

# **Brevard County Board of County Commissioners**

*2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Viera, FL 32940*



## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, May 6, 2025**

**5:00 PM**

**Regular**

**Commission Chambers**

**A. CALL TO ORDER 5:00 PM**

Rollcall

**Present:** Commissioner District 1 Katie Delaney , Commissioner District 2 Tom Goodson, Commissioner District 3 Kim Adkinson, Commissioner District 4 Rob Feltner, and Commissioner District 5 Thad Altman

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Katie Delaney, District 1**

Commissioner Delaney led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**D. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: April 3, 2025 Zoning Meeting; March 11, 2025 Regular Meeting**

The Board approved the April 3, 2025, Zoning meeting and March 11, 2025, Regular meeting minutes.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**E.1. Presentation, Re: Winners of 2025 Brevard County 4-H Public Speaking Program**

A representative of 4-H Youth Development stated she would like to thank Commissioner Altman for the opportunity to have the County 4-H Public Speaking Competition Winners present their speeches; they are very excited to be here and showcase the work that these two young ladies have put into their presentations; the public speaking program is sponsored by Florida Power and Light (FPL); and it introduces fourth, fifth, and sixth grade youth to the concept of public speaking to help build confidence and hone this vital skill that will be used throughout their lives. She went on to say this year they had over 100 participants in up to 12 schools; tonight the Board will hear from the winners of both the fourth and fifth grade competition, and the sixth grade competition; and both are from Robert Lewis Stevenson Elementary School.

Shelby Windsor cited her speech aloud.

Chairman Feltner asked Shelby if blue is her favorite color.

Ms. Windsor replied in the affirmative.

Katelynn Buchanan cited her speech.

Chairman Feltner stated that was well done and they had set the bar high for the night.

Commissioner Altman stated he wants to point out what a wonderful organization 4-H is in providing leadership for the future; and moments like this make him optimistic about the future.

**E.2. Resolution, RE: Proclaiming May 2025 as Older Americans Month - District 4**

Commissioner Feltner read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-032, proclaiming May 2025 as Older Americans Month.

Dr. John Potomski stated he currently serves as Chairman of the Brevard Commission on

Aging; he thanked the Board for acknowledging the month of May as Older Americans Month; he stated this year the theme for Older Americans Month, as mentioned, is flipping the script on aging which focuses on how society, medical community, everyone perceives, discusses, and appreciates that aging; and now as a senior himself, he writes things down, not because he cannot remember them, but rather flipping the switch because his brain is full of rich life experiences and knowledge that sometimes takes just a few minutes to get the point across. He continued by saying 26 percent of Brevard County population is currently 65 years of age or older; this year the Brevard Commission on Aging has recognized two individuals for their innovative work with the senior citizens in Brevard; first is Don Cramer, the founder and CEO of One Senior Place, which is an award winning resource center for seniors and their families; One Senior Place provides a unique central location where older adults and their caregivers can find information, free in-depth consultations, referrals, elder educational events, and direct access to senior focused businesses, all under one roof; this year One Senior Place is celebrating its twentieth year of service to Brevard senior population; and among many of the past recognitions, in the year 2008, Don Cramer was named small business person of the year in Florida and was honored at a Whitehouse reception by President George W. Bush. He went on to say this always reminds him of something that George H.W. Bush once said, "I'm a conservative, but a compassionate conservative." ; he prays that the County officials remember this during their deliberations on issues relating to the elders in their care. He stated the second honoree is being recognized for her efforts to help seniors, Jeanette White, the health and wellness advocate in Brevard County for Aging Matters; Jeanette was honored last year at the Sunflower House in West Melbourne, when Aging Matters celebrated the National Senior Citizens Day; Jeanette teaches sit and get fit, and does classes every Wednesday and Friday at the Mark Anderson Senior Center in Rockledge; and Jeanette also says that the Sunflower House also offers many activities of daily living with seniors helping other seniors. He went on to say in closing, it is his pleasure to present both Don Cramer and Jeanette White to be recognized by the Commission for their services in Brevard County and its senior citizens.

Chairman Feltner stated there was a request to see one of Ms. White's routines.

Ms. White stated this is an honor to have her family with her, as a result of this class, it does not exist anywhere else in the world; she woke up and she too realized that she was senior in Brevard County, where she originally grew up, a 4-H'er from way back, and she came back to Brevard County to take care of her mother; after losing her, she decided to stay in Brevard County; she started a program that is hand-eye coordination to rhythmic music that addresses the Activities of Daily Living (ADLs); it also helps cognition because it is rhythmic and it allows one to sit and use the longevity muscles, the core, and quads; and she does it at the Martin Anderson Senior Center every Wednesday and Friday, donating her time back to the community. She noted she also teaches classes in Bridgewater where she lives; that is what she does, she teaches classes; and now that the Board has requested she will show what she does.

Don Cramer stated on behalf of One Senior Place, including its amazing and dedicated team, the dozens of resident businesses, the many non-profits, veteran's organizations, community partners they support, and the tens of thousands of seniors who walk through their doors each year, he is honored to accept this recognition; when his old friend, the late Joe Steckler, stood in front of the Board a year ago, he reflected on his participation in a United Way study more than 30 years ago, that identified and listed the challenges facing the seniors in Brevard County; he has not seen that list, but he is willing to bet that if that same research was done today, the results would be strikingly similar, just amplified, the same problems but on steroids; consider these points, 12,500 Americans are turning 65 every single day, a trend that is expected to continue for nearly 20 years; seniors make up only 17 percent of the US

population, yet account for nearly 40 percent of healthcare spending; affordable senior housing remains in short supply and the gap between the need and availability is only widening; and he could go on and on, but his team warned him not to. He added one key point compounding these issues is the fact that people are living longer than before; greater longevity is certainly a gift, but it is also pushing personal, family, and government resources toward unsustainable levels; and people often hear the phrase living awareness around senior issues, and yes awareness matters, but after 25 years in this space, he has come to believe that awareness is not really the primary barrier, the real challenge is complexity, seniors and the people and/or organizations who care for them are forced to navigate a dizzying landscape, government regulation, oversight, funding, tax policy, entitlement programs, private insurance, a fragmented and overwhelming healthcare system, a patchwork of senior living options, senior housing options, difficulty finding expert unbiased guidance, and an uncertain business climate that challenges the hundreds of thousands of mostly small businesses that deliver the majority of critical senior services. He stated to pick which of these is most important, in a complex pluralistic nation like this one, with deeply entrenched vested interest and radically polarized political viewpoints, the answer must be all of the above; at One Senior Place they are working every day to connect the dots for Brevard County seniors and families who come to them for help and for the quality service providers that call One Senior Place home; their mission is to simplify the aging journey by offering a single destination where older adults and caregivers can find trusted information, free in-depth consultations, educational events, referrals, and direct access to senior focused businesses and services all under one roof; they are proud to be part of a solution; and they are deeply honored to receive this recognition.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

### **E.3. Resolution acknowledging National Child Care Provider Day in Brevard County. - District 4**

Chairman Feltner read aloud, and the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-033, recognizing National Child Care Provider Day in Brevard County.

Laura Gambino stated she would like to take a moment to acknowledge her group; her father was a long time entertainer and he told her to never go on stage after an animal act or children, and now she is going after sticks and speech makers; she thanked the Board for the acknowledgement, they very much appreciate the recognition; tomorrow they will celebrate all of the providers at their offices in Melbourne; the day will be called reflect and recharge; they are celebrating those teachers who are working with the earliest learners, 0 – 5; it is supporting those families that need child care, high quality, high educational learning experiences so that moms and dads can go to work and go back to school; she has with her a few members of her staff, Kristin Weary and Harriet Paredes; Ms. Paredes is the director of providers services and works directly everyday with the providers; she cannot say enough about what her team and staff does; representing from her Board is Alan Bergman, Board Chair, and he has served on the board going on 12 years serving diligently and with pride; two of the finest childcare providers in the County, James Box and his wife Tiffany own six locations in Brevard County and work closely with teachers and early educators to provide for the under served communities, as well as the broader scope in Palm Bay, Melbourne, and Cocoa; and there are almost 650 children in his care. She noted Dee Helbig is with First Kids at Eau Gallie Baptist Church; she visits the VPK class at Ms. Helbig's school quite a bit and they love her because she is a Disney Princess at heart, so when she walks in they think she is coming in costume;

Ms. Helbig will graduate 25 VPK students on May 21; she was talking with Ms. Helbig and maybe they will bring that VPK class to the Board in June; and she thanked Ms. Helbig and Mr. Box for their service to the community.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**F.9. Authorization, RE: Municipal Review of Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT) Percentages Allocations**

Sandra Sullivan stated the Local Gas Tax (LOGT) percentages are divided up pretty much per the population; as the Board knows, there is a challenge with gas tax with all of the electric vehicles and that the gas tax is going down, while prices are going up a lot; she did a records request this week for the amount of impact fees on Wickham Road, south of Pineda, which is of course in the jurisdiction of the City of Melbourne, but is a County road; when doing a straight line like this and take the population of each area, that population that borders that road, that money is going to Melbourne; and it seems there is an inequitable part, she does not know if this is a legislative change or if there is another way to address it.

**F.15. Interlocal Agreement for the Creation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization**

Sandra Sullivan stated this is the interlocal agreement for the creation of a Metropolitan Planning Organization; in a sense it kind of reminds her of the North Brevard Economic Development Zone (NBEDZ) Space Coast Infrastructure Agency that was created, something similar, although this one has to do with Federal and State; she read, “to assist a development transportation system embracing various modes of transportation in a manner that will maximize the mobility of people and goods within and through the metropolitan planning area and minimize to the maximum extent possible, for transportation related fuel consumption and air pollution, and it will function as a multi-modal, inter-modal transportation system for metropolitan planning”; it sounds a lot like agenda 2030 in 15 minute cities; she is kind of curious about that; from a fiscal standpoint, last year the multi-modal was 54 percent of the budget and this year 64 percent of a five-year budget; this concerns her, especially when she looks at the projects; and she has a question of where the local percentage of the funding is coming from. She mentioned when she gets a breakdown of that from Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the projects include Brevard, Space Florida, processing and range facility improvements, \$18.75 million and that is from the State with a matching from the local; similarly, Space Florida Common Use Infrastructure capitals \$27.75, none from the local on that one; the next one, Space Florida Launch Complex Improvements and passenger cargo \$18.75 million, local; another, Space Florida Horizon Launch Landing Facilities, \$18.75, local matching State; and there are others. She continued by saying Brevard County has a fiscal crisis with transportation, there is a \$2.2 billion deficit for capacity needs and maintenance, and obviously, she just talked about the gas tax, it would be nice if this Board would offer some clarification with the fiscal crisis that this County has; the County has a taxing authority and she talks about this all the time, she laments that they are not paying taxes even though Florida State Statute grants them not to pay property taxes on the land, but does not grant that same thing on the land improvements; and it comes back to some clarification on this, is the County spending local taxes to an independent Special District for their infrastructure when they are not paying taxes and contributing to the tax base.

**F.14. Resolution approving the issuance by Brevard County Housing Finance Authority of Multi-Family Housing Revenue Bonds (Sunset Palms Apartments Project), in an amount not to exceed \$41,000,000**

Commissioner Delaney stated she just really wanted to bring recognition because this is a project that she really feels is needed in the County; it contains 263 units, all of which will be rented to seniors age 62 and above; 40 percent of the apartments will be set aside for people who are making less than 60 percent of the median income; she really wanted to bring awareness to this project that is happening in Palm Bay, Sunset Palms Apartments; one of the concerns she had prior to her briefing was she had been to a government meeting and she had heard another apartment complex like this reaching the end of its 30 years; and the residents basically got a 30-day notice that their rent was going to go up dramatically. She went on to say she had inquired with the County Attorney if there was anything the Board could do to help the residents once they get to that end of term for this affordable housing to give them more time to figure out what their next steps are going to be; she wanted to thank County Attorney, Morris Richardson, for looking into that and pursuing her question on that; she thanked the apartment complex for agreeing to provide a longer term notice of when that 30 years is up; and she feels like when there are good people out there and doing good projects, the Board should give them recognition.

**F.1. Extend Temporary Use Agreement to Provide Temporary Office Space & Equipment Storage for County-wide Vegetative Harvesting Program for One Year**

The Board approved the Temporary Use Agreement for County-owned property located at 1800 Lake Drive, Cocoa, Tax Account 2423199, to provide temporary office space and equipment storage for the Countywide Vegetative Harvesting Program for one year.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.2. Sovereign Submerge Lands Easement (SSL) for the Titusville Causeway Multi-Trophic Shoreline Restoration and Resiliency Action Project - District 1.**

The Board approved the SSL Easement for the Titusville Causeway Multi-trophic Shoreline Restoration and Resiliency Action Project; and authorized the Chairman to execute the Easement upon Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) approval.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.3. South Beaches 2025-26 Dune Project Maintenance including Hurricane Milton Response**

The Board authorized the County Manager to execute a Change Order of up to \$10.9 million to an existing Contract with Dickerson Infrastructure Inc. to repair the South Beaches engineered dune project; directed the County to obtain and record voluntary easements for beach and dune renourishment in the South Beaches; approved use of County owned/managed land for temporary construction access; authorized the County Manager, or designee, to execute task orders or contracts work in excess of \$200,000 for associated tasks required to complete the project and comply with permit conditions; directed staff to seek Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and additional State funding for reimbursement; and approved all necessary Budget Change Requests.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.4. Approval to submit grant application and execute associated agreement,**

**modifications, and amendments upon award of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Florida Boating Improvement Program Grant for Brevard County Natural Resources Management Department Boating and Waterways' Boating Study.**

The Board authorized Natural Resources Management to apply for the FWC Florida Boating Improvement Program Grant; authorized the County Manager to execute the Grant Agreement, future grant amendments, and modifications, if the grant is awarded by FWC, for Natural Resources Management Department Boating and Waterways' Boating Study, upon review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, Risk Management, and Purchasing Services; and authorized the County Manager to approve all associated Budget Change Requests.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.5. Approval RE: Transportation Impact Fee Technical Advisory Committee for the Central Mainland District Project Fund Recommendations**

The Board approved the disbursement of \$1,040,000 in transportation impact fees, in accordance with the recommendations prepared by the Transportation Impact Fee Technical Advisory Committee of the Central Mainland Benefit District; and authorized the Budget Office to execute any Budget Change Requests necessary for implementing these appropriations.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.6. Adopt Resolution and Release Performance Bond: Crossmolina - Village 2, Neighborhood 7, Phase 1 - District 4  
Developer: The Viera Company**

The Board adopted Resolution No. 25-034, releasing the Contract and Surety Bond dated October 24, 2023, for Crossmolina, Village 2, Neighborhood 7, Phase 1, Developer: The Viera Company.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.7. Approval Re: Agreement between the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners and Housing for Homeless, Inc. (District 1)**

The Board authorized the County Manager to execute an agreement with Housing for Homeless, Inc. upon approval by the County Attorney's Office and Risk Management; authorized the Housing and Human Services Director to execute any future amendment(s) or modification(s) upon approval by the County Attorney and Risk Management; and authorized the County Manager to execute all necessary Budget Change Requests.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.8. Approval, Re: Authorizing Resolution, Grant Application, Certifications and Assurances, Execution of Grant Agreement for FY2025/SFY2023 Space Coast Area Transit Section 5310 Formula Grant with the Florida Department of**

**Transportation (FDOT).**

The Board approved the following actions for the FY 2025/SFY2023 Section 5310 Formula Grant for enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities, with the FDOT:

- Adopt and execute the Authorizing Resolution No. 25-035;
- Use of FDOT toll revenue credits as a local match;
- Use of sales of surplus vehicles as a local match source;
- Authorize Transit Services Director to execute and submit the Grant Agreement electronically, contingent upon County Attorney and Risk Management approval;
- Authorize Transit Services Director to execute any additional follow-up documentation, resolutions and amendments necessary to secure these funds; and
- Authorize the County Manager to execute any necessary Budget Change Requests

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.9. Authorization, RE: Municipal Review of Local Option Gas Tax (LOGT) Percentages Allocations**

The Board directed the Clerk to mail a copy of the LOGT percentage allocations to each municipality for review; and approved recommendation of the Board to conduct the final reviews of the allocations at the July 22, 2025, Board meeting.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.10. Acknowledge Receipt of the FY 2024-2025 Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District Audited Annual Financial Statements**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the FY 2024-2025 Audited Annual Financial Statements, ended September 30, 2024, from the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.11. Approval, Re: Budget Amendment**

The Board reviewed and approved Budget Amendment.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.12. Renewal of Annual Property Insurance Program effective 6/1/2025**

The Board authorized the Risk Manager to bind and secure placement of the County's Property Insurance coverage as presented and recommended by Arthur J. Gallagher, the County's property insurance broker, with an effective date of June 1, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$3,801,034.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney



**F.13. Partial Release of Easement**

The Board approved and authorized the Chairman to sign a Partial Release of Easement with Suntree Homeowners Association, Inc.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.14. Resolution approving the issuance by Brevard County Housing Finance Authority of Multi-Family Housing Revenue Bonds (Sunset Palms Apartments Project), in an amount not to exceed \$41,000,000**

The Board approved and adopted Resolution No. 25-036, allowing the Brevard County Housing Finance Authority, a dependent special district of Brevard County, to issue multi-family housing revenue bonds to finance the acquisition, construction, equipping, and development of Sunset Palms Apartments (the "Project").

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.15. Interlocal Agreement for the Creation of the Metropolitan Planning Organization**

The Board approved and authorized the Chairman to sign the Interlocal Agreement for the creation of the Space Coast TPO, and to recognize the boundary and apportionment approved by the Governor.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.16. Appointment(s) / Reappointment(s)**

The Board appointed/reappointed Sean Williams to the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast, with said term to expire on December 31, 2025; Jeffrey Ori to the North Brevard Commission on Parks and Recreation, with said term to expire on December 31, 2026; Ron Bartcher to the Planning and Zoning Board, with said term to expire on December 31, 2025; Nancy Garmer to the South/Central Public Library Advisory Board, with said term to expire on May 5, 2027; and Racquel Butler to the South Brevard Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, with said term to expire on May 5, 2027.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**F.17. Bill Folder**

The Board acknowledged receipt of the Bill Folder.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**G. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Individuals may not speak under both the first and second public comment sections.)**

Christina Fleming stated she is there to talk about something that is long overdue, impact fees

in Brevard County; these fees, which are designed to ensure that growth pays for growth, have not been increased in over 25 years, a quarter century; in that time this community has grown, costs have skyrocketed, and yet the money collected to support the infrastructure has stayed exactly the same; impact fees are not about recurring expenses, they are about smart one-time investments; the County can and should use them for critical needs like new fire engines, rescues, ambulances, and long overdue station upgrades; and these are not luxuries, they are necessities that ensure the First Responders have the tools they need to do their jobs safely and efficiently. She noted there are four engines that are having AC unit issues right now; one of those she spoke to the Board about last year at this same exact time and they are still having issues; they have to use a robot and wire things in so they can have air conditioning, summer is coming; right now the County is losing dedicated public safety personnel at an alarming rate, 31 so far this year; it is in line with last year losing 35 from January to May, and now 31 this year from January to May; the reason is it is not just about salary, it is about resources, support, and the basic ability to do the job without being stretched to a breaking point; there is a growing perception that the money the Board does have is being mismanaged; and even if that is not entirely true, perception is reality, it affects moral, recruitment, and most of all retention. She went on to say the County works hard to attract people to live in Brevard, but what good is it if the very people who protect and serve this community cannot afford to stay here or feel unsupported in their roles; the County cannot afford to keep kicking the can down the road; raising the impact fees is not just reasonable, it is responsible; there was a study done in 1998 and in 2016, either the County did not need to raise them or the Board did not listen to the firm that was used then; and it is about investing in the future of the community and showing employees and residents that safety and infrastructure are taken seriously.

Sandra Sullivan stated the first thing she wants to talk about is the last meeting; there was a room full of firefighters that got up and left the room; from the perspective of when the Board knew the Rockledge Hospital was going to close, there is a moral line in the sand that at that point, there was a moral obligation for the Board to get a contract signed with the firefighters because now, it is putting people's lives at risk; she is hearing people have already died; if that is correct, that is on this Board because moving forward, this Board after one more meeting is off for the summer; and there is not going to be a contract signed while it is gone, and it will not be done until July, meanwhile, Brevard County has a Fire Department that is being destroyed. She added people's lives are going to be lost and this is an ethical issue; she thinks there is negligence on part of the County for not taking action, hence her strong words at the last meeting; she is profoundly disappointed; she thought she was disappointed in the last Commission for not addressing things, like the Fire Department; but this Board has been here for five months and the people got behind this Board to get this solved. She went on to say the second thing she wants to talk about is while they have this fiscal crisis, Chairman Feltner is the Chair of the Tourist Development Council, and he is talking about giving away a piece of property that is very entrenched in controversy, including a Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) investigation; back in 2000 it was acquired for \$7.25 million; the appraisal that was done a year ago was for the piece here in red, as she showed a document to the Board, which is 53 acres; that is an interior piece not connected to a major road, but it is delineated on that map; however, the comments made of the TDC was the intent that the access to giving this property to the City of Melbourne would be the access and include this lot here, which is a total of 68 acres, and then it has major access. She continued by saying the appraisal was also done from Public Works and not Solid Waste; there are a number of other red flags not associated with it; bad optics when this County has a fiscal crisis; and the County is looking at a situation where land is very valuable, too valuable to give away when it has a fiscal crisis and it cannot pay its firefighters a living wage.

John Dacko stated he is in attendance tonight to discuss a simple but serious issue, the

County's firefighters have not received a raise since October 1, 2024; the firefighters under him are forced to work mandatory overtime every 10 to 14 days and last year alone there was over 24,000 hours of mandatory overtime because there were more than 100 unfilled positions in the Department; this year, the Department is already on track to lose another 100; the Department cannot keep up because it is not hiring qualified applicants to replace the experienced professionals that are leaving; two weeks ago the Board stood here and tried to instill fear in the public by claiming that raising fire assessment fees by up to 75 percent would lead to higher prices at Dunkin Donuts, McDonalds, or Daycare Centers; that kind of fear mongering, particularly from one Commissioner, is unacceptable; residents deserve facts not spin; and the letters the County has sent out have finally reached the public and they are asking questions. He went on to say he has spoken with his parents and neighbors, they are baffled and cannot believe that the Fire Department is understaffed and underfunded; they cannot believe the Department has already lost 100 firefighters and that it is on track to lose 100 more; many of them, including those on fixed incomes, have looked at their tax bills and said they would gladly pay more because they value a fully-staffed and well-trained Fire Department; his father, who served 20 years as a corps man petty officer and is on a fixed income, owns two homes in Brevard County, his taxes would go up by \$120; that is \$5 per house, per month; and he is okay with that because he understands what is at stake. He stated now he was hoping the Board could explain to the public why it refuses to fund their Fire Department fully, why the firefighters, mothers and fathers, are forced to work an extra 24 hours every shift, 10 to 14 days; he would like the Board to look his daughters in the eye and explain to them why their dad and dad's co-workers have to miss school plays, award ceremonies, weekend cheerleading events, and softball or baseball games, explain why the Board has had \$2.5 million given to the City of Melbourne for a fire training center, that has its own City Fire Department, yet it continued claiming there is no money to fund its own County Fire Department; he always tells his daughters to do what is right; when he is at work and he hits a tough spot, he asks himself what is the right thing to do; doing the right thing is called leadership; but refusing to fully-fund the County Fire Department because of being afraid to raise taxes, that is not leadership, it is avoidance. He mentioned this County is at a crossroads; it needs real leaders who are willing to make tough decisions and necessary sacrifices to invest in the infrastructure and public funds; yes that means raising revenue through taxes so the roads can be repaired and maintained, the Fire Department can be fully staffed, and the beaches can be protected year-round with lifeguards; his wife is terrified that him standing up there tonight and speaking the truth might cost him his promotion off the District Chief eligibility list, but he told her that he had hoped she was wrong and that this is a sacrifice he is willing to make because doing what is right matters most; and now is the time to lead and now is the time to do what is right.

Commissioner Delaney commented the County is lucky to have him.

#### **H.1. Public Interest Determination: Wetland Impacts for ALF Aurora Indoor RV & Boat Storage Facility at Aurora Road, Tax Account Number 2719528 (District 4)**

Chairman Feltner called for public hearing on a Public Interest Determination (PID) of Wetland Impacts for Atlantic Environmental of Florida, LLC (AEF) Aurora Indoor RV and Boat Storage Facility at Aurora Road, Tax Account number 2719528.

Amanda Elmore, Deputy Director Natural Resources Management, stated this is a PID for proposed wetland impacts for an indoor RV and boat storage facility on Aurora Road in District 4; the impact that is proposed is one-third of an acre and mitigation has been provided; and she is happy to answer any questions the Board may have.

Commissioner Delaney asked if this is the Item that Ms. Elmore mentioned the consultant

would be in attendance.

Ms. Elmore explained, unfortunately, there was a family emergency, but the owner may be in attendance.

Commissioner Delaney stated she was hoping someone could share a little bit about how this builder is going above and beyond as was explained in her briefing; and she does not know if Ms. Elmore is willing to share that, she was hoping the consultant would.

Ms. Elmore explained double the amount of mitigation has been provided for this project; they have a State environmental resource permit and mitigation was provided in Indian River County for that impact; Brevard County has a requirement that mitigation be provided in County; and the owner went ahead and got those mitigation credits in place as well.

The Board, in accordance with Chapter 62, Article X, Division 4, Section 62-3694(c)(3)c, considered and approved AEF, on behalf of MBV Engineering, Inc., and Land Vision Investments, LLC, for a PID for wetland impacts proposed for Aurora Indoor RV and Boat Storage Facility at Aurora Road, Tax Account Number 2719528.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

## **H.2. Public Hearing RE: Brevard County HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan**

Chairman Feltner called for public hearing on Brevard County HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan.

Juanita Jackson, Housing and Human Services Director, stated this is a public hearing to announce that Housing and Human Services is accepting citizen participation input as it starts developing the 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan; to guide consultation and the public participation process, federal regulation requires grantees to develop and adopt a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) which cites the policy and procedures for citizen participation; the plan is attached to the Agenda; per the Citizen Participation Plan, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires jurisdictions to hold two public hearings and one public meeting during the process; citizens can provide input into the development of the Annual Action Plan during this time, during this meeting, directly to Housing and Human Services Department, and the May 20 Community Redevelopment Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen Advisory Committee; and after the plan is developed, it will be posted to the website and available in the Housing and Human Services Office, at the Cities of Cocoa, Melbourne, Palm Bay, and Titusville Public Libraries, and in the housing divisions for the City of Titusville, Cocoa, Melbourne, and Palm Bay. She noted after that period, staff will bring a draft to the Board at the July 22 Board of County Commission meeting for a vote; HUD requires recipients of HOME and CDBG funds to prepare the Annual Action Plan using the goals and priorities established in the five-year consolidated plan; and she advised there is no vote required for this public hearing.

Commissioner Delaney stated she was wondering about the citizen participation and what could be done to grow the citizen involvement because she knows in 2024, with the six methods of outreach, zero comments were received; in 2022, two comments were received, one from her Chief of Staff, and the other from somebody who got the affordable housing onto

the County Charter; it is not the amount of citizen input that she would expect with this topic with people who seem to be very conscience of it; she was wondering if there are ways of reaching out like the County social media accounts or actually sending out emails to the non-profits or the groups that are in this sphere to get more targeted input; and she asked if that is something that can be done.

Ms. Jackson stated yes; typically, the plan is brought to the Affordable Housing Committee, this year they are bringing it to the CDBG, which is in the strategy area, in hopes of receiving more citizen input; and staff can also have it placed on social media and send it to the public agencies.

Commissioner Delaney commented that would be great.

Chairman Feltner clarified that no vote is needed on this Item.

Ms. Jackson responded affirmatively.

**H.3. Petition to Vacate, Re: Rights-of-way/Easements - Per Official Records Book 710, Page 430 and Official Records Book 790, Page 914 - Merritt Island - PDSK Land LLC - District 2**

Chairman Feltner called for a public hearing on a petition to vacate right-of-way requested by PDSK Land, LLC located in District 2.

Marc Bernath, Public Works Director, stated this is a petition to vacate a right-of-way for Merritt Island; it is located in Merritt Island, north of Whaley Road, south of Pine Island Road in District 2; it is a 30 by 20 feet wide right-of-way; from the County's perspective, both public utilities and drainage, there are no formal objections, although he understands someone may have come this evening to raise an objection; and PDSK and Joe Mayer are here to speak for the group that is trying to develop.

Paul Rosenthal stated he is in attendance representing PDSK Land, LLC who is the owner of the land on both sides of the property and the petitioner; he is there mainly to answer any questions; and they would like to thank staff for working with them on this project and the County Attorney's Office for help in getting through some procedural issues getting this to the Board. He pointed out the staff report shows that all the utility providers have supported this application and County staff has supported the application; and if there are any questions that come up regarding this from any citizen comment, he would like to have the opportunity to respond.

George Typhair stated he is the son-in-law of the an adjacent property owner, Edward Cettina, on the southern side of this proposed subdivision; the concern is the access to his property; when he purchased the property, January of 2021, this property subject to this subdivision was still under the previous owners ownership and it was his intent to try to purchase an additional piece of property to gain access, whereas, currently, he is landlocked and he cannot gain access to the property; it is on the north side of a drainage canal and on the south side of this property and on the western side of where Whaley Road would have continued north, had this been the entry point to where this property would have been developed; since they are vacating that and coming in from the north it makes it to where his property is there for cut off; and there is a gated fence where the improved road ends right now. He went on to say it is hard to determine if the County is even maintaining that last section of road leading to that gate which is approximately 75 feet or so; his concern this evening is just to make sure an objection is raised that if this right-of-way is vacated, how Mr. Cettina is able to gain access to his property;

in attempts to assist his father-in-law, about a year ago, they had reached out to PDSK that bought this property and asked if they would be interested in obtaining his land in order to find a way to gain some value in the investment that he tried to look into, develop, and make a profit on; it was not of interest to them, it did not gain them any added value, and so they had declined to buy the property from Mr. Cettina; now he has to try to find a way to make this a sellable and developable piece of property in some format as he cannot even gain access to it; his hands are tied; and furthermore, he learned on Thursday of last week that there is a drainage right-of-way that, although on the south side of this property, a drainage line was put in underneath his father-in-laws property, and in the wrong place, was what he was told, which the County maintains an interest in that line, and therefore, he cannot build or put anything above that line. He stated there are multiple issues related to this property that he is just looking for assistance with.

Edward Cettina stated there are a lot of discrepancies on this little spot; the vacate order is here but this part of the road is not developed yet and there are no details on it.

Commissioner Goodson asked if Mr. Bernath could comment on that.

Mr. Bernath stated he was advised that they had come in earlier this week with this potential concern; as he looks at the survey, Whaley Road ends before PDSK's property and he was told that they had purchased the property with it being landlocked; while he realizes they do not have the benefit of this because this is late breaking, Whaley Road ends, there is a section which looks like it is 70 feet or so, and then there is the right-of-way that they are vacating which does not block their access at all, the property that PDSK owns is what blocks it; therefore, it is a private matter that needs to be negotiated with PDSK. He added the County's interest and actually getting out of this by vacating does not impact this situation at all.

There being no further objections or comments, the Board adopted Resolution No. 25-037, vacating a right-of-way in Merritt Island, requested by PDSK Land, LLC located north of Whaley Road and south of Pine Island.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Tom Goodson

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

#### **H.4. Extension of Temporary Moratorium on New Applications of Biosolids to Lands within Brevard County**

Chairman Feltner called for a public hearing for the extension of a temporary moratorium on new applications of biosolids to lands within Brevard County.

Amanda Elmore, Deputy Director Natural Resources Management, stated this is for a public hearing for the adoption of an extension of the biosolids application moratorium; the original Ordinance was enacted in 2019; and this would be another one-year extension that would take the County through July of next year.

Sandra Sullivan stated she is in support of the moratorium; she was there in 2018 when this came before the Board of County Commissioners; one of the major reasons it came before the County Commission at that time was because the AG owner became aware of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) levels and then the County did testing and it was a problem; it is great that the County has a moratorium extending this; she supports it very much;

and it is her understanding that there are municipalities that are still putting the biosolids on the floodplain of the St. Johns. She noted she would encourage the County to maybe reach out to the cities and maybe even extending it with interlocal agreements because people do not want to contaminate another water body; she would also suggest, the County is putting muck in the area near Patrick Space Force Station, which is the third highest contaminated base in the nation for PFAS, the County is dredging that, and it is right in the Lagoon Plan that this could be a liability issue for the County in the future; they even discussed buying a burrow pit to place it in; the County should not be placing that on the flood plain; and hopefully that discussion will be added into this as well. She noted those are two additional considerations for the Board in the future; and she expressed her appreciation to the Board for what not putting the PFAS contaminated biosolids on the floodplain of the St. Johns.

There being no further comments or objections, the Board conducted a public hearing and adopted Ordinance No. 25-06, authorizing an extension of temporary County-wide moratorium for 365 days from the effective date (July 8, 2025); prohibiting the land application of class B biosolids except existing permitted activities; providing for exhaustion of administrative remedies; providing for severability, repeal of conflicting provisions, resolution of conflicting provisions; and area encompassed and an effective date.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**I.1. Resolution authorizing a loan in a principal amount of not-to-exceed \$34,000,000.00 from the Florida Local Government Finance Commission (FLGFC) pursuant to its Pooled Commercial Paper Loan Program (Loan Program) in order to provide interim financing for various capital improvements to the County's Solid Waste Disposal Facilities.**

Tom Mulligan, Solid Waste Management Director, stated this concerns the financing of the Solid Waste Management Department's Capital Improvement Program; he is requesting that the Board adopt the resolution authorizing staff to seek a pooled commercial paper loan, not to exceed \$34 million in principal; authorize the Chairman to execute the resolution and various closing documents with respect to the issuance of the loan; and to authorize the County Manager to approve all necessary and appropriate Budget Change Requests that implement this request and allocate the money to the appropriate Capital Improvement Program projects. He advised the \$34 million will go towards completion of construction of phase 1 of US-192 site development, completion of the construction of the replacement of the Titusville Transfer Station, expansion of the Mockingbird Way Mulching Facility, and also initiation, construction of Cell three of the Class one south landfill at the Central Disposal Facility.

Sandra Sullivan stated she was watching under the vendor link, the going out to bid that was awarded in September for \$33 million and some change, for the continued work at the 192 dump; she has a question mark because this is \$34 million and she has not seen anything come forward; she has been watching on the \$33 million that was awarded; the County knew that there was increasing costs on the construction of this dump and yet she, as a member of the public, tried to keep herself informed, she does not see that level of transparency of someone saying this was supposed to be about \$36 million to build and then it went up to \$50 million, and then she heard it went up to \$77 million; she asked where is the cost of building this at; she mentioned she finds it kind of interesting that recently, the reason the County had to build out at 192, looking at Sarno, Sarno was going to extend the dump for 20 years and then it

could not get the City of Melbourne to increase the height on the Sarno land fill that the County bought, and she finds it interesting that the additional piece the County was going to buy, the recycler piece, recently got an increase in height to 80 feet; it is interesting on that aspect; but more transparency on the cost of things would be very good so the public has an idea of what is going on. She noted as a consequence, the County is shipping trash for five years because it was almost out of space at Sarno, when the County started building 192; and that is on the taxpayers right now paying to ship this trash to dumps while this dump is being built.

The Board adopted Resolution No. 25-038, authorizing staff to seek a Pooled Commercial Paper Loan not-to-exceed \$34,000,000.00 in principal amount; authorized the Chairman to execute the Resolution and various closing documents with respect to the issuance of the Loan; and authorized the County Manager to approve all necessary and appropriate Budget Change Requests to implement the request and allocate these and existing funds to the appropriate Capital Improvement Program projects listed in the Agenda Report.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Thad Altman

**Second:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

## **I.2. Request Approval to Negotiate a Contract with the Number One-Ranked Firm to Perform an Impact Fee Study**

Kathy Wall, Central Services Director, stated on February 25, 2025, the Board authorized the advertisement of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an impact fee study for the County's impact fee programs; the County received three proposals from the following firms: Benesch, DTA Public Finance, and Raftelis; the Selection and Negotiating Committee met on April 28, 2025 to discuss and write the proposals received; the Committee unanimously ranked Benesch as the number one ranked firm; it is requested that the Board consider tonight to either proceed with the Impact Fee study for Emergency Medical/Fire Rescue Facilities impact fees at a cost of \$37,982 or proceed with an impact fee study for all of the County's impact fee programs which would cost an additional \$181,988 for a total of \$219,970; approval for the Selection and Negotiating Committee's recommendation of the number one ranked firm, Benesch; authorize the Selection and Negotiating Committee to negotiate the professional service contract with the number one ranked firm; and authorize the County Manager to execute the contract and approve all Budget Change Requests to commence the impact fee study.

Sandra Sullivan stated she wants to go to the reason that Brevard County is in a fiscal crisis, to use the words of this Commission from the last meeting, and it is the cost of growth; she wants to remind the Board of some numbers and why this is so important; the cost of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) right now for impact fees is \$97; in 1998, when the County did the referendum, Brevard Study recommended at least \$305 to be comparable to surrounding counties; in 2016, the study recommended \$322.49 for Fire and EMS; Brevard County is still at \$97; and to put the perspective on the cost of growth, in Fiscal Year 2022, the capital cost was \$622,000 of expenditures for Fire and EMS and in 2025 budget, last year the County was saying about \$30 million, in January saying \$48 million, and most recently, at the magistrate meeting, \$68 million, and who knows what it is going to be next year. She noted there is another sewage plant up in the 90 percent utilization; she does not know how the County is going to pay for all of this unless the Board essentially starts growing a set of balls; the County needs a comprehensive study; with Fire, if the County does the comprehensive one, that is going to be nine to 12 months which means the County is not going to have it for Fiscal Year 2026, for budgeting; her recommendation to the Board, as a consultant, is to break



it up into milestones, and prioritize each one, in the order of priority for them to do it; Fire and EMS is at the top of the list; they complete that one first and have staff get them the information they need, so this one is done in time for budget season for this coming year, 2026; if the County does not have that information, who knows where the County will be at next year; everyone knows where this is going right now, because District 3 came to a meeting last week, and she was doing the sales pitch on getting rid of the three percent tax cap as far as she heard; and the people know how that is going. She noted the Board cannot put this burden all on the people because this is the cost of growth; and this Board is going to price Brevard so it is not affordable.

Commissioner Delaney stated she put this slide together because she was really happy to see these numbers come in and that they were so much less than what was originally anticipated by the Board; the \$10 million was based off of what Billy Prasad, Planning and Development Director, had brought to the Board last time with the 50 percent over the four-year period; to her it seems like a no-brainer to go forward with the comprehensive study; she would have to agree that fire is in such a crisis, she would prefer to start with that and then do the others, following; if she has support to do all of them she would rather do that; and she would love to see this move forward so they could share the love a little bit.

Chairman Feltner stated he thought about this earlier and talked to staff so just as a reminder, voting for any of this, all of this, whatever the situation may be tonight, that does not necessarily mean that the impact fees will just go up, that is not what is being voted on, it is voting on completing the study which is the first part that has to be done before considering that; and he is personally not opposed to looking at all of them.

The Board authorized the Central Services Director to proceed with an Impact Fee Study for all of the County's Impact Fee Programs; approved the Selection and Negotiation Committee's recommendation of the number one-ranked firm, Benesch; authorized the Selection and Negotiation Committee to negotiate the professional service contract with the number one-ranked firm; and authorized the County Manager to execute the Contract and approve all Budget Change Requests to commence the Impact Fee Study.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kim Adkinson

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, and Feltner

**Nay:** Altman

**J.1. Approval, Re: Contract for Sale and Purchase from Robert Raymond Elser III and Brooke Cameron Elser for 5041 Frederick Avenue, West Melbourne, as an Advanced Acquisition for the Hollywood Boulevard Widening Project - District 3.**

Marc Bernath, Public Works Director, stated this is for a contract for sale and purchase from Robert Raymond Elser and Brooke Cameron Elser for 5041 Frederick Avenue; it is in West Melbourne as part of the advanced acquisition strategy for the future Hollywood Boulevard widening project, located in District 3; as properties become available, staff has been looking for over 10 years to get these types of opportunities, so that when the County is ready for the widening project, the land is in place to widen the road; the appraised value is \$255,000; and that is what the owner is requesting, in addition to the \$900 appraisal cost, which is consistent with prior Board action.

Commissioner Adkinson inquired if the County has to acquire this property for this project to go forward.

Mr. Bernath responded in the affirmative; he added either the County buys it now at appraised value or down the road through eminent domain which is typically three to four times the cost of what they would get at today's price.

The Board approved and authorized the Chairman to execute the Contract for Sale and Purchase from Robert Raymond Elser III and Brooke Cameron Elser for 5041 Frederick Avenue, West Melbourne, as an advanced acquisition for the Hollywood Boulevard Widening Project; and authorized the Chairman to execute any closing documents that require recording in the Public Records related to the Contract for Sale and Purchase.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Seconded:** Kim Adkinson

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

**J.2. Each Commissioner shall appropriate up to \$20,000 for TDC events.**

Commissioner Delaney stated Chairman Feltner had tasked the Board Members with finding a cultural item to give \$20,000 to out of the cultural funds; she had met with the Warbird Museum a few times; they are in the middle of building an event center which is desperately needed in District 1; there are very few venues for this type of thing; on top of that, the Warbird Museum, unfortunately, lost somebody very important and near and dear to their hearts, this year, who also contributed not only a lot of time, but money to this organization; and unfortunately, with his passing, that left the Museum with a shortfall of funds. She went on to say this organization is not only a great place, these people volunteer their time to restore history and they do a lot of great things there; she really felt this was appropriate to allocate her entire allocation to this organization; she really appreciates the opportunity to be able to do that; and she hopes she can get the support.

Commissioner Goodson stated he thinks in the last three or four years the Board has allocated over \$1 million to the Warbird Museum; and he asked if that is correct.

Jim Liesenfelt, Assistant County Manager, stated he is getting a nod, yes.

Commissioner Goodson asked in the past three or four years what has the Board allocated to the Warbird Museum.

Mr. Liesenfelt stated they have received money under the Marketing Support Grant Program for programs; and he cannot tell the amount, but they were given a capital or two for facilities.

Commissioner Goodson asked what was the capital amount.

Mr. Liesenfelt advised he does not have that number in front of him.

Commissioner Goodson stated he thinks it was \$740,000 and then there was some more given.

Mr. Liesenfelt stated \$700,000 sounds about right, a couple years ago.

Commissioner Goodson stated with all that being said, it has been over about \$1 million in the last two or three years; and he asked if Peter Cranis, Tourist Development Office Director, has any idea of the amount.

Mr. Cranis responded he does not have the exact amount but that sounds correct, it was over \$1 million.

Commissioner Goodson asked Commissioner Delaney if she wants to give them \$20,000 and not fund something else that has not received any money.

Commissioner Delaney advised she has not had anybody reach out to her that has asked; this was a need that she saw; they are basically at the point right now, and because of other things going on within their construction, not possibly having air conditioning in their event center; that would not do very well for events...

Commissioner Goodson stated if she knows anything about construction, \$20,000 for a big building will not buy an air conditioner, no.

Commissioner Delaney advised she understands that.

Commissioner Goodson commented \$20,000 is going to help them get some fans.

Commissioner Adkinson asked if Tourist Development Council (TDC) money is for marketing not for completion of projects.

Mr. Cranis stated the Marketing Support Program (MSP) Program was meant to be for events and marketing of those events or reimbursement of expenses related; and obviously, the Board can allocate funds as it wishes, out of this bucket.

Commissioner Adkinson asked if this money is for programs that did not meet the minimum guidelines, originally.

Mr. Cranis responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Adkinson asked if the Warbird Museum has met the minimum guidelines.

Mr. Cranis advised they did meet the minimum.

Commissioner Delaney stated she remembers reaching out to Mr. Cranis and specifically asking him about this and he told her it would be fine.

Mr. Cranis noted he thinks what he said was the Board could take any action that it desires related to this as long as the Board voted for it, they could do it.

Commissioner Delaney thanked him.

Chairman Feltner stated he thinks if he understands, the Warbird Museum does have a Memorial Day Celebration coming up and he thinks they are actively trying to market to vendors and the like to have a good event later this month; and if talking about events, there is a pending event out there.

Sandra Sullivan stated when she was watching the March meeting there was also discussion of

giving the \$20,000 to some of the cities, like the City of Melbourne with some of their events; she is a little concerned about what some of those events might be; the Board can feel free to reach out to her about that; the other thing, more importantly, is what has happened legislatively; there is a bill that has been passed and has now gone to appropriations that would give flexibility to Brevard County and other counties in Florida to use the TDC tax to reduce property taxes and to put up to 25 percent to public safety; given the fiscal crisis that the County is in, all this money needs to go back to the bucket; the Board needs to wait for this bill to see if it gets signed into law by Governor DeSantis; the State legislation wants some action to address property taxes; and they recognize that it is not just Brevard struggling with Public Safety. She noted this Board has an opportunity; right now, today, she would encourage the Board to not do anything on this and send the money back to the TDC and see if this law gets passed; she reiterated this County has a fiscal crisis; and the Board needs to be responsible and do the right thing, because she does not know how it is going to crawl itself out of this hole that it got itself into by kicking the can down the road on impact fees for 25 years.

Commissioner Adkinson stated in the summary it talks about what was voted on, on April 22; and her understanding is that was for 2025-2026, but she does not think that was what the intention of this allocation is.

Chairman Feltner asked Mr. Cranis to clarify that for the Board.

Mr. Cranis stated that is true; on April 22, what was voted on was the criteria for next year's grant program, so that would be the 2025-2026 program; and this particular ask, he believes, is for this fiscal year, if he is not mistaken.

Commissioner Delaney stated it was just in the spirit of that; and she felt like it was appropriate to bring this forward.

The Board approved District 1 appropriation of \$20,000 from the Tourist Development Council (TDC) events funding for the Warbird Museum.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Katie Delaney

**Second:** Thad Altman

**Ayes:** Delaney, Feltner, and Altman

**Nay:** Goodson, and Adkinson

**K. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Individuals may not speak under both the first and second public comment sections.)**

Fred Douglas stated he is a member of Truth Revealed Ministries in Palm Bay; he is also a member of BRITE which is a coalition of 10 congregations of different racial and religious backgrounds across Brevard County, working together to address systemic problems in the County; one of these problems that they are most concerned about is lack of affordable housing; at a recent action, having invited this entire Commission to attend, over 360 people gathered at Suntree United Methodist to review the affordable housing crisis, school children sleeping in the woods, members working full-time jobs sleeping in their cars in the evening because they are priced out of the rental market, over 30,000 Brevard County families whose housing costs exceed 50 percent of their income, this includes veterans, seniors, and first responders; Brevard is investing in the tourism industry; and they think that makes sense. He continued by saying as important as tourists are, should it not also be important to take care of

local constituents who live and work here; it is unacceptable that the County leadership would support tourism at the expense of ignoring families and children sleeping in the woods; ladies and gentleman, funds delayed is housing denied; in 2021, he challenged this Commission to create a housing trust fund that incentivizes developers to build more affordable housing; in 2022, a charter amendment passed with over 60 percent voter support that created a workforce trust fund; this was a critical step in the right direction; but this Commission has not funded that trust fund despite wide spread community support. He went on to say 60 percent of Brevard County voters expected this housing trust fund to be employed; funding delayed is housing denied; County Commissioner Delaney from District 1 put in writing that she would commit to find dedicated funding to put towards this affordable housing trust fund; he is there today to applaud her leadership and invite others to join her because funding delayed is housing denied; she cannot do this alone, the community needs other members of this Commission to take leadership roles on addressing this crisis; and the faith community is disappointed in that they have sought meetings with each of the Commissioners to discuss this issue and work on a path forward, and those requests seem to have fallen on deaf ears. He stated today his request is simple, he asked Commissioner Feltner to meet with BRITE Clergy, a leadership for housing steering committee to discuss a path forward to funding the housing trust fund.

Chairman Feltner advised he can call his office, they had met in his office before.

Mr. Douglas noted they had met before; and he asked if they should expect a meeting this month, next month.

Chairman Feltner advised he and his staff are very timely, they will check their calendar and get it timely for everybody.

Reverend Bailey Schreiner stated he serves as the associate pastor at Suntree United Methodist Church (UMC); at Suntree the vision is to love God, love each other, and love their neighbors in extraordinary ways; they live into this vision by providing food and housing for homeless families with Family Promise; each year they raise more than \$21,000 to provide every student at Harper City Elementary School a \$50 gift card to purchase school supplies that they may not otherwise be able to afford; and recently, they launched a new micro-grant program to fund projects that will alleviate poverty in the 32922 zip code. He went on to say Suntree UMC is the founding member of BRITE, which is a coalition of churches who have joined hands to advocate for issues of justice in Brevard County; for the past three years one of the key issues has been affordable housing; as a pastor, every week people come to the church and beg him for help with housing issues; last week it was a woman named June; June has a four-year-old son who is autistic, she was laid off from her full time job as a registered nurse, and her lights were turned off because she fell behind on the light bill; they did what Jesus would do, turned her lights back on, but they cannot afford to do that for every one; they invest thousands of volunteer hours and more than \$100,000 per year to make improvements to the County with food, housing, and so on; but it is not enough and they need the Board's help. He commented they would urge this Board to make a real and sustained financial investment in the workforce in support of the housing trust fund; it was passed by the voters of Brevard County three years ago and has not been adequately funded; he has a whole line of non-profit partners that would love to take advantage of that; one of the partners is an affordable housing complex in Cocoa; they had a meeting with the 922 crew which is a coalition of non-profit and school leaders in Cocoa a couple months ago and the manager of this affordable housing complex told him that their waiting list is more than eight years long because there is not enough affordable housing; this Board has the power to do something about that; they would love to work with the Board collaboratively, but they need the Board to

take their calls; they have church property, they would love to talk about creative solutions about how to use that more; they are already using it in some ways, but would love to use that more; but that requires communication and for them to work together. He noted they can all do better and must do better; and this is their prayer.

Conner Mahoney stated he has been running a small newsletter for Christians in the County for about a year now; there are just over 1,000 subscribers; he also speaks with local pastors on a podcast; these are all conservative Christian congregations in Brevard County that he speaks with; some represented here today, but many that are not; he just wanted to read some quotes from those pastors that he has spoken with on these podcasts on this particular issue; at the end of these short 30 minute podcasts, he asks every pastor he speaks with if there are any issue in the County that they might think is under served or neglected, sometimes it is spiritual needs, sometimes it is social needs about young families, or hunger; but four of those pastors have specifically mentioned this need of affordable housing. He continued by saying one is Father Scott Circe, with Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Community and he says, "something has just opened up regarding the issue of affordable housing that they have opened called St. Stephens Way. It is an affordable housing for families with school children to make sure that kids at school have some place to go to study and have a home. That immediately filled up once it opened because there was such a great need. There are so many school aged children that are technically homeless"; another pastor, Pastor Gary Ginn of Redeemer Presbyterian in Titusville says, "We've got a lot of people who have good and steady jobs and make a good steady wage and yet the housing, both renting as well as trying to own is just almost unattainable. I'm talking about people who have actually got professions, nurses and many others, educators who find it increasingly difficult. I know up here in Titusville we've got a lot of people who could really benefit from some more affordable housing, to put it quite honestly"; and another pastor from Merritt Island, David Rosenbaum of Redeemer Lutheran Church, he says, "Affordable housing is clearly an issue. Churches are regularly getting people who come and knock at the door and make a phone call. Can you help me with my rent? Can you help me with utilities? Housing and hunger, I would say, are two areas where County is suffering and can use improvement." He noted he has only spoken with 25 pastors this year; it is a relatively small number; he did find it interesting that there were four of them that mentioned this particular need; and it is clearly a need in the County.

**L.2. Morris Richardson, County Attorney**

Morris Richardson, County Attorney, stated he is advising the Board that he desires the Board's advice and direction concerning pending litigation in Brevard County Circuit Court Case No. 05-2023-CA-015474, a case involving the construction of the midreach segment of the Brevard County Shore Protection Project; with the Board's authorization, he would like to schedule an attorney client session for that purpose immediately following the Board's regular meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2025; and he expects the closed session to be brief.

Chairman Feltner inquired if there needs to be a motion and vote on this request.

Attorney Richardson stated a motion and vote would be nice, but by consensus would be fine as well.

The Board approved scheduling an executive session to discuss the pending litigation in the Brevard County Circuit Court for Case No. 05-2023-CA-015474-XXXX-XX for construction of the Mid-Reach Segment of the Brevard County Shore Protection Project, held after the Regular Board Meeting on May 20, 2025.

**Result: APPROVED**

**Mover: Kim Adkinson**

**Second:** Katie Delaney

**Ayes:** Delaney, Goodson, Adkinson, Feltner, and Altman

L.3. Katie Delaney, Commissioner District 1

Commissioner Delaney stated she wanted to fill everybody in on what she has been doing lately; other than her constituent meetings and whatnot, she has had the pleasure of going to the SHIP contractor meetings; she thanked Juanita Jackson, Housing and Human Services Director, for hosting that meeting; she noted it was a great meeting for all the contractors that deal with the SHIP funding; they got to come, learn about the program, and ask questions; it was a really good thing and she was happy to hear that this was going to hopefully be an annual thing where the contractors can come in and learn more about the program; she also had the opportunity to go on a CTE tour of the north high schools and she thanked School Board Member Megan Wright for allowing her to go on that; it is incredible what the schools are doing here; so many people ask about what happened to vocational schools and say that there are no more trades; well Brevard County is the shining star of CTE programs; these kids can graduate high school with certifications to go directly into the workforce; and they are doing an incredible job. She went on to say she was able to go to the FPL symposium and she thanked them; they had a bunch of speakers come and talk about the future of power; Congressman Mike Haridopolis and Senator Ashley Moody also came and provided an update on what is going on federally; it was pretty cool to hear from them; she was able to go to the Artemis rollout which was pretty incredible to see the Artemis capsule; it is incredible what the people are doing out there at the Space Center; and she also had a meeting with Waste Management. She mentioned she had received a lot of calls about issues that were going on; she called them in because she wanted to know what was going on; it ended up being there was a broken line of communication so they were able to figure out what that was and got that all fixed; that was great and she thanked them for being accessible; the Speak up Brevard Program is going to be brought up at the May 20, 2025 meeting at 9:00 a.m.; the staff recommendations have been released and they are on the Speak Up Brevard website for anybody who has put in a recommendation; this is pretty cool because last year she and her Chief of Staff were paying \$35 to look at some binders; and it is funny to be on the other side of that. She commented she wants to encourage the people who submitted CEER recommendations to read that feedback from staff and to provide their own feedback to the Board, maybe something was misinterpreted or maybe there are comments that he or she would like to share with the Board; she requested those be done before the May 20 meeting because that gives the Board Members time to go through that with them and hopefully get some more yes(s) because unfortunately, there seems to be a lot of no(s); and one of the things she was really hoping for this year was to maybe try to work more with the citizens on their recommendations and to try to find the yes in some of these things. She stated for instance one of the things is more records online, or all of the records online is what the CEER stated; what she would love to see is maybe if they cannot put all the records online, maybe some or more records can be online; it does not always have to be an all or nothing; there was something on there about the Consent Agenda, and she asked can the totals of money being spent be made more visible so people do not have to comb through everything; there was one that the Tax Collector put in about looking for efficiencies in the County Departments; and the response to that was that is already done at the Workshops, but for her, she felt like that was not totally accurate, and she felt like the Tax Collector was asking that the County go more in depth about what are some things that could be cut and what efficiencies could be brought forward. She added she really wanted to put it out there for the citizens to comb through these staff responses and send back some feedback so the Board can advocate on behalf of them and their ideas.

L.5. Kim Adkinson, Commissioner District 3

Commissioner Adkinson stated she was honored to be asked to attend the ceremony for the renaming of the Barrier Island Sanctuary to the Doc Erhart Sanctuary; she also wanted to thank all the staff that showed up on Saturday, their day off; she really appreciated seeing everybody there; she expressed her appreciation to the staff that went to Barefoot Bay with her to hear some comments and answer some questions; she appreciates their knowledge and their backup down there; and she advised she does not think that will be the last time they have to go. She noted for those who do not know what Promise is in Brevard, it is a pretty amazing place that supports young adults with disabilities; she went to their fundraiser, and she thanked the entire community who financially supported them; there was a runway of dreams fund raiser, if people have not heard about it or attended, they do it every year and it was pretty amazing.

L.6. Thad Altman, Commissioner District 5

Commissioner Altman stated he attended the Value Adjustment Board (VAB) meeting and he appreciated the Chairman giving him the opportunity to serve and Commissioner Adkinson for her willingness to serve, School Board Member Matt Susin was there as well as the citizen appointee Robert Springer; it was a very interesting process; there was one contested property that the VAB voted on and are in the process of possibly giving relief there; he is hopeful that the process can be opened up more to get more public involvement to let citizens know there is a process of coming before the VAB to seek relief; it does not mean it will always agree, but that is something the legislature has given them the authority to do; it is something he personally takes seriously; and he wanted to thank the members of that board for service because public service is a tough process, and he respects everyone who has a willingness to serve. He mentioned he received an invitation and he is sure the rest of the Commission did, but General Panzenhagen is having a breakfast at the Tides Facility at the Space Force Base to give the State of the Delta, the Delta Launch 45 and he would encourage each of them to go; it is real exciting what is happening with the Space Force; it is Friday, May 16, at 7:30 a.m.; he thinks the Commissioners are going to play a very key role working with the Space Force and meeting the needs that the war fighters have in Space; and he wanted to let the folks know that is going on.

Chairman Feltner advised the Cattleman's dinner is at F. Burton Smith Park on May 16 also.

L.1. Frank Abbate, County Manager

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated he is grateful for all the opportunities he has been afforded working for the Board of County Commissioners for the last 36 years; when he started his tenure as County Manager in 2017 he began with the belief that leadership is communicating to people their worth and potential so clearly that they come to see it in themselves; early on in his career while he was in Human Resources, they developed an employee development program coupled with their Executive Leadership Institute that is unequal from any other similar type program of local government in Florida; that is a legacy that he is leaving the Board and that he is particularly proud to have envisioned and put in place; and he has appreciated the opportunity over the last several years to appoint numerous outstanding people into leadership roles, who are all graduates of these programs. He continued by saying he is also pleased to be retiring knowing the Board will be the beneficiaries of these leaders; they are an exceptional team of dedicated workers committed to providing outstanding public service; he knows the Board will continue benefitting from their wisdom and experience; and he would encourage the Board to continue asking for and listening to their sage advice. He noted with the Board's support staff has continued to incrementally improve aging infrastructure and capital needs throughout the organization; County staff has done a phenomenal job to keep these initiatives moving forward; he hopes the Board will continue to support these important initiatives; he understands it is difficult for County government to have a long term plan and vision and stay the course continuing the long term plan and considering



the political influences that are part of the reality and dynamics they face as Commissioners; however, he is confident that staff stands ready to build on these initiatives with appropriate Board guidance and direction. He stated he knows staff is eager to receive the Board's input on how to best continue moving this organization forward to a better tomorrow for everyone; he has benefited tremendously these last eight years from extraordinarily dedicated staff who have worked tirelessly to make this organization better today than it was yesterday; these same people stand ready to make things better tomorrow than they are today; with the Board's support he is confident of that; the staff he has had in the County Manager's office is undoubtedly the best staff that has ever been in that office; the County senior leadership team, including the County Attorney and all Department Directors, Deputy and Assistant Directors, he has been privileged to have by his side have been exceptional to work with; their unmatched work ethic, loyalty, and the way they have been respectful and responsive has made him particularly proud of them; and he could not have asked for a finer group of people to have the honor to lead. He noted they have made his job so much easier than it otherwise would have been; he is grateful for all the confidence they have placed in him and the efforts they made to execute the vision that they all developed and focused on over the last eight years, that have been outlined in every one of the budget messages; he looks forward to seeing a continuation of positive progress being made this upcoming year; and he is glad the current leadership team that is in place will be here to help and support Jim Liesenfelt, Assistant County Manager, to further the vision that moves Brevard County forward in a manner that is beneficial for everyone in the organization and community. He stated in closing he would like to thank the Board for having provided him the opportunity to serve; and that is the end of his final report.

L.7. Rob Feltner, Commissioner District 4, Chairman

Chairman Feltner stated he has had to follow all the tough acts today and it has been difficult; he appreciates Frank Abbate, County Manager, more than he is ever going to know; there were some young people today and it reminded him that he had the privilege of going to Westshore last week to judge the senior projects; that was his second time doing that; they give him real hope for the future; there are a lot of smart kids out there; and one of them was actually Morris Richardson's, County Attorney's, daughter. He noted he is not sure she enjoyed all of his questions, but she was a good sport.

Attorney Richardson stated and he did not tell him that in advance.

Chairman Feltner commented it became obvious; he figured it out; and she looks a lot like him.

Adjourn

Upon Consensus of the Board, the Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

ATTEST:

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RACHEL M. SADOFF, CLERK

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ROB FELTNER, CHAIRMAN

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA