



Council Minutes

www.tbrpc.org

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June 8, 2015
10:00 a.m.

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Commissioner Victor Crist, Hillsborough County, Chair
Councilman Patrick Roff, City of Bradenton, Sec./Treasurer
Mayor David Archie, City of Tarpon Springs
Commissioner Betsy Benac, Alt, Manatee County
Councilwoman Yvonne Yolie Capin, City of Tampa
Mr. Jacob Cremer, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Councilman Jonathan Davis., City of Palmetto
Commissioner Carlos Diaz, City of Safety Harbor
Mr. Robert "Pete" Edwards, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Council Member Michael Fridovich, City of Gulfport
Council Member Hoyt Hamilton, City of Clearwater
Ms. Angeleah Kinsler, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Bruce Livingston, City of Dunedin
Commissioner Janet Long, Pinellas County
Councilor Bob Matthews, City of Seminole
Mayor Bob Minning, City of Treasure Island
Mr. John Neal, Manatee County Gubernatorial Appointee
Commissioner Gail Neidinger, City of South Pasadena
Councilwoman Darden Rice, City of St. Petersburg
Mr. Frank Rygiel, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Tim Schock, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Robert Sebesta, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Scott Sheridan, Hillsborough County Gubernatorial Appointee
Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Ms. Kelly Bishop, Ex-officio, FDEP
Mr. Waddah Farah, Alt., Ex-officio, FDOT
Mr. David Dunbar, SWFWMD

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Mayor Woody Brown, City of Largo, Vice Chair
Commissioner Scott Black, City of Dade City
Council Member Bob Boss, City of Temple Terrace
Mr. Nick DiCeglie, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee
Vice Mayor Bill Dodson, City of Plant City
Commissioner Rick Falkenstein, City of St. Pete Beach
Mr. Mike Moore, Pasco County Gubernatorial Appointee
Mr. Andy Núñez, Pinellas County Gubernatorial Appointee, Past Chair
Deputy Mayor Bill Phillips, City of New Port Richey
Council Member Eric Seidel, City of Oldsmar
Commissioner Kathryn Starkey, Pasco County
Councilman Ed Taylor, City of Pinellas Park

OTHERS PRESENT

Kimberly Nichols, City of Safety Harbor
Brigid Gash, Account Management Specialist, Florida Blue
Joan Alewine, R.N., Health Promotions Regional Manager, Florida Blue

Trisha Neasman, Planner, SWFWMD
Tom Aderhold, Veterans Council of Hillsborough County
Dave Braun, Veterans Council of Hillsborough County
Rick MacAnley, City Planner, City of St. Petersburg
Don Mastry, Attorney
Will Augustine, Planner, Hillsborough County Planning Council

STAFF PRESENT

Manny Pumariega, Executive Director
Don Conn, Legal Counsel
Maya Burke, Senior Planner
Lori Denman, Recording Secretary
Randy DeShazo, Principal Planner
Marshall Flynn, GIS Director
Wren Krahl, Director of Administration/Public Information
John Meyer, Principal Planner
Brady Smith, Principal Planner
Beth Williams, Accounting Manager
Avera Wynne, Planning Director

Call to Order – Chair Crist

The June 8, 2015 meeting of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) was called to order at 10:13 a.m. A quorum was present.

Voting Conflict Report – None

The invocation was given by Council Member Hoyt Hamilton, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chair Crist: One of our long-standing members and Past Chair, Larry Bustle from Manatee County, had a stroke and has been in the hospital. He's on the mend and is stable but it will take a while before he will be back in the saddle. Our thoughts and prayers are with him. Commissioner Betsy Benac is present today as his alternate. Commissioner Bustle has been a very valuable part of this organization for a long time.

Public Comment:

Dave Braun, Veterans Council of Hillsborough County:

I'm here on behalf of the Veterans Memorial Park & Museum. In March we were awarded first place in two categories for the region. Those of us who had our nose to the grindstone didn't even realize that we were being looked at by our region and we are very proud of the award and we are very interested in learning more about the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. Myself and Mr. Aderhold are here to observe and thank you for the award. It means a lot to our project, it means a lot to Tampa and Hillsborough County and our region because we are building multi memorials dedicated to the fallen soldiers in Hillsborough County. They aren't just little simple memorials, they are not extravagant but appropriate. We have five more memorials going down by the end of this year, WWII next year and Afghanistan and the Civil War later next year. And then a bigger more elaborate 20,000 sq. ft. museum. I want to thank the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners for supporting us to the max, including funding and the region's look at us to thank us for what we are doing. There is one more award I would like to bring up in a couple of years and that would be the educational award knowing that there is a lot of criteria for that and a lot of competition but I think what we have here already is something that every school child, every college student, every adult and certainly the veterans of our region and state will appreciate what we're doing. I've been out there since 1991 and I've seen it progress and I just can't thank the Planning Council enough for recognizing our project. If you go to www.mymacdill.com you will see the whole story. It's an opportunity for citizens and veterans to share their stories on their relationship with our wonderful MacDill AFB. The website is very important for maybe a future grant and encroachment and different things that are very important to our base that the region needs to look at and help protect our base.

Chair Crist: The memorial park is off 301, not too far off I-4. There is a memorial to each of the major wars that we have fought in. There's additional memorabilia that are scattered throughout the park, and a small museum which in itself is very interesting. It's a surprise that we have something like this in our region.

Tom Aderhold, Veterans Council of Hillsborough County:

The reason I'm here today is two-fold. One is, I want to piggyback off Dave Braun. I'm the first Vice President of the Veterans Council of Hillsborough County. Please don't be misled by Hillsborough County. Our park/museum that they presented and Commissioner Crist described is a regional complex, a regional destination. We have positioned it so that it is not only regional within our four counties but also the state and the southeast region. Please come visit. You will walk away impressed with what we are doing. Since I have so many elected officials and other administrators from four counties here I also sit on the Citizens Core Council of Hillsborough County. For those who don't know the Citizen Core structure sits under FEMA. FEMA had gone around after 9/11 and gathered up all hometown programs that worked to mobilize communities, not just for disasters. It has 4-5 constituent programs and if your jurisdictions do not have a Citizen Core Council please investigate it. Go to the FEMA website, google Citizen Core Council and you will see that it literally supports and engages all levels of our communities, not just the response to emergencies. It funnels under the sheriff's office, we have neighborhood watches, we have medical reserve corps, fire reserve corps and community emergency response teams and all sorts of things that work throughout the year to keep our communities whole and integrated. One of the many things that all elected officials struggle with is getting good voter turnout. One of the things that we've done to mobilize that indirectly is being sure you have a web scattered throughout your communities to engage every level of your community's neighborhoods and family homes is something that makes a difference for their safety and security throughout the year. Come election day they're going to be mobilized because you mobilized those communities long before any election day. Thank you and please come visit our facility.

Motion to close the Public Comment portion of the agenda (Benac/Matthews)

Announcements:

Financial Affidavit You will find a form requiring your signature in your folders. This is a requirement by our auditors. It is a form verifying that you have filed your Financial Disclosure with your county's Supervisor of Election's office. Please take a moment to sign and return the affidavit to Lori Denman. The deadline for submitting the forms is July 31st. Thank you.

Hurricane Guides are available in the lobby. If you need additional guides please contact staff: brady@tbrpc.org or 727-570-5151 ext. 42.

Energy Summit:

Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd thanked Chair Crist for giving the opportunity to put the summit together on behalf of the TBRPC and thanked Council members who actively participated – Hoyt Hamilton was the Vice Chair. While a lot attended Ms. Todd stated she would have liked to see many others come as well. We were able to get the president of Duke Energy to speak to us and he answered questions. We had the president of Florida Solar Management, the gas companies – both TECO and Clearwater Gas, and several other corporate partners who helped us by subsidizing the conference. In addition to that, because of the composition of the Steering Committee we included not only representatives from the RPC but also citizen representatives and the Chair of the Pinellas County School Board. Because of the unusual conglomeration we ended up having 40 students participate in addition to the citizens and elected officials. We want to do that in the future and include the school board as well as cities and counties because this is our future as well as our current decision-makers. We had several wonderful speakers. Two Congressional Representatives – Congresswoman Castor and Congressman Jolly who spoke to the group. We had the General Consul of Germany who came and spoke about the various energy policies in Germany. We had

many other corporate people. I particularly want to tell you guys that though our staff is small they are wonderful. They worked so hard – Manny, Wren and Avera and Brady and Randy all pitched in to make certain that everything was picture perfect and I really appreciate everything they did. After Congresswoman Castor spoke she approached us and said, I hope you can do this next year. She serves on the federal energy policy committee for the U.S. and she said she would help us. We had a follow up meeting this past week with the Steering Committee and we are recommending that we will have an Energy Summit again, with an expanded vision, with the hope that we can get the State of Florida to have an energy policy that informs and allows our citizens to have options in their energy selection. We discussed a constitutional amendment though TBRPC does not take a position on any issue we still feel that everyone needs to be advised as to what our options are. Senate Brandes attended as well as Representative Dudley. It was a wonderful group of representatives.

Chair Crist: Ms. Todd, the work that you've done on behalf of this board is stellar. You represented us and this region for a long time and that experience really showed through with how well you were able to lead this effort. This is significant that this took place, and that it took place here, and that we were able to bring it here. On behalf of Florida, thank you very much.

Commissioner Long: As a result of the symposium it occurred to me that if we collectively came up with the top three or four issues that will impact our region for the next decade that we could be a real player and leader in our region by focusing on doing maybe three of these a year on those different subject matters. I was especially impressed with what we did a while ago on generational. I think that's critical in terms of, especially those of us that are public policy-makers because these issues are going to impact us in ways that we are not really focused on. I can think of several that come to my mind immediately that are really very important to me personally: Transportation and I know we have done a lot of regional things on transportation but given the failure of our initiative like Green Light and the upcoming Go Hillsborough, it might be timely to refocus our efforts along with our transit agencies like PSTA and HART and get some common ground on those things that we can all agree and collaborate on in order to move forward. There are some exciting things that are going on that are ripe for a broad, rich discussion. Another one would be Water. Water continues to be one of our most precious resources and a real focus on that and how we develop public policy to address that going forward could be very meaningful. And I would be remiss if I didn't add Climate Change, Global Warming, Rising Sea Level to put the regional planning Council once again on the map and maybe a larger focus in Tallahassee when we are working collaboratively and regionally on these important issues.

Chair Crist: Over our last 3 years there's been an effort here at this agency to collect ideas and make them a part of the agenda. At the end of my term we will be doing the same thing. We will have a workshop/brainstorming session on ideas, many of which you brought forward for the next Chair to consider as part of their agenda.

Mr. Schock: I want to commend Barbara for her leadership with the Energy Summit and I also want to commend staff as well because when I joined the Steering Committee we had our first meeting and then I found out when the Energy Summit was and I said to myself that there's no way that we are going to be able to pull off a summit of the magnitude that we were discussing in the timeframe we were talking about. It was a fantastic summit with great participation. We talked about having a follow up summit and are looking a year plus out. Even in the interim we can have possibly as Commissioner

Long was alluding to, even some smaller breakouts associated with that summit. I think those would be really positive. The speaker list was very impressive and this will be something that as a Council this is right in our wheelhouse. No one else is doing this sort of thing and no one really has the capability of pulling the entire region together for this type of summit.

Mr. Pumariega: A lot of folks approached me about doing this again next year. The president of Duke, Congressman Jolly and a lot of others are interested in keeping that discussion going. I want to also thank the staff for doing a great job, and the Chair and Co-Chair of the Steering Committee.

Commissioner Livingston: Just a brief comment. Ms. Todd you did a wonderful job emceeding the event and it was really refreshing to see a meaningful discussion about alternative energy and renewable energy sources. As Tim said, I think we were a little solar heavy but that gives us some room for future summits to expand the discussion about some of the other renewable energy sources. We brought our sustainability coordinator from the City of Dunedin and she came away with a great understanding about how much room and how far we have to grow as a region. I really enjoyed it.

Chair Crist: Mayor (Minning), I keep thinking about John's Pass and the tidal currents that go through that narrow pass and how a hydroelectric generation could help lower that tax base in Treasure Island and Madeira Beach. Hydro energy could be a big difference in Florida with the tidal changes, especially at the mouth of Tampa Bay and each of our passes. I look forward to future summits as well to generate thoughts and ideas.

Sec/Treas. Roff Before I start I would like to inform the Council that Commissioner Benac is filling in for Commissioner Bustle. Prior to being elected to the County Commission (Manatee) she was a very highly respected land planner.

1. **Approval of Minutes** – Councilman Roff, Sec./Treas.
Approved the minutes from the March 9, 2015 regular meeting. (Hamilton/Archie)
2. **Budget Committee** – Councilman Roff, Sec./Treas.
 - a. Approved the Financial Report for the period ending 3/31/15. (Minning/Todd)
 - b. Approved the Financial Report for the period ending 4/30/15. (Minning/Hamilton)
 - c. Initial Budget FY 2015-15
The Budget Committee previously met and was presented with the 2015/2016 Initial Budget. The overall budget decreased slightly more than \$135,000 from the FY 2015 Mid-Year budget. The major variations from the Mid-Year budget are as follows:

The Federal Revenue decreased \$60,000 primarily due to the Solar Ready Project Phase I and the Advanced Manufacturing Analysis Project will be completed in FY 15.

Fees and Contracts decreased \$320,000 due to the completion in FY 15 of the following projects: The Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy, The Evacuation Updates & GIS Technical Assistance Projects & The Broadband Planning Transition. In addition, the Medical Tourism and Basis 6 will mostly be completed in FY 15.

The Projects that are included in the Fees & Contracts category include: The Bay Journal, FDOT Public Education, Hurricane Guide, Economic Impact Analysis, Evacuation Updates and GIS, Medical Tourism and First Net.

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council Dues reflects a per capita rate of \$.32.

The Appropriated Fund Balance decreased \$12,000 which reflects the completion of several projects from FY15 and a reduction in personnel costs.

Motion to approve the FY 2015/2016 Initial Budget. (Minning/Todd)

3. Consent Agenda - Chair Crist

A. Budget and Contractual

1. Tampa Bay Estuary Program Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement

In 1990, the United States Environmental Protection Agency identified Tampa Bay as an estuary of Federal Significance and included it in the National Estuary Program. As a result of this designation, the Tampa Bay National Estuary Program was established in 1991 to assist the region in developing a comprehensive plan for the restoration and protection of Tampa Bay.

In 1998, the members of the original effort decided to continue the program through an Interlocal Agreement and formed the TBEP (dropping the Federal designation) as a partnership of federal, state, and local agencies and governments. The Interlocal Agreement identified a long-term commitment to the program, including annual funding for the program. In May 2014, the TBEP Policy Board approved an updated financing strategy, which proposed to increase the annual contributions by each funding entity for support of operating and project costs.

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is listed as a Party to the Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement. The Council is not identified as a Funding Entity and no funds are obligated as a result of approving and executing the agreement.

Action Recommended: Motion to approve the Tampa Bay Estuary Program Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement authorize Executive Director to sign agreement as appropriate.

Additional Information: TBEP Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement
Staff contact: Maya Burke, ext. 40

2. Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) District VIII Contract.

Since the 1988 passage of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA), which created Local Emergency Planning Committees and the State Emergency Response Commission, the Tampa Bay LEPC had operated under a basic annual contract between the FDEM (formerly DCA) and the TBRPC. Again, for this upcoming year, a contract between FDEM and the TBRPC for LEPC operations has been offered. The annual Scope of Work and funding level for the LEPC will increase slightly from \$40,909 (for FY 2014-15) to \$48,000 (for FY 2015-16), in part, due to the recent addition of Hernando & Citrus Counties to the Tampa Bay LEPC District.

Action Recommended: Motion to authorize the Chair to sign the LEPC contract with FDEM for FY 2015-16.

Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

3. Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Sub-grant Program Contract

It is anticipated that the TBRPC will, again, be awarded a federally-funded Subgrant from the U.S. Department of Transportation Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) through the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) for FY 2015-16. It is envisioned that this year's allocation will be in an amount of \$92,633 (i.e. \$61,776 for

Training & \$30,857 for Planning project). This constitutes an increase from \$79,313 (i.e. \$57,313 for Training & \$22,000 for Planning project) received in FY 2014-15. The anticipated 14.5 percent increase in appropriations is attributable to additional planning and training efforts forthcoming as a result of addition of Hernando & Citrus Counties into the Tampa Bay LEPC District. The subgrant period will range from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016. The FY 2015-16 LEPC Planning project will be the conduct of a regional exercise involving the simulated release of an extremely hazardous substance(s) affecting multiple jurisdictions and disciplines, as obligated semi-annually, although the particular scenario has yet to be developed/established. Quarterly Reports will continue to be provided to the FDEM as contractually obligated.

Action Recommended: Motion to authorize the Chair to sign the HMEP Subgrant agreement with FDEM for 2015-16.

Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

4. Hazards Analyses (HA) Contract.

Each year, the Counties have first option to conduct or subcontract the Hazards Analyses of fifty percent (50%) of all Section 302 hazardous materials facilities within their jurisdictions. This includes the all four prior Tampa Bay LEPC Counties (i.e. Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco & Pinellas Counties). Section 302 facilities possess concentrations of extremely hazards materials in excess of the thresholds established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The remaining 50% of facilities are typically assessed every other year on a rotational basis. While Hernando & Citrus Counties have recently been added to the jurisdiction of the Tampa Bay LEPC, Hernando County had relied on their respective LEPC to conduct the analyses. That provision will continue with the Tampa Bay LEPC. Nine facilities within Hernando County will be assessed for FY 2015-16 for a contracted amount of \$2,666. It is anticipated that the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council will subcontract out this workload and corresponding requirements/responsibilities to a person (or entity) more familiar with the program.

Action Recommended: Motion to authorize the Chair to sign the HA Contract with FDEM for FY 2015-16.

Staff Contact: John Meyer, ext. 29

B. Intergovernmental Coordination & Review (IC&R) Program

1. IC&R Summary by Jurisdiction – April/May 2015
2. IC&R Reviews – April/May 2015

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29 or johnm@tbrpc.org

C. DRI Development Order Reports (DOR)

DRI # 271 – Robinson Gateway, Manatee County [report attached](#)

Action Recommended: Approve staff report.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29 or johnm@tbrpc.org

D. DRI Development Order Amendment Reports (DOAR)

1. DRI # 108 – Hidden River Corporate Park, City of Tampa
2. DRI # 255 – Bexley Ranch, Pasco County

Action Recommended: Approve staff reports.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29 or johnm@tbrpc.org

E. Notice of Proposed Change Reports (NOPC)

Due to statutory and contractual requirements, the following report has been transmitted to the State Land Planning Agency and all relevant review agencies in accordance with Rule 29H-1.003(3), F.A.C

DRI # 157 – Trinity Communities, Pasco County

Action Recommended: Approve staff report.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29 or johnm@tbrpc.org

F. Annual Report Summaries (ARS) / Biennial Report Summaries (BRS)

1. DRI # 129 – Seven Oaks, RYs 2012-14 BRS, Pasco County
2. DRI # 170 – Westfield Citrus Park Mall, RY 2014-15, Hillsborough County
3. DRI # 197 – Gregg Business Center, RY 2014-15 ARS, City of Plant City
4. DRI # 211 – Meadow Pointe, RY 2013-14 ARS, Pasco County

Action Recommended: Approve staff reports.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29 or johnm@tbrpc.org

G. DRI Status Report

Action Recommended: None. Information Only.

Staff contact: John Meyer, ext. 29 or johnm@tbrpc.org

H. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)

Due to statutory and contractual requirements, the following reports have been transmitted to the State Land Planning Agency and the appropriate local government in accordance with Rule 29H-1.003(3), F.A.C. No Report is prepared for adopted amendments that do not require Council comments.

1. DEO # 15-1ESR, City of South Pasadena
2. DEO # 15-2ESR, City of St. Petersburg
3. DEO # 15-1ESR, City of Zephyrhills
4. DEO # 15-2 ESR, City of Plant City
5. DEO # 15-6ESR, Pasco County

Action Recommended: Approve staff report(s)

Staff contact: Brady Smith, ext. 42 or brady@tbrpc.org

I. Local Government Comprehensive Plan Amendments (LGCP)

The following report(s) are presented for Council action:

1. DEO # 15-1ESR, City of Tarpon Springs
2. DEO # 15-3ESR, City of St. Petersburg

Action Recommended: Approve staff report(s)

Staff contact: Brady Smith, brady@tbrpc.org or ext. 42

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. (Rice/Matthews)

4. Item(s) Removed from the Consent Agenda and Addendum Item(s) - None

Council members shall notify the Chair of any items they wish to be pulled from the Consent Agenda. These items will be discussed and voted on separately after the remainder of the Consent Agenda is approved.

5. Review Item(s) or Any Other Item(s) for Discussion – None

6. City of Safety Harbor Wellness Programs

Ms. Kimberly Nicholls, Human Resource Director provided a presentation on creating active wellness programs/initiatives by partnering with local health facilities in order to reduce claims, to improve the overall health of employees and retirees while reducing overall health insurance premiums.

The initiatives I will talk about today I put forth mostly at the City of Largo. Safety Harbor is at the beginning stages of creating an active wellness program. United Health Care and Humana offer these types of partnerships. A copy of the presentation was distributed.

Why create a wellness program? What is the benefit? The American Journal of Health Promotion reports that with an active wellness program there is a 27% reduction in sick leave absenteeism; 26% reduction in health care costs; and 32% reduction in workers' compensation and disability management cost claims. Although we don't talk a lot about workers' compensation as it relates to wellness programs that is a cost that can be brought down based on an active wellness program, not just about the healthcare premium and the claims portion of it. There is about a 2 for 1 savings for every \$1 spent but some folks are reporting it is as high as \$5. That is about how much money you save if you have an active wellness program in your organization.

How much will be saved annually? The University of Michigan Health Management Research Center estimated that there are savings of \$350 annually when a low-risk employee remains low risk; and a savings of \$153 annually when a high-risk employee's health risks are reduced. I'm talking to employees about stress management, about weight management, and about the things they can control and provide them the resources they need in order to stay healthy and stay in that low risk category. When the market tanked several years ago wellness was probably on the chopping block in most of your organizations but keep in mind there are ways that you can implement an active wellness program without a lot of money and that's what the City of Safety Harbor is doing. I have enough money to get it going, I have enough to keep those low-risk folks at low risk and then I have enough to get some of the high risk down to low risk. The low risk people are easy because you are constantly talking to them about getting care, getting flu shots, weight control and stress management. The ones that are high risk, those are my projects.

What's in it for employees? Employee buy in is the key. There are some folks that want nothing to do with what I have to say. I have one individual in the public works department and when I first started I made changes to the health care by going from one provider to another and the city decided to change the contribution rates so the family plan increased slightly, about \$40 a pay. That employee completely hated me for making that change. He became my project and after we went onto the new plan he came into my office to thank me for the benefits. He had a \$20 co-pay for skin cancer issues and having a lot removed. He was out of work for 6 weeks and it cost him \$20 where it would have cost him \$100 on the prior plan. He saw that savings even though \$40 was being taken out of his paycheck every 2 weeks. Overall he saved because the co-insurance would have been high. With the wellness initiative we are pushing people to get those skin cancer screenings, pushing them to practice healthy ways, that's all encompassing of having an active wellness program. The employee benefits from being healthy and we're giving them what they need to address and maintain personal wellness. We're giving them those handouts. For those of you who didn't know, June is men's health month. Time for that colonoscopy, time to check your blood pressure. I will be that face in the workplace for stress management. Stress is huge, it's that one we don't see. Our employees go through things and that healthy work/life balance must be important to an employer in order to have productive employees. No, if they are having marital problems we aren't going to sit the two of them down and counsel them. We're not going to pay their mortgage if they're in foreclosure and we aren't going to take care of kid issues, but we can certainly give them the resources that they need.

Organizational commitment and management buy-in is paramount. We are getting ready in Safety Harbor to do a large health fair in September. We are partnering with Diagnostic Clinic and Florida Blue. It's not just the City of Safety Harbor or Florida Blue, it's any provider, any community, and we reached out to the Diagnostic Clinic because they are a part of Safety Harbor's community. They happen to be a part of Largo's community and I've worked with them in the past. During our health fair they sent out 10-12 different doctors – ophthalmologists, skin cancer screenings, orthopedic. Employees come in and talk about it. Go have your bio-metric screening done, blood pressure, and you can go right to a Diagnostic Clinic's staff person and make an appointment if you don't have a doctor. These are the things that we can do in order to make that awareness. Management buy-in is paramount. We have to have the buy-in of not only the top management but our supervisors. If an employee has high blood pressure makes that appointment the supervisor has to let them go, let them be healthy because if you don't down the road it affects you as an organization.

Where do I start? The very first step for a wellness initiative is to conduct a health risk appraisal. You have to know what the needs of your group are. Just because blood pressure is a hot topic doesn't mean that's what will satisfy the needs of your employees and then design the program in accordance of the results of the health risk appraisal. Effective marketing, motivation and incentives. I put out a Wellness Book every month to our employees. I get it from our wellness health insurance provider. You need to pull in your resources that are available to you and give them out to your employees. The latest talks about not just health, but also gives tips like kitchen sponges – how long can you leave a sponge in your sink? After a week you should throw it away or put it in the microwave. It's not just about health. There's lots of free stuff, there are balloons, food and it's a good time. But it's not going to work if they sit down and have a screening and they have high sugar, low sugar, blood pressure issues. That's the key to get them to take care of whatever needs they have. Most of us don't have a lot of money to spend on wellness. The key is partnering and pulling in resources. It doesn't cost anything to bring Diagnostic Clinic in. It doesn't cost me anything to bring the wellness component of my healthcare provider. Bringing them in and partnering with them is a good benefit. Currently we are partnering with Diagnostic Clinic to provide screening so not only do we do the health fair once a year but every month we focus on something. One month we do skin cancer screenings, one month we do flu shots, one month we will do blood pressure. Then we partner with the healthcare provider. The wellness committee promotes employee participation and involvement.

How to keep it going? What engages employees at first may not work effectively past that time; change and new incentives keep employees interested. We all know that if you keep them healthy, if you keep them happy they have that work place balance and in the end the reality of it is it's about reducing claims; improving the overall health of employees and retirees; and reduces overall health insurance premiums.

Brigid Gash, Account Management Specialist with Florida Blue talked about the partnership with the City of Safety Harbor. Why is Florida Blue here talking about a Diagnostic Clinic? What we have done with the City of Largo and the City of Safety Harbor is focused on bringing providers and insureds together.

In 1969 Diagnostic Clinic was established by four physicians. Their goal was to make sure that the amount of expenses that people were spending at a hospital could somehow be reduced and by providing a one-stop medical health – one building where you could go to get your imaging to see if you needed a specialist. The Diagnostic Clinic, located in the Palms, Largo, began. In 2012 Florida Blue recognized their mission and how they wanted to help the community and bring the connection between the insurer and the provider, so they became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Florida Blue in December 2012. With that being said we really wanted to focus on how we could bring a diagnostic clinic into these health fairs, into these groups that we currently have. There are currently five locations in Pinellas County and their main goal is to focus on preventative care and care management. With these providers the partnership we have with Diagnostic Clinic, with these committees, is to bring these providers on site for a health fair so that employees can speak with a professional, maybe they don't want to go see a doctor at the doctor's office. They also offer screenings. Just for the City of Largo alone we had bone density screenings, skin cancer screenings, these were all free to employees. Vision, hearing screenings and many people that saw providers that day were able to schedule an appointment on the same day or immediate scheduling within a two week period to be seen by either the physician that they saw at the health fair or by another physician. This is an opportunity to get in with priority scheduling to be seen. We just want to keep the employees engaged and felt that the best way to do that was to almost create a pop-up doc shop. Bring the providers to the group. We are also looking into developing programs with the City of Safety Harbor to allow for a monthly wellness engagement and education, to have diagnostic come on-site to provide certain programs, to let somebody speak with a nutritionist, to let someone speak with a neurologist or physical therapist. We are currently working on that process as well to keep

wellness going past the health fair, to keep employees engaged monthly and to be able to feel comfortable to speak with a provider on a monthly basis.

Questions & Comments:

Commissioner Benac: You said this was for employees?

Ms. Gash: Yes. The employee for the City of Safety Harbor. But again, diagnostic is just rolling this out. There are other cities – you don't have to have Florida Blue. It's a great thing to bring the engagement to each city, group, municipality.

Councilwoman Rice: This is great. Could you clarify again – who was Diagnostic originally owned by?

Ms. Gash: Four physicians started it. Dr. Rivenbark is one of them. He's still the President of Diagnostic Clinic. Unfortunately they could not be here today, but this is a program that we've been working on since January 2014 to bring the clinic to the employees. Just in the first year alone, in 2014, we had 20 new patient appointments scheduled in that first 2 week period just from having them at their employers site.

Ms. Joan Alewine, RN, Health Promotions Regional Manager, Florida Blue talked about the partnership that Florida Blue creates called Better You From Blue. The program has been in place for ten years. Ms. Alewine is the regional manager of that program and has a team of nurses, health educators, program managers, data analysis that work with her on that team. Their goal is to support the employer groups that are under their health plan. Their territory covers from Collier County up to Citrus County and the team is on the road quite a bit. They work with groups of many sizes, as small as 50 employees up to 10,000 employees. they come into the organization and partner with them to provide the services that they would need from their worksite wellness program. The current outlook on health and wellness – 67% of Americans are currently overweight or obese. Of that percentage a ½ have high cholesterol. One in four has high blood pressure. And the average American has several of the five risk factors that contribute to chronic diseases. If we continue on our current path, health care expenditures are expected to reach \$4.1 trillion by 2016. Out of those people what we are looking at are the numerous risk factors that are associated with those diseases. When we are looking at risk factors we are looking at things like those that are overweight or obese, those that have high blood pressure, high cholesterol, don't exercise enough, don't eat healthy. They smoke or use tobacco products. The goal of my team is to come in and identify those people and then in turn help them to live a healthier life style so in turn we can help to lower the medical expenditures.

How do we do it? Better You from Blue has many resources. We have registered nurses on our team, our health educator who organizes programs, but we can't do it without knowing the data. Our program is now Better You from Blue in a box. Our program is going into an organization and assessing the needs of that organization and then building the program based on what the current risk factors are. We start by doing the bio-metric screening and the health risk assessment or personal health assessment. We go on-site to the organization and we do the health screenings right there at their worksite. When we're there we do a finger stick and we check your total cholesterol, the healthy cholesterol, and the ratio between them, your blood glucose, we do your height and weight and we check your blood pressure. We have you fill out a personal health assessment at the time and when you finish filling out that personal health assessment we scan your results right there at the screening event, and within 10 seconds you have a four page wellness report and then you meet with a health coach to go over those results. We provide a lot of educational materials so based on your result we were able to give you those resources right there to help you. We also at the time of the screening do immediate triage on individuals that have what we consider critical values. If you

come through the health screening and you have blood pressure greater than 160 over 100, we consider that to be a critical value. We have registered nurses on site that meet with you and we assess what your need is. We call ambulances, we'll get you to an emergency room, a walk-in clinic, we'll call the doctor. What we've done with the City of Largo and when we do the City of Safety Harbor is referring you directly to Diagnostic Clinic so they can get you an immediate appointment with a physician, if you don't already have a physician. We triage you right there on site and then we follow up with you within a few days to see how you are doing. The health coaching is done on-site. We have your results in front of you and a lot of people come in and say they don't know what all this means. We are there to explain those results and make sure that you do understand and know where to go for additional help if you need it. After the health screening event we then pull together aggregate reporting for the group and come back out to the organization to go over those results. Then we look at a variety of educational programs that we can implement to help touch on the top risk factors. What we are seeing everywhere we go these days is diabetes is right at the top. When we look at risk for diabetes we're not just looking at your blood sugar. We're looking at your age, your activity level and your weight. If you're over the age of 40, overweight or obese, and you're physically inactive, you are at risk for diabetes. We partner with the YMCA, they have a diabetes prevention program that we are able to offer. It's a 16 week program that we will then be able to then bring into the city to help their employees that are at risk for diabetes but may not be aware or have never been diagnosed.

One of the things that Kim talked about was how paramount it is to have that senior level support. Our team partners with the Wellness Council of America (WELCOA) and all of our team have been put through well workplace consultant training and our program really is built on the foundation of a proven evidenced based approach by going through 7 benchmarks. When we look at 1 we say we have to have senior level support in order to be successful. Then we work with the organization to build a cohesive wellness committee because one person cannot do it. We have come into an organization in the past where we worked with one HR person or a benefits coordinator and they try and do their job in addition to wellness and it's just not successful. We do help them to build that wellness committee. We collect the data not only through the personal health assessment, but we can assess the claims data, we do insurance surveys to find out exactly what the employees are interested in because we're not going to put programs into place at the city that the employees are not going to come to. We do the insurance survey to get the employees' involvement. We help them to draft their operating plan – what are your goals for your wellness program? How are you going to move forward with your program and what do you anticipate you're going to see in four, six or eight months or a year? We also work on putting the interventions into place and the supportive environment. We want to make sure that when people are at work they have an opportunity to take a break and to do a walk around their facility or fitness centers nearby that they can access. If you have cafeterias we make sure you have healthy options and it could be anything simple like looking at your vending machine and seeing where your food items are placed in the vending machine because people are going to purchase what's at eye level. We want to work with them in order to come up with creative ways to help them be successful in their environment. Then we evaluate the outcomes. After a year we come back and do another health screening, we assess the data again and see if we were successful. We have programs for our individual members so when we've identified what your needs are we do have an outreach of our registered nurses to work with them. We offer a variety of health education programs on-site. We also have web-based programs and as we progress through year over year we do offer an incentive based program where you can earn points for doing healthy behaviors and those points would then equal an incentive. We do have the capability of building the program so that we can then reward people for making those healthier choices.

Questions & Comments:

Mayor Minning: All the talks today were about the employees. Many of the employee's families are also covered. You screen the employees, what do you do about the rest?

Ms. Alewine: We offer screening for the employee's with over 18 year old dependent as long as they're covered on the health plan. We do know that the family members typically incur higher claims than the employee themselves. We do want to make sure we assess the spouses or 18 and older dependents and then we incorporate them into our programs also.

Commissioner Diaz: About a year ago the City of Safety Harbor was going through their budgets and like everything else we want to process everything to everybody – merit increases, health insurance services and of course some of that always has to give. Kim came in and was able to implement these programs and also bring in a co-insurance program which lowered Safety Harbor's premiums. And with that money we were able to give our employees merit increases. Now we have happy employees with the increase in salaries, you have great services, and people involved are actually caring about their health and we are able to control our costs. Kim has done an outstanding job for us in innovating the City of Safety Harbor to combat the constant rise of health insurance premiums.

Commissioner Livingston: Kim, have you had the program in place long enough to see results?

Ms. Nichols: No, not yet. I haven't been in my position long enough but I will tell you that the City of Largo' results have been tremendous.

Council presentations can be found at
http://www.tbrpc.org/council_members/council_presentations.shtml

Council Member Comments

- 8. A. Legislative Committee – Commissioner Black, Chair**
Mr. Don Conn, Legal Counsel presented the Legislative Report.

As we know the Legislature adjourned the 2015 regular session without passing a budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1st. The Special Session is now underway to address the budget as well as some tax exemptions or reductions that the Governor has requested. There is little likelihood that any bills of interest to the RPCs will be addressed in the Special Session.

The Major Bill Affecting the RPCs was passed

SB-1216 which was approved by the Governor and can now be cited as Chapter 2015-30, Laws of Florida:

This new law eliminates one Regional Planning Council and assigns Citrus and Hernando Counties to the TBRPC. Beginning on January 1, 2016 the Governor can review and update the boundaries of the various RPCs that are established in this act.

Many RPC responsibilities are removed including: (1) the requirement to offer a dispute resolution program; (2) the requirement for the RPCs to make an annual joint report to the Legislature; (3) the requirement that an RPC notify a local government if it does not receive a biennial report from a developer related to a development of regional impact; (4) the requirement that an RPC prepare a report regarding the impacts of a proposed electrical power plant and its consistency with the strategic regional policy plan; (5) the requirement that RPCs review urbanized

area transportation plans and any MPO plans; and (6) the requirement that RPCs assist local governments that are not part of a metropolitan area transportation planning process in the development of the transportation element of their comprehensive plans.

In addition, this new law also: (1) exempts developments from the DRI process if they are in a connected-city corridor that is identified in a local comprehensive plan; (2) and authorizes the state coordinated review process for large developments; (3) names Pasco County as a pilot community that may adopt connected-city corridor plan amendments; and (4) allows a conservation easement to be based on aerial photos without the need for a survey.

Other bills of interest that passed include:

SB-1094 which was approved by the Governor and can now be cited as Chapter 2015-69, Laws of Florida:

This new law amends flood insurance legislation passed the 2014 Session to create a type of flood insurance called “flexible flood insurance,” which is defined as coverage for the peril of flood that may include water intrusion coverage, includes or excludes specified provisions, and requires that flexible flood policies must be acceptable to a mortgage lender if such policy, contract, or endorsement is intended to satisfy a mortgage requirement.

SB-778 which was approved by the Governor and can now be cited as Chapter 2015-63, Laws of Florida:

This new law prohibits local ordinances and regulations from granting certain local preferences if state funds are used pay for 50% or more of construction costs.

Many bills of interest did not pass including:

SB-86 by Senator Bean – [Medical Tourism] This Bill would have required Enterprise Florida, Inc., to collaborate with the Department of Economic Opportunity to market this state as a health care destination.

HB-7067 by House Economic Development and Tourism Subcommittee and Rep. La Rosa – [Economic Development Incentives] This Bill would have modified the economic development incentive tax refund and grant program and create a new state administered enterprise zone certification program. In addition, the Bill would have creates a new approval process for performance-based cash incentive programs; exempted certain new developments from having to comply with impact fee, concurrency, or proportionate share requirements for transportation impacts for three years; and extended and renewed certain permit extensions previously authorized by the Legislature.

HB-7003 by House State Affairs Committee – [Water Policy Revisions] This Bill would have increased emphasis on public-private partnerships with landowners for conservation efforts, included springs protection incentives, required establishment of springs protection zones, and would have streamlined statewide permitting and regulation by the water management districts.

Questions & Comments:

Mr. Pumariega: At the end of the regular session the Senate has \$200,000 and the House has zero as far as the RPCs appropriation. I received some emails last night that the House Transportation Economic Development conferees offered \$2.5 million to the Senate. The Senate Transportation Economic Development conferees countered with \$1 million. Our legislative team in Tallahassee

are working on trying to get us up to the \$2.5 million. I will keep you posted.

Commissioner Long: It might behoove those of us who have relationships with Senator Latvala or Senator Brandes to touch basis with them and explain how important the issue is.

Mr. Pumariega: Thank you for mentioning the two in the Senate. On the house side I believe the only one we have from our region is Representative Kathleen Peters and she is a former member of the Council.

- B. Agency on Bay Management (ABM) – Mayor Minning, Chair**
A summary was distributed in Council folders. The next meeting is June 11th, to be followed by a luncheon to honor Jan Platt and Rick Garrity as “Champions of the Bay.” All are welcome to attend.
- C. Local Emergency Planning Committee – No Report**
- D. Emergency Management**
Motion to approve Resolution #2015-01 declaring June as Hurricane Awareness Month in the Tampa Bay region. (Matthews/Long)
- E. Courtney Campbell Scenic Highway Corridor Advisory Committee**
Construction on the Pinellas portion of the Courtney Campbell Trail will be completed in June and a ribbon cutting will take place on Monday, June 22nd at 9:30 a.m. All are welcomed to attend.
- F. Medical Tourism Initiative**
Chair Crist stated the Council is being pro-active in doing an assessment of our region and an assessment of what resources we have available, where we stand on a local, statewide, national and global market competitiveness and looking at how we can step into a more aggressive approach in developing business and competing for state and federal dollars. Our tourism boards have to face other markets that have strong political clout but if they have no data or science to back their claims it makes it far more difficult for them to step in front of our region if we have done our homework. To that end we have asked staff to send out an RFP and we have had a number of applicants submit proposals. The committee went through the proposals and have ranked them and staff will provide a report on that process and we will be looking for a motion to move forward.

Mr. Randy DeShazo provided a report. The Board authorized this action back in March. The RFPs were due by May 15th and we convened a group of reviewers to take a look at the different firms and rank them using a scoring matrix that we developed. The reviewers came from both county government, the tourism bureau, and some in-house staff. There are four firms and the overall scoring of the firm shows that we were able to identify a top ranked firm, a second ranked firm, and so on. We identified Medical Tourism Training as the top ranked firm and Medical Travel Quality Alliance is the second rank. We are looking for authorization to go forward and continue to negotiate with the top ranked firm.

Questions & Discussion:

Commissioner Benac: I asked our county administrator not being aware of our position – our board has not taken a position on this issue. I will not be able to support his because my board has not given us the authority to do so.

- Commissioner Long: And while Pinellas County is very interested in this project it hasn't come before our County Commission yet because we are waiting for what the TDC (Tourist Development Council) does and then a discussion that I just happened to overhear is that there is some conversation going on with regard to – well, after the proposal why are we starting a pilot project, why are we working on a study? Why don't we just use that money to start a pilot program? It seems like the study is going to come out and tell us exactly what we all heard here anyway.
- Chair Crist: The purpose is to look at the region as a whole. Up until now it's been a shooting match by whoever happens to have the gun to shoot with and it's been about self-serving, one entity going after whatever they can get for themselves, there's been no uniform effort. There's been no collective effort. The market and the industry is evolving. It's no longer on a small scale, it's now a global scale. You have countries that have direct access to us like Panama. You have direct flights to Tampa who are trying to build a retirement market and attract retirees to retire there but don't have the medical infrastructure to sustain it and are looking to partner with other countries who have it so they can send their business abroad for services. Health care in general is changing and the providers, the insurance providers, the groups that we knew as local groups are now becoming global groups and what will happen in the future is our successors and our children and our grandchildren will be going long distances for scheduled health services because the services are either better outcomes, lower costs, or cultivated markets. It's a whole new way of thinking and what we're trying to do is show the wellness of this agency as a collective body of all of our parts in coming together to look at the strength of our region because our region is so much stronger than any one of us singularly.
- Commissioner Long: And your comments just now, I wish I had them recorded. They would make a great argument for what I just said.
- Chair Crist: John Morroni has them and should have presented them.
- Commissioner Long: And maybe he will at the TDC meeting. I'm giving you the reasons why we aren't in a position today to bless this moving forward.
- Chair Crist: Let me share with you – we're not paying for it. Hillsborough County has put up \$75,000.
- Commissioner Long: They have the check but they're not writing it out until we (Pinellas County) agree to come forward with a match.
- Chair Crist: And Pinellas Commission has sent it to the Pinellas TDC (Tourist Development Council) and on the 17th Manny, John Morroni and I are going to be presenting to the TDC for their \$75,000 support. Pasco County has stepped up to the plate and has pledged \$25,000 from the private money that they have raised. Manatee County, we had heard from staff, has sat back and said that at this point they haven't wanted to move forward so we have basically \$175,000 to move forward with on doing this assessment and feasibility study

which will enable us to step ahead of the other cities, counties, regions in the state for federal and state funding once these dollars are appropriated. The longer we wait the less of a chance we will have at being in the front of the line.

- Commissioner Diaz: Why don't we just go forth and make a marketing plan?
- Commissioner Crist: What's happening now is Moffit's doing their thing, Tampa General is doing their thing, All Children's is doing their thing. Dr. Gillis and his facility is doing their thing – each one is just focusing on their business. With the globalization changing and countries now stepping up to the plate, cities and counties are going to follow suit. Right now we have local networks – they're going to change in the next ten years. They're going to be regional/national networks. What this does is it takes a broader picture of our region, our four county area, and all that's in it and see how we collectively stand. Where are our strengths? Where are our weaknesses? Where can we compete? Where should we focus our resources?
- Commissioner Diaz: If it's a marketing plan you just go out and get it done and go forward.
- Chair Crist: It would be up to each local jurisdiction to do their own marketing but what this does is it gives them the data.
- Sec./Treas. Roff: Florida Trend magazine's latest issue was focused on higher education in the state and the Tampa Bay area is well represented in that and much of the emphasis for higher education is geared toward medical. This is the future for our region.
- Chair Crist: We fought very hard at the state level each year our budget has been zero funded and it's because there's a lack of concern for this agency. They don't really see a relevance for us and honestly they would like to shut us down because they see no relevance and the truth is there's a tremendous amount of potential here. This is like a localized Senate. This is all the governments coming together as one board and part of what we do is good and the other part of what we do is we're not doing it and what we need to start doing is identifying where we could do more with what we have collectively as a region. This is kind of the beginning of that and there are dollars that could be gone after with an assessment like this that would able Pinellas Tourism Council or Hillsborough's Tourism Council or Manatee's Tourism Council or Pasco's Tourism Council to go after the advertising and marketing monies that they need and to step ahead of Jacksonville and Orlando which are ahead of us because they have stronger legislative delegations. Jacksonville just got \$200,000 for this. And they had nothing to back it up. It would be hard for them to compete if they don't have the science to say this is the strength of our market, this is what it would mean for our region, and this is how the state could benefit, and here's the science and the data to back it up.
- Mayor Archie: Did you say \$75,000 from Hillsborough? The other dollars will come from Pinellas but they're waiting on the TDC approval. What happens with this contract if the Pinellas TDC says no?

Chair Crist: Then there's no contract. It's all contingent upon

Mayor Archie: The reason I said that is I assume you're looking for authorization to move forward so if it's not going to happen – is it possible to approve this contract contingent upon Pinellas and the TDC saying yes. I have to leave in a few minutes and it seems like we're stuck and by saying that this is approved contingent upon Pinellas and the TDC approving.

Chair Crist: There's no contract. We're not asking for approval of a contract, we're asking just to continue negotiations so that we're ready to contract when and if the money is appropriated.

Commissioner Benac: I would like to clarify that I did ask the question and that I did get feedback from our CVB folks and they said that there was a survey done in conjunction with our chamber and that only two out of 35 of the medical interests surveyed had any interest in this at all. So that's why we're not supporting it, we're not taking it to our TDC because there isn't interest. That's why. We have asked the question and there hasn't been any traction for supporting this as a business idea at this time.

Mr. Pumariega: We didn't get here without a lot of dialogue. We had a presentation at our February meeting to lay out the facts and at that time we got concurrence to go forward. At first it was supposed to be a Hillsborough and Pinellas County effort. At an Executive/Budget Committee meeting it was said that maybe we should have Pasco and Manatee County included. We have had a dialogue with economic development folks, with the tourist folks in all four counties and all agreed and were behind this. Mr. Wynne made a presentation here at the April meeting. It hasn't been done in a vacuum. All along we have been getting some good concurrence from this body here and from all the economic tourist folks, from the Chair of Pinellas County, Commissioner Starkey from Pasco County. And I know in Manatee that survey was done 2-3 years ago and we understand, but we wanted to make the effort to provide Manatee County with the opportunity to participate as well.

Chair Crist: Who were the members of the search committee?

Mr. DeShazo: Pinellas County CVB, Visit Tampa Bay, Hillsborough Economic Development, Visit St. Pete/Clearwater, Pinellas County Economic Development, Pasco County Tourism, and Mr. DeShazo.

Chair Crist: So all the right players have been at the table. This is an issue that has been bounced around in here for the last nine months and we've had several presentations, and a lot of discussions and each time we have voted and now we have one more step where they have narrowed it down to four choices and they have a motion to just move forward with negotiations, not to sign any contracts. Contracts won't be signed unless we have money in-hand and we still have to do our due diligence because there's been a few issues raised about the finalists that are on the report and staff is going to

do research and check their references. This is just a step in the process.

Mayor Minning: Haven't we already as a Council approved moving forward on that because what you have on the agenda here is to execute an agreement so if we're not going to execute I think you already have your marching order.

Mayor Archie: And that's what I was saying, I thought it was to authorize a contract. From what I'm hearing there's no issue about negotiating a contract that hasn't come back to this body to approve. I don't see anything that will prevent us from saying go ahead and negotiate and bring it back.

Chair Crist: Mr. Pumariega just wanted everyone's blessing. He wanted to keep it transparent. At this juncture is there any objection for staff to move forward and bring back a recommendation for final consideration?

Commissioner Diaz: The only thing I would want to see is an outline of what we're going to get.

Chair Crist: We have covered that in a previous meeting but the final work product to be executed will be brought back for consideration and that will be spelled out.

Commissioner Livingston: Just a quick suggestion – since we are adding Citrus and Hernando to the discussion I think they should be brought to the table and included in the discussion.

Chair Crist: At this point I think what I'm hearing is OK moving forward, bring back a contract with its components so we can see what's going to be done. Manatee is sitting on the side, they aren't going to oppose it but they aren't going to support it. And if Hernando and Citrus are coming into the fold reach out to them in the interim and see if there's any interest there and if there are some issues or questions regarding the finalists, do our due diligence to make sure we're double and triple checked all those references and move forward so we have something for our next meeting. Is that it?

9. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Pumariega had a conversation with Andy Nunez who could not attend today's meeting. He is having back issues.

In regard to Citrus and Hernando County – Avera and I visited with the county administrators of both of those counties as well as the planning director and other staff about the transition. They will be appointing a representative sometime in the latter part of June to sit on our Council. The staff agreed that we are going to go back several times in July for tours to get familiar with their counties and have additional discussion. They will probably attend the meeting in August. The way that they were established at Withlacoochee RPC they had 3 commissioners sit on their Council. Our by-laws only allows one. They pay their dues quarterly, where our by-laws say dues are to be paid by October 30th so they will be paying dues for the fourth quarter of this fiscal year. We will be sending out an invoice for the 4th quarter dues. They will pay annually next year.

We did ask them about medical tourism and touched bases on all of our programs and projects and we will be meeting with some of their cities – Brooksville, Crystal River to see if they have any interest in joining the Council also.

Commissioner Long: Could you give us an update on the process for appointing the new Executive Director, where are we on that?

Mr. Pumariega: That's the next agenda item.

10. Executive/Budget Committee Report

Mr. Pumariega: Earlier on this agenda you approved the FY 2016 Budget. That is the 35th budget that I've been involved with the Council and it comes with a heavy heart that I announce my retirement after 35 years with this outstanding agency and all that we have done together. My last day will be September 30th.

I leave with much optimism because of the leadership and support of this Board and I leave with great comfort knowing that we have a highly competent, productive and dedicated staff and their commitment of making the Tampa Bay Region a better place.

We should all be proud of what we have accomplished the past 53 years and what you will continue to attain in the future.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to have a fulfilling career. This Council is the best. You are in good hands and I feel comfortable with the Board and the discussions going on here. Commissioner Long mentioned some of the things and we will continue to deal with those issues. Medical Tourism is a great opportunity and I will miss being involved with that process. We have centers of excellence in some of the medical fields here now and those will increase. There are a lot of countries such as the Caribbean countries that provides us with an opportunity to take the medical venue in our region to the next level. I will be here to help with the transition.

Chair Crist: I have worked with you in many different capacities and you have always been a gentleman, you have always been professional and you've always been right up front. I have appreciated that and I look forward to continuing working with this agency as we continue to grow. The legacy you leave is one that has made its mark.

At the May Executive Budget Committee meeting Manny announced his retirement. Out of those discussions we talked about a succession plan. What that succession plan would be is Avera would be the interim while we are conducting a search. What was discussed is, do we just look internally and appoint someone from the inside to assume the position and move on or do we appoint an interim and conduct a search. After a long lengthy discussion and debate it was agreed that we would open it up to a search and that anyone within the organization that wanted to compete would apply and we would look for the best candidate. If we have that person in-house then so be it and that's the way to go. But to the general public, our appointed authorities and the people we serve we will have done our due diligence to ensure that this agency is as strong as it can be. There was a lot of debate. Those who have worked on this board for a long time thought that it wasn't necessary to open the door, that we had the talent here. Some of the newcomers felt that it was best practices regardless if we had the in-house talent to open the door and look and that it doesn't hurt to look. At the end of the discussions the vote went down to open the door and look. That is the recommendation coming forth from the

Executive/Budget Committee for your consideration – that we open the door for a search, that we appoint the Executive/Budget Committee to serve as the selection committee, that we work with either Hillsborough or Pinellas County civil service departments to see what services could be offered. I have had experience working with Hillsborough's on a number of the authorities I serve on and they have done an outstanding job. They came back with a proposal that it would be \$5,000 and that would include about \$1,000 for advertising. We met with Pinellas County Civil Service. They came back with a similar proposal but even better yet, would charge us nothing. We would just have to pay out of pocket expenses which would probably be that \$1,000 for advertising. If you want to open the door for a search and have all applicants apply and you're OK with using one of those two civil service boards, Pinellas is willing to do it if we just pick up the out of pocket expenses. The recommendation of the Executive/Budget Committee is to move forward immediately and to appoint Avera as the interim when Manny steps down if we haven't filled the position.

Council Member Fridovich: Nationally? Locally?

Chair Crist: I think we would be opened nationally. Advertise in all the appropriate locations. There would be questions, forms, applications that civil service would have to create. There would have to be basic criteria that would have to be in place. They would screen all the applicants, follow up on the credentials, make sure that when they bring back final considerations that all due diligence has been made. Our board would then whittle through this, narrow it down to a final group that would probably be Skyped interviewed, and then narrow that down to a group that would be physically interviewed and then probably 2 to 3 finalists brought back for consideration, or one finalist.

Mr. Edwards: That's what I was going to ask. When you say one finalist that means the finalist that the Committee recommends? So, the question I would have is, how would we, those of us who don't sit on the Committee, would be able to feel comfortable in interviewing that person? What kind of reaction would we have if you say the Committee recommends one? Then you might as well not open it up if you look at it from that perspective. How will the rest of the board members be able to interact and know with a measure of level of comfort. I'm uncomfortable with that one finalist.

Chair Crist: I agree with you, that's why I like three finalists. That's the way we did our PTC, and a number of our authorities in Hillsborough and I was comfortable with that. The only other way would be for you to come and sit in as a spectator during the process and frankly that doesn't allow constructive input.

Commissioner Long: Mr. Chair, could I share how Pinellas County has done it in the time that I have been on the board with national searches and the human resource department narrowed it down. We developed criteria and goals & objectives and based on that they narrowed it down for the selection committee which included the Executive Committee and a few other folks, stakeholders if you will, and then they narrowed it down to the top five but they ranked them and indicated why they ranked them the way they did and then from that the selection committee picked the top three to interview. That way you have more than just one person being interviewed and more than just the Executive Committee.

Chair Crist: Originally I was going to appoint a Selection Committee separate from the Executive Committee but since I'm not allowed to talk to members staff talked to members and the general interest is it was double the work. We have a large

Executive Committee that's made up of a lot of past chairs that have been on this board for a long time. Personally I like the idea of ranking them and bringing back to this board the rankings so then the board can decide how many you want to interview. I'm fine with that.

Commissioner Benac: I sit on TBARTA and we went through this process recently as well and we had folks that were appointed and a selection committee and we met and interviewed all of the candidates and brought back a recommendation of two. We then brought back our full board for discussion and a vote. It seemed to work very well, as far as the process went. The Executive Budget Committee and Selection Committee were slightly different. We don't have that large of a board, we don't have that large of an Executive Committee. I would caution you if you have a large Executive Committee. You might not want to go that way.

Mr. Pumariega: Hillsborough County or Pinellas County would do the same top notch job. What I liked about Pinellas is they recently did a search for an Executive Director search for the PDC MPO. Because they went through that process their board was 13. Our Executive Committee is 12. I was very impressed with what they did. She will present the process that Pinellas County uses and allow the Executive Committee to list qualities, and other factors and attributes and from there we will be able to do a job description and the advertisement language. What Pinellas County did was they picked five people within that 13 member body. That's an option we can do here. At one point they had phone conversations with each of those applicants, seven or so. But each of those 5 members would call. They did a group of top notch, middle, and then ones that their experience didn't fit. From that they picked a group of candidates and they made actual phone calls. Then they got together with the full 13 members and they ranked them and then they came up with the top three or five. They went through a process which I really like.

Ms. Todd: Since I sat in on the debates I think it would be a good idea to use your full Executive Budget Committee, because if you choose any two or three it could be skewed one way or another. Perhaps what we could do is publicize the dates to the rest of the board so that anyone who wishes to sit in on those discussions would be able to do so. Secondly, I don't believe that our board – the Executive Budget Committee – to actually formulize the description or the responsibilities and I suggest we have a special meeting to do that and welcome the input from any member of the board who wishes to send that information to you (to Manny) so that everybody here feels like they are participating. Set up that meeting, finalize the job description, do the contract with Pinellas County and take some guidance from their human resources people otherwise we're sitting around here trying to debate what's best. That's their job. Why don't we do that?

Chair Crist: That's basically the proposal that's before us today by the Executive Budget Committee. Are you making that a formal motion?

Ms. Todd: I am making that a motion. Commissioner Long seconded the motion.

Mr. Edwards: You still have the proposal of one person?

Ms. Todd: No.

Mr. Edwards: The second thing is – I want to be comfortable in how Pinellas and Hillsborough do the advertisements for the position because it should be a broad category in getting that notice out. I'm comfortable with three but I honestly can't feel comfortable with just one person coming back. It just doesn't have a good feel.

Chair Crist: Would you like to serve on the Committee (Mr. Edwards)?

Mr. Edwards: I don't have a problem.

Chair Crist: We have 12 and we should have an odd number.

Mr. Edwards: I would come.

Chair Crist: As Chair I appoint the Committee and I know it's a large committee but I agree, 13 is large but we will manage it. If we have to break it down into sub-groups we will. If you would have been there, there was a lot of debate. When you look at our Executive Committee they're the old-timers of this organization and if I start segregating them out World War III will be created. It's a lot easier to keep them all at the table. They aren't balanced in their perspectives, the arguments were very close. We have a good stable vote to work with. It just has to be navigated. We need a tie breaker so sir, you will be it. Manny will get with you.

At this point we have a motion and a second.

Commissioner Neidinger: In the interest of succession do we have internal candidates as well that would fit and potentially apply?

Chair Crist: Yes, Avera Wynne.

Ms. Todd: Maybe somebody else will apply, we don't know.

Council Member Fridovich: So the motion is that the Executive Committee will bring back three people/candidates to this body?

Chair Crist: We will bring back a ranking list and it will be up to this body to choose how many off that list they want to interview. You may want to interview one, you may want to interview five. But we really need to give each one an hour so we better come prepared to do that.

Sec/Treas. Roff: A quick rundown of what happened in the Executive Committee meeting was that there are many of us that have been on this board for many years that have worked with and are quite comfortable with Avera. Two members were absent that day, which was the day that Commissioner Bustle had his stroke and Mr. Nunez wasn't here. It was very close. The comfort level of Avera is very confident. We are very confident that we have a replacement here but the thought was that we should move forward and have a search anyway because it is a very big decision. I just wanted to let you know.

Mr. Pumariega: The original time table here, I just want to caution everybody, I understand your concerns – we will talk to Pinellas County. We don't want to slow down the process. At the September meeting we should have your top two or three or the top guy to offer a contract because these individuals are looking for a job. If you don't act on it by the time you do they may not be available. Let's not slow down the process.

Chair Crist: We may very well have our candidate sitting right here in the audience but he will be that much stronger if he's tested and at this juncture it was a very close vote and now we move forward. All in favor of the motion. Motion carried unanimously. We will reach out to Pinellas County.

Manny will send a recap of the meeting.

The next Executive/Budget Committee meeting will be held July 1, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

11. Chair's Report - None

Next Meeting: Monday, August 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: 12:07 p.m.

Victor Crist, Chair

Lori Denman, Recording Secretary