

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

May 6, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Marion County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in Commission Chambers at 9:01 a.m. on Tuesday May 6, 2025 at the Marion County Governmental Complex located in Ocala, Florida.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The meeting opened with invocation by Commissioner Curry and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country.

**9:00 AM ROLL CALL:**

Upon roll call the following members were present: Chairman Kathy Bryant, District 2; Vice-Chairman Carl Zalak, III, District 4; Commissioner Craig Curry, District 1; Commissioner Matthew McClain, District 3; and Commissioner Michelle Stone, District 5. 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 Bryant addressed upcoming scheduled meetings as listed on the Commission Calendar (Item 13.2.1).

**1. PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

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

**1.1. PROCLAMATION** - Melanoma Awareness Month - Jessica Strange, Advocate/Volunteer, Melanoma Research Foundation (Approval and Presentation)

The Board presented the Proclamation designating the Month of May 2025 as "Melanoma Awareness Month" to Jessica Strange, Melanoma Research Foundation and Melissa Burns.

Jessica Strange, Melanoma Research Foundation, expressed her appreciation to the Board for the Proclamation. She commented on the importance of recognizing the fight for awareness and advocacy for change. Ms. Strange advised that melanoma is the deadliest form of skin cancer, noting 9 out of every 10 cases is considered preventable. Melanoma is the leading cause of cancer death in young women ages 25 to 30 years old and is the most diagnosed cancer in the age group of 30 to 39, male and female. She stated she was diagnosed with melanoma at the age of 33, sought treatment, and has had no evidence of the disease for over 4 years. Melanoma is diagnosed 9,500 times daily and claims the lives of over 8,430 Americans each year, with approximately 800 being Floridians. Ms. Strange advised that Florida has the second highest incidence of melanoma in the United States (US), noting 2 people die every hour from skin cancer. An estimated 212,200 cases of melanoma will be diagnosed in the US in 2025. There are over 1,900,000 Americans walking around who are fighting this disease. She advised that

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5 or more sunburns in childhood increases the risk of melanoma by 80 percent (%), so protecting our children is critical. One indoor tanning session increases your risk of melanoma by 75 (%). There is no such thing as a safe tan. Ms. Strange advised that 400 children are diagnosed with melanoma annually, noting a baby can be born with melanoma as it is one of the few cancers that can cross the placenta. She noted it is recommended that every Floridian has at least 1 skin check a year by a board certified dermatologist.

**1.2. PROCLAMATION** - Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month - Greg Smale, President, American Bikers Aiming Towards Education (Approval and Presentation)

The Board presented the Proclamation designating the Month of May 2025 as "Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month" to President Greg Smale, American Bikers Aiming Towards Education (ABATE) and several representatives of the organization.

ABATE President Greg Smale commented on the importance of being aware of motorcycles on the roadway.

Bridgette Pace, Florida Secretary, ABATE of Florida, Inc., Forest Chapter, advised that the organization has a Motorcycle Safety Awareness program that is free to other organizations, clubs or school classrooms. She advised that most vehicles have 9 or more average blind spots, noting something as small as the tip of your thumb can create a blind spot.

Chairman Bryant commented on the importance of not texting while driving and to always look twice to save a life.

**1.3. PROCLAMATION** - National Hospital Week - Alan Keesee, Chief Executive Officer, HCA Florida Ocala Hospital (Approval and Presentation)

The Board presented the Proclamation designating the week of May 6 through May 12, as "National Nurses Week" and the week of and May 11 through 17, 2025 as "National Hospital Week" to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Alan Keesee, HCA Florida Ocala Hospital and several representatives.

Alan Keesee, HCA, expressed his appreciation to the BCC for the Proclamation, noting Hospital Week is an opportunity to reflect and celebrate the heroes that work behind the scenes every day. He advised that 45 percent (%) of individuals employed by hospitals are serving in non-clinical roles, including sanitation workers, food service workers, and many others who work to keep hospitals open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (24/7), to ensure hospitals are always available to individuals that need health care. Mr. Keesee commented on a terrible bus crash that happened in Marion County last year, noting the local hospitals were able to work collaboratively to provide amazing healthcare for those patients that were injured.

**1.4. PRESENTATION** - Present Patricia Gabriel with an Award for Her Service to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Council and Marion County - Jim Couillard, Parks & Recreation Director (Presentation Only)

Parks & Recreation Director Jim Couillard presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Present Patricia Gabriel with an award for her service to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Council and Marion County.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation only.

Chairman Bryant, along with the BCC and Parks & Recreation Director Jim Couillard, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Patricia Gabriel for her long term service as a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council (PRAC). She advised that although serving on PRAC is voluntary, the work that Council does is essential, noting PRAC members are citizen liaisons between the Parks and Recreation Department and the BCC.

Chairman Bryant expressed her appreciation to Ms. Gabriel for her 19 years of service as a member of PRAC. She commented on Ms. Gabriel's hard work, commitment, and support of the Department and community, which has been invaluable. Chairman Bryant advised that she first met Ms. Gabriel in 2010 when Ms. Gabriel served as a member of the State Road (SR) 200 Coalition. She stated it was her honor to have Ms. Gabriel as her appointee to PRAC.

Mr. Couillard advised that Ms. Gabriel has been instrumental in many projects over the years (Liberty Park, Wrigley Fields, Carney Island, etc.)

Commissioner Curry advised that he served as a member of PRAC for 4 years alongside of Ms. Gabriel, noting she was always grounded, prepared, and professional.

Ms. Gabriel commented on the importance of parks throughout the community and urged citizens to get out and visit Marion County parks.

**1.6. PROCLAMATION - National Travel and Tourism Week - Loretta Shaffer, Marion County Tourism Development Director (Approval and Presentation)**

The Board presented the Proclamation designating the week of May 4 through May 10, 2025 as "National Travel and Tourism Week" to Marion County Tourism Development Director Loretta Shaffer and several representatives.

Tourist Development Council (TDC) Chairman Rus Adams expressed his appreciation to the BCC for its support of the TDC and the Visitors Convention Bureau (VCB). He commented on the development of the World Equestrian Center (WEC), as well as the Florida Aquatic Swimming and Training Center (FAST), noting the tourism dollars they have brought to Marion County.

Tourist Development Director Loretta Shaffer opined that Travel and Tourism Week is a wonderful time to celebrate the successes of Marion County, noting the great work could not be done without the support of the BCC, County Administration, and the Constitutional Officers who ensure the fiduciary responsibility that comes with tourism funds brought into the community. She provided a brief overview of upcoming events including the Rock the Country concert. Ms. Shaffer encouraged citizens to visit the website at [www.ocalamarion.com](http://www.ocalamarion.com) for more information.

Commissioner Zalak commented on the importance of knowing how to vacation in your own community.

**1.7. PROCLAMATION - Building Safety Month - Mike Savage, Building Safety Director (Approval and Presentation)**

The Board presented the Proclamation designating the Month of May 2025 as "Building Safety Month" to Building Safety Director Michael Savage and several representatives.

Building Safety Director Michael Savage expressed his appreciation to the BCC for the Proclamation recognizing the importance of building safety, noting his team is very passionate about implementing building requirements to ensure the protection of citizens.

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**1.5. PRESENTATION** - FY 2022-23 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, FY 2022-23 Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, and FY 2024-25 Distinguished Budget Presentation Awarded to the Marion County Clerk of Court and Comptroller's Office - Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller (Presentation Only)

Chief of Staff Katie Hunnicutt, Clerk of Court, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Fiscal Year 2022-23 Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, and Fiscal Year 2024-25 Distinguished Budget Presentation Awarded to the Marion County Clerk of Court and Comptroller's Office.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation only.

Clerk Harrell advised that the excellent work performed by the Clerk's Finance and Budget Departments could not be accomplished without the strong support of County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes and Executive Director of Internal Services Mike McCain. He advised that several staff members from the Clerk's Finance and Budget Departments are present, noting in the world of government financial reporting, these 2 teams won the triple crown. Clerk Harrell noted this is the 39<sup>th</sup> year in a row that the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has presented the Clerk's Finance Department with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports (ACFR). He stated the Finance Department also received the FY 2022-23 Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR). Clerk Harrell advised that the Budget Department was awarded the GFOAs Distinguished Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget Presentation Award, so this is truly a triple crown event.

Chairman Bryant congratulated the Clerk's Office for their achievements and expressed her appreciation for the hard work that goes into these documents. She commented on Marion County's financial success and the transparency these documents provide for the taxpayers of Marion County. Chairman Bryant advised that the BCC considers the Clerk's Office its Chief Financial Officer (CFO), noting all of the revenue that is collected and expended by the County flows through the Clerk's Office.

**1.8. PROCLAMATION** - Eagle Scout Court of Honor - Jonah Paul Emerson (Approval Only)

The Board approved the Proclamation congratulating Jonah Paul Emerson upon attaining the status of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America organization.

Chairman Bryant passed the gavel to Commission Zalak who assumed the Chair.

Commissioner Bryant out at 10:03 a.m.

Commissioner Stone out at 10:03 a.m.

Commissioner Bryant returned at 10:04 a.m.

Chairman Zalak returned the gavel to Commissioner Bryant who resumed the Chair.

Commissioner Stone returned at 10:05 a.m.

Chairman Bryant noted it is the ten o'clock hour. She advised that the Board would continue with the Agenda after the public hearing is 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:** Second of Two Public Hearings to Approve a Development Agreement (Agreement, 25-01DA) between Marion County, Florida, and 484 Road Runner Resources, LLC, Coyote Crossing Holdings, LLC, John Alvarez Investment Group, LLC, AAW, LLC, and MGL Development, LLC, Related to the Florida Crossroads Commerce Park (North and South), Phase 2

Growth Services Director Chuck Varadin presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: James W. Gooding, III, Esq., on behalf of 484 Road Runner Resources, LLC (Developer or Owner), Coyote Crossing Holdings, LLC, John Alvarez Investment Group, LLC, AAW, LLC, and MGL Development, LLC (Owners), has submitted a Development Agreement related to the Florida Crossroads Commerce Park (North and South), Phase 2, development regarding transportation and stormwater improvements, including, but not limited to, addressing concurrency, concurrency certification, proportionate share, and transportation impact fee credits, and establishing an expiration date.

The Florida Crossroads Commerce Park (FCCP), consisting of lands north and south of SW Hwy 484, is surrounded by the existing Marion Oaks Subdivision, a Vested Development of Regional Impact (VDRI). The FCCP has been established under a series of Planned Unit Development (PUD) approvals (Zoning Case Numbers 181103Z[P], 191107Z[P], 191110Z[P], 210806Z[P], 221110ZP), and the Developer and Owners are working with Marion County regarding the completion of area transportation network improvements related to SW Hwy 484, the SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue Extension, and SW 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road through the site and overall Marion Oaks community. The Agreement references the FCCP's development approvals and generally identifies the development amounts addressed by the Agreement.

The Agreement primarily identifies a series of roadway improvements to be completed by the developer and/or owners, and provides for concurrency, concurrency certification, proportionate share, and transportation impact fee credits (Credits), and establishing an expiration date. The Agreement also identifies developer improvements related the site and the site access, but does not provide for impact fee credits, etc. related to those developer improvements; instead, they are identified only for record purposes between the parties and the County.

The roadway improvements proposed for Credits are turn lanes at the intersection of SW Hwy 484 & SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue Extension and SW Hwy 484 & SW 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road. Credits are based on the costs of the improvements that are then applied and/or credited to the project consistent with the Land Development Code and Florida Statutes. Marion County Code of Ordinances (COO) Section 10-323(a) (1 and 3) requires that improvements receiving Credits be identified as part of the County's Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). The proposed improvements are not part of the current TIP; however, the Board may approve Credits for such improvements, subject to the approval being by supermajority vote of the Board (4 of 5 commissioners). As the Hwy 484 corridor is currently a key arterial roadway experiencing significant transportation impacts, staff supports the request to grant Credits for the proposed improvements. COO Section 10-323(f)(4) establishes that the duration for a Credit agreement be a period of five (5) years, but that the

applicant may request a duration of 20 years, and in no event shall the duration exceed 20 years. The applicant has requested a 20-year duration noting concerns related to a potential development downturn. Should the Board desire a shorter duration, the applicant is eligible to request an extension in the future, subject to requirements in place at that time.

This public hearing represents the second and final public hearing regarding the Agreement. Staff recommends approval of the Agreement with a supermajority as the requested Credits are for improvements not listed on the 5-Year TIP.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Receive public comment, provide direction to staff, and motion to approve the Agreement with identified revisions, if any. (Supermajority vote necessary for the Agreement to provide the impact fee credits for a project not listed on the County's Transportation Improvement Plan.)

Deputy Clerk Burdette presented Proof of Publication of a display ad entitled, "Notice of Public Hearing to consider a Developer's Agreement between Marion County and 484 Road Runner Resources, LLC., Coyote Crossing Holdings, LLC., John Alvarez Investment Group, LLC., AAW, LLC., and MGL Development, LLC., related to The Florida Crossroads Commerce Park (North and South), Phase 2 (25-01DA)" published in the Star Banner newspaper on April 29, 2025. The Notice states the purpose of this public hearing is to consider a proposed Development Agreement (Agreement, Case No. 25-01 DA), pursuant to Sections 163.3220 through 163.3243, inclusive, Florida Statutes (F.S.), between Marion County, Florida (County) and 484 Road Runner Resources, LLC., Coyote Crossing Holdings, LLC., John Alvarez Investment Group, LLC., AAW, LLC., and MGL Development, LLC. (Developer and/or Owners), related to the Florida Crossroads Commerce Park (North and South), Phase 2.

Senior Planner Chris Rison, Growth Services, advised that this public hearing is the second and final public hearing regarding a Developer's Agreement proposal related to the Florida Crossroads Commerce Park, which is located on south Highway 484, just west of Interstate 75 (I-75). The site is currently surrounded by the Marion Oaks subdivision and lies on the north and south sides of Highway 484. He noted the first hearing was held 2 weeks ago on April 15, 2025. Mr. Rison advised that the project has Planned Unit Development (PUD) approvals, noting the north portion was done in 2020, and then the south portion was done in 2022 with the most recent updates. The current Development Agreement, which will be kind of a partner to this one, was approved in 2019. Staff did provide for public Notice related to this request with a total of 524 notices sent out. Staff received 1 letter in support and 5 letters in opposition, although some of those questions were related to the prior approvals of their PUDs. He referred to a map as shown on the overhead screens, which depicted the location of the subject site. Overall, this Development Agreement is primarily being made for Impact Fee credits related to improvements to Highway 484, specifically the 2 major intersections at the SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue extension to SW 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road. The developers were providing for left turn lanes and extensions. These are currently listed in the report along with other improvements that the developers and the property owners will be making; however, they will not be receiving credit for those other activities. Mr. Rison advised that the BCC needs to make 2 determinations for this request, noting the current Code of Ordinances requires that for Impact Fee credits, the improvements that are being proposed need to be in the 5-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). Currently, these improvements are not listed in the TIP; therefore, in order to approve this, it would require a super majority of

the Board's vote. Staff support this request as Highway 484 is experiencing some significant traffic issues, so the improvements that are proposed will be advantageous to that area. He stated the other item is the question of the duration of the agreement. Mr. Rison advised that County Code initially calls for Development Agreements to be for up to 5 years, but an applicant may request 20 years. The applicant has, in this case, requested a 20 year duration. He noted recent agreements have allowed for 20 year durations.

Jimmy Gooding, SE 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, on behalf of the applicant, presented a 3 page electronic mail (email) to County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes from the law firm of Gilligan, Gooding, Batsel, Anderson & Phelan, P.A.; a 4 page copy of an Economic Development Financial Incentive Grant (EDFIG) Agreement between Marion County and Dollar Tree Distribution Inc.; a 15 page document containing several Developers Agreements between Marion County and other parties; and a 9 page document entitled, "Marion County Water and Wastewater System Standard Developer's Service Agreement Contract No. 07-01". He provided a brief overview of the request.

Chairman Bryant opened the floor to public comment.

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

In response to County Administrator Bouyounes, County Engineer Steven Cohoon advised that the dollar amount associated with the credits is approximately \$750,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Cohoon stated the Ordinance relating to Impact Fee Credits stipulates 5 years; however, it also stipulates that a developer may come before the Board and request extensions.

General discussion ensued.

Mr. Bouyounes advised that the Ordinance is very clear about the 5 year timeframe, noting if the Board decided to go with the 5 years and if the developer has not exhausted those Impact Fees within 5 years, they can always ask for an extension before expiration. He opined that it is a matter of accounting and how staff are going to keep up with those credits and what would be the easiest way to do it as it relates to accounting purposes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to approve the Developer's Agreement between Marion County and 484 Road Runner Resources, LLC., Coyote Crossing Holdings, LLC., John Alvarez Investment Group, LLC., AAW, LLC., and MGL Development, LLC., related to The Florida Crossroads Commerce Park (North and South), Phase 2 (25-01DA) with a duration of 20 years for the Impact Fee Credits. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Chairman Bryant clarified that although the BCC made the exception for a 20 year duration this time, it is trying to rein in the timeframe for Impact Fee credits for the reasons as stated by Mr. Bouyounes.

Commissioner Zalak opined that the Board should consider changing the Ordinance and requested staff bring the matter back, noting he agreed with Mr. Bouyounes that the accounting element is very difficult to track over 20 years.

## **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](http://www.marionfl.org).

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Chairman Bryant opened the floor to public comment.

Joseph Walker, SE 54<sup>th</sup> Place, Ocklawaha, addressed the Board regarding Agenda Item 9.2. (request for Release of Lien on Code Enforcement Case Numbers 571485 and 591524). He requested more information in regard to where the property is located and the costs associated with the lien.

Chairman Bryant stated the hard cost associated with this lien is \$1,495.24. She clarified that Code Enforcement Board liens do not accrue interest.

Mr. Bouyounes advised that the \$1,495.24 is the Administrative costs (staff time), noting there was no abatement costs associated with the lien.

Bridget Bitter, SE Highway 464C, addressed the Board in regard to Agenda Item 9.1. (waiver request from Land Development Code (LDC) Section 6.14.2.B(1)(a) - Water Connection for Parcel Number 4551-006-010). She stated she is the applicant and is requesting the BCC grant her waiver request from connecting to a centralized water system. Ms. Bitter advised that on January 3, 2025, she and her husband purchased parcel 4551-006-010 with the intention of putting a new manufactured home on it with well and septic based on the listing of the property that stated the utilities as "other". Before closing on the property, she and her husband went to the County offices and met with Ashley Sears in permitting and licensing to make sure they knew the proper setbacks, impact fees, permitting fees, and well and septic requirements. After closing on the property, she had the land cleared and purchased a new manufactured home from Mobile Home Headquarters. While preparing for the permitting, the seller from Mobile Home Headquarters was told by the well contractor that she would be on City water. On January 31, 2025, she sent in a request for a utilities check and on February 6, 2025 she received a response from the County advising that she did have access to the City water and extension would be required. She stated on February 12, 2025 Mobile Home Headquarters sent an email showing that it would be between \$6,000.00 to \$6,800.00 for the water connection fee, but the wording from the County made it sound like it was included. On March 4, 2025, the permit was applied for and by mid-March, in order for them to move forward, she was informed that she needed to fill out the water connection application and fee. On March 17, her husband, Glenn, went to the County office, and it was not until they were asking for additional money that they realized the extension fee would be between \$36,000.00 and \$40,000.00. Ms. Bitter advised that she and her husband paid \$55,000.00 for the manufactured home and expressed concern that the cost to connect is almost as much as they paid for their home. On April 1, 2025 it was brought to her attention that nobody in her neighborhood of Lake Weir Village, was on City water as they all had wells. She stated it is her understanding that the Davis Landfill Remediation Project allowed the homeowners in the neighborhood to connect to City water free of charge; however, she does not believe that any of those property owners connected.

Ms. Bitter commented on how difficult the process has been and expressed her appreciation to Utilities Director Cunningham and Development Review Supervisor Carrie Hyde for their help in this matter.

Chairman Bryant advised that public comment is now closed.

Chairman Bryant advised that she is going to move Agenda Item 9.1. up at this time in order for the BCC to address this matter.



**9.1. Request for Waiver from Land Development Code Section 6.14.2.B(1)(a) - Water Connection for Bridget Bitter, Parcel Number 4551-006-010, Application Number 32640 (Budget Impact - None)**

Building Safety Director Savage presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The Land Development Code states new development in the Urban or Rural area shall connect to a centralized water system with available capacity if a water line is within a connection distance of 400 feet times the total number of Equivalent Residential Connections (ERCs).

The Applicant, Bridget Bitter requested a waiver due the water connection cost being an estimated \$45,000. The connection distance is 355 feet from the existing connection and the required extension distance to the edge of the property would be 430 feet.

The subject property is located in the southeast portion of the County on approximately .21 acres.

This waiver request was denied by the Development Review Committee (DRC) on March 31, 2025.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to uphold DRC's action for the waiver request.

Utilities Director Tony Cunningham advised that County Code states if a parcel is within 400 feet (ft) of an existing water main, then it is a requirement to connect to a centralized water system, noting the edge of the property is within 355 feet of an existing water main. At the Development Review Committee (DRC) meeting, there was a question of whether the location of the water main was accurate because it is close, 355 to 400. Staff did verify the location and have "as built" drawings that confirmed that location. At the DRC meeting on March 31, 2025, this matter was discussed and DRC voted to deny the request for a waiver to connect.

In response to Chairman Bryant, Mr. Cunningham referred to a map as shown on the overhead screen, noting there appears to be 3 benefitting lots.

General discussion ensued.

In response to Chairman Bryant, Mr. Cunningham advised that the Solid Waste Department had a responsibility to provide water to areas within a defined contamination plume from the Davis Landfill. This is outside of that defined area and outside of the defined plume.

Utilities Fiscal Manager Kathy Peterson commented on the Davis Waterline project open to the residents that were in that area to be able to connect due to the contamination from the Davis Landfill, noting that project is still open and there are funds available if the Board so chooses to decide on utilizing some of those funds for this project.

In response to Chairman Bryant, Glenn Bitter, SE Highway 464C, stated he understands that their property is outside the flume, noting his concern is that it could take up to 9 months to complete the connection project.

Mr. Cunningham stated the Utilities Department could extend the line quicker than 9 months.

Chairman Bryant requested staff meet with the Bitters to discuss the connection timeline so that they may make an informed decision.

Mr. Cunningham noted he will also need to confirm that the Department can utilize those funds for a property outside of the contamination plume.

(Ed. Note: This matter was addressed again later in the meeting.)

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**3. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: (3 sets)**

**3.1.** December 11, 2024

**3.2.** December 17, 2024

**3.3.** December 19, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Curry, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to adopt the meeting minutes of December 11, 17, and 19, 2025. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

**4. CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENTAL OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:  
NONE**

**5. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT:**

**5.1. Budget Amendment**

Clerk Harrell advised that Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.8 specifically relates to Consent Agenda Item 7.6.5.

Commissioner Curry stated he would like to move forward Consent Agenda Item 7.6.5. to be considered at the same time as the Board adopts the Budget Amendment Resolutions. It was the general consensus of the Board to concur.

Upon motion of Commissioner Curry, seconded by Commissioner Stone, the Board adopted the following Budget Amendment Resolutions transferring funds and to approve Consent Agenda Item 7.6.5. as presented by Clerk Harrell:

**5.1.1.** 25-R-138 – 911 Management Fund - 911 Management - \$103,721

**5.1.2.** 25-R-139 – County Transportation Maintenance Fund - Road & Street Facilities - \$878,007

**5.1.3.** 25-R-140 – Fire, Rescue and EMS Fund - Fire Rescue Services - \$1,116,450

**5.1.4.** 25-R-141 – General Fund - County Administrator - \$1,340

**5.1.5.** 25-R-142 – General Fund - Juvenile Dependency Drug Court - \$419,604

**5.1.6.** 25-R-143 – General Fund Grants - Continuum of Care Program - \$47,337

**5.1.7.** 25-R-144 – Infrastructure Surtax Capital Project Fund - Infrastructure Tax Sheriff Patrol - \$37,979

**5.1.8.** 25-R-145 – Infrastructure Surtax Capital Project Fund - Multiple Cost Centers - \$1,350,000

**5.1.9.a** 25-R-146 – Multiple Funds - Multiple Cost Centers (Opioid Settlement) - \$1,712,062

**5.1.9.b** 25-R-147 – Multiple Funds - Multiple Cost Centers (Opioid Settlement) - \$1,395,373

(Ed. Note: EMS is the acronym for Emergency Medical Services)

**5.2. Clerk of the Court Items**

**5.2.1.** Present the Acquisition or Disposition of Property Forms Authorizing Changes in Status, as Follows: 029194, 032793, 033059, 035099, 039898, 040691, 040740, 040803, 042408, 043073, 044411, 044539, 044644, 045258, 047791, 047931, 049360, 049361, 049362, 050689, 050690, 050872 and 54044

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to approve the Acquisition or Disposition of Property Forms for 029194, 032793, 033059, 035099, 039898, 040691, 040740, 040803, 042408, 043073, 044411, 044539, 044644, 045258, 047791, 047931, 049360, 049361, 049362, 050689, 050690, 050872 and 54044.

## **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 Curry, seconded by Commissioner McClain, the Board acted on the Consent Agenda as follows:

### **7.1. Administration:**

**7.1.1.** Request Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Aircraft Hangars Between the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County and William “Billy” Woods, as Sheriff of Marion County (Budget Impact - Neutral)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by ACA Amanda Tart, Administration:

Description/Background: This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into for the purposes of outlining the terms and conditions of constructing improvements on the land leased by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners and the Sheriff from the City at the Ocala International Airport; establishing ownership interests of such future improvements and existing structures on the premises; and setting forth the Sheriff’s right to occupy future improvements and existing structures on the premises. The second amendment to the lease was approved by the Board on April 15, 2025.

The Sheriff is looking to construct a new hangar on the leased site at the City of Ocala International Airport. This MOU will serve as an agreement between the Sheriff and the Board of County Commissioners and will allow the Sheriff to oversee the construction of the new hangar with the oversight of Facilities with the construction. The total will not exceed 2.5 million dollars.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute same.

**7.1.2.** Request Approval of the Disposition and Transfer of Five (5) Vehicles from the Department of Health to the Department of Environmental Protection (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by ACA Tart, Administration:

Description/Background: On March 19, 2025, a request was received from the Department of Health (DOH) for a transfer of five (5) vehicles to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). County Health Departments (CHD) have continued to perform local onsite sewage responsibilities since the passage of the Clean Waterways Act (CWA) through an interagency agreement. During FY24/25 the next phase of the transfer will occur as local responsibilities begin to transfer from CHDs to DEP. DEP is expected to assume onsite sewage responsibilities for Marion County on July 1, 2025. To ensure DEP has the equipment necessary to operate the program and to adhere to legislative intent of the CWA, DOH is requesting that the county-owned property utilized by the CHD to operate the onsite sewage program be relinquished by the county and transferred to DEP.

Description	Property Number
2007 Chevy Silverado VIN: 1GCEC19X97Z595844	H50
2016 Chevy Silverado VIN: 1GCVKNEH5GZ258659	H63
2016 Chevy Silverado VIN: 1GCVKNEH7GZ254774	H62
2015 Chevy Silverado VIN: 1GCHSAEA9F1205033	P233
2015 Chevy Silverado VIN: 1GCHSAEA8F1203466	P249

Per the terms of contract between Marion County Board of County Commissioners and State of Florida Department of Health for Operation of The Marion County Health Department Contract Year 2024-2025, these vehicles are to remain in the Department of Health's trust fund. Per Florida State Statute the Department of Health has the authority to transfer ownership of vehicles to other state agencies.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the disposition and transfer of five (5) vehicles to the Department of Environmental Protection.

## 7.2. Community Services:

**7.2.1.** Request Approval of the First Amendment to the Marion County Standard Professional Facilities Agreement Home Investment Partnerships American Rescue Plan Program between Marion County and Wear Gloves, Inc. (Budget Impact - Neutral; not to exceed \$100,000)

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

Description/Background: On August 20, 2019, the Board approved Marion County's 2019-2023 five-year Consolidated Plan and subsequent Action Plans for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). On March 11, 2021, Congress enacted the American Rescue Plan, providing additional HOME funds (HOMEARP) to support the acquisition, construction, and renovation of facility projects and affordable housing for qualifying populations.

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 the Board of County Commissioners approved an agreement with Wear Gloves, Inc. to acquire and renovate a building located at 2001 SW 3rd Avenue to provide transitional housing and non-congregate shelter for unhoused persons in the amount of \$1,035,000. Due to unforeseen renovation cost, this amendment is requesting up to an additional \$100,000 and extends the performance period to September 30th, 2025.

This project aligns with the objectives outlined during the Community Services Workshop held on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and complies with the requirements of the HOME-ARP program. Wear Gloves, Inc. will contribute \$265,731 in matching funds toward the project.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; \$100,000 funding source FH342564-583225 project code 342HMAPB.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute all necessary documents related to the Agreement between Marion County and Wear Gloves Inc., and to authorize the Community Services Director to extend the term of the Agreement if necessary.

**7.2.2. 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 2026 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 185 public housing units, 1,511 housing choice vouchers and Section 8. In addition, they provide 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 2024-28 Five (5) Year Consolidated Plan. Staff recommends approval of the Certification.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize Chairman 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 a Final Plat for Pioneer Ranch Phase 5, Parcel Number 35700-000-04 Application Number 31007 (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: This is a request to approve the Final Plat for Pioneer Ranch Phase 5.

This plat is located in the southwest portion of the County containing 99 lots, 7 tracts, and .48 miles of road on approximately 14.84 acres.

This Final Plat was approved by the Development Review Committee on April 7, 2025.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Final Plat for Pioneer Ranch Phase 5 and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

**7.4. Human Resources:**

**7.4.1. Request Approval to Amend Contract with The Standard Insurance Company to Increase Maximum Payout to \$750,000 (Budget Impact - Neutral)**

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

Description/Background: The current life insurance provider, The Standard Insurance Company, has had a long-standing contract with Marion County Board of County Commissioners. As of October 1, 2024, the maximum payout amount was two times an employee's salary, capping out at \$500,000.

During this current fiscal year, two employees have received merit increase which increased their salary to over \$250,000, thus making the maximum payout less than two times their salary.

The Standard Insurance Company has provided an amendment to the contract, which increases the maximum payout to \$750,000, which will include all employees and ensure the maximum payout of two times their salary.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; premium is already budgeted.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve amendment to contract with The Standard Insurance Company to increase maximum payout to \$750,000.

## **7.5. Parks & Recreation:**

**7.5.1.** Request Approval of Public Transportation Grant Agreement and Resolution Approving Grant Funds Between the Florida Department of Transportation and Marion County (Budget Impact - Neutral; revenue from grant of \$607,108)

The Board accepted the following recommendation to adopt Resolution 25-R-148 as presented by Parks and Recreation Director Jim Couillard:

Description/Background: The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has offered the Marion County Airport a Public Transportation Grant Agreement (PTGA) in the amount of \$607,108 for Financial Project Number 438427-1-94-01. This grant is intended for the construction of Taxiway Alpha and the installation of lighting at the Marion County Airport.

These grant funds are being offered in collaboration with grant funds from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration for the same project, which was approved during the September 17, 2024 BCC meeting.

As with previous FDOT grant agreements, a Resolution authorizing the Chairman and Clerk to execute said agreement is required as part of the grant approval process. The Resolution is included in the PTGA as Exhibit D.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; revenue from grant of \$607,108.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Public Transportation Grant Agreement and Resolution approving grant funds and authorize Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

## **7.6. Procurement Services:**

**7.6.1.** Request Approval of Bid Award: 25B-070 CR 484 at Marion Oaks Blvd Intersection - Superior Asphalt, Inc., Bradenton, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$657,001)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of the Office of the County Engineer, Procurement advertised a bid seeking qualified and experienced contractors to construct a turn lane addition and signal modification at the intersection of CR 484 and Marion Oaks Blvd. The work shall include milling the existing pavement, widening the existing roadway, grading swales and establishing sod, signing and pavement markings, and removing and replacing a curb inlet and curb and gutter. Two (2) submittals were received; the tabulation is below:

Vendor – Location	Bid
Superior Asphalt, Inc. - Bradenton, FL	\$657,001.00
C.W. Roberts Contracting, Inc. - Ocala, FL	\$720,484.84

Steven Cohoon, P.E., County Engineer, recommends that Superior Asphalt, Inc., receive the award as the lowest, most responsive, and most responsible bidder. Attached for review is a contract draft and pending approval at today's meeting, it will be sent to Superior Asphalt, Inc. for signatures. Upon return, it will be forwarded to Legal, the Clerk, and Chairman for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$657,001. Up to 10% contingency may be added to the purchase order in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from GB772541-563512-TIP077841 (Impact Fee-West District) \$300,834 and BL760541-563220-TIP077841 (CNTY Trans Maint Fund) \$356,167.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation and allow staff to issue a contract and upon approval by Legal, authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the contract under 25B-070.

**7.6.2. Request Approval of Change Order 3 to Purchase Order 2401663: Employee Health Clinic Design - Architecture Studios, Inc., Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; additional expenditure of \$10,900)**

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

Description/Background: On August 20, 2024, the Board approved a task order in the amount of \$94,500 with Architecture Studios, Inc. (AS) for architectural services for the construction drawings and construction administration to adapt the former Pioneer Garden club building for re-use as the Employee Health Clinic. The firm was to provide code research, construction documents, bidding assistance and construction administration services for the project, which was to include Architecture, Mechanical, Ventilation, Electrical, Plumbing, and Structural engineering services.

On December 18, 2024, the first Change Order was done by Procurement, to add a 10% contingency to the purchase order in the amount of \$9,450, as allowed in the Procurement Manual. Soon after, Change Order 2 was issued to utilize \$8,140 of the contingency fund, due to unforeseen conditions, where the firm found that multiple trusses in the attic were cut to accommodate the air conditioning system. At this time, Change Order 3 is being presented to add an additional \$10,900 to address unforeseen structural issues. After the internal demolition of the existing building was completed, it was discovered there were numerous structural issues. AS had the Structural Engineer visit the site and provided details and instruction on correcting the issues. This Change Order will bring the total Purchase Order amount to \$114,850.

Attached is Change Order 3 with the proposal for the additional architectural and structural engineering services. Pending approval today, the Change Order will be presented for the Clerk and Chairman's signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; additional expenditure of \$10,900, bringing the total purchase order amount to \$114,850. Funding is from line ZK711519-562102 (Insurance Fund, Buildings CIP), Project RBC000002.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute Change Order 3 to Purchase Order 2401663 for Architecture Studios, Inc., under 20Q-170B-TO-25.

**7.6.3. Request Approval of Contract Renewal: 21P-115 KP Hole Livery Services - Rainbow River Kayak Adventures, LLC, Dunnellon, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; estimated expenditure of \$191,000)**

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

Description/Background: On April 20, 2021, the Board approved a contract with Rainbow River Kayak Adventures, LLC (RRKA) to provide safe and reliable transportation services for guests and their equipment at KP Hole Park. Since then, RRKA has consistently met the terms and conditions outlined in the original agreement. Following a positive performance evaluation by the Parks & Recreation Director Jim Couillard recommends renewing the contract for an additional one (1) year.

Attached for review is a draft contract. Pending approval at today's meeting, it will be sent to RRKA for signatures and upon return, will be forwarded to Legal, the Clerk, and Chairman for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; estimated expenditure of \$191,000. Actual costs will vary and will not exceed the approved annual budget amount without having this brought back to the board. Funding comes from CR362572-534101 - Parks and Recreation Fees Fund.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation and allow staff to issue the renewal, and upon approval by Legal, authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the contract with Rainbow River Kayak Adventures, LLC under 21P-115-CA-02.

**7.6.4. Request Approval of Contract Renewal: 22Q-073-CA-01 Tree Services Contract - Flyway Access LLC dba Conrad Tree Service, Ocala, FL and Enviro Tree Service LLC, Apopka, FL (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: On May 3, 2022, the Board approved contracts with two (2) contractors; Flyway Access LLC dba Conrad Tree Service and Enviro Tree Service LLC, for maintenance and removal of dangerous and damaged trees on County owned property.

Both contractors have received favorable evaluations, and Facilities Director, Jared Goodspeed, recommends renewing their contracts from June 1, 2025, through May 31, 2026, for their first one (1) year renewal options.

Attached for review are the draft contract amendments; pending approval at today's meeting, they will be sent to Flyway Access LLC dba Conrad Tree Service and Enviro Tree Service LLC for signatures, and upon return, will be forwarded for the County Attorney's, Clerk's and Chairman's signatures.

Budget/Impact: None. Projects assigned to the contractors which exceed \$50,000 will be brought back before the Board as a separate task order with a detailed scope and fee schedule for review and final approval.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and allow staff to issue, and upon approval from Legal, authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the contracts under 22Q-073.



**7.6.5. Request Approval of Not-to-Exceed Expenditure: 20Q-161-TO-45 Marion County Sheriff's Office Martel Phase 2 Driving Pad - Dinkins Construction LLC, Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; total expenditure not-to-exceed \$3,794,925)**

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

Description/Background: On April 6, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved contracts with six (6) Construction Managers (CM), which allow the County to select a CM depending on their area of expertise, capacity, and availability. Facilities Management has assigned the construction management work for the Marion County Sheriff's Office Martel Phase 2 Driving Pad to Dinkins Construction LLC (Dinkins). This project entails the construction of a 400' x 800' driving pad for emergency vehicle operator training, along with multiple access roads and intersections to simulate real-world scenarios. Work includes site preparation, paving, utility installation (water, storm drainage, and electrical), and minimal landscaping for erosion control.

This agenda item requests approval for a not-to-exceed (NTE) budget of \$3,794,925. Additionally, it seeks authorization for the Chairman to execute the contract for this project without requiring further Board approval. Execution of the contract will occur upon determination of the final deliverables, provided they do not exceed the established NTE amount of \$3,794,925.

Attached for review is the proposal submitted by Dinkins, which outlines the associated schedule and agreement.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure not-to-exceed \$3,794,925, up to a ten percent (10%) contingency may be added to the purchase order in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from VJ736521- 563102 (Infrastructure Surtax Capital Project Fund) with project code SOC000036.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Not-to-Exceed expenditure and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the contract under 20Q-161 without being brought back to the Board.

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Budget Item 5.1.8.)

**7.6.6. Request Approval of Task Order for Architectural Services: 20Q-170-TO-28 Baseline Scale House - Monarch Design Group, Gainesville, FL - (Budget Impact - Neutral; Expenditure of \$61,434)**

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

Description/Background: Facilities Management has assigned the Baseline Scale House Architectural Design to Monarch Design Group. The work involves conducting a comprehensive site investigation to review site access, geotechnical investigations, an architectural program and concept development, an initial cost estimate to complete the project, based on the preliminary design, and providing the final report as well as recommendations for the next steps in the building process.

Attached for review is a draft of the architectural proposal that includes the scope or work and fee schedule.

Upon approval, a purchase order will be issued.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$61,434. Funding for this project is from ZA423534-563102 (Solid Waste Disposal Fund), Project SWC000049.

May 6, 2025

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation and authorize staff to release the purchase order to Monarch Design Group under 20Q-170-TO-28.

**7.6.7. Request Approval of Task Order for Architectural Services: 20Q-170-TO-29 Marion County Belleview Health Department - Monarch Design Group, Gainesville, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; Expenditure of \$443,920)**

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

Description/Background: Facilities Management has assigned Marion County Belleview Health Department Architectural Design to Monarch Design Group (MDG). The work invoices architectural design and engineering services, mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering services, signed and sealed drawings as needed to submit for building permits and bidding and construction phase services. In addition to these basic architectural services, MDG will also be providing civil engineering, geotechnical engineering survey and photometric services.

Attached for review is a draft of the Task Order Contract along with the Architectural Proposal that includes the scope of work and fee schedules.

Upon approval at today's meeting, the contract will be sent to the firm, and upon return, will be forwarded to the County Attorney, Clerk and Chairman for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral: expenditure of \$443,920. Funding for this project is from CA130562-562102 (MC Health Unit Trust Fund), Project HDC000001.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and allow staff to issue, and upon approval from Legal, authorized the Clerk and Chairman to execute the task order to Monarch Design Group, under 20Q-170-TO-29.

**7.6.8. Request Approval of Task Order for Civil Site Engineers for Miscellaneous Projects: 23Q-087-TO-39 SW 90<sup>th</sup> St., New 2 Lane Rd - TIP075875 - Tillman & Associates Engineering, LLC, Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$489,203)**

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

Description/Background: On June 6, 2023, the Board approved contracts with multiple firms to provide various civil site-related engineering services for the County. Firms were selected based on the area of specialty and equitable distribution of work among all firms in accordance with §287.055 Consultant's Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA).

Tillman & Associates Engineering, LLC (Tillman) has been chosen to design a new two-lane road at the SW 90<sup>th</sup> Street alignment, connecting SW 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue to SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Also, the temporary traffic signal at the intersection of SW 89<sup>th</sup> Street and SW 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be removed and the median will be modified to a directional left-in opening. These modifications are consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding with the adjacent subdivision, Majestic Oaks, approved by the Board during their regular meeting of July 21, 2020. This project was programmed for the 2022-23 TIP as TIP075875.

Attached for review is a draft of the contract; pending approval at today's meeting, it will be sent to Tillman for signature and upon return, it will be forwarded for the County Attorney's, Clerk's, and Chairman's signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; project shall not exceed \$489,203. Funding is from GB772541-563512 (Impact Fee – West District).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation and allow staff to issue contract, and upon approval by Legal, authorize the Chairman to execute contract with Tillman & Associates Engineering, LLC.

**7.6.9. 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 in conformance with the Procurement Code/Manual, pending approval at today's meeting.

Pending Requisition/A.C. Shultes of Florida, Inc. - Marion County Utilities requests approval to service of wells G04, G05 and G06 for testing to determine if additional treatment will be required for the new water plant that is in the design phase for Golden Ocala. Total expenditure of \$163,800. Funds are available in line ZF448536-563102 (Marion County Utility Fund) Project UTC000136. This purchase meets the competitive bidding process requirements under 21B-236.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve purchases over \$50,000.

**7.7. Tourist Development:**

**7.7.1. Request Approval of Tourist Development Council Request for Bid Fee Funding - Babe Ruth 16-18 World Series Hosted by Babe Ruth League, Inc. (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$50,000)**

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Tourist Development Director Loretta Shaffer:

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Council (TDC) seeks funding approval for organizations that have festivals, events, or programs which support the TDC's mission of growing the economy and accelerating prosperity in Marion County through effective destination sales and marketing. This funding contract is for the Babe Ruth 16-18 World Series hosted by Babe Ruth League, Inc., to be held August 1-9, 2025, at the Rotary Sportsplex. The estimated economic impact for this event is \$1,814,844. The funding program promotes tourism in the State of Florida and a primary purpose of this event is to attract tourists. This event was recommended for funding in the amount of \$50,000 by the TDC at their regularly scheduled meeting on February 27, 2025.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$50,000. Funding from CP155552-548101.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Tourist Development Council funding request and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute attached funding agreement. Approval of this agreement is an acknowledgement that the event promotes tourism in the State of Florida and one of its primary purposes is the attraction of tourists.

**7.7.2. Request Approval of Tourist Development Council Request for Bid Fee Funding - Cal Ripken 8U World Series Hosted by Babe Ruth League, Inc. (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000)**

May 6, 2025

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Tourist Development Director Shaffer:

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Council (TDC) seeks funding approval for organizations that have festivals, events, or programs which support the TDC's mission of growing the economy and accelerating prosperity in Marion County through effective destination sales and marketing. This funding contract is for the Cal Ripken 8U World Series hosted by Babe Ruth League, Inc., to be held August 1-9, 2025, at Rotary Sportsplex. The estimated economic impact for this event is \$898,265 and is anticipated to produce a 334% return on investment. The funding program promotes tourism in the State and Florida and a primary purpose of this event is to attract tourists. This event was recommended for funding in the amount of \$5,000, by the TDC at their regularly scheduled meeting on February 27, 2025.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000. Funding from CP155552-548101.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Tourist Development Council funding request and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute attached funding agreement. Approval of this agreement is an acknowledgement that the event promotes tourism in the State of Florida and one of its primary purposes is the attraction of tourists.

#### **7.8. Transportation - County Engineer:**

**7.8.1.** Request Approval of a Purchase Agreement and Permanent Drainage Easement Associated with the CR 225A and Hwy 27 Intersection Improvement Project (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$26,876)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by County Engineer Steven Cohoon, Office of the County Engineer, (OCE):

Description/Background: This is a request to approve a Purchase Agreement for a portion of parcel 13667-000-01 associated with the CR 225A and Hwy 27 Intersection Improvement Project. There is one drainage easement consisting of 1440 square feet/ 0.03 acres of land. In addition, the agreement includes compensation to relocate entrance signage. The negotiated price includes attorney fees and avoids any additional costs associated with condemnation proceedings.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$26,875.95 plus closing costs (STC073867 - CIP TRANSP - NEWINF ROW - VJ738541 - 561301).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Purchase Agreement and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

**7.8.2.** Request Approval of Marion County Subdivision Improvement Agreement with Surety Bond for 95<sup>th</sup> Street Holdings, LLC for Pioneer Ranch Phase 5 Subdivision, Application Number 31007 (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by County Engineer Cohoon, OCE:

Description/Background: The Pioneer Ranch Phase 5 Subdivision Final Plat is being considered concurrently with this Subdivision Improvement Agreement with Surety Bond. Land Development Code Section 2.18.4.D states that if the improvements are not completed, an Improvement Agreement shall be provided and approved by the Board, as well as a security, limited to an irrevocable letter of

credit or bond only, in the amount of 120 percent of the estimated cost of remaining improvements.

The County Attorney's office has reviewed and approved the Subdivision Improvement Agreement with Surety Bond in the amount of \$3,496,874, including landscaping. This subdivision is located in the southwest portion of the County containing 99 lots and 0.48 miles of road on approximately 14.84 acres.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached Marion County Subdivision Improvement Agreement with Surety Bond and to authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

## **7.9. Utilities:**

**7.9.1. Request Approval of Federally Funded Subaward and Grant Agreement H1106 Between State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; grant revenue \$548,581, Marion County Utilities budgeted expenditure \$182,861)**

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

Description/Background: The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), administered by the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has awarded funding to strengthen the resilience of Marion County Utilities. The grant will support the purchase and installation of five portable generators at designated Water Treatment Plants. This initiative aims to ensure reliable backup power, reducing the risk of disruption to critical infrastructure during severe weather events and other emergencies. The total project cost is \$731,442, with a federal share of \$548,581.50 and Marion County Utilities contributing \$182,860.50.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; grant revenue \$548,581.50, Marion County Utilities budgeted expenditure \$182,860.50.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the Federally Funded Subaward and Grant Agreement.

**7.9.2. Request Approval of Assignment Agreement Between 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue Holdings, LLC and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: On August 21, 2018, the Board approved Water and Wastewater System Standard Developer's Agreement No. 18-01 between Marion County, Toshi II, LLC, and 80<sup>th</sup> Ave, LLC. The Assignor, 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue Holdings, LLC, was dissolved on September 22, 2023, and now seeks to transfer its assignment to Lennar Homes, LLC. This action serves to formally acknowledge the reassignment to Lennar Homes, LLC, which will remain subject to the terms and conditions outlined in the original agreement.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the Assignment Agreement.

## **8. COUNTY ATTORNEY:**

**8.1. Request Consideration of Reduction and/or Release of Civil Restitution/Cost of Incarceration Liens for Levi Miles Collis**

County Attorney Matthew G. Minter, Legal, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: On April 1, 2025, the County Attorney's Office received a request from Dorina Locke on behalf of her nephew, Levi Miles Collis, requesting a Release/Reduction of his Civil Restitution/Cost of Incarceration Liens from Case No. 2015-MM-4676, recorded at OR Book 6326, Pages 0548-0549 on January 4, 2016, Case No. 2016-MM-5560, recorded at OR Book 6924, Pages 1540 on March 5, 2019 and Case No. 2018-MM-5151, recorded at OR Book 6898, Page 1664 on January 15, 2019. Mr. Collis is requesting a reduction of the Civil Restitution/Cost of Incarceration Liens totaling \$8,130.03, with \$5,450.00 remaining in judgments and \$1,780.03 in interest.

On July 9, 2015, Mr. Collis was arrested for Trespass on Land of Another after Warning (First Degree Misdemeanor) in Case No. 2015-MM-4676. On August 4, 2015, he was adjudicated guilty and sentenced to 27 days in jail. The Court imposed a Judgment of Cost of incarceration of \$1,350.00 (sentence 27 days x \$50 per day). He served 27 days in the Marion County jail and was an Inmate Worker for 7 days. He still owes \$494.70 in other fines and court costs for this case. Note: There was no Civil Restitution Order created for this case; the Judgment and Sentence was recorded as the lien in OR Book 6326, Pages 0548-0549 on January 4, 2016.

On October 4, 2016, he was arrested for Trespass to Property other than Structure Convey (First Degree Misdemeanor) in Case No. 2016-MM-5560. On October 5, 2016, he was adjudicated guilty and sentenced to 6 months of probation. On October 17, 2016, he was arrested for felony Grand Theft, Burglary and Dealing in Stolen Property. While in custody on unrelated felony charges, Mr. Collis was arrested for a Violation of Probation for Trespass to Property other than Structure Convey (First Degree Misdemeanor) in Case No. 2016-MM-5560. On December 29, 2016, he was sentenced to 30 days in jail. The Court imposed a Judgment of Cost of incarceration of \$1,400.00 (sentence 28 days x \$50 per day) recorded at OR Book 6924, Pages 1540 on March 5, 2019. He was not an Inmate Worker during this incarceration. He still owes \$552.26 in other court costs and fines for this case.

On August 17, 2018, Mr. Collis was arrested for Violation of Domestic Violence Injunction (First Degree Misdemeanor) in Case No. 2018-MM-5151. On October 9, 2018, he was adjudicated guilty and sentenced to 54 days in jail. The Court imposed a Judgment of Cost of incarceration of \$2,700.00 (sentence 54 days x \$50 per day). He served 54 days, of which he was not an inmate worker during this incarceration. He still owes \$532.60 in other court costs and fines for this case. For these cases, Mr. Collis was sentenced and served 109 days in jail, of which he served 7 days as an inmate worker. Therefore, he was in jail for 102 days where he was not an inmate worker.

Mr. Collis is requesting the reduction/release of his lien so that he may sell his late father's property, which he inherited. The parcel (31947-171-00) has an assessed land just value of \$19,040. The property is currently under contract for \$32,000; after paying closing costs; cleaning up the property; and repayment of fees to his aunt, Mr. Collis should net between \$7,000-\$8,000, depending on the reduction of his liens. The proceeds would enable him to purchase a vehicle for commuting to

work, secure rental housing, and cover essential living expenses as he works to establish his independence.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve or deny Levi Miles Collis' request for a Reduction and/or Release of the Civil Restitution/Cost of Incarceration Liens recorded in 2015-MM-4676, recorded at OR Book 6326, Pages 0548-0549 on January 4, 2016, Case No. 2016-MM-5560, recorded at OR Book 6924, Pages 1540 on March 5, 2019 and Case No. 2018-MM-5151, recorded at OR Book 6898, Page 1664 on January 15, 2019.

County Attorney Matthew G. Minter advised that a request to reduce or rescind a Civil Restitution Lien has been made by Dorina Lock who has the power of attorney and is representing her nephew, Levi Miles Collis. He stated there is \$5,400.00 remaining in civil restitution liens plus \$1,780.00 in interest.

Dorina Locke, NE 6<sup>th</sup> Street, advised that she is trying to help her nephew move forward in a better direction, noting the request for the reduction/release of his lien is so that he may sell his late father's property, which he inherited, in order to purchase a vehicle for commuting to work, secure rental housing, and cover essential living expenses as he works to establish his independence.

Mr. Minter clarified that the BCC could address the Civil Restitution Lien, but has no jurisdiction over Court costs, etc.

Chairman Bryant advised that the Board would usually reduce a Restitution lien based on the number of days that the person was an inmate worker, noting Mr. Collis served 109 days in jail and was an inmate worker for 7 of those days. She stated there were 102 days that Mr. Collis served where he was not an inmate worker, and at a cost of \$50.00 per day, it would leave an amount owed of \$5,100.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve the request for a reduction of the Civil Restitution/Cost of Incarceration Liens to a total amount of \$5,100.00 and to waive the \$1,780.00 in interest. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

## **9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:**

### **9.2. Request for Release of Lien on Code Enforcement Case Numbers 571485 and 591524; Parcel Number 11497-001-00**

Growth Services Director Chuck Varadin presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Between 2012 and 2016, investigations resulted in an initial violation, followed by a repeat violation, with the Code Enforcement Board (CEB) liens being recorded against Harold E. Rogers for the accumulation of junk on his half-acre property in Salt Springs.

In December 2024, John Tyson Salt Springs Farm Trust purchased the property via a tax deed sale and subsequently cleared the violation. Mr. Tyson paid the \$500 fee and submitted the lien reduction requests. The Code Enforcement Board heard the requests on March 13, 2025, and based on the testimony presented, the Code Board recommended the Board of County Commissioners rescind the liens upon payment of the County's hard costs.

Code Enforcement Board liens	\$ 9,500.00
<u>Case costs</u>	<u>\$ 1,495.24</u>
Total	\$10,995.24

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Marion County Property Appraiser shows the 2024 market value as \$28,592 and the assessed value as \$13,674.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: These are Code Enforcement Board liens. Total case costs for the 2 cases are \$1,495.24. CEB liens do not accrue interest.

Growth Services Director Chuck Varadin provided a brief overview of the request, noting in February 2021 Mr. Harold Rogers passed away and in December 2024, John Tyson Salt Springs Farm Trust purchased the property for \$10,100.00 via a Tax Deed sale and subsequently cleared the violation. He stated Mr. Tyson paid \$250.00 for each of the cases to be brought before the Board for consideration of a reduction/release of lien. Mr. Varadin advised that the Code Enforcement Board heard the requests on March 13, 2025, and based on the testimony presented, the Code Board recommended the BCC rescind the liens upon payment of the County's hard costs in the amount of \$1,495.24. He stated staff did apply and were notified that the County would receive surplus funds from the sale of property in the amount of \$710.51, which could be applied here.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to reduce the Code Enforcement Board liens to the hard costs for the 2 cases in the total amount of \$1,495.24. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

### **9.3. Fire Assessment Update**

Fire Chief James Banta, Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR) presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: During the Board meeting on April 15, 2025, Fire Chief James Banta provided an update on the proposed fire assessment for Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR). During that update, additional questions arose, and MCFR was requested to run additional scenarios. This update will address the additional questions proposed by the Board.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: For discussion and direction.

Fire Chief James Banta, MCFR, referred to the PowerPoint presentation as shown on the overhead screens and provided an update on the proposed Fire Rescue assessment, which was last updated in 2019. He noted staff typically try to make that assessment last about 5 years; however, this time it lasted 6 years. Chief Banta advised that last year the Department engaged the services of Nabors Giblin & Nickerson (NGN) and Anser Advisory formerly known as (FKA) Government Services Group, Inc., to reevaluate the proposed rates. He commented on questions that arose at the workshops held on January 29 and February 27, 2025, noting the Board had requested information about holding the current rate flat another year. Chief Banta noted staff also presented an update at the regularly scheduled BCC meeting held on April 15, 2025; wherein, staff presented the following option rates: 1) adopt the rate at 100% for the 5-Year average; 2) adopt a lesser percentage for the 5-Year average; 3) adopt an escalating rate over 5 years; or 4) adopt an escalating rate over 5 years at a lesser percentage. Since then, staff have reviewed 7 different scenarios as shown on page 985 of the Agenda packet, with the scenarios as follows: 1) FY 26 budget at the current assessment; 2) FY 26 budget at the current assessment with no capital purchases; 3) FY 26 budget – current assessment with no capital and no personnel; 4) minimum rate for a neutral budget with a \$237.12 assessment rate, and no capital and no personnel; 5) minimum rate with no capital and includes personnel; 6) minimum rate that includes capital and personnel; and 7) 5-Year



average rate at \$283.97 that includes capital and personnel. He referred to the Chart on page 986, which reflects information for all 7 scenarios. Chief Banta noted the red numbers at the bottom of the chart reflect how much money the Department would need from its Fund Balance for each year. He provided a brief overview of the different rate comparisons (bottom of page 986).

Year 1 at \$237.12 with the remaining 4 years at \$290.00; workshop rates minus capital with a 5-Year average of \$280.78; or Workshop rates with a 5-Year average of \$283.97. General discussion ensued.

In response to Commissioner Curry, Chief Banta stated the rate of \$237.12 does not take into consideration any negotiations with the International Association of Firefighters – Local 3169 Union.

General discussion resumed.

In response to Chairman Bryant, Budget Director Audrey Fowler advised that because this is a tax bill based fund, there's about a 2 month lag between the beginning of the FY and when the County starts receiving funds in December and that 17% Reserve balance covers two-twelfths of the budget. There is a little bit of cash in the Reserve already, so that tides them over.

General discussion resumed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to direct staff to move forward with setting the maximum Fire Rescue Assessment rate at \$283.97. Mr. Bouyounes clarified that no motion is necessary today, staff are only looking for direction, noting staff needed direction in order to prepare the Initial Resolution that will reflect the \$283.97 rates.

The motion and second were withdrawn.

## **10. COMMITTEE ITEMS: NONE**

### **9.1. UPDATE**

Mr. Cunningham advised that he spoke with the applicant, and the first question was specifically about the defined contamination area and how far away this site is, noting this site is about 1,900 feet from that contamination area. He stated the second question was the idea of potential funding to connect, noting historically, the County has only connected residents that were within that contamination area and has not opened that up to anyone outside of that containment contamination area. If the Board wanted to move in that direction, that would be a new precedent different than what has been done in the past and could be problematic in terms of the scope of what that looks like for others besides this specific site.

In response to Commissioner Curry, Mr. Cunningham clarified that the waiver is for water connection not sewer; however, the applicant would be required to install an enhanced septic system on this site.

Chairman Bryant passed the gavel to Commissioner Zalak who assumed the Chair.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to disagree with the DRC and approve the waiver request. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Chairman Zalak returned the gavel to Commissioner Bryant who resumed the Chair.

**11. NOTATION FOR ACTION:**

**11.1.** Request Approval to Schedule and Advertise a Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 2, Article IX of the Marion County Code Related to Surplus Real Property Disposition on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium

Community Services Director Martin presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The Community Services Department is requesting a public hearing to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 2 of the Marion County Code related to Surplus Real Property Disposition. This ordinance will allow for proceeds received from the sale of all surplus property, except those properties purchased with restricted funds, to be deposited into the Affordable Housing Assistance Trust Fund.

The following date is being requested for the public hearing:

- Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion for approval to schedule and advertise a Public Hearing for revisions to the Surplus Real Property Disposition ordinance on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to schedule and advertise a Public Hearing for revisions to the Surplus Real Property Disposition Ordinance on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

**11.2.** Request Approval to Schedule and Advertise a Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance Amending the Marion County Code, Chapter 2 Administration, Article III, Officer and Employees, Division 2, County Administrator on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., or as Soon Thereafter in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium  
County Attorney Minter, Legal, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Due to recent changes to the Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP), it is necessary to revise the County Administrator's authority to execute mortgages exceeding the current threshold of \$50,000.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to Schedule and Advertise a Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance Amending the Marion County Code, Chapter 2 Administration, Article III, Officer and Employees, Division 2, County Administrator on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., or as Soon Thereafter in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to Schedule and Advertise a Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance Amending the Marion County Code, Chapter 2 Administration, Article III, Officer and Employees, Division 2, County Administrator on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 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).

**11.3. Request Approval to Proceed with Community Meetings and Schedule a Consideration Workshop for the FY 2024-25 Proposed Pavement Condition Index Projects on Monday, June 9, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium**

Municipal Services Director Chad Wicker presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: In accordance with Board Policy 20-01, Staff is proposing five (5) pavement condition index (PCI) road assessment projects for FY 2024-25. These projects are being brought forward because they have an average PCI of 40 or less or are benefitting from using roads in a neighboring community with an average PCI of 40 or less.

<b>Proposed Project</b>	<b>Mileage</b>
1. Belmar Estates	3.54 miles
2. Country Gardens	0.73 miles
3. Forest Acres 1 <sup>st</sup> Add	1.93 miles
4. Pine Ridge Estates	1.82 miles
5. Tradewinds Village/Sugar Hill Estates	2.06 miles

Initial community meetings will be held between now and June 9<sup>th</sup>. Community members will also be invited to attend the June 9<sup>th</sup> Consideration Workshops at which the Board will hear the preliminary findings about each subdivision and take public comment. At the Board's direction, Staff will then engage engineering consultant services to design the project(s) and bond/legal counsel services to determine the assessment(s). Once completed, another community meeting will be held prior to the final Public Hearing. During the final Public Hearing, details about each project and its assessment will be presented for consideration of whether to proceed with the road improvement project or not.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to proceed with community meetings and schedule a Consideration Workshop for Monday, June 9, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium.

Commissioner Stone commented on possible increases in upcoming assessments and opined that it may be better to delay any proposed PCI road assessment projects for FY 2024-25. It was the general consensus of the Board to concur.

**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](http://www.marionfl.org).

Esmie Dunbar, SW 138<sup>th</sup> Place, advised that she would like to bring attention to patient awareness in the medical field, noting she lost her daughter, Rochelle Rodney, to sickle cell disease. She stated September is Sickle Cell Awareness Month, noting the month highlights the need for public education research and advocacy of this disease, as well as the challenges faced by those living with this disease. Ms. Dunbar stated her daughter was not treated fairly when she went to the Emergency Room (ER) in New York and was racially profiled as a drug addict due to the symptoms caused by the disease. She stated her daughter was treated with Narcan rather than pain medications. Ms. Dunbar advised

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that Legislation needs to be put into place to ensure patients receive the level of care that should be standard for all patients.

Chairman Bryant expressed her sympathy for the loss of Ms. Dunbar's daughter and advised her that County staff will provide her the contact information for Representatives at the State and Federal level.

### **13. COMMISSIONER ITEMS:**

#### **13.1. Commission Comments**

Commissioner Curry stated he had nothing further to add.

Commissioner Stone reminded everyone that although the month of May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, everyone needs to be aware of motorcycles every day.

Commissioner McClain advised that as part of his liaison duties to the to the Early Learning Coalition (ELC), he attended their annual education forum where ELC members were surprised with the Community Partner of the Year award for its participation in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, which is a program that the ELC along with community partners operates to ensure that children have access to free books. He stated not only did they meet their goal of getting those books out to the communities, but it was blown away and exceeded and now thousands of children in this community are reading as part of that program. Commissioner McClain expressed his appreciation to partnerships in the community and to the BCC for its participation in that program. He noted the ELC also wanted to pass on their thanks to County Administration and to the other County Department partners, like the public library system for their work as well.

Commissioner Zalak stated he had nothing further to add.

Chairman Bryant reiterated that the BCC fully supports funding MCFR. She reminded citizens about the 2025/2026 Stormwater Calander photo contest and stated this year's theme is wild flower water, which celebrates the vibrant beauty of Marion County's water bodies in bloom. Chairman Bryant advised that photos can be submitted electronically at [www.marionfl.org/stormwater](http://www.marionfl.org/stormwater) or may be dropped off at 412 SE 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, noting the deadline to submit is May 30, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Bryant advised that this Saturday, May 10, 2025 is the "Stamp out hunger in Marion County" event, noting since 1993 the letter carriers "Stamp out hunger" food drive has been the largest one-day food drive in the United States (US). She stated citizens can participate by placing non-perishable food donations at their mailbox for pickup. For more information, please visit [www.iesmarion.org](http://www.iesmarion.org) or call (352) 629-8868.

#### **13.2. Commission Calendar**

##### **13.2.1. Present Commission Calendar**

The Chairman acknowledged receipt of the Commission calendar covering the period of May 6 through May 23, 2025.

### **14. NOTATION FOR RECORD:**

#### **14.1. County Administrator Informational Items:**

**14.1.1.** Present Monthly Building Safety Productivity Report for the Month of March 2025

**14.1.2.** Present Resignation - Pine Run Municipal Services Taxing Unit Advisory Council  
- Tom Dean

**14.1.3.** Present Resignation - Pine Run Municipal Services Taxing Unit Advisory Council - Jerry Lawson, Jr.

**14.1.4.** Present Resignation - Code Enforcement Board - Len Racioppi

**14.1.5.** Present Executed Donation Agreement Between Greenwood Motor Lines, Inc, d/b/a R+L Carriers and Marion County for the New Animal Services Shelter

**14.1.6.** Present Executed Donation Agreement Between the Saint Bernard Foundation and Marion County for the New Animal Services Shelter

**14.1.7.** Present United Way 211 Transition to The Right Service at the Right Time

**14.1.8.** Present Letter to Seminole County Regarding the Medical Examiner Facility

**14.2. Present Walk-On Items From Previous BCC Meeting:**

**14.2.1.** WALK-ON: Presented on April 15, 2025, as Agenda Item 8.2. – Request Approval of Resolution to Establish Marion County Representatives to Appear Before the Florida Fishing and Wildlife Conservation Commission in its Consideration of Adoption of a Proposed Silver Glen Springs Protection Zone

**14.2.2.** WALK-ON: Presented on April 15, 2025, as Agenda Item 9.3. – Request Approval of Resolution Supporting Executive Order 25-44, Entitled Ensuring Government Efficiency, and Collaboration With The Governmental Efficiency Team ("EOG DOGE") To Identify Unnecessary Local Government Spending, Increase Operational Efficiencies, and Reduce The Burden On Taxpayers; and Providing For An Effective Date

**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 Report No. PC2025-03: Municipal Services Department - Rainbow Park Unit 3 (SW 157<sup>th</sup> Ct, SW 38<sup>th</sup> St. Rd, and SW 40<sup>th</sup> St) Road Improvements Petition Count

**14.4.2.** Present Marion County Community Redevelopment Agency 2023-24 Fiscal Year Annual Report, Silver Springs Community Redevelopment Area

**14.4.3.** Present Homesteaded Parcel which the County May Purchase (within 90 Days from March 19, 2025) for the Opening Bid Amount, Pursuant to Chapter 197.502(6)(C), Florida Statutes and 12D-13.063(5)(2) of the Florida Administrative Code

**14.4.4.** Present Administrative Budget Transfer Report for FY 2024-25

**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 - March 12, 2025

**14.5.2.** Dog Classification Board - February 19, 2025

**14.5.3.** Development Review Committee - March 24, 31, and April 7, 2025

**14.5.4.** Land Development Regulation Commission - April 2, 2025

**14.5.5.** License Review Board - March 11, 2025

**14.5.6.** Marion Oaks Municipal Services Advisory Board - January 14, 2025

**14.5.7.** Public Safety Coordinating Council - October 21, 2024

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

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

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

**14.5.11.** 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 11:36 a.m.

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Kathy Bryant, Chairman

Attest:

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Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk