

**Official Minutes of
MARION COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

July 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The Marion County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in Commission Chambers at 9:08 a.m. on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at the Marion County Governmental Complex located in Ocala, Florida.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The meeting opened with invocation by Clerk Gregory C. Harrell and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country.

Commissioner Bryant contacted her mother Peggy Gregory, via telephone, to wish her a happy birthday. The Board and those in attendance sang Happy Birthday to Ms. Gregory.

9:00 AM ROLL CALL:

Upon roll call the following members were present: Chairman Michelle Stone, District 5; Vice-Chairman Kathy Bryant, District 2; Commissioner Craig Curry, District 1; Commissioner Matthew McClain, District 3; and Commissioner Carl Zalak, III, District 4. Also present were Clerk Gregory C. Harrell, County Attorney Matthew G. Minter, County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes, Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Angel Roussel, ACA Tracy Straub, ACA Amanda Tart, and Executive Director of Internal Services Mike McCain.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Stone addressed upcoming scheduled meetings as listed on the Commission Calendar (Item 13.2.1).

WALK-ON: Chairman Stone requested the Board consider changing the start time for the Budget Workshop on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, noting she has a scheduling conflict. A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to consider the Walk-On item. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0). Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

There being none, Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to approve changing the start time for the Budget Workshop on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

1. PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Chairman Stone advised that Agenda Item 1.1. would be moved to the end of the Proclamations and Presentations.

Upon motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Curry, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved and/or ratified the following:

1.2. PRESENTATION - Fiscal Year 2022-23 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Presented by the External Auditors - Clerk of Court (Presentation Only)

Finance Director Jennifer Cole, Clerk of Court, presented the following recommendation:

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Description/Background: Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) by the External Auditors.

The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report can be found at the following website: <https://www.marioncountyclerk.org/departments/finance/annual-comprehensive-financial-report/>

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation only.

Clerk Gregory Harrell introduced Finance Director Jennifer Cole, Clerk of Court and Comptroller's Office. He expressed appreciation for the ongoing great work done by Purvis Gray relating to the auditing of the County.

Finance Director Jennifer Cole presented an overview of the County financial reports for fiscal year (FY) 2022-2023. She stated the reports are available on the Clerk's website for public viewing. This includes the audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). The PAFR is an unaudited summary report which contains consolidated information from the ACFR.

Ms. Cole introduced the audit teams from Purvis Gray & Company, Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) Tim Westgate and Alison Stone.

Tim Westgate, Auditing Partner with Purvis Gray, presented a brief overview of the completed audits, noting audits have been concluded for the County, including separate audits of the 5 Constitutional Officers, the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA), Rainbow Lakes Estates (RLE), as well as special reports for court reporting and landfill reports. The audits meet the reporting requirements for external audits under Florida Statutes (FS), Rules of the Florida Auditor General, Secondary Bond Market, State Loan Program requirements, as well as Grant audit requirements under Federal and State single audits. This includes the funds received and expended under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) COVID-19 funding.

The ACFR is submitted to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the certificate of excellence in financial reporting. This is a voluntary program with expanded disclosure and information, to go above and beyond the minimum requirements and provides for an extra level of transparency. Mr. Westgate noted last year, as in previous years, the County received this award and is expected to receive it again this year.

Mr. Westgate advised that detailed exit conferences were held with each of the Constitutional Officers, Chairman Stone, Clerk Harrell, County Administrator Bouyounes, and other members of Clerk and BCC Finance Departments. He stated an unmodified opinion was issued, which is the highest level of assurance on an audit. There were no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies identified, nor any noncompliance matters that would have a material impact on the Financial Statement. Mr. Westgate thanked each of those that met with them and cooperated throughout the audit process.

Chairman Stone thanked Mr. Westgate and commented on the unmodified opinion. She stated government standards are higher, noting the audit includes a review of all of the internal controls. Chairman Stone expressed her appreciation to the auditors from Purvis Gray and Crippen, Clerk Harrell, and everyone that assisted with this audit.

1.3. PRESENTATION - Employee of the Quarter for April - June 2024 – Sara Caron, Human Resources Director (Presentation)

Human Resources Director Sara Caron presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The Employee of the Quarter program recognizes employees that go above and beyond to provide exceptional services to the

citizens of Marion County and to reward exemplary employees for their accomplishments and contributions. The Employee of the Quarter can be nominated by co-workers, supervisors, citizens, or County Commissioners and must meet certain criteria in order to be qualified for consideration. The Employee of the Quarter is recognized by the Board, receives a day off with pay, and is included in the Ideal Team Player candidate pool. Each year, during Employee Appreciation, the County Administrator awards chosen employees with the Ideal Team Player award.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation of Employee of the Quarter for the quarter ending in June 2024.

The nominees for Employee of the Quarter for the 2nd Quarter (April - June 2024) are:

Sharon Beardsley	Animal Services
Dr. Lynn Samatulski	Animal Services
April Dority	Building Safety
Lorna Young	Building Safety
Dallas Homan	Community Services
Rebecca Elliott	Extension Services
Timothy Fish	Facilities Management
Cassy Sweeting	Human Resources
Bobby Barnett	MSTU
Christopher Rosko	MSTU
Jason Freeman	OCE
Dasha Milosevic	OCE
Stephen Moles	OCE
Robert "Kyle" Coburn	Public Safety Communications
Jamie Davis	Solid Waste
Brian Nabbie	Utilities

Human Resources Director Sara Caron provided an overview of the accomplishments of the employee of the quarter and presented the award to Jamie Davis.

Ms. Davis expressed appreciation to her team and the citizens of Marion County for their support.

Chairman Stone commented on Ms. Davis being truly humble and always getting the job done.

1.4. PROCLAMATION - Parks and Recreation Month - Jim Couillard, Parks and Recreation Director (Approval and Presentation)

The Board presented the Proclamation recognizing the month of July 2024 as "Parks and Recreation Month" to Parks and Recreation Director Jim Couillard and several representatives from the Department's summer camp programs.

Commissioner Curry commented on enjoying the 4 years he served on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council (PRAC) prior to becoming a County Commissioner. He noted anyone who is interested in Parks and Recreation should consider serving on the PRAC. Commissioner Curry stated during the time he served as a PRAC member, Marion County celebrated its 175 Year Anniversary. He thanked Clerk Harrell for locating the Minutes from the first Marion County Commission meeting which took place at Fort King

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in 1844. To commemorate the birth place of Marion County and the City of Ocala, the November 7, 2023 BCC meeting was held at Fort King.

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Couillard expressed his appreciation to the Board and to the community for their support. He presented Commissioners with their own Parks and Recreation shirt and annual park passes.

Community Engagement Coordinator Sara Lambert, Parks and Recreation, advised that this year's theme is "Where You Belong". She expressed appreciation to the Board for participating in the social media video series for each week's themes and various programs, noting this month there will be a photograph contest showing how families are enjoying the parks.

In response to Chairman Stone, Ms. Lambert stated to participate photographs can be submitted via social media using the hashtags at #whereyoubelong and at #mcparksandrec.

Commissioner Bryant out at 9:36 a.m.

Mr. Couillard presented a brief PowerPoint presentation of the Parks and Recreation Department's Annual Report 2023 (as seen on the overhead screens), which is available for viewing at www.parks.marionfl.org. He advised that the Department maintains over 50 unique sites, which includes various memorials, County parks, Marion County Airport and Southeastern Livestock Pavilion (SELP), noting the largest County park is Carney Island at 608 acres and the smallest is Orange Springs Park at 0.72 acre.

Commissioner Bryant returned at 9:37 a.m.

Mr. Couillard advised that the busiest park in the County is the Belleview Sports Complex, which had approximately 361,000 visitors in 2023. As the community continues to grow, there is more strain on the parks system. He stated that Liberty Park (State Road 200 corridor area) is 11 acres and was designed for 5,000 people. Mr. Couillard advised that there are now over 55,000 residents in that area with park visitation in 2013 being at 23,000 and in 2023 there were more than 131,000 visitors to this little park.

Mr. Couillard referred to a slide showing the Marion County Vision Statement; "Marion County is a safe and well-planned community with a thriving economy and a high quality of life where family matters." He commented on how the Parks and Recreation Department plugs into the 4 pillars of the County's vision statement: 1) Safe; 2) Well-planned; 3) Thriving economy; and 4) Quality of life. Mr. Couillard stated the Department accomplishes its goals with only 74 full-time employees (FTEs) across 3 distinctive operations, noting the employee turnover rate is less than 8 percent (%). The Department and County believe in "hiring for fit", where each applicant is vetted and considered carefully before adding someone to their team. There is a strong onboarding program for new hires, and after onboarding, they are emersed in job specific training and then are moved into other areas of training, such as Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training, chainsaw safety training and trailer training. He stated the public facilities are maintained at the highest level of the Department's capabilities and budget. Staff maintains the arena footing at the SELP, ballfield grooming, and does safety inspections of all the playgrounds. Marion County has 2 certified playground safety inspectors out of the 75,000 in the United States (US). Mr. Couillard advised that out of all the elements in the parks, the playgrounds are one of the highest risks, noting the inspectors make sure the playgrounds are up to industry standards and the safety zones are taken care of properly. He commented on new projects, noting staff always looks to get rid of the old and update with the new. Later this month, there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for Heagy Burry Boat Ramp in Reddick to replace the old boat ramp with a new modern one.

Park partners at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) are excited about this new ramp as Orange Lake is becoming one of the top spots for bass tournaments in the Country. Mr. Couillard advised of an upcoming parallel taxiway project at the Airport, that will ensure planes can land and get off of the runway quickly.

Mr. Couillard commented on the importance of education, such as what staff do at the Rainbow River. Each guest that goes on the Rainbow River goes through KP Hole Park, rides the park buses/vans and listens to educational videos about the ecology and river safety. The Department does a tremendous amount of environmental education with the campers at Firewise Camp, which is federally funded to help educate fire prone communities. He commented on the need to deter crime, noting every dollar spent in parks is one less dollar that has to be spent on an inmate. If kids can be kept busy, especially from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., in summer camps or after school programs, there is less opportunity for them to get into trouble. Staff is going to be focusing on more afterschool and crime prevention programs through environmental design, such as the new park in Reddick, which will not have buffers making it more policeable, easy to look in when driving by, and will be lighted 24 hour a day. Mr. Couillard opined that public involvement is one of the most critical components of any well planned community, noting the Parks and Recreation Department's Master Plan process is highly vetted through community involvement and public input. He stated staff likes to stay abreast of current events through professional affiliations (Landscape Architecture conferences, Florida Recreation Park Association, etc.). Mr. Couillard commented on the importance of focusing on affordability for the underserved by providing parks and recreational activities and opportunities for everyone. He advised that staff works closely with the Community Foundation, Marion County Senior Services, Marion County Hospital District (MCHD), and other organizations. Mr. Couillard stated the Department manages the County's natural conservation areas, providing public access to them, and utilizes prescribed fires to manage invasive species. The Department also regulates water zones and keeps people out of environmentally sensitive areas. He stated the Department is working closely with Tourist Development Executive Director Loretta Shaffer and her team on the Competitive Gap Analysis to determine what can be constructed in Marion County to help bolster tourism, while serving the community's needs.

Mr. Couillard advised that this year Marion County had 1,193 day camp slots filled from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., noting this helps working parents know where their children are during the day. He reiterated that the Department facilitates tourism through its sports tournaments and ecotourism (KP Hole and Ocala National Forest and the Greenway Trails). Mr. Couillard noted the closer a person lives to a County, State or Federal park the higher the property value. He commented on aviation related businesses supported by the County's airport. Mr. Couillard advised that grant support from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has been a huge lynchpin for success at the SELP and grant support from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has enabled the airport to succeed. He commented on funding support the Parks Department receives from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and FWC. Mr. Couillard stated a robust and highly maintained parks system is one of the key features that makes a community a desirable place to live. He stated the Parks and Recreation Department provides opportunities for healthy living and social outlets (community events). Mr. Couillard noted parks provide opportunities for people to connect with nature. He commented on the many historical resources available in Marion County including the Ma Barker House and Fort King. Mr.

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Couillard addressed the Department's efforts to achieve its vision through professionalism and dedication to serving, noting it is important to recognize the true value of the services and the impact that Parks and Recreation provides.

Chairman Stone invited everyone to get out and enjoy Marion County parks.

1.1. CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION - Marion County Honor Guard, Inc. - Bob Levenson, Marion County Honor Guard (Approval and Presentation)

The Board presented the Certificate of Recognition to members of the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard.

Chairman Stone welcomed members of the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard, noting these individuals have not only served our Country in the past, but continue to serve the community daily. She advised that the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard is a 100% volunteer war veterans' organization that provides military funeral ceremonies for military veterans with respect, dignity and military honors, noting the organization never charges for their services. Chairman Stone referred to the slides as seen on the overhead screens and advised that the Marion County Memorial Honor Guard has conducted ceremonies posting or presenting colors at the Marion County Veterans Memorial Park, the Reilly Art Center, World Equestrian Center (WEC), Marion County Commission Board Meetings, Fort King, Ocala Market Place, and community veteran parks, cemeteries, churches, farms and military organizations. The Marion County Memorial Honor Guard has created a 501(c)(3) known as Vet Resource Center, Inc., containing over 600 links to help veterans and their families find benefits and services they have earned.

Commissioner Curry shared the story of Vietnam Veteran and Helicopter Pilot Steve Petty who flew into very dangerous territory (hot landing zone) to help resupply food and ammunition to his fellow servicemen saving the lives of approximately 100 Marines. He stated Mr. Perry has 2 Distinguished Flying Crosses, a Silver Star, and over 1,200 hours of combat flying. Commissioner Curry noted there are approximately 180,000 to 200,000 veterans in Marion County's geographical area that have similar stories.

Commissioner Bryant advised that citizens could show their appreciation to those who have served by donating (utilizing the QR Code as show on the overhead screen) at MemorialHonorGuard.com.

The Memorial Honor Guard is one of the participants with the Community Foundation for the Give4Marion program being conducted in September 2024.

Commissioner Stone noted it is the ten o'clock hour. She advised that the Board would continue with the Agenda Items after the public hearings are concluded.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Request Proof of Publication) at 10:00 am: Public participation is encouraged. When prompted, please step up to the podium and state your name and address for the record. Please limit your comments to the specific issue being addressed.

6.1. PUBLIC HEARING: Consider Adoption of a Resolution to Close and Abandon Previously Deeded Right of Way Recorded in Deed Book 310 Pages 150-151, Located in Section 19 and 20, Township 16, Range 21

County Engineer Steven Cohoon, Office of the County Engineer (OCE), presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: This is a request to consider approval of a Resolution by Petitioner 95th Street Holdings, LLC to close and abandon previously deeded right of way recorded in Deed Book 310 Pages 150-151, located in Sections 19 and 20,

Township 16, Range 21 and to renounce and disclaim any right of the County and the general public.

Marion County obtained right of way with the intent of building a road from State Road 200 to east between what is now Countryside Farms Subdivision and Pioneer Ranch Subdivision. In 1976, portions of the right of way was deeded back to the successor in title to the grantor under a right of reverter in the deeds as the plans of constructing a road never came to fruition.

The Petitioner is proposing to abrogate the remaining portions of deeded right of way which has never been constructed in pursuant to the Partial Termination Developer's Agreement (BFP) approved during the September 19, 2023 regularly scheduled Board meeting and recorded in Official Records Book 8153 Pages 280-292.

The Development Review Committee considered this request on March 25, 2024 and it was the committee's recommendation that the petition be granted.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt the Resolution closing and abandoning previously deeded right of way recorded in Deed Book 310 Pages 150-151 located in Sections 19 and 20, Township 16, Range 21 and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

Deputy Clerk Ketner presented Proof of Publication legal ad No. 10264262 entitled, "Notice of Public Hearing to Close and Abandon Road(s)" published in the Star Banner newspaper on June 11, 2024. The Notice states the Board will consider a petition by Marion County to close and abandon certain road(s).

County Engineer Steven Cohoon, OCE, advised that the request is to consider adoption of a Resolution to close and abandon a previously deeded right-of-way (ROW). The ROW being considered is between the Countryside Farms subdivision and the developing Pioneer Ranch subdivision. He referred to the slides (as seen on the overhead screen), noting the Petitioner is 95th Street Holdings, LLC and has met the requirements of the Partial Termination Agreement executed on September 19, 2023. Mr. Cohoon stated the Development Review Committee (DRC) considered this request on March 25, 2024 and it was the Committee's recommendation that the petition be granted. This portion of ROW has not been opened or constructed and there is no person or entity that is dependent on the platted road for access or any other purposes. He advised that no objections were received regarding this Petition, noting signs were erected in the area notifying the proposed road closure.

In response to Commissioner Bryant, Mr. Cohoon advised that per the terms of the Partial Termination Agreement, there is language regarding a 100 foot (ft) buffer requirement.

Jimmy Gooding, SE 36th Avenue, attorney for the applicant, advised that the language is consistent with the Agreement at the direction of the BCC. He advised that the buffer language includes a buffering conservation easement of 100 ft adjacent to the boundary of Countryside Farms; prohibits the construction of structures in the buffer area; provides for conservation of existing vegetation and trees; and the easement will allow installation of additional landscaping within the buffer area. Mr. Gooding clarified that the 20 ft of ROW being vacated is included as part of the 100 ft buffer.

Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

There being none, Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to adopt Resolution 24-R-221 closing and abandoning previously deeded ROW as recorded in

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Deed Book 310 Pages 150-151 located in Sections 19 and 20, Township 16, Range 21. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Resolution 24-R-221 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA; INCORPORATING RECITALS; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT CHAPTER 336, FLORIDA STATUTES, AUTHORIZES AND EMPOWERS THE BOARD TO ACT ON THE PETITION TO VACATE, ABANDON, DISCONTINUE AND CLOSE CERTAIN ROADS AND TO RENOUNCE AND DISCLAIM ANY RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MARION COUNTY AND THE PUBLIC IN AND TO ANY LAND IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH ROADS; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT SUCH ROADS ARE NOT A PORTION OF FEDERAL OR STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT THE ROADS ARE NOT BEING USED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC AS ROADS; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT IT IS NOT THE INTENT OF THE BOARD TO VACATE ANY EASEMENTS FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES THAT MAY EXIST WITHIN SUCH ROADS; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT VACATING, ABANDONING, DISCONTINUING, AND CLOSING SUCH ROADS AND DISCLAIMING ANY RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MARION COUNTY AND THE PUBLIC IN AND TO ANY LAND IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH ROADS WOULD BENEFIT THE GENERAL PUBLIC WELFARE AND WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC; VACATING, ABANDONING, DISCONTINUING, AND CLOSING SUCH ROADS; RENOUNCING AND DISCLAIMING ANY RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MARION COUNTY AND THE PUBLIC IN AND TO ANY LAND IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH ROADS; CONVEYING SUCH ROADS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

6.2. PUBLIC HEARING: Consider Adoption of a Resolution to Close and Abandon Previously Deeded Right of Way Recorded in Deed Book 309 Page 311, Deed Book 310 Page 510, and Official Records Book 347 Page 155 Located in Section 20, Township 16, Range 21

County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: This is a request to consider approval of a Resolution by Petitioner Southeast Consulting Services, Inc. to close and abandon previously deeded right of way recorded in Deed Book 309 Page 311, Deed Book 310 Page 510, and Official Records Book 347 Page 155, located in Section 20, Township 16, Range 21 and to renounce and disclaim any right of the County and the general public.

Marion County obtained right of way with the intent of building a road from State Road 200 to the east between what is now Countryside Farms Subdivision and Pioneer Ranch Subdivision. In 1976, portions of the right of way was deeded back to the successor in title to the grantor under a right of reverter in the deeds as the plans of constructing a road never came to fruition.

The Petitioner is proposing to abrogate the remaining portions of deeded right of way which has never been constructed. If approved, the Resolution requires the

property owned south of the abandoned right of way be provided access through property north of the right of way to avoid it being landlocked.

The Development Review Committee considered this request on March 25, 2024 and it was the committee's recommendation that the petition be granted.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt the Resolution closing and abandoning previously deeded right of way recorded in Deed Book 309 Page 311, Deed Book 310 Page 510, and Official Records book 347 Page 155, located in Section 20, Township 16, Range 21 and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

Deputy Ketner presented Proof of Publication Legal ad No. 10264291 entitled, "Notice of Public Hearing to Close and Abandon Road(s)" published in the Star Banner newspaper on June 11, 2024. The Notice states the Board will consider a petition by Marion County to close and abandon certain road(s).

County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, advised that the request is to consider adoption of a Resolution to close and abandon a previously deeded ROW. This portion of ROW has not been opened or constructed. The DRC considered this request on March 25, 2024 and it was the Committee's recommendation that the petition be granted.

Jimmy Gooding, SE 36th Avenue, attorney for the applicant, advised that the properties to the south of the proposed site will be connected through this vacated ROW.

Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

There being none, Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to adopt Resolution 24-R-222 closing and abandoning a previously deeded ROW recorded in Deed Book 309, Page 311, Deed Book 310 Page 510, and Official Records book 347 Page 155, located in Section 20, Township 16, Range 21. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Resolution 24-R-222 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA; INCORPORATING RECITALS; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT CHAPTER 336, FLORIDA STATUTES, AUTHORIZES AND EMPOWERS THE BOARD TO ACT ON THE PETITION TO VACATE, ABANDON, DISCONTINUE AND CLOSE CERTAIN ROADS AND TO RENOUNCE AND DISCLAIM ANY RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MARION COUNTY AND THE PUBLIC IN AND TO ANY LAND IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH ROADS; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT SUCH ROADS ARE NOT A PORTION OF FEDERAL OR STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT THE ROADS ARE NOT BEING USED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC AS ROADS; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT IT IS NOT THE INTENT OF THE BOARD TO VACATE ANY EASEMENTS FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES THAT MAY EXIST WITHIN SUCH ROADS; PROVIDING A FINDING THAT VACATING, ABANDONING, DISCONTINUING, AND CLOSING SUCH ROADS AND DISCLAIMING ANY RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MARION COUNTY AND THE PUBLIC IN AND TO ANY LAND IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH ROADS WOULD BENEFIT THE GENERAL PUBLIC WELFARE AND WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC; VACATING, ABANDONING, DISCONTINUING, AND CLOSING SUCH ROADS; RENOUNCING AND DISCLAIMING ANY RIGHTS AND

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OBLIGATIONS OF MARION COUNTY AND THE PUBLIC IN AND TO ANY LAND IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH ROADS; CONVEYING SUCH ROADS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Byrant suggested that staff go through the inventory of ROW's that are similar to this (i.e., never utilized) and bring them forward for Board consideration.

2. AGENDA ITEM PUBLIC COMMENTS: Reserved for comments related to items specifically listed on this agenda. Scheduled requests will be heard first and limited to five (5) minutes. Unscheduled requests will be limited to two (2) minutes. Citizens may contact Marion County Administration by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the meeting at 352-438-2300 to request to speak or submit the request online at: www.marionfl.org.

Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

Timothy Ennis, SE 43rd Street, addressed the Board regarding Agenda Item 9.3. and opined that the drainage right-of-way is definitely needed and if the BCC takes away the DROW his property would become a lake.

Gerri Gerthe, SE 137th Lane, Summerfield, commented on drainage issues with ROWs due to new development.

Chairman Stone requested OCE Director Cohoon meet with Ms. Gerte to address her concerns.

Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

3. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: (2 sets)

3.1. March 5, 2024 (A)

3.2. March 5, 2024 (B)

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Bryant, to adopt the meeting minutes of March 5, 2024 (2 sets). The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Commissioner Curry left his seat at 10:29 a.m., but did not leave the auditorium and immediately returned to his seat.

4. CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENTAL OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

4.1. Request Approval to Designate Court Administration to Serve as the Lead Applicant for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, "Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program" FY 2024 on Behalf of Marion County to Expand the Services of the Family Treatment Courts

Trial Court Administrator Jeff Fuller, Court Administration, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Court Administration on behalf of the Family Treatment Courts is requesting to serve as the lead applicant for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, "Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program" FY 2024 Solicitation on behalf of Marion County to expand the services of the Family Treatment Courts. This funding would assist the Family Treatment Courts to

expand the services they are able to provide and to increase the number of people they are able to serve.

Budget/Impact: Up to \$1,300,000.00 grant award for the 3 years for Family Treatment Courts.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and sign letter designating Court Administration to serve as the lead applicant for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, "Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program " FY 2024 Solicitation on behalf of Marion County to expand the services of the Family Treatment Courts.

A motion was made Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Bryant, to approve and execute the letter designating Court Administration to serve as the lead applicant for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, "Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program " FY 2024 Solicitation on behalf of Marion County to expand the services of the Family Treatment Courts. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

4.2. George Albright, Tax Collector - 2023 Tax Roll Recapitulation

Tax Collector George Albright, Marion County Tax Collector, presented the following recommendation:

Dear Board

I am pleased to present the 2023 Tax Roll Recapitulation for errors, insolvencies, double assessments, discounts and other items I am entitled to as credits against the 2023 Assessment Roll.

Thank you and your staff for your continued support.

Respectfully,

George Albright

Marion County Tax Collector

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve the 2023 Tax Roll Recapitulation. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

5. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT:

5.1. Budget Amendment

Clerk Harrell advised that Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.19. relates to Consent Agenda Item 7.5.7. and Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.20. relates to Consent Agenda Item 7.5.2.

Upon motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, the Board adopted the following Budget Amendment Resolutions transferring funds, as well as approving Consent Agenda Items 7.5.7 and 7.5.2 as presented by Clerk Harrell:

5.1.1. 24-R-223 - Building Safety Fund - Building - \$131,365

5.1.2. 24-R-224 - County Transportation Maintenance Fund - Transportation -\$18,695

5.1.3. 24-R-225 - Crime Prevention Fund - Crime Prevention - \$12,500

5.1.4. 24-R-226 - Fine and Forfeiture Fund - Sheriff Regular Transfer - \$8,375

5.1.5. 24-R-227 - Fire, Rescue and EMS Fund - Fire Rescue Services - \$12,963

5.1.6. 24-R-228 - Fire, Rescue and EMS Fund - Fire Rescue Services - \$102,262

5.1.7. 24-R-229 - General Fund - Community Services - \$11,216

5.1.8. 24-R-230 - General Fund - Medicaid Hospitals Nursing Homes - \$462,043

5.1.9. 24-R-231 - General Fund - Procurement Services - \$21,000

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- 5.1.10.** 24-R-232 - General Fund - Sheriff Emergency Management Transfer - \$2,106
 - 5.1.11.** 24-R-233 - General Fund - Sheriff Jail Transfer - \$27,542
 - 5.1.12.** 24-R-234 - Local Housing Assistance Trust Fund - State House Initiative Partner - \$56,570
 - 5.1.13.** 24-R-235 - Marion County Utility Fund - Utilities Capital Construction - \$300,000
 - 5.1.14.** 24-R-236 - Marion County Utility Fund - Utilities Capital Construction - \$400,000
 - 5.1.15.** 24-R-237 - Marion County Utility Fund - Utilities Management - \$100,000
 - 5.1.16.** 24-R-238 - Marion County Utility Fund - Utilities Wastewater System - \$56,225
 - 5.1.17.** 24-R-239 - Marion Oaks MSTU - Marion Oaks Recreation - \$220,000
 - 5.1.18.** 24-R-240 - MSTU for Law Enforcement - Sheriff Patrol CID Transfer - \$50,259
 - 5.1.19.** 24-R-241 - Rainbow Lakes Estates MSTU for Road Improvements - Contracted Road Construction RLE MSTU - \$3,000
 - 5.1.20.a** 24-R-242 - Utilities Fire Incident - Multiple Funds - \$728,761
 - 5.1.20.b** 24-R-243 - Utilities Fire Incident - Multiple Funds - \$1,500,000
- (Ed. Note: EMS is the acronym for Emergency Medical Services, CID is the acronym for Criminal Investigation Division, MSTU is the acronym for Municipal Service Taxing Unit and RLE is the acronym for Rainbow Lakes Estates.)

5.2. Project Adjustment

Clerk Harrell advised that Agenda Item 5.2.1. relates to Consent Agenda Item 7.6.1.

5.2.1. Transfer Project Funds and Amend the Capital Improvement Program - Infrastructure Surtax Capital Project Fund - \$356,324

Executive Director Michael McCain, Administration, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: STC073810 - SW 49th Ave South Segment A Infrastructure Surtax requires an increase in Right of Way funding to cover upcoming payments. \$356,324 will be deducted from STC073812 – NW 80th/70th Ave Infrastructure Surtax and transferred to STC073810 - SW 49th Ave South Segment A Infrastructure Surtax. STC073812 - NW 80th/70th Ave Infrastructure Surtax is not in active ROW acquisition and therefore its assigned funding can be reassigned.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the transfer of project funds and amend the CIP.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve the transfer of project funds; amend the CIP; and to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.6.1. adopting Resolution 24-R-244 and authorizing execution of associated Agreements. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

5.2.2. Transfer Project Funds and Amend the Capital Improvement Program - Tourist Development Tax -\$138,126

Director Tourist Development Loretta Shaffer presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The NW 49th/35th Interchange project with I-75 is being expedited by the Governor's office. As a result, \$138,126 is being transferred to VCC000002 from closed/completed project VCC000003 - North County Line Gateway Sign (\$69,501) and closed/completed project VCC000004 – South County Line Gateway Sign (\$68,625) to assist in facilitating the construction of the CAF (community aesthetic feature) of the project. This transfer of funds will be a

one-time occurrence as VCC000003 and VCC000004 are now completed and closed projects.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

Recommended Action: The transfer of project funds and amend the Capital Improvement Program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain to approve the transfer of project funds and amend the CIP. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

5.2.3. Transfer Project Funds and Amend the Capital Improvement Program - Marion County Utility Fund - \$282,300

Utilities Director Jody Kirkman presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Marion County Utilities (MCU) entered into Contract 23-06 with 484 Road Runner Resources on November 21, 2023 for the design and construction of water and wastewater lines to connect with MCU. As part of this contract, MCU requested that some of the pipes be oversized in order to supply additional future growth. The contract includes a Not To Exceed amount of \$282,300 for these oversized pipes, and does not include any reimbursement for design or engineering costs, as both parties agreed these costs would not be different using the proposed piping. MCU has not required all of the funds budgeted for relocations of water and sewer lines due to road construction, which allows funds to be transferred from this project string. This is a one-time request.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the transfer of project funds and amend the CIP.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve the transfer of project funds and amend the CIP. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

5.3. Clerk of the Court Items

5.3.1. Present the Acquisition or Disposition of Property Forms Authorizing Changes in Status, as Follows: 036777, 038932, 038933, 038934, 048235, 048488, 048489, 048490, 048518, 048780, 048781, 048782 and 050966

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to approve the Acquisition or Disposition of Property Forms for 036777, 038932, 038933, 038934, 048235, 048488, 048489, 048490, 048518, 048780, 048781, 048782 and 050966. The motion was unanimously approved (5-0)

7. CONSENT: A motion to approve the Consent Agenda is a motion to approve all recommended actions. All matters on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion unless desired by a Commissioner.

Upon motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Curry, the Board acted on the Consent Agenda as follows:

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7.1. Attorney:

7.1.1. First Amendment to the Agreement between the Marion County School Board and Marion County Sheriff William “Billy” Woods and the Marion County Board of County Commissioners for the School Resource Officer Program (Budget Impact - Neutral)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by County Attorney Matthew G. Minter, Legal Department:

Description/Background: This is the first amendment being made to the School Resource Officer Program Agreement (the Agreement) dated June 28, 2022, between the Marion County School Board (the School Board), the Sheriff of Marion County (the Sheriff) and the Marion County Board of County Commissioners (the County). Section 1006.13(4), Florida Statutes, requires that agreements exist governing how the School Board and Sheriff respond to acts that pose a threat to school safety.

The School Board, Sheriff, and County desire to amend the Agreement, as follows: “Horizon Academy at Marion Oaks” is being removed from Section B. 5) and added to Subsection C. 6). School Resource Officers (SRO) will increase from 39 to 40 for the remainder of the agreement, which terminates on June 6, 2025. $\$75,000.00/\text{SRO} \times 40 \text{ SROs} = \$3,000,000.00$ per year paid by the School Board to the County monthly for reimbursement to the Sheriff, at a rate of \$250,000.00 per month. Amended language in Section 2, Subsection E. paragraph 16): each SRO shall be a State Certified Law Enforcement Officer.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Agreement between the Marion County School Board and Marion County Sheriff William “Billy” Woods and the Marion County Board of County Commissioners for the School Resource Officer Program.

7.2. Community Services:

7.2.1. Request Approval of Marion County Standard Professional Services Agreement Challenge Grant Program Between Marion County and Arnette House, Inc. (Budget Impact - Neutral; not to exceed \$20,000)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Community Services Director Cheryl Martin:

Description/Background: Marion County administers grant funding on behalf of the Ocala/Marion Joint Office on Homelessness for the Continuum of Care FL-514 (CoC 514). Funding is awarded and received through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF), which includes but is not limited to the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) for \$172,000, Challenge Grant for \$86,000, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Grant for \$38,000. DCF has an approved Unified Contract with the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to distribute the allocation of each funding source to homeless service organizations. The total DCF funding amount is \$296,000 for all programs.

On January 23, 2024, the CoC 514 requested applications for Challenge, TANF, and ESG be submitted no later than April 19, 2024. The Rank and Review committee established through the CoC 514 scored all applications received. Arnette House applied for emergency shelter services in the amount of \$20,000.

They are Marion County's only homeless children's shelter. The Rank and Review committee recommends funding Arnette House's request.

This is a one-year agreement starting July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, between Marion County and Arnette House, Inc. for an awarded amount of \$20,000 to provide homeless shelter and services for children and teenagers in Marion County.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; not to exceed \$20,000.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Agreement between Marion County and Arnette House, Inc. to include all necessary documents associated with this agreement.

7.2.2. Request Approval of Marion County Standard Professional Services Agreement Challenge Grant Program Between Marion County and Ocala Housing Authority (Budget Impact - Neutral; not to exceed \$56,844)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Community Services Director Martin:

Description/Background: Marion County administers grant funding on behalf of the Ocala/Marion Joint Office on Homelessness for the Continuum of Care FL-514 (CoC 514). Funding is awarded and received through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) which includes, but not limited to the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Grant for \$172,000, Challenge Grant for \$86,000, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Grant for \$38,000. DCF has an approved Unified Contract with the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to distribute the allocation of each funding source to homeless service organizations. The total DCF funding amount is \$296,000 for all programs.

On January 23, 2024, the CoC 514 requested applications for Challenge, TANF, and ESG be submitted no later than April 19, 2024. The Rank and Review committee established through the CoC514 scored all applications received. Ocala Housing Authority (OHA) applied for permanent supportive housing in the amount of \$56,844. They currently have four permanent supportive housing units that house families that have minor children and one disabled family member. The Rank and Review committee recommends funding OHA's request.

This is a one-year agreement starting July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, between Marion County and OHA for an award amount of \$56,844 to provide permanent supportive housing for families.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; not to exceed \$56,844.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Agreement between Marion County and Ocala Housing Authority to include all necessary documents associated with this agreement.

7.2.3. Request Approval of Marion County Standard Professional Services Agreement Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Grant Program Between Marion County and Ocala Housing Authority (Budget Impact - Neutral; not to exceed \$38,000)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Community Services Director Martin:

Description/Background: Marion County administers grant funding on behalf of the Ocala/Marion Joint Office on Homelessness for the Continuum of Care FL-514

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(CoC 514). Funding is awarded and received through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) which includes, but not limited to the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Grant for \$172,000, Challenge Grant for \$86,000, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Grant for \$38,000. DCF has an approved Unified Contract with the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to distribute the allocation of each funding source to homeless service organizations. The total DCF funding amount is \$296,000 for all programs.

On January 23, 2024, the CoC 514 requested applications for Challenge, TANF, and ESG be submitted no later than April 19, 2024. The Rank and Review committee established through the CoC 514 scored all applications received.

Ocala Housing Authority (OHA) applied for financial assistance of \$38,000 to help families with past due rent, mortgages, and utility bills. OHA is Marion County's only Housing Authority designated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and this funding resource will allow them to expand their current services. The Rank and Review committee recommends funding OHA's request.

This is a one-year agreement, starting July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, between Marion County and OHA for an award of \$38,000 to provide families with financial assistance.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; not to exceed \$38,000.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Agreement between Marion County and Ocala Housing Authority to include all necessary documents associated with this agreement.

7.2.4. Request Approval of Marion County Standard Professional Services Agreement Emergency Solutions Grant Program Between Marion County and Saving Mercy Corporation (Budget Impact - Neutral; not to exceed \$172,000)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Community Services Director Martin:

Description/Background: Marion County administers grant funding on behalf of the Ocala/Marion Joint Office on Homelessness for the Continuum of Care FL-514 (CoC 514). Funding is awarded and received through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) which includes, but not limited to the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) for \$172,000, Challenge Grant for \$86,000, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Grant for \$38,000. DCF has an approved Unified Contract with the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to distribute the allocation of each funding source to homeless service organizations. The total DCF funding amount is \$296,000 for all programs.

On January 23, 2024, the CoC 514 requested applications for Challenge, TANF, and ESG be submitted no later than April 19, 2024. The Rank and Review committee established through the CoC 514 scored all applications received. Saving Mercy Corporation (Saving Mercy) applied for \$172,000 of ESG to provide housing assistance to homeless persons on coordinated entry. Saving Mercy has provided housing assistance to 125 households within the last year. The Rank and Review committee recommends funding request.

This is a one-year agreement starting July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, between Marion County and Saving Mercy Corporation for an awarded amount of \$172,000.00. This agreement must provide Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Services for homeless families and persons from the coordinate entry list. Budget/Impact: Neutral; not to exceed \$172,000.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Marion County Standard Professional Services Agreement ESG Grant between Marion County and Saving Mercy Corporation to include all necessary documents associated with this agreement.

7.2.5. Request Approval to Submit the 2024-25 Marion County Regional Opioid Abatement Plan to the Department of Children and Families (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Community Services Director Martin:

Description/Background: The State of Florida filed an action with a number of Florida Cities and Counties regarding National Prescription Opiate Litigation Number 2804 which the City of Ocala and Marion County participated in. As a result, on March 1, 2022, the Board approved an Interlocal Agreement for expenditures of regional opioid settlement funds with the City of Ocala.

On June 13, 2024 the Regional Opioid Settlement Committee established, per the Interlocal Agreement, the approved 2024-25 Marion County Regional Opioid Abatement Plan. Staff recommends board approval to submit to the Department of Children and Families (DCF).

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve submission to DCF of the 2024-25 Marion County Regional Opioid Abatement Plan, and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute all necessary documents associated with the plan.

7.2.6. Request Approval to Submit the 2024-25 Marion County Opioid Abatement Plan to the Department of Children and Families (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Community Services Director Martin:

Description/Background: The State of Florida filed an action with a number of Florida Cities and Counties regarding National Prescription Opiate Litigation Number 2804 which the City of Ocala and Marion County participated in. Under the provisions of this plan, the State has inaugurated separate funds for each municipality outside of the Regional Opioid Settlement fund.

Marion County is required to submit a plan to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) outlining their strategy for expending funds according to the State Plan. Staff recommends board approval to submit to DCF.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve submission to DCF of the 2024-25 Marion County Opioid Abatement Plan and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute all necessary documents associated with the plan.

7.2.7. Request Approval of Marion County Standard Professional Services Agreement Challenge Grant Program Between Marion County and Project Hope (Budget Impact - Neutral; not to exceed \$9,156)

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The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Community Services Director Martin:

Description/Background: Marion County administers grant funding on behalf of the Ocala/Marion Joint Office on Homelessness for the Continuum of Care FL-514 (CoC 514). Funding is awarded and received through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF), which includes but is not limited to, the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) for \$172,000, Challenge Grant for \$86,000, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Grant for \$38,000. DCF has an approved Unified Contract with the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to distribute the allocation of each funding source to homeless service organizations. The total DCF funding amount is \$296,000 for all programs.

On January 23, 2024, the CoC 514 requested applications for Challenge, TANF, and ESG be submitted no later than April 19, 2024. The Rank and Review committee established through the CoC 514 scored all applications received. Project Hope of Marion County, Inc. (Project Hope) applied for \$55,000 of Challenge funds to provide case management to single mothers with children in their transitional housing units. The Rank and Review committee recommends funding Project Hope with the remaining balance of \$9,156.00 of Challenge Grant funds.

This is a one-year agreement, starting July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, between Marion County and Project Hope for an award of \$9,156.00 to provide homeless prevention services to eligible single mothers within Marion County.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; not to exceed \$9,156.00.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Agreement between Marion County and Project Hope to include all necessary documents associated with this agreement.

7.2.8. Request Approval of Certification by State or Local Official of Public Housing Agency Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan for Ocala Housing Authority's FY 2025 Annual Agency Plan (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Community Services Director Martin:

Description/Background: Ocala Housing Authority (OHA) is the only public housing authority regulated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Marion County. OHA manages 186 public housing units, 1,511 housing choice vouchers, and Section 8. In addition, it provides housing counseling and self-sufficiency classes to Marion County residents.

OHA is required to submit an executed Certification by State or Local Official of Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan with its Annual Agency Plan to HUD. Community Services collaborates with OHA to identify needs and leverage funding as opportunities may become available. Community Services has reviewed OHA's Annual Agency Plan and confirmed the goals are consistent with Marion County's 2019-2023 Five (5) Year Consolidated Plan.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize Chair to execute Certification by State or Local Official of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan for Ocala Housing Authority.

7.3. Development Review Committee:

7.3.1. Request Approval of Waiver to Land Development Code Section 2.16.1.B(8)(g) - Agricultural Lot Split Establishment of County Municipal Services Benefit Unit for Calcutta Farms, Parcel Number 00108-005-00, Application Number 31451 (for Agricultural Lot Split Application Number 31450) (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Building Safety Director Michael Savage, on behalf of the Development Review Committee (DRC):

Description/Background: Section 2.16.1.B(8)(g) of the Land Development Code (LDC) states a County Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) shall be established for the maintenance of the improvements created by this division prior to final approval and recordation. A waiver to this provision may only be granted by the Board upon review and recommendation by the Development Review Committee (DRC).

This Agricultural Lot Split is located in the northeast portion of the county containing ten lots on approximately 104.57 acres.

The Applicant requests to allow an easement agreement that stipulates maintenance. DRC action on June 17, 2024 was to recommend approval.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Agricultural Lot Split without the creation of a MSBU subject to providing the appropriate documentation that the property owners will provide maintenance.

7.4. Human Resources:

7.4.1. Request Approval of Group Healthcare Cost and Approval of No Balance Billing for Emergency Medical Services Provided by Marion County Fire Rescue to Employees, Retirees, and Dependents on the Group Healthcare Plan (Budget Impact - Neutral expenditure of \$33,132,358 in the Insurance Fund and revenue decrease of \$50,000 in the General Fund as proposed in FY 2024-25 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Human Resources Director Caron:

Description/Background: Marion County offers group health insurance to all full-time employees and dependents of the Board of County Commissioners, Clerk of Court, Sheriff, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector, Supervisor of Elections, and Hospital District. The County became partially self-insured effective October 1, 2020 with Florida Blue providing claims administration services and reinsurance. This year's actuarial funding recommendation with claims through March represents a 0% increase. Total incurred claims from May 2023 through April 2024 were \$32.6 million, with FY 2025 expected claims being \$41 million. The 60-day reserve funding required by the State is \$6.8 million. The County's current reserve balance exceeds this required amount.

Since the implementation of self-insurance and in an effort to assist in mitigating long-term healthcare costs, the County previously entered a three-year Agreement with the Heart of Florida to provide an Employee Medical Center which expired on

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September 30, 2023. An amendment to the Agreement outlining the revised terms will be presented at a future Board Meeting.

The total proposed health insurance cost includes the Employee Medical Center, Employee Assistance Program and Wellness incentives for a total of \$41.2 million; with employees and retirees having a 0% increase to their current contribution, for a total remaining cost to the County of \$33.1 million.

In an effort to continue to provide affordable services, it is requested that Marion County Fire Rescue accept the fee currently negotiated as the allowable amount by Florida Blue and the co-insurance as the maximum charge for services and not balance bill employees, retirees, or their dependents covered under the Group Healthcare Plan, for ambulance transportation within Marion County. This will have an estimated budget impact of \$50,000 revenue reduction annually to Marion County Fire Rescue.

Budget/Impact: The total estimated group healthcare cost is \$41,247,343, with employee and retiree contributions of \$8,114,985, leaving a total estimated neutral budget impact of \$33,132,358 in the Insurance Fund (5010) and a \$50,000 decrease in General Fund (0010) Ambulance Fees revenue (AA305342- 342600) in the proposed FY 2024-25 budget.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve a 0% increase to the County's Group Healthcare Plan with a cost estimated at \$33,132,358 and approve no balance billing for Emergency Medical Services provided by Marion County Fire Rescue for employees, retirees, and dependents covered on the group healthcare plan to be effective October 1, 2024; and direct Budget to reduce the General Fund Ambulance Fees revenue (AA305342-342600) by \$50,000 in the proposed FY 2024-25 budget.

Commissioner Bryant commended staff and employees, noting the move to the partial self-insured model was a step in the right direction. She commented on having the Reserve funding necessary to continue this program. Commissioner Bryant advised that this is the first time in 14 years that the County did not have to absorb a large increase due to health insurance costs. She commented on the benefit to employees to have Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR) accept the fee currently negotiated as the allowable amount by Florida Blue and the co-insurance as the maximum charge for services and not balance bill employees, retirees, or their dependents covered under the Group Healthcare Plan, for ambulance transportation within Marion County.

Chairman Stone expressed her appreciation to Health & Wellness Coordinator Michon Fabio for all her hard work.

Commissioner Zalak expressed his appreciation to Chief Banta and opined that this is a great benefit for employees, noting staff is working on this for Veterans as well.

7.5. Procurement Services:

7.5.1. Request Approval of Change Order 1 to Purchase Order 02401215: 23Q-087-TO-14 Evaluation and Appraisal Report and Planned Service Area Study - Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; additional expenditure of \$22,800 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Procurement Services Director Susan Olsen:

Description/Background: On April 12, 2024, the Board awarded a Task Order to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to provide professional consulting services to

prepare the Marion County Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) as mandated by Florida State Statutes Chapter 163, and a Planned Service Area (PSA) study. Purchase Order 02401215 was issued for \$220,150. At this time, change order 1 is being presented for approval to add \$22,800 to cover the costs of additional community meetings and workshops for the EAR process. This includes two additional community quad workshops and three additional workshops with the Board in September, October, and November.

Pending approval today, the change order will be presented for the Clerk's and Chairman's signatures after the meeting.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; additional expenditure of \$22,800, bringing the total value of the purchase order to \$242,950.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair to execute Change Order 1 to Purchase Order 02401215 for Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. under Task Order 23Q-087-TO-14.

7.5.2. Request Approval of Bid Exemption for Vehicle Purchases: One-time "Off the Lot" Vehicle Purchases (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$728,761 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Procurement Services Director Olsen:

Description/Background: On behalf of Marion County Utilities (MCU), Procurement requests approval of a bid exemption for the purchase of seven (7) replacement vehicles that were involved in a fire resulting in a total loss at MCU. In an effort to prevent delay in their continuity of services, Marion County Fleet Management has successfully located the replacement vehicles and negotiated pricing. These vehicles are an "Off the Lot" purchase that will meet MCU's needs for crews to maintain lift stations and perform field work. The purchase consists of four (4) 2023 F-250's and three (3) 2023 F-550's.

Attached for review are the seven (7) quotes with the associated risk claims. If approved at today's meeting, a wire transfer will be made to Griffin Ford Sales Inc dba Speedway Ford and the vehicles will promptly be put out for delivery.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; total expenditure of \$728,761. Funding is from the following lines: ZK160519-545701 - \$262,000.30 (Insurance Fund) ZF445535-564101 - \$466,760.70 (Marion County Utility Fund)

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the requested "Off the Lot" purchase.

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.20.)

7.5.3. Request Approval of Change Order 2 to Purchase Order 2400717: 23B-049 CR 42 at Southeast 182nd Avenue Road, Turn Lane Addition - C.W. Roberts Contracting, Inc., Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; additional expenditure of \$23,863 as approved in the FY 2023-24 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Procurement Services Director Olsen:

Description/Background: On November 7, 2023, the Board approved a contract with C.W. Roberts Contracting, Inc. for a comprehensive road improvement project. The scope of the project includes milling the existing pavement, widening the roadway, extending, and constructing cross drains, grading swales, establishing sod, removing, and relocating fence sections, striping pavement

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markings, and replacing traffic strain poles and two signal heads. Revisions to the project have been necessitated by changes in the size of signs and brackets, which are now larger than initially planned. Consequently, an additional \$23,862.68 and an extension of 43 calendar days have been requested to complete the project under Change Order 2.

The change order, proposal, and fee schedule are attached for review. Pending approval at today's meeting, the change order will be presented to the Chair for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; additional expenditure not to exceed \$23,862.68. Funding comes from BL760541-563220 - County Transportation Maintenance Fund.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the change order, allow staff to process, and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute Change Order 2 to PO 2400717.

7.5.4. Request Approval of Contract Renewal: 16P-106-CA-08 Workers Compensation and Liability Third Party Claims Administration - Johns Eastern Company, Inc., Lakewood Ranch, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$237,225 as proposed in FY 2024-25 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Procurement Services Director Olsen:

Description/Background: On June 7, 2016, the Board approved a contract for Workers Compensation and Liability Third Party Claims Administration (TPA). Johns Eastern Company, Inc. is the Third-Party Administrator that manages the Auto Liability, General Liability, and Workers' Compensation claims made against Marion County Board of County Commissioners. This eighth contract amendment is being presented today to renew the agreement for one (1) year, with an estimated annual cost of \$237,225, which has been included in the proposed FY 2024-25 budget allocated between the Workers Compensation, General Liability and Auto Liability funds.

Attached for review is a draft contract amendment. Upon approval at today's meeting, it will be sent to Johns Eastern Company, Inc. for signatures, and upon return and approval by Legal, will be routed for the Clerk's and Chair's signature.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; estimated annual expenditure of \$237,225. Funds will be available in lines ZK160519-524111 (Insurance Fund), ZK160519-545601 (Insurance Fund), and ZK160519-545701 (Insurance Fund), depending on claim type.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the renewal and allow staff to issue the contract, and upon approval by Legal, authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Seventh Contract Amendment to Johns Eastern Company, Inc. under 16P-106.

7.5.5. Request Approval of Contract Renewal: 18P-095-CA-08, Occupational Medical Care Provider Services Agreement - Concentra Health Services, Inc., Addison, TX (Budget Impact - Neutral; estimated expenditure of \$375,317 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Procurement Services Director Olsen:

Description/Background: On May 15, 2018, the Board approved a contract for an Occupational Medical Care Provider for Workers Compensation. The staffing provided by Concentra consists of a mid-level Physician's Assistant and Medical

Assistant which are placed in the Employee Clinic. In addition to providing staff for our on-site Employee Clinic, Concentra also provides services at their local brick and mortar location in Ocala. This eighth contract amendment is being presented today to renew the agreement for one (1) year, with an estimated annual cost of \$375,317, which has been included in the proposed FY 2024-25 Workers' Compensation budget. It also adds EMR Technology and Equipment Maintenance to the agreement, to be effective upon Board approval.

A copy of the Contract Amendment is attached for review. Upon approval at today's meeting, a copy will be sent to the agency for signatures, and upon return and approval by Legal, will be routed for the Clerk's and Chairman's signature.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; estimated annual expenditure of \$375,317. Funds will be available in line ZK160519-524111 (Insurance Fund).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the renewal and allow staff to issue the contract amendment, and upon approval by Legal, authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Eighth Contract Amendment to Occupational Medical Care Provider Agreement with Concentra Health Services, Inc. under 18P-095.

7.5.6. Request Approval of Contract Renewal: 22B-192-CA-01, Waste Tire Transport and Disposal - Global Tire Recycling of Sumter County, Inc., Wildwood, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$200,000 as proposed in FY2024-25 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Procurement Services Director Olsen:

Description/Background: On September 7, 2022, the Board approved a contract with Global Tire Recycling of Sumter County, Inc. for the collection and disposal of waste tires at the Baseline Landfill. Global Tire Recycling of Sumter County, Inc. has performed the work in accordance with the agreement since it began and Marion County Solid Waste is proposing to renew the contract for the first of two (2) annual renewal options.

Attached for review is a draft contract amendment. Pending approval at today's meeting, a copy will be sent to Global Tire Recycling of Sumter County, Inc. for signature and upon return, will be routed for signatures by the County Attorney, Clerk, and Chair.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; estimated annual expenditure of \$200,000. Annual costs will not exceed approved FY budget amounts without being brought back to the Board.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve request and allow staff to issue, and upon approval from Legal, authorize the Chair to execute the contract amendment with Global Tire Recycling of Sumter County, Inc. under 22B-192.

7.5.7. Request Approval of Purchases \$50,000 and Over

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Procurement Services Director Olsen:

Description/Background: The item below has been received by Procurement Services and is approved in conformance with the Procurement Code/Manual, pending at today's meeting.

1. Pending Requisition/ Municipal Equipment Company, LLC - Marion County Fire Rescue requests approval to purchase twenty-eight (28) FLIR K33 Thermal Imager Kits (\$80,614.80) and twenty-eight (28) FLIR Truck Chargers

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(\$21,646.80). Attached quote for review. Total expenditure of \$102,261.60; funds are available in line EF300522-552108 (Fire, Rescue and EMS Fund). This purchase meets the competitive bidding requirements under 23PB-020.

2. Pending Requisition/Florida Coast Equipment, LLC - Marion County MSTU Department requests approval to purchase one (1) M5-111HDC-1-Tractor. To include all specifications detailed in the attached quote dated 5/6/2024 (\$62,034.72). Total expenditure of \$62,034.72. Funds are available in line HC505541-564101 (RM RLE MSTU Road Improv Fund) This purchase meets competitive bidding requirements under Sourcewell-Utility Tractors & Mowers-031121.
3. Pending Requisition/Dell Marketing LP - Marion County Information Technology requests approval to purchase end of life equipment for the Enterprise Back Up System for Fire Rescue Services. The purchase includes Dell DEVMT, Docking Stations (31) and Dell Latitude 7230 Rugged Extreme Tablets (31). Equipment includes 12th Generation Intel Core i5-1240U, Windows Pro 11, Free Microsoft 365 trial, Integrated Intel Iris Xe Graphics processor, 12" touch 1200 nits WVA FHD anti-glare, outdoor viewable, front and rear camera, Intel wireless driver, with Bluetooth, long-lifecycle 3-year battery and multi-year Dell Limited Extended Hardware Warranty. Total expenditure of \$85,188; funds are available in lines EF300522-552108 and EF300522-552116 (Fire Rescue and EMS Fund), AA305526-552116 (General Fund). This purchase meets the competitive bidding requirements under 13ST-232.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve requested purchases.

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.19.)

7.6. Tourist Development:

7.6.1. Request Approval of a Florida Department of Transportation Locally Funded Agreement, a Three-Party Escrow Agreement, in accordance with a Funding Resolution for the Aesthetic Upgrades within the area of Interstate 75 (State Road 93) at NW 49th Street (from end of NW 49th Street to end of NW 35th Street) Project FPN: 435209-1-52-02 (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$3,555,863 as approved in the FY 2023-24 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation to adopt Resolution 24-R-244 as presented by Tourist Development Director Loretta Shaffer:

Description/Background: In 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved a Resolution (21-R-075) to authorize the Gateway Project. To date, the County Line Markers have been constructed and the South Gateway (42nd Street Flyover) is under construction. The North Gateway (known as FPN 435209-1-52-02) is planned to be constructed concurrently as part of the construction of the planned interchange at Interstate 75 and NW 49th Street.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is prepared, in accordance with its Adopted Five-Year Work Program, to undertake the Project described as: "Interstate 75 (State Road 93) at NW 49th Street (from end of NW 49th Street to end of NW 35th Street)". The implementation of the Project is determined to be in the interests of both FDOT and Marion County. As such, Marion County, by way of the Tourist Development Tax Fund, in accordance with the funding Resolution, is providing the funds for the aesthetic upgrades within the area of the Interstate 75 and 49th Street interchange, in FY 2024-25.

The Agreements, funding Resolution and previously approved Resolution (21-R-075) provide for Marion County to fund the \$3,555,863 and any additional shortfall. The County is to deposit funds into a Three Party Escrow account.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$3,555,863 as approved in the FY 2023-24 budget. Funding from Tourist Development Fund (CP155552-563102) with Project Code VCC000002.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the attached Agreements and Resolution.

Resolution No. 24-R- 244 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING A STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LOCALLY FUNDED AGREEMENT, AND THREE (3) PARTY ESCROW AGREEMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE SAME; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Consent Agenda Item 5.2.1.)

7.7. Transportation - County Engineer:

7.7.1. Request Approval of a Locally Funded Agreement between the State of Florida Department of Transportation and Marion County with a Supporting Resolution for the Roadway Project of Interstate 75 (State Road 93) at NW 49th Street (from end of NW 49th Street to end of NW 35th Street) (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$8,419,860 as approved in the FY 2023-24 Budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation to adopt Resolution 24-R-245 as presented by County Engineer Steven Cohoon, OCE:

Description/Background: This Locally Funded Agreement and supporting Resolution provide for Marion County's funding contribution towards the construction phase of the new diverging diamond interchange at Interstate 75 (I-75, aka State Road 93) and NW 49th Street (from end of NW 49th Street to end of NW 35th Street), also known as Financial Project Number (FPN) 435209-1-52-01. This project provides not only a new interchange with I-75 but also facilitates a new County corridor crossing the interstate. NW 49th Street on the west side will be connected to NW 35th Street on the east side with a four-lane roadway, shared use paths/on-street bicycle lanes, sidewalks, and crosswalks.

Budget/Impact: Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$8,419,860 as approved in the FY 2023-24 Budget.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached Agreement and Resolution, and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same

Resolution 24-R-245 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, APPROVING A STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LOCALLY FUNDED AGREEMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR AND CLERK TO EXECUTE SAME; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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7.8. Utilities:

7.8.1. Request Approval of Utility Work by Highway Contractor Agreement Final Cost Estimate Between Florida Department of Transportation and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Expenditure of \$4,728,575)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Utilities Director Jody Kirkman:

Description/Background: On June 20, 2023, the Board approved the Utility Work by Highway Contractor (UWHC) Agreement, Financial Project ID: 435209-1-56-01, where Marion County entered into an agreement with Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to construct a new water main and a new force main with the construction of the new overpass/exit for the I-75 Interchange with NW 49th Street. The initial cost estimate for the Utility Work was \$1,792,000.

FDOT recently provided the Official Final Cost Estimate associated with the project in the amount of \$4,221,942.00. In accordance with the UWHC Agreement - Section 3.c. "At least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date on which the FDOT advertises the Project for bids, the Utility/Agency Owner (UAO) will pay to the FDOT an amount equal to the FDOT's official estimate; plus 2% for mobilization of equipment for the Utility Work, additional maintenance of traffic costs for the Utility Work, administrative costs of field work, tabulation of quantities, Final Estimate processing and Project accounting; plus 10% of the official estimate for a contingency fund to be used as hereafter provided for changes to the Utility Work during the construction of the Project (the Contingency Fund)". The 2% fee is equal to \$84,438.84, the 10% fee is equal to \$422,194.20, and the grand total fee is \$4,728,575.04.

Budget/Impact: Expenditure of \$4,728,575.04; funding is from ZF448536-563102-UTC000151.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the request for additional funds and authorize the Chairman to execute all necessary documentation associated with the Utility Work by Highway Contractor Agreement.

7.8.2. Request Approval of Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-011 Between Holiday Builders, Inc. and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; \$24,158 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Utilities Director Kirkman:

Description/Background: In accordance with Land Development Code section 6.14.2, developers (property owners) are required to connect to public utilities if the property is within connection distance. For a single-family residence, the connection distance is 400 feet from the parcel's closest corner to the public water main. In this case, the property owner is required to connect to the public water main provided by Marion County Utilities (MCU) and would be required to install 179 feet of water main, which includes the parcel's frontage and the water main would end at the farthest end of the property. The water main extension will serve the property owner's parcel and create a benefit for one (1) additional parcel along the route of the water main extension; the pro-rata share per parcel cost is \$12,079 based upon the total project cost of \$24,158 (\$23,458 construction plus \$700 design).

Budget/Impact: Neutral; project cost is \$24,158 and construction purchase order includes 10% contingency in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from ZF448536-563102 with project code UTC000094.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-011 and authorize staff to issue a purchase order for T&C Underground under 22P-146.

7.8.3. Request Approval of Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-012 Between Holiday Builders, Inc. and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; \$17,549 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Utilities Director Kirkman:

Description/Background: In accordance with Land Development Code section 6.14.2, developers (property owners) are required to connect to public utilities if the property is within connection distance. For a single-family residence, the connection distance is 400 feet from the parcel's closest corner to the public water main. In this case, the property owner is required to connect to the public water main provided by Marion County Utilities (MCU) and would be required to install 98 feet of water main, which includes the parcel's frontage and the water main would end at the farthest end of the property. The water main extension will serve the property owner's parcel and create a benefit for one (1) additional parcel along the route of the water main extension; the pro-rata share per parcel cost is \$8,774.50 based upon the total project cost of \$17,549 (\$16,849 construction plus \$700 design).

Budget/Impact: Neutral; project cost is \$17,549 and construction purchase order includes 10% contingency in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from ZF448536-563102 with project code UTC000094.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-012 and authorize staff to issue a purchase order for T and C Underground under 22P-146.

8. COUNTY ATTORNEY:

8.1. WALK-ON

Request Authorization to Engage Services of Outside Counsel for Appellate Work
County Attorney Matthew G. Minter presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: On May 20, 2024, the Circuit Court approved the County's Motion for Final Summary Judgment in the case of AZ Ocala Ranch, LLC, and Marion Mitigation LLC v. Marion County. The developer/property owner has filed a Notice of Appeal and has engaged two separate firms to represent them in such appeal of the circuit court decision.

It is my recommendation that Marion County engage outside appellate counsel for the defense of this appeal. I have considered a number of possible firms, and it is my recommendation that Marion County engage the services of the NELSON MULLINS firm of Orlando for this matter. This firm recently successfully represented Seminole County against the same firm that represented AZ Ocala in its lawsuit against Marion County. There are a number of similar legal and factual issues between our case and the Seminole County case.

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The firm's fees will be billed on an hourly basis, based on the following rates: Beverly Pohl - \$640; Todd Norman - \$450; Partners: \$450; Senior Associates \$375; Of Counsel - \$300; and Junior Associates: \$250. Assuming a successful outcome, it may be possible for the County to recover fees incurred in the case.

Budget/Impact: To Be Determined.

Recommended Action: Motion to Authorize County Attorney to engage Nelson Mullins for appellate work related to AZ Ocala Ranch, LLC and Marion Mitigation, LLC v. Marion County.

Mr. Minter advised that he has 2 Walk-On Items related to the AZ Ocala Ranch, LLC and Marion Mitigation, LLC versus Marion County litigation. He advised that this lawsuit has been carried out for over 6 years, noting the Circuit Court granted Marion County a Final Summary Judgement on May 20, 2024. He stated since that time, the County has received a Notice of Appeal on behalf of AZ Ocala Ranch, LLC. Mr. Minter presented a 2 page electronic mail (email) dated June 26, 2024, which contains a list of the attorneys involved in this case. He noted his name appears on page 2 and the other 10 attorneys listed in the email all represent AZ Ocala Ranch. Mr. Minter advised that he is requesting authorization to engage outside counsel to represent the County and assist with this appeal. He stated the second Walk-On Item relates to one-on-one conversations he held with Commissioners regarding a standard form the Appellate Court requires. The form requires the County to address the suitability of Appellate Mediation. Mr. Minter opined that mediation at the Appellate level would not be appropriate given the two previous mediations the County has with the plaintiff regarding this case.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Bryant, to consider the Walk-On Item. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0). Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

There being none, Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

Commissioner Zalak opined that not only should the Board provide the County Attorney's Office with some assistance with this case, but should ensure that the plaintiff gives the County back all the money it has cost for legal fees.

Mr. Minter advised that the reason he is recommending the firm of Nelson Mullins is due to the fact that the firm successfully represented Seminole County in a similar case in both State and Federal Court and received an award of attorney fees.

In response to Chairman Stone, Mr. Minter advised that the principals in AZ Ocala Ranch are the Scott Seldon family and are based in Arizona, noting the family purchased the 3,470 acre tract in 1986.

General discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to authorize the County Attorney to engage Nelson Mullins for appellate work related to AZ Ocala Ranch, LLC and Marion Mitigation, LLC versus Marion County. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

8.2. WALK-ON

Request Authorization to File Confidential Statement Regarding Appropriateness of Appellate Mediation in AZ Ocala Ranch, LLC, and Marion Mitigation LLC v. Marion County Appeal

County Attorney Minter presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: It is standard practice in Appellate cases for the parties to decide if Mediation is appropriate before moving forward with the appeal. We

have a short deadline to report back to the Fifth District Court of Appeals with the attached statements.

Based on individual conversations with each of the Commissioners, we are asking for concurrence that mediation is not appropriate in this case.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to Authorize County Attorney to File Statement regarding Appropriateness of Appellate Mediation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Bryant, to consider the Walk-On Item. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

There being none, Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to authorize the County Attorney to file a Statement regarding Appropriateness of Appellate Mediation. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

(Ed Note: This matter was addressed with Walk-On Agenda Item 8.1.)

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:

9.1. Request Marion County Commissioners Make Final Name Selection for the Renaming of the New Park in Ocala Park Estates

County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The Parks & Recreation Department requested approval for an exemption from Commission Policy 14-02 Naming and Renaming of County Properties, for the renaming of a new park in Ocala Park Estates. The Board of County Commissioners approved that request during the February 20, 2024, BCC meeting.

The Department hosted a naming competition, which was marketed to the residents of Ocala Park Estates and the local schools zoned for that community. The Department provided the list of 39 submissions to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council (PRAC). PRAC members reviewed the submissions during their quarterly meeting on June 19, 2024, and selected their top 3 choices, which are being presented to the Commissioners for their consideration and final selection.

The top three names selected are:

1. Green Oaks Park
2. K-9 Leo Memorial Park
3. Friendship Park

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Request the Board of County Commissioners to make the final name selection for the renaming of the new park in Ocala Park Estates.

Parks and Recreation Director Couillard presented a 1 page handout entitled, "Ocala Park Estates Naming Contest Submissions" and a 7 page handout to follow along with the PowerPoint presentation. He stated this is a new park, and the Department received submittals from the community for naming the park. He referred to the map (as shown on the overhead screen), noting this is a 1.5 acre parcel that was deeded to the County back in the 1980's. Mr. Couillard noted there will be a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on July 31, 2024 to formally open the park. He stated there are 3 suggested names for the park: 1) Green Oaks Park; 2) K9 Leo Memorial Park; and 3) Friendship Park. Mr. Couillard noted staff is looking to the Board for its decision.

General discussion ensued.

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A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to name the community park as the "Ocala Park Estates Park". The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

9.2. Request Approval of Resolution for the Best Foot Forward Pedestrian Safety Program (Budget Impact - None)

County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Bike/Walk Central Florida, a nonprofit advocacy organization that administers pedestrian and bicycle safety programs across the Central Florida region, has recently partnered with the Florida Department of Transportation to bring the Best Foot Forward for Pedestrian Safety program to Marion County. The program takes a three "E" approach of engineering, enforcement and education of drivers regarding the driver yield law to encourage stopping at marked crosswalks and letting people cross the street. The program has been ongoing in Orange, Seminole, and Osceola counties for over 10 years with significant results.

Data shows that most of the crosswalks selected by Bike/Walk Central Florida partnered with Marion County and the City of Ocala, have driver yield rates well below 50%. Bike/Walk Central Florida already worked with the Marion County Sheriff's Office to coordinate enforcements at two of these crosswalks, SE 28th Street and SE 52nd Avenue (a school bus stop) as well as the midblock at Santos Trail on SE 25th Avenue, a popular trail crossing for bicyclists.

Nothing in this resolution obligates the County to commit to any funding of the program or any implementation of the program.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached Resolution, and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

Mr. Bouyounes advised that the request is to adopt a Resolution regarding the Best Foot Forward (BFF) Pedestrian Safety Program, noting this is a program that the Department of Transportation (DOT) has embraced and is funding. The Resolution is to confirm the County's support of the program.

County Engineer Steven Calhoon, OCE, addressed the benefits of the program, noting he and his staff support the Resolution. The BFF Pedestrian Safety Program is one of the largest "grass roots" coalitions in the Country and is aimed at reducing serious pedestrian injuries and fatalities through education, engineering, enforcement, and evaluation. He referred to the slides as shown on the overhead screens and stated a presentation was provided to the Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) on March 26, 2024. Mr. Cohoon advised that the "Bike/Walk Central Florida" is a 501C3 nonprofit organization dedicated to educating and advocating to make communities more walkable, bikeable, and rollable. The BFF Pedestrian Safety Program has been going on in Orange, Seminole and Osceola Counties for over 10 years with significant results. DOT District 5 is looking to expand this program into Marion, Brevard, and Volusia Counties, and will fund it for the next 2 years as part of the Target Zone Initiative. He stated Central Florida is consistently ranked one of the most dangerous regions for pedestrian fatalities in the Nation. Data indicates that only 49% of drivers yield to pedestrians within a half mile of parks, and only 46% of drivers yield to pedestrians at trail crossings. Mr. Cohoon stated the organization will select different crosswalks within the communities and evaluate them to determine if there are any issues. He advised that the organization looks for cross walks that are in

close proximity to schools, trails, transit stops, etc., and are located on roads that are 45 miles per hour (mph) or less. Mr. Cohoon stated the program educates the public on changes made at specific crosswalks, as well as on general behavioral changes drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists can make. High visibility enforcement helps to educate and has documented improvement rates of drivers yielding to those crosswalks by more than 10%. These are intended to target enforcement activities issuing citations at the selected crosswalks. The program's hypothesis is that if it can increase the rate of drivers that stop for pedestrians in crosswalks, then more pedestrians will cross in crosswalks. He advised that since 2012 over 12,000 citations and warnings have been issued; over 300 crosswalks have been monitored; and over 800 educational presentations have been provided at different events. He advised that in 2012, only 17% of drivers yielded at BFF crosswalks on roads that were 35 mph or slower, noting today that number has risen to more than 50%. On roads 40 mph or higher, the driver yield rate has risen from 2% to 40% over the last 10 years.

Chairman Stone commented on the importance of increasing pedestrian safety and improving the County's statistics as it relates to pedestrian crossings.

General discussion ensued.

Mr. Bouyounes advised that the County's Public Relations team is working with the TPO on some messages and short videos that will be released to the public as well.

A motion was made by Commissioner Curry, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to adopt Resolution 24-R-246 in support of the Best Foot Forward Pedestrian Safety Program. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Resolution 24-R-246 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, FLORIDA, CONFIRMING MARION COUNTY'S SUPPORT OF THE BEST FOOT FORWARD FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE

9.3. Presentation of a Citizen's Concerns regarding a Neighboring Property Owner's Use of the Drainage Right-Of-Way within the Cedar Shores Industrial Park Subdivision, Recorded in Plat Book U, Page 51 (Budget Impact - None)

County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Mr. Timothy Ennis provided public comment during the June 18, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Prior to this meeting, Mr. Ennis had also shared his concerns with County Staff and Commissioner Curry. County staff has made several site visits. Mr. Ennis owns property west of the Cedar Shores Industrial Park subdivision and has concerns that a portion of the drainage right-of-way (DROW) reserved within the Cedar Shores Industrial Park has been encroached on by a property owner. The area of concern is that portion of the DROW located between Lots 5 and 6 of Block A as shown in Plat Book U, Page 51.

Mr. Ennis expressed concerns regarding how the owner of Lots 5 and 6 (common ownership) has piped the drainage within the DROW and has constructed their parking lot within the DROW. He also has shared concerns with general activity within the DROW and fallen trees, and he questions placement of well and septic on the parcel. Mr. Ennis has indicated he has no drainage issues and staff has not found concerns with how the drainage system is functioning. This is a 1981 plat that predates many drainage requirements; the DROW appears to have been

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designed as a conveyance system that sends the drainage to a Florida Department of Transportation drainage retention area located south, adjacent to Maricamp Road. The plat dedicated the "improvements" to the public and the Board accepted this subdivision for maintenance in 1987.

In 1996, Lot 5 received a Marion County building permit using a site plan that showed a parking lot being constructed in the DROW and the DROW being piped. The plan called out the DROW as an easement and not a right-of-way. In 2000, Lot 6 developed, tying their improvements to those already constructed on Lot 5. A development timeline of greater detail is attached.

The following options are provided for the Board's consideration:

1. Require the property owner of Lots 5 and 6 to remove all items (fencing and miscellaneous personal items) from the DROW that are not associated with the permit condition of a parking lot and stormwater piping.
2. Require the property owner of Lots 5 and 6 to remove all items (fencing, miscellaneous personal items, parking lot and drainage piping) from the DROW as the permit from 1996 was erroneously issued.
3. Vacate the DROW between Lots 5 and 6 and reserve a drainage easement in its place. Lots 5 and 6 are owned by the original subdivision developer and vacating the DROW will return the property to the original owner.

Staff recommends option 3.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: For Board discussion and consideration.

County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, referred to the slides as shown on the overhead screen, noting on June 18, 2024 there was a citizen concern that came before the BCC relating to encroachment on a portion of the DROW within the Cedar Shores Industrial Park. He advised that he first spoke with Timothy M. Ennis in January 2024 regarding his concern with trees that had fallen out of the DROW onto his property. Staff went out and assessed the trees, which appeared to be in the property of the DROW. Mr. Cohoon stated the trees were removed and the damage associated with the fallen trees was within the DROW. There was some damage to the fence, as well as trees that were around that damaged fence that had vegetation growing over those downed trees. He stated it was not apparent to staff that anything that fell in that DROW was associated with damage to the fencing; however, he did provide Mr. Ennis information on how to contact the County's Claims Department. Mr. Cohoon advised that staff was able to locate a document approved by the Building Department in 1996 that showed impervious area was allowed as part of the buildout of Lot 5 into the DROW, noting on that document it referred to the subject site as an easement and not a ROW. The Cedar Shores Industrial Park is a 1981 plat that predates many drainage requirements. The plat dedicated the "improvements" to the public and the Board accepted this subdivision for maintenance in 1987. In 1996 Lot 5 received a Marion County building permit using a site plan that showed a parking lot being constructed in the DROW. In 2000, Lot 6 developed tying their improvements to those already constructed in 1996 on Lot 5. He advised that after staff's review of this entire area, 3 Options are being presented for BCC consideration. Mr. Cohoon provided a brief overview of the 3 Options, noting staff is recommending Option 3.

Commissioner Curry noted when Mr. Ennis spoke earlier in the meeting, he advised of drainage issues since the owner of Lots 5 and 6 laid concrete for a parking lot and questioned whether staff concurred with that statement. Mr. Cohoon advised that staff have not closed circuit television videoed (CCTV) those pipes, noting as far as he could

tell there were no obstructions in the existing conveyance system. He stated there is no record of flooding and everything appears to be in working order.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Cohoon stated no water should be held on the property and everything should be conveyed from that platted community back to the drainage area that is now owned and maintained by the County.

General discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve Option 3, vacating the DROW between Lots 5 and 6 and reserving a drainage easement in its place. Lots 5 and 6 are owned by the original subdivision developer and vacating the DROW will return the property to the original owner. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

10. COMMITTEE ITEMS:

10.1. Public Safety Coordinating Council - Ratification of the Replacement Member Representing a Local Substance Abuse Treatment Program

Executive Assistant Gennifer Medina, Commission Office, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The incumbent representative of a local substance abuse treatment program, SMA Healthcare, Inc., has selected Robin Lanier to represent them on the Public Safety Coordinating Council, replacing Rhonda Harvey.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to ratify the appointment of Robin Lanier, SMA Healthcare Vice President of Marion County Services, as the member representing a local substance abuse treatment program on the Public Safety Coordinating Council.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to ratify the appointment of Robin Lanier, SMA Healthcare Vice President of Marion County Services, as the member representing a local substance abuse treatment program on the Public Safety Coordinating Council. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

11. NOTATION FOR ACTION:

11.1. Request Approval to Schedule and Advertise a Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance Relating to Trespassing on Marion County Owned Property on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium

County Attorney Minter presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Over the past decade, there have been times the County has needed to trespass citizens from certain County facilities for public safety and welfare. Local law enforcement, as allowed by state law, has issued "trespass warnings" to these individuals on Marion County owned property. Such trespass warnings are given to individuals who were acting in violation of county ordinances or Florida Statutes. The practice has not been formally memorialized within the County Code previously. The presence of individuals who violate Florida Statutes or county ordinances, rules or regulations on public property creates a threat to the public safety and welfare.

Budget/Impact: None.

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Recommended Action: Motion to schedule and advertise a Public Hearing to consider an Ordinance Relating to Trespass on Marion County Owned Property on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to schedule and advertise a final Public Hearing to consider an Ordinance Relating to Trespass on Marion County Owned Property on Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

11.2. WALK-ON

Request to Reschedule and Advertise a Marion County Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting to Consider Approval of the 2024 Silver Springs Community Redevelopment Area Master Plan from Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. to Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 2:00pm in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium

Senior Planner Chris Rison presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The Marion County Community Redevelopment Agency (Agency) in partnership with the Marion County Board of County Commissioners' Community Services Department contracted with KimleyHorn Associates, Inc. (KHA), as consultants to complete the Silver Springs Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) Master Plan to create a more detailed guiding document for the Silver Springs CRA.

The draft of the Master Plan has been completed and is being finalized for consideration and approval by the Agency. This is a request to establish a special meeting date for the Agency's Master Plan approval consideration. During the regularly scheduled Board meeting of May 21, 2024, the Board approved this meeting for July 11, 2024. However, due to travel conflicts, this meeting is requested to be rescheduled to Tuesday, August 6th, 2024 at 2:00 pm.

Budget/Impact: None, advertising funds budgeted for FY 2023-24.

Recommended Action: Motion to reschedule and advertise a Marion County Community Redevelopment Agency meeting to consider the Silver Springs Community Redevelopment Area 2024 Master Plan from Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. to Tuesday, August 6th, 2024 at 2:00pm in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to consider the Walk-On Item. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

There being none, Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to reschedule and advertise a Marion County Community Redevelopment Agency meeting to consider the Silver Springs Community Redevelopment Area 2024 Master Plan from Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. to Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 2:00pm in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

12. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS: Scheduled requests will be heard first and limited to five (5) minutes. Unscheduled speakers will be limited to two (2) minutes. Citizens may

contact Marion County Administration by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the meeting at 352-438-2300 to request to speak or sign up online at: www.marionfl.org.

Chairman Stone opened the floor for public comment.

Daniel Sivilich, SW 51st Terrace, advised that he is also a volunteer archeologist at Fort King, noting there will be a public "Archeology Week" from July 12 to July 19, 2024 and invited everyone to attend. He addressed the Board regarding the SW 38th Street expansion project, specifically Section 2, which affects the Timberwood and Fore Ranch subdivisions. Mr. Sivilich referred to a slide (as shown on the overhead screen) and commented on a presentation by Kimley Horn, which showed the proposed ROW. He advised that Alternative A takes 10 ft from the backyard of Fore Ranch residents and Alternate B takes 30 ft from the Timberwood backyards. Mr. Sivilich expressed concern that Alternative A will cut through residents' pools and Alternative B will go through someone's house. He opined that property values would significantly decrease. He stated the proposed recreational shared pathway is not necessary. Mr. Sivilich expressed concern that the proposed design shows no left turn out of SW 51st Terrace, noting Timberwood only has 3 egresses. He opined that taking away the left turn would make it difficult for residents to get to State Road (SR) 200, Interstate 75 (I-75) etc., and all the amenities along those roadways (shopping, restaurants, HCA hospital, etc.). Mr. Sivilich stated a better alternative would be to put a light at that intersection so that residents can make a left turn.

Commissioner Bryant advised that the Board would take Mr. Sivilich's comments into consideration when addressing this matter, noting the project is only in its preliminary planning stages and will be coming back in front of the BCC at a future date. She stated the BCC can send Mr. Sivilich's suggestions to Kimley Horn to be made part of the next presentation. It was the general consensus of the Board to concur.

(Ed. Note: The Deputy Clerk did not receive a copy of the slide presented by Mr. Sivilich.)

Commissioner Bryant out at 11:13 a.m.

Gerri Gerthe, SE 137th Lane, Summerfield, commented on the recent purchase of the I-75 Flea Market, which had been the home of the Marion County Fair. She noted she has done a lot of work for disadvantaged children and works extensively with the Teen Court program. Ms. Gerthe stated she has been working with the State of Florida trying to get a Chapter 616, Marion County Fair Association; however, it cannot happen until there is a permanent fairground. She advised that Dream Land Amusements has proposed to help purchase property, noting 4 potential properties have been located. Ms. Gerthe provided a brief overview of the constraints of purchasing Agricultural properties as it relates to permitting for events.

Commissioner Bryant returned at 11:17 a.m.

Ms. Gerthe commented on the benefits of being able to have events all year long, noting the need to have the property designated as fairgrounds.

Chairman Stone noted she would like to have a one-on-one with Ms. Gerthe to discuss this matter.

In repose to commissioner Bryant, Ms. Gerthe stated one of the four proposed properties is located on the corner of County Road (CR) 475 and CR 484; one is located off of US 301 in Belleview; and the other 2 are located in Citra.

Roger Knechtel, SE 97th Terrace Road, Summerfield, addressed the Board regarding pro-life issues, noting HeartBeat International is being sued by the Attorney General Offices in both California and New York over the reverse abortion pill. He opined that babies are the greatest gift from God.

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Mr. Knechtel commented on Title IX, which is a Federal Civil Rights Law enacted to protect women from discrimination and expressed concern that the law is being changed. Mr. Knechtel commented on the growth in Marion County.

Stanley Ennis, SE 43rd Street, expressed concern with trees from the DROW that have damaged his yard.

Chairman Stone noted staff has explained to Mr. Ennis the process to move forward with his complaint.

Commissioner Curry out at 11:33 a.m.

Mr. Ennis stated he was told by Commissioner Curry that the County would remove the debris.

Commissioner Curry returned at 11:34 a.m.

Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

13. COMMISSIONER ITEMS:

13.1. Commission Comments

Commissioner Zalak advised of his excitement for the upcoming Fourth of July celebrations, noting the City of Ocala will be putting on a drone light show. He stated one of his favorite quotes is "The Nation will remain the land of the free as long as it is home of the brave".

Commissioner Bryant wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July. She expressed her appreciation to all those that helped wish her mother a Happy Birthday this morning.

Commissioner Curry advised that the Governor is closing their offices on Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5, 2024, noting several Marion County Constitutional Officers are also closed on both days. He suggested the County do the same.

Commissioner Bryant noted it is her understanding that the City of Ocala governmental offices will be open on Friday July 5.

General discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Commissioner Curry, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to close Marion County government offices, except for essential services (i.e., Marion County Fire Rescue, Public Safety Communications, Marion County Landfill, etc.), on Friday, July 5, 2024.

General discussion ensued.

The motion failed by a vote of 2-3 with Commissioners Stone, Bryant, and McClain voting nay.

Commissioner McClain advised that he had nothing further to add.

Chairman Stone reminded everyone that the Marion County Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) process is currently ongoing and encouraged citizens to attend community meetings to provide citizen input into that process. She stated the EAR will determine how the County will grow in the future. Chairman Stone noted there is also a survey link on www.marionfl.org. She wished everyone a Happy Fourth of July. She reminded pet owners to spay/neuter their pets appropriately.

13.2. Commission Calendar

13.2.1. Present Commission Calendar

The Chairman acknowledged receipt of the Commission calendar covering the period of July 2, 2024 through July 16, 2024.

14. NOTATION FOR RECORD:

14.1. County Administrator Informational Items:

14.1.1. Present Thank You Letter to Marion County Fire Rescue from Bradford County Fire Rescue Department for the Donation of Twelve Knox Key Secure Vehicle Units

14.1.2. Present the Economic and Tourism Development Report as Required by Section 288.1226 and 288.904, Florida Statutes

14.1.3. Present Letter from Bay Laurel Center Community Development District Dated May 31, 2024 Regarding Proposed Budget FY 2025

14.1.4. Present Notification of Vacancy on the Board of Adjustment

14.1.5. Present Housing Finance Authority of Marion County Memorandum of Understanding on Reserves for Unforeseen Circumstances Policies and Procedures

14.1.6. Present Marion County Department of Health DE385L Contract Management Variance Report and DE580L1 Analysis of Fund Equities Report for FY 2023-24

14.2. Present Walk-On Items From Previous BCC Meeting: NONE

14.3. General Informational Items:

14.3.1. Marion County Health Department – For the Latest health news and information, Visit the Website at <http://marion.floridahealth.gov/>.

14.4. Clerk of the Court:

14.4.1. Present Administrative Budget Transfer for FY 2023-24

14.4.2. Present Bay Laurel Center Community Development District Proposed Budget FY 2025 as required by FS 190.008

14.4.3. Present Marion Ranch Community Development District Proposed Budget FY 2025 as required by FS 190.008

14.4.4. Present Pioneer Ranch Community Development District Proposed Budget FY 2025 as required by FS 190.008

14.4.5. Present Regular Report of Utilization for Reserve for Contingencies

14.5. Present for information and record, minutes and notices received from the following committees and agencies:

14.5.1. Code Enforcement Board - May 8, 2024

14.5.2. Development Review Committee - May 20, June 3 and 10, 2024

14.5.3. Parks and Recreation Advisory Council - February 21, 2024

14.5.4. Pine Run Estates MSTU Advisory Committee - May 16, 2024

14.5.5. Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) - For Minutes and Agendas, Visit the Website at <http://www.WaterMatters.org>

14.5.6. St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) - For Minutes and Agendas, Visit the Website at <https://www.sjrwmd.com>

14.5.7. Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) - For Minutes and Agendas, Visit the Website at <https://ocalamariontpo.org>

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14.5.8. Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority (WRWSA) - For Minutes and Agendas, Visit the Website at <http://www.wrwsa.org>

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting thereupon adjourned at 11: 46 a.m.

Michelle Stone, Chairman

Attest:

Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk

DRAFT