

April 22, 2025

09:00 a.m.

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**SARASOTA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER  
1660 RINGLING BOULEVARD  
COMMISSION CHAMBER  
SARASOTA, FLORIDA**

Joe Neunder, Chair, District 4  
Ron Cutsinger, Vice Chair, District 5  
Teresa Mast, District 1  
Mark Smith, District 2  
Tom Knight, District 3

Also present were:

Jonathan Lewis, County Administrator  
Joshua Moye, County Attorney  
Karen E. Rushing, Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller  
Nicole Jovanovski, Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller Director of Finance  
Charles Maloney, Deputy Clerk  
Jacquelyn Lachance, Recording Secretary

(09:00 a.m.)

**INVOCATION**

Human Resources Manager Heather Hendricks

(09:02 a.m.)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Carl Sorfranko, Major, United States Air Force

(09:04 a.m.)

**PROCLAMATIONS**

Arbor Day  
National Volunteer Week

(09:21 a.m.)

**RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENT**

Mark Robins, 25 Years of Service, Emergency Services

(09:23 a.m.)

**1. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Nadia Bowen, Kristy Molyneaux, David Ochs, Tom Mackenheimer, Karen Brown, Jacob Crabtree, Connie Neeley, James Haft, Laurel Quarberg, Marisa Dawson, Deb Hays, Allison Werner, and Ron Kashden commented on dredging.

Tom Edwards commented on the Sarasota County Schools Trades Academy.

Traci Williams, David Langhout, Ryan Lieberman, Drew Smith, Debbie Urban, and

John Carlson commented on the Building Industry Institute.

Flo Entler and Kelly Brown commented on stormwater and flooding.

John Harney and Scott Eller commented on affordable housing.

Deb Hayes commented on dredging and the funding of the school district trades program.

Items submitted: Copies of photographs

**CONSENT SECTION:**

10:28 a.m. Board Action: **Approved Items 2-21, with separate discussions on Items 6 and 7, as follows. Moved by Mast, seconded by Knight, carried by a 5-0 vote.**

**2. ADMINISTRATION**

To adopt a resolution as required by Section 125.001, Florida Statutes, authorizing a joint meeting with the City of Venice.

**3. CAPITAL PROJECTS**

To approve and authorize the County Administrator, or Designee, to execute an Agreement for construction engineering and inspection services with A2 Group, Inc., for the Casey Key Shoreline Protection, in an amount not to exceed \$2,137,326.79.

**4. COMMISSION SERVICES**

To ratify previously issued proclamations for:

- A. Autoimmune Awareness Month;
- B. National Quilting Month;
- C. Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

**5. OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

To approve Sarasota County's Citizen Participation Plan for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funding in accordance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant requirements.

(10:29 a.m.)

**6. OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

To adopt a resolution relating to the issuance of the County's Infrastructure Sales Surtax Revenue Bonds, Series 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$37,000,000.00, to finance the construction of various Capital Improvement Projects, to pay costs of issuance, and providing certain other details.

Staff Presenters: Deputy County Administrator Steven Botelho, County Administrator Jonathan Lewis, Office of Financial Management Director Kimberli Radtke, and Capital Projects Director Carolyn Eastwood

10:32 a.m. Board Action: **Moved to pause Item 6 until the Capital Improvement Project Workshop. Moved by Knight, the motion failed due to lack of a second.**

10:45 a.m. Board Action: **Moved to approve Item 6. Moved by Mast, seconded by Smith, carried by a 4-1 vote; Knight voted "No."**

**7. OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

To adopt a Resolution relating to the issuance of the County's Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series 2025A, in an amount not to exceed \$29,710,000.00, to finance the acquisition and construction of the Sarasota County Support Services Facility Project, pay costs of issuance, and providing certain other details.

Staff Presenters: Deputy County Administrator Steven Botelho, County Administrator Jonathan Lewis, Office of Financial Management Director Kimberli Radtke, and Capital Projects Director Carolyn Eastwood

10:45 a.m. Board Action: Moved to approve Item 7. Moved by Mast, seconded by Smith, carried by a 4-1 vote; Knight voted "No."

**8. OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

- A. To approve a Subrecipient Agreement with the City of Venice to allocate Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Community Development Block Grant funds for Cockrill Street Sidewalks Phase 2, in the amount of \$700,000.00;
- B. To authorize the County Administrator, or Designee, to approve Amendments, extensions, and ancillary documents to the Subrecipient Agreement that do not increase the amount awarded.

**9. PARKS, RECREATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

To reappoint William Samuels to fill an expired three-year term on the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Oversight Committee as an Environmental Representative, effective through April 2028.

**10. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

To reappoint Christopher Tennant to serve a three-year term on the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee as a member who is Actively Engaged in the Banking or Mortgage Lending Industry effective through April 2028.

**11. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

To appoint Jacob Hess to fill an open expired three-year term on the Sarasota Tree Advisory Council as an At-Large Representative, effective through March 2028.

**12. PUBLIC UTILITIES**

To approve and authorize the County Administrator, or Designee, to execute Amendment No. 6 to Contract No. 2021-199 with Airvac, Inc., for the Operations Services Agreement for Vacuum Sewer System, to renew the Contract through July 11, 2026, to change the total not-to-exceed amount from \$2,000,000.00 to a total amount not-to-exceed budgeted funds, and to modify Exhibit B - Fee Schedule.

**13. PUBLIC UTILITIES**

To approve and authorize the County Administrator, or Designee, to execute a Term Contract with Hydromax USA, LLC, for fire hydrant and valve inspection and maintenance for a three-year period, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,600,000.00.

**14. PUBLIC UTILITIES**

To approve a Utility Agreement with Dreamers Academy, Inc., a Florida Not for Profit Corporation, for utility system improvements and the provision of utility service for the Dreamers Academy development and authorized the County Administrator, or Designee, to approve reimbursement in an amount not to exceed \$95,000.00 for costs related to the oversizing of certain utility system improvements.

**15. PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Report on the Water and Sewer Advisory Committee Annual Report for 2024.

**16. PUBLIC UTILITIES**

To reappoint Norman Robertson to serve a three-year term on the Water and Sewer Advisory Committee, as an At-Large Representative, effective through April 2028.

**17. PUBLIC WORKS**

To adopt a resolution authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation, for highway right-of-way maintenance of state roads located within the County, for a three-year period, with an annual reimbursement to the County in the amount of \$358,456.14.

**18. PUBLIC WORKS**

To approve the Expenditure Authorization Form and to authorize the County Administrator, or Designee, to approve individual purchases with Temple, Inc., for various traffic signal and traffic calming equipment and other materials to maintain the continuity of operations and maintenance of the Advanced Traffic Management System network, in a cumulative amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 per fiscal year.

**19. PUBLIC WORKS**

To approve and authorize the County Administrator or Designee to execute Agreements for professional consulting services for transportation engineering and planning for a five-year period with the following vendors:

- A. Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.;
- B. Patel, Greene, Associates, LLC;
- C. Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

**20. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COUNTY COMPTROLLER**

To ratify and approve the Warrants dated March 24 through April 4, 2025, in the amount of \$73,623,991.48, as detailed in the voucher packages filed in the Finance department.

**21. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COUNTY COMPTROLLER**

To approve the Minutes of the meeting dated April 9, 2025.

**RECESS:** 10:45 a.m. - 10:56 a.m.

**DISCUSSION SECTION:**

(10:56 a.m.)

**22. OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

Presentation on the Resilient SRQ Economic Recovery Program with the Building Industry Institute, Inc., (BII), regarding the proposed construction of a workforce development training facility in Sarasota County, with a conditional award of \$7,500,000.00 as requested by the Board.

Staff Presenter: Office of Financial Management Program Management Division Manager Steve Hyatt

Public Presenter: Ryan Lieberman

Items submitted: A copy of a presentation and a copy of Form 8B Memorandum of Voting Conflict for County, Municipal, and other Local Public Officers submitted by Commissioner Mast

11:58 a.m. Board Action: Moved to not execute the Contract and reallocate the \$7,500,000.00. Moved by Neunder, seconded by Knight, carried by a 3-1 vote; Smith voted "No." Mast abstained.

11:59 a.m. Board Action: Moved to pull back the Sub-Recipient Agreement with the School Board as it has not been signed yet, and brought back to the Board. Moved by Mast, the motion failed due to lack of a second.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS - PRESENTATIONS UPON REQUEST:**

(12:00 p.m.)

**23. CAPITAL PROJECTS**

(Public hearing) To adopt a resolution, Budget Amendment No. B2025-037, amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget to appropriate additional funding for the Snook Haven Park Improvements, in the amount of \$6,250,000.00.

12:00 p.m. Board Action: Closed the public hearing. Closed by Neunder, without objection.

12:01 p.m. Board Action: Noted no objection by the Chair to approve Item 23.

12:20 p.m. Board Action: Reopened the public hearing. Reopened by Neunder, without objection.

12:20 p.m. Board Action: Moved by Smith, seconded by Cutsinger, carried by a 5-0 vote.

(12:01 p.m.)

**24. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

(Public hearing) To adopt Ordinance No. 2025-010, establishing the Esplanade at Wellen Park Community Development District, for property located northwest of S. River Road, southeast of S. West Villages Parkway and south of the West Villages Improvement District.

12:01 p.m. Board Action: Closed the public hearing. Closed by Neunder, without objection.

12:01 p.m. Board Action: Noted no objection by the Chair to approve Item 24.

12:21 p.m. Board Action: Moved by Smith, seconded by Cutsinger, carried by a 5-0 vote.

(12:01 p.m.)

**25. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

(Public hearing) To adopt a resolution regarding Coastal Setback Variance No. 79-03-24-585 for the construction of 227.5 linear feet of seawall located a maximum of 63.0 feet waterward of the 20-Year Pass Hazard Line at 4154 Higel Avenue, Sarasota.

12:02 p.m. Board Action: Closed the public hearing. Closed by Neunder, without objection.

12:02 p.m. Board Action: Noted no objection by the Chair to approve Item 25.

12:22 p.m. Board Action: Moved by Smith, seconded by Cutsinger, carried by a 5-0 vote.

**REPORTS SECTION:**

(12:02 p.m.)

**26. CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COUNTY COMPTROLLER**  
Filed for Record list.

(12:02 p.m.)

**27. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

- A. Presentation of the quarterly update on the 2025 Policy Agenda;
- B. Request for a Manatee County Joint Meeting.

Staff Presenters: Assistant County Administrator Brad Johnson and Assistant County Administrator Mark Cunningham

Items submitted: A copy of a presentation and a copy of correspondence

(12:10 p.m.)

**28. COUNTY ATTORNEY**

(12:10 p.m.)

**29. COMMISSIONER MAST**

Staff Presenters: County Administrator Jonathan Lewis and Office of Financial Management Program Management Division Manager Steve Hyatt

12:13 p.m. Board Action: Requested that the County Administrator bring back to the Board options concerning the reallocation of the available funds of \$7,500,000.00. Requested by Mast, without objection.

(12:16 p.m.)

**30. COMMISSIONER SMITH**

FEMA meeting discussion (Base Flood Evaluation and Siesta Key).

12:18 p.m. Board Action: Requested that the County Administrator bring back a report to the Board regarding the April 16, 2025 memo to the Board concerning the Sarasota County designed flood elevation and voluntary building above the base-flood elevation level. Moved by Smith, seconded by Neunder, carried by a 5-0 vote.

12:27 p.m. Board Action: Authorized the Chair to sign a letter of support for the Myakka River being nominated as a national scenic river. Moved by Smith, seconded by Cutsinger, carried by a 5-0 vote.

**RECESS:** 12:28 p.m. - 1:08 p.m.

(01:10 p.m.)

**31. COMMISSIONER KNIGHT**

Stormwater information.

Staff Presenter: County Attorney Joshua Moye

Item submitted: A copy of a memo

01:15 p.m. Board Action: Authorized to acknowledge Steve Suau provided Stormwater report and use it as a tool when moving forward as a guiding document for Staff. Moved by Knight, seconded by Smith, carried by a 5-0 vote.

01:25 p.m. Board Action: Authorized to accept the document presented by Commissioner Knight at this meeting and Chair Neunder's email and bring back to the Board for discussion at the May 21, 2025, Stormwater Workshop. Moved by Knight, seconded by Smith, carried by a 5-0 vote.

(01:08 p.m.)

**32. COMMISSIONER CUTSINGER**

Englewood CRA - Englewood Artists Area Improvements Project.

Item submitted: A copy of a memo

01:10 p.m. Board Action: Requested that the County Administrator pause the Englewood Artists Area Improvement Project. Moved by Cutsinger, seconded by Neunder, carried by a 5-0 vote.

(01:26 p.m.)

**33. CHAIR NEUNDER**

Chair Neunder commented on stormwater.

Staff Presenter: County Administrator Jonathan Lewis

01:28 p.m. Board Action: Requested that the County Administrator bring back to the Board a review of current and future thoroughfares. Moved by Neunder, seconded by Mast, carried by a 5-0 vote.

(01:41 p.m.)

**34. ADMINISTRATION**

Outstanding Board Assignments.

(01:41 p.m.)

**35. ADMINISTRATION**

Board Meeting Schedule.

County Administrator Lewis commented on the renovation of the audio/visual equipment in the Robert L. Anderson Administration Center.

**DISCUSSION SECTION:**

(01:42 p.m.)

**36. COMMUNICATIONS**

To consider two to three policy topics for addition, and direct staff to work with the University of South Florida (USF) to include them in the 2025 Citizen Opinion Survey.

Staff Presenter: Communications Director Jamie Carson

Public Presenter: Dr. Joshua Scacco

(01:59 p.m.)

**37. OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

A. To provide Board direction on next steps for establishing Sarasota County's administration of its SHIP (State Housing Initiatives Program) program and funding;

- B. To authorize a public hearing on Ordinance No. 2025-013 amending Chapter 38, Article V, of the County Code, relating to the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program;
- C. To approve the submission of the Local Housing Assistance Plan for Fiscal Years 2026 through 2028, to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation for conditional review and approval;
- D. To authorize the County Administrator, or Designee, to take any additional administrative action required to further advance Sarasota County's establishment of its administration of its SHIP program and funds, independent of the City of Sarasota.

**Staff Presenter:** Office of Financial Management Program Management Division Manager Steve Hyatt

**02:21 p.m. Board Action:** Approved Items 39 B, C, and D. Moved by Mast, seconded by Cutsinger, carried by a 5-0 vote.

(02:21 p.m.)

**38. OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

- A. Presentation on the Resilient SRQ Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) final Action Plan for 2024 storms Debby, Helene, and Milton;
- B. To approve the Resilient SRQ CDBG-DR proposed programs and projects to incorporate into the final Action Plan for submission to HUD for 2024 storms Debby, Helene, and Milton.

**Staff Presenter:** Office of Financial Management Program Management Division Manager Steve Hyatt

**02:57 p.m. Board Action:** Approved the Final Action Plan as amended. Moved by Cutsinger, seconded by Mast, carried by a 5-0 vote.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS - PRESENTATIONS SCHEDULED:**

(02:58 p.m.)

**39. CAPITAL PROJECTS**

- A. (Not a public hearing.) To adopt a resolution, amending the Sarasota County Fiscal Year 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Program (Resolution No. 2024-145), to add the 2100 Main Street Property Purchase as Project No. 83340;
- B. (Public hearing) To adopt a resolution, Budget Amendment No. B2025-032, amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget to appropriate funding to Capital Improvement Program Project No. 83340, 2100 Main Street Property Purchase (\$4,870,000.00) and Operating Impacts (\$64,025.00) in the amount of \$4,934,025.00;
- C. (Not a public hearing.) To adopt a resolution authorizing execution of a Contract for Sale and Purchase with 2100 Main Sarasota, LLC, for the purchase of the property located at 2100 Main Street, Sarasota, in the amount of \$4,870,000.00, and authorizing the Chair, Vice Chair or County Administrator to execute the Contract for Sale and Purchase and authorizing the County Administrator or Designee to execute all documents necessary to complete the transaction.

Staff Presenters: Capital Projects Director Carolyn Eastwood, County Administrator Jonathan Lewis, County Attorney Joshua Moye, and Planning and Development Services Property Manager Justin Sago

Item submitted: A copy of a PowerPoint presentation

03:31 p.m. Board Action: Moved to approve Items 39.A., B., and C. Moved by Smith, seconded by Cutsinger, failed by a 3-2 vote; Neunder and Knight voted "No." (Note: This Item required a super majority vote by the Board.)

**Note: Oath/Signature Cards Filed for Record.**

(03:37 p.m.)

**40. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Valerie Buchand commented on storm damage funding in north Sarasota.

Alan Ezrin commented on flooding in Laurel Park.

(03:44 p.m.)

**41. OTHER BUSINESS - No Items were presented.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 3:48 p.m.

**MINUTES APPROVED:** 7/8/2025

