

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NOVEMBER 19, 2024

A Board Workshop was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Commission Chambers; Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida.

The following members were present: Chair Truex, Commissioner Constance, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Doherty, and Commissioner Tiseo. Also in attendance were: County Administrator Flores, County Attorney Knowlton, Minutes Clerk Savino, and Minutes Clerk Welsh. The following members were absent: None.

The Meeting was called to order at 8:33 am, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. 🇺🇸

1. Jr. Commission Graduation

Sandy Bruce, Florida Southwestern State College; Jacob Chupka, Charlotte High School; Molly Dacanay, Florida Southwestern State College; Cole Elfenbein, Lemon Bay High School; Elizabeth Eubank, Charlotte High School; Madison Filipowicz, Port Charlotte High School; Eva Gressley, Lemon Bay High School; Ava Hall, Charlotte High School; Madison McQueen, Charlotte High School; Christine Morris, Lemon Bay High School; Diana Oliver, Port Charlotte High School; Katelyn Reed, Lemon Bay High School; Logan Stchur, Charlotte High School; Vincenzo Vega, Lemon Bay High School; and Blaine Wilson, Charlotte High School.

County Administrator Flores discussed public service, rewards, improvements, community progress and support, education, and engagement.

**Chair Truex** commented on staff efforts, partnership, Charlotte County School Board and Directors, teamwork, community, feedback, and Junior Commission Program. **Commissioner Doherty** mentioned Junior Commission Program. **Commissioner Tiseo** noted Junior Commission Program and schedules.

2. One Charlotte One Water

Brandon Moody, Water Quality Manager gave a brief overview of Today's Goals, One Water: How We Got Here, What and Why, One Water - What and Why, One Water Overall Goals, Some Points on the One Water Plan, One Water Plan General Structure, Plan Structure, Vision and Task Categories, Inaugural One Water Vision Tasks, Monitoring, Modeling, and Watershed Improvement, Pathways - Monitoring, Modeling, and Watershed Improvement, Tasks - Monitoring, Modeling, and Watershed Improvement, Recommendations: Reasonable Assurance Plans and Total Maximum Daily Loads, Stormwater Management, Pathways - Stormwater Management, Task - Stormwater Management, Drinking Water and Wastewater, Pathways - Drinking Water and Wastewater, Tasks - Drinking Water and Wastewater, Policy, Programmatic and Organizational Activities, Pathways - Policy, Programmatic and Organizational Activities, Tasks - Policy, Programmatic and Organizational Activities, One Water Goals - Milestones, One Water Plan Next Steps, and Immediate Post-Plan Actions.

Brett Cunningham, PE, Jones Edmunds Managing Director gave a brief overview of Cycle of Progress, Potential Grant Funding Opportunities, and Local Taxation and Incentivization.

**Chair Truex** spoke to Some Points on the One Water Plan, findings, community engagement, Grants, Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), Wellen Park, City of North Port, Coastal and Heartland National Estuary Partnership (CHNEP) Executive

Director Jennifer Hecker, 16 County Coalition, corrective actions, water quality, Caloosahatchee River, Basin Management Action Plans (BMAP), Lee County, restrictions, standards, Charlotte Harbor, Public Information Office (PIO), educational programs, developments, salt water intrusion, reclaimed water, landscaping, benefits, Myakka River, Intercoastal Waterway, wells, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Tasks - Policy, Programmatic and Organizational Activities, Lemon Bay Conservancy, referendum language, Placida parcel, and Future Land Use (FLU). **Commissioner Constance** discussed Pathways - Monitoring, Modeling, and Watershed Improvement, water flow, sampling, and monitoring, impairment sources, strategy, Charlotte Harbor, algae blooms, sea grass loss, Water Quality Managers, Lee and Sarasota Counties, Florida Association of Counties (FAC), 16 County Coalition, Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), coalition concept, Suwannee River, environmentally sensitive lands, referendum, water quality initiative request, land acquisition, funding, and sale price. **Commissioner Doherty** commented on CHNEP Executive Director Jennifer Hecker, Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee River, nitrogen loading, red tide duration, economic impacts, 16 Counties of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Coalition, SWFWMD Executive Director Brian Armstrong, drainage basins, FAC, cooperative funding, water management districts, additional funding, certification requirements, Tasks – Stormwater Management, Chapter 17-25: Regulations of Stormwater Discharge, Potential Grant Funding Opportunities, and Reasonable Assurance Plan (RAP). **Commissioner Tiseo** mentioned water quality, Charlotte Harbor, impairment sources, Tourism Task Force, July 14, 2022 Joint Meeting with North Port City Council, Cocoplum Waterway, septic to sewer conversion, permits, existing infrastructure, educational programs, Comcast Channel 20, PIO, SWFWMD, Tasks – Stormwater Management, certification requirement, land acquisition program, referendum, and environmental millage.

County Attorney Knowlton interjected on land acquisition referendum.

County Administrator Flores responded to December 17, 2024 BCC Workshop.

### 3. Harborview Road Project

Joanne Vernon, County Engineer gave a brief overview of Roadway Updates, Harborview Road, Typical Section, Value Engineering, 1 – Sidewalk Width, 2 – Median Width, 3 - Roadway Profile, 4 – Intersection Analysis, Value Engineering Summary, Harborview Updates, Edgewater/Flamingo Updates: Phase 3 (Midway to Collingswood), Phase 4 (Collingswood to Samantha Ave), Phase 5 (Samantha Ave to 776), 776 Intersection, Concurrency Information, replied to Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), deadline, funding reallocation, and right of way (ROW) acquisition.

Gordon Burger, Budget and Administrative Services Director gave a brief overview of Proposed Projects, Projected Revenues, Mid/West County Projects, and South County Projects.

**Chair Truex** noted sidewalks, public safety, 3 – Roadway Profile, 4 – Intersection Analysis, Jacaranda Boulevard, traffic flow and signals, roundabout, Boca Grande, Concurrency Information, roadway usage, Edgewater Drive, mobilization cost, funding, and November 26, 2024 BCC Regular and Land Use Meeting. **Commissioner Constance** spoke to timing, cost, public safety, FDOT, projects, redesign cost, Concurrency Information, funding, traffic flow, Edgewater Drive, and mobilization. **Commissioner Doherty** discussed design, ROW acquisition, funding, Concurrency Information, affordability, Edgewater Drive, revenues, options, and timeline. **Commissioner Tiseo** commented on 4 – Intersection Analysis, Value Engineering Summary, functionality, assistance, Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Manual, roundabout, Veterans Boulevard, options, permit condition, stormwater expansion, Manchester Lock Removal, Proposed Projects, Proposed Revenues, Impact Fee Analysis and Study, categories, Sales Tax projects, infrastructure, methodology, Edgewater Drive, traffic flow, segmentation, funding, West Port, construction cost, and savings.

John Elias, Public Works Director responded to Value Engineering Summary, savings, and roundabouts.

Robert Fakhri, Transportation Engineer replied to roundabouts, traffic signals, benefits, and public safety.

Deputy County Administrator Emily Lewis responded to Harborview Road, funding commitment, FDOT, work program.

#### 4. Solid Waste Operational Update

Mr. Elias gave a brief overview of Discussion Points, Landfill Background, Current Site, Vertical Discussion vs. New Landfill, Feasibility Study, Zemel Road Landfill Vertical Expansion Conceptual Design and Fill Sequence, Landfill Profile, Feasibility Summary, Alternative Option, Scale House & Convenience Center, Vertical Expansion, Tipping Fee Comparison, Out of county waste, Little Gasparilla Island (LGI), Franchise Hauler – Waste Management, Levels of Service, and Franchise Hauler.

**Chair Truex** mentioned Vertical Expansions, priorities, Tipping Fee Comparison, Out of county waste, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), reimbursements, rates, neighboring counties, and hurricanes. **Commissioner Constance** spoke to Vertical Expansions, Tipping Fee Comparison, Out of county waste, and haulers. **Commissioner Deutsch** noted Franchise Hauler and service. **Commissioner Doherty** discussed Vertical Expansions, Out of county waste, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and capacity. **Commissioner Tiseo** commented on Vertical Expansions, Burnt Store Area, odor mitigation, complaints, Tipping Fee Comparison, Out of county waste, FEMA, reimbursements, impacts, rate schedule, operational costs, and Franchise Hauler.

Deputy County Administrator Lewis replied to jurisdictions, FEMA, reimbursements, landfill, rates, third-party hauler, debris removal fee, Out of county waste, Interlocal Agreement, and financial impacts.

#### 5. Parks and Recreation Master Plan – Future Needs

Tommy Scott, Community Services Director gave a brief overview of Discussion Points, Accomplishments, Part 1 – The Setting: Population Forecast, National Trends/State Trends, Emerging Trends/Decreasing Trends, Every 2 years, Part 2: The Future, Part 3: System Building Blocks, Charlotte County Park Opportunities, Forecasted Community and Regional Parks, Part 4 - Plan Implementation: Alternative funding options, Continuation of ongoing action items, Part 5: Staffing - Parks and Natural Resources Levels of Maintenance & Operations (LOMO): Parks Maintenance, Ballfields, Park and Natural Resources Staff, New Parks Maintenance routes, Recreation Levels of Maintenance & Operation, Aquatic Facilities, Recreation staffing optimization, Aquatics staffing optimization, and Recommendations.

**Chair Truex** mentioned Gasparilla Island State Park, amenities, Part 4: Plan Implementation, Part 5: Staffing, funding sources, timelines, utilization levels, facilities, funding sources, and timelines. **Commissioner Constance** spoke to Forecasted Community and Regional Parks, Part 4: Plan Implementation, Parks Master Plan, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), land procurement, needs, environmental lands, partnership, parks, user fees, current utilization, needs, weather, staffing, and facility traffic. **Commissioner Deutsch** noted rental equipment, kayak launch, and William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park. **Commissioner Doherty** discussed Burnt Store Road, FDEP, Part 3: System Building Blocks, Part 4: Plan Implementation, and land acquisition. **Commissioner Tiseo** commented on Part 4: Plan Implementation, regulatory agencies, Part 3: System Building Blocks, Part 5: Staffing - Parks and Natural Resources Levels of Maintenance & Operations (LOMO): Parks Maintenance, user fees, and current conditions.

County Attorney Knowlton interjected on FDEP and park amenities.

Deputy County Administrator Lewis responded to Burnt Store Road, facility uses, amenities, access, and available parcels.

## 6. Sports Fields

Mr. Scott gave a brief overview of Discussion points, Current sports fields, Challenges: Currently all sports fields are natural turf, Natural turf, Short term options: Move to synthetic turf, Midterm options: Cost estimates – to build new, Centennial Park, Franz Ross Park, Ann and Chuck Dever Regional Park, Harold Avenue Regional Park, Maracaibo Kidspace Park, Long term options, Options, replied to challenges, natural turf, and limitations.

Sean Doherty, Tourism Development Director gave a brief overview of Impact of Sports Tourism: Provides Economic Impact to Industry Partners, Crisis Resilient, Current Challenges, Lost Out-Of-Town Sports Business Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 – Present: Baseball/Softball, Soccer/Basketball, Other Sports Inquiries Unable to Accommodate, Confirmed Support, Potential Partnerships, Florida Sports Complex Growth: Panama City Beach – PCB Publix Sports Park, Alachua County – Alachua County Sports & Events Center, Alachua County – Champions Park, Collier County – Paradise Coast Sports Complex, Lee County – Lake Kennedy Racquet Center (City of Cape Coral), Pasco County – Wiregrass Ranch Sports Complex, Sarasota County – Nathan Benderson Park Sports Complex, Sarasota County – 17<sup>th</sup> Street Regional Park, Seminole County – Boombah Sports Complex, Seminole County – Seminole Indoor Sports Complex, Other Counties Currently Designing & Building New Complexes For Sports Tourism, replied to Port Charlotte Golf Club, acreage size, and North Port High School.

**Chair Truex** mentioned public safety, natural and synthetic turf, Long term options, Short term options, Centennial Park, North Port High School, football fields, and maintenance. **Commissioner Constance** spoke to FAC, facilities, spending, sport fields, Seminole County – Boombah Sports Complex, Centennial Park, Current sports fields, synthetic turf, and acreage size. **Commissioner Doherty** noted Midterm options: Cost estimates – to build new, natural and synthetic turf, safety, research, Centennial Park, disc golf, programming, cost, multi-purpose fields, and Babcock Ranch High School. **Commissioner Tiseo** discussed synthetic and natural turf, sports fields, Centennial Park, Impacts of Sports Tourism, Return on Investment (ROI), Midterm options: Cost estimates – to build new, Franz Ross Park, amenities, Ann and Chuck Dever Regional Park, Harold Avenue Regional Park, Maracaibo Kidspace Park, Long term options, funding, costs, Port Charlotte Golf Club, and Parkside Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA).

Sean Walter, Sales and Sports Marketing Manager replied to multi-purpose sport fields and amenities.

**Recess: 12:48 pm – 1:30 pm**

## 7. Employee Health Center Pharmacy Update

Mr. Burger gave a brief overview of Employee Health Center: History, Appointment Breakdown Trend, Unique Patient Participation, Health Plan Emergency Room (ER) Visits, Patient Admissions, Health Plan Gross Medical Costs, Project Savings – Cost per employee per month: \$138 million in savings when compared to national average, \$237 million in savings when compared to Florida average, Rx Utilization Trends, Health Plan Employer Paid Rx Costs, Utilization Trends: Generic vs Brand Rx, Glucagon-like Peptide (GLP) 1 & 2, On-site Pharmacy, and Pharmacy Utilization Management.

**Chair Truex** commented on Pharmacy Utilization Management, prescription process, Sarasota Memorial Hospital (SMH), locations, medication side effects and copay costs, Advent Health, and ShorePoint Health Punta Gorda. **Commissioner Constance** mentioned Appointment Breakdown Trend, tele-visits, Unique Patient Participation, \$237 million in savings

when compared to Florida average, FAC, National Association of Counties (NACo), Health Plan Employer Paid Rx Costs, Cigna, negotiations, On-site Pharmacy, Pharmacy Utilization Management, dispensary options, savings, ShorePoint Health Punta Gorda, SMH locations, HCA Healthcare, employee access, medical specialists, public health system, private for profit corporate medicine, and medication costs. **Commissioner Tiseo** noted Health Plan Employer Paid Rx Costs, trendline, Utilization Trends – GLP 1 & 2, Health Plan Employer Paid Rx Costs, weight loss protocol, long term effects, Pharmacy Utilization Management, and cost difference.

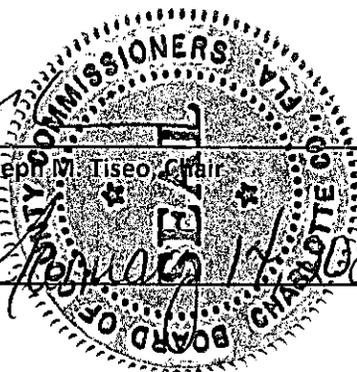
**AA. County Administrator Comments - None**

**BB. County Attorney Comments - None**

**CC. Commissioner Comments**

**Chair Truex** spoke to agenda item, discussion, reelection paperwork, and deadlines. **Commissioner Constance** discussed Metro Forecasting, reelections, and deadlines. **Commissioner Doherty** commented on deadline, reelection paperwork, and deadlines. **Commissioner Tiseo** mentioned Impact Fees, construction inflation and costs, data, Bert's Salute to America Foundation, and December 2, 2024 A Night of Improv For Hurricane Relief.

**ADJOURNED: 2:14 pm**

  
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Joseph M. Tiseo, Chair  
DATE ADOPTED:   


**ATTEST:**

**ROGER D. EATON, CLERK  
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND  
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

By:   
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Deputy Clerk