

# **Brevard County Board of County Commissioners**

*2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Viera, FL 32940*



## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, May 5, 2020**

**5:00 PM**

**Regular**

**Commission Chambers**

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

**B. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chair Lober called for a moment of silence.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Rita Pritchett, District 1**

Commissioner Pritchett led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**D. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: February 11, 2020 Regular; February 20, 2020 Workshop**

The Board approved the minutes from the February 11, 2020 Regular Board of County Commissioner meeting, and February 20, 2020 Workshop meeting.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Rita Pritchett

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.22 Resolution recognizing Corrections Officers Appreciation Week**

Chair Lober read the resolution proclaiming the week of May 3 through May 9, 2020, as Corrections Officers Appreciation Week.

Wayne Ivey, Brevard County Sheriff, stated he wanted to thank the Commission for recognizing the correctional team; today is a very melancholy day, as he talks about National Correctional Officer's Week for the entire country, as everyone is probably aware that last night one of Brevard County's Correction team was lost; Stephen Goodson was involved in an off-duty traffic crash and his thoughts and prayers are with him and his family and the family of another person who was deceased from that accident as well; this impacts the entire community but to the men and women that work each and every day at the facility, it is one of the most dangerous jobs in the criminal justice field; and they are there with the worst of the worst at times, and not only responsible for making sure that they are maintained in the facility, but also taking care of them and making sure they have what they need, proper medical attention, proper diet, all the different things that go along with that. He stated it is a job that often comes with little reward or recognition but this Commission has done a great job through the years of recognizing the correctional deputies and correctional team for all the things they do; he tells people all the time, he is surrounded by an amazing team and is smart enough to stay out of their way; and the Corrections team certainly puts an exclamation point on that; and they do a great job each and every day out there.

Chair Lober stated Sheriff Ivey had some great civilian personnel too.

Sheriff Ivey replied that he absolutely does, the whole team; and he thanked the Board.

The Board adopted Resolution No. 20-038, recognizing the week of May 3 through May 9, 2020, as Corrections Officers Appreciation Week.

**Result:** ADOPTED

**Mover:** Rita Pritchett

**Secunder:** Curt Smith

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F. ITEMS TO BE PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Lober stated he would like to pull Item F.2., Approval of Resolution and Lease Agreement Re: Space for Furever Home Animal Rescue, Inc., as he knows there are speakers for that Item.

**F.2. Approval of Resolution and Lease Agreement RE: Space for Furever Home Animal Rescue, Inc.**

Commissioner Pritchett stated the County had this facility and the Sheriff used to occupy it and then moved out, so there was an empty facility; before this was done, Sheriff Ivey was called and he believed it worked well with the animal rescue community; this facility was actually slotted to be demolished and the cost for that was \$30,000, or it could be renovated for \$50,000, but no one in the County wanted to occupy the building; the building was sitting empty and some of the community had called upset about it stating it was in disarray and the utility cost alone was \$1,600 per year; and the animal rescue people came and an agreement was made that if they wanted to do it, they were going to have to spend the \$50,000 upfront to renovate the building so it could be moved into. She stated then it could be leased for a period of time, saving the County demolition costs and electricity costs through the years; she had a concern as she did not know if the animal rescue group had enough funds to do the renovations in year one, so it was written into the agreement that the \$50,000 renovations must be done in year one to make the building okay to be used for rescuing the animals; and she wanted to give the Board that information and thank staff, Eden Bentley, County Attorney, and Corrina Gumm, Interim Public Works Director, for putting this together and brainstorming a good project.

Janelle Scurlock, Mims, stated she has been running the animal rescue from her personal home for three years now and have had Animal Control come out along with Code Enforcement to make sure that everything has been alright and everything has checked out fine; they do have a limit on animals that they are allowed to take in which is four adult dogs at a time over the age of six months which puts a hurt on them and also the community having to turn away animals because of what they are allowed to capacity versus if they are allowed to take the building, they would have 38 dog kennels and more cat rooms; they will be benefiting all of Brevard County and will not have to turn away any; she knows that the SPCA right now is overfilled and they have continued to take in animals through the COVID-19 when other shelters have had to shut down because of their building; and they have people willing to donate time, effort, and money from the community and they are also willing to bring the rest of the renovations up to code and up to standards to make it habitable for humans and the animals. She stated in 2019 they took in 75 cats and 142 dogs.

Commissioner Tobia stated on the face, this sounds good potentially saving the County from demolishing and remodeling, but what it does not take into account is the fair market value of the building; what is known is this is a five and one-fourth acre property, they only have a portion of that; the Property Appraiser listed this last year as \$659,700; to do a fair analysis, he thinks it would be incumbent on the Board to put this out and see what the fair market value is before entering into a ten-year lease that will bring what amounts to a nominal \$100 back into the coffers; he thinks the math does not work if this is worth \$75,000 and somebody is willing to bring it up to code or demolish it and use it for some other purpose, but to take into account, especially in these tough times, the fair market value, even if it is 10 percent of that property, that amounts to tens of thousands of dollars; and he is not against the project but he certainly would like it to go out to bid and if the Board finds out this actually had no value to it whatsoever, then it seems like this would be an admirable way to go. He continued to say until the Board knows what other folks are willing to pay for that and thus making tax payers whole, he has to vote against this.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she thinks she knows what Commissioner Tobia is saying and thinks this little section of it is probably not of value; and she asked Eden Bentley, County Attorney, if this building has to serve a public purpose in that area.

Attorney Bentley stated that was correct.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she thinks there is a little bit of limitations on it and she has not been approached by anyone wanting to move in as it is really messy; she was actually trying to get cost to go ahead and demolish it since it probably would have just sat there empty anyways; she does not know of anything planned to do on this property because of the County business that is around it; the County had talked about using it and then decided it did not even want to move into it; and she is not sure that anything else will be different with this building.

Commission Smith asked Commissioner Tobia if he had said it was a five and one-fourth acre property.

Commissioner Tobia answered yes, according to the Property Appraiser last year's valuation was \$659,700.

Commissioner Smith inquired if this could be subdivided and if the County was to subdivide that building out, it would probably still have 4 and one-half acres to sell.

Commissioner Pritchett stated the County would not want to sell it because on that property is the Road and Bridge North Office and the shop they work out of, so it is still County property and it will not be selling the rest of it.

Chair Lober stated the other concern he has is, as Attorney Bentley mentioned, if there are restrictions on the purposes that land can be used for, he does not know that it can be sold to the highest bidder; and he does not know that it is permitted to do that.

Attorney Bentley stated if it went out to bid, it can, but this is a transfer under 242, which requires a community benefit and a super majority vote so it is not a bid.

Chair Lober asked Ms. Gumm, as to the lease, if she knows if it is for the entire piece of property that is contemplated.

Ms. Gumm stated it is just for the building.

Chair Lober stated that is what he understood; in that case, if the County wanted to go ahead and sell the remaining portion of that property, leaving enough that it would not have issues with respect to the subdivision; and he asked if that could be done.

Ms. Gumm stated that she assumes there is parking there that is associated with the use, and she would need to get more information on that to answer that question.

Commissioner Smith stated the entire property is worth \$659,600 for five and one-fourth acres and if they need three-fourths or half an acre for this building, but the property is used for other things.

Commissioner Pritchett replied yes, Road and Bridge is there and their shop is there also with offices and the County will be staying there doing business.

Chair Lober stated the portion is .34 acres.

Ms. Gumm stated there is also a large fenced-in area that she assumes will be used for the animals as well.

Chair Lober inquired if that was within the scope of the lease, even a rough idea in terms of space.

Ms. Gumm stated it is described as the property to be leased, and she thinks she made a mistake by stating the building as it is the entire property to be leased.

Chair Lober stated he is trying to figure out the best way to do this that does not limit the County in the future because he does not want to do something that is going to prevent them from doing what is being set out to do, which is providing the community services, if anything, it certainly helps the other shelters around here including the Brevard County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) shelters; and his thought was, if the Board could vote on something that is more limited to the building and maybe a certain distance out from the building, that could be specified by bringing this back at the next meeting, he would support that and is not disinclined.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she does not think it is under risk of someone wanting to move in there; she talked to the rescue and they wanted to move in and the County do stuff and she told them no, and that if they could not come up with enough money to renovate the building, it would be demolished; they replied that was okay and would do it within the first year or the County could have it back; she thinks this is probably a good fit for this area, knowing that it was utilized for this purpose in the past; and the renovations will be done. She will lose a problem in that area of low-income, which she thinks is a little risky leaving it empty; and she thinks this is a good fix for the whole area.

Chair Lober stated he would support her on it.

Commissioner Tobia stated he thinks there was a misunderstanding; he asked Attorney Bentley to help him if he is wrong, a public good is what we need to signify in order to provide them with a nominal lease; if it goes to bid, there is no public good, it is whoever is the highest bidder; to be clear, if it goes to bid, an adult bookstore could be there, no public good, but if that was the highest bidder, they could have it; and he does not think that is going to happen, but public good is only for a nominal lease, not for an open and competitive bid. He continued to say if it came back with an open and competitive bid, and no one was offering, then he thinks this was a great deal, but without that information, he does not think it is wise; and just running the math, assuming the percent is accurate, it would make the land value worth about \$43,000, assuming that percentage of that 5.25 acres, as it is known that first foot is always worth more than the last foot, but nonetheless those are the numbers the County is conceivably looking at.

Commissioner Pritchett stated it backs up to the airport too; this is such an odd piece of property; and she wants to make a motion to approve it and see where the votes go.

Chair Lober stated he would second that for discussion.

Commissioner Isnardi stated her button was not working; she stated she does not have a problem with this at all; it is a property that is not being used and was going to be too expensive to demolish, and it will lessen the burden on our existing shelters and other non-profits; she thinks this is something the Board should be doing and does not have an issue with this lease

at all; and she does not have a problem coming back and looking at it if the County is not utilizing all that land and if it wants to look at taking a portion of it out, but as it stands right now, she has no issues with it, as she thinks in the long run, it is going to save money and it is going to get more animals off the street and adopted and take care of the burden it has now.

Mr. Abbate stated to clarify, for the lease, while there is a little bit of land, it is less than half an acre total, with the building; and he noted the other five acres is occupied by Road and Bridge.

Chair Lober stated that obviates the concern he had, and he appreciated that.

Commissioner Isnardi stated the fact that Road and Bridge is utilizing it as well, is an issue because they would have to be displaced, if this property was put up, unless they are just carved out; and that is something to consider.

Chair Lober stated it certainly limits the pool of prospective bidders all the more.

Commissioner Smith stated he was going in a different direction and if the Board is only talking about the small portion underneath this building and the other almost 5 acres are still being used by the County, then the property is not valued at that kind of money, so there is nothing to be gained with any constructive ideas on how to do it differently.

Mr. Abbate stated there is another speaker.

Shay Little, Port St. John, stated he was there to represent Furever Animal Rescue and he is there to talk about facts, things that the Board may or may not know about; as of eight months ago, if a person was to try to turn in an animal to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) or the Humane Society, they would not have been taken because they were all filled up; there was a waiting list of 487 animals waiting to get in; Janelle and David Scurlock are really fine people and he is sure they have had a taste of them here today, but what he wanted to say briefly is this is a good thing for the community; and if some of the burden could be taken off the community to take these animals in, that maybe it can provide a way to keep the diseases off the streets and help people find a new home for animals. He commented he thinks this is a really good thing for the community and there are going to be a lot of volunteers and good people involved; he thinks they are going to do some magnificent things on the property, get cameras, electrical, and plumbing, and a lot of good things will be done to the property; he mentioned to Commissioner Tobia about the value of the property being worth \$659,000, he realizes a lot of things come down to money but this is about more than money, it is about saving dogs, cats, and animal's lives; there is already a facility in this County that would allow us to save more, that is already built, it just needs to be fixed; and there are good people that want to come to the table and present this and help these animals. He stated, at one point, he was told the property was not owned by the County, and it was owned by the airport and they were going to put a fuel depot there but finally, got down to the basics of it and were told the County owned it and they were actually willing to help do something with this; it was really kind the way the County stepped up to the plate; and he really, honestly, from the bottom of his heart, thanks it for doing that, as he realizes that there is a \$659,000 profit that could be made on that property if it were to sell the whole thing. He went on to say they are only talking about an acre of property that can be used to save animals, not only that, they did not know it, but there are four horse stalls, so not only can they save dogs and cats, but they could save horses, and pigs, and goats.

Chair Lober stated Mr. Little was out of time but he had good news to offset that as he is pretty sure he will get what he wants with respect to this motion; and he Called the Question.

The Board executed and adopted Resolution No. 20-039, authorizing a lease of County property to a non-profit corporation; and approved Agreement allowing the non-competitive County property at 2605 North Flake Road, Titusville, formerly the North Area Animal Shelter, per Section 2-247, Code of Ordinances of Brevard County.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Rita Pritchett

**Second:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Smith, and Isnardi

**Nay:** Tobia

**F. ITEMS TO BE PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Tobia advised he would like to pull Item F.6. Approval, re: Request Approval of Keep Brevard Beautiful (KBB) Contracts for Litter and Recycling Education, Lease of Property, and Lease Resolution.

**F.1. Approval, Re: Extension for Obtaining Development Application Approvals.**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Second:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.3. Approval Re: Contract for Purchase of Easement Rights from Michael R. and Bonita L. Osborne for Force Main W-04 as part of the West Cocoa Utility Improvements Project - District 1.**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Second:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.4. Approval Re: Authorization to Issue Notice to Proceed to DRMP, Inc. for Preliminary Engineering Services for the Micco Road Over Sans Sebastian Canal Bridge Replacement - District 3**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Second:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.5. Approval Re: Permanent Roadway, Drainage, Sidewalk, and Utility Easement Agreement from The Oasis at West Melbourne, LLC as required by Brevard County Code - District 5.**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

- F.7. Approval of Resolution granting the County Manager of Brevard County, Florida authorization to: submit an application to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for financial assistance under the State Revolving Fund Program for the West Cocoa Wastewater Improvements Project; provide assurances; execute the loan agreement; and represent the County in carrying out responsibilities under the loan agreement.**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

- F.8. Permission to accept CARES Act Airport Grant funds from the FAA.**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

- F.9. Approval, Re: Terminating Subrecipient Agreement HM001 with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

- F.10. Approval, Re: Temporary License Agreement for access across Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program managed lands at Sterling Forest Sanctuary-District 1**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi



**F.11. Approval, Re: Temporary License Agreement for access across Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program managed lands at Sterling Forest Sanctuary-District 1**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Seconder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.12. Approval, Re: Authorizing Resolution, Grant Application, Standard Assurances, and Execution of Follow-up Grant Agreement for State Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged Trip & Equipment Grant**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Seconder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.13. Fleet Services Fuel Management System for County Owned Fuel Sites**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Seconder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.14. Permission to Develop and Advertise a Request for Proposal for Media Companies to Advertise on Traffic Signal Control Cabinets within the County**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Seconder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.15. Personal Protective Equipment Procurement Approvals**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Seconder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.16. Renewal of Annual Property Insurance Program Effective 6/1/2020**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.17. Request Approval of Addendum 1 -Extension 1 of Paragraph 5 of Settlement Agreement - Brevard County v. K G Owens, et al Case #: 05-2018-CA-019771 (aka Miller Cove Road)**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.18. Resolution approving the issuance of Multi-Family Housing Revenue Bonds by Brevard County Housing Finance Authority (The Venue at Viera Senior Living Project)**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.19. Resolution approving the issuance of Multi-Family Housing Revenue Bonds by Brevard County Housing Finance Authority (Southlake Towers Project)**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.20. Brevard County Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019 and Brevard County Annual Financial Audits Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019**

Commissioner District 4 Smith read aloud, and the Board approved

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**F.6. Approval Re: Request Approval of Keep Brevard Beautiful (KBB) Contracts for Litter & Recycling Education, Lease of Property, and Lease Resolution.**

Euripides Rodriguez, Solid Waste Management Director, stated there are two items in one; one is the contract for providing litter control and recycling educations, and the other one is for the lease providing support for Keep Brevard Beautiful (KBB); the lease requires a super majority vote because it is non-competitive; and the property is now residing on Adamson Road, surrounded on three sides by landfill property, probably about a mile and one-half north of State Road 524, and they are requesting approval for the same.

Commissioner Tobia stated, unlike Furever Home, that was just voted for, KBB is operating in what could arguably be considered a competitive market, in other words, by providing this nominal lease, the Board is putting their thumb on a scale and make it nearly impossible for businesses to compete in said market; the fact that this is a well-connected not-for-profit that people like the Mayor of Palm Bay sit on their Board, should mean nothing when considering contracts related to services to the County; making matters worse, KBB seems to make a habit of asking for handouts in relation to their continual contractual obligations to taxpayers; recall just a year ago, they came to the Board and begged for \$15,000, in fact, they begged for quite a bit more had it not been for Commissioner Smith rightly bringing that amount down quite a bit for a truck outside of said contract; and also there are liability issues here with these nominal leases. He continued to state while the contract calls for an indemnification against tort claims relating to this property, as Chair Lober knows, this is not a silver bullet; the County may still be named on lawsuits and be forced to defend itself as part of any legal action; should this space be reasonably necessary to carry out for the contract of services, the space should be included as part of the contract and directly tied to it; he requested that it be put out for a competitive bid separately, or together, that way the Board would have a better idea, as the last time this was put out for bid was around 2001 or something like that, that it was looked at cumulatively; and he will make a motion to reject this and put it up for bid.

Chair Lober stated he may end up seconding that but wanted to hear a little bit more first; and he asked Mr. Rodriguez if there was a reason it had not been put out to bid in the past 19 or so years.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that property was never put out for bid; it was at one time, occupied by the County, by Solid Waste, as their administrative offices; that administration, once he became Director, got consolidated; he had engineers in one side, accountants in the other, so everything got consolidated into Viera and the property went unoccupied; and they were approached by KBB at that time, to see if they could lease it and that is why it is two separate contracts, because they had a prior contract and then this one came after the fact.

Chair Lober stated he thought what Commissioner Tobia was talking about, and to correct him if wrong, was the contract with KBB, not the lease of that particular location and asked Commissioner Tobia if that is what he was referring to.

Commissioner Tobia replied yes, it is the contract for service; he believes there is value in the Furever Home one that was just nominally leased; to the best of his knowledge, speaking with Mr. Rodriguez, where this is located, there is no value in that facility, which is a dump in all honesty, and would probably have no other use; his point is that there is a contract here that has not been competitively bid and things get piled on, thus it is very difficult to create whether or not this is a fair contract as it has been so many years and there has been many additions; and an example being last year when a truck was added on.

Mr. Rodriguez replied that if he was talking about the service part of it, that originated in the 90's and it was here before coming to Solid Waste in 1993, so he is not sure if it was ever put out for bid, and he stated he cannot answer that question.

Chair Lober inquired as to how long it would take for Mr. Rodriguez to get to a position where it could be put out for bid, if that is the direction the Board wants to go.

Mr. Rodriguez stated there is a contract and a Request for Purchase (RFP) would be put out based on the contract; and the contract expires in June but the framework of the RFP is already contained in the contract.

Commissioner Pritchett stated that Mr. Rodriguez told her this could be split into two segments, one building, and one for the other part of the contract.

Mr. Rodriguez replied that is how it is presented right now, two separate contracts, one for the building and one for the agreement for the service.

Commissioner Pritchett inquired of Mr. Rodriguez if most of this money is going for the service and it is more than educational costs.

Mr. Rodriguez replied it is recycling education and litter control; and the lease itself is, he thinks, \$1 per year.

Commissioner Smith seconds Commissioner Tobia's motion.

Chair Lober asked if there was any more discussion on the motion to reject this item.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she did not have a problem going out to bid, as she has a feeling that KBB will probably come out on top; and the idea is if government does it, it will cost a lot more than if an organization that uses multiple volunteers, so she has faith that KBB will probably win that bid.

Mr. Rodriguez stated, since it is about to expire and KBB is currently occupying the property, he thinks it would be best if the current contract was extended for a period of time while the RFP is done, that way they would not have to be told to go and then they could come back.

Chair Lober asked how long Mr. Rodriguez thinks is reasonable.

Mr. Rodriguez answered 60 to 90 days, no longer than that.

Chair Lober stated her would be okay with that, presuming they would agree to the same terms, and asked what the Board thought; he mentioned he noticed at least two heads nod, which was a good thing as it was not a super majority question; he stated the Board will go ahead and take the motion to reject the item, that already has a second; and he asked if there were any public comments.

Mr. Abbate stated KBB was there to speak.

Chair Lober stated to give them an opportunity to speak before a vote is taken, as he thinks they are certainly owed that.

Bryan Bobbitt, KBB Executive Director, thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak; he stated in respect to the contract and as Commissioner Isnardi mentioned, everything they do is based on community involvement and they have a very strong following; when the fish kills happened in 2016 and 2018, they called on their volunteers and within about a two week period

removed over a hundred thousand pounds of dead fish from Brevard's shorelines; any time there has been a natural disaster, they have had to go out and respond, that is what KBB does and they are proud of it; and they rely heavily on their volunteers, but have a staff that needs a headquarters to operate. He further stated the education part of it is just a small part of this contract as it also includes our adoption teams which go out and clean all of the Board's districts, when volunteers are coming out, they need supplies and have to go to a central location, and that is where this building is; it is essential for them to keep going; he provided statistics of what has been done in 2019, on the educational side, they visited 52 different schools, 55 different presentations for fourth-graders (roughly 4300 students), 58 different presentations for fifth-graders (roughly 4600 students), 4 private schools, a stem conference with over 300 students, they began a composting presentation with Solid Waste to hopefully extend the life of the landfill by diverting some of the waste into compost, and they have a pilot program that currently has several different participants including the City of Melbourne, Titusville, and Satellite Beach; all of this runs out of that office; in 2019 KBB removed 700,000 pounds of litter from Brevard County, with the help of 7,200 volunteers contributing almost 2,200 volunteer hours, and a total of 667 different cleanups, most of which are the Board's constituents; and they do not like asking for help, but they help the community and this is what they ask for as well. He stated, for the truck, it is a completely separate contract; KBB works very heavily for the community, and with the Board and its constituents, and want to continue doing so; and they are proud to be part of a community like Brevard County and whenever Brevard needs them, they are there, and they are asking for the same.

Commissioner Tobia stated he would like to amend the motion by extending the current contract under the current provisions, 90 days, reject the contract for services, direct staff to develop a competitive RFP for litter and recycling and education contract, reject a proposal to extend offer of nominal lease, and direct staff to explore options of said building.

Commissioner Smith stated his second will stand.

The Board extended the current contract with KBB under the current provisions for 90 days; rejected the contract for services and the proposal to extend the offer of a nominal lease; and directed staff to develop a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) for a litter and recycling education contract and to explore options of said building.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** John Tobia

**Secunder:** Curt Smith

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

## **G. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Charles Tovey, Melbourne, stated about what was just discussed, he could do a better, more thorough, civil service; he is hoping that would give him a chance to work voluntary or otherwise; he will have all the information, he just has to go to a place; all of the places he needs help and work so he does it on his own and is not out there wasting time; and one, he just did before coming to the meeting. He continued to say they cut his brake lines, loosened up the steering wheel on an old antique vehicle, committed arson on his house, and there is nothing; nobody assisted him in anything except for more aggression and more filing fees and liens; he wants to know if the Lagoon is ready for storm season, if the County has done what is needed at this time, as there are only a couple of weeks left; he asked about the sewer system, how it works properly, and if everything necessary is being done before the hurricanes start; and if it is similar to the hurricane season with power and sewage. He mentioned his neighbor

has hundreds and hundreds of cars at the entranceway right across the street from his house; hundreds of horns, hundreds of bright lights like a drive-in theater and they park for a long time; he has videos of it and complains about it but what does he do; then they fly their drones over his property, high over the air, about 75 feet; his property lien, as soon as the Board can work together and either temporarily lift them, because they were put on his property 60 days after and the insurance company never settled, and he has had no chance or any way to do anything; and they cleared his property eight years ago and took everything he had to make a living. He is now living in the bushes and panhandling on the street; why, because of the liens on his property, he cannot do anything; a temporary lift and he could fix everything and work together and cooperate with them; also, he needs a place to put a raccoon, they are worse than bears, two or three together are tearing everything up; they did not allow him to cover up his windows or anything and it is okay; and he asked for help from Commissioner Smith to find a safe space for the lagoons and every agency out there and the other cultures, he does exactly as they do.

Olivia Fortson, Viera, thanked the Commissioners for their time and allowing her to speak; she was there to ask for a Human Rights Ordinance that would prohibit information based on gender identity and sexual orientation for housing, employment, and workspaces; currently LGBTQ people in Brevard do not have protection, basic protection that heterosexual people do not have to worry about; many LGBTQ have already been discriminated against; there is no way to go back to the past and change this, however, it is our wish to prevent it from ever happening to someone else again; and without the Human Rights Ordinance (HRO), her current friends do not have a future in Brevard. She noted they do not have a future knowing that someone could evict them, based on the person they love; they do not have a future knowing that there is nothing stopping their employer from firing them for who they are; additionally, LGBTQ people bring valuable skills, and impact the community in so many valuable ways; an HRO will share that these talented LGBTQ people of Brevard can work in hospitals and many other jobs and continue helping others who may be fired because of who they are; and a home is everyone's safe place, a place to distress or escape the outside world. She went on to say, unfortunately in Brevard, not everyone has the guarantee of a home; they can be evicted out of their home for no reason other than their sexual orientation or their gender identity; she asked and begged for the Board to sponsor the HRO and please sponsor legislation that makes all people important; and to protect their families, friends, colleagues, and the people they love.

Chair Lober stated he knows the Board has been thrown off on a lot of the Items on account of COVID-19 and other things that have come up since this was first discussed and inquired of Attorney Bentley if she thinks, in a couple meetings from now, she could give an update in terms of what her office and/or Human Resources has done to this point with respect to the concerns that were raised.

Attorney Bentley replied yes, she sent out a report about two weeks ago to the Board's offices and she thinks if Chair Lober went to the bottom line, he would see there is a Supreme Court case pending that will answer a lot of questions.

Chair Lober stated he appreciated that, but what he is asking for, to add some clarity, is he would appreciate if, in Board Reports, she could take a couple minutes and summarize where things are at because a lot of the folks, the students in-particular, that raised that, would benefit from getting an update; and he is not saying the next meeting, as it is only a couple days from now, but maybe the following meeting she could put something together.

Jacob Gelman, Melbourne, thanked Chair Lober for letting him and the public speak; he stated

he came again to ask for liberation, equality, and to sponsor a human rights ordinance ending discrimination based on gender identity or sexual orientation as to how it pertains to housing and employment; he asks to ban conversion therapy, and not simply hear them but listen to their stories; the report requested at the last meeting has been completed; the report enquotes sexual orientation and gender identity are not specifically included in any of Brevard County policies and neither Federal or State law requires it to be considered; and if anyone thinks that employment discrimination does not happen in Brevard, think again. He continued to say he has looked into a teacher's eyes as she told him in tears, her experience being fired from the school where she worked, and being told to leave because she marched in pride, being villainized because she did not hide who she was, being degraded as a person because she was different, her experience as a second-class citizen; he looked into a trans-gender person's eyes as they begged him to get this ordinance passed, and to hurry up because if he did not, they would lose their job; they told him their employer would fire them the second they found out who they were; they told him of their experience as a second-class citizen because queer people in Brevard are exactly that, second-class citizens; and without the protection of the government, they are left depressed and villainized by a public unwilling to hear their cries for help, a public kicking an already vilified people, and that looks at him and tells him he is the face of evil. He pointed out if anyone thinks conversion therapy does not happen in Brevard, think again; he has looked in the face of a Pastor who told him he could be fixed with counseling, who operates out of a church just a 10-minute walk, just a half-mile from where he stands today, who told him he was broken, and there was a booming reparative therapy industry in Brevard and across the Country, seeking to fix the vulnerable children; because even if the trauma caused by this practice kills them, they will never care or see their life as valuable, they will only see it as a mistake, an expendable casualty in the war for purities; but the truth, it is a war for power, and queer people, queer young people, are just collateral damage. He commented he has looked in the eyes of a friend who told him in tears, her mother sent her to a Christian therapist when she said she had a crush on a girl; he has looked in the eyes of a friend who told him in tears, she cannot come out because her mother would kick her out and leave her homeless; if people think a global pandemic is the wrong time for this action, think again; as he speaks, the economy is crashing and the people are not working, and if people think it is irrelevant, think again; and Brevard County needs every worker it can get to recover from this economic catastrophe. He asked how can they work when they cannot be hired, and when they are hired, they can be fired just as quickly; he noted he has been spit on, called words, treated differently, cyber bullied, told he was a mistake, told of the pain he will feel when he burns in hell, but what he does not tell them is he is already in hell; he is already burning with the cruel visceral of hatred, expressed through the veil of religiosity; and while the Board is seeking re-election, they are seeking survival, equality, and liberation.

Krishna Tewati, Merritt Island, stated right now, the resolve of our nation is being put to the test and people must ensure that they enable each and every American to exercise their God-given right in order to combat it; the state of our nation is nothing like has ever been seen; right now people must endure quarantine, the loss of jobs, shortages in grocery stores, and worst of all, the impact this has for the entire country; sure, this fight can be won on a national scale but in order to do so, people must be able to ensure the integrity of the economy on the smallest scale and each county and community has to make sure that it does everything in its power to make sure its citizens are free to get out and work so the economy does not fail; and sadly, once the quarantine is truly over, rebuilding this County's economy will be an uphill battle. He continued to say, being on the losing end of this battle for the long term is a tangible and likely event; that means people will need every single worker, there can be no one left behind when it comes to getting out there and working to rebuild this economy; the collective resolve of our community should have is obvious, yet one stone is conspicuously left unturned; the lack of a human rights ordinance to allow basic protection to the LGBTQ+ community here in Brevard;

and once the pandemic is over in Brevard, if he wanted to work, he would be judged by his value as a worker and the quality of his work. He stated if he were fired, it would be because he actively did something wrong; he does not have to worry about people trying to change his identity because they do not understand it, but look at his friend Jacob, no different from anyone, but simply because of his sexual orientation, he faces a 28 percent chance of receiving a bad job evaluation, and a 41 percent chance of physical or verbal harassment, and those are just statistics; his opinions were heard, a human being talked to the Board before, and it must listen to their plight; the lack of a human rights ordinance allows them to be devalued simply because people did not recognize him as a human being, a fellow member of the County; right now, people have all had ample time to reconsider their stations in life, and the member of the LGBTQ+ community are sure to come to an important realization; and not everyone is a fighter like Jacob, not everyone is willing to fight for their civil and human rights, and frankly, they should not have to come here and do that. He further stated they are simply going to leave, dejected by a County that did not treat them as the human beings and people they are; and why should they stay in a county where the government does not protect them. He went on to say right now people are at an important juncture of history; people still have a short window of time to prevent these valuable people from leaving them behind; and right now is the time to do more than inquire if the County government protects its LGBTQ+ workers. He stated people must show them that they are appreciated and value them as the members of society and economy before they leave it unable to recover; these people are friends, human beings, and they are no different than anyone if they lack the protection to make them want to stay here; to quote Ronald Reagan "The government exists to protect us from each other" yet, right now, the County is ruining it for them and not protecting them; and this is a community that is left dejected and whose work is invaluable.

Pete Carnesale, Viera, stated Indian River Colony Club (IRCC) needs a right-hand turn off of east-bound Viera Boulevard onto Independence Avenue into the back gate entrance as it is only a matter of time, not if, a rear-end collision occurs; pedestrians, bikes, and golf carts travel the sidewalk and are not visible from the road until at the right-hand turn, and they do not stop for the cars, leaving residents with a fear of hitting someone if they do not slow down; the short entryway before the gate is another reason the cars making the turn have to slow down below 10 miles per hour and sometimes stop on Viera Boulevard before making the right-hand turn; IRCC Heron's Landing and Faith Viera Lutheran Church all could use a traffic light on the corner where Heron's Landing and IRCC exit onto Viera Boulevard; and there is a parallel road, Thrasher Drive, from the Faith Viera Lutheran Church in Heron's Landing leading to the Heron's Landing exit, that would make it usable for the church as well as Heron's Landing itself on that corner. He continued to say the other item, which he has covered a few times, is a dead end at this point; he followed Chair Lober's advice and basically the Viera Company, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and the Sheriff's Department have all been involved in that and at this point, there is going to be no golf cart traffic at all on Viera Boulevard which now travels over Interstate 95; he has written to Viera Boulevard and they are working with FDOT to try and work on the crossover a little further south, which is already on their long-range plans; and he has another issue but does not have time to do that yet so he will probably go into the next comment session.

Chair Lober stated he still had one minute and 10 seconds if he wanted to start on it.

Mr. Carnesale stated basically, the Board should have gotten an email and it had to do with reading the Sunday paper, he saw that the Board, less Chair Lober, voted to restore parking and open the beaches; the main comment seemed to be that the people are smart enough to maintain social distance on their own and the businesses would suffer if not open; in the course of his travels this weekend, he noticed the parking had not been opened yet at Satellite Beach,



Patrick Air Force Beach, and Cocoa Beach and there were electric signs stating no beach parking and no parking on the grass, however, there were a multitude of cars parked on the grass and lot of people parked in the business parking lots which would actually discourage business once the business opens; in addition, upon watching the news on television, it became abundantly clear that the beaches were already overcrowded and social distance rulings were impossible for people to follow; and not only should no parking rules be maintained at the beaches, but the Sheriff should have patrols of the area to enforce the parking rules with expensive fines. He continued to say there should also be aerial views of the crowds to ensure social distance is being followed.

**H.1. \*Request Board of County Commissioners approve continuing this agenda to the September 15, 2020 Regular Meeting Approval; Re: Exchange Agreement between Brevard County and Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) - District 3**

Chair Lober called for Public Hearing to consider continuing approval for the Exchange Agreement between Brevard County and Florida Inland Navigations District (FIND) until the September 15, 2020 Regular Board meeting.

Kim Rezanka stated she did not have anything to say, she just wanted to make sure the Item gets continued.

Chair Lober stated he thinks she will get her wish on this one.

There being no further comments or objections, the Board continued approval for the Exchange Agreement with FIND to the September 15, 2020, Board of County Commissioners Meeting.

**Result:** CONTINUED

**Mover:** John Tobia

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**H.2. Public Hearing to Consider Approval of Resolution for Adoption of State Revolving Fund (SRF) Fund #WW05117 Wastewater Facility Plan for the West Cocoa Wastewater Improvements required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Districts 1)**

Chair Lober called for Public Hearing to consider approval of Resolution for Adoption of State Revolving Fund (SRF) Fund #WW05117 Wastewater Facility Plan for the West Cocoa Wastewater Improvements required by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

Edward Fontanin, Utility Services Director, stated he submitted a State Revolving Fund to do approximately 10 or 11 million dollars of improvements for West Cocoa wastewater improvements; as part of the condition, as was seen, they did the consent under F.7. for the permission of the Commission to allow the County Manager to sign off on documentation; and he advised the facility plan, the plan that is the report submitted to the State Revolving Fund, is a requirement that it is done through a public hearing and not through consent.

There being no further comments or objections, the Board conducted a public hearing and adopted Resolution No. 20-045, adopting the State Revolving Fund #WW05117 Wastewater Facility Plan for the West Cocoa wastewater improvements required by FDEP.

**Result:** ADOPTED  
**Mover:** Rita Pritchett  
**Second:** Bryan Lober  
**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**H.3. Developer’s Agreement: Tract G, Indian River Preserve  
Developer: Indian River Preserve Estates Corp.**

**District 1**

Chair Lober called for Public Hearing to consider entering into a Developer’s Agreement with Indian River Preserve Estates Corp. relating to the development of Tract G, Indian River Preserve.

Tad Calkins, Planning and Development Director, stated this is a request for the Board to conduct the first public hearing to consider entering into a Developer’s Agreement with the Indian River Preserve Estates Corporation relating to the development of Tract G inside Indian River Preserve Development, it is basically a land-swap for some access.

There being no further comments or objections, the Board conducted a public hearing in accordance with Section 163.3220, et. seg., Florida Statutes and Section 62-605 of Brevard County Code to consider entering into a Developer’s Agreement with Indian River Preserve Estates Corp. relating to the development of Tract G, Indian River Preserve.

**Result:** APPROVED  
**Mover:** Rita Pritchett  
**Second:** John Tobia  
**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**H.4. Public Hearing: Ordinance to create the North Merritt Island Transmission System - Phase 3 Capital Recovery Fee**

Chair Lober called for Public Hearing to consider approval of an ordinance creating the North Merritt Island Transmission System – Phase 3 Capital Recovery Fee.

Edward Fontanin, Utility Services Director, stated one or two Commission meetings ago, there was an Agenda Item that asked for permission to advertise for the creation of the ordinance of the Merritt Island Capital Recovery for Phase 3; and this is the public hearing for that.

There being no further comments or objections, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 20-06, creating the North Merritt Island Transmission System – Phase 3 Capital Recovery Fee.

**Result:** ADOPTED  
**Mover:** Rita Pritchett  
**Second:** Bryan Lober  
**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**H.5. Public Hearing, Re: Substantial Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Action Plan to Add Community Development Block Grant - Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Funds**

Chair Lober called for Public Hearing, for a Substantial Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Action Plan to add Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Funds.

Ian Golden, Housing and Human Services Director, stated this is a Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coronavirus stimulus funds; he was required to do a substantial amendment to the annual action plan to recognize these funds and be able to spend them; and while he is awaiting further direction from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding these funds, they recommended that he bring the substantial amendment forward to get approval so he tried to keep it as general as possible, so he can be as flexible as possible once that further direction comes in, and also while he tried to integrate all the different funds that are coming into the County to make sure the funds are not duplicated or overlapped.

Chair Lober stated he is inclined to support this, but does not know where the other folks are; the one caveat, he knows has been discussed already, is he really believes that the Commission has an oversight role that the constituents expect it to play, so if there is anything that is remotely ambiguous, he would just ask to bring it back to the Board so that it can chime-in as to whether or not it is something that it is in favor of; based on trying to keep Mr. Golden's options open, he does not have a problem supporting it; and he asked if there was any further comment on it.

Mr. Golden stated it has actually been advertised; and normally he has to do a 30-day advertisement in the paper to allow for public comment but one of the waivers from HUD allowed them to do a five-day comment which has ended and he did not receive any public comment from that either.

There being no further comments or objections, the Board approved the Substantial Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Action Plan to add CDBG-CV Funds; authorized the County Manager to endorse all related documents for submission to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); authorized the County Manager to execute all related contracts, amendments, and modifications upon approval of Risk Management and the County Attorney's Office; and authorized the County Manager to approve all necessary budget change requests.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Rita Pritchett

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**J.1. Brevard County receipt of \$105M under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).**

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated he would start with a brief Power-Point presentation and started by providing an overview of that; he stated what the Board is going to be talking about is funds that were received as part of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act); the Act was established by the Coronavirus Relief Fund and appropriated \$150 billion to make payments for specified uses to State and local governments; the State of Florida received \$8.3 billion as part of that, 12 counties were in a position to receive direct funding; and Brevard County was one of those 12 counties and has received \$105 million in funds directly due to the size of Brevard's population, which is estimated a little over 600,000 people as of July 1, 2019. He continued to say the reason that Brevard received this funding is because city populations were included and that is what made it over the 500,000 threshold and that was utilized in determining whether it qualified and the amount of funding received; this is separate CARES Act funding from other funding that was provided through the other parts of the CARES Act which is appropriated by the Federal government; for example, Brevard

received \$17.8 million in transit, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) was about \$848,000, Fire/Rescue received \$462,000 for supplementing Medicare, and Valkaria Airport received about \$30,000; to utilize CARES Act dollars that he is talking about, it can only be used for specific purposes; and expenditures must be necessary and incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 and they would not be accounted for in the budget that was most recently approved as of March 27, 2020, and it would have to be incurred from the period of March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020. He further stated some important points that need to be attentive to is that all of these expenses need to be reasonably necessary for the intended use and while local government can exercise reasonable judgment in spending the CARES Act dollars, they have to be within Treasury guidelines; the Treasury has issued three frequently asked questions and guidelines, the most recent of which was actually issued yesterday and it was sent to the Board this morning; all these expenditures must be used for actions that are taken to respond to this public health emergency in two broad areas; the first being medical or public health programs and public safety programs, the second area is for economic support programs; and it is important for this Board to know that Brevard County is the local government that received these funds and it has been made very clear that it will be responsible for all the funds that are expended including any that, if the Board decides to reimburse local governments, which is not a requirement but is permissible, and something being looked at and he is looking for Board direction tonight. He explained we will be responsible and that is why staff is suggesting that the County does not have sub-recipient agreements where it just gives the money to other entities; it should either reimburse them once it is expended and verified that it is an eligible expense or to provide resources such as protective equipment, that qualify for this funding, that way the County knows it will be in a position to not have any problems when the next item, which is the Inspector General conducts the monitoring and oversight of these funds including auditing, which he has been told will be occurring; it is important to document and verify the expenses, and another important point is that if the County does not expend funds by the December 30, 2020, on a cash basis it has to have, and it is not for future expenses, but expenses that were occurred up to that date, then the remaining funds need to be returned to the U.S. Department of Treasury; and these funds may not be used to fill shortfalls and government revenue, either directly or indirectly, the guidance is very clear on this and it has been repeated several times with examples by the Treasury in the FAQ's.

Chair Lober stated he had some questions with respect to the last item mentioned and obviously, none of the Board can predict the future when it comes to other's actions or inactions, and he inquired if it is possible that there might be a subsequent amendment to the requirements to allow for the use of some of these funds as revenue replacement.

Mr. Abbate responded he has seen the news talk about that and there are people in Congress that are talking about that as a possibility.

Chair Lober stated looking at next year's budget, obviously that is a bit further away, but his concern is Brevard is probably going to take a hit, and if the County can leave unallocated the portions that it has not already spent, where reimbursement would be appropriate, he asked if that would potentially put Brevard in a position where it either would not have to raise taxes, if needed to raise them by a slight amount, or otherwise, where they might not have to be raised as much, if that is left unallocated to see if that comes to pass.

Mr. Abbate stated that would be the Board's decision; and the only thing that he would emphasize is that all the funds would have to be expended by December 30th, so whatever programs are put in place, would have to have processes that would assure that those expenditures were made and the cash was paid out before December 30th; if in fact, there was

an amendment that provided for revenue replacement, once that occurs, the Board could take action in that regard.

Chair Lober stated his position, with respect to this, is there are a lot of worthy causes, but he thinks that the Board needs to allow the potential for amendment to play itself out; he is really concerned with what revenue is going to be next year; he does not think it will be a great year, not in relation to what has been seen year over year in the past; he suggests, if there have been eligible expenses that this is used to reimburse them, certainly for the County's expenses, even though it would personally benefit him to reimburse the municipalities, because he lives in one, he does not know that is necessarily the wisest thing to do because the Board does not know what the situation with revenue is going to be later on; and if it turns out that door is shut on the County, obviously he would be a little more flexible, but he just hates to spend the money and not have it available if there could be a better use or there is some realistic potential there might be a better use in the future.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she wanted to say the next budget will probably be Commissioner Tobia's dream budget; she loves that Mr. Abbate has some ideas and has given the Board an idea of what he wants to investigate; her request would be that he gets an idea of what they are looking for in these costs; she knows a lot of the stipulations on the CARES funds, since Brevard was given a substantial amount, Mr. Abbate will need to tell the Board how much he is going to need so it can get an idea of what he wants to do with that before it jumps to the municipalities and the next group; since it has to be COVID-19 related, that is going to be more of a trick for him because she saw it cannot be used to fulfill shortfalls; and she thinks the next step is that the Board agrees to this and then Mr. Abbate will have to come back with an analysis of whether he thinks there is going to be money left over, how much, and how he wants to proceed.

Mr. Abbate inquired if the Board is interested in him giving an overview of the staff report as he was prepared to do so.

Chair Lober responded maybe for the public's benefit and asked what the Board thinks.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she was good and thinks he has done a great job but maybe to educate the public if he wanted.

Commissioner Isnardi stated yes, she thinks the Board is commenting basically on what is in front of them and she likes the idea; obviously, the intention was to reimburse the County's costs, the Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) that the County had because it was not just supplying PPE for the County but supplying it for other agencies, health care agencies, etcetera; she thinks that it needs to reimburse itself in that department but she understands the concern and the caution to hold some back; and she is more concerned about getting the money back to the people, as much as possible, as far as the people that are suffering right now. She stated she knows that people are unemployed, some not eating, as she has one to three persons a day telling her they do not have a job and cannot feed their kids, and are sole providers; that is most concerning to her because that money was intended for COVID-19 related expenses and that is directly related to Covid-19, the health, safety, and employment status of those individuals; as far as reimbursing municipalities, she would encourage, or maybe the Board has a different idea, to reach out to them and find out what their needs are, but not to write a blank check either, as that is reckless and there is no tracking, but if there are reimbursable expenses, that is fine; those people need to apply through the County, and if it is too big to handle, since the Health and Human Services Department is not huge and is already extended, maybe put something in place to help implement some sort of program; and she

does not think the intention of getting all those monies was to sit on it, so if the County gets hit again, or has a second wave or something major happens, then she would think the County would get more money from the State. She continued to say it cannot be used for revenue, so it should be given to the people that need it the most.

Commissioner Tobia stated he wanted to thank the staff for the report that obviously was time-consuming; he thinks it is broken up into two groups and he wanted to address the first one, which are identified as steps one through five which are public health programs, \$7 million, medical expenditure programs, \$16 million, public health compliance, \$15 million, public employment program, \$2 million, and unobligated CARES Act, \$21 million; he thinks these are directly related through the County and a good job was done; he tends to side a little more on Chair Lober's side on this and believes that the unallocated can get the remainder of that, however, he would like to see, should the municipalities have issues with PPE, that the County does its best to refund or provide equipment as much as possible to make sure they are safe in that aspect; and the Federal government has spent literally billions and billions of dollars, direct payments to individuals, and loans to businesses, and he is worried about the duplicative effect that could be had with a limited amount of funds. He commented he thinks that this would get very difficult if it was decided to start handing this out to certain businesses, or people, and not others; if there were an unending supply of money, that would be one thing, but he would hate to see how the County would go about doing that, so he thinks that at a minimum, it needs to make sure that the municipalities are fully refunded for the PPE since they are partners in this; he thinks similarly as Chair Lober that this is best left to see if there will be more flexibility, and if not, this is two trillion dollars that does not exist, so if it ends up back in the Federal government's coffers, it was not there to begin with, so he does not think that is a bad option before starting to pick winners and losers on this; and that is where he stands to give authorization to go ahead with one through five, just making five, which is the unobligated CARES Act larger than the 20 percent that is allocated.

Mr. Abbate stated he had two quick items, one being that there are eight or nine speakers on this so the Board will want to hear them as well; the second being, that on those first five items in the staff report, the numbers that were utilized were contemplated for the expenses in each of those areas that either a charter officer, for example the Sheriff, there are significant dollars that could be provided under the CARES Act as an eligible expense for jail, specifically, sanitizing the jail, appropriate distancing in the jail; he asked if the Board is okay with moving forward with that; he noted he was also contemplating, and he heard Chair Lober speak to the issue of PPE, but for other expenses that the County reimbursed itself for; and he asked if the cities had corresponding expenses, was it okay to include that, because he thought that might be in there, but if the Board is saying to hold off on that, then he will be clear on that.

Chair Lober stated he is good as far as the constitutional officers and roping them in with the County and treating them essentially equivalent to the County; and he asked what the Board thought.

Commissioner Tobia stated he fully agrees as Chair Lober contemplated that, and he does not think it is unfair to either reimburse for PPE or supply municipalities with the masks and protective equipment that they need to carry out a safe environment; and he thinks that would be a fair investment.

Mr. Abbate inquired as to the other four categories, if they have similar expenses, he is not anticipating it is going to be significant, but they may and he wants to be clear that he follows the Board's direction.

Commissioner Tobia stated he would like to see, under the same guidelines that have been set up for reimbursement, what those agencies believe their expenses would be on those type of things; and he indicated not to give authorization, but at least begin the conversation.

Mr. Abbate stated he could bring it to the Board on a monthly basis so the Board sees it.

Commissioner Tobia stated that would be very helpful.

Chair Lober stated he would like to see it that way as well, it makes the most sense.

Commissioner Smith stated he agrees as well; he thinks that when the Board talks about big numbers like that, he is concerned about the slippery slope that exists where everyone wants a piece of the pie; the Board has to be very restrictive as to how it can use this, but some of the things that he has read, he questions; as Commissioner Tobia mentioned, this money does not really exist and it is not just Brevard, it is every county in the country getting this opportunity; and it does not mean that the County should not use some fiscal restraint when spending these dollars. He continued by saying he thinks it is important to use it if it is needed and there are legitimate needs, but at the same time, he does not want to see this money being spent just because it is there.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she thinks the Board needs to obviously use caution and restraint but there is the reality and maybe it is not something that Mr. Abbate is hearing a lot of, other than maybe some emails he is getting lately, but there are lots of people that still have not gotten unemployment, and the landlords that are deferring rent, it still has to be paid; maybe she is just a little more empathetic because she works with a large population and many are not working, but she has heard some horror stories; it is not just the business owners that lose when they have been closed down for this long, it is all the people that work there; if it can find a way to help them too, that makes the most sense to her as that is why that money was given; and it can be given back to the government but she feels that they are going to just find another way to spend it, wrong, right, or indifferent. She stated she would just like to see it more directly in the hands of people that truly need it; obviously, there would need to be a strict vetting process and the Board would not be writing blank checks and acting recklessly, giving everybody money, it is not that at all; the money was given to help people affected by COVID-19 and whether that be an agency or municipality that needs PPE or that person that needs just a little bit of help right now and it can be provided; she thinks that the Board would be doing a large disservice by not helping them; and she believes strongly about that.

Commissioner Pritchett agreed with Commissioner Isnardi on this because she believes the State of Florida could have made all these choices, so could the Federal government, but they are trying to filter it down to the local governments so they can get hands on the ground distributing the funds; she thinks the goal is to distribute the funds and is in agreement with the Board taking care of those things that it needs to, but she is also in agreement with the cities because they were added into the population to get the funds; she has no problem with the Board distributing those funds; she also agrees with Commissioner Isnardi on the fact that she thinks there are extra funds to do these other things with and there are a lot of people that do not have the funds right now to pay their rent, and the landlords that live off the rent are not getting that income either, so there is a significant problem in the community; and she does not know how to solve it all but will leave it up to Mr. Abbate and thinks the Board needs to come up with a plan. She further stated she thinks the County should be reimbursed for what it is spending to keep the community safe, as it is definitely made for that; she thinks there are more funds coming as she keeps seeing the State throwing out series of this money because they are trying to get it to the communities to help them get through this crisis; she thinks the

County needs to be significantly responsible figuring out where to spend it but she does not want to hold onto it either; the County needs to figure out the places it is needed and give it out; and she is not in favor of sending it back unless all the other counties send back their extra, because the economy is already crippled moving forward with these extra funds so the County is going to need this right now to take care of its community.

Chair Lober stated he was talking with his staff about this Item and about what forms of assistance would be available to someone that is recently unemployed on account of this and he wrote down a couple of the things he mentioned; in addition to the \$1,200 stimulus check, a person would be eligible for \$600 per week Federal unemployment through July 31st, even if they were a contract worker, retroactive to March 29th, if they were unemployed at that time; they would also be eligible for up to \$275 per week for three months, retroactive to March 9th, if they were unemployed at that time; it is not to say that there is nothing available for these folks, and he realizes that some folks are not receiving what they need in a timely fashion, but he does not know with the Board putting together all of the logistical things that would come into play and be entailed with putting together a program like this locally, if it would be able to beat the Federal or the State system to the punch even if it were inclined to do that; and he has concerns, maybe because for the past nine years he has been in a line of work where he does not have the same take-home pay every day, week, or month, and some months were feasts and some months were famines. He stated he is not saying that it is fair or okay, but he thinks there has to be some degree of individual responsibility with this, even if a person has been put in a situation due to no fault of their own; he is happy to help if there is an ability to help, but he does not know in terms of what the flexibility will be down the road and his concern is, again, picking winners and losers and he does not know if that it is his place to do that; he does know that people are going to be hurting immediately as well as down the road; he is concerned that if taxes have to be raised, that it is done as little as possible, or if it can be avoided altogether, go that way; and if the Board does not wait to see what comes out of Congress and wait to see if the restrictions are loosened, as there has already been talk by some of the elected officials at that level about doing, it would lose that opportunity. He further stated he hated to act like the money is burning a hole in the County's pocket and spending it before it knows what all of the options may be; he appreciates that there are people that are in tough spots but, again, with \$1200 stimulus, and \$600 from Federal unemployment weekly, and potentially \$275 on top of that from the State, it is not that there is no money available to these folks; and it may not be what they are used to bringing in and it may take some paperwork and time for them to accomplish getting everything submitted and verified, but it is not that they are cut off and there is nothing available.

Commissioner Pritchett asked Mr. Abbate how long he thought it would be for him to come back with some numbers data for the Board for each of these projects.

Mr. Abbate replied in reference to the economic support programs, the four different ones mentioned in his report, he suggested it would be the first meeting that the Board could do, which would be July 7th.

Commissioner Pritchett stated by then, the County should have more of a handle on this.

Mr. Abbate suggested if whichever of the four programs the Board gives direction to look into, his office would work with staff, and the city managers group, and whoever else, depending on which program it chooses, to come up with criteria and parameters for Board consideration.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she thought Ian Golden, Housing and Human Resources Director, would have to bring in some information for the Board too, because although all those



things are going on, there are significant people falling through the cracks on this; she does not know how, but they are, so she thinks the Board needs a little more information, and it will help greatly; she does not even know, as she does not have numbers and she needs them so maybe some data would help her; and she likes all the categories and if a blanket approval is needed, she would need more information to give good direction.

Mr. Abbate stated he knows there is a variety of people waiting.

Chair Lober stated he knows but wanted to clarify for their benefit, he is hopeful that the discussion the Board is having with respect to this item prior to their comment will help them focus and hone their comments as need be; it is not that the Board is trying to act without their input, and specifically for that reason, he is not going to ask for a motion at this time; and he put them on notice that he is going to strictly adhere to the three-minute limit because there are quite a few folks that want to speak, so for fairness he will hold to that.

Stacey Patel, Satellite Beach, stated she was there to support the allocation of CARES Act funding toward direct financial assistance for local families; a mom of four in Palm Bay wrote her a couple weeks ago and asked if she had any meat or diapers she could share and she asked if her family needed food the same day and she responded they had ramen noodles for today and they should be okay; another mom of three from Melbourne wrote to her that they had nothing, no food or anything, and she asked if they had stuff for breakfast, they responded they had some rice she can feed them in the morning; a 69 year old in Cape Canaveral, who has since fallen and has been in the hospital, was trying to get through the night on a can of green beans, she said it was not going to last, she had no car, and could not get food and she is 69 and has no help; and even before the COVID-19, Michael had been living with his four kids in a van for months. She continued to say another family of three, survivors of domestic abuse, had been in the woods for months, despite the fact that her youngest son was four years old; in the County's own back yard, kids from both families attend local schools, our systems knew about their prolonged homelessness and did not have the resources to meet their needs; the social service net in Brevard is failing to catch people and as thousands of working families face job loss, layoffs, and furloughs, this State has failed to provide a functional system to access unemployment; she stated she was there to support the use of the \$44 million in providing economic support to the members of the community, including especially, direct aid to families for things like rent, mortgage, utility assistance, supplemental unemployment benefits for those that fall in the gap, food delivery to those who are sick or quarantined, or lack transportation, publicly-funded testing and contact tracing, and health care assistance for uninsured and underinsured families. She further stated she sent 16 stories from local residents to the Commissioners and none of them are the worst; they are the stories from health care workers, teachers, hairstylists, musicians, tattoo artists, restaurant workers, many of them are moms or dads too; they are just a few of the more than 9,000 folks who have joined together in a local Facebook group to provide aid to one another when no one else will; we have only been around the Facebook page for a few weeks but we have seen a lot of needs in the community in that short time; they have been able to move folks into hotels and shelters, and get them local groceries when they did not have any groceries to feed their children; and she is sure the Board knows that the call volume of 2-1-1 has increased significantly and so many families are in need of direct aid. She stated, to provide even more context to her requests, specifically for mortgage and rental assistance, in Orange County, as the Board may know, that county opened up \$1.8 million before the CARES Act even came, to provide \$1,200 to 1,500 local families; and they received 26,000 applications which, she thinks, only speaks to the depth of the need in the area.

Laurie Allen, Cape Canaveral, stated she was here to represent the minority small business owner; in the month of April, she had 12 events canceled, which was approximately \$70,000 in

revenue that was lost to the small contract laborers, the gate workers, the talents, the caterers, the people that are in the production industry, and the dancers; all of these people are 1099 workers, that pay their taxes and not one person, that she knows of, has received their reemployment check in the State of Florida; when she filed for unemployment, she filed the last week of March as her last event was March 13th in Miami; she heard all the horror stories of nobody being able to get in, or get online, and the crashing, etcetera, etcetera; and she got up at 4:00 a.m. in the morning and counted herself as a great success that she finally got through at 7:00 a.m., only three hours of her time, however, she never received any notification that they had received her application, that she was on file, that she had a claim, she received nothing. She continued to say, of the 12 events that were scheduled, only three have rescheduled for January, one in Melbourne, most of these being for non-profit dollars, for children with autism and disabilities, one for the Port Authority with 1,200 people going and these events will not be back again and that money is lost; she reapplied last week for her unemployment on April 24th, because that is the new mandate, you have to apply twice and get denied twice, but she still has heard nothing; surprisingly enough, the initial filing in the last week of March, she also filed for food stamps, and lo and behold, four days later, her snap card was delivered, so some things are being done right, just not enough; President Trump included them this time for the first time ever in the CARES Act, that they could get benefits, but no one is giving it; some of them waited all day yesterday for Governor Desantis' remedy for fixing this and we heard nothing that told what he was doing to fix it, only a lot of rhetoric, and that a lot of it was their fault that they had forgotten their Social Security numbers, and that is why they had not received their benefits; and she stated she knows her Social Security number. She further stated Brevard does not realize how lucky it is with all the talents here; the live music venues everywhere, but in Miami-Dade there are only two, Broward there is three, and Boca there is one; we need to protect these people, we have nothing, we need to be taken care of and heard; and there is a lot of brilliance here, all the Space Centers, but we have a lot of people that are contract laborers, that are Vets and she asked the Board to please remember them.

Catherine Haynes, Melbourne, stated that today the Board has the opportunity to help Brevard citizens, as the critical choices made now with how to allocate the one-time \$105 million from the Federal Coronavirus relief fund will profoundly affect how the County operates in the future; last month Governor Desantis issued an eviction and foreclosure moratorium which is set to expire on May 17th, but unpaid rent during the moratorium will not be forgiven or frozen; this has clear cause-and-effect and it is why the County needs to provide rental assistance as part of the money from the CARES Act; many landlords cannot continue to maintain or operate their properties without rental income, therefore, in about two weeks, we will likely see mass evictions with a significant number of local citizens permanently displaced, and landlords without the income necessary to stay afloat; and through the Board's foresight and leadership, it can ensure as a County, it is not saddling more low-income renters with debt and or forcing landlords to foreclose resulting in losing some of our County's critical low-income housing. She continued to say without a local governmental response that provides rental assistance to stop the eviction process, a greater crisis will be created and will result in both landlords and tenants sliding further down the socio-economic scale; and she asked to please direct a good significant portion of the relief funds to assist in maintaining housing for citizens of Brevard that need support through this current situation.

Michael Bramson, Altamonte Springs, President of the Brevard County Firefighters Union, stated he first wanted to send condolences to the brothers and sisters with the Sheriff's Office in their recent loss; as the social restrictions due to COVID-19 begin to soften, the citizens and visitors of Brevard County are beginning to enjoy what it has to offer; the Firefighters Union would like to express a few ongoing points; current research continues to accept that there is a 14 day incubation or contagious period and it has become increasingly difficult to normalize the

signs and symptoms of this disease and the parameters to gauge potential infection continues to broaden instead of narrow, which increases the risk to Brevard citizens and first responders; and social restrictions are beginning to loosen but for the front line workers, they must continue that 14 days past the loosening recommendation so they continue to isolate and they continue to burden that 14 days past the phase one. He continued to say testing remains a challenge for first responders as the parameters continue to change and tests are limited or have not been invented yet; it is the expectation and high hopes that people will begin to learn more about the COVID-19 disease, monitoring will be more effective, and it will be able to get more direction towards the testing, but in addition to the heightened level of response and risks to the County, the ongoing efforts, and infrastructure stability and the Commissioners' ability to create a stable environment, the Firefighters Union is very much aware of the decrease of funding and the increase of cost of the essential functions of government; even with this acknowledgement, he wanted to speak on behalf of the citizens, the first responders, and front-line workers of Brevard County; over the last six weeks there has been a lot of focus on COVID-19, but they have come to accept that there is a greater good to be had; and there was a lot of uncertainty at the beginning of COVID-19 and it was necessary to direct a lot of energy finding a way to cope with this new evil disease but he also wanted to bring life to the fact that they also have to do their core functions. He continued to say they have to respond to cancer survivors, childbirth, structure fires, and ongoing everyday events of life and there have been challenges; Brevard had a little luck this year with a little bit of rain during the brush season and there is about a month left before hurricane season, but a little luck goes a long way; it is his opinion that the COVID-19 event has had a synergistic effect with the pre-existing stresses to the Fire Department, public safety sector, and the citizens of Brevard County; he wanted to ask the Board as well as Fire Rescue Management to consider everything that has been accomplished over the last couple of years; and how the relationship has increased due to its great direction. He went on to ask the Board to consider the long-term effects of the sacrifices being done now and how that will take time, months, years, and hopefully that will be the end of it, to a point of survivability, and that they can continue to serve the visitors and citizens of Brevard County.

Rob Rains, Cocoa Beach, President of United Way, stated he came before the Commission on March 31st and shared a little bit about the response that Community Foundation for Brevard, the Space Coast Health Foundation, and United Way came together to form a joint COVID response; he wanted to give a little bit of an update as the Board considers the CARES Act funding; he did get a chance to look at the memo that County Manager, Frank Abbate, and his team put together and he thought it was great staff work and now as the Board deliberates on allocating that \$105 million that came through Congress, signed by the President and looking at those kinds of things that are eligible to be spent and need to be spent by the end of this year, he asked that it consider spending a significant amount, at least 10 percent, to help people directly for help with mortgages, rental assistance, utilities, and food, all eligible expenses; as he mentioned, United Way started a COVID-19 response and have raised over \$330,000 so far from generous people calling to pledge their gift; and they set up a system, which was not easy, it took a little bit of time, and working with 2-1-1 Brevard, recruiting counselors, and people call in, get screened, talk with the counselors and then they make sure the people were indeed laid off or lost income due to COVID-19, they make sure they have an eviction notice or late notice from a landlord, or utility, get all the documentation in, and then help them. He further mentioned he sent an email to the Board today that listed their responses so far, roughly they have helped about 150 families to the tune of over \$160,000, about \$1,200 per family which are increasing as they get further; they do not do mortgages, only rent, because the eviction process for mortgages was a lot longer; he is concerned they are going to run out of money as they project that they will run out of money by the end of next week from their funding because of the need and demand; the possibility of the County stepping in and helping the citizens directly is an amazing opportunity, and they are not asking for any money to come

to their organization as the County Housing and Human Services has a lot of experience in doing this and he sees this as a critical bridge to help people before the CARES Act money comes to them; and the \$600 and \$1,200 is still a long way away for a lot of folks and people have been out of work, some as early as March, and while they may not have to pay their rent for April or May, it will have to be paid eventually. He continued to say the idea that this could be a bridge, setting up a system to help families here in need would be helpful.

Sanjay Patel, Satellite Beach, stated he wanted to read one of the stories from one of the constituents into the record, and he read "My name is Bobby, I am a tattoo artist at Endless Summer Tattoos on Cocoa Beach. I work out of the studio as an independent contractor. We have been closed due to COVID-19 since March 12th. I live in Cocoa Beach in a house where I am currently giving a room to my younger brother and his 11-year-old son. I feel that they are truly in need at this time. I do not ask anything of them in return because I know they do not have it. I have always been punctual and paid my bills and rent on time. As of today, I am now two months behind on my rent which is \$1,500 per month. All the money that I have saved is now gone. Thank God they are not shutting off my utilities, but when this is all over, I am going to be left in a hole and I feel like I will not be able to get out of it. I have applied for unemployment, I have called several times only to be told I am still not eligible to receive any benefits. It seems like I may not be able to go back to work for a month, if not longer. Even then, things are not going to magically go back to normal. It is going to be a very slow process to get financially stable again. All my co-workers are going through the same thing, none of us have gotten any assistance from unemployment. I have no family here other than my brother, who is walking in the same shoes as me. My parents are not in a position to help me at this time because my mom is in the final stages of Alzheimer's. It kills me inside that I cannot help them when I cannot pay my own bills. I know there are many people like myself who can truly benefit from some kind of rental or mortgage assistance." He stated he has a stack of these stories and the Board was emailed these today; he does not envy the position it is in, as it is a tough environment for it making decisions; what he wants it to think about is, he heard a comment about the \$600 and \$275 per week; and he asked if the Board has gone to the website, as he builds websites, and the design of the Florida Reemployment site is one the most atrocious things he has ever seen. He suggested the Board sets up a test case, or better yet, sit down with one of its constituents and try to apply; he does not know a single person who has gotten the \$600 from the CARES Act, and on top of that, he still knows people who have not gotten their stimulus check; during this time, he thinks that people have to remind themselves that the true measure of society is how people treat the most vulnerable among them, and right now, those people are really struggling, and he hopes the Board looks at them as the priority, the North star, when making these tough decisions.

Jane Hernando, West Melbourne, stated she is a health care worker and her story is of health care workers in the nation and of a mother who tries to feed her kids; she is a health care worker with very high-risk due to asthma and a history of pneumonia and bronchitis; at the beginning of this stay-at-home order, her doctor wrote an order for her to stay home for a week due to complications with her asthma; she was able to go back to work for only one day because she had another asthma attack, then her doctor put her in two weeks isolation and she used up all of her paid time off in one month; and she is now back to work but being very careful with her health. She continued to say with all that is happening, she has now adopted three teenagers in her home, two of them lost their jobs, and one was not able to go back to their home because her mother is stuck out of the country because she got sick; she said it is okay, they have food on the table and they are a happy family; she tries to be a responsible citizen, she pays her taxes, she saves up for rainy days, and even has a 401K, but with all that is happening, she cannot believe that she has to withdraw her 401K because she has other bills besides her mortgage, like car insurance, light bill, water bill, and even health care bills; as

a person who still has a job, she is very thankful she still has money coming in, but until when; and a month ago her company furloughed 32 of the workers and this is sad because she does not know how long her company can keep up with all of this going on. She further stated she implores the Board to approve the \$44 million allocation and ensure it will provide mortgage and rental assistance, food delivery, supplemental unemployment, public testing and contact tracing, health care assistance for the uninsured and underinsured families, and other direct aid to the community; a thriving community will directly impact the Brevard community; she hopes the Board considers that not all people have extra money to pay for all of this; and she advised, a lot of people are struggling.

Keith Donald, Melbourne, stated he has a private family foundation called Steady Town that does a lot of community development work; he was there as a member of a Countywide task force that will be making funding allocation recommendations to the Board of the Brevard Homeless Coalition for some other Federal CARES Act relief that is expected to be coming into Brevard to directly respond to community health and safety concerns around homelessness during this time; the funds are fairly significant and he wanted to bring that to the Board's attention; he has about \$700,000 of potential additional funding and with the early work of his task forces, they are looking to put a significant allocation of that towards homeless prevention efforts which he thinks is very important during this time where there is so much great pressure put on the homelessness services system; and he has been around this sector and working in this space for a while and has seen this issue from the business side of things, from the health side, and the human side. He continued to say that it is not often that the system sees a new injection of dollars like this and he wanted to speak briefly about what he is thinking as part of that task force; right now, the system of care in the County for responding to homelessness concerns, which really affects the whole community, is very fragmented; it does not see a lot of leverage in terms of dollars, it is confusing to people, and honestly, a lot of little charities doing the best they can and woefully underfunded; it is his view, and he knows some others on the task force share the same view, that now represents a real opportunity to move the needle a bit, build some new capacity focused on health and safety, and get everyone rowing in the same direction to help prevent homelessness during this time; and he asked for the Board to consider following what he is doing and the recommendation coming out of the Brevard Homelessness Coalition regarding the use of the funds and, considering as it goes, how County Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRS) can play a role potentially in a reimbursement capacity, not looking at that as support as kind of a one-off thing, but looking at it as an investment that can create some leverage and strengthen what is, in his assessment, a very weak system.

Theresa Grimison, Indian Harbor Beach, President and CEO of the Community Foundation for Brevard, stated she works with philanthropists to realize their intentions into the County for its health and vitality and she also works closely with non-profit organizations throughout the County; she also has been serving in a volunteer capacity with the Brevard Homeless Coalition task force that Keith Donald just described, which has been a tremendous insight for her even though she does accomplish some work in that arena to really understand the depth and the breadth of the issue at hand; she is also working hand in hand with Rob Rains with the United Way of Brevard and also Johnette Gindling, President of the Space Coast Health Organization; in early March, they all said to each other, this problem is coming down fast and so much bigger than the three of them individually and even working together; and they came together crossing different ways of doing things, different ways of tackling an issue to say, to do what they can and make sure it happens, and happens quickly. She further stated she thinks the Board has heard some numbers from Mr. Rains earlier, and it has been tremendous what working together has allowed them to do; very quickly they have been able to get \$300,000, which she would say roughly, between individual families that are being hit the hardest as well

as organizations that are working on the front line, obviously this is coming down the pike and they are just touching the surface; she stands with Commissioner Isnardi and Pritchett, and hopefully others, when saying to take action, this is their time; she would also like to add that when this was coming and she was working with Ocean Breeze Elementary School, as that is where her two children go to school, it was doing an incredible job of getting the distance learning program going and she has been in awe of what has been pulled off in literally two-weeks-time; she quickly reached out to the administrators and teachers there that she worked most closely with, to say look, when they hear the need, please let her know, because these are the resources that can be pointed to right away; and immediately she heard back, the need is huge and that was a month and one-half ago and it is just building, everyone is hearing the numbers. She stated she urged all to reach across like she did with United Way of Brevard and Space Coast Health Organization; they talk twice a week minimum to try to tackle this problem; and she needs the Board to step in and be part of that team.

Namor Thomas, Titusville, stated as a disabled person, she has been isolated and quarantined in her home for the last two months, with no transportation, no way to get to medical appointments, or get medications, no assistance at all in Titusville, just lost out there; there is no one to call, no meals, and no toilet paper; now the Governor has opened back up the State and now eviction notices are coming up, there are no houses, nowhere to move to relocate because in Brevard County, a two-bedroom, the minimum is \$1,600; she asked, for people on fixed income, like herself, where do they go, where do they start, and that someone needs to help, please. She further stated, from Titusville to the Holmes Hospital, calling Uber is \$85, from Titusville to Viera Hospital is \$70; this is cash money having to be paid because the medical assistance, E-Med, or whatever, does not want to take them because they are sick; she is a survivor of colon cancer and she has a port that needs to be flushed, which she cannot because her doctor's appointment keeps getting pushed back so she will now need a new port; she needs medications that she cannot get because the Uber is \$13 one way from her apartment to Walmart and she is on a fixed income of \$800 per month; and if she had to fill out an application today, she might as well say she is a convict because she is a prisoner in her own home for two months. She continued to say she cannot go to the hospital in Titusville because they are a stage three hospital, so a cancer patient, like she, has to go to Holmes Hospital, so she has to pay that \$85, one way; she asked that the CARES Act money is distributed to the people that need help as she sees other counties are helping people, but nothing here; and people are stuck with no public transportation in Titusville, as she walked from Interstate 95 to get public transportation, and that does not work for her.

Jim Liesenfelt, Assistant County Manager, stated that if Ms. Thomas were to call Space Coast Area Transit Administrative Office at 321635-7815, extension zero, and ask for Carmen Baez, she could help her with transportation in Titusville.

Ms. Thomas asked if they would come into her apartment complex.

Mr. Liesenfelt replied that he did not have specific details but they do paratransit, which is door-to-door transportation.

Ms. Thomas thanked him and stated she does have Medicare but she has to walk to get to anything; and she needs help.

Mr. Liesenfelt stated to call Ms. Baez and he would also give her a heads-up that she would be calling.

Chair Lober stated that if she needed help with the number again, to go to

BrevardFL.legistar.com, to view the video to repeat any portion of the meeting.

Ms. Thomas asked when the next meeting was.

Chair Lober replied two days from now, on Thursday.

Ms. Thomas stated she would be there.

Chair Lober stated he thought before going to public comment, Commissioner Tobia was talking about the approval of one through five, obviously adjusting the amount of five; the couple of questions Mr. Abbate posed, as he recalled, were whether or not to include the Constitutional offices, and it seemed the consensus was yes; the other question was whether or not to come back to the Board for approval on the municipal expenses, and it seemed to him that was where the Board was leaning, but he is reopening that now after public comment; and he asked Commissioner Tobia if he wanted to make a motion.

Commissioner Tobia stated just to be clear, he does appreciate one through five and mentioned, when going to speak to the municipalities, he thinks if Mr. Abbate keeps it as constrained as the County has kept it constrained; and he does not think Mr. Abbate will ask what they need money for, but if he does it from the perspective of the way the County is spending money and not let them expand that.

Mr. Abbate stated to make sure that it is for the same eligible expenses that the County is using, and that is it.

Commissioner Pritchett asked if Chair Lober was going to do this in two different motions or do it all together when it gets there.

Chair Lober stated he is fine to take it however the Board wants to pose them; and if it wants it severed to support one part and not the other part, that is fine.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she is probably good as she has been talking to Mr. Abbate about the other four and he said Ian Golden, Housing and Human Services Director, could handle three out of the four, small business they would have to do something different, but so they did not have to send this out or do something different, he would be able to do the analysis on this and give the Board the information; she stated to Chair Lober she thought he would like this, the program that is helping the ones that they were talking about, these were the only ones that he is talking about here that are not covered by State or Federal assistance already; she thinks Mr. Abbate will still probably need help for the small business, which she thinks is probably going to be important for those falling through the cracks, but she likes the four that he has and she also feels more comfortable that Mr. Golden will be the one that is going to oversee those; she is in agreement with all of these but, of course, he is going to have to get the Board those numbers; and she thinks he picked four good ones and any time the Board is going to do anything, someone is going to have to pick the winners and losers. She continued to say this is a good area to cover for food, shelter, and the small businesses which it supports; and she thanked him for allowing her to ask a few questions, and appreciated his patience.

Mr. Abbate asked if there would be a motion on the first five.

Chair Lober stated he was kind of just eyeballing to see who wanted to jump on this one.

Commissioner Tobia made a motion to accept the staff recommendations for Items one, two, three, four, and five with the allocation of the remaining being held in unobligated CARES Act

until appropriate time and giving the authority to speak with the municipalities concerning their needs on Items one through four.

Commissioner Pritchett (inaudible)

Chair Lober responded he thinks that was left out of this particular proposal; he granted, with the unallocated portion, he would presume, certainly if Commissioner Tobia does not bring it up in the future, he will; he just wanted to get a little further down; and he does not recall the July date that Mr. Abbate mentioned off-hand, but there was a July date for a meeting that he believes it was contemplated to come back on.

Commissioner Pritchett stated it was July 7 and that would allow for discussion again with Mr. Golden, to bring back some ideas.

Chair Lober stated he was happy to have that and thinks the Board will be in a better position in terms of having all its ducks in a row.

Commissioner Isnardi stated her concern was that July 7 is a bit far out and that is a lot of unallocated funds; even if it could use a portion of that, she thinks she would feel a little better about supporting this, not that she does not support the first five items, obviously she does, she just thinks that is a large chunk of money that could go, even a piece of it, to help some people with either emergency bills or food, she would be more apt to support it as it stands; she supports the five items but she would like to use a little more of those monies and she does not want to wait until July because people need the money now; she is guessing Commissioner Tobia is not going to amend his motion to use any of that money, so she is not supporting it based on that; and she thinks the Board is leaving too much money on the table that should be given directly to people as that is what it is designed for.

Chair Lober stated he understands where she is coming from and he is somewhat conflicted on it, but he thinks, in an abundance of caution, taking the time to do this in a way that may not be perfect, but puts the Board in a position to have all the knowledge, it possibly could get within a reasonable amount of time; and he would be more comfortable doing it that way.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she agrees with Commissioner Isnardi and agrees with Chair Lober as well, but the question is, since Mr. Golden has the ability to know some items right now that he feels would be a very good place to spend the money, and she asked what if the Board gave him up to a certain percentage that he could go ahead and start working on some of these now, because there are people falling through the cracks and that is what this money is for and there is that much left over unobligated; she thinks he needs to be given something to move on and she is sure he will not spend \$44 million by July; she thinks maybe he could give an idea of what he feels could be used right now responsibly to at least three of the four items; and she asked if that would be okay.

Chair Lober stated it would vote on the motion as stated and seconded now, then revisit it to determine whether or not, as far as the portion that is unallocated, whether it is going to allocate a small portion of the unallocated portion; and he Called the Question.

The Board accepted staff recommendations for items one through five with the allocation of the remaining being held in unobligated CARES Act funds until the appropriate time. The Board gives Mr. Abbate the authority to speak with the municipalities concerning their needs on items one through four.



**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** John Tobia

**Second:** Curt Smith

**Ayes:** Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

**Nay:** Pritchett

Chair Lober stated in terms of Commissioner Pritchett's motion.

Commissioner Pritchett inquired if he can still do that because he did not want to use those funds.

Chair Lober replied sure, and it can be addressed.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she thought there was some confusion on the motion.

Chair Lober stated if someone wanted to move to readdress it, he is happy to address that.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she would make a motion to reconsider just so there is no confusion as to what they are doing; and she stated the Board agreed to have another motion.

Commissioner Smith suggested the motion was read again.

Chair Lober stated he is happy to entertain that motion but maybe the best idea at this point is to have Mr. Golden come up and hear from him in terms of what he is proposing so the Board can figure out whether or not the subsequent motion is going anywhere; and if she preferred to do it differently he would be happy to.

Commissioner Pritchett stated he is starting to do things the way she does.

Commissioner Isnardi replied she guesses, he is the Chair; and she stated it is fine.

Chair Lober inquired if she wanted to make a motion to reconsider.

Commissioner Isnardi responded that she can guarantee that Mr. Golden is not going to talk about how much money he needs, because he is not setting policy and he works for the County; he is going to say he needs money but he is not going to really say how he feels because he is not in a position to do that; and she hesitates to ask too many direct questions because she does not want to put him on the spot.

Chair Lober stated he hated putting him in the middle too, and if she wanted to make a motion he will certainly accept any motion she wanted to make.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she voted for that based on the idea that there would be a second Board vote on the unallocated funds.

Chair Lober stated that is how he intended it.

Commissioner Isnardi replied that maybe she should not have voted for it because there is no guarantee, because the Board could chose not to vote on it, but that is just silly.

Chair Lober stated as to the unallocated portion, he is happy to entertain a motion to allocate a certain percentage or a certain dollar value of that; there is nothing that precludes that from being done at this point; he mentioned maybe Commissioner Pritchett could take the reins for a moment and Mr. Golden can come up and she can ask him what she wants; and he just wants to make sure everyone is fully ventilated to this so that the Board is not doing something that someone is not on board with.

Mr. Golden stated Commissioner Isnardi is correct in that he is not going to make a recommendation for funding at this point; he will say there is need and that they are looking at a wave of people with the moratorium on evictions and foreclosures coming on May 17 for people to be facing that; and he will say that the County does have a Policy and Procedure already to do a mortgage and rental assistance program so there is already something that would just have to be modified that could be brought forward to the Board at the meeting on May 19th, to show what the program would look like, with some of the information that would be looked at to vet people to determine eligibility and also cap the amounts that people would be eligible for.

Commissioner Pritchett asked if he was comfortable if it waits till May 19th to come and talk to the Board.

Mr. Golden replied that would be at the Board's discretion but he is telling it what he feels he could bring on the 19th if that would help it make a decision.

Commissioner Pritchett inquired if he would be comfortable if the Board allocated 25 percent of the money to him right now until he can come back with better numbers in July.

Mr. Golden replied that would be at the Board's discretion.

Chair Lober stated Mr. Golden did not want to get into the middle of this, and he did not blame him.

Commissioner Pritchett asked Commissioner Isnardi what her idea was, all of it or a percent; and she explained Mr. Golden is coming back in July but he might need funds now but she cannot get him to tell her.

Commissioner Isnardi replied she thinks an important point to bring up is there is a moratorium on rental assistance and that sort of thing, but that rent is still due, it is not like the rent has been waived; there are many in the room that do not have to worry about paying their rent, and a lot more people out there that do, and her heart goes out to them; the discussion is not about Community Based Organization (CBO) or tax dollars being used to pay for things; this money was allocated specifically to go directly for COVID-19 assistance and that is why she is so adamant about it; and usually she is on the other side, saying government does not need to get involved with charity, but this money is specific to COVID-19 issues, so she thinks it would be a disservice to the community if it was not used for that. She continued to say that is a large pot of money and at least half of it needs to go to the people and save half for contingency as it may be needed to help them more, and then it can reallocate; and she asked, is there not also an emergency program for bills or utilities.

Mr. Golden replied there is, and one of the things that has been talked about with Mr. Abbate and his staff is what he mentioned earlier with the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds making sure funds are not duplicated; it will not be seen in here but utility assistance, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is getting an influx of

funds separate from these dollars, out of CARES Act, and that is why direct utility payments are not included in this, but security and utility deposits are because that is not covered by that program; he is trying to make sure the dollars that are coming into the County are maximized and not duplicated and making sure people are not dipping into multiple sources for the same bills; his office is looking at expanding the eligibility criteria as typically the normal funding sources cap at like 80 percent of area median income and for a family of four, that would be about \$55,000; and his office is looking at maybe going \$140,000, 200 percent, because there are people who, four months ago, were making \$120,000 per year for a two income family. He continued to say now those families are making half of that or less, depending on which family member lost their job; and he wants to make sure those people are also being served in this interim and trying to expand it out to serve as many as possible.

Commissioner Isnardi stated she knows business owners that loaded up their employees' cars with groceries because they were out of work for the last six weeks; it is just that she thinks people do not realize it until it is seen and touched; that money is going to sit there based on an unknown, but at the same time, it is known there is a problem now, people are struggling now; and the right thing needs to be done and she wants to see the Board use that money.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she thinks it should let Mr. Golden use the money as he needs it right now for the items, and then it needs to work on small business; then in July, come back with a strategic plan for that; Mr. Golden is not going to go through that much money in two months; and as Commissioner Isnardi said, she would hate for someone to get evicted, or be homeless, creating a bigger problem.

Commissioner Isnardi stated the Board needed to give Mr. Golden some sort of parameter, maybe a cap.

Mr. Abbate stated he thinks he would like to come back on the 19th with what the cap and parameters would be.

Commissioner Pritchett stated that would be perfect.

Commissioner Isnardi asked since there is a program in place, if a portion of it could be released now so it is not waiting until the 19th if someone needs help in the next two weeks, something that could be implemented right away.

Mr. Abbate responded it would be up to the Board.

Commissioner Pritchett stated to let the County Manager have some discretion until they get back to the Board.

Mr. Abbate responded no, he will not be there to make that decision.

Commissioner Isnardi stated to pick a number.

Mr. Golden mentioned the current policy that he is looking at updating, caps the amount of assistance to an individual or household to \$4,000, which was from after hurricane Irma for rental assistance.

Commissioner Isnardi replied that may a bit high for one household if trying to stretch those funds to help more people.

Mr. Golden stated that was for the insurance deductible program, which he believes the individual assistance for mortgage and rent was capped at \$2,000 per household.

Commissioner Isnardi mentioned she does not even know that the Board has the votes to do it, but asked if it could release a certain amount until the 19th; and asked if it would be comfortable doing that.

Chair Lober stated she could make a motion to do anything, including that.

Commissioner Pritchett stated maybe release 10 percent of it to use right now, not that Mr. Golden is going to use it.

Mr. Abbate asked 10 percent of what number.

Commissioner Pritchett replied \$44 million.

Mr. Abbate indicated \$4.4 million between now and the 19th.

Commissioner Isnardi noted the County probably would not even come close to spending half of that; she made a motion to release up to 10 percent of the unallocated funds for the CARES Act until May 19th when it is reconsidered what to do with the rest.

Commissioner Tobia stated it sounded like the Federal government, just making up numbers; he had a couple questions for Mr. Golden as he does not mind putting him on the spot; obviously, COVID-19 has changed the paradigm when it comes to sheltering people in a hurricane, having to take certain precautions that would account for extreme amounts of capital funding to accomplish social distancing; and he asked how much that would cost.

Mr. Golden stated he would not know the answer.

Commissioner Tobia asked if it was Mr. Golden's understanding that, that would be eligible for funding under this program.

Mr. Golden stated his understanding, from the way the CARES Act works, would be anything that would be done for hurricane season, that would be in excess of what would normally be done, would be eligible for funding.

Commissioner Tobia stated his point was when using the word unallocated, it is not just money floating around; there are a lot of expenses out there that the County may incur that we may not be able to reimburse; PPE is very important for the municipal partners; and he asked if he had any idea what Mr. Abbate was authorized to go and find out what the potential cost for the cities are for items one, two, three, and four, and did he have any idea what is going to come back.

Mr. Abbate replied he has asked Mr. Golden to start looking at that information and he has not received anything from them on that yet; and he knows that Emergency Management is working with him on the PPE stuff, but the other stuff, he will be talking to them tomorrow afternoon, after tonight's Board meeting.

Commissioner Tobia stated this is one of the few times when he asks a question and gets an answer he does not know, and it is absolutely okay; he is extremely concerned to start allocating funds when the Board does know what the expenses of the County could potentially

be; he stated to deal with the \$4.4 million, 10 percent of the \$44 million, as it was said, the programs are capped at \$4,000; and he has not seen it.

Mr. Golden stated he thought that was for the assistance with deductibles for the rental and mortgage assistance under that program; and he believed it capped at \$2,000.

Commissioner Tobia stated, just randomly throwing numbers, that is about 1,100 families; and he asked if Mr. Golden believed that there will be more families that will be in need of this type of assistance in Brevard County's more than 600,000 population.

Mr. Golden replied he thought it was possible, yes.

Commissioner Tobia asked, until there is a fair measure of what that number will be, is it a little premature to offer a cap to a certain amount and then zeroing-out everyone else who may fall outside of those parameters.

Mr. Golden replied he thinks that having a cap on the funds is a good idea; he does not know that capping services until there is a better idea and allowing the 1,100 people potentially to move into homelessness or whatever that next phase is for not being able to pay their current bills; and he thinks that would be an issue too because then the dollars that would be needed, to take them out of that situation even further down the road, would be even greater.

Commissioner Tobia stated Mr. Golden mentioned an example of a family of four, and Chair Lober mentioned helping a little bit more with those folks; his understanding is the Federal government has provided direct assistance to the family of four that Mr. Golden said \$1,200 per adult and \$500 per child, which is \$3,500 already before receiving any type of unemployment assistance, and even if the State is behind on this, all of that has been handled or will be handled retroactively from the State and the Federal government which, to his understanding, is going pretty well, that being the \$600 per week; and he asked what is the average rent here.

Mr. Golden stated one of the things that is done with that prior program, is to look at the other assistance that people are getting and based on that assistance, they may not be eligible for assistance with this program; there are also some people who are getting a tax refund and it may not be until September if they are in the people who submitted their taxes by paper and have to wait until a further point down the road to be able to get that check from the Federal government; now they are looking at this time period where they do not have that and they may or may not get unemployment; he thinks right now about 40 percent of the people who are applying for unemployment are not getting that, as they are either determined ineligible or because of the system and the time frame to get through it; and there are other issues, the idea is to potentially look at these funds, as Commissioner Isnardi said, to get them back out into the community to give people that safety net to get them to those other things that are going to be coming in place for them. He continued to say hopefully businesses will re-open, and hopefully these people are going to get their jobs back but, as mentioned earlier, they will still have to pay that rent and mortgage that was deferred; and all of those things are still going to have to be paid and they will have a gap in their funds, or as one of the speakers mentioned, they may have to dip into their 401K's.

Commissioner Tobia mentioned, just to be clear, the Federal government has taken away the penalty for dipping into the 401K.

Mr. Golden stated they have, yes, but he does not know, as there has been no indication yet, that there is any plan or anything under the current ones that are specifically for a rental

assistance; there has been talk about things down the road, just as Chair Lober had mentioned, that there is still discussions about how the counties can use it, whether it can be used for revenue shortfalls; and there are additional discussions at the Federal level about another stimulus fund for just the states and counties, so there is a lot of moving parts, like he said with his public hearing on CDBG, one of the reasons he kept that general, is to account for the changing environments and the changing situations as the feds and others try to hone in a little bit more on these dollars and what they are expecting to see.

Commissioner Tobia asked if there were other programs, other than direct rent assistance or mortgage assistance that can help people with food assistance instead.

Mr. Golden remarked he was going to ask for some clarification on the motion, because his understanding was it was looking at three items outside of the business piece which did include the food, security utility deposit, as well as the rental and mortgage assistance; that was his understanding of the motion; and the answer would be yes.

Commissioner Tobia asked yes for food, to be clear.

Mr. Golden replied yes.

Commissioner Tobia stated with the multitude of programs that the Federal government has put out there, and Chair Lober mentioned many of them, and he thinks there is duplicating program assistance that has already been out there; and he thinks direct assistance for food, especially if it is targeted at the elderly and young folks, would be best, but with the amount of money that has been borrowed from future generations, he cannot see handouts for rent and mortgage assistance at this time, when thousands and thousands of dollars have already come from the Federal government.

Commissioner Pritchett stated she thinks what the Board was trying to do is, as it likes these categories, and it does not have enough details yet to figure out how the funds are going to be allocated, but her objective is not to tie Mr. Golden's hands now if there are people that need it right now; she likes that there are things included that are not covered by State and Federal assistance, and that he is the one, as she would not want to dish this out to other entities right now, and that gives her comfort for the next two weeks that it has not tied his hands and he is able to do that; she did not throw him money saying to spend it and does not think he would do that, but she just did not want to have him handicapped right now; if someone was about to get evicted out of their house, or feed their family, or the lady that was not able to get to medical visits; she hates the time period it is in, and it did not do this, but she is thankful there are some funds, however the County is getting them, because this is going to be, and she did not want to talk about it right now; and she thinks as Commissioner Isnardi said, these were given on purpose to get into the community so another crisis is not created on top of the existing crisis. She continued to say if there is a homeless family, it would be talking about a few month's rent, and she has seen the statistics and a homeless family can cost up to \$120,000 on taxpayer costs as far as all the things needed to take care of them because they are not in a home; and it is expensive and she just wanted to make that statement.

Commissioner Isnardi wanted to restate that these people are not going to be eligible for these funds if they receive Federal assistance elsewhere; and she asked if that was correct.

Mr. Golden stated typically what it does is look at what their need is versus what they have received in assistance.

Commissioner Isnardi stated if the person was getting \$600 per week unemployment and they were getting all this money, they would not be eligible.

Mr. Golden stated if the person's rent is \$400 and they got \$1,200, they are not going to need rental assistance for three months, but if the rent is \$1,600 and they got \$1,200, that person might be eligible for assistance.

Commissioner Isnardi stated again that this money was allocated for this purpose and she thinks it would be a disservice to the community if it was not used for that purpose; obviously, 10 percent is a large number and she does not expect that even a quarter of that would be used, however, she believes this is the right thing to do as people are suffering now and if help can be provided, it needs to do it, as that is what the money is for; it can be sent back to the Federal government, but it will just be misspent or given to a community that says it needs more money; everyone pays taxes, some more than others, this is where the tax dollars come back to help the community, and the Board needs to step up and do that; and it cannot talk about hypotheticals, what is known now, is that people are suffering, not maybe. She further stated it knows it has the ability to help them, so it needs to help them.

Mr. Abbate stated he wanted to be clear so everyone knows that his office will be very diligent to assure, not just the criteria that exists, because that will not qualify for CARES Act reimbursement, and he knows that is what the Board wants, but he will be certain that it is a COVID-19 related, such as losing a job because of that, or some other qualifying event, to be sure that whatever is started with includes all that, because otherwise, if the money is spent, it may end up having to be reimbursed for it; and he will make sure that criteria is part of what is put together.

Commissioner Isnardi expressed her appreciation for Mr. Abbate restating that because that is a pretty important statement he just made.

Mr. Abbate stated the Treasury made it very clear that it cannot just be given to seniors just because they are seniors; it has to have the delta of what the difference is between what a program normally would have done and what was caused by the COVID-19 crisis and he will be sure to include that.

Commissioner Isnardi stated the Board all knew that up here, discussing it, as it was all a part of the package; and she commented it was probably mentioned in the beginning but she appreciated him mentioning it again.

Mr. Abbate stated that criteria is on the application and he wants people to understand why it is there.

Commissioner Smith stated it is extremely important that people understand that there are parameters, not just because somebody wants money; and they have to show the need fits those parameters.

The Board of County Commissioners reconsidered the prior motion and discussed staff recommendations concerning expenses related to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic which were not budgeted in Fiscal Year 2019-2020; accepted the staff recommendation, with the allocation of the remaining being held in unobligated CARES Act until the appropriate time, as follows:

- 1) Public Health Program – allowing for expenses related to eligible public health measures

and other public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19. Allocating \$7 million for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); disinfection of public areas; and quarantine

2) Medical Expenditure Program – allowing for expenses related to eligible medical measures and other measures to increase COVID-19 treatment capacity. Allocating \$16 million for COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, and antibody testing; emergency medical/transport; and public safety COVID-19 response to include Emergency Management and medical Examiner

3) Public Health Compliance Program – allowing for expenses related to actions to facilitate compliance with COVID-19 related public health measures. Allocating \$15 million for the County Jail – sanitization and social distancing; Telework expenses – comply with COVID-19 precautions, to include software, hardware, cell phones, and bandwidth; Communication/Enforcement Government response to public health orders; sick, family leave expenses, that comply with COVID-19 precaution to include Family First; and non-congregate sheltering

4) Public Employee Reassignment Program – allowing for payroll expenses related to the reassignment of current County employees to duties that are substantially different from pre-COVID-19 duties and dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency and related expenditures. Allocating \$2 million

5) Unobligated CARES Act – setting aside funds for future COVID-19 related emergencies such as social distancing related to sheltering during hurricanes, to address shortfall in programs or other COVID-19 eligible expenses. Allocating \$21 million;

authorizing Mr. Abbate to speak with the municipalities concerning the need of the above one through four for related response to the COVID-19 pandemic that were not budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 through December 30, 2020; approved releasing up to 10 percent or \$4.4 million of the unallocated funds from the CARES Act for Housing Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program, Housing Utility and Security Deposit Program, and Food Stability Program until May 19, 2020, when the Board will consider the rest of the funding, and to include the Small Business Support Program; authorized the Housing and Human Services Director to provide the Board with the cap amount of assistance to an individual or a household on May 19, 2020; and approved all necessary Budget Change Requests.

Chair Lober stated that was one of those no-win votes, he thinks.

Mr. Abbate inquired if that included the Budget Change Request (BCR) that he needs.

Commissioner Isnardi replied yes.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Kristine Isnardi

**Secunder:** Curt Smith

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Smith, and Isnardi

**Nay:** Lober, and Tobia

## **K. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chair Lober stated he knows but wanted to clarify for their benefit, he is hopeful that the discussion the Board is having with respect to this item prior to their comment will help them



focus and hone their comments as need be; it is not that the Board is trying to act without their input, and specifically for that reason, he is not going to ask for a motion at this time; and he put them on notice that he is going to strictly adhere to the three-minute limit because there are quite a few folks that want to speak, so for fairness he will hold to that.

Stacey Patel, Satellite Beach, stated she was there to support the allocation of CARES Act funding toward direct financial assistance for local families; a mom of four in Palm Bay wrote her a couple weeks ago and asked if she had any meat or diapers she could share and she asked if her family needed food the same day and she responded they had ramen noodles for today and they should be okay; another mom of three from Melbourne wrote to her that they had nothing, no food or anything, and she asked if they had stuff for breakfast, they responded they had some rice she can feed them in the morning; a 69 year old in Cape Canaveral, who has since fallen and has been in the hospital, was trying to get through the night on a can of green beans, she said it was not going to last, she had no car, and could not get food and she is 69 and has no help; and even before the COVID-19, Michael had been living with his four kids in a van for months. She continued to say another family of three, survivors of domestic abuse, had been in the woods for months, despite the fact that her youngest son was four years old; in the County's own back yard, kids from both families attend local schools, our systems knew about their prolonged homelessness and did not have the resources to meet their needs; the social service net in Brevard is failing to catch people and as thousands of working families face job loss, layoffs, and furloughs, this State has failed to provide a functional system to access unemployment; she stated she was there to support the use of the \$44 million in providing economic support to the members of the community, including especially, direct aid to families for things like rent, mortgage, utility assistance, supplemental unemployment benefits for those that fall in the gap, food delivery to those who are sick or quarantined, or lack transportation, publicly-funded testing and contact tracing, and health care assistance for uninsured and underinsured families. She further stated she sent 16 stories from local residents to the Commissioners and none of them are the worst; they are the stories from health care workers, teachers, hairstylists, musicians, tattoo artists, restaurant workers, many of them are moms or dads too; they are just a few of the more than 9,000 folks who have joined together in a local Facebook group to provide aid to one another when no one else will; we have only been around the Facebook page for a few weeks but we have seen a lot of needs in the community in that short time; they have been able to move folks into hotels and shelters, and get them local groceries when they did not have any groceries to feed their children; and she is sure the Board knows that the call volume of 2-1-1 has increased significantly and so many families are in need of direct aid. She stated, to provide even more context to her requests, specifically for mortgage and rental assistance, in Orange County, as the Board may know, that county opened up \$1.8 million before the CARES Act even came, to provide \$1,200 to 1,500 local families; and they received 26,000 applications which, she thinks, only speaks to the depth of the need in the area.

Laurie Allen, Cape Canaveral, stated she was here to represent the minority small business owner; in the month of April, she had 12 events canceled, which was approximately \$70,000 in revenue that was lost to the small contract laborers, the gate workers, the talents, the caterers, the people that are in the production industry, and the dancers; all of these people are 1099 workers, that pay their taxes and not one person, that she knows of, has received their reemployment check in the State of Florida; when she filed for unemployment, she filed the last week of March as her last event was March 13th in Miami; she heard all the horror stories of nobody being able to get in, or get online, and the crashing, etcetera, etcetera; and she got up at 4:00 a.m. in the morning and counted herself as a great success that she finally got through at 7:00 a.m., only three hours of her time, however, she never received any notification that they had received her application, that she was on file, that she had a claim, she received

nothing. She continued to say, of the 12 events that were scheduled, only three have rescheduled for January, one in Melbourne, most of these being for non-profit dollars, for children with autism and disabilities, one for the Port Authority with 1,200 people going and these events will not be back again and that money is lost; she reapplied last week for her unemployment on April 24th, because that is the new mandate, you have to apply twice and get denied twice, but she still has heard nothing; surprisingly enough, the initial filing in the last week of March, she also filed for food stamps, and lo and behold, four days later, her snap card was delivered, so some things are being done right, just not enough; President Trump included them this time for the first time ever in the CARES Act, that they could get benefits, but no one is giving it; some of them waited all day yesterday for Governor Desantis' remedy for fixing this and we heard nothing that told what he was doing to fix it, only a lot of rhetoric, and that a lot of it was their fault that they had forgotten their Social Security numbers, and that is why they had not received their benefits; and she stated she knows her Social Security number. She further stated Brevard does not realize how lucky it is with all the talents here; the live music venues everywhere, but in Miami-Dade there are only two, Broward there is three, and Boca there is one; we need to protect these people, we have nothing, we need to be taken care of and heard; and there is a lot of brilliance here, all the Space Centers, but we have a lot of people that are contract laborers, that are Vets and she asked the Board to please remember them.

Catherine Haynes, Melbourne, stated that today the Board has the opportunity to help Brevard citizens, as the critical choices made now with how to allocate the one-time \$105 million from the Federal Coronavirus relief fund will profoundly affect how the County operates in the future; last month Governor Desantis issued an eviction and foreclosure moratorium which is set to expire on May 17th, but unpaid rent during the moratorium will not be forgiven or frozen; this has clear cause-and-effect and it is why the County needs to provide rental assistance as part of the money from the CARES Act; many landlords cannot continue to maintain or operate their properties without rental income, therefore, in about two weeks, we will likely see mass evictions with a significant number of local citizens permanently displaced, and landlords without the income necessary to stay afloat; and through the Board's foresight and leadership, it can ensure as a County, it is not saddling more low-income renters with debt and or forcing landlords to foreclose resulting in losing some of our County's critical low-income housing. She continued to say without a local governmental response that provides rental assistance to stop the eviction process, a greater crisis will be created and will result in both landlords and tenants sliding further down the socio-economic scale; and she asked to please direct a good significant portion of the relief funds to assist in maintaining housing for citizens of Brevard that need support through this current situation.

Michael Bramson, Altamonte Springs, President of the Brevard County Firefighters Union, stated he first wanted to send condolences to the brothers and sisters with the Sheriff's Office in their recent loss; as the social restrictions due to COVID-19 begin to soften, the citizens and visitors of Brevard County are beginning to enjoy what it has to offer; the Firefighters Union would like to express a few ongoing points; current research continues to accept that there is a 14 day incubation or contagious period and it has become increasingly difficult to normalize the signs and symptoms of this disease and the parameters to gauge potential infection continues to broaden instead of narrow, which increases the risk to Brevard citizens and first responders; and social restrictions are beginning to loosen but for the front line workers, they must continue that 14 days past the loosening recommendation so they continue to isolate and they continue to burden that 14 days past the phase one. He continued to say testing remains a challenge for first responders as the parameters continue to change and tests are limited or have not been invented yet; it is the expectation and high hopes that people will begin to learn more about the COVID-19 disease, monitoring will be more effective, and it will be able to get more direction towards the testing, but in addition to the heightened level of response and risks to the

County, the ongoing efforts, and infrastructure stability and the Commissioners' ability to create a stable environment, the Firefighters Union is very much aware of the decrease of funding and the increase of cost of the essential functions of government; even with this acknowledgement, he wanted to speak on behalf of the citizens, the first responders, and front-line workers of Brevard County; over the last six weeks there has been a lot of focus on COVID-19, but they have come to accept that there is a greater good to be had; and there was a lot of uncertainty at the beginning of COVID-19 and it was necessary to direct a lot of energy finding a way to cope with this new evil disease but he also wanted to bring life to the fact that they also have to do their core functions. He continued to say they have to respond to cancer survivors, childbirth, structure fires, and ongoing everyday events of life and there have been challenges; Brevard had a little luck this year with a little bit of rain during the brush season and there is about a month left before hurricane season, but a little luck goes a long way; it is his opinion that the COVID-19 event has had a synergistic effect with the pre-existing stresses to the Fire Department, public safety sector, and the citizens of Brevard County; he wanted to ask the Board as well as Fire Rescue Management to consider everything that has been accomplished over the last couple of years; and how the relationship has increased due to its great direction. He went on to ask the Board to consider the long-term effects of the sacrifices being done now and how that will take time, months, years, and hopefully that will be the end of it, to a point of survivability, and that they can continue to serve the visitors and citizens of Brevard County.

Rob Rains, Cocoa Beach, President of United Way, stated he came before the Commission on March 31st and shared a little bit about the response that Community Foundation for Brevard, the Space Coast Health Foundation, and United Way came together to form a joint COVID response; he wanted to give a little bit of an update as the Board considers the CARES Act funding; he did get a chance to look at the memo that County Manager, Frank Abbate, and his team put together and he thought it was great staff work and now as the Board deliberates on allocating that \$105 million that came through Congress, signed by the President and looking at those kinds of things that are eligible to be spent and need to be spent by the end of this year, he asked that it consider spending a significant amount, at least 10 percent, to help people directly for help with mortgages, rental assistance, utilities, and food, all eligible expenses; as he mentioned, United Way started a COVID-19 response and have raised over \$330,000 so far from generous people calling to pledge their gift; and they set up a system, which was not easy, it took a little bit of time, and working with 2-1-1 Brevard, recruiting counselors, and people call in, get screened, talk with the counselors and then they make sure the people were indeed laid off or lost income due to COVID-19, they make sure they have an eviction notice or late notice from a landlord, or utility, get all the documentation in, and then help them. He further mentioned he sent an email to the Board today that listed their responses so far, roughly they have helped about 150 families to the tune of over \$160,000, about \$1,200 per family which are increasing as they get further; they do not do mortgages, only rent, because the eviction process for mortgages was a lot longer; he is concerned they are going to run out of money as they project that they will run out of money by the end of next week from their funding because of the need and demand; the possibility of the County stepping in and helping the citizens directly is an amazing opportunity, and they are not asking for any money to come to their organization as the County Housing and Human Services has a lot of experience in doing this and he sees this as a critical bridge to help people before the CARES Act money comes to them; and the \$600 and \$1,200 is still a long way away for a lot of folks and people have been out of work, some as early as March, and while they may not have to pay their rent for April or May, it will have to be paid eventually. He continued to say the idea that this could be a bridge, setting up a system to help families here in need would be helpful.

Sanjay Patel, Satellite Beach, stated he wanted to read one of the stories from one of the constituents into the record, and he read "My name is Bobby, I am a tattoo artist at Endless

Summer Tattoos on Cocoa Beach. I work out of the studio as an independent contractor. We have been closed due to COVID-19 since March 12th. I live in Cocoa Beach in a house where I am currently giving a room to my younger brother and his 11-year-old son. I feel that they are truly in need at this time. I do not ask anything of them in return because I know they do not have it. I have always been punctual and paid my bills and rent on time. As of today, I am now two months behind on my rent which is \$1,500 per month. All the money that I have saved is now gone. Thank God they are not shutting off my utilities, but when this is all over, I am going to be left in a hole and I feel like I will not be able to get out of it. I have applied for unemployment, I have called several times only to be told I am still not eligible to receive any benefits. It seems like I may not be able to go back to work for a month, if not longer. Even then, things are not going to magically go back to normal. It is going to be a very slow process to get financially stable again. All my co-workers are going through the same thing, none of us have gotten any assistance from unemployment. I have no family here other than my brother, who is walking in the same shoes as me. My parents are not in a position to help me at this time because my mom is in the final stages of Alzheimer's. It kills me inside that I cannot help them when I cannot pay my own bills. I know there are many people like myself who can truly benefit from some kind of rental or mortgage assistance." He stated he has a stack of these stories and the Board was emailed these today; he does not envy the position it is in, as it is a tough environment for it making decisions; what he wants it to think about is, he heard a comment about the \$600 and \$275 per week; and he asked if the Board has gone to the website, as he builds websites, and the design of the Florida Reemployment site is one the most atrocious things he has ever seen. He suggested the Board sets up a test case, or better yet, sit down with one of its constituents and try to apply; he does not know a single person who has gotten the \$600 from the CARES Act, and on top of that, he still knows people who have not gotten their stimulus check; during this time, he thinks that people have to remind themselves that the true measure of society is how people treat the most vulnerable among them, and right now, those people are really struggling, and he hopes the Board looks at them as the priority, the North star, when making these tough decisions.

Jane Hernando, West Melbourne, stated she is a health care worker and her story is of healthcare workers in the nation and of a mother who tries to feed her kids; she is a health care worker with very high-risk due to asthma and a history of pneumonia and bronchitis; at the beginning of this stay-at-home order, her doctor wrote an order for her to stay home for a week due to complications with her asthma; she was able to go back to work for only one day because she had another asthma attack, then her doctor put her in two weeks isolation and she used up all of her paid time off in one month; and she is now back to work but being very careful with her health. She continued to say with all that is happening, she has now adopted three teenagers in her home, two of them lost their jobs, and one was not able to go back to their home because her mother is stuck out of the country because she got sick; she said it is okay, they have food on the table and they are a happy family; she tries to be a responsible citizen, she pays her taxes, she saves up for rainy days, and even has a 401K, but with all that is happening, she cannot believe that she has to withdraw her 401K because she has other bills besides her mortgage, like car insurance, light bill, water bill, and even health care bills; as a person who still has a job, she is very thankful she still has money coming in, but until when; and a month ago her company furloughed 32 of the workers and this is sad because she does not know how long her company can keep up with all of this going on. She further stated she implores the Board to approve the \$44 million allocation and ensure it will provide mortgage and rental assistance, food delivery, supplemental unemployment, public testing and contact tracing, health care assistance for the uninsured and underinsured families, and other direct aid to the community; a thriving community will directly impact the Brevard community; she hopes the Board considers that not all people have extra money to pay for all of this; and she advised, a lot of people are struggling.

Keith Donald, Melbourne, stated he has a private family foundation called Steady Town that does a lot of community development work; he was there as a member of a Countywide task force that will be making funding allocation recommendations to the Board of the Brevard Homeless Coalition for some other Federal CARES Act relief that is expected to be coming into Brevard to directly respond to community health and safety concerns around homelessness during this time; the funds are fairly significant and he wanted to bring that to the Board's attention; he has about \$700,000 of potential additional funding and with the early work of his task forces, they are looking to put a significant allocation of that towards homeless prevention efforts which he thinks is very important during this time where there is so much great pressure put on the homelessness services system; and he has been around this sector and working in this space for a while and has seen this issue from the business side of things, from the health side, and the human side. He continued to say that it is not often that the system sees a new injection of dollars like this and he wanted to speak briefly about what he is thinking as part of that task force; right now, the system of care in the County for responding to homelessness concerns, which really affects the whole community, is very fragmented; it does not see a lot of leverage in terms of dollars, it is confusing to people, and honestly, a lot of little charities doing the best they can and woefully under funded; it is his view, and he knows some others on the task force share the same view, that now represents a real opportunity to move the needle a bit, build some new capacity focused on health and safety, and get everyone rowing in the same direction to help prevent homelessness during this time; and he asked for the Board to consider following what he is doing and the recommendation coming out of the Brevard Homelessness Coalition regarding the use of the funds and, considering as it goes, how County Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRS) can play a role potentially in a reimbursement capacity, not looking at that as support as kind of a one-off thing, but looking at it as an investment that can create some leverage and strengthen what is, in his assessment, a very weak system.

Theresa Grimison, Indian Harbor Beach, President and CEO of the Community Foundation for Brevard, stated she works with philanthropists to realize their intentions into the County for its health and vitality and she also works closely with non-profit organizations throughout the County; she also has been serving in a volunteer capacity with the Brevard Homeless Coalition task force that Keith Donald just described, which has been a tremendous insight for her even though she does accomplish some work in that arena to really understand the depth and the breadth of the issue at hand; she is also working hand in hand with Rob Rains with the United Way of Brevard and also Johnette Gindling, President of the Space Coast Health Organization; in early March, they all said to each other, this problem is coming down fast and so much bigger than the three of them individually and even working together; and they came together crossing different ways of doing things, different ways of tackling an issue to say, to do what they can and make sure it happens, and happens quickly. She further stated she thinks the Board has heard some numbers from Mr. Rains earlier, and it has been tremendous what working together has allowed them to do; very quickly they have been able to get \$300,000, which she would say roughly, between individual families that are being hit the hardest as well as organizations that are working on the front line, obviously this is coming down the pike and they are just touching the surface; she stands with Commissioner Isnardi and Pritchett, and hopefully others, when saying to take action, this is their time; she would also like to add that when this was coming and she was working with Ocean Breeze Elementary School, as that is where her two children go to school, it was doing an incredible job of getting the distance learning program going and she has been in awe of what has been pulled off in literally two-weeks-time; she quickly reached out to the administrators and teachers there that she worked most closely with, to say look, when they hear the need, please let her know, because these are the resources that can be pointed to right away; and immediately she heard back, the

need is huge and that was a month and one-half ago and it is just building, everyone is hearing the numbers. She stated she urged all to reach across like she did with United Way of Brevard and Space Coast Health Organization; they talk twice a week minimum to try to tackle this problem; and she needs the Board to step in and be part of that team.

Namor Thomas, Titusville, stated as a disabled person, she has been isolated and quarantined in her home for the last two months, with no transportation, no way to get to medical appointments, or get medications, no assistance at all in Titusville, just lost out there; there is no one to call, no meals, and no toilet paper; now the Governor has opened back up the State and now eviction notices are coming up, there are no houses, nowhere to move to relocate because in Brevard County, a two-bedroom, the minimum is \$1,600; she asked, for people on fixed income, like herself, where do they go, where do they start, and that someone needs to help, please. She further stated, from Titusville to the Holmes Hospital, calling Uber is \$85, from Titusville to Viera Hospital is \$70; this is cash money having to be paid because the medical assistance, E-Med, or whatever, does not want to take them because they are sick; she is a survivor of colon cancer and she has a port that needs to be flushed, which she cannot because her doctor's appointment keeps getting pushed back so she will now need a new port; she needs medications that she cannot get because the Uber is \$13 one way from her apartment to Walmart and she is on a fixed income of \$800 per month; and if she had to fill out an application today, she might as well say she is a convict because she is a prisoner in her own home for two months. She continued to say she cannot go to the hospital in Titusville because they are a stage three hospital, so a cancer patient, like she, has to go to Holmes Hospital, so she has to pay that \$85, one way; she asked that the CARES Act money is distributed to the people that need help as she sees other counties are helping people, but nothing here; and people are stuck with no public transportation in Titusville, as she walked from Interstate 95 to get public transportation, and that does not work for her.

Jim Liesenfelt, Assistant County Manager, stated that if Ms. Thomas were to call Space Coast Area Transit Administrative Office at 321635-7815, extension zero, and ask for Carmen Baez, she could help her with transportation in Titusville.

Ms. Thomas asked if they would come into her apartment complex.

Mr. Liesenfelt replied that he did not have specific details but they do paratransit, which is door-to-door transportation.

Ms. Thomas thanked him and stated she does have Medicare but she has to walk to get to anything; and she needs help.

Mr. Liesenfelt stated to call Ms. Baez and he would also give her a heads-up that she would be calling.

Chair Lober stated that if she needed help with the number again, to go to [BrevardFL.legistar.com](http://BrevardFL.legistar.com), to view the video to repeat any portion of the meeting.

Ms. Thomas asked when the next meeting was.

Chair Lober replied two days from now, on Thursday.

Ms. Thomas stated she would be there.

L.1. Frank Abbate, County Manager

Frank Abbate, County Manager, stated while the Florida Department of Health has been providing the no-cost testing for the last couple of months and there has been some private entities providing testing as well, there has been an opportunity from the Florida Department of Emergency Management to set-up a drive-through State-run testing site in the population center of Brevard County which would end up being in Palm Bay; the County would have to organize and get a testing site; it started looking at the parking lot of Eastern Florida State College and it would be something that the State would run; and the County would have no costs, so if the Board is interested in doing that, it would move forward with that, and in conjunction with that, set up some additional sites, temporary, free testing sites up in North Brevard, Central Brevard, and the beaches; and the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM) has offered 4,000 testing kits and will pay for the testing being performed, so if the Board is good with that, his office will identify the three sites and move forward with all that.

Chair Lober remarked it sounded like a no-brainer.

Mr. Abbate stated if the Board would like to make a motion on it, Emergency Management will put the program together.

Mr. Abbate stated he misspoke and it was 2,000 kits, not 4,000.

The Board authorized Mr. Abbate to organize the setup of three drive-thru COVID-19 testing sites, located in Central Brevard, North Brevard, and the beaches utilizing 2,000 testing kits paid for by FDEM.

**Result:** APPROVED

**Mover:** Curt Smith

**Secunder:** Bryan Lober

**Ayes:** Pritchett, Lober, Tobia, Smith, and Isnardi

L.5. John Tobia, Commissioner District 3

Commissioner Tobia stated he spoke with Tad Calkins, Planning and Development Director, before he asked him to make any changes on forms, he wanted to get Board consent on it; there are many times a miscommunication with people who are building or remodeling in Brevard County; the applicants, or the person that actually is having the job done, many times hears from the builder that it is the County's concern that the County is not, in fact, processing the applications in an expeditious fashion; he has checked into this a few times for constituents and he can say that, each and every time, that is not the case; and it is extremely diligent work that is being handled by that department but it is very easy for the builder to blame the County. He continued to say what he wanted to ask Mr. Calkins to do was, on the applications, add a line for the email address for the actual applicant, whoever owns the address; that way, they would see the exact same communications that the builder is getting, so there is no miscommunication as to the speed of the processing that the County is doing; he thinks this would make it a lot harder for builders to blame the County for slow processing, when the applicant has all of the required documentation as to just how quickly that is being done; many times they blame it on the County and yet there are four or five recommendations of why it did not meet Code, one way or the other; and his point is, the County is doing the right thing and unfortunately it is getting blamed for it. He further stated he is asking that a line be put on the application that keeps the actual owner of the property in the loop, and with the Board's approval, make a motion to implement changes necessary to copy homeowners on communications regarding permits; and he has been told that this can be handled as quickly as

