

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DECEMBER 17, 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 Tiseo, Commissioner Constance, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Doherty, and Commissioner Truex. Also in attendance were: County Administrator Flores, County Attorney Knowlton, and Minutes Clerk Welsh. The following members were absent: None.

The Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

Chair Tiseo read into the record a statement in response to Charlotte County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Sergeant Elio Diaz, mentioned memorial services and ceremony, and tragic events.

Invocation was given by Chair Tiseo, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Administrator Flores highlighted Board Workshop.

1. Budget Process: Budget Intro & Process Review

Francine Lisby, Financial Manager gave a brief overview of What is a Budget: Process is as important as the product, Stages of the Budget Process, Stage I: Establish Strategic Goals, Vision-Mission-Values, Next Big Things: County Staff/Business Community, 2017 Ranking/2024 Ranking, Future Impacts of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Stage II: Develop Approaches to Achieve Goals, Budget Process Alignment, Stage III: Develop a Budget to Achieve Strategic Goals, In Performance Based Budget (PBB), Significant Considerations: Impacts of Helene and Milton, Impacts of Storms, Annual Adjustment to Homestead Extension Value, Accelerated Growth-Extended Inflation-Storm Recovery, Additional Uncertainties, Stage IV: Evaluate Performance & Make Adjustments, Proposed Calendar, General Fund Five Year Financial Plan – Revenue/Expenditures, Ad Valorem Reserves, General Fund Five Year Financial Plan – Revenue/Expenditures (unaudited figures), and Revised Ad Valorem Reserves.

Chair Tiseo discussed Ad Valorem Reserves, fiscal stabilization, credit score impacts, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement policy and process, requirements, surrounding counties, Port Charlotte Beach Complex, revenue streams, and insurance coverage. Commissioner Constance commented on General Fund Five Year Financial Plan – Revenue/Expenditures (unaudited figures), Impacts of Storms, Port Charlotte Beach Complex, coastal impacts, beach renourishment, potential costs, and FEMA. Commissioner Doherty noted Impacts of Storms, spending, repairs, FEMA and insurance reimbursements, and Senator Marco Rubio.

County Administrator Flores replied to impacts of storms and debris costs.

Gordon Burger, Budget and Administrative Services Director responded to impacts of storms, wind and flood events, FEMA, damage inventory, Port Charlotte Beach Park, reimbursement levels and process, and verification.

2. 911 Dispatch

Charlotte County Sheriff Bill Prummell remarked on responsibility, Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, dispatch centers and services, Sarasota County Sheriff Kurt Hoffman, City of Punta Gorda, benefits, communication, efficiency, safety, partnership, Charlotte County and Punta Gorda Fire Departments, employment, transition process, Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) certification, cost savings, funding sources, Enhanced (E) 911 and Next Generation (NG) 911 systems, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and manpower challenges.

Chair Tiseo spoke to Marjory Stoneman Douglas Report, communications, efficiency, effectiveness, Public Safety, City of Punta Gorda, responsibility, cost savings, health safety and welfare, partnership, NG911 Facility, and redundancy. **Commissioner Constance** mentioned efficiency, communication network, City of Punta Gorda, cost savings, Full-Time Equivalent (FTE), employment, responsibility, and future upgrades. **Commissioner Deutsch** discussed cost savings, City of Punta Gorda, efficiency, and employment. **Commissioner Doherty** commented on funding sources, cost savings, and response times. **Commissioner Truex** noted radio communications, time delay, CAD system, response times, inefficiencies, impacts, law enforcement officers, first responders, public safety, and responsibility.

Mr. Burger replied to Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU), law enforcement, General Fund, communication center, dispatch component, and cost calculations.

Chief Jason Fair, Public Safety Director responded to consolidation, benefits, communication, efficiency, challenges, and resources.

3. Public Safety Standard of Cover Update

Deputy Chief Bryan Carr gave a brief overview of Overview, Implemented, Improvements - Call Processing (90th Percentile), Improvements - Turnout Times (90th Percentile), Community 911 Demand, Service Demand, Unit Hour Utilization, Geographical Drive Time Analysis - 6 Minute, 2024 Call Volume, Station 17 - Tuckers Grade, Station 18 - Edgewater Drive, Station 19 - Gasparilla Road, Station 20 - Babcock #2, Station 21 - Babcock #3, Strategic Plan, and Additional Personnel.

Chair Tiseo spoke to Improvements – Call Processing (90th Percentile), Improvements – Turnout Times (90th Percentile), funding, Public Safety, infrastructure, and staff efforts.

4. ARFF Update

Deputy Chief Matthew McElroy gave a brief overview of American Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) Simulator Program, Minimum Federal Requirements, Southern Training Facility and Florida Training Locations, Florida Recognized Airports, Agencies Trained to date, Charlotte County ARFF Simulator, Progression Timeline, Program Implementation Timeline, Site Features, Simulator Specifications, Logistics, Program Development, ARFF Training Programs, Exterior Fire Scenarios, Interior Fire Scenarios, Things to come, Economic Impact Proposal, Internal and External Assistance, and replied to 2025 ARFF Leadership Symposium.

Chair Tiseo mentioned Program Development, targeted marketing, Tourism, strategies, and tax payer investment. **Commissioner Constance** discussed Agencies Trained to date, Allegiant Airlines, bunking quarters, 2025 ARFF Leadership Symposium, economic impact, Tourism, partnership, marketing opportunities, educational fees, tuition, funding, and FTE. **Commissioner Truex** commented on Tourism, partnership, ancillary information, and Leadership Program.

Chief Fair responded to staff efforts, challenges, instructors, and resources.

5. Conservation Charlotte Update

Tina Powell, Parks and Natural Resources Manager gave a brief overview of Overview, Conservation Charlotte - History, Successes, Conservation Charlotte Benefits, Conservation Charlotte Acquired Properties, Conservation Charlotte - Status, Conservation Charlotte – Future: Program expires in 2027, Hybrid program renewal options of Conservation Charlotte, and Questions.

Mr. Burger gave a brief overview of Conservation Charlotte: Debt Balance, Debt Service Funding, Conservation Charlotte, replied to

Chair Tiseo noted Conservation Charlotte – Status, funding, Hybrid program renewal options of Conservation Charlotte, Charlotte County School Board, referendums, 2026 and 2028 General Elections, and refinance interest rate. **Commissioner Constance** spoke to Debt Service Funding, additional repayments, Conservation Charlotte, refinance interest rate, 2026 General Election, and program lapse. **Commissioner Doherty** mentioned Conservation Charlotte, Hybrid program renewal options of Conservation Charlotte, Debt Service Funding, Capital Projects Fund, process, referendum, 2026 and 2028 General Elections, program lapse, and options. **Commissioner Truex** discussed Hybrid program renewal options of Conservation Charlotte, program lapse, and 2028 General Election.

Deputy County Administrator Emily Lewis responded to renewal options, referendums, terms, process, 2026 General Election, Charlotte County School Board, program close out, Hybrid program renewal options of Conservation Charlotte, and parcel acquisitions.

6. Landscaping in the Right of Way

Joanne Vernon, County Engineer gave a brief overview of Don Pedro/Knight Island: Landscaping in the Right of Way (ROW), Don Pedro/Knight Island, Don Pedro/Knight Island - Additional Information to consider, Don Pedro/Knight Island - Options, Pirate Harbor: Landscape rocks or shell instead of sod in the ROW, recently we had a code compliant concerning the landscaping in the ROW, Pirate Harbor - Additional information to consider, and Pirate Harbor - Options.

Chair Tiseo commented on Don Pedro/Knight Island, Linda Cotherman, email communications, survey, Manasota Key, ROW, requirements, sidewalk program, ambience, variance process, Pirate Harbor – Additional Information to consider, xeriscaping, standards, drainage impacts, storm surge events, Pirate Harbor – Options, and final inspection. **Commissioner Constance** spoke to Pirate Harbor – Options, material inventory, variance, Pirate Harbor Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU), standards, xeriscaping, and inspections. **Commissioner Deutsch** noted Don Pedro/Knight Island - Options, public safety hazard, ambience, Pirate Harbor - Additional Information to consider, drainage impacts, Pirate Harbor – Options, and consistency. **Commissioner Doherty** mentioned Code violations and change, MSBU, Don Pedro/Knight Island - Options, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), maintenance standards, Pirate Harbor – Options, Pirate Harbor MSBU, standardization, budgets, inventory, public roads, materials, cost, and stabilization techniques. **Commissioner Truex** discussed Don Pedro/Knight Island - Additional information to consider, beach access points, enforcement, impacts, beach renourishment, MSBU, Options, Palm Island Resort, and educational presentation.

John Elias, Public Works Director replied to Don Pedro/Knight Island, ROW survey, challenges, MSBU, specialty and grooming contracts, service levels, ambience, speed limit reduction, public safety, limitations, financial and drainage impacts, beach access points, liability, standards, tidal influences, Code variance, inventory, and stabilization techniques.

County Attorney Knowlton interjected on Code Enforcement.

AA. County Administrator Comments

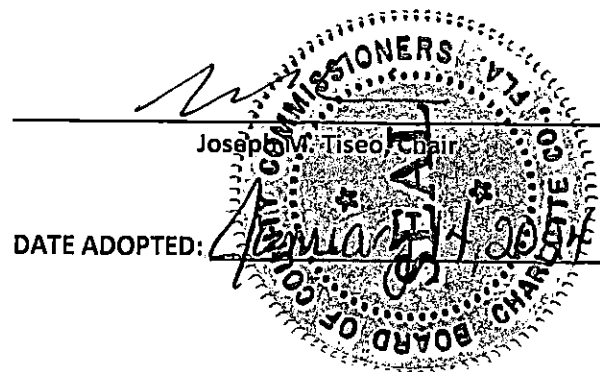
County Administrator Flores commented on staff efforts, accomplishments, 2025 budget process, and strategic priorities.

BB. County Attorney Comments - None

CC. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Constance spoke to sea turtle nesting season. Commissioner Truex noted United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) contracts, Cape Haze, feral swine, Englewood Beach, beach cleanup and renourishment projects, sand and debris removal, and seasonal residents.

ADJOURNED: 11:12 am



ATTEST:

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

By: Kimberly Walsh
Deputy Clerk