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ballard, to direct staff to take all Requested Actions as presented. The motion was seconded by Chairman Siddique.

James McCloud stated Old Memphis Cemetery was the only cemetery for black people when he was growing up. The desecration of the cemetery was heartbreaking. He thanked the County and volunteers for clean-up efforts on Memorial Day weekend.

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

The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom. BC20260602DOC042

and
27. **OLD MEMPHIS CEMETERY CLEANUP**

Commissioner McCann presented Agenda Item 27 and made a motion to request/direct the Manatee County Sheriff's Work Release Program to perform routine maintenance on a regularly scheduled basis.

Commissioner Kruse noted that the Board cannot direct the Sheriff to do anything as he is an independent Constitutional Officer. The Board can send a letter or make a motion to reach out to the Sheriff with the request.

Chairman Siddique stated the motion is to request/direct, and he seconded the motion.

Charlie Bishop, County Administrator, clarified there are two operations in place; the Offender Work Program with Community and Veterans Services under the Division of Probation, and he can direct that. The Sheriff's office operates the Chain Gang, and Mr. Bishop works closely with Public Works and Property Management to direct that staff. The request appears to be working with the Offender Work Program.

Commissioner Ballard stated the County currently has the Offender Work Program on the site regularly doing mowing. If the Sheriff is changing this, it would be a separate program.

Chairman Siddique asked Commissioner McCann to clarify his intent.

Commissioner McCann read email communication from Sheriff Wells (5/18/26), stating that the County designates the locations that require the services of the Road Gang, and that his office will gladly assist with maintaining the property, if the County Commission instructs his office to do so.

Based on this information, Chairman Siddique asked Commissioner McCann if he would agree to amend the motion to state the Chain Gang.

Amendment

Commissioner McCann agreed to an amendment to the motion to state the Road Gang, and there were no objections.

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

The motion, as amended, carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom.
BC20260602DOC043

28. **TRAFFIC DANGER AT WOOD FERN TRAIL**

Commissioner McCann presented Agenda Item 28, stating left hand turns onto Lakewood Ranch Boulevard from Wood Fern Trail are dangerous. To avoid danger, residents drive to the light at 44th Avenue and Lakewood Ranch Boulevard to turn left. After school, Wood Fern Trail is backed up as parents wait in line to pick up students at the two schools at the intersection of Wood Fern and 44th Avenue. To avoid the left turn, many cars stay on S.R. 64, come down 117th Street East to White Eagle Boulevard to 44th Avenue, to Wood Fern Trail. Students leaving school ride e-bikes side by side blocking Wood Fern Trail on their way to Mallory Subdivision and Echo Lake Apartments. This is a public safety issue. This is already in the 2026-2030 CIP; however, residents have asked if this can be expedited.

A motion was made by Commissioner McCann, to instruct Public Words to put a traffic light at Wood Fern Trail and Lakewood Ranch Boulevard, in order to safely exit and enter Wood Fern Trail, before a fatal accident occurs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kruse.

Discussion ensued that the 44th Avenue East/Lakewood Ranch intersection is terrible, the intersection would be a good location for a roundabout, a permanent light is needed due to increased traffic flow on 44th Avenue and traffic stacking at the intersection, the CIP has a temporary light budgeted for this intersection, and hopes the permanent light gets installed soon.

Chad Butzow, Public Works Director, stated there are three consecutive projects underway. The master vision for speed management and intersection control on Lakewood Ranch Boulevard remains unfunded near the portal crossing area closer to S.R. 64, Gatewood, and Woodfern. Roundabouts at Gatewood and Woodfern are preferred dor speed management. This project should get started during the summer recess, with a goal to have both Gatewood and Wood Fern improvements completed as early as possible in late 2026, or early 2027. The third funded project is a preemption signal for the fire station.

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

Commissioner McCann stated that as soon as possible would be great, and before the school year would be ideal.

The motion carried 6-0, with Commissioner McCann voting by Zoom. BC20260602DOC044

CITIZEN COMMENTS (Continuation of consideration of Future Agenda Items)

Margorie Struck asked if Board action taken on certain issues of interest to voters will be placed on an election ballot.

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

COUNTY ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Pamela D'Agostino, County Attorney, updated the Board on a criminal case that the Board is involved in regarding a $1.5 million wire fraud in 2023. The restitution could be paid as a condition of probation.

There was discussion regarding how much has been recovered to date on the $1.5 million fraud, Law Enforcement was able to capture some of that immediately and it was returned, total outstanding amount is roughly $850,000, an insurance claim was filed and $100,000 was received, there is also a restitution claim with the Courts, but is uncertain if any restitution has been received from the first defendant.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Charlie Bishop, County Administrator, had no comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chairman Siddique stated there is proposed legislation in Tallahassee that eliminates non-school homestead property tax. Schools have been carved out, but not the Fire Districts or Law Enforcement. Funding levels were not set. Municipalities and the State have approached this in different ways. The Results First Report is complete and will be distributed to the Board. County Government responsibility is to inform the public, advocate information sharing, but do not advocate one position or another.

Commissioner Kruse stated the proposed legislation affects homestead properties only.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chairman Siddique adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

Minutes Approved: August 25, 2026