

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

January 21, 2025

SWEARING IN CEREMONY: The Honorable Timothy McCourt, County Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, administered the Oath of Office to Clerk Gregory C. Harrell, Sheriff William “Billy” Woods, Tax Collector George Albright, Property Appraiser Jimmy Cowan and Supervisor of Elections Wesley Wilcox.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Marion County Board of County Commissioners (MCBCC) met in regular session in Commission Chambers at 9:01 a.m. on Tuesday January 21, 2025 at the Marion County Governmental Complex located in Ocala, Florida.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The meeting opened with invocation by Clerk Harrell 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, 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 Stone, seconded by Commissioner Curry, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved and/or ratified the following:

1.1. CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION - Friends of the Christmas Parade Committee - Sue Mosley, Committee Chairman (Approval and Presentation)

The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) presented the Certificate of Recognition to Committee Chairman Sue Mosley on behalf of the Friends of the Christmas Parade Committee.

1.2. PROCLAMATION - National Registered Nurse Anesthetists Week – Donna Varadin, MSN, CRNA (Approval and Presentation)

The Board presented the Proclamation designating the week of January 19 through 25, 2025 as “National Registered Nurse Anesthetists Week” to Donna Varadin, Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).

Donna Varadin, MSN, CRNA, expressed appreciation towards the Board, noting CRNAs administer anesthesia and keep individuals alive during surgery. She noted insurance

companies and research studies agreed that those administering and delivering share the same outcomes whether it is from a CRNA or a physician. Ms. Varadin advised that CRNAs are the most cost-effective and stated the goal is for the State of Florida to join more than half of the other States and recognize CRNAs and remove the federal supervision requirement so they can practice independently.

1.3. PRESENTATION - Present Funds Raised From 2024 Jamboree to Three Local Foundations - Amanda Tart, Assistant County Administrator (Presentation Only)

ACA Amanda Tart, Administration, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The Marion County Board of County Commissioners continues its longstanding support of giving back to our community with our annual Jamboree Day, an event by employees for employees to raise money for three local foundations, American Heart Association, March of Dimes, and United Way of Marion County. For twenty-nine years, departments have raised money at this event by raffling prizes, selling food and drinks, and having competitive games. This year at Jamboree we raised a record total of \$12,273.39, therefore the three local foundations will be receiving \$4,091.13.

Additionally, Bob Haight from United Way of Marion County, and Shelby Bobbett from American Heart Association, are present to address the Board and receive the donations for their respective foundations.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation of Jamboree Day donations to foundation representatives.

ACA Amanda Tart commented on the County's annual Jamboree Day, an event by employees for employees to raise money for three local foundations, American Heart Association, March of Dimes, and United Way of Marion County. She stated more than \$12,000.00 was raised for the three charities. Ms. Tart presented checks for more than \$4,000.00 to CEO and President Bob Haight, United Way of Marion County and a representative from the American Heart Association. Ms. Tart advised that the March of Dimes is also a benefitting agency; however, they do not have a representative present today.

1.4. PRESENTATION - Employee of the Quarter for October - December 2024 - Sara Caron, Human Resources Director (Presentation Only)

Director Sara Caron, Human Resources (HR), presented the following recommendation:

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

Budget/Impact: None.

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

Employee of the Quarter Nominees
4th Quarter 2024 (October – December)

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Helen Urie | Community Services |
| Scott Friend | Facilities Management |
| Joe Marsh | Fire Rescue |
| Talesha McRae | Fire Rescue |
| Brianna Pierce | Fire Rescue |
| Diana Bell | Growth Services |
| Donald Avery | Office of the County Engineer |
| Loretta Beam | Office of the County Engineer |
| Johnathan Keele | Office of the County Engineer |
| Bruce Youman | Office of the County Engineer |
| Tika Black | Procurement |
| Susan Yocom | Public Library System |
| Randy Torrance | Solid Waste |

HR Director Sara Caron provided an overview relating to the accomplishments of the Employees of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2024, including earning the 2024 Housing Innovator Award from the Florida Housing Coalition. Ms. Caron advised that the employee of the quarter for the fourth quarter is Housing Grant Manager Helen Urie, Community Services.

Ms. Urie expressed appreciation towards the Board and Community Services' staff, noting these accomplishments take a team.

1.5. PRESENTATION - Employee Service Awards - Sara Caron, Director of Human Resources (Approval and Presentation)

Director Caron, HR, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The Marion County Board of County Commissioners feels it is important to recognize employees for their years of service to the County. For our recognition ceremony, we want to acknowledge those employees who have achieved 15 years of service or more.

Because of the Board's continual and generous support of its employees, the Marion County Board of County Commissioners would like to present the following Employee Service Awards as attached.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation of appropriate awards to the employees on the attached list.

Employee Service Awards
October - December 2024

30 Years

| Name | Department | Position Title |
|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| David Feger | Facilities Management | Facilities Assistant Director |

25 Years

| Name | Department | Position Title |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Chris Cooksey | Fire Rescue Services | Battalion Chief |
| Pam Doherty | Fire Rescue Services | Administrative Staff Assistant |
| Troy Mann | Fire Rescue Services | Lieutenant |
| David Jones | Fire Rescue Services | Lieutenant |
| Darwin Mardrid | Office of the County Engineer | Heavy Equipment Operator |
| Frances Kash | Utilities Management | Staff Assistant IV |

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20 Years

| Name | Department | Position Title |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Robert Titus | Fire Rescue Services | Lieutenant |
| Thomas Tew | Fire Rescue Services | Driver Engineer I |
| Nickole Lasher | Growth Services | Code Enforcement Officer |
| Jacquelyn Grady | Procurement | Business Services Specialist |
| Nancy Sanders | Public Library | Public Services Librarian I |

15 Years

| Name | Department | Position Title |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mark Knudsen | Facilities Management | Facilities Trade Technician |
| Carl Gorman | Fire Rescue Services | Captain |
| Joel Jensen | Fire Rescue Services | EMS Lieutenant |
| Delia Frosolono | Information Technology | IT Project Manager |
| Ferron Hall | Office of the County Engineer | Roads Superintendent |

Ms. Caron announced the names of those individuals in attendance and congratulated all Marion County employees celebrating milestone anniversaries.

1.6. PRESENTATION - Recognition of the Employee Academy Graduating Class - Amanda Tart, Assistant County Administrator (Approval and Presentation)

ACA Tart, Administration, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: On September 12, 2024, the Marion County Board of County Commissioners' Employee Academy kicked off its fifth year. The Employee Academy is an initiative derived from the five (5) year "Empowering Marion" Strategic Plan. Employees were encouraged to apply for the twelve (12) week course that took them into all of the departments within the County to gain a more in-depth and understanding of each department.

By participating in the academy, employees learned about the following Marion County departments in the sessions held on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.:

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 12 | Administration Human Resources Procurement Services Public Relations |
| September 18 | Animal Services Solid Waste Department |
| September 25 | Building Safety Growth Services |
| October 2 | Office of the County Engineer |
| October 16 | Parks and Recreation Southeastern Livestock Pavilion |
| October 23 | Veterans Services Extension Service |
| October 30 | Facilities Management Visitors & Convention Bureau |
| November 6 | 911 Management Information Technology Public Safety Communications |
| November 13 | Utilities Department |
| November 20 | Fleet Management Fire Rescue |
| December 4 | Dunnellon Airport Municipal Services |
| December 15 | Community Services Public Library System |

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and present the graduating Employee Academy Class of 2024.

Ms. Tart presented the Employee Academy Graduating Class of 2024. She provided an overview of the academy, noting this year's class created a video to demonstrate why they applied for the Employee Academy and what they got out of the program. Ms. Tart called the names of the graduates as they came on stage to accept their certificates.

Ms. Tart expressed appreciation toward Talent Manager Kerry Blood, HR, and her team who facilitated the 2024 Employee Academy.

Chairman Bryant expressed appreciation towards those individuals who participated in the 2024 Employee Academy.

Chairman Bryant passed the gavel to Commissioner Zalak who assumed the chair.
Commissioner Bryant out at 9:47 a.m.

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.

Commissioner Bryant returned at 9:48 a.m.

Chairman Zalak returned the gavel to Commissioner Bryant, who resumed the chair.

Commissioner Stone out at 9:49 a.m.

Chairman Bryant opened the floor to public comment.

Angie Clifton, SE 70th Terrace, expressed support for Aubrey Jacobs (Item 7.1.2).

Commissioner Stone returned at 9:50 a.m.

Ms. Clifton urged the Board to approve Option C.

Michael Peters, SE 70th Terrace addressed Agenda Item 7.1.2 and requested the Board approve Option C.

Chairman Bryant advised that public comment is now closed.

3. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: (5 sets)

3.1. September 12, 2024

3.2. September 17, 2024

3.3. September 23, 2024 A

3.4. September 23, 2024 B

3.5. September 23, 2024 C

A motion was made by Commissioner Curry, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to adopt the meeting minutes of September 12, 17 and 23 (3 sets), 2024. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

4. CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENTAL OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

Billy Woods, Sheriff - Request \$56,100 from Law Enforcement Trust Fund for Donation to Multiple Agencies

The Board considered the following recommendation from Sheriff William "Billy" Woods, Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO):

Description/Background: The Sheriff is requesting the expenditure of \$56,100 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund for donations to:

Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches - \$15,000

Marion County Children's Alliance - \$5,000

(Family Violence Prevention)

Kimberly's Center - \$5,000

Project Hope - \$5,000

CASA of Marion County - \$26,100

The Sheriff has certified that this request meets the requirements of Chapter 932 of the Florida Statutes and that there are no recurring expenses for subsequent fiscal years.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the request to expend \$56,100 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF) for the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches.

Chairman Bryant advised that this Item is related to Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.1. A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to approve expenditure of \$56,100 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF) for a donation to multiple agencies. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

5.1.1.a. Budget Transfer from Law Enforcement Trust Fund to MSTU for Law Enforcement - \$56,100

5.1.1.b. Budget Transfer from Law Enforcement Trust Fund to MSTU for Law Enforcement - \$56,100

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to adopt Resolutions 25-R-04 and 25-R-05 transferring \$56,100 from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund to the Sheriff Patrol CID. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

(Ed. Note: MSTU is the acronym for Municipal Service Taxing Unit; and CID is the acronym for Criminal Investigation Division.)

5. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT:

5.1. Budget Amendment

Clerk Harrell advised that Item 5.1.14 relates to Consent Agenda Item 7.7.10; Item 5.1.17 relates to Consent Agenda Item 7.7.2; Item 5.1.23 relates to Consent Agenda Item 7.7.1; and Item 5.1.24 relates to Consent Agenda Item 7.7.9.

Mr. Bouyounes clarified that Item 5.1.24 is also related to Consent Agenda Item 7.7.8. in addition to Item 7.7.9.

Upon motion of Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, the Board adopted the following Budget Amendment Resolutions transferring funds as presented by Clerk Harrell; as well as approving Items 7.7.10, 7.7.2, 7.7.1, 7.7.8 and 7.7.9.

5.1.1.a. – Budget Transfer from Law Enforcement Trust Fund to MSTU for Law Enforcement - \$56,100 – This Item was approved with Agenda Item 4.1.

5.1.1.b – Budget Transfer from MSTU for Law Enforcement to Sheriff Patrol CID - \$56,100 – This Item was approved with Agenda Item 4.1.

5.1.2. 25-R-06 – County Transportation Maintenance Fund - Road and Street Facilities - \$356,167

5.1.3. 25-R-07 – Fine and Forfeiture Fund - Sheriff Regular Transfer - \$8,226

5.1.4. 25-R-08 – Fire, Rescue and EMS Fund - Fire Rescue Services - \$25,612

5.1.5. 25-R-09 – General Fund - Clerk to County Commission Transfer - \$68,000

5.1.6. 25-R-10 – General Fund - Community Services - \$10,289

5.1.7. 25-R-11 – General Fund - Emergency Medical Services - \$15,000

5.1.8. 25-R-12 – General Fund - Multiple Departments - \$54,663

5.1.9. 25-R-13 – General Fund - Procurement Services - \$1,015

5.1.10. 25-R-14 – General Fund - Sheriff Jail Transfer - \$46

5.1.11. 25-R-15 – General Fund Grants - Continuum of Care Program - \$35,000

5.1.12. 25-R-16 – General Fund Grants - CDBG Cares Program - \$196,394

5.1.13.a. 25-R-17 – General Fund Grants - Multiple Cost Centers - \$78,752

5.1.13.b. 25-R-18 – General Fund Grants - Multiple Cost Centers - \$455,081

5.1.13.c. 25-R-19 – General Fund Grants - Multiple Cost Centers - \$17, 501

5.1.14. 25-R-20 – Infrastructure Surtax Capital Project Fund - Multiple Cost Centers - \$7,505,077

- 5.1.15.** 25-R-21 – Local Housing Assistance Trust Fund - State House Initiative Partner - \$34,000
 - 5.1.16.** 25-R-22 – Marion County Utility Fund - Utilities Capital Construction - \$4,809
 - 5.1.17.** 25-R-23 – Marion Oaks MSTU - Marion Oaks Recreation - \$93,748
 - 5.1.18.a.** 25-R-24 – Multiple Funds - Multiple Cost Centers - \$200,000
 - 5.1.18.b.** 25-R-25 – Multiple Funds - Multiple Cost Centers - \$200,000
 - 5.1.19.** 25-R-26 – MSTU for Law Enforcement - Sheriff Patrol CID Transfer - \$6,000
 - 5.1.20.** 25-R-27 – MSTU for Law Enforcement - Sheriff Patrol CID Transfer - \$25,000
 - 5.1.21.** 25-R-28 – MSTU for Law Enforcement - Sheriff Patrol CID Transfer - \$48,450
 - 5.1.22.** 25-R-29 – Silver Springs Shores Special Tax District - Silver Springs Shores - \$15,500
 - 5.1.23.** 25-R-30 – Solid Waste Disposal Fund - Solid Waste Disposal - \$32,135
 - 5.1.24.** 25-R-31 – Solid Waste Disposal Fund - Solid Waste Disposal - \$1,000,000
- (Ed. Note: EMS is the acronym for Emergency Medical Services; and CDBG is the acronym for Community Development Block Grant.)

5.2. Project Adjustment

5.2.1. Transfer Project Funds and Amend the Capital Improvement Program - Marion County Utility Fund - \$41,020

Utilities Director Tony Cunningham presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: Budgeting has requested to only keep project strings open for five years unless necessary. Because all open purchase orders have been completed against project string for Lift Station and Sewer Mains (UTC000059) and Automated Meter Reading (UTC000117) and new project string opened in FY2024 for Lift Station and Sewer Main Rehab (UTC000084) and Automated Meter Replacement (UTC000120). This request is to move the remaining funds to the new project strings so that project for Lift Station and Sewer Mains (UTC000059) and Automated Meter Reading (UTC000117) can be closed. This is a one-time request.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the transfer of project funds and amend the Capital Improvement Program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to approve the transfer of project funds and amend the Capital Improvement Program. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

5.3. Clerk of the Court Items

5.3.1. Present the Acquisition or Disposition of Property Forms Authorizing Changes in Status, as Follows: 037719, 039046 and 046921

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to approve the Acquisition or Disposition of Property Forms for 037719, 039046 and 046921. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

7. CONSENT:

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

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County Administrator Bouyounes requested Consent Agenda Items 7.8.2, 7.8.3 and 7.8.4 be removed from consideration, noting staff will bring these Items back at a later date. It was the general consensus of the Board to concur.

ACA Angel Roussel stated Items 7.6.1, 7.6.2 and 7.6.4 should be moved after the Ordinance is heard (Item 6.1).

Mr. Bouyounes advised of a revision relating to Item 7.1.3, noting an effective date of January 21, 2025 was added.

In response to Chairman Bryant, Mr. Bouyounes stated the Board should pull Item 7.1.2 if the Board wants to consider Option C, noting staff is recommending Option B.

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

7.1. Community Services:

7.1.1. Request Approval of Agreement for Marion County Standard Professional Services Agreement Challenge Grant Program Between Marion County and Interfaith Emergency Services (Budget Impact - Neutral; not to exceed \$184,971)

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

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

On August 2nd, 2024, the Continuum of Care 514 (CoC 514) requested applications for Challenge Grant to be submitted no later than September 27th 2024. The rank and Review committee established through the CoC-514 scored all applications received. Interfaith Emergency Services applied for Case Management services in the amount of \$184,971. Interfaith will serve approximately 100 individuals within the contracted term.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; not to exceed \$184,971.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the Agreement between Marion County and Interfaith Emergency Services to include all necessary documents associated with this agreement.

7.1.2. Request Approval of Agreement Between Marion County and Homeowner for State Housing Initiatives Partnership Housing Rehabilitation and Selection of Payment Option (Budget Impact - Neutral; not to exceed \$150,000)

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

Description/Background: On April 16, 2019, the Board of County Commissioners approved a housing replacement program through Community Services for homeowners whose homes have been declared unsafe or beyond repair by a licensed professional, such as a fire marshal, engineer, or building official. Funding for these projects may come from the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP),

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), or HOME Initiative Partnership (HOME). Community Services is required to seek direction from the Board for any project that qualifies for this program, as each situation is unique and the specific requirements may vary based on individual needs.

Ms. Jacobs, whose home is located at 7269 SE 36th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34480, has been referred to Community Services, and is eligible for assistance under the Marion County SHIP program. Her site-built home has been deemed uninhabitable, leaving her homeless. She is currently living in a recreational vehicle (RV) on her property. Ms. Jacobs will be responsible for securing a replacement manufactured home, with help from Community Services as outlined in the attached agreement. A SHIP Mortgage and Note will be filed with the Marion County Clerk of Court for the amount of assistance, not to exceed \$150,000. Any amount above \$150,000 will be the responsibility of the homeowner. There will be no prepayment penalty applied if loan amount paid in full prior to terms. The Board is being asked to consider the following payment options for the loan:

- A. Monthly payment on 50% of the loan amount over 30 years, plus additional payment for taxes and insurance to be deposited into an escrow account.
Example: Half of \$150,000 in assistance to be repaid over 30 years:
 $\$150,000 / 2 = \$75,000 / 30 \text{ years} = \$2,500 / 12 \text{ months} = \208.34 monthly
(plus 1/12th real estate taxes and homeowner's insurance to be added to each monthly payment, recalculated annually).
- B. Monthly payment on 50% of the loan amount over 30 years, based on 30% of annual gross income, to include payment for taxes and insurance to be deposited into an escrow account.
Example: Half of \$150,000 in assistance to be repaid over 30 years using 30% of an annual income of \$18,000 = \$5,400 paid annually:
 $\$5,400 / 12 = \450.00 monthly (deducting 1/12th real estate taxes and homeowner's insurance from each monthly payment, recalculated annually).
- C. No mortgage payment of the loan amount over 30 years, but monthly payment for taxes and insurance to be deposited into an escrow account. Example: 0% payment towards \$150,000 over 30 years
(Homeowner will be required to pay monthly 1/12th of real estate taxes and homeowner's insurance, recalculated annually.)

Considering Ms. Jacobs' income, Community Services recommends Option B. Since the County will maintain the mortgage, Community Services will collect payments for homeowner's insurance and taxes to prevent tax delinquency.

This agenda item also requests authorization for the Chairman to make amendments to this agreement, as long as the funding amount does not increase and the payment options are consistent with the Board's direction.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; not to exceed \$150,000.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve Option B; approve and authorize Chairman and Clerk to execute all necessary documentation for the Agreement between Marion County and Ms. Jacobs for SHIP funding not to exceed \$150,000; and authorize the Chairman to enter into amendments to the Agreement so long as the amount of funding and the payment options remain unchanged.

Commissioner Stone commented on the testimony given earlier, noting she is in favor of approving Option C.

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A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to approve Option C and execute all necessary documentation for the Agreement between Marion County and Ms. Jacobs for SHIP funding not to exceed \$150,000. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

7.1.3. Request Approval of Interlocal Agreement for Contribution and Expenditure of Individual Opioid Settlement Funds (Budget Impact - Additional Revenue approximately \$3,000)

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

Description/Background: The State of Florida filed an action in reference to the National Prescription Opiate Litigation, No. 2804 in which Marion County and the City of Ocala are litigating participants. As a result of this lawsuit, the State of Florida has two separate funds they are paying municipalities from: the city/county fund and the regional fund. Under the Memorandum of Understanding with the State of Florida, in order to be considered a "Qualified County" and be entitled to receive its share of the regional fund, the County adopted an abatement plan and entered into an interlocal agreement with the City of Ocala relating to the expenditure of opioid funds. It is estimated that the regional opioid settlement fund will receive approximately \$19,321,468 over the next 18 years.

The County's five municipalities (Bellevue, Dunnellon, McIntosh, Ocala and Reddick) are also entitled to receive a share of the lawsuit settlement through the State's city/county fund. Because these municipalities are slated to receive minimal awards and lack sufficient resources to administer their allotted settlements, all municipalities except the City of Ocala, have agreed to pool their shares with the regional fund.

The attached Interlocal Agreement establishes an agreement between Marion County and four of the five municipalities to pool their funds with the regional fund. Budget/Impact: Additional Revenue approximately \$3,000 annually.

Recommended Action: Motion to Approve the Interlocal Agreement for Contribution and Expenditure of Individual Opioid Settlement Funds.

Mr. Bouyounes advised of a revision to this item relating to the addition of an effective date to the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for the opioid settlement. The effective date will be January 21, 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to approve the ILA for contribution and expenditure of individual opioid settlement funds, including the addition of the effective date of January 21, 2025. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

7.1.4. Request Approval of Second Amendment to American Rescue Plan Act Grant Agreement Between Community Foundation for Ocala/Marion County, Inc and Marion County (Budget Impact - None)

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

Description/Background: On March 1, 2022, the Board approved an agreement with Community Foundation for Ocala/Marion County (Community Foundation) to administer and distribute American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in the amount of \$2,000,000 to nonprofits over a three (3) year term. A first amendment was

approved by the Board on April 5, 2022, to revise original grant awards to the qualified applicants.

This second amendment is requesting to extend the original agreement from December 31, 2024, to May 31, 2025.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the Second Amendment to the ARPA Grant Agreement with Community Foundation.

7.1.5. Request Approval of a Second Modification Agreement Between Marion County and Barbara Schwaite (Budget Impact - None)

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

Description/Background: On May 11, 2006 the Community Services Department assisted Barbara Schwaite with Hurricane Housing Recovery Funds under the Demolition and Replacement Program. Ms. Schwaite was approved for a home replacement in the amount of \$120,991.25 with the original Mortgage and Promissory Note recorded with the Marion County Clerk of Court. On June 14, 2007 a first modification in the amount of \$123,719.50 was recorded for additional repairs made to the home.

On November 6, 2024, Ms. Schwaite was notified of her delinquent mortgage payments. The Mortgage is due to be paid in full November 5, 2036. She has a remaining unpaid balance of \$49,449.04. This second modification resumes monthly mortgage payments to the County for the remaining period, totaling 143 months. It also corrects a scrivener's error that incorrectly referred to a 240-month term and removes Ms. Schwaite's deceased husband from the Note and Mortgage.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman to execute the Mortgage Modification between Marion County and Barbara Schwaite and all necessary documentation associated with the Marion County Demolition and Replacement Program (Community Services Department Hurricane Housing Recovery).

7.2. Development Review Committee:

7.2.1. Request Approval of a Final Plat/Replat for Cheon Residence, A Hamlet Subdivision, Application Number 31910 (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/Replat for Cheon Residence, A Hamlet Subdivision. This is a replat of lot 19 of Greenway Crossings as recorded in Plat Book 8, Pages 77 through 79.

This subdivision is located in the southeast portion of the county containing one lot and zero miles of road on approximately 4.38 acres.

This Final Plat/Replat was approved by the Development Review Committee on January 6, 2025.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Final Plat/Replat for Cheon Residence, A Hamlet Subdivision, and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

7.3. Fire Rescue:

7.3.1. Request Approval of the First Amendment for the Provision of Advanced Life Support Ambulance Standby Services for Equestrian Events between ARENA HORSE SHOWS OF OCALA, L.L.C. and Marion County, Florida (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Fire Chief James Banta, Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR):

Description/Background: The Agreement for the Provision of Advanced Life Support Ambulance Standby Services for Equestrian Events between ARENA HORSE SHOWS OF OCALA, L.L.C. and Marion County, Florida was approved at the Marion County Board of County Commissioner's meeting on December 3, 2024. However, there were two scrivener's errors identified in the original agreement under 4.A.1 and 4.A.2 that have been corrected with this first amendment.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the First Amendment for the Provision of Advanced Life Support Ambulance Standby Services for Equestrian Events between ARENA HORSE SHOWS OF OCALA, L.L.C. and Marion County, Florida

7.3.2. Request Approval of the Third Amendment to Community Paramedic Program Agreement (Budget Impact - Revenue of \$100,000)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Fire Chief Banta, MCFR:

Description/Background: Marion County Fire Rescue's (MCFR) Community Paramedicine approach, mission, and purpose is to reduce health spending while improving the health status of the residents of Marion County. This program assists citizens in finding the resources needed while reducing the utilization of 9-1-1 emergency services and reducing the opiate crisis within our community.

This third amendment is to accept the awarded funds of \$100,000 from Florida Hospital Ocala, Inc., a Florida not for profit corporation, d/b/a AdventHealth Ocala in partnership with the Community Foundation for Ocala/Marion County. These funds are for continued support of MCFR's Community Paramedicine program for FY 2024-25.

MCFR will continue to work with community partners such as AdventHealth Ocala to improve community health through proactive measures including the expansion of investments on high quality patient care equipment to uphold the high-performance standard in our community.

Budget/Impact: Revenue of \$100,000.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Third Amendment to Community Paramedic Program Agreement.

7.4. Human Resources:

7.4.1. Request Approval of the Deletion of Three (3) Light Equipment Operator Positions, Pay Grade 202, and the Creation of Two (2) Development Review Coordinator Positions,

Pay Grade 109, within the Budget of Office of the County Engineer BL400541 (Budget Impact - Savings of \$16,108)

The Board accepted the following recommendation to adopt Resolution 25-R-32 as presented by HR Director Caron:

Description/Background: Since March 2022 development review coordination has been handled by a rotation of seven Customer Service staff and the Transportation Administrative Manager. Prior to March 2022, development review coordination was handled by one Development Review Coordinator, a Staff Assistant IV, and a Resource employee. With the increase in development permits, Development Review Committee items, general development inquiries, and customer service inquiries being processed each year, the County Engineer recommends staffing that resembles pre-March 2022 staffing levels. This entails appropriate and consistent staff to serve under the Development Review section and the Customer service section of the Office of The County Engineer. This change will ensure Customer Service staff and Development Review staff can effectively perform their assigned job duties and improve overall customer service throughout the Office of The County Engineer.

Upon review of vacant positions within the Office of the County Engineer, it was proposed to delete three Light Equipment Operator positions and create two Development Review Coordinator positions (pay grade 109). These new positions will report to the Land Development Manager.

Budget/Impact: Savings of \$16,108.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve deletion of three (3) Light Equipment Operator positions, pay grade 202, and creation of two (2) Development Review Coordinator positions, pay grade 109, within the budget of The Office of the County Engineer BL400541.

Resolution 25-R-32 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE DELETION OF THREE (3) LIGHT EQUIPMENT OPERATOR POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 202 AND THE CREATION OF TWO (2) DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COORDINATOR POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 109, WITHIN THE BUDGET OF OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER BL400541, ALONG WITH THE CORRESPONDING JOB DESCRIPTION AND PAY GRADE AND INCORPORATING THE FOREGOING ACTIONS INTO THE MARION COUNTY CLASSIFICATION PLAN.

7.4.2. Request Approval of the Reclassification of 101 Positions within the Budget of The Office of the County Engineer BL400541 (Budget Impact - Expenditure of \$315,367)

The Board accepted the following recommendation to adopt Resolution 25-R-33 as presented by HR Director Caron:

Description/Background: The Evergreen Study completed and implemented in 2022 was a county wide effort to review and revise classification and compensation for various positions throughout the County.

Prior to the implementation of the Evergreen Study recommendations, the Florida voters approved a constitutional amendment to gradually increase the state's minimum wage each year until reaching \$15.00 per hour in September 2026.

As the study was underway, it was expected that the future minimum wage of \$15.00 per hour would create compression issues within the Office of the County Engineer Roads Division. Since Marion County's proactive adoption of the \$15.00 per hour minimum wage, the compression issues have been witnessed, and staff attrition due to the same has occurred.

To address the compression issues and staff attrition due to the Florida Voters approved minimum wage standard of \$15.00, the County Engineer is requesting the following changes:

| Number of Positions | Current Class Title | Current Pay Grade | Proposed Class Title | Proposed Pay Grade |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Roads Superintendent | 114 | No change | 115 |
| 10 | Crew Supervisor | 110 | No change | 111 |
| 6 | Heavy Equip. Operator I | 208 | Road Maintenance Technician III | 208 |
| 6 | Heavy Equip. Operator II | 209 | Road Maintenance Technician IV | 211 |
| 6 | Heavy Equip. Operator III | 210 | Road Maintenance Technician IV | 211 |
| 3 | Heavy Equip. Operator IV | 211 | Road Maintenance Technician IV | 211 |
| 15 | Medium Equip. Operator I | 204 | Road Maintenance Technician III | 208 |
| 9 | Medium Equip. Operator II | 206 | Road Maintenance Technician III | 208 |
| 12 | ROW Maintenance Technician | 202 | Road Maintenance Technician II | 204 |
| 13 | Light Equip. Operator I | 202 | Road Maintenance Technician II | 204 |
| 5 | Light Equip. Operator II | 203 | Road Maintenance Technician III | 208 |
| 4 | Transportation Service Technician | 205 | Road Service Technician | 209 |
| 11 | Highway Maintenance Technician | 202 | Roads Maintenance Technician I | 202 |

Budget/Impact: Expenditure of \$315,367.

Recommended Action: Request approval to change class titles and pay grades of 101 positions, within the budget of The Office of the County Engineer Roads Division BL400541.

Resolution 25-R-33 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE RECLASSIFICATION CHANGES TO THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS OF TWELVE (12) RIGHT OF WAY MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN AND THIRTEEN (13) LIGHT EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I, PAY GRADES 202 TO TWENTY-FIVE (25) ROADS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN II POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 204; FIVE (5) LIGHT EQUIPMENT OPERATOR II, PAY GRADE 203, FIFTEEN (15) MEDIUM EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 204, NINE (9) MEDIUM EQUIPMENT OPERATOR II

POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 206, AND SIX (6) HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 208, TO THIRTY-FIVE (35) ROADS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN III POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 208; FOUR (4) TRANSPORTATION SERVICE TECHNICIAN POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 207, TO FOUR (4) ROADS SERVICE TECHNICIAN POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 209; SIX (6) HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR II POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 209, SIX (6) HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 210, AND THREE (3) HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR IV POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 211, TO FIFTEEN (15) ROADS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN IV POSITIONS, PAY GRADE 211; TEN (10) CREW SUPERVISOR POSITIONS FROM PAY GRADE 110 TO PAY GRADE 111; ONE (1) ROADS SUPERINTENDENT POSITION FROM PAY GRADE 114 TO PAY GRADE 115 WITHIN THE BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER ROADS DIVISION BL400541, ALONG WITH THE CORRESPONDING JOB DESCRIPTION AND PAY GRADE AND INCORPORATING THE FOREGOING ACTIONS INTO THE MARION COUNTY CLASSIFICATION PLAN.

7.5. Information Technology

7.5.1. Request Approval of Second Amendment to the Interagency Agreement for the Enterprise Resource Planning System (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Information Technology (IT) Director Tom Northey:

Description/Background: On December 15, 2020, the Board approved the Interagency Agreement for the Operation of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System to establish the responsibilities and acknowledge the separation of duties as it relates to infrastructure, data, and security.

On October 5, 2021, the Board approved the first amendment, which further clarified and interpreted the true roles and responsibilities of the ERP Super Administrators as it relates to the Memoranda of Understanding and standard operating procedures. The original agreement was amended by deleting and replacing paragraph 6 with language set forth in the contract amendment.

The following changes were made for the Second Amendment to the Agreement being presented today: 1) language that limits access to the Munis database to Clerk staff was changed to include only the Production database and limits any changes to the database to be done by Tyler, and 2) language was changed to allow for the servers to be located in Tyler's cloud.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the Second Amendment to the Interagency Agreement for the Enterprise Resource Planning system.

7.6. Parks & Recreation:

7.6.1. Request Adoption of Revised Southeastern Livestock Pavilion Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule (Budget Impact - Additional Revenue; approximately \$19,000)

The Board considered the following recommendation as presented by Parks and Recreation Director Jim Couillard:

Description/Background: The Parks & Recreation department is presenting a revised Southeastern Livestock Pavilion (SELP) Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule to the Board of County Commissioners for their consideration. The Resolution itself will remain the same, however the included Fee Schedule has been revised to include new fees related to the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages during events taking place at the SELP. These new fees are being added to the Fees Resolution to align with proposed changes to the Marion County Code of Ordinances and a new proposed Alcohol Policy. Adopting the revised Fees Resolution and Fee Schedule at this time will enable staff to begin contracting events requesting the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages immediately following the adoption of said Code revisions and related resolution.

Budget/Impact: Additional Revenue; approximately \$19,000 annually.

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt the revised Southeastern Livestock Pavilion Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Couillard stated everything worked out great relating to passes referenced as part of this Item.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to adopt Resolution 25-R-36, including the change in Section 11 changing the name of the Roadbuilder's Feast to the Florida Feast. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Resolution 25-R-36 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR COMMITMENT OF REVENUES; ESTABLISHING REVISED FEES AND RATES FOR THE SOUTHEASTERN LIVESTOCK PAVILION; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 24-R-51; PROVIDING FOR DISCOUNTING OF FEES; PROVIDING FOR DETERMINING RATES; PROVIDING FOR A RESERVATION AND CANCELLATION POLICY; PROVIDING FOR COSPONSORSHIPS; PROVIDING FOR FEE EXEMPTIONS; PROVIDING FOR FEE WAIVERS FOR SPECIFIED NON-PROFIT EVENTS; AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR OF PARKS & RECREATION TO ESTABLISH A SCHEDULE OF EVENTS; PROVIDING FOR GRANDFATHERED EVENTS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Ed Note: This Item was approved with Agenda Item 6.1.)

7.6.2. Request Adoption of Revised Marion County Airport Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule (Budget Impact - Additional Revenue; approximately \$48,000)

Considered

The Board considered the following recommendation as presented by Parks and Recreation Director Couillard:

Description/Background: The Parks & Recreation department is presenting the revised Marion County Airport Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule to the Board of County Commissioners for their consideration. The Fees Resolution and associated Fee Schedule were last revised in 2019 when the Airport was still operating under the auspices of the Dunnellon Airport Authority. Several changes have been made to the Fees Resolution itself, in addition to updating several fees within the Fee Schedule. The main changes to the Fees Resolution include:

1. Removing all references to the Dunnellon Airport Authority and replacing with Marion County Airport.
2. Providing for commitment of revenues to the Marion County Board of County Commissioners in the Marion County Airport Fund.
3. Providing for the discounting of fees by the Parks & Recreation Director.
4. Updating the cancellation policy to provide more flexibility in regards to cancellation requests.
5. Providing for the ability for the Airport Manager to set other fees not covered within this Fees Resolution and Fee Schedule, with approval by the Parks & Recreation Director.

Budget/Impact: Additional Revenue; approximately \$48,000 annually.

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt the revised Marion County Airport Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule as presented and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to adopt Resolution 25-R-37, revising the Marion County Airport Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Resolution 25-R-37 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR COMMITMENT OF REVENUES; ESTABLISHING FEES FOR MARION COUNTY AIRPORT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Ed Note: This Item was approved with Agenda Item 6.1.)

7.6.3. Request Adoption of Revised Parks & Recreation Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule (Budget Impact – Additional Revenue; approximately \$258,000)

The Board accepted the following recommendation to adopt Resolution 25-R-34 as presented by Parks and Recreation Director Couillard:

Description/Background: The Parks & Recreation department is presenting the revised Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule to the Board of County Commissioners for their consideration. The current Fees Resolution was last revised in 2022 and several changes have been made to the Resolution itself, including the addition of new fees related to the sale and consumption of alcohol at certain County parks. The main changes to the Fees Resolution and Fee Schedule include:

1. Moving all fees from the body of the Resolution to an Exhibit, titled Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule.

2. Revisions to Sections 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8 of the Resolution to add clarity or improve the process for items such as discounting of fees, cancellation requests, other fees and replacing lost park passes.
3. The addition of a 50% employee discount for constitutional offices.
4. Increasing the park pass discount for military and first responders from 25% to 50%.
5. New and increased rates for KP Hole Park to include park passes, non-resident park passes, diver fees and paddle craft vessel launch fees.
6. Commercial Park Pass fees are now included in the Fee Schedule.
7. Fees for the sale and consumption of alcohol at certain County parks are now included in the Fee Schedule.

Budget/Impact: Additional Revenue; approximately \$258,000 annually.

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt the revised Parks & Recreation Fees Resolution and Exhibit "A" Fee Schedule as presented and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

Resolution 25-R-34 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR COMMITMENT OF REVENUES; ESTABLISHING REVISED FEES FOR THE MARION COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 22-R-132; PROVIDING FOR THE DISCOUNTING AND WAIVING OF FEES; PROVIDING FOR A RESERVATION AND CANCELLATION POLICY; PROVIDING FOR CO-SPONSORSHIPS; AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR TO ESTABLISH OTHER FEES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

7.6.4. Request Adoption of Resolution Providing for the Permitting of the Sale, Distribution and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages on County Property (Budget Impact - None)
The Board considered the following recommendation as presented by Parks and Recreation Director Couillard:

Description/Background: The Parks & Recreation department is presenting a Resolution for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners for Permitting the Sale, Distribution and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages on County Property subject to numerous condition. The Resolution states that the sale, distribution and consumption of alcohol by the general public on County property be allowed at only specified locations associated with specific types of events and through the prescribed approval processes as provided in this Resolution. The locations and methods of distribution for which a permit may be issued at each Authorized Location are detailed in Section 3.I. of this Resolution. Authorization of the sale, distribution and consumption of alcohol requires approval by the County Administrator, or their designee, in an effort to protect the general population, County property and County employees while complying with all local and state laws. In enacting this Resolution, the County is acting in its proprietary capacity to manage County property and does not intend to create any right to possess, consume, distribute, or sell Alcoholic Beverages that would deny the County the

use of its discretion in managing County property. This Resolution is to act to grant the County Administrator the authority to permit the possession, consumption, distribution, and sale of Alcoholic Beverages on County property if all conditions of this Resolution have been met.

The Parks & Recreation Director is responsible for implementing the provisions of this Resolution and shall ensure uniform application and interpretation of Resolution. All existing policies regarding the possession or consumption of alcohol by County employees remain in effect.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt the Resolution as presented and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to adopt Resolution 25-R-38, providing for the permitting of the Sale, distribution and consumption of alcoholic beverages on County property. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Resolution 25-R-38 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE PERMITTING OF THE SALE, DISTRIBUTION, AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON COUNTY PROPERTY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Ed Note: This Item was approved with Agenda Item 6.1.)

7.7. Procurement Services:

7.7.1. Request Approval of Bid Award: 25B-028 Sennebogen Excavator - Sennebogen LLC, Stanley, NC (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$432,135)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of the Solid Waste Department, Procurement issued an Invitation to Bid (ITB) to solicit competitive bids from qualified suppliers for an excavator tailored to meet the specific requirements outlined by the user department. These requirements included features such as an extended warranty, comprehensive maintenance kits, safety check valves, and other essential specifications designed to ensure reliability and operational efficiency.

The new equipment will replace Asset #54176, a 2017 M316F Excavator (designated as EXC-1), which has reached the end of its service life according to the Fleet Department's replacement criteria. After thorough evaluation and advertisement of the ITB, Procurement received one bid submission in response. This replacement ensures the continued efficiency and safety of operations within the Solid Waste Department while aligning with the department's commitment to maintaining an up-to-date and functional fleet.

Attached for review is a copy of the specification sheet. Upon approval at today's meeting, the purchase order will be processed.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$432,135. Funding will become available from line ZA423534-564101 – Solid Waste Disposal Fund. A Budget Amendment Request is being presented at today's meeting.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve purchase and allow staff to issue a purchase order under 25B-028.

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.23.)

7.7.2. Request Approval of Bid Award: 25B-030 Marion Oaks Community Center Re-Roof - Big D Roofing Services, Inc., Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$275,375)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of the Marion County Municipal Services Department, Procurement advertised a bid seeking qualified and experienced contractors for the complete re-roofing of the Marion Oaks Community Center located at 294 Marion Oaks Lane, including the sloped roof areas and flat roof areas. The contractor is to supply the County with full one-year parts and labor warranty and all debris (waste matter) shall be disposed of offsite in the proper manner by the contractor at the contractor's expense before the project close out. The contractor will be responsible for and adhere to all applicable permitting and building codes. See bid tabulation below:

| Vendor - Location | BID |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Big D Roofing Services Inc., Ocala, FL | \$275,374.50 |
| Recovery Roofing Inc., Jacksonville, FL | \$541,840.00 |

Municipal Services Director, Chad Wicker, recommends that Big D Roofing Services, Inc., receive the award as the lowest, most responsive bidder.

Attached for review is a contract draft. Pending approval at today's meeting, it will be sent to Big D Roofing Services, Inc. for signatures. Upon return, it will be forwarded to the Clerk and Chairman for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$275,374.50. Up to 10% contingency may be added to the purchase order in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from HG510519-562102 (Marion Oaks Recreation Buildings - CIP).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation, allow staff to issue a contract and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the contract with Big D Roofing, Inc. under 25B-030.

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.17.)

7.7.3. Request Approval of Bid Award: 25B-031 2024 Marion Oaks Resurfacing Project - Superior Asphalt Inc., Brooksville, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$3,057,607)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of Marion County Municipal Services Department, Procurement advertised a bid seeking qualified and experienced contractors for a resurfacing project. The work for this project includes resurfacing approximately 19 miles of minor local road sections in Marion Oaks Units six (6) and nine (9). Resurfacing work is to include roadway preparation, crack sealing, leveling, shoulder removal, temporary striping, permanent thermoplastic striping, and stabilizing all areas disturbed during construction. Four (4) submittals were received; the tabulation is listed below.

| Vendor-Location | BID |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Superior Asphalt, Inc., Brooksville, FL | \$3,057,606.80 |
| C.W. Roberts Contracting, Inc., Ocala, FL | \$3,427,441.00 |
| Pave-Rite, Inc., Lecanto, FL | \$3,430,222.00 |
| Anderson Columbia Company, Inc., Ocala, FL | |

Municipal Services Director, Chad Wicker, 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 \$3,057,606.80. Up to 10% contingency may be added to the purchase order in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from HI514541-563220 (RM Marion Oaks Road Improvement).

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-031.

7.7.4. Request Approval of Bid Award: 25B-039 Deer Creek and Woods & Meadows Water Treatment Plant Decommission - A & A Trucking and Excavating, Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$50,894)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of Marion County Utilities Department, Procurement advertised a bid seeking qualified and experienced contractors for the decommissioning of the Deer Creek and Woods & Meadows Water Treatment Plants. The goal of this project is to return the sites to a safe and environmentally neutral condition, leaving only grass or natural vegetation behind. Decommissioning the facilities involves the systematic removal of equipment, structures and hazardous material, followed by the restoration of the land. Two submittals were received and the tabulation is listed below.

| Vendor - Location | BID |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| A & A Trucking and Excavating - Ocala, FL | \$50,894 |
| Razorback, LLC. - Tarpon Springs, FL | \$119,900 |

Utilities Director Tony Cunningham recommends that A & A Trucking and Excavating receive the award as the lowest, most responsive, and most responsible bidder.

Upon approval by the Board, a requisition will be processed, and a purchase order issued to A & A Trucking and Excavating.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$50,894. Up to ten percent (10%) contingency may be added to the purchase order in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from ZF448536 - 563102 (Marion County Utility Fund) with project code UTC000137

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation and allow staff to issue a purchase order under 25B-039.

7.7.5. Request Approval of Bid Award: 25B-040 Annual Hydrant Valve-Flushing Maintenance - Hydromax USA LLC, Flower Mound, TX (Budget Impact - Neutral; estimated expenditure of \$84,000)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of Marion County Utilities (MCU), Procurement advertised a solicitation seeking bids to provide maintenance, repair and replacement part services for fire hydrants, valves and flushing services on an as needed basis at locations within the MCU distribution systems. The work includes all labor, equipment, and materials needed to complete the work. Two (2) submittals were received; the bid tabulation listed below includes all line-item pricing for any additional work that may be required, and does not represent a normal annual cost for scheduled services:

| Vendor-Location | BID |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Hydromax USA LLC – Flower Mound, TX | \$2,469,135.00 |
| R&M Service Solutions, LLC – San Antonio, TX | \$2,511,750.00 |

MCU Director Tony Cunningham requests that Hydromax USA LLC receive the award as the lowest, most responsive and most responsible bidder.

Attached for review is a draft contract and cost analysis breakdown. Upon approval at today's meeting, it will be sent to the Firm for signatures and once returned will be forwarded to Legal, the Clerk and Chairman.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; annual expenditure is estimated at \$84,000 but may vary based on actual needs of service. Annual expenditures shall not exceed approved Fiscal Year budget amounts and shall be based on contracted unit pricing without being brought back to the Board. Funding comes from line ZF442533-546301 (Marion County Utility Fund).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation and allow staff to issue a contract and upon approval from Legal, authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the contract under 25B-040.

7.7.6. Request Approval of Bid Award: 25B-053 Well Repairs and Maintenance - A.C. Schultes of Florida, Inc., Gibsonton, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; estimated annual expenditure of \$200,000)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of Marion County Utilities (MCU), Procurement advertised a solicitation seeking bids to provide well repairs and maintenance of the approximate one hundred and eleven wells located throughout the county. MCU will attempt to budget a minimum of eight (8) wells for annual repairs or rehabilitation based on priority and severity of repairs needed. At the beginning of each year, the department will create a project utilizing the selected wells with other repairs being done as needed. The work will include all labor, equipment, and materials necessary to complete the repairs.

Three (3) submittals were received. The bid tabulation listed below includes all pricing for any additional work that may be required, and does not represent a normal annual cost for scheduled services:

| Firm - Location | Bid |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| A.C. Schultes of Florida, Inc. - Gibsonton, FL | \$ 912,000 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Earl's Well Drilling & Pump Service, Inc. - <i>Summerfield, FL</i> | \$1,591,600 |
| Layne Christensen Company - <i>Ft. Myers, FL</i> | \$4,169,400 |

MCU Director Tony Cunningham requests that A.C. Schultes of Florida, Inc. receive the award as the lowest, most responsive and most responsible bidder.

Attached for review is a draft contract. If approved by the Board, it will be sent to the Firm for signatures, and upon return will be forwarded to Legal, the Clerk and Chairman for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; annual expenditure is estimated at \$200,000 but may vary based on the actual needs of service. Annual expenditures shall not exceed approved fiscal year budget amounts and shall be based on contracted unit pricing without being brought back to the Board. Funding comes from line ZF442533-546301 (Marion County Utility Fund).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation and allow staff to issue a contract, and upon approval from Legal, authorize the Clerk and Chairman to execute the contract under 25B-053.

7.7.7. Request Approval of Change Order 1 to Purchase Order 02500656: FL AG Lawn Equip 25101900-21-STC - Deere & Company; Cary, NC (Budget Impact - Neutral; additional expenditure of \$1,582)

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

Description/Background: On November 19, 2024, the Board approved Marion County Municipal Services to purchase a John Deere 5095M Utility Tractor through Ag-Pro, LLC. Ag-Pro misquoted the discount percentage offered to Marion County via the State Cooperative Contract FL AG Lawn Equip 25101900-21-STC. Purchase Order 02500656 was issued for \$86,481.11. At this time, Change Order 1 is being presented for approval to add \$1,581.14 to cover the correct amount of the Utility Tractor.

Upon approval by the Board, Change Order 1 will be presented to the Chairman and Clerk for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; additional expenditure of \$1,581.14, bringing the total value of the purchase order to \$88,062.25

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute Change Order 1 to Purchase Order 02500656 for Deere & Company under FL AG Lawn Equip 25101900-21-STC.

7.7.8. Request Approval of Change Order 2 to Purchase Order 2500286: 21P-061 Debris Response Operations, Phase 4, Debris Monitoring Services - Tetra Tech, Inc., Pasadena, CA (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$99,271)

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

Description/Background: On April 6, 2021, the Board approved a contract with Tetra Tech, Inc. to provide comprehensive debris monitoring services during emergency recovery periods. These services include monitoring the staging, collection, and disposal of debris, performing damage assessments, and associated reporting.

In response to costs associated with Hurricane Milton, Change Order 2 is being submitted for approval. This change order requests an additional \$99,270.50 to the purchase order, which will support the following essential activities:

- Recruitment, scheduling, training, and management of field monitoring staff.
- Certification of contractor vehicles for debris removal, utilizing appropriate methodologies and documentation practices for contract compliance.
- Oversight and documentation of contractor operations related to debris removal.
- Preparation of operational reports to keep the County informed of work progress.
- Review and reconciliation of contractor invoices for debris removal prior to submission for County processing.

This additional funding will ensure the continued effectiveness and compliance of debris monitoring operations.

A copy of the Change Order and cost estimate is attached for review. Upon approval at today's meeting, the Change Order will be presented to the Chairman and Clerk for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; additional expenditure not to exceed \$99,270.50, bringing the Purchase Order total to \$499,270.50. Funding comes from ZA423534-534101 - Solid Waste Disposal Fund.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the change order, allow staff to process, and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute Change Order 2 to PO 2500286.

(Ed Note: This Item was approved with Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.24.)

7.7.9. Request Approval of Change Order 2 to Purchase Order 2500289: 18P-150 Debris Management Operations - Debris Recovery Service - Miller Pipeline, LLC, Indianapolis, IN (Budget Impact - additional expenditure of \$1,000,000)

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

Description/Background: On October 18, 2018, the Board approved a contract with Miller Pipeline, LLC for debris removal services on public property and both maintained and non-maintained rights-of-way within Marion County. In response to the extensive damage caused by Hurricane Milton, a change order is now being submitted to increase the purchase order by \$1,000,000 to accommodate the additional costs associated with debris removal.

The Change Order and fee estimate is attached for review. Pending approval at today's meeting, the Change Order will be presented to the Chairman for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; additional expenditure of \$1,000,000, bringing the purchase order total to \$2,000,000. Funding comes from ZA423534-534101 - Solid Waste Disposal Fund.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the change order, allow staff to process, and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute Change Order 2 to PO 2400289.

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.24.)

7.7.10. Request Approval of Contract: 25C-062 Stryker Lifepak Agreement - Stryker Sales, LLC, Chicago, IL (Budget Impact- Neutral; expenditure of \$4,276,722)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of Marion County Fire-Rescue (MCFR), Procurement requests approval to purchase the Stryker LP35 monitor/defibrillator device. These devices provide a more comprehensive view of cardiac activity by using a 15-lead ECG which allows EMS providers to identify right-sided and posterior myocardial infarctions (heart attacks). These are often missed with fewer leads as in our current 12-lead ECG model. Early detection leads to better treatment and improved patient outcomes. The LP35 also integrates with the LUCAS mechanical CPR device. The LP35 enhances resuscitation efforts while the LUCAS delivers consistent, uninterrupted, high-quality chest compressions. During use the LP35 synchronizes defibrillation and provides feedback to optimize the resuscitation process. This integration allows EMS teams to focus on other critical interventions while maintaining CPR quality. This increases survival rates and enhances the likelihood of favorable neurological outcomes.

Attached for review is the Purchase Agreement; pending approval at today's meeting, the agreement will be sent to Stryker Sales for signature and upon return, will be forwarded to Legal, Clerk, and Chairman for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expected expenditure of \$4,276,722. Funds are available in line VJ33526-564101 (Infrast Surtax Cap Proj Fund).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and allow staff to issue and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute purchase agreement with Stryker Sales, LLC under 25C-062.

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.14.)

7.7.11. Request Approval of Contract Renewal: 22Q-056-CA-01, Roofing Trade Contract Services - Big D Roofing Services, Inc., Ocala, FL and Advanced Roofing, Inc., Sanford, FL (Budget Impact - None)

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

Description/Background: On March 1, 2022, the Board approved contract 22Q-056 with Big D Roofing, Inc. (BDR) and Advanced Roofing, Inc. (AR) to provide roofing services for the county facilities. Both BDR and AR have received favorable evaluations under this contract and Marion County Facilities Director, Jared Goodspeed is requesting to renew the contracts for the final one (1) year renewal option.

Attached for review are the draft amendments. Upon approval at today's meeting, the contracts will be sent to the firms, and upon return will be forwarded to the County Attorney, Clerk and Chairman for signatures.

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

Recommended Action: Motion to approve recommendation and upon execution with Big D Roofing, Inc., and Advanced Roofing, Inc., authorize the Clerk and Chairman to execute the contract renewal under 22Q-056-CA-01.

7.7.12. Request Approval of Eighth Contract Amendment: 18Q-160-CA-08 Southwest/Northwest 80th Avenue Segment 1 – Guerra Development Corp., Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; additional expenditure of \$378,775)

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

Description/Background: On November 18, 2018, the Board awarded a contract to Guerra Development Corp. to develop and provide a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) that will support the widening and other future improvements to SW/NW 80th/70th Avenue from SW 90th Street to ½ mile north of US 27. The Office of the County Engineer proposes splitting the project design into two phases, incorporating additional services into the original scope.

- Phase 1 (A): Extends from SW 90th Street to 0.25 miles north of SW 80th Street.
- Phase 2 (B): Covers the area from the terminus of Phase 1 (A) to 0.50 miles north of SW 38th Street.

To align with construction schedules, two separate plan sets will be developed. The expanded scope will include cultural resource assessments, lighting design at four intersections, and signal interconnect plans. The targeted completion date for Phase 1 (A) is March 2025, with Phase 2 (B) scheduled for completion by March 2026.

Attached for review is a draft of the contract along with the fee schedule. Pending approval at today's meeting, the contract will be sent to Guerra Development Corp. for signatures. Once the contract is returned, it will be routed for appropriate County signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$378,775. Funding is available from VJ738541-563220 (Project STC073815) - Infrastructure Surtax Capital Project Fund.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the request to allow staff to issue a contract amendment and upon approval by Legal, authorize the Clerk and Chairman to execute the Eighth Amendment with Guerra Development Corp. under 18Q-160-CA-08.

7.7.13. Request Approval of First Amendment to the State of Florida Department of Management Services State-Funded Agreement for Next Generation Core Services Implementation Project (Budget Impact - None)

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

Description/Background: This agenda item requests approval of the First Amendment to the agreement related to the Next Generation Core Services (NGCS) software for Marion County 9-1-1 Management. On August 20, 2024, the Board approved a Bid Exemption for NGCS, which provides emergency voice and text call routing, location information database services, network integration, and disaster recovery. These services are delivered via a redundant, private, and secure IP network to ensure reliable operation.

On October 15, 2024, the Board also approved an agreement with the State of Florida Department of Management Services to reimburse Marion County 9-1-1 Management for NGCS implementation costs, totaling \$475,048.30 for the fiscal year 2024-25.

The First Amendment to this agreement, being presented today, reorganizes its structure and updates certain language as required by the Purchasing Division of the State of Florida Department of Management Services. These changes are administrative in nature and will not affect the project timeline or the overall cost of the project.

Attached for review is the First Amendment, which has been reviewed and approved by Legal; pending approval today, it will be presented to the Clerk and Chairman for signatures.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the First Amendment to the State-Funded Agreement and allow the Clerk and Chairman to execute the same.

7.7.14. Request Approval to Reject All Bids: 24B-008 CR 484 at Marion Oaks Boulevard (Budget Impact - None)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of the Office of the County Engineer (OCE), Procurement advertised a bid seeking qualified, experienced contractors for a road project. Two (2) submittals were received; the tabulation is listed below:

| Contractor - City, State | BID |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| CWR Contracting - Ocala, FL | \$714,270.08 |
| Anderson Columbia Co. - Ocala, FL | \$962,406.56 |

After careful review, OCE recommends that all submitted bids for this project be rejected, as they exceed the allocated budget. A comprehensive reassessment of the project scope and budget will be conducted, and the initiative will be revisited at a later date.

Budget/Impact: None; rejecting all bids carries no budget impact.

Recommended Action: Motion to reject all bids under 24B-008 and allow staff to re-advertise a new bid at a later date.

7.7.15. Request Ratification of Emergency Demolition & Asbestos Abatement of Ocala RV Community Motel - 25BE-056 Ocala RV Community Motel Demolition - A&A Trucking & Excavating, Ocala, FL, ACME Asbestos Abatement & Remediation, West Palm Beach, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; combined expenditure of \$133,794)

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

Description/Background: Marion County Community Services Department seeks ratification for the emergency demolition and asbestos abatement of the Ocala RV Community Motel, which has been deemed a public safety hazard. The demolition portion of the project, assigned to A&A Trucking & Excavation, encompasses securing all required demolition permits, submitting the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) Notice of Demolition, and demolishing three structures, including the removal of slab footers. The contractor will also oversee the removal and environmentally compliant disposal of construction debris, concrete slabs, and footers generated by the demolition activities.

During the demolition process, asbestos was identified, necessitating immediate abatement, also due to its emergency status. The project, assigned to ACME

Asbestos Abatement & Remediation, encompasses the safe removal and disposal of various asbestos-containing materials, including pipe wraps, duct wraps, floor tiles, mastic, caulk, window glaze, and sink undercoating, in multiple rooms across buildings 1, 2, and 3, with an approximate total of 3,695 square feet and 395 linear feet. The County Administrator approved staff to issue an emergency purchase order for the abatement through an email request.

Attached is a copy of the bid exemption form dated 12/16/2024 signed by the County Administrator, Mounir Bouyounes for the original emergency demolition, along with the scopes of work from A&A Trucking & Excavating and ACME Asbestos Abatement & Remediation.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; emergency expenditure of \$79,994.00 (Demolition) and \$53,800 (Asbestos Abatement), for a combined expenditure of \$133,794. All funding is from line AG341564-583220 - General Fund Grants (CDBG) with project code 341CDBG25E.

Recommended Action: Motion to ratify the emergency demolition and asbestos abatement as it relates to safety concerns.

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

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

Description/Background:

1. Pending Requisition/Mid Florida Diesel - Marion County Utilities requests approval to purchase two (2) Blue Star 125kW VD125-02FT 4MP Generators with trailers, in the amount of \$220,400 (\$110,200/ea.). Total expenditure of \$220,400. Funds are available in line ZF442533-564101 (Marion County Utility Fund). *This purchase is exempt from the competitive bidding process requirements under Sheriff's Contract FSA 23-EQU21.0.*
2. Pending Requisition/Alan Jay Fleet Sales - Marion County Fire Rescue requests approval to purchase one (1) 2024 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 HD in the amount of \$78,606. Total expenditure of \$78,606. Funds are available in line EF300522-564101 (Fire, Rescue and EMS Fund). *This purchase is exempt from the competitive bidding process requirements under Sourcewell Contract #2024 091521-NAF & 060920-NAF.*
3. Pending Requisition/Howmedica Osteonic dba Stryker Sales, LLC - Marion County Fire Rescue requests approval to purchase four (4) LUCAS 3 Chest Compression Systems with Batteries, External Power Supply and Desk-Top Battery Chargers in the amount of \$62,024.56 (\$15,506.14/each). Total expenditure of \$62,024.56. Funds are available in line VJ732522-564101 (Infrastructure Surtax Capital Project Fund), Project STC0732SG. *This purchase is exempt from the competitive bidding process requirements under Contract 24C-001.*
4. Pending Requisition/ESRI, Inc. - Marion County Information Technology requests approval to purchase maintenance for ESRI, Inc. for ArcGIS licenses and software which is used by multiple County departments for mapping. Total expenditure of \$91,038.73. Available funds will be provided in the lines specified in each department's approved budget broken out in the backup. *This purchase meets the requirements of competitive bidding under GSA Contract #GS-35F-253CA.*

5. Pending Requisition/Top Line Recreation - Parks and Recreation requests approval to purchase and install new playground equipment for Weirsdale Park, to replace existing equipment, that is in poor condition. Total expenditure of \$60,247.11. Funds are available in line CR362572-563101 (Parks and Rec Fees Fund), Project 360WEIRSDL. *This purchase is exempt from the competitive bidding process requirements under OMNIA Partners Contract #R220201.*

6. Pending Requisition/Insight Public Sector, Inc. - Marion County Information Technology requests approval to purchase the FY 2024-25 renewal of the county's annual subscription for Adobe licensing. Specific licenses include Adobe Acrobat Pro, Creative Cloud, Illustrator, InDesign, Lightroom, Photoshop, and Stock. Total expenditure of \$60,232.62; available funds will be provided in the lines specified in each department's approved budget broken out in the backup. *This purchase meets the requirements of competitive bidding under OMNIA Partners (Cobb County) IT Products and Services Contract #23-6692-03.*

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

7.8. Transportation - County Engineer:

7.8.1. Request Approval of Third Amendment to Water Tower License Agreement between Marion County and Cellco Partnership (Budget Impact - Revenue Increase of \$3,996 annually)

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 Third Amendment to Water Tower License Agreement between Marion County and Cellco Partnership (Verizon Wireless) associated with the tower located at 493 Oak Road. The Amendment allows Cellco to replace/modify the equipment on the tower and increases the annual rental fee from \$2,492.00 to \$2,824.75 monthly beginning January 31, 2025.

Budget/Impact: Revenue of \$2,824.75 per month totaling \$33,897.00 per year

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

7.8.2. Request Approval to Declare Parcel Numbers 1806-002-030 and 9033-1112-05 as Surplus and Authorize Staff to Proceed with Donation to Kasher and Patel Real Estate Investment Group, LLC for Affordable Housing (Budget Impact - None)

The following recommendation by County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, was withdrawn from consideration by Administration:

Description/Background: This is a request to declare Parcel Number 1806-002-030 and Parcel Number 9033-1112-05 as surplus, and approve a Purchase Agreement and a Statute 125 Deed from Marion County to Kasher and Patel Real Estate Investment Group, LLC.

This request is associated with an Application for Conveyance or Lease of County Owned Property pursuant to provisions in Chapter 125.379 FS.

If approved, these parcels will be deeded from Marion County to Kasher and Patel Real Estate Investment Group, LLC to construct affordable housing. The applicant is subject to applying for a permit and completing construction of a single-family residence on each of the two (2) parcels of property conveyed herein within two

(2) years from conveyance. In the event the Kasher and Patel Real Estate Investment Group, LLC do not comply within the two-year time-frame conditions, their rights will automatically terminate and revert to Marion County.

Additional terms and conditions are outlined in the Purchase Agreement.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve Parcel Number 1806-002-030 and Parcel Number 9033-1112-05 as surplus, approve a Purchase Agreement, authorize staff to proceed with the donation and a Statute 125 Deed from Marion County to Kasher and Patel Real Estate Investment Group, LLC, and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

7.8.3. Request Approval of Subdivision Improvement Agreement and Supplemental Agreement with Surety Bond and Letter of Credit for Freedom Commons Development, LLC Associated with Marion Ranch Phases 3 & 4, Application Number 31528 (Budget Impact - None)

The following recommendation by County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, was withdrawn from consideration by Administration:

Description/Background: The project developer desires approval of their Final Plat prior to completing all improvements in their development of Marion Ranch Phases 3 & 4. 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 attached agreements outline proposed improvement timing and surety for improvement completion.

The Subdivision Improvement Agreement has been traditionally used, and a supplemental agreement has been created to provide for items such as amenities, landscaping and buffering. Specifically for this development, section 2 of the supplemental agreement will allow the landscaping/buffering completion to be deferred to six (6) months after the date that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection issues a total water clearance letter for the water system, or 12 months after the date of this agreement.

The County Attorney's office has reviewed and approved the Subdivision Improvement Agreement with Surety Bond in the amount of \$4,838,422 and the Supplement Agreement with Letter of Credit in the amount of \$346,929. This subdivision is located in the southwest portion of the County and contains 280 lots and six (6) tracts on 94.81 acres with 2.09 miles of roads.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached Subdivision Improvement Agreement and Supplemental Agreement and to authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

7.8.4. Request Approval of Subdivision Improvement Agreement and Supplemental Agreement with Surety Bond and Letter of Credit for 95th Street Holdings, LLC Associated with Pioneer Ranch Phase 2, Application Number 31006 (Budget Impact - None)

The following recommendation by County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, was withdrawn from consideration by Administration:

Description/Background: The project developer desires approval of their Final Plat prior to completing all improvements in their development of Pioneer Ranch Phase 2. 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 attached agreements outline proposed improvement timing and surety for improvement completion.

The Subdivision Improvement Agreement has been traditionally used, and a supplemental agreement has been created to provide for items such as amenities, landscaping and buffering. Specifically, for this development, section 2 of the supplemental agreement specifies that phases one (1) and two (2) amenity area (clubhouse/pool) shall be permitted and bonded at 120% construction cost prior to issuance of the 200th certificate of occupancy of phase one (1) - five (5) of the development. Phase three (3) and four (4) amenity area (sports court area) shall be constructed and in service prior to the 100th certificate of occupancy in phases three (3) and four (4). Phase five (5) amenity area (dog-park) shall be constructed and in service prior to the 70th certificate of occupancy in phase five (5).

Section 3 of the supplemental agreement will allow the landscaping/buffering completion to be deferred to six (6) months after the date that the Florida Department of Environmental Protection issues a total water clearance letter for the water system, or 12 months after the date of this agreement.

The County Attorney's office has reviewed and approved the Subdivision Improvement Agreement

with Surety in the amount of \$2,767,464 and the Supplemental Improvement Agreement with Letter of Credit in the amount of \$135,015. This subdivision is located in the southwest portion of the County and contains 189 lots on 57.42 acres with 1.31 miles of roads.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached Subdivision Improvement Agreement and Supplemental Agreement and to authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the same.

7.8.5. Request Adoption of a Resolution Approving the Dedication of a Parcel of Property Containing a Drainage Retention Area (DRA; Parcel 8009-1277+13)) in Marion Oaks Unit Nine Pursuant to Section 95.361(2), Florida Statutes, and Authorizing the Recording of a Maintenance Map in Connection Therewith (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation to adopt Resolution 25-R-35 as presented by County Engineer Cohoon, OCE:

Description/Background: On November 15, 2022, the County approved Coyote Crossings Holdings, LLC. Planned Unit Development (PUD) Modification Amending the Master Plan for Commerce Park South PUD. Resolution No. 22-R-576 outlines the PUD approval conditions, of which condition 11 requires a connection from the west side of the PUD to the adjoining Marion Oaks Subdivision. The applicant has worked with County Staff and has identified the most feasible route to be through parcel 8009-1277+13, a platted county-maintained Drainage Retention Area (DRA), recorded in plat book O, page 164.

As the DRA was not previously envisioned to be an access location, portions of the plat that limit its use only as a DRA must be vacated. Before vacating said plat, the Office of the County Engineer is requesting that the Board adopt the included Resolution pursuant to Section 95.361(2), Florida Statutes which formalizes that the DRA is deemed dedicated to the County and the County holds fee simple title to the DRA. The plat vacate will be brought back to the Board at a future date.

The Resolution also authorizes the recording of a maintenance map which is, under the Statute, "prima facie evidence" of the dedication. While it is not necessary that such a map be recorded in order for the dedication to be effective, the County Engineer does recommend that it be authorized.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the proposed connection between the PUD and the Marion Oaks Subdivision, adopt the Resolution approving the dedication of a parcel of property containing a DRA in Marion Oaks Unit Nine pursuant to Section 95.361(2), Florida Statutes, and authorize recording of a maintenance map in connection therewith.

Resolution 25-R-35 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA APPROVING THE DEDICATION OF PARCEL OF PROPERTY CONTAINING A DRA IN MARION OAKS UNIT NINE PURSUANT TO SECTION 95.361(2), FLORIDA STATUTES, AND AUTHORIZING THE RECORDING OF A MAINTENANCE MAP IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

7.9. Utilities:

7.9.1. Request Approval of Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-071-O Between Brite Properties of Florida, LLC and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$38,139)

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

Description/Background: In accordance with Land Development Code section 6.14.2, developers (property owners) are required to connect to public utilities if the property is within connection distance. For a single-family residence, the connection distance is 400 feet from the parcel's closest corner to the public water main. In this case, the property owner has four (4) parcels along the route and is required to connect to the public water main provided by Marion County Utilities (MCU), which will result in the installation of 480 feet of water main across the parcels' frontage to the farthest end of the property corner. The water main extension project will serve the property owner's four (4) parcels and also create a benefit for six (6) additional parcels along the route. The total project cost is derived from the construction cost of \$37,438.50 plus design fee (\$700), totaling \$38,138.50.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; project cost is \$38,138.50 and construction purchase order includes 10% contingency in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from ZF448536-563102 with project code UTC000094.

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

7.9.2. Request Approval of Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-073-S Between Brite Properties of Florida, LLC and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$30,112)

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

Description/Background: In accordance with Land Development Code section 6.14.2, developers (property owners) are required to connect to public utilities if the property is within connection distance. For a single-family residence, the connection distance is 400 feet from the parcel's closest corner to the public water main. In this case, the property owner is required to connect to the public water main provided by Marion County Utilities (MCU) and would be required to install the water main across the entire parcel's frontage and end the system at the farthest end of the property.

The Owner signed agreement WME-073-O when the original design was completed and submitted payment for the work; however, the water main project was re-designed to "close the loop" of extension and a new agreement (WME-073-S) was put in place. The County has the necessary funding to extend the water main an additional 180 feet beyond the property owner's 80-foot obligation to interconnect the system, improving the hydraulic benefit to the neighborhood.

A Board approved Resolution No. 21-R-381 authorized certain circumstances to permit MCU to enter into a Share Agreement whereby each parcel connection to MCU centralized water system pays only a share of the project cost based upon MCU low bid contractor's price for the work. Since the Owner already submitted payment for WME-073-O agreement, a refund will be issued in the amount of \$14,054 based on the original plan design. The newly re-designed water main project will serve a total of six parcels along the route. The total project cost is \$30,112, which includes construction costs of \$29,412 and design fee of \$700. The pro rata share is derived by dividing the total project cost by the six (6) benefitting parcels totaling \$5,018.67 per parcel.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; project cost is \$30,112 and construction purchase order includes 10% contingency in accordance with the Procurement Manual. Funding is from ZF448536-563102 with project code UTC000094.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-073-S, authorize staff to issue the purchase order for T&C Underground under 22P-146, and authorize a refund for \$14,054 to Brite Properties of Florida, LLC.

Chairman Bryant noted it is the ten o'clock hour. She advised that the Board will continue with the Agenda Items 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 to Consider an Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 and Chapter 14 of the Marion County Code Relating to The Consumption of Alcohol on Marion County Property

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Couillard presented the following recommendation:

January 21, 2025

Description/Background: The Marion County Code currently prohibits alcoholic beverages on property owned or leased by Marion County, with specific exemptions as defined in Chapter 3. This Ordinance will amend Chapter 3 and Chapter 14 to allow the Board of County Commissioners to permit by resolution the sale and consumption of alcohol on Marion County property.

Budget/Impact: None.

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

Deputy Clerk Mills-McAllister presented Proof of Publication No. 10890837 entitled, "Notice of Public Hearing" published in the Star Banner newspaper on January 10, 2025. The Notice states the Board will consider the adoption of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 and Chapter 14 of the Marion County Code relating to the sale of alcoholic beverages on Marion County property.

Chief Assistant County Attorney Dana Olesky advised that in addition to the Proof of Publication there was the appropriate business impact statement (BIS) published on the Marion County website. She stated there have been several workshops in the past year regarding events and whether alcohol would be allowed to expand into other areas outside of the Southeastern Livestock Pavillion (SELP). Ms. Olesky advised that to accomplish allowing alcohol at different venues there were two Ordinances that specifically had to be changed; Chapter 3 of the Marion County Code (alcoholic beverages) Section 3.5 (sale on County property) has been amended to include the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages as defined herein shall be prohibited on any County owned property or any property leases by the County. She stated the proposed language is, "except as may be permitted by Resolution of the MCBCC". Additionally, under Chapter 14, which is an Ordinance Code specifically for Parks and Recreation, Article 1, Section 14-6 is alcoholic beverages. Ms. Olesky noted that the Board pulled the specific Resolution outlining all of the areas that are allowed to have alcohol by events from the Consent Agenda earlier. She advised that it incorporates the language that is necessary to allow individuals who are camping at the SELP campgrounds to have alcohol in within their area of their campsite, as well as delegating some authority to the Administrator and the Parks and Recreation Director with regards to the events. Ms. Olesky commented on a specific event where the previous language required that every one of those events would have to come before the Board for approval, noting that the Resolution allows the delegation of authority. She stated those 2 simple changes would allow alcohol to expand past the SELP into only those properties as designated by Resolution.

Chairman Bryant opened the floor to public comment.

Ruben Lamb, NW 35th Street, commented on being grandfathered in relating to the sale of alcohol at rodeos. He questioned the impact relating to the Shriners Rodeo and the Southeastern Pro Rodeo going forward.

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Couillard, stated nothing will change for those major events that Mr. Lamb has been such a big supporter of making happen. He advised that staff are requesting that all paperwork and permits, etc., are brought to staff for the County Administrator's acknowledgement.

In response to Mr. Ruben, Chairman Bryant stated there will be no change to the fee schedule for Mr. Ruben, noting his events are grandfathered in.

Commissioner Curry commented on Roadbuilder's Feast, noting they are turning that over to the Builder's Association and the event itself is exempt.

Mr. Bouyounes commented on Item 7.6.1. and requested the Board change the Roadbuilder's Feast to the Florida Feast under Section 11 of that Resolution.

Commissioner Curry questioned if the grandfathering is for the alcohol and the use of the facility. Mr. Couillard advised that historically, the grandfathering has been for the alcohol, but there are fees in place that will be honored for all 4 grandfathered events.

In response to Mr. Lamb, Mr. Couillard stated the arena set up and tear down fees for Mr. Lamb's events will remain the same.

Chairman Bryant advised that public comment is now closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to approve the Ordinance Amending Chapter 3 and Chapter 14 of the Marion County Code relating to The consumption of alcohol on Marion County property. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Ordinance 25-02 is entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 3 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, SECTION 3.5, SALE ON COUNTY PROPERTY; AMENDING CHAPTER 14 PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE I, SECTION 14-6, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN COUNTY PARKS; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

8. COUNTY ATTORNEY

8.1. Request Approval of Resolutions Authorizing Acquisition of Real Property Interests by Gift, Purchase, or Eminent Domain for the SW 40th/SW 49th Avenue Phase 1 Road Improvement Project in Marion County, Florida

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

Description/Background: Seven resolutions are presented for Board approval for the acquisition of interests in real property as to which we have not yet been able to acquire by negotiations. The resolutions provide for acquisitions either by negotiation, based on binding offers from the County for up to 120% of the full compensation values determined by our appraiser, or eminent domain. If negotiations are unsuccessful, then the Resolutions authorize proceeding with acquisition by eminent domain. Florida Statutes require the adoption of a resolution authorizing acquisition of property by eminent domain, and these resolutions will satisfy that requirement.

Budget/Impact: Budget impact is currently indeterminate, but is initially based on the County's appraisals. The combined amount for all acquisition parcels included in these resolutions is \$1,208,148.00. If litigation is required, the final value determinations will be made by a jury trial, and the County will be responsible for statutory attorney fees and expert costs as well.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached Resolutions and authorize the Chairman and the Clerk of Court to execute same.

County Attorney Matthew G. Minter, Legal, advised of 7 Resolutions for Board consideration, noting they authorize the exercise of the power of eminent domain for the SW 40th/SW 49th Avenue Phase 1 Road Improvement Project. He stated people sometimes think because they own their property that nobody has conditions on it;

however, in America every person's real property is held subject to a number of governmental powers including the power of taxation, the power of police power, the power of eminent domain and the right of escheat.

Mr. Minter advised that in Florida as with the United States (U.S.) Constitution, if the government acquired your property by eminent domain, the acquisition has to be for a public purpose, and the acquisition of your particular property interest has to be necessary for that public purpose. He stated when these Resolutions are adopted, they make findings of the BCC that those criteria have been set and these Resolutions are necessary for the County to proceed with filing its lawsuits in Circuit Court, noting the Resolutions must be attached to the petition in eminent domain, otherwise the petition would not be valid.

Mr. Minter commented on a number of minor revisions made to the Resolutions, including specifically identifying this is for Phase 1 of the road project. He clarified that Section 8 refers to the property interests that is being acquired, noting the initial draft for all of the Resolutions said "fee simple" but for each of the Resolutions there can be different property interests such as some are partial acquisitions and fee simple, some are drainage easements or temporary construction easements. Mr. Minter advised that the documents identify which of those particular interests the County is acquiring.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to adopt Resolutions 25-R-39 through 25-R-45 and authorize the Chairman and the Clerk of Court to execute same. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Resolutions 25-R-39 through 25-R-45 are entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 6, FLORIDA CONSTITUTION, AND CHAPTERS 73, 74, 127, and 337 FLORIDA STATUTES (2023), AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATE OFFICERS OR AGENTS OF THE COUNTY TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY BY GIFT, PURCHASE, OR EMINENT DOMAIN FOR RIGHT OF WAY FOR THE SW 40th AVE / SW 49th AVE IMPROVEMENT PHASE 1 PROJECT IN MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA; MAKING FINDINGS OF FACT FOR PUBLIC PURPOSE AND NECESSITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:

9.1. Request for Waiver from Land Development Code Section 6.14.2.B(1)(a) - Water Connection for Marco Enderica, Parcel Number 9018-0319-08, Application Number 32239 (Budget Impact - None)

Building Safety Director Savage presented the following recommendation on behalf of the DRC:

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, Mid-State Home Solutions, Inc., on behalf of the Owner requested a waiver due the water connection distance being 150 feet and the water extension required being 270 feet.

The subject property is located in the southeast portion of the County on approximately .26 acres.

This waiver request was denied by the Development Review Committee (DRC) on December 9, 2024.

Budget/Impact: None.

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

Utilities Director Cunningham commented on the request for a waiver from connecting to a centralized water system.

In response to Commissioner Curry, Mr. Cunningham stated there is 1 benefiting lot relating to this request; however, if the main were extended there would be others.

Marco Enderica, Redwood Run Track, stated he is here after purchasing the lot 2 years ago. He commented on the costs associated with connecting to centralized water. Mr. Enderica advised that he is allergic to City of Ocala water, noting he developed bacteria in his stomach while serving in the Navy.

Chris Wynn, NE 12th Street, stated he contacted property owners in the vicinity and they did not have plans to build anytime soon.

Commissioner McClain questioned if this is an investment property or if the applicant will reside at the location. Mr. Enderica stated he will live in the home with his daughter and eventually she may own the dwelling.

Mr. Cunningham referred to a map as seen on the overhead screens, which depicts the applicant's lot in red.

In response to Commissioner Bryant, Mr. Roussel advised that the map she is inquiring about is located on page 1,569 of the Agenda packet.

Chairman Bryant stated the only benefitting lots are the two in between where the waterline ends and where the County Code requires the applicant to run, noting the other properties around there are on wells.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Cunningham identified where the water mains exist in this area. He stated many of the properties are on wells.

Chairman Bryant questioned the cost of a well. Mr. Enderica advised that the cost to connect to centralized water is \$30,000.00 and the cost of a well is \$6,000.00.

Chairman Bryant commented on the 2 undeveloped benefitting lots, which will be able to connect at a much lower cost than Mr. Enderica when they decide to build.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to approve the waiver request and allow the applicant to install a well, disagreeing with the DRC staff recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

9.2. Request for Waiver from Land Development Code Section 6.14.2.C(1) - Water System Connection for 441 Kalasa, Parcel Number 3924-021-024, Application Number 32224 (Budget Impact - None)

Building Safety Director Savage presented the following recommendation on behalf of the DRC:

Description/Background: In accordance with the Marion County Land Development Code (LDC), Article 6, Division 14, Section 6.14.2.C(1), Water system - Existing structures in the Urban or Rural area shall connect to a centralized water system with available capacity if a water line is within a

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connection distance of 400 feet times the total number of Equivalent Residential Connections (ERCs) and the property is further developed, increasing its total number of ERCs.

The Applicant, Kimley-Horn and Associates, requests a waiver on behalf of the Owner, Kalasa LLC, for building permit 2024043856 for interior renovations for a new tenant in a five-unit commercial building. Applicant states the impact of connecting the existing building to the City of Bellevue's available water, and disconnecting from the existing well, is cost prohibitive, and is requesting the building permit be authorized to proceed, remaining connected to the serving well. The subject property is located in the southeast portion of the County on approximately 1.07 acres.

This waiver request was denied by the Development Review Committee (DRC) on December 16, 2024.

Budget/Impact: None.

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

Utilities Director Cunningham advised that this Item (9.2) and Item 9.3 relate to the same parcel, noting one request is for water and one is for sewer.

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

Commissioner Bryant out at 10:33 a.m.

Mr. Cunningham provided an overview of the waiver requests.

Jimmy Gooding, SE 36th Avenue, attorney on behalf of the applicant, advised that he is joined today by Jose Lopez of Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., (KHA) who performed the engineering and estimates to be discussed today. He stated this building was constructed prior to the City of Bellevue extending utilities to this area. Mr. Gooding commented on the lack of flexibility relating to the Code, noting it does not deal with this situation. He stated the applicant is being required to spend roughly \$154,000.00 based on a change in use. Mr. Gooding advised that there is water located in front of the building; however, the sewer is located across Highway 441. He stated the estimate from KHA for the sewer to go under the road is \$109,000.00, the water is \$17,000.00, and design and permitting costs in the amount of \$28,000.00.

Commissioner Bryant returned at 10:35 a.m.

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

Mr. Gooding advised that the total is \$154,000.00 based upon a change in occupancy.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Gooding stated the building was constructed in 1999.

Mr. Gooding referred to an electronic mail (email) as seen on the overhead screens, which states, "Change of use or occupant in any unit triggers a review by MCU Permitting that the plaza is in compliance with current Land Development Code 6.14.2." He commented on language relating to new occupants in Commercial buildings that have onsite wells or septic being required to connect to public water and sewer regardless of the previous versus (vs.) proposed Equivalent Residential Connections (ERCs). Mr. Gooding referred to a permit that was applied for in 2023 when the occupancy changed, noting the City of Bellevue added remarks that if the well and septic fails then the applicant will be mandated to connect to the services. He stated the language was in connection with the improvements when the actual change in occupancy occurred. Mr. Gooding advised that there is a new application where some plumbing is being connected and the County has picked up on this and is using it as a way to reanalyze the ERCs and require the applicant to connect. Mr. Gooding stated he does not see where the County Code says the ERC

analysis will take place when there is a change in occupancy; however, it does require the County to determine availability and/or point of connection for new and expanding development. He advised that for development staff is supposed to check the ERCs and perform the connection measurement. Mr. Gooding stated the Code references new and existing single or multi-family residential development, noting for some single and multi-family there is a provision that deals with existing structures. He commented on the language in the Code relating to new development in Urban areas. Mr. Gooding advised that the only existing non-residential reference relates to instances where applicants are installing cooking or food preparation items onsite or when putting in petroleum products, recycled water or when discharging hair, lint, etc. He stated he did not see in the Code where it deals with what to do when there is a renovation to an existing Commercial building. Mr. Gooding advised that he did not see anything that triggers a reanalysis and connection requirement merely when there is a change in occupancy or use.

Mr. Gooding stated that he requested Mr. Lopez perform the calculation based on the change in occupancy or use if it had been done back when the change of occupancy occurred in 2023. He advised that the Code does not contain language relating to ERC uses for massage parlors, noting it was suggested the applicant use a barber shop for the comparison. Mr. Gooding stated for this unit there was an increase of 0.2 ERCs in water usage and 0.42 ERCs in sewer usage. He opined that those are minute increases in this analysis; however, they are big enough to trigger the requirement because the water is right there, and the sewer is across the street. Mr. Gooding advised that the Board should look at what the law is in terms of exactions. He stated Florida Law prohibits an exaction where the prohibited use lacks an essential nexus to a legitimate public purpose. Mr. Gooding advised that the applicant has a Commercial rental building and there is a legitimate public purpose to connect to water; however, it is not roughly proportionate to the impacts of the proposed use. He stated the change in occupancy occurred in 2023, noting the existing policy at the time did not require the connections. Mr. Gooding advised that now because the applicant has applied for a new building permit, the County performed an analysis showing the applicant is within the connection requirement. He opined that the \$159,000.00 cost for a change in use which applied one year ago, based upon ERCs that at most went up roughly 30% to 40% is disproportionate. In response to Chairman Bryant, Mr. Gooding advised that the property has 5 commercial rental units, with at least one bathroom per unit, noting the unit in question has just one. He stated there are three massage rooms.

Commissioner Stone commented on laundry services that pick up and drop off linens to businesses like this.

Mr. Gooding stated he is unsure what process is used to launder the bedding.

Commissioner Curry commented on the addition of a bathroom to two of the units.

Mr. Gooding advised that the language was not added by the applicant, and he is unsure where it came from.

Commissioner Curry stated it was included in the write-up staff provided, noting it is shown in relationship to Items 9.2 and 9.3.

Mr. Gooding stated the applicant is not adding two bathrooms.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Gooding advised that the current application is for a wall in one office, electrical and plumbing for a washer/dryer and shower. He clarified that the renovation was done in 2023. Mr. Gooding stated it is his belief that the request is to connect the shower.

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Commissioner Zalak advised that the applicant meets the criteria to connect, noting they think it is too expensive. He stated it is the Board's policy that they connect and questioned what justification there is to waive this policy.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Gooding stated at the time the change in occupancy occurred the County made a decision that the connection was not necessary. Commissioner Zalak advised that the applicant is not changing the occupancy today, they are just modifying the building.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Minter stated if there was a significant change in facilities, the number of bathrooms, etc., in the structure, the applicant would be subject to a change.

Mr. Cunningham advised that previously the change of occupancy was just that; however, this time it is a renovation and a change. He stated the applicant is adding a facility and increasing the number of ERCs. Mr. Cunningham advised that is what trips the need to connect. He stated it is minor, but the addition trips the threshold and brings forward the recommendation to deny the waiver.

Mr. Gooding stated he does not believe that is the basis for the County's decision. He advised that it was based solely on the change in occupancy.

ACA Angel Roussel stated every time a building permit is pulled, staff analyze it based on the flow. He advised that if staff identifies an increase because of the change of use, addition of fixtures, expansion, etc., it is the increase in flow that triggers the water and wastewater cases.

Development Review Supervisor Carrie Hyde, Utilities, stated at the time the building permit was pulled for a change of occupancy the direction at the time was to sign off through MCU permitting, releasing the applicant to stay on the well and septic. She advised that this building permit expired in August, 2024 and when it was resubmitted back to Utilities the direction was to consider it for review again based on available water and wastewater conditions as provided by the Utility provide, the City of Belleview. Marion County staff were told those conditions were available and required the connection.

Mr. Gooding stated the tenant moved into the property in 2023. He advised that he thought the improvements were completed and did not know the building permit had expired.

Commissioner Zalak opined that the applicant could withdraw the building permit, and not add fixtures or a shower, leaving no reason to connect.

Mr. Gooding opined that the increase in ERCs is not big, yet it has an impact of roughly \$160,000.00. He stated this is not a huge undertaking relating to the renovations, and it seems disproportionate.

Commissioner Zalak commented on cities and Counties that have done that once a change has happened and there are utilities located in front of the building. He clarified that most locations have automatic connection once the utility line is in front of the building.

Mr. Gooding commented on the cost for the sewer connection, noting the applicant would have to go under Highway 441. He expressed concern relating to withdrawing the permit due to the County knowing there has been a change in occupancy.

Commissioner Zalak questioned if Mr. Gooding thinks the only time this facility should change over is when the septic tank and/or well fails.

Mr. Gooding advised that there should also be a change if there was a real increase in ERCs.

Mr. Gooding opined that the County could change its Code to address change in occupancies; however, right now it deals with development. He advised that practice was if the application does not increase the ERCs the connection was not required. Mr. Gooding stated the County is now basing the decision on change in occupancies.

Commissioner Zalak commented on Mr. Roussel's testimony relating to the analysis based on change of occupancy at the time and the former Utilities Director did not feel there was a need. Commissioner Zalak advised that when the applicant reapplied for the building permit that expired, staff reanalyzed the matter.

Mr. Cunningham stated there was an increase in ERCs/flow even though it was slight, which tripped an analysis relating to connection distance and the applicant is within that distance.

Mr. Gooding opined that this decision is based solely on change in occupancy, triggering a review of the numbers.

Mr. Roussel commented on the language in the Code that refers to new and expanding. He stated for staff it means expanding flows. Mr. Roussel advised that this property is located in the Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP), so this is a non-residential unit that has a conventional septic tank. Mr. Roussel stated a compromise would be some sort of enhanced septic system.

Mr. Gooding advised that expanding development is just when the analysis is performed, noting when reviewing the requirements there is no commercial building connection that is triggered by expanded development except for connecting to hair, lint, petroleum, etc. Mr. Gooding stated the portion of the Code that refers to expanding is for residential and a few commercial properties. He advised that if the County wants to apply it to expanding, the Code needs to be changed.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Minter stated the County is constantly seeing a number of things in the Code that need to be cleaned up and this is another one.

Commissioner Zalak stated the applicant should be required to connect to water and be allowed to have an enhanced septic system due to being located in the BMAP.

Chairman Bryant stated if the applicant is going to make the investment in the enhanced septic system and it fails, and sewer is available, or within 400 feet the applicant has to connect.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Cunningham advised that staff could rely on the Code regarding the number of feet per ERC calculation.

Chairman Bryant clarified that the applicant would need to connect to water, upgrade to the enhanced septic system, and if the enhanced system fails and wastewater is available on the applicant's side of the road or there is a significant increase in the number of feet per ERC calculation, the applicant must connect.

Commissioner McClain stated if the goal is to get the applicant connected to the wastewater at some point, they should not have to go to a new enhanced septic system that they can be on for a longer period of time. He opined that the applicant should be allowed to stay on the current septic system and if it fails, they will have to connect. Commissioner Stone concurred.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to deny the waiver request to connect to a centralized water system, agreeing with the DRC staff recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

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

9.3. Request for Waiver from Land Development Code Section 6.14.2.C(2) - Wastewater System Connection for 441 Kalasa, Parcel Number 3924-021-024, Application Number 32224 (Budget Impact - None)

Building Safety Director Savage presented the following recommendation on behalf of the DRC:

Description/Background: In accordance with the Marion County Land Development Code (LDC), Article 6, Division 14, Section 6.14.2.C(2), Wastewater system - Development shall connect to an existing central sewer system if a system with available capacity has a treatment plant or sewer line within 400 feet times the total number of Equivalent Residential Connections (ERCs).

The Applicant, Kimley-Horn and Associates, requested a waiver on behalf of the Owner, Kalasa LLC, for building permit 2024043856 for interior renovations for a new tenant in a five-unit commercial building. Applicant states the impact of connecting the existing building to the City of Belleview's available sewer, and disconnecting from the existing septic tank, is cost prohibitive, and is requesting the building permit be authorized to proceed, remaining connected to the serving septic system.

The subject property is located in the southeast portion of the County on approximately 1.07 acres.

This waiver request was denied by the Development Review Committee (DRC) on December 16, 2024.

Budget/Impact: None.

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

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to approve the waiver request relating to connecting to an existing central sewer system, until the current septic system fails or has to be replaced, at that time it has to be connected to the sewer, if the wastewater connection is available on the opposite side of the road or the same side of the road as the applicant within their ERCs, disagreeing with the DRC staff recommendation. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Mr. Gooding questioned if the applicant withdraws the permit will staff still view this as a change in occupancy. Mr. Roussel advised that there would not be an increase in flows if the permit application was withdrawn so there would be nothing to change.

Commissioner Curry out at 11:06 a.m.

9.4. Request for Direction on Lake County's Intent to Change Medical Examiner Districts
County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes advised that he is withdrawing this Item from consideration and will bring it back before the Board at the next meeting:

Description/Background: To seek direction from the Marion County Board of County Commissioners regarding the appropriate course of action in response to Lake County's intention to leave Medical Examiner (ME) District 5 and join District 24 with Seminole County.

In 2018, Seminole County (District 24) requested to join District 5 for Medical Examiner services. Later that year, the District 5 Medical Examiner Advisory Committee agreed to allow Seminole County to join District 5, with Seminole County covering the first-year costs of \$1,513,558. This amount included an annual facility expansion offset charge of \$34,920 to offset any upcoming

additional costs to the District 5 counties resulting from the acceleration of the timeline to commence the expansion of the Leesburg facility.

Since early 2020, and at the request of the Medical Examiner and the Advisory Committee, Marion County has been working toward establishing a new facility. This process involved collaborating with architects on conceptual designs and site plans, selecting land parcels for the facility's location, and conducting an extensive RFP process to choose a construction manager. The Medical Examiner Advisory Committee for Districts 5 and 24 have been kept informed and have unanimously approved each step of the process.

At the Medical Examiner Advisory Committee meeting on November 13, 2024, the Lake County representative expressed the County's intent to withdraw from District 5 and join District 24. Seminole County has indicated its willingness to proceed with this change. This development significantly impacts the planned efforts for a new Medical Examiner facility for District 5, which have been placed on hold pending further direction.

Considering the events at the November 13th meeting, we have reviewed ways to recover the costs expended by Marion County for District 24's inclusion. These costs include the design of the proposed new facility, property appraisals, land purchases, and future obligations, totaling \$3,140,152. In the existing Interlocal Agreement between the counties in Districts 5 and 24, each county contributes a percentage based on its population. We have used this same methodology to present options for recovering Marion County's costs, which are attached to this agenda item.

On January 15, 2025, we were notified by Lake County's Assistant County Attorney that Lake and Seminole counties have been working on a new Interlocal Agreement, reflecting Lake's desire to leave District 5 and join District 24. This new agreement was approved by Seminole County on January 14, 2025, and will be voted on by Lake County on January 21, 2025. Attached is County Attorney Minter's email with his analysis of the proposed interlocal agreement between Lake County and Seminole County. The next step is for the Medical Examiner's Commission to hear this matter. Their next meeting is on February 4, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., where the issue may be discussed. Marion County representatives will be in attendance.

On November 18, 2024, Marion County Fire Rescue Chief James Banta sent a letter to the Chairman of the Board for each county represented in Districts 5 and 24 requesting their input on the following:

- Makeup of District 5 and the continued partnership with District 24
- Reimbursement from Districts 5 and 24 Counties as to the expenditures Marion County incurred for this project.
- Direction on the status of the halted Medical Examiner facility project

Today we are requesting the Marion County Board of County Commissioners' direction on the items listed above.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Discussion and direction

Mr. Minter stated he received an email from the Lake County attorney this morning advising that the Lake County BCC approved the Agreement with a 4-1 vote this morning. In response to Commissioner Zalak, Mr. Minter advised that he is unsure which member dissented.

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Commissioner Stone requested that information be provided.

9.5. Present Hurricane Milton Debris Removal Update

County Engineer Cohoon, OCE, advised that this is the last debris removal update relating to Hurricane Milton. He stated Milton made landfall on October 9, 2024, and October 14, 2024 is when the County received the designation to begin the disaster relief removal of debris. Mr. Cohoon advised that the County was given 90 days to complete that effort, noting the vendor finished 1 day ahead of schedule. He stated Marion County had 93,752 cubic yards (yd³) of debris removal. Mr. Cohoon advised that staff are estimating roughly \$2,160,000.00 for 100 % reimbursable activities. He commented on debris removal efforts in five private communities that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) stated they would not reimburse after the fact. Mr. Cohoon stated there were only two trucks of material removed from those locations at a cost of approximately \$1,000.00. Mr. Cohoon advised that the County has closed all of its sites and is no longer picking up Hurricane Milton debris, noting individuals should not bring more debris to the right-of-way (ROW).

Commissioner Curry returned at 11:09 a.m.

Mr. Cohoon stated relating to any one-off scenarios where staff have missed something they are able to go back and review some of the evidence including pictures, to handle those on a case by case basis with OCE staff. He advised that if staff continue to see debris brought to the ROW, that would be a Code violation, and they will work with customers independently on those issues. Mr. Cohoon opined that the effort was successful, and the County should receive 100% reimbursement when those times come. He commented on the good work from the vendor and County staff, especially the Solid Waste team.

10. COMMITTEE ITEMS:

10.1. Board of Adjustment - Request to Rescind Benjamin Whitaker's Appointment to the Board of Adjustment

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

Description/Background: Benjamin Whitaker was appointed to the Board of Adjustment advisory board on September 17, 2024, as an alternate member for an unexpired term ending January 2026. Since his appointment, Mr. Whitaker has failed to communicate with staff, and all attempts to contact him have been unsuccessful. Additionally, Mr. Whitaker has not attended any Board of Adjustment meetings since his appointment.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to rescind Mr. Benjamin Whitaker's appointment and authorize the re-advertisement of one (1) full member position for an unexpired term ending January 2026 on the Board of Adjustment.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to rescind Mr. Benjamin Whitaker's appointment and authorize the re-advertisement of one (1) full member position for an unexpired term ending January 2026 on the Board of Adjustment. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

10.2. Marion County Historical Commission - Request Appointment of One Full At-Large Member, for a Full-Term Ending January 2029

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

Description/Background: The incumbent alternate at-large member of the Marion County Historical Commission, who is in a term that expires at the end of January 2025, is eligible for re-appointment and has applied accordingly.

- Courtland Richards (Incumbent) - Photographer/Videographer

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to re-appoint Mr. Courtland Richards as full at-large member to the Marion County Historical Commission, for a full-term ending January 2029.

Clerk Harrell advised Courtland Richards received the appropriate votes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Curry, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to re-appoint Mr. Courtland Richards as a full at-large member of the Marion County Historical Commission, for a full-term ending January 2029. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

10.3. Public Safety Coordinating Council - Request to Ratify Additional Members as Required for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant

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

Description/Background: On January 10, 2024, the Marion County Board of County Commissioners designated the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC), established under s. 951.26, F.S., as the planning committee to oversee a Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant (CJMHSR Grant) awarded to SMA Healthcare, Inc. This grant aims to demonstrate that investing in treatment for mental illness, substance use disorders, or co-occurring conditions reduces the demand on judicial, correctional, juvenile detention, and health and social services systems. To ensure the PSCC includes the appropriate membership, as outlined in s. 394.657, F.S., the following members will be added:

- Major Angy Scroble (Police Chief designee)
- Regina Lewis (Local court administrator designee)
- Randy Reynolds (Chief probation officer of the Department of Juvenile Justice)
- Christi Stua (Director of the detention facility of the Department of Juvenile Justice designee)
- Karla Greenway (Representative from an area homeless program or a supportive housing program)
- Jackie Gibson-Jacobowitz (Director of a community mental health agency)
- Travis McAllister (Representative of primary consumer of substance abuse services)
- Hilary Jackson (Family member of a primary consumer of community-based treatment services)
- To Be Determined (Representative of the substance abuse program office and the mental health program office of the Department of Children and Families)

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- To Be Determined (Representative of primary consumer of mental health services)

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to ratify the appointment of additional members to the PSCC to ensure compliance with the CJMHSA Grant membership requirements outlined in s. 394.657, F.S.

Clerk Harrell advised that this Item is a request to ratify various additional members for the PSCC pursuant to the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant, noting a couple of those positions are yet to be determined. He recognized the following:

- Major Angy Scroble (Police Chief designee)
- Regina Lewis (Local court administrator designee)
- Randy Reynolds (Chief probation officer of the Department of Juvenile Justice)
- Christi Stua (Director of the detention facility of the Department of Juvenile Justice designee)
- Karla Greenway (Representative from an area homeless program or a supportive housing program)
- Jackie Gibson-Jacobowitz (Director of a community mental health agency)
- Travis McAllister (Representative of primary consumer of substance abuse services)
- Hilary Jackson (Family member of a primary consumer of community-based treatment services)

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Stone, to Ratify Additional Members as Required for the Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant.

Commissioner Stone requested clarification relating to the process for determining who will fill the other two positions.

Mr. Bouyounes stated the County is in the process of getting those positions filled and wants those agencies to confirm who they want to assign to that task.

The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

11. NOTATION FOR ACTION:

11.1. Request Approval to Schedule and Advertise a Public Hearing to Consider an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 5.5 of the Marion County Code Related to Building and Building Regulations on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium

Building Safety Director Savage presented the following recommendation on behalf of the DRC:

Description/Background: The Building Safety Department is requesting a public hearing to consider an ordinance to amend Chapter 5.5 of the Marion County Code related to building and building regulations. This ordinance will create a list of items that will be exempt from permitting and update the Marion County Code to the 8th edition of the Florida Building Code.

The following date is being requested for the public hearing:

- Tuesday, February 19, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and schedule a public hearing with the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve and schedule a public hearing with the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, February 18, 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 a Workshop to Discuss Marion County Fire Rescue Assessment Rates on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium

Fire Chief James Banta presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: This request is to schedule a workshop to discuss the special assessment rates for Marion County Fire Rescue. This workshop will provide the Board with background information about current rates as well as proposed rates for fire rescue services.

The last study was completed in 2019, which has provided for the assessment rates that are currently implemented.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the workshop to discuss Marion County Fire Rescue assessment rates on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to schedule a workshop to discuss Marion County Fire Rescue assessment rates on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

11.3. Request Approval to Schedule a Joint Workshop with the Board of County Commissioners and City of Ocala City Council on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium

Tourist Development Director Loretta Shaffer presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Department is requesting a joint workshop between the Board of County Commissioners and City of Ocala City Council to discuss Ocala/Marion County Tourism Placemaking Plan and Feasibility Analysis, as well as any additional needs for the foreseeable future.

The following date is being requested for the workshop:

- Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and schedule a joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners and City of Ocala City Council on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve and schedule a joint workshop with the Board of County Commissioners and City of Ocala City Council on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the McPherson Government Campus Auditorium. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

11.4. Request Ratification of Letter of Support for the Estella Byrd Whitman Wellness and Community Resource Center 2025 Appropriations Request from the Florida House of Representatives Dated December 23, 2024

Executive Assistant Jennifer Clark, Commission Office, presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background:

The Estella Byrd Whitman Wellness and Community Resource Center (EBWCHC) is submitting a 2025 Appropriations Project Request from the Florida House of Representatives. A letter of support was requested from Marion County. The request will help their resource center that is in the federally declared medical desert of the West Ocala community. The center delivers essential primary care services to residents who would otherwise lack access and addresses significant barriers such as transportation, lack of financial resources, and other socioeconomic disparities affecting many of the residents they serve.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to ratify letter of support for the Estella Byrd Whitman Wellness and Community Resource Center (EBWCHC) in its 2025 Appropriations Project Request from the Florida House of Representatives.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to ratify the letter of support for the Estella Byrd Whitman Wellness and Community Resource Center (EBWCHC) in its 2025 Appropriations Project Request from the Florida House of Representatives. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

12. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Scheduled requests will be heard first and limited to five (5) minutes. Unscheduled speakers will be limited to two (2) minutes. Citizens may contact Marion County Administration by 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the meeting at 352-438-2300 to request to speak or sign up online at: www.marionfl.org.

Chairman Bryant opened the floor to public comment.

Roger Knechtel, SE 97th Terrace Road, Summerfield, commented on zoning, development, closing the Shoreham Nuclear Power Plant, and pro-life efforts.

Branko Dimovski, SE 120th Street, addressed the ePlans web-based system relating to submissions, response times, system inefficiencies, outcomes, impact fees and profitability relating to water and sewer connections for small developers.

In response to Chairman Bryant, Mr. Bouyounes advised that ACA Tracy Straub will meet with Mr. Dimovski to discuss his concerns.

Gary Cockman, SW 103rd Loop, presented 5 photographs and expressed concern relating to the SW 100th Street Planned Unit Development (PUD), property values, buffers, berms, buffer walls, Hurricane Milton, lack of water in "catch" basins, insects, select vs. clear cutting, profits and fairness. He requested the Board vote to reduce the size of the berm.

Chairman Bryant stated without having the Master Plan and approval in front of her, she cannot personally answer his questions now, noting if that has been approved as part of the Master Plan or a Condition of the development, she is unsure of any recourse the Board would have to change anything. She stated if the Board approved the berm it was likely due to a request from neighbors to have that separation from the subdivision that was developing right next to Cherrywood with smaller lot sizes and for the privacy that it would require.

Mr. Cockman questioned when the Notice was sent out advising that there was a change from the 2023 Type A buffer to the berm, noting he did not receive any notification. Chairman Bryant requested Mr. Cockman leave his contact information prior to leaving today so staff can perform the research and get him the answers to his questions. Joseph Walker, SE 54th Place, Ocklawaha, commented on issues relating to 9-1-1 addressing and limitations relating to Global Positioning Satellite (GPS). (Ed. Note: the Deputy Clerk did not receive a copy of the letter Mr. Walker presented.) Jason Martin did not appear when called upon to speak. Chairman Bryant advised that public comment is now closed.

13. COMMISSIONER ITEMS:

13.1. Commission Comments

Commissioner McClain advised that Parks and Recreation Advisory Council (PRAC) member Kat Kelly has resigned from her position, which was a Commissioner appointed position. He stated he is appointing Curt Bromund to that council.

A motion was made by Commissioner McClain, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to appoint Curt Bromund to the PRAC. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Commissioner Zalak commented on job reclassifications within OCE (Item 7.4.2), noting the great job that staff is doing in the field.

Commissioner Curry advised that he has nothing further to add.

Commissioner Stone commented on Sue Mosley of Friends of the Christmas Parade, noting she intended to mention that the organization hopes to keep the Christmas Parade a tradition, as well as keeping Christ in Christmas.

Commissioner Stone expressed appreciation towards the Directors that have supported their employees while going through the Employee Academy, as well as the other employees that picked up the slack.

Commissioner Stone wished everyone a happy New Year.

Commissioner Curry commented on the 2-1-1 system that the United Way had been providing.

In response to Commissioner Curry, Ms. Straub advised that CEO and President Bob Haight, United Way and Community Services Director Cheryl Martin are present in the audience, noting the County is doing some funding. She stated funding was changed over the summer.

Community Services Director Martin advised that the new agreement started July 1, 2024 and continues through June 30, 2025. She stated this is a collaborative effort between the County, the City of Ocala, the Marion County Hospital District (MCHD) along with the Department of Health are working together on this initiative.

CEO and President Bob Haight, United Way advised that 2-1-1 is included in State Statute, there are 11 call centers, noting Marion County was using the 2-1-1 Broward call center and has shifted that to the Heart of Florida (HOF) United Way in Orlando's 2-1-1 call center, which is also the 9-8-8 call center for our area. He stated in July there were

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funding concerns about 2-1-1 as the United Way was the sole funder. Mr. Haight advised that a coalition was brought together, (County, City of Ocala, MCHD, Sumter Electric Cooperative Inc., (SECO)) to continue the funding of 2-1-1 in Marion County and avoid going dark in the community with that service. He stated it was discovered that the old 2-1-1 system was on an 800 number, which cost the United Way five cents a minute per call. Mr. Haight advised that after working with Cox Communications the number has been routed to a 352 number so regardless of which call center is used throughout the State the calls are now being routed at no charge. He advised that a year ago in Marion County approximately 20,000 calls were received. Mr. Haight clarified that the operation is 24X7 chat, text and call. He stated Mr. Bouyounes, other County staff, a representative from the City of Ocala and himself all visited the call center and asked a lot of questions relating to quality. Mr. Haight advised that the other quality improvement that was made was working with the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) in Marion County where there is an individual keeping the database updated. He stated the funding was the change that was needed, noting there was no service disruption. Mr. Haight advised that there is a July 1, 2025, deadline relating to continued funding. The goal is to have the entire State covered.

Mr. Bouyounes stated long-term funding is not in place relating to the 2-1-1 system, noting the coalition Mr. Haight spoke of was temporary to get the County through this year. He advised that there is a committee working on future funding and how that could happen. Mr. Bouyounes stated the County funding came from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), but he is unsure if that would qualify as a long-term funding source. He advised that there is a lot to work on, noting there is no dedicated long-term funding for the service.

Mr. Haight commented on long-term funding, noting in many States it is funded at the State level with a local match. He advised that he sent a letter to Senator McClain to see if 2-1-1 could be a line item in the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) budget, requiring a local match from the 2-1-1 call centers. Mr. Haight stated this is a long-term solution to 2-1-1 coverage. He reiterated that the system itself is covered under State Statute.

Chairman Bryant wished everyone a happy New Year and commented on exciting projects that will be coming to fruition. She commented on the Board's willingness to discuss the possibility of bonding some road projects since voters approved the Sales Tax for twenty years.

Chairman Bryant advised that staff are still pushing for the December, 2025, grand opening celebration for the new Marion County Animal Services (MCAS) facility, noting the Board will be reviewing its Animal Ordinance this year. She stated individuals should be responsible pet owners and have their animals spayed or neutered, microchipped and be sure to obtain a County license, which is a law per Marion County Ordinance and helps to reunite lost pets with their families.

Chairman Bryant expressed appreciation towards the entire Marion County team and the Constitutional Officers and the great working relationship with those 5 offices.

13.2. Commission Calendar

13.2.1. Present Commission Calendar

The Chairman acknowledged receipt of the Commission calendar covering the period of January 21, 2025 through February 6, 2025.

14. NOTATION FOR RECORD:

14.1. County Administrator Informational Items:

14.1.1. 2025 Schedule of Regular Board of County Commissioners Meetings

14.1.2. Present the 2024-25 Commission Liaison and Projects Chart

14.1.3. Present Annual State of Florida Report for Marion County From the Ocala Metro Chamber and Economic Partnership

14.1.4. Present Approved District Office Lease Agreements

14.1.5. Present Chamber and Economic Partnership November 2024 Activity

14.1.6. Present Final Ocala/Marion County Tourism Placemaking Plan and Feasibility Analysis and Ocala/Marion County Tourism, Multi-Use Entertainment Facility and Hotel Conference Analysis

14.1.7. Present Monthly Building Safety Productivity Reports for the Months of October, November, and December 2024

14.1.8. Present Update on 2022-26 Strategic Plan Empowering Marion for Success II for January 2025

14.1.9. Present Solid Waste Department Update for November 2024

14.1.10. Southwest Florida Water Management District - Present Letter Dated December 10, 2024 Regarding the Annual Habitat Letter

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

14.3. General Informational Items:

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

14.4. Clerk of the Court:

14.4.1. Present Administrative Budget Transfer Report for FY 2024-25

14.4.2. Present Constitutional Officers' and Commissioners' Bonds Pursuant To Chapter 137.05, Florida Statutes

14.4.3. Present Memorandum from Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, Regarding the Filing of Ordinances 24-30 and 24-31 with the Secretary Of State's Office

14.4.4. Present Monthly Report for the Building Department Budget and Actual

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 - November 13, 2024

14.5.2. Development Review Committee - November 25 and December 9, 2024

14.5.3. Land Development Regulation Committee - August 7, 21, September 18, October 2, 16, and November 20, and December 4, 2024

14.5.4. License Review Board - November 12, 2024

14.5.5. Public Safety Coordinating Council - July 15, 2024

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

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

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

14.5.9. 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 11:52 a.m.

Kathy Bryant, Chairman

Attest:

Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk