

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

APRIL 28, 2020

Present: Commissioner Steven L. Barry, Chairman, District 5
Commissioner Robert D. Bender, Vice Chairman, District 4
Commissioner Jeffrey W. Bergosh, District 1
Commissioner Lumon J. May, District 3
Commissioner Douglas B. Underhill, District 2
Janice Gilley, County Administrator
Alison Rogers, County Attorney
DeLana Allen-Busbee, Administrative Specialist, Clerk and Comptroller's Office
Alain Espinosa, Legal Office Administrator, County Attorney's Office
Shamara Jernigan, Agenda Program Coordinator, County Administrator's Office

Location: Ernie Lee Magaha Government Building, Board Chambers, First Floor
221 Palafox Place, Pensacola, Florida

Minutes prepared by: DeLana Allen-Busbee

AGENDA NUMBER

1. Call to Order

Chairman Barry called the Special Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. Advertisement of the Meeting

The Board was advised by DeLana Allen-Busbee, Administrative Specialist, Clerk and Comptroller's Office, that the meeting was advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on April 25, 2020, in the Board's weekly meeting schedule.

Motion: So moved
For Information: Commissioner Barry advised that the Chairman would entertain a motion for the waiving of the reading of the legal advertisement.
Made by: Commissioner Underhill
Seconded by: Commissioner May
Disposition: Carried unanimously

MINUTES – APRIL 28, 2020

FOR INFORMATION: The Board held a public comment period prior to beginning discussion of the item on the agenda and heard from the speakers listed below. Commissioner Barry advised that an option was provided to the public to provide comments via email regarding the plan to reopen the public portions of Escambia County beaches; as of 9:15 a.m., the County had received 1,191 comments and due to the large number of comments provided, they would not be read aloud. Each Commissioner received the comments prior to the meeting, and all comment forms are available in the Clerk to the Board's office of the Clerk of Court and are made a part of the Board's official record of the meeting. Commissioner Barry also advised that of the comments, 632 were in favor of reopening the beaches, 247 were in favor of reopening with restrictions, 250 emails were in favor of keeping the beaches closed, and 62 emails were categorized as other comments. Emails received after 9:15 are also made a part of the record, but are not included in the tally. Commissioner Barry led the Pledge of Allegiance, the Board observed a moment of silence, and a brief Commissioners' Forum was held.

Speaker(s):

Michael Bearden	Susan Fetsco	Alice Downs
Alan Mandell	Patsy Rourke	Charlie Rotenberry
Vivian McDaniel	Mike Bates	Larry Downs, Jr.
Michael [no last name given]	Mike Waters	Diane Chaney
Corey [no last name given]	Alexander Arduini	David Kettles

AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the agenda as prepared (or duly amended).

Motion: So moved
Made by: Commissioner Underhill
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried unanimously

AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. Escambia County Public Beaches

Recommendation: That the Board discuss the time frame for the reopening of Escambia County Public Beaches.

<p>Motion: Move that we allow Emergency Order EO 20-4 to expire 30 minutes before sunrise on May 1st; that the beaches then be open 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset; that the area under the pier is closed as lifeguards deem necessary to protect that; the pavilions are closed; we will work with the Administrator to set up the public facilities; and then also that we draft and sign a letter to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Division of Recreation and Parks, as well as Superintendent Dan Brown of the Gulf Islands National Seashore requesting that they open their facilities in Escambia County; and that the beaches are reopened following the CDC guidelines of groups limited to ten or fewer and individuals will maintain a six foot distance from other groups and individuals not in their immediate group</p> <p>For Information: Commissioner Barry clarified that this action will remain in effect until the Board takes further action.</p>
<p>Made by: Commissioner Bender</p>
<p>Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh</p>
<p>Disposition: Carried unanimously</p>
<p>Speakers: Dr. John Lanza and Sheriff David Morgan</p>

ITEMS ADDED TO THE AGENDA – COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS B. UNDERHILL

1. Direction on Use of Public Parks

The Board discussed the issue regarding public parks and agreed to open outdoor park facilities and allow leagues to begin their spring seasons, with parks opening on May 1, 2020, and games able to begin on May 15, 2020. The Board also discussed having the partner organizations and governing boards of the leagues work to ensure the safe implementation of the relaxed restrictions as well as social distancing.

2. Request to the Governor to Allow On-Site Dining and Elective Procedures

The Board discussed sending a letter to Governor DeSantis requesting the easing of restrictions relating to on-site dining at restaurants and elective procedures at medical and dental offices, and agreed that requesting restrictions be eased in a broader sense, rather than identifying specific restrictions would be the preferred content of the letter. After further discussion, the Board agreed to wait until Governor DeSantis released his recommendations for reopening the State once the Safer at Home Order expires on April 30th, and if the Board is not satisfied with the level at which restrictions are eased for our area, a letter will be sent after discussion at the May 7th Regular Board meeting.

ITEMS ADDED TO THE AGENDA – COMMISSIONER LUMON J. MAY

1. Recommendation: That the Board approve funding in the amount of \$500.00 to support Epps Christian Center Food Drive and all items relating to the Food Drive from Commissioner Lumon May's discretionary fund.

Motion: Move Commissioner May's funding allocation of \$500 from his discretionary fund for the Epps Christian Center and their food drive
Made by: Commissioner Underhill
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried unanimously

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Barry declared the Special Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Steven Barry, Chairman

ATTEST:

Pam Childers
Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

Deputy Clerk

Approved: May 7, 2020