

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

September 4, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Marion County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) met in regular session in Commission Chambers at 9:03 a.m. on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at the Marion County Governmental Complex located in Ocala, Florida.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The meeting opened with invocation by Commissioner Zalak 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 Michelle Stone, District 5; Vice-Chairman Kathy Bryant, District 2; Commissioner Craig Curry, District 1; Commissioner Matthew McClain, District 3; and Commissioner Carl Zalak, III, District 4. Also present were Clerk Gregory C. Harrell, County Attorney Matthew G. Minter, County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes, Assistant County Administrator (ACA) Angel Roussel, and ACA Amanda Tart.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

**1. PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

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

**1.1. PROCLAMATION – Hunger Action Month - Stephanie Palacios, Director of Advocacy and Government Relations, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida (Approval and Presentation)**

The Board presented the Proclamation recognizing the month of September 2024 as “Hunger Action Month” to Stephanie Palacios, Director of Advocacy and Government Relations, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida.

Director of Advocacy and Government Relations Stephanie Palacios, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, expressed her appreciation to the Board for its support and noted since 2022 the agency has distributed 60 percent (%) more food than the previous food bank was distributing. She stated the agency’s website is [www.feedhopenow.org](http://www.feedhopenow.org) and urged citizens to go to the website to see what they can do to get involved in Hunger Action Month.

**1.2. PROCLAMATION – Constitution Week - Renee Coventry, Regent, Ocala Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (Approval and Presentation)**

The Board presented the Proclamation recognizing the week of September 17 through 23, 2024 as “Constitution Week” to Renee Coventry, Regent, Ocala Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

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Renee Coventry, Regent, Ocala Chapter, National Society DAR, advised that in 1955 the National Society DAR had a dream and petitioned Congress to enact a day that would celebrate the Constitution. She stated this is something that is honored and encouraged throughout education, noting she is proud this year that the organization will be handing out 2,000 copies of the Constitution to 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the Marion County Public School District. Ms. Coventry noted DAR has partnered with Papa Johns restaurant to create a contest for children who can earn pizza parties for their classes based on the "Best Bulletin Board" celebrating the Constitution. She provided a brief overview of other upcoming events.

**1.3. PROCLAMATION** – Childhood Cancer Awareness Month - Jared and Kimberly Peltz, The Kaitlin Continuing Smile Foundation (Approval and Presentation)

The Board presented the Proclamation recognizing the month of September 2024 as "Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" to Jared and Kimberly Peltz, The Kaitlin Continuing Smile Foundation, and several other representatives.

Jared Peltz, The Kaitlin Continuing Smile Foundation, advised that his oldest daughter tested positive for cancer after having some issues with her knee, noting he and his wife were not aware of how prevalent this disease was in children. He stated his daughter went through 3 years of treatment, but ultimately passed away. Mr. Peltz advised that his family put together The Kaitlin Continuing Smile Foundation to try and help get the word out and to bring cheer and support to children in the hospital.

Steven Gardner advised that his daughter was recently diagnosed with cancer, noting today she is having a bone scan performed as part of her final treatment. He stated the hardest question his daughter ever asked was "why?".

Dr. Bill Slayton advised that he is a pediatrician and pediatric oncologist at the University of Florida (UF) and expressed his appreciation to the BCC for raising awareness of the need for more research into childhood cancer. He stated UF cures approximately 80% of children with cancer that come to the facility; however, 1 in 5 children with cancer will eventually succumb to the disease. Dr. Slayton provided a brief overview of the childhood cancer research being performed at UF, noting the research programs would not happen without the support of local organizations and support from the community.

Sharon Jank, former member of the Ocala Royal Dames, commented on the fundraising performed by the organization for cancer research. She expressed her appreciation to Dr. Slayton and UF's Pediatric Oncology Unit.

Mr. Peltz advised of an upcoming blood drive to help continue raising awareness of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

**1.4. PRESENTATION** – PRESENTATION to Recognize Duke Energy with an Award on Behalf of Florida Housing Coalition for its Partnership with Marion County as an Affordable Housing Innovator – Cheryl Martin, Community Services Director (Presentation Only)

Community Services Director Cheryl Martin presented the following:

Description/Background: On August 26, 2024 Florida Housing Coalition, Inc. presented the Housing Innovator Award to Marion County's Community Services Department in partnership with Duke Energy. Community Services is honored to highlight Duke Energy's innovative work through the Duke Energy Florida Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program (LIWAP). This collaboration improves affordable housing in Florida by providing energy-efficient upgrades, such as

central heat and air systems and insulation, to eligible Duke Energy customers. The program helps lower utility costs for low-income households and provides essential support for housing rehabilitation efforts.

LIWAP addresses a major barrier-high utility costs-by reducing energy consumption and lowering bills, making homes more affordable and sustainable. Additionally, it funds necessary repairs that ensure homes are safe, habitable, and energy-efficient.

These outcomes highlight how LIWAP can effectively address affordable housing challenges and serve as a model for similar initiatives nationwide.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation Only.

Community Services Director Cheryl Martin advised that Marion County's Community Services Department, in partnership with Duke Energy, received the Florida Housing Coalition's (FHCs) "Affordable Housing Innovator Award". The collaboration with Duke Energy improves affordable housing in the County by providing energy-efficient upgrades to eligible Duke Energy customers through the Duke Energy LIWAP.

**1.5. PRESENTATION** – PRESENTATION of an Award from Florida Housing Coalition, Inc. to Marion County's Public Relations Department - Cheryl Martin, Community Services Director (Presentation Only)

Community Services Director Martin presented the following:

Description/Background: On August 26, 2024 Florida Housing Coalition presented a Story Teller Award to Marion County's Public Relations Department (PR) for raising awareness about affordable housing through storytelling and media. As the primary communicators for Marion County, their expertise in media relations and branding has effectively conveyed important messages about affordable housing. A key approach has been their exceptional video production. The PR team has created impactful videos featuring citizen testimonials, informative content about efforts by the Community Services Department, and instructional guides. These videos have humanized the challenges of affordable housing, highlighting personal stories and celebrating the positive outcomes of our programs. This emotional connection has fostered greater empathy, support, and advocacy within the community.

In addition, the videos produced covered various topics, consistently emphasize affordable housing issues and have resonated deeply with audiences, advancing the conversation on housing affordability.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation Only.

Ms. Martin advised that the FHC presented the "Story Teller Award" to Marion County's Public Relations (PR) Department for raising awareness about affordable housing through storytelling and media.

PR Director Bobbi Perez advised that the Department created multiple videos relating to the challenges of affordable housing. She expressed her appreciation to the Community Services Department for nominating them and are happy to be sharing these stories on behalf of Marion County. Ms. Perez advised that citizens could connect to Marion County via its social media (Instagram, Facebook, etc.) and at [www.marionfl.org](http://www.marionfl.org).

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**1.6. PRESENTATION** – PRESENTATION of an Award from Florida Association of County Human Service Administrators to Marion County Community Services in Partnership with the Marion County Hospital District - Cheryl Martin, Community Services Director (Presentation Only)

Community Services Director Martin presented the following:

Description/Background: On June 26, 2024 the Florida Association of County Human Service Administrators awarded its Human Services Best Practices Award to Marion County in partnership with the Marion County Hospital District for establishing “Beacon Point.”

Beacon Point is a transformative 6-building integrated care campus. Beacon Point offers comprehensive treatment resources for behavioral health and substance abuse, featuring services such as outpatient counseling, detox, residential treatment, peer support, primary care, and more, all centralized in one location. This initiative has been crucial in addressing the rising need for such services, exemplified by the addition of 10 new detox beds that have more than doubled the County’s previous capacity. MCHD’s dedication is further demonstrated by their provision of free rent and utilities for service providers, alleviating financial burdens and enhancing program efficacy. The collaborative approach of Beacon Point represents a significant advancement in community care, making it a deserving candidate for the Best Practices Award.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Presentation Only.

Ms. Martin advised that the Florida Association of County Human Service Administrators awarded its “Human Services Best Practices Award” to Marion County in partnership with the Marion County Hospital District (MCHD), for establishing the Beacon Point project in collaboration with the Community Services Department and utilization of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

**1.7. PROCLAMATION** – Hispanic Heritage Month (Approval Only)

The Board approved the Proclamation designating the month of September 25, 2024 through October 25, 2024 as “Hispanic Heritage Month”.

Commissioner Bryant out at 9:41 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](http://www.marionfl.org).

Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

Commissioner Bryant returned at 9:43 a.m.

Henry Munoz, Marion Oaks Boulevard, addressed the Board regarding Agenda Items 7.7.2 and 11.3. In regard to Agenda Item 7.7.2, Mr. Munoz stated it is his hope that the Marion County School Board (MCSB) is contributing to the cost of the sidewalk. In regard to Agenda Item 11.3, Mr. Munoz opined that if the project is not completed quickly (road extension from SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue to CR 475 (flyover Interstate 75 (I-75))) it could delay the Marion Oaks community from getting a new high school constructed in that area.

County Engineer Steven Cohoon advised that Item 7.7.2 is a federally funded project. In regard to Item 11.3, Mr. Cohoon advised that the Department is working in coordination with the MCSB to ensure it will be a successful project as it goes forward in design and construction.

Dr. Jim Henningsen, President of the College of Central Florida (CF), SW College Road, addressed the Board in regard to Agenda Item 7.1.2. relating to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County and the college for the new nursing facility. He expressed his appreciation to the BCC for its \$2,000,000.00 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the creation and construction of the new nursing center, which should be completed by the end of this year.

Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

### **3. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: (5 sets)**

**3.1.** April 22, 2024

**3.2.** April 23, 2024

**3.3.** May 7, 2024

**3.4.** May 14, 2024

**3.5.** May 15, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Curry, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to adopt the meeting minutes of April 22 and 23, May 7, 14, and 15, 2024. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

### **4. CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENTAL OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:**

**4.1.** Jimmy Cowan, Property Appraiser - Request to Extend 2024 Tax Roll

Property Appraiser Jimmy Cowan presented the following recommendation:

Description/Background: This agenda item seeks Board approval for the tax roll to be extended prior to the completion of the Value Adjustment Board proceedings, which ensures the tax roll can be certified to the Tax Collector without delay in the issuance of tax notices beyond November 1.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the tax roll to be extended prior to the completion of the Value Adjustment Board proceedings.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve extending the 2024 tax roll. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

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

#### **5.1. Budget Amendment**

Clerk Harrell advised that Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.9. coincides with Consent Agenda Item 7.2.1.

Commissioner Bryant stated she would like to move forward Consent Agenda Item 7.2.1. to be considered at the same time as the Board adopts the Budget Amendment Resolutions. It was the general consensus of the Board to concur.

Upon motion of Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, the Board adopted the following Budget Amendment Resolutions transferring funds, as well as approving Consent Agenda Item 7.2.1. as presented by Clerk Harrell:

**5.1.1.** 24-R- 336 - Fire, Rescue and EMS Fund - Fire Rescue Services - \$30,000

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- 5.1.2. 24-R-337 - General Fund - Animal Services - \$90,000
  - 5.1.3. 24-R-338 - General Fund - County Administrator - \$32,600
  - 5.1.4. 24-R-339 - General Fund - Facilities Management - \$20,000
  - 5.1.5. 24-R-340 - General Fund - Facilities Management - \$95,000
  - 5.1.6. 24-R-341 - General Fund - Guardian AD Litem Program - \$1,500
  - 5.1.7. 24-R-342 - General Fund - Marion County Public Library System - \$31,500
  - 5.1.8. 24-R-343 - General Fund - Multiple Departments - \$27,360
  - 5.1.9.a. 24-R-344 - General Fund Grants – Continuum of Care Program FL - \$78,752
  - 5.1.9.b. 24-R-345 - General Fund Grants – Continuum of Care Challenge - \$455,081
  - 5.1.9.c. 24-R-346 - General Fund Grants – Continuum of Care Emer SOL - \$17,501
  - 5.1.9.d. 24-R-347 - General Fund Grants – Continuum of Care Program FL - \$107,143
  - 5.1.9.e. 24-R-348 - General Fund Grants – Continuum of Care Challenge - \$86,000
  - 5.1.9.f. 24-R-349 - General Fund Grants – Continuum of Care Program SOL - \$172,000
  - 5.1.9.g. 24-R-350 - General Fund Grants – Continuum of Care TANF - \$38,000
  - 5.1.10. 24-R-351 - General Fund - Fleet Management - \$100,000
  - 5.1.11. 24-R-352 - Marion County Utility Fund - Multiple Cost Centers - \$225,000
  - 5.1.12. 24-R-353 - Silver Springs Shores Special Tax District - Silver Springs Shores Rec - \$35,000
  - 5.1.13. 24-R-354 - Solid Waste Disposal Fund - Multiple Cost Center - \$200,000
- (Ed. Note: EMS is the acronym for Emergency Medical Services; Emer Sol is the abbreviation for Emergency Solutions; and TANF is the acronym for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.)

## 5.2. Project Adjustment

- 5.2.1. Transfer Project Funds and Amend the Capital Improvement Program - Infrastructure Surtax Capital Projects Fund - \$165,000

The Board considered the following recommendation by Executive Director Michael McCain:

Description/Background: STC073814 - SW 49<sup>th</sup> Ave North Phase Infrastructure Surtax project requires an increase to the ROW budget in order to facilitate impending acquisitions. \$165,000 will be transferred from STC073812 - NW 80<sup>th</sup>/70<sup>th</sup> Ave to STC073814 Infrastructure Surtax project to cover the shortfall. STC073812 is not in active ROW acquisition and its funding can be replaced at a later date.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

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

Clerk Harrell advised that this Item coincides with Consent Agenda Items 7.9.2. and 7.9.3. Commissioner Bryant requested that Consent Agenda Items 7.9.2. and 7.9.3. be brought forward and addressed at this time. It was the general consensus of the Board to concur. A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to approve the transfer of project funds and amend the Capital Improvement Program, as well as approve coinciding Consent Agenda Items 7.9.2. and 7.9.3. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

- 5.2.2. Transfer Project Funds and Amend the Capital Improvement Program - Infrastructure Surtax Capital Projects Fund - \$522,653

The Board considered the following recommendation by Facilities Management Director Jared Goodspeed:

Description/Background: Facilities Management is closing out sales tax projects SOC000014, MCSO Jail Plumbing A-C Pods (\$3,641), SOC000015, MCSO Jail Day Room Windows A-D Pods (\$11,582), SOC000016, MCSO Jail Cell Door Controls A-D Pods (\$236,169), as well as SOC000024, MCSO LED Dimmable Lights A-F Pods (\$13,286), surtax project SOC000017, MCSO Jail Pipe Lining A-C Pods (\$257,975) will remain active. These jail projects had excess funds due to coming in under budget and unused contingency. Furthermore, additional funding was brought into SOC000016 with anticipation of another pod being completed, however after further investigation, it was found that the additional pod did not need to be done. These funds, in the amount of \$522,653, are to be transferred into SOC000056, the Marion County Jail Expansion project, to start the A&E process. Request to transfer funds and re-appropriate them into FY 2025.

Budget/Impact: Neutral.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the transfer of project funds, amend the CIP and approve re-appropriation of funds to FY2024-25 Budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to approve the transfer of project funds, amend the CIP and approve re-appropriation of funds to FY 2024-25 Budget.

In response to Commissioner Zalak, County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes stated these funds would be dedicated to start the design of the Marion County Jail Expansion project.

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: 032169, 042389, 045154, 176960, and Public Safety Communication List

A motion was made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Zalak, to approve the Acquisition or Disposition of Property Forms for 032169, 042389, 045154, 176960, and the Public Safety Communication List. 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.

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

#### **7.1. Administration:**

**7.1.1.** Request Approval of Small Project Completion and Certification Form for Hurricane Ian Damages (Budget Impact - Additional Revenue of \$405,407)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by County Administrator Mounir Bouyounes:

Description/Background: Marion County has submitted one (1) project to The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for reimbursement of

Emergency Protective Measures. FEMA has reviewed the documentation and transferred the project to the State of Florida for 100% reimbursement.

The reimbursement is to be deposited in the funds as shown below:

<b>Row Labels</b>	<b>Sum of Cost</b>
0010-General Fund	\$185,760.54
1020-County Transportation Maintenance Fund	\$77,218.36
1120-Fire Rescue and EMS Fund	\$55,090.89
1131-Stormwater Program	\$2,191.68
1310-Marion Oaks MSTU	\$277.49
1311-Marion Oaks MSTU for General Services	\$171.46
4010-Solid Waste Disposal Fund	\$39,026.69
4520-Marion County Utility Fund	\$45,669.85
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$405,406.96</b>

Budget/Impact: Revenue generating; additional revenue of \$405,406.96

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Small Project Completion and Certification Form for Hurricane Ian Damages.

**7.1.2.** Request Approval of Agreement between the District Board of Trustees of the College of Central Florida and Marion County Board of County Commissioners for the Construction of a New Nursing Facility at the College of Central Florida (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$2,000,000 from American Rescue Plan Act Grant)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by ACA Angel Roussel:

Description/Background: As part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding initiatives, the Board of County Commissioners had allocated \$2,000,000 to support the College of Central Florida's new facility for nursing education. Marion County has determined that assistance to expand the nursing program will address the negative economic impacts of COVID-19 and result in greater numbers of nursing providers in Marion County to respond to various public health emergencies. The agreement establishes terms and conditions consistent with the ARPA requirements.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$2,000,000 from ARPA Grant.

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

**7.2. Community Services:**

**7.2.1.** Request Approval of Florida Department of Children and Families Contract Number PPZ61 - Amendment Number 0009 Between Marion County and the Department of Children and Families (Budget Impact - Neutral; \$551,333)

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

Description/Background: On May 19, 2020, the Marion County Board of County Commissioners executed the PPZ61 Unified Contract with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to assist the local community through planning, coordinating, and monitoring the delivery of services to persons who are homeless or about to be homeless within the FL-514 Continuum of Care (Marion County region) activities.



Since 2020 DCF has provided allocations to the County via various amendments to the original contract to which the Board has approved eight amendments. DCF has issued a Ninth Amendment to Unified Contract PPZ61 increasing the Grant funding. The table below is a summary of all contracts and amendments:

CONTRACT AMENDMENT	FISCAL YEAR	ALLOCATION	DESCRIPTION	EXECUTED DATE
Original	2020-2022	\$806,285.70	*ASSUMED COC*	JUNE 2020
1	2020-2021	\$313,000.00	ESG-CV	OCTOBER 2020
2	2020-2021	\$1,257,639.46	ESG-CV2	JULY 2021
3	2021-2022	\$0.00	INCREASE DELIVERABLES	APRIL 2022
4	2023-2025	\$1,209,428.55	3 YEAR RENEWAL	JUNE 2022
5	2021-2023	\$0	REALLOCATION BETWEEN FISCAL YEARS FOR THE FINAL TWO ESG-CV2 PAYMENTS	JULY 2022
6	2023-2024	\$177,754.21	ESG-CV3	JUNE 2023
7	2023-2024	\$78,752.00	INCREASE STAFFING GRANT FUNDING UNDER AMENDMENT 4	DECEMBER 2023
8	2023-2024	\$189,198.05	INCREASE CHALLENGE GRANT FUNDING UNDER AMENDMENT 4	MARCH 2024
9	2024-2025	\$551,332.55	INCREASE CHALLENGE GRANT FUNDING UNDER AMENDMENT 0009	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,583,390.52</b>		

\*Renewal of Challenge, ESG, and Staffing Grants.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; \$551,332.55.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute all necessary documents associated with Amendment 0009 between Marion County and Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF).

(Ed Note: This Item was approved along with Budget Amendment Resolution 5.1.9.)

**7.3. Development Review Committee:**

**7.3.1.** Request Approval of a Final Plat/Replat for Douglas M. Dawson Subdivision, Parcel Number 29860-011-02, Project Number 2023080121, Application Number 30586 (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 Douglas M. Dawson Subdivision. This is a replat of a portion of lot 11 of Davis Tilson Land as recorded in Plat Book E, Page 47.

This subdivision is located in the southeast portion of the County containing three lots and zero miles of road on approximately 3.12 acres.

This Final Plat/Replat was approved by the Development Review Committee on August 26, 2024.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Final Plat/Replat for Douglas M. Dawson Subdivision and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

**7.3.2.** Request Approval of a Final Plat/Replat Island Lake Resort - Replat, Parcel Number 0433-000-000, Project Number 2023040006, Application Number 31661 (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by Building Safety Director Savage, on behalf of the DRC:

Description/Background: This is a request to approve the Final Plat/Replat for Island Lake Resort - Replat. This is a replat of parcel A of Island Lake Resort as recorded in Plat Book S, Page 19.

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This subdivision is located in the northeast portion of the County containing one lot and zero miles of road on approximately 0.36 acres.

This Final Plat/Replat was approved by the Development Review Committee on August 26, 2024.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Final Plat/Replat for Island Lake Resort - Replat and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

#### **7.4. Fire Rescue:**

##### **7.4.1. Request Approval to Donate Marion County Fire Rescue's 1993 E-One Sentry Pumper to Levy County Department of Public Safety (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR) and Marion County Fleet had previously agreed that the 1993 E-One Sentry Pumper, asset number 262440, had reached the end of life cycle and was approved for disposal on August 6, 2024, at the Marion County Board of County Commissioners meeting. Due to the high call volume that Marion County career stations run, MCFR had transferred this pumper from a career station to a volunteer station several years ago. Levy County Department of Public Safety (LCPS) has a much lower call volume than MCFR and has very limited funds to purchase these units. Once approved for donation, this unit will assist LCPS by replacing a unit they had to put out of service due to repairs exceeding the value of the truck.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the donation of Marion County Fire Rescue's 1993 E-One Sentry Pumper to Levy County Department of Public Safety.

##### **7.4.2. Request Approval to Donate Marion County Fire Rescue's 1998 E-One Ladder Truck to Williston Fire Department (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: Marion County Fire Rescue (MCFR) and Marion County Fleet have agreed that this 1998 E-One Ladder, asset number 32169, has reached the end of life cycle and is on this September 4, 2024, Marion County Board of County Commissioners (MCBCC) agenda for approval of disposition. This ladder truck is a 1998 E-One Aerial that is 110-feet. This truck had previously been shifted from being a front-line unit to being a spare unit. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1901 recommends that fire apparatus be removed from front-line service after 15 years and from all emergency service after 25 years.

With the support of the MCBCC, MCFR has been able to follow our vehicle replacement plan and is requesting to donate this truck to Williston Fire Rescue (WFR) per the attached donation request. WFR has a much lower call volume than MCFR, and this unit will assist WFR by providing a ladder truck that they need but do not have funds to purchase.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the donation of Marion County Fire Rescue's 1998 E-One Ladder Truck to Williston Fire Department.

**7.5.1. Human Resources:**

**7.5.1. Request Approval of Firefighter Cancer Presumption Policy Renewal for FY 2025 (Budget Impact - Expenditure of \$97,398)**

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

Description/Background: Marion County Fire Rescue is requesting to renew a Firefighter Cancer Presumption Policy pursuant to the Florida Firefighter Cancer and Death Benefit Laws. The policy premiums are being funded out of the Fire Rescue Fund and paid out of the Insurance Fund. The Fire Rescue Fund will cover 100% of the premium.

This Renewal establishes the Firefighter Cancer Policy that will provide coverage for Firefighters who meet the statutory requirements if an eligible diagnosis is received after the insurance policy effective date. This premium is for the policy for coverage starting 10/01/2024 to 9/30/2025, and we will renew on an annual basis. The future cost for the policy is subject to change per number of covered personnel fulfilling the statutory requirements.

Additionally, per 112.1816 Florida Statutes, a Firefighter may elect to receive a one-time lump sum payout in the amount of \$25,000 in lieu of filing a Workers' Compensation claim. Employees must meet certain statutory requirements to be deemed eligible to receive said payout.

Budget/Impact: Expenditure of \$97,398.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the estimated Firefighter Cancer Presumption Policy Renewal in the amount of \$97,398 and to authorize Budget to update the FY 2025 Proposed Budget as necessary and authorize Risk and Benefit Services to execute the required documents.

**7.5.2. Request Approval to Rehire a Retired Employee within the Office of the County Engineer (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: Curtis Raines retired from Marion County Office of the County Engineer in 2022 after 34 years of service. Mr. Raines continues to live within Marion County and would like to return to Marion County in the capacity of Roads Maintenance Manager.

According to the Marion County Board of County Commissioners Employee Handbook, all employees that have formally retired from the Florida Retirement System must have Board approval in order to be rehired. Therefore, we respectfully request the approval to rehire Curtis Raines as a Roads Maintenance Manager within the Office of the County Engineer.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the request to rehire Curtis Raines as a Roads Maintenance Manager with the Office of the County Engineer.

**7.6. MSTU**

**7.6.1. MSTU: Request Approval to Certify the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rolls to the Tax Collector for Improvement Areas (Road Assessments) (Budget Impact - None)**

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by MSTU Director Chad Wicker:

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Description/Background: In accordance with Section 197.3632, Florida Statute, the Board of County Commissioners must certify the non-ad valorem assessment rolls to the Tax Collector prior to September 15, 2024. The following Improvement Areas (Road Assessments) are presented for certification:

- Barli Acres Improvement Area
- Belleview Heights Estates Unit 9 - SE 131<sup>st</sup> Place Improvement Area
- Belleview Heights Estates Unit No. 7 - SE 141<sup>st</sup> Place Improvement Area
- Belleview Heights Estates Unit No. 9 Improvement Area
- Big Ridge Acres Improvement Area
- Bluefields Improvement Area
- Cedar Hills/Cedar Hills Addition/Cedar Hills Addition 2 Improvement Area
- Cedar Shores Industrial Park Improvement Area
- Citrus Park Improvement Area
- Edgewood Improvement Area
- Edmond Raoux - S.E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Improvement Area
- Emil-Marr Improvement Area
- Georgetowne Improvement Area
- High Pointe Improvement Area
- Lake Weir Gardens Improvement Area
- Lake Weir Heights 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition Replat Improvement Area
- Leonardo Estates - N.E. 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Improvement Area Magnolia Shores/Smith Lake Acres Unit I Improvement Area
- McAteer Acres Improvement Area
- North Ocala Industrial Park - N.W. 58<sup>th</sup> Lane Improvement Area
- NW 165<sup>th</sup> Court Road - Classic Farms II/Classic Farms III/High Cotton Farms/High Cotton Farms II Improvement Area
- Ridgewood Park/We-Ten Improvement Area
- Shady Hills Estates -S.W. 33<sup>rd</sup> Terrace Improvement Area
- Sugar Hill Estates 1<sup>st</sup> Addition Improvement Area
- Summerfield Terrace Improvement Area
- Sun Country Estates II Improvement Area
- Turning Hawk Ranch Improvement Area
- Twin Lakes Ranchettes Improvement Area
- Westbury Improvement Area
- Windstream Improvement Area

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and certify the attached non-ad valorem assessment rolls to the Tax Collector for the Improvement Areas and authorize Chair and Clerk to execute same

**7.6.2.** Request Approval to Certify the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rolls to the Tax Collector for the MSTUs and MSBUs (Budget Impact - None)

The Board accepted the following recommendation as presented by MSTU Director Wicker:

Description/Background: In accordance with Section 197.3632, Florida Statute, the Board of County Commissioners must certify the non-ad valorem assessment

rolls to the Tax Collector prior to September 15, 2024. The following Municipal Service Taxing Units (MSTUs) and Municipal Service Benefit Units (MSBUs) are presented for certification:

- Bahia Oaks MSTU for Street Lighting
- Bellaire Subdivision MSTU for General Services
- Boardman MSTU for Street Lighting
- Boulder Hill Subdivision MSBU for Street Lighting
- Churchill Subdivision MSTU for Street Lighting
- Citrus Park MSTU
- Country Estates Buffington Addition MSTU
- Deer Path Estates Phase 1 and Phase 2 MSBU for Road Maintenance, Mowing and Street Lighting
- Delcrest Subdivision MSTU for General Services
- Doublegate Subdivision MSTU for General Services
- Golden Hills Turf and Country Club MSTU for General Services
- Golden Hills Turf and Country Club MSTU for Road Improvements
- Hickory Hill Subdivision MSTU for Street Lighting
- Indian Meadows Subdivision MSBU for Street Lighting
- Kingsland Country Estates Unit 22 / Ocala Waterway Estates Unit 27 MSBU for Road Maintenance
- Kingsland Country Estates Whispering Pines / Kingsland Country Estates Forest Glenn MSBU for General Maintenance and Capital Improvements
- Kingsland Country Estates Whispering Pines and Kingsland Country Estates Forest Glenn MSBU for Street Lighting
- Lake Tropicana MSTU for Road Improvements
- Little Lake Weir - Edgewater Estates MSBU for Street Lighting
- Maricamp Market Centre Replat Phase 1 and Phase 2 MSBU for General Maintenance and Capital Improvements
- Marion Oaks MSTU for General Services
- Marion Oaks MSBU for Road Improvements
- NW 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue-Northwood Improvement Area
- NW 49<sup>th</sup> 35<sup>th</sup> Street MSBU for DRA Maintenance
- Ocala Heights Units 1 and 3 Subdivision MSBU for Street Lighting
- Ocala Waterway Estates Section 34 MSBU for Road Maintenance
- Paradise Farms MSBU for Roadside Mowing
- Pine Run Estates MSTU for Road Improvements
- Rainbow Lakes Estates MSBU for Fire Protection and Community Resource Facilities
- Rainbow Lakes Estates MSTU for Road Improvements - Levy County Portion
- Rainbow Lakes Estates MSTU for Road Improvements
- Rainbow Park Units 1 and 2 MSBU for Road Maintenance
- Rainbow's End MSTU for General Municipal Services
- Raven Hill Subdivision MSTU for General Services
- Silver Springs Acres MSBU for Road Maintenance
- Silver Springs Shores MSBU for Road Improvements

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- Stonecrest Center MSBU for Road Maintenance
- The Hamlet at Sherman Oaks MSBU for General Services
- Tompkins and Georges Addition to Dunnellon MSTU
- Wineberry MSTU for General Services
- Woods and Lakes MSBU for Road Maintenance

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and certify the attached non-ad valorem assessment rolls to the Tax Collector for the MSTUs and MSBUs and authorize Chair and Clerk to execute same.

### **7.7. Procurement Services:**

**7.7.1. Request Approval of Change Order 2 to Purchase Order 2400602: 23B-134 Water Tank Maintenance - Razorback LLC, Tarpon Springs, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; additional expenditure \$6,000 as approved FY 2023-24 budget)**

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

Description/Background: On July 18, 2023, the Board awarded a contract to Razorback, LLC, to perform inspection, maintenance, and repair on the Utilities Department's 88 water tanks located throughout Marion County. On November 21, 2023, the Board approved a Purchase Order to replace five (5) hydropneumatics tanks that were part of the Marion County Utilities acquisition at the following subdivisions water plants; Sheri Oaks, Buckskin, Ponderosa, Libra Oaks and Pine Ridge. On June 4, 2024, the Board approved Change Order 1 to install new steel saddles, ground preparation and concrete pads for the Libra Oaks and Ponderosa Hydro-Tanks. The Change Order being presented today requests to add \$6,000 to perform post-inspections at Salt Springs and Deer Path Hydro-Tanks, as required by Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

A copy of the Change Order and Razorback LLC's proposal is attached for review. Pending approval at today's meeting, the Change Order will be presented to the Chair for signature.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; additional expenditure of \$6,000 bringing the total purchase order amount to \$155,200. Funding is from line ZF442533-534101 (Marion County Utility Fund).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute Change Order 2 to Purchase Order 2400602 for Razorback LLC under 23B-134.

**7.7.2. Request Approval of Change Order 12 to Purchase Order 2300441: 22B-015 Legacy and Saddlewood Elementary School Sidewalks - Hartman Civil Construction, Inc., Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; additional expenditure of \$54,252 as approved in the FY 2023-24 budget)**

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

Description/Background: On September 20, 2022, the Board approved a contract with Hartman Civil Construction Company, Inc. (Hartman) to construct sidewalks in various rights-of-way, completing pedestrian corridors that serve Legacy and Saddlewood Elementary Schools. Since then, 11 change orders have been issued

to accommodate additional time and the use of contingency funds. The change order presented today addresses unforeseen field engineering updates required for compliance with Federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, bringing the total project cost to \$3,131,567.90. The contractor is also requesting an additional 136 calendar days for final project completion, extending the deadline to September 30, 2024.

Attached is a copy of the change order and proposal. Pending approval at today's meeting, the change order will be presented to the Chair for signature.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; additional expenditure of \$54,252.00 funded by the County Transportation Maintenance Fund - BL760541-563220 with Project Code TIP077370 and TIP077380.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and authorize the Chair to execute the change order with Hartman under PO 2300441.

**7.7.3. Request Approval of Contract Renewal: 20P-165-CA-03 Tire Service and Repairs – Dan Callaghan Enterprises, Inc. dba Callaghan's Best-One Tire & Service, Bradenton, FL and Advanced Tire Service, LLC, Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; estimated annual expenditure of \$625,000 as proposed in FY 2024-25 budget)**

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

Description/Background: On October 20, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners approved contract 20P-165 with two (2) firms, Dan Callaghan Enterprises, Inc. dba Callaghan's Best-One Tire & Service and Advanced Tire Service, LLC, to provide tire services, including recapping, 24-hour emergency road service, and mounting and balancing for the County's fleet of cars, trailers and trucks. Both firms have received favorable evaluations under this contract and Marion County Fleet Management is requesting to renew both contracts using the second of three annual renewal options.

Attached for review are the draft amendments. Upon approval at today's meeting, contracts will be sent to Dan Callaghan Enterprises, Inc. dba Callaghan's Best-One Tire & Service and Advanced Tire Service, LLC and upon return, will be forwarded to Legal, the Clerk and Chair for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; estimated annual expenditure of \$625,000 as proposed in FY 2024-25 budget.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and allow staff to issue, and upon approval from Legal, authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the contract renewals under 230P-165-CA-03.

**7.7.4. Request Approval of Contract Renewals: 20Q-074, Utilities Engineering Design Support Services - Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Ocala, FL, Tillman and Associates Engineering, LLC, Ocala, FL, Wright-Pierce, Inc., Maitland, FL, Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., Orlando, FL, and Ardurra Group, Inc., Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: On June 16, 2020, the Board approved contracts with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Tillman and Associates Engineering, LLC, Wright-Pierce, Inc., Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., and Ardurra Group to provide Engineering Design Support Services to Marion County Utilities. All firms have

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complied with the original agreement's terms and conditions. Marion County Utilities provided positive evaluations, and Utilities Director, Jody Kirkman, recommends a one (1) year renewal.

Attached for review is a draft of Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. contract. The four (4) contracts not provided are identical. Upon approval at today's meeting, the contracts will be sent to all firms for signatures and upon return, will be forwarded for signatures from Legal, the Clerk, and Chair.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and allow staff to issue, and upon approval from Legal, authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the contract for Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Tillman and Associates Engineering, LLC, Wright-Pierce, Inc., Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. and Ardurra Group, Inc. under 20Q-074.

**7.7.5. Request Approval of Contract Renewal: 22BE-204 Countywide Fuel - Clardy Oil Company, Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; estimated annual expenditure of \$5,000,000 as proposed in FY 2024-25 budget)**

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

Description/Background: On August 2, 2022, The Board approved contract 22BE-204 with Clardy Oil Company to provide countywide fuel services. Clardy Oil has a proven record of supplying the county with fuel when needed and during disasters without issues and will ensure a continuous and dependable delivery of fuel. On October 7, 2023, the Board approved the first of three annual renewal options. Clardy Oil has continued to receive favorable evaluations under this contract, and Marion County Fleet Management has requested that the Board approve the second of three annual renewal options.

Attached for review is a draft contract amendment. Upon approval at today's meeting, the contract will be sent to Clardy Oil Company for signature, and upon return, will be forwarded to the Legal, Clerk and Chair for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; estimated annual expenditure of \$5,000,000 as proposed in FY 2024-25 budget. Annual expenditures shall not exceed approved Fiscal Year budget amounts without being brought back to the Board for approval. Funding will come from AA178519-552101 (General Fund).

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and allow staff to issue, and upon approval from Legal, authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the contract renewal under 22BE-204-CA-02.

**7.7.6. Request Approval Of First Contract Amendment: 24Q-053-CA-01 Marion County Vulnerability Assessment (Including Some Municipalities) - Halff Associates, Inc., Tavares, FL (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: On May 21, 2024, the Board approved a contract with Halff Associates, Inc. to provide professional engineering and consulting services for a comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment in accordance with Florida State Statute 380.093. To ensure compliance with grant requirements, Halff Associates, Inc. is preparing a no-cost deliverable on data standards, which will be submitted



to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). This deliverable will detail the data sources and methodologies to be used in conducting Marion County’s Vulnerability Assessment, funded by the Resilient Florida Program.

Attached for review is a draft of the contract. Pending approval at today’s meeting, it will be sent to Halff Associates, Inc. for signatures and upon return, the contract will be routed for the County Attorney, Clerk, and Chairman’s signatures.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the contract amendment and allow staff to issue the contract. Upon approval by Legal, authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute said contract under 24Q-053-CA-01.

**7.7.7. Request Approval of Selection Committee Recommendation: 24Q-226 Cross Florida Greenway Baseline Road to Santos Paved Trail - Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Ocala, FL (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$822,296 as approved in the FY 2023-24 budget)**

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 issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to identify qualified and experienced firms for professional services related to the proposed Cross Florida Greenway paved trail, extending from the Baseline Road Trailhead to the Santos Trailhead. Funded by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail program, this project will involve the development of engineering plans, specifications, cost estimates, bid documents, and permit documents. The paved trail, designed to be 12 feet wide, will cross two active railroads and will comply with current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. Three (3) submittals were received, scored, and evaluated by Selection Committee Members Joey Amodo, James Larramore, and Wilken Morestant. All firms were shortlisted for presentations in accordance with Florida State Statute 287.055, with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (KHA) ranking the highest per the tabulation below:

FIRM - Location	Rank - Score
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. - Ocala, FL	1 - 1,855
Davis Dinkins Engineering, P.A. - Ocala, FL	2 - 1,555
CPH Consulting, LLC - Deland, FL	WITHDREW

Steven Cohoon, P.E., County Engineer, supports the Selection Committee recommendation to award to KHA. Attached for review is a draft contract. Pending approval at today’s meeting, it will be sent to KHA for signatures and upon return, the contract will be routed for the County Attorney, Clerk, and Chair’s signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$822,295.18. Funds are available in line (TIP000024) BL760541-563220 – County Transportation Maintenance Fund.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the recommendation and allow staff to issue the contract, and upon approval by Legal, authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. under 24Q-226.

**7.7.8. Request Approval of Selection Committee Recommendation: 24Q-254 Combined Brass, PVC Parts and Supplies- Ferguson Enterprises, LLC dba Ferguson Waterworks,**

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Fortiline, Inc. (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$436,000 as approved in the FY 2023-24 budget)

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

Description/Background: On behalf of Marion County Utilities Department (MCU), Procurement advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to contract with qualified firms to supply MCU's need for brass, PVC parts and supplies. The current contract 20Q-081 Brass Parts and Supplies shall remain in effect until March 31, 2025. This contract seeks to combine these services eliminating the need for individual contracts. Three (3) firms responded, the Selection Committee evaluated all proposals, ranking them per the tabulation below:

Firm - City	Score (Rank)
Ferguson Enterprises, LLC dba Ferguson Waterworks - Ocala, FL	550
Fortiline, Inc. dba Fortiline Waterworks - Ocala, FL	525
Pasco Pipe Supply, Inc. - Hudson, FL	415

MCU Director, Jody Kirkman, supports the Selection Committee's recommendation to award to the top two (2) ranking firms, Ferguson Waterworks and Fortiline Waterworks.

Attached for review is a draft of one of the identical contracts; pending approval at today's meeting, it will be sent to Ferguson Waterworks and Fortiline Waterworks for signatures. Upon return, it will be forwarded to Legal, the Clerk and Chair for signatures.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$436,000; Funding is from ZF442533 - 552108 (Marion County Utility Fund) - \$366,000 ZF445535-552108 (Marion County Utility Fund) - \$70,000.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve and allow staff to issue, and upon approval from Legal, authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the contract under 24Q-254.

#### **7.7.9. Request Approval of Purchases \$50,000 and Over**

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

Description/Background: The items below have been received by Procurement Services and is approved in conformation with the Procurement Code/Manual, pending approval at today's meeting

1. Pending Requisition/Access Wireless Data Solutions - Marion County Sheriff's Office requests approval to purchase 95 Cradlepoint 5-year Nation Mobile Performance Essentials, wireless access points, Parsec Technologies Low-Profile High-Performance Antennas and Modem Provisions, per attached quote. Total expenditure of (\$232,637.29). Funds are available in line VJ736521-564101 (Sheriff Regular Information Technologies Infrastructure Surtax) with Project Code STC0736IT *This meets the competitive bidding requirements under GSA Contract #47QTC19D00MM.*

2. Pending Requisition/Ring Power Corporation - Marion County's Office of the County Engineer requests approval to purchase one (1) new Caterpillar 430 Backhoe Loader, Guard Stabilizer, Engine 86KW, (8) LED Work light Lamps, and Bucket- HD, per attached quote. Total expenditure of (\$129,756). Funds are available in line BL400541-564101 (County Transportation Maintenance Fund).

*This meets the competitive bidding requirements under Florida Sheriff's Association #FSA23-EQU21.0.*

3. Pending Requisition/Safety Products, Inc. - Marion County's Office of the County Engineer requests approval to purchase six (6) Remote Controlled Flagman AFAD Units that will increase the ability of the department's workforce without adding additional positions while improving safety associated with flagging operations. Total expenditure of (\$79,118.40). Funds are available in line BL400541-564101 (County Transportation Maintenance Fund). *Exemption of bidding process is being requested due to the unavailability of products in the market.*

Recommended Action: Motion to approve requested purchases.

**7.8. Tourist Development:**

**7.8.1.** Request Approval of Tourist Development Council Funding Request for Festivals of Speed, LLC (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of up to \$4,200 approved in the FY 2023-24 budget)

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

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Council (TDC) seeks funding approval for organizations that have festivals, events, or programs which support the TDC's mission of growing the economy and accelerating prosperity in Marion County through effective destination sales and marketing. This funding contract is for the Festivals of Speed Presents a Salute to Veterans hosted by Festivals of Speed, LLC to be held on September 14, 2024 at World Equestrian Center. This event was recommended for funding by the TDC at their regularly scheduled meeting on August 22, 2024.

Festivals of Speed Presents a Salute to Veterans \$4,200.00

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of up to \$4,200.00 as approved in the FY 2023-24 budget. Funding from CP155552-548101.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Tourist Development Council funding request and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the attached funding agreement.

**7.8.2.** Request Approval of Tourist Development Council Funding Request for Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Marion Cultural Alliance, Inc. (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget)

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

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Council (TDC) seeks funding approval for organizations that have festivals, events, or programs which support the TDC's mission of growing the economy and accelerating prosperity in Marion County through effective destination sales and marketing. The Marketing Assistance Program is designed to enable tourism-related businesses in Marion County to enhance their marketing opportunities leveraged with the Ocala/Marion County destination brand. This funding contract is for the Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Marion Cultural Alliance, Inc. This program was recommended for funding by the TDC at their regularly scheduled meeting on August 22, 2024.

Marion Cultural Alliance, Inc. \$5,000

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Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget, funding from CP155552-548101.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Tourist Development Council funding request and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the attached funding agreement.

**7.8.3. Request Approval of Tourist Development Council Funding Request for Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Reilly Arts Center, LLC, for Benefit of Marion Theatre (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$2,500 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget)**

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

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Council (TDC) seeks funding approval for organizations that have festivals, events, or programs which support the TDC's mission of growing the economy and accelerating prosperity in Marion County through effective destination sales and marketing. The Marketing Assistance Program is designed to enable tourism-related businesses in Marion County to enhance their marketing opportunities leveraged with the Ocala/Marion County destination brand. This funding contract is for the Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for the Reilly Arts Center LLC, for benefit of Marion Theatre. This program was recommended for funding by the TDC at their regularly scheduled meeting on August 22, 2024.

Reilly Arts Center, LLC, for benefit of Marion Theatre \$2,500

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$2,500 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget, funding from CP155552-548101.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Tourist Development Council funding request and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the attached funding agreement.

**7.8.4. Request Approval of Tourist Development Council Funding Request for Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Santos Bicycling Group, LLC, d.b.a. Santos Bike Shop (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget)**

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

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Council (TDC) seeks funding approval for organizations that have festivals, events, or programs which support the TDC's mission of growing the economy and accelerating prosperity in Marion County through effective destination sales and marketing. The Marketing Assistance Program is designed to enable tourism-related businesses in Marion County to enhance their marketing opportunities leveraged with the Ocala/Marion County destination brand. This funding contract is for the Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Santos Bicycling Group, LLC d.b.a. Santos Bike Shop. This program was recommended for funding by the TDC at their regularly scheduled meeting on August 22, 2024.

Santos Bicycling Group, LLC d.b.a. Santos Bike Shop \$5,000

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget, funding from CP155552-548101.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Tourist Development Council funding request and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the attached funding agreement.

**7.8.5. Request Approval of Tourist Development Council Funding Request for Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Ocala Main Street for Benefit of Heart of the Park (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget)**

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

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Council (TDC) seeks funding approval for organizations that have festivals, events, or programs which support the TDC's mission of growing the economy and accelerating prosperity in Marion County through effective destination sales and marketing. The Marketing Assistance Program is designed to enable tourism-related businesses in Marion County to enhance their marketing opportunities leveraged with the Ocala/Marion County destination brand. This funding contract is for the Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Ocala Main Street for benefit of Heart of the Park. This program was recommended for funding by the TDC at their regularly scheduled meeting on August 22, 2024.

Ocala Main Street for benefit of Heart of the Park \$5,000  
Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget, funding from CP155552-548101.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Tourist Development Council funding request and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the attached funding agreement.

**7.8.6. Request Approval of Tourist Development Council Funding Request for Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Ocala Symphony Orchestra, Inc. for Benefit of Reilly Arts Center (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget)**

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

Description/Background: The Tourist Development Council (TDC) seeks funding approval for organizations that have festivals, events, or programs which support the TDC's mission of growing the economy and accelerating prosperity in Marion County through effective destination sales and marketing. The Marketing Assistance Program is designed to enable tourism-related businesses in Marion County to enhance their marketing opportunities leveraged with the Ocala/Marion County destination brand. This funding contract is for the Marketing Assistance Funding Program Reimbursement for Ocala Symphony Orchestra, Inc. for benefit of Reilly Arts Center. This program was recommended for funding by the TDC at their regularly scheduled meeting on August 22, 2024.

Ocala Symphony Orchestra, Inc. for benefit of Reilly Arts Center \$5,000  
Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$5,000 as proposed in the FY 2024-25 budget, funding from CP155552-548101.

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Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Tourist Development Council funding request and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the attached funding agreement.

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

**7.9.1.** Request Approval of Developer's Agreement for Crossroads Commerce Park – South Concerning SW 57<sup>th</sup> Extension between Marion County and 484 Road Runner Resources, LLC., and Coyote Crossing Holdings, LLC. (Budget Impact - None)

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

Description/Background: Attached Developer's Agreement for Crossroads Commerce Park - South Concerning SW 57<sup>th</sup> Extension is made and entered between Marion County and 484 Road Runner Resources, LLC., and Coyote Crossing Holdings, LLC. This Agreement is for the design, construction, and right-of-way dedication for the extension of SW 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Road. This short extension will tie into the east-west roadway that will connect to SW 49<sup>th</sup> Court Road. This Developers Agreement is consistent with the Master Development Agreement executed on December 17, 2019.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached Developer's Agreement and to authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

**7.9.2.** Request Approval of a Purchase Agreement Associated with the SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Road Improvement Project for Parcel 3578-014-040 (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$365,000 as approved in the FY 2023-24 budget)

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

Description/Background: This is a request to approve a Purchase Agreement in the amount of \$365,000 plus closing costs for parcel 3578-014-040 associated with the SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Road Improvement Project (Marion Oaks Trail to SW 95<sup>th</sup> Street). This is an improved lot of approximately 0.67 acres. The 1,820 square foot single family residence, constructed in 2005, consists of four (4) bedrooms and two (2) bathrooms.

The negotiated agreement is inclusive of any and all cost associated with this transaction. There are cost savings recognized in this negotiation by avoiding additional costs that occur during condemnation proceedings.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$365,000 plus closing cost (STC073814 - VJ38541 - 561301).

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

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Agenda Item 5.1.2.)

**7.9.3.** Request Approval of a Purchase Agreement Associated with the SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Road Improvement Project for Parcel 3578-026-002 (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$130,436 as approved in the in FY 2023-24 budget)

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

Description/Background: This is a request to approve a Purchase Agreement in the amount of \$130,436 plus closing costs for parcel 3578-026-002 associated with the SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue North (Marion Oaks Trail to SW 95<sup>th</sup> Street) Road Improvement Project. This is an unimproved lot consisting of .46 acres.

The negotiated agreement is inclusive of any and all cost associated with this transaction. There are cost savings recognized in this negotiation by avoiding additional costs that occur during condemnation proceedings.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$130,436 plus closing cost (STC073814 - VJ738541 - 561301)

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

(Ed. Note: This Item was approved with Agenda Item 5.1.2.)

**7.9.4. Request Approval of an Indemnification Agreement Between Pulte Home Company, LLC and Marion County for the Proposed Stone Creek by Del Webb Solaire Phase 1 Subdivision, Application Number 31209 (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: This is a request seeking approval of an Indemnification Agreement associated with Land Development Code Section 2.18.4.E, which allows for up to 10% of the total lots to be constructed in a subdivision prior to recording the Final Plat. The five (5) conditions outlined in the proposed Indemnification Agreement have been met and the County Attorney's office has approved the proposed agreement for Stone Creek by Del Webb Solaire Phase 1 Subdivision. This will allow up to 15 individual building permits to be issued prior to Final Plat approval.

This subdivision is located in the southwest portion of the County and contains 150 lots and six (6) tracts on 41.97 acres with 1.18 miles of private roads.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached Indemnification Agreement Pulte Home Company, LLC and Marion County for the proposed Stone Creek by Del Webb Solaire Phase 1 Subdivision and authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

**7.9.5. Request Approval of a Purchase Agreement Associated with the NW/SW 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue and W Highway 40 Intersection Road Improvement Project for a Portion of Parcel 23209-000-00 (Budget Impact - Neutral; revenue of \$15,000)**

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

Description/Background: This is a request to approve a Purchase Agreement between Carson Brothers, LLC and Marion County for a portion of parcel 23209-000-00 associated with the NW/SW 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue & Hwy 40 (1500' North of W HWY 40 to 1300' South of W HWY 40) Intersection Road Improvement Project. Carson Brothers, LLC is granting 5 feet of right-of-way along the existing east right-of-way of SW 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue and a Temporary Construction Easement consisting of 0.019 acres. Per the terms of the acquisition, Carson Brothers, LLC agrees to pay the sum of \$15,000.00 to the County for the design and construction of a turn-lane addition.

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This negotiated acquisition avoids additional costs that occur during condemnation proceedings, provides for construction to the benefit of the property owner, and provides for an overall benefit to the travelling public by performing all construction at one time.

Budget/Impact: Revenue of \$15,000.00 (STC073868-VJ738541-561301).

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

**7.9.6. Request Approval of a Purchase Agreement Associated with the Country Gardens Flood Relief Project for Parcel 3058-042-000 Located in Country Gardens, Plat Book G, Page 84 (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$255,000)**

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

Description/Background: This is a request to approve a Purchase Agreement associated with the Country Gardens Flood Relief Project in the amount of \$255,000 plus closing costs for parcel 3058-042-000. This parcel is an improved lot of approximately 0.26 acres. The 1,766 square foot single family residence consists of three (3) bedroom, two (2) bath. The proposed use of parcel 3058-042-000 is for the construction of a drainage retention area since it has been determined to be a more suitable site and has known historic flooding issues.

The home is currently in the process of being renovated. The seller has requested additional funds to cover the costs associated with labor and materials for any additional time that may prolong the conveyance, per the terms and conditions outline in the attached addenda.

Budget/Impact: Neutral expenditure of \$255,000 plus closing cost (E-SMC0006FL-CIPSTORMW-EXPANSLND-430 EK430538-563102).

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

**7.9.7. Request Approval of First Amendment to Improvement Agreement with Bond for Marion Ranch Phase 2 aka Freedom Commons Phase 2 Subdivision, Application Number 29642 (Budget Impact - None)**

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

Description/Background: The project developer desires approval of their Final Plat prior to completing all improvements associated with the subdivision. 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 original Improvement Agreement with Bond was in the amount of \$2,594,936.45 and was approved on October 3, 2023 and recorded in OR Book 8172, Page 169.

The original agreement did not include construction of all phases of SW 85<sup>th</sup> Street improvements associated with this project. At this time, the Developer is progressing on all phases and is requesting to amend the deadline to construct all improvements associated with SW 85<sup>th</sup> Street within 12 months after the effective date of this Amendment. Staff supports this amendment.



The County Attorney's office has reviewed and approved the First Amendment to Improvement Agreement with Bond. This subdivision is located in the southeast portion of the County and contains 166 lots and five (5) tracts on 59.78 acres with 1.75 miles of private roads.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the attached First Amendment to Improvement Agreement with Bond and to authorize the Chair and Clerk to execute the same.

### **7.10. Utilities:**

**7.10.1.** Request Approval of Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-018 Between Grace Grahling and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$9,791 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

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

Description/Background: In accordance with Land Development Code section 6.14.2, developers (property owners) are required to connect to public utilities if the property is within connection distance. For a single-family residence, the connection distance is 400 feet from the parcel's closest corner to the public water main. In this case, the property owner is required to connect to the public water main provided by Marion County Utilities and would be required to install 22 feet of water main, which includes the parcel's frontage ending at the farthest end of the property. The water main extension will not benefit any additional parcels along the route. Total project cost is derived from the construction cost of (\$9,091) plus design fee (\$700).

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$9,791 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget. 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-018 and authorize staff to issue a purchase order for T&C Underground under 22P-146.

**7.10.2.** Request Approval of Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-048 Between Habitat for Humanity of Marion County, Inc. and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$13,704 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

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

Description/Background: In accordance with Land Development Code section 6.14.2, developers (property owners) are required to connect to public utilities if the property is within connection distance. For a single-family residence, the connection distance is 400-feet from the parcel's closest corner to the public water main. In this case, the property owner is required to connect to the public water main provided by Marion County Utilities and would be required to install 76 feet of water main, which includes the parcel's frontage ending at the farthest end of the property. The water main extension will not benefit any additional parcels along the route. Total project cost is derived from the construction cost (\$13,004) plus design fee (\$700).

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Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$13,704 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget. 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-048 and authorize staff to issue a purchase order for T&C Underground under 22P-146.

**7.10.3.** Request Approval of Repeal of Resolution 24-R-59 and Approve Replacement Resolution to Support Short Water Line Extension Program SWL-177 (Applicant SkyHome Building Services, LLC) (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$8,180 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

The Board accepted the following recommendation to adopt Resolution 24-R-355 as presented by Utilities Director Kirkman:

Description/Background: On August 17, 2021, the Board approved \$5 million for the development and execution of a Short Water Line Extension Program (Program) providing subsidies for qualified applicants. October 18, 2022, the Board approved Ordinance 22-43, which established the basic requirements for the Program. Property owners must apply and be qualified for the Program, which will include support of future water main construction projects when the owner's property is within 50 to 500 feet of a water main.

Marion County Utilities (MCU) verified parcel number 8009-1208-03 for participation in the Program, shown on the original Resolution 24-R-59 Exhibit A - Application for the Short Water Line Extension Program; however, the lot was revised during the permitting cycle to build a neighboring lot 8009-1208-02, requiring an additional 80 feet of water main. In error, the property owner's contractor constructed the water main beyond the plans to reach the parcel where the foundation was built on lot 2, which was 80 feet farther than authorized.

The project now improves a total of seven (7) parcels as shown on Exhibit B, at a total project cost shown on Exhibit C, based on MCU's current bid pricing. The additional \$8,180 in material costs is derived from the following: one (1) short single service at \$1,400; one (1) long single service at \$2,900; 80 feet of six (6) inch main at \$2,720; 80 feet of silt fence at \$280; and 80 feet of sod \$880.

However, when the pro rata share cost is derived for each parcel located within the discrete geographical area, each property owner will still pay the pro rata share of \$5,000 per lot that the Board recommended as the maximum pro rata share per parcel.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$8,180 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget. Funding is from line FF449536 - 563102 with Project Code UTCEXT001.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve recommendation and authorize staff to issue a Pay Request to T&C Underground under 22P-146.

Resolution 24-R-355 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO SUPPORT THE SHORT WATER LINE EXTENSION PROGRAM; PROVIDING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND AUTHORITY; ESTABLISHING THE SHORT WATER LINE EXTENSION PROGRAM SERVICE AREA; ESTABLISHING ONE-TIME CAPITAL

CONNECTION FEE FOR THE SERVICE AREA; REPEALING  
RESOLUTION NO. 24-R-59 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**7.10.4.** Request Approval of Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-014-O Between Holiday Builders, Inc. and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$39,266 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

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

Description/Background: In accordance with Land Development Code section 6.14.2, developers (property owners) are required to connect to public utilities if the property is within connection distance. For a single-family residence, the connection distance is 400 feet from the parcel's closest corner to the public water main. In this case, the property owner is required to connect to the public water main provided by Marion County Utilities (MCU) and would be required to install 373 feet of water main, which includes the parcel's frontage ending at the farthest end of the property. The water main extension will serve the property owner's parcel and create a benefit for four (4) additional parcels along the route of the water main extension. Total project cost is derived from the construction cost (\$38,565.50) plus design fee (\$700).

Budget/Impact: Neutral; project cost is \$39,265.50, 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 Chair and Clerk to execute the Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-014-O and authorize staff to issue a purchase order for T&C Underground under 22P-146.

**7.10.5.** Request Approval of Water Main Extension Connection Agreement WME-041-S Between Soraya Resende Investments LLC and Marion County Utilities (Budget Impact - Neutral; expenditure of \$41,107 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget)

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

Description/Background: In accordance with Land Development Code section 6.14.2, developers (property owners) are required to connect to public utilities if the property is within connection distance. For a single-family residence, the connection distance is 400-feet from the parcel's closest corner to the public water main. In this case, the property owner is required to connect to the public water main provided by Marion County Utilities (MCU) and would be required to install the water main across the entire parcel's frontage and end the system at the farthest end of the property. The County has the necessary funding in place to extend the water main beyond the property owner's 138-foot obligation, which would be an additional 389 feet to interconnect the system, improving the hydraulic benefit to the neighborhood.

In accordance with Resolution No. 21-R-381 approved by the Board on August 17, 2021, for a Share Agreement, the developer/property owner only pays the pro-rata share of the project based upon MCU's low bid contractor's price for the work. The water main extension, as designed, will serve 11 total parcels along the route of the water main extension. The project cost, including collective owners' obligation,

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totals \$41,106.50 (\$40,406.50 construction, plus \$700 design), for a pro-rata share or per parcel cost of \$3,736.95.

Budget/Impact: Neutral; expenditure of \$41,106.50 as approved in FY 2023-24 budget. 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-041-S and authorize staff to issue a purchase order for T&C Underground under 22P-146.

## **8. COUNTY ATTORNEY: NONE**

## **9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:**

### **9.1. Present Letter From the City of Dunnellon Regarding the Management of Blue Run Park**

County Administrator Bouyounes commented on the letter received from the City of Dunnellon dated August 14, 2024 relating to management of Blue Run Park, as well as a proposed revised response Letter to the City of Dunnellon from the BCC for Board consideration.

Commissioner Bryant advised that the proposed Letter is an intent for the County to move forward with the acquisition of Blue Run Park, noting there are things that will have to be clarified as both parties work through an Agreement. She stated there needs to be an understanding that while there are policies currently in place within the City of Dunnellon's Ordinances that do affect the operation of the Park, moving forward, anything that could affect the operations of Blue Run Park would have to be agreed upon by the BCC as well, since the County will be the managing entity and owner. Commissioner Bryant commented on the restroom project that needs to move forward.

Chairman Stone concurred that the City of Dunnellon's Ordinances should not impede the County's ability to operate that park.

General discussion ensued.

Commissioner Zalak expressed concern with the number of turnovers among City of Dunnellon Council members over the years, noting priorities can change with every new member that joins that Council.

General discussion resumed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Bryant, to approve and execute the revised Letter to City of Dunnellon Mayor Walter Green relating to Ownership and Management of Blue Run Park. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

### **9.2. Present the 2024 Survey Results from the Summer Programs Hosted by the Marion County Parks and Recreation Department and the Marion County Library System**

Mr. Bouyounes referred to the Agenda packet, which contains the survey questions and responses from County residents that utilized the programs.

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Couillard stated he was pleased to advise the Board of how successful the programs were this summer. He presented a PowerPoint presentation that provided information relating to the Departments "Camp Focus" (safety is top priority, adventures, connection through outdoor play, experienced staff that are engaging and interactive, and resilience when overcoming challenges). Mr. Couillard

provided a brief overview of the camp programs: 1) Odyssey Camp (184 campers); 2) Adventure Camp (233 campers); 3) Forest Camp (137 campers); 4) Firewise Camp (370 campers); 5) Fish Camp (20 campers); 6) Kayak and Paddleboard Camp (20 campers); 7) Elementary Explorers Camp (226 campers); and 8) Teen Camp (21 campers). He advised that the Department adheres to the American Camping Association's counselor to camper ratios. Mr. Couillard advised that 13 scholarships were awarded for a total of 23 weeks of camping, noting this was made possible through the Marion County Parks and Recreation Foundation. He stated there were 3 children from the Kimberly's Center that were provided with 100% scholarships. Mr. Couillard noted the total revenue provided by summer camps was \$149,885.00. He commented on the cost per camper, per hour, and opined that the cost is very reasonable compared to daycare. Mr. Couillard provided an overview of the parent feedback relating to summer camps. He expressed his appreciation to Recreation Manager Jessica Majoros, City of Ocala Recreation Program Supervisor Charles Dobson, Recreation Supervisor Dominick Garitta and others who lead these programs.

Chairman Stone noted it is the ten o'clock hour and advised that the Board will continue with Agenda Item 9.2. 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 Authorize Year Four (4) of the Annual Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment to Help Offset Local Hospitals Medicaid Deficiencies and Adoption of a Resolution Relating to Same

County Attorney Matthew G. Minter presented the following:

Description/Background: In 2021 the Board of County Commissioners passed Marion County Ordinance 21-18, which provided for additional funding to hospitals providing inpatient and outpatient services to help offset local hospitals Medicaid deficiencies. Pursuant to the Ordinance, the Board of County Commissioners must adopt an Annual Final Assessment Resolution to memorialize the final rate applicable for the Fiscal Year.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve Year Four (4) of the Annual Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment, adoption of the attached Resolution, and authorize the Chairman and clerk to execute same.

Deputy Clerk Ketner presented Proof of Publication legal ad No. 10468514 entitled, "Notice of Hearing Regarding Imposing and Collecting a Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment From Specified Hospital Properties" published in the Star Banner newspaper on August 15, 2024.

County Attorney Minter advised that in 2021 the County adopted Ordinance 21-18, which established a new program to provide a mechanism for additional funding to hospitals to help offset local hospitals Medicaid deficiencies. He stated this will help leverage funding for the hospitals because Medicaid only covers 60% of the cost the hospitals actually incur in providing healthcare services to Medicaid eligible or indigent individuals. This program provides for non-ad valorem assessments only against those hospital properties and does not impose any financial obligation on Marion County citizens or the County

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itself. Mr. Minter advised that under the Ordinance, the BCC must adopt a new Assessment Resolution establishing the assessment cost for the upcoming year.

Chairman Stone opened the floor to public comment.

Mike Poshay, W. Jefferson Street, Tallahassee, FL, Advent Orlando Healthcare Ventures, expressed his appreciation to the BCC for its support of this program, noting the hospitals will receive supplemental funding that allows them to continue to provide essential medical care and treatment to some of the most vulnerable populations in Marion County.

Erika Skula, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), AdventHealth, Ocala, SW 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue expressed her support for the State Directed Payment (SDP) program and the Rate Resolution being considered by the Board. She stated the SDP program generates critically needed funds to support hospitals in Marion County and enables continued positive economic impact in the region at no cost to residents or businesses. Ms. Skula advised that the funding continues to provide AdventHealth, Ocala, the ability to meet the growing needs of the underserved community and to provide high quality care to patients. Beth Ganem, Assistant Chief Financial Officer (ACFO), HCA Ocala Hospital, SW 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, expressed her appreciation to the Board for its support of local hospitals.

Commissioner Curry questioned whether the program will sunset or if there is a timeline set by the Federal government. Mr. Poshay advised that the program does not sunset, noting each year the State of Florida must submit a "Preprint" for the program to The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), which is the ultimate arbiter of approving the "Preprint" for each year's program. He clarified that every year the hospitals must apply to the Federal government for approval, and it will be up to the Federal government to determine when or if it will stop the program.

Commissioner Zalak opined that this has been a great program for the hospitals.

Mr. Poshay stated there are 26 individual jurisdictions that have this program in place throughout the State.

Commissioner Bryant commented on the medical costs at the jail and questioned whether there are any programs that could help the County with those costs. Mr. Poshay advised that he could work with staff to review the programs and determine whether there is a program to help local governments with those medical costs.

General discussion ensued.

Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner Curry, to adopt Resolution 24-R-356 approving Year Four (4) of the Annual Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessment to hospitals providing inpatient and outpatient services to help offset local hospitals Medicaid deficiencies. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

Resolution 24-R-356 is entitled:

AN ASSESSMENT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING AND ADOPTING A NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT WITHIN THE COUNTY LIMITS FOR THE PURPOSE OF BENEFITING ASSESSED PROPERTIES THROUGH ENHANCED MEDICAID PAYMENTS FOR LOCAL SERVICES; FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IS SPECIALLY BENEFITED BY THE ASSESSMENT; COLLECTING THE ASSESSMENT AGAINST THE REAL PROPERTY; ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER IMPOSITION OF THE PROPOSED ASSESSMENT AND THE METHOD OF ITS

COLLECTION; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION OF NOTICES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS AND DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY AS NECESSARY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**9.2. CONTINUED:**

Chairman Stone congratulated Julie Sieg on her 40 year anniversary with the County. Library Director Julie Sieg advised that the Marion County Library just celebrated its 9 week summer library program with the Statewide theme “Adventure begins at your Library”. She commented on the Library’s goals of “read, learn, and connect”. Ms. Sieg provided an overview of the programs offered that included celebrating Smokey the Bear’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, arthropod petting zoo, escape room adventures, book clubs, scavenger hunts, pajama story times, etc. She commented on partnering with the Silver River Museum, Appleton Museum, Florida Parks Service, Florida Forest Service, Florida Museum of Natural History, Marion County Animal Services, and UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Science (UF/IFAS). Ms. Sieg noted the summer library program attendance reached almost 21,000 people. She advised that the results from the Program Satisfaction Survey are included in the Agenda packet and provided a brief overview of many of those comments. Ms. Sieg advised of the partnership with the Shores Assembly of God, which is an organization that supplies free hot meals at a different library each week through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Summer Break Spot program, noting almost 1,800 meals were provided to children throughout Marion County. She stated the Shores Assembly of God provides food for other venues as well. Also, over the summer the Department conducted a reading initiative for all ages called “Marion Reads”. Ms. Sieg advised that during the summer, each time a patron checks out material, they receive an entry form making them eligible for a drawing at the end of the summer, noting this year there were over 10,350 entries. She stated Barnes and Nobles gift cards were supplied by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library and 4 different winners from 4 different age categories were selected. Ms. Sieg noted the Library closed out the summer with an Early Learning Expo known as “Ready to Read Zero to Three”. She advised that upcoming programs can be found in the new issue of “The Sweet Life”, noting the month of September celebrates National Library Card Signup Month. Ms. Sieg stated the Department has partnered with several local businesses who will recognize your library card and provide a “sweet treat” when shown the card.

Chairman Stone expressed her appreciation to Ms. Sieg and her staff.

Commissioner Zalak expressed his appreciation for both the Parks and the Library Departments, noting the affect they have on families.

Commissioner Bryant commented on a study that was performed on how important it is to limit children’s “screen time”, especially before the age of 3.

General discussion ensued relating to the impact these programs have on children in the community.

**10. COMMITTEE ITEMS: NONE**

**11. NOTATION FOR ACTION:**

**11.1.** Request Approval to Schedule a Workshop to Discuss the CR 475A Roadway Improvement Projects to Elevate a Portion of the Roadway (Task A, from South of SW 55<sup>th</sup> Street to SW 42<sup>nd</sup> Street) and to Provide Intersection Improvements (Task B, CR

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475A at SW 66<sup>th</sup> Street) on Tuesday, October 1st, 2024 at 3:30 p.m. or as Soon Thereafter, in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium

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

Description/Background: The Office of the County Engineer is requesting to schedule a workshop on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter, in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium to provide the Board of County Commissioners:

- A progress update of the engineering design by Kittleson and Associates, Inc. to elevate a portion of CR 475A from south of SW 55<sup>th</sup> Street to SW 42<sup>nd</sup> Street (Task A) and provide intersection improvements at CR 475A and SW 66<sup>th</sup> Street (Task B).
- A review of the materials to be presented at the Public Meeting to be scheduled for October 17, 2024.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve scheduling a workshop to discuss the CR475A roadway improvement projects (Tasks A and B) on Tuesday, October 1st, 2024 at 3:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter, in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to schedule a workshop to discuss the CR475A roadway improvement projects (Tasks A and B) on Tuesday, October 1st, 2024 at 3:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter, in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

**11.2.** Request Approval to Reschedule a Board of County Commissioners Workshop Regarding the Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Appraisal Report from Tuesday, November 5, 2024 1:30 p.m. to Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

The Board considered the following recommendation as presented by Growth Services Director Chuck Varadin:

Description/Background: Staff recommends rescheduling the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) workshop on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, 1:30 p.m. due to conflicts. The new date being requested is Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the request for rescheduling the EAR workshop from Tuesday, November 5, 2024 1:30 p.m. to Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to reschedule the EAR workshop from Tuesday, November 5, 2024 1:30 p.m. to Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 2:00 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 Workshop to Discuss the Preliminary Engineering Report for Marion Oaks Manor Extension from SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue to CR 475 (flyover I-75) on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. or Soon thereafter in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium



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

Description/Background: The Office of the County Engineer is requesting to schedule a workshop on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. at the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium to provide the Board of County Commissioners:

- A progress update of the work underway by Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. associated with Preliminary Engineering Report of the Marion Oaks Manor Extension from SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue to CR 475 (flyover I-75).
- A review of the materials to be presented at the public meeting to be scheduled on December 12, 2024.

Budget/Impact: None.

Recommended Action: Motion to approve Workshop to discuss the Preliminary Engineering Report for Marion Oaks Manor Extension on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. or as soon thereafter, in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zalak, seconded by Commissioner McClain, to schedule a workshop to discuss the Preliminary Engineering Report for Marion Oaks Manor Extension from SW 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue to CR 475 (flyover I-75) on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. or Soon thereafter in the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board (5-0).

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

Chairman Stone opened the floor for public comment.

Roger Knechtel did not appear when called upon to speak.

Chairman Stone advised that public comment is now closed.

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

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

Commissioner McClain stated he had nothing further to add.

Commissioner Curry stated he had nothing further to add.

Commissioner Zalak congratulated Veterans Director Jeffrey Askew for being appointed to the Florida Veterans Foundation (FVF) and ensuring that Marion County is a place where veterans matter (Agenda Item 14.1.1.).

Commissioner Zalak expressed his appreciation to MCFR staff for making it possible for the County to donate equipment to other Counties that could not otherwise afford it.

Chairman Stone advised that Marion County has MOUs with those Counties to have them respond in Marion County if needed and it is important that they have the equipment to help in those times.

Commissioner Bryant congratulated Mary J. Bellarine Demas Atta for becoming a citizen.

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Chairman Stone reminded everyone to be a responsible pet owner by having their pets spayed/neutered, noting there are programs available to help assist those who are unable to afford that.

Chairman Stone advised that the Evaluation and Appraisal survey is currently going on and urged citizens to take the survey to lend their voice to the discussion of what the future would look like for Marion County.

### **13.2. Commission Calendar**

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

The Chairman acknowledged receipt of the Commission calendar covering the period of September 4, 2024 through September 17, 2024.

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

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

**14.1.1.** Present Appointment of the Florida Veteran's Foundation, Inc Board Member Director for District Three - Jeffrey Askew

#### **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 Property Appraiser FY 2024-25 Final Department Approved Budget from the Department of Revenue, Property Tax Oversight

**14.4.2.** Present Administrative Budget Transfer Report for FY 2023-24

**14.4.3.** Present Update for Medical Examiner Budget FY 2024-25

**14.4.4.** Present Budget Adjustments to the Tentative Budget Fiscal Year 2024-25

**14.4.5.** Present Regular Report of Utilization for Reserve for Contingencies

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

**14.5.1.** Code Enforcement Board - July 10, 2024

**14.5.2.** District 5 and 24 Medical Examiner Advisory Committee - May 8, 2024

**14.5.3.** Development Review Committee - July 29, August 5 and 12, 2024

**14.5.4.** License Review Board - July 9, 2024

**14.5.5.** Marion Oaks MSTU Advisory Board for Recreational Services and Facilities - April 9, 2024

**14.5.6.** Rainbow Lakes Estates - July 18, 2024

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

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

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

**14.5.10.** 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 recessed at 10:36 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Stone, Chairman

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk

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