

Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Regular Public Meeting
August 4, 2015

5. Approval of minutes:

Special public meeting held July 13, 2015.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2015 – 1:02 P.M.
ASSEMBLY ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR
315 COURT STREET, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA**

Members Present: John Morroni, Chairman; Charlie Justice, Vice-Chairman; Janet C. Long; Kenneth T. Welch; Dave Eggers; Pat Gerard; and Karen Williams Seel.

Others Present: James L. Bennett, County Attorney; Mark S. Woodard, County Administrator; Frederick L. Dean, Director, Finance Division; and Michael P. Schmidt, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk.

**RECOMMENDATION TO CONSIDER PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AND RESOLUTION
IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' (BCC) LITIGATION AGAINST BP
AND OTHERS RESULTING FROM THE DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL, AS
OUTLINED IN THE CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM FROM COUNTY ATTORNEY
JAMES L. BENNETT DATED JULY 13, 2015**

Chairman Morroni welcomed those in attendance and briefly introduced the item; whereupon, Attorney Bennett advised that this is a settlement proposal and a resolution in the Board's litigation against BP and others resulting from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, as outlined in his confidential memorandum.

Attorney Bennett briefly discussed federal and state law, stating that settlement and litigation strategy relating to expenses in the attorney-client session will occur out of the Sunshine. He reported that the session is regulated by state law and will be recorded by a certified court reporter; and that the transcript will be filed in Board Records and made a part of the public record upon conclusion of the litigation and release from a federal court confidentiality order.

No one responded to the Chairman's call for citizens wishing to be heard.

Chairman Morroni related that the closed-door attorney-client session will be held in the BCC Conference Room; that it will last approximately one hour; and that the following individuals will attend: Himself, Vice-Chairman Justice; Commissioners Eggers, Gerard, Long, Seel, and Welch; Attorney Bennett; Mr. Woodard; Chief Assistant County Attorney Jewel White; Managing Assistant County Attorney Don S. Crowell; and Patrick Montoya, Outside Counsel by Phone, Law Firm of Colson Hicks Eidson.

July 13, 2015

At this time, 1:05 P.M., the Special Public Meeting open session was recessed and the closed session convened in the BCC Conference Room.

At this time, 2:37 P.M., the closed session was adjourned and the open session reconvened in the Assembly Room.

Attorney Bennett reiterated that all discussion will become public record subsequent to the lifting of the federal court order; whereupon, following brief discussion and instructions by Attorney Bennett, Commissioner Justice moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerard, that Resolution No. 15-64 be approved, approving the settlement proposal and authorizing the County Attorney and County Administrator, or their designees, to sign such final implementing documents as are necessary to complete the proposed settlement. Upon call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Morroni thanked those in attendance and, at his direction, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:39 P.M.

Chairman

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By _____
Deputy Clerk