

Boards, Authorities and Special Districts
Pinellas County

(Pinellas County) Construction Licensing Board

Emergency Medical Services Authority

Fresh Water Conservation Board

Indian Rocks Special Fire Control District

Juvenile Welfare Board

License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes

Mosquito Control (District of Pinellas County) Board

Ozona-Palm Harbor-Crystal Beach Special Fire Control District

Pinellas (County) Industry Council

Pinellas Park Water Management District

Pinellas (County) Planning Council

Pinellas Police Standards Council

Pinellas Sports Authority

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority

(Pinellas County) Unified Personnel Board

(Pinellas County) Water and Navigation Control Authority

CONSTRUCTION LICENSING BOARD

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: Conducts examinations for certification of contractors, register non-certified contractors, assist in enforcing licensing laws, hold public hearings for amendments to construction codes, supervise public liability and property damage insurance coverage for certified contractors, investigate consumer complaints in the contracting field.

CREATED: Chapter 75-489, Laws of Florida 1975.

MEMBERS: The board consists of 21 members made up of the following: the building directors of the cities of Clearwater and St. Petersburg and the building director for Pinellas County; three other city building directors; an architect; two general contractors; two building contractors; two residential building contractors; an electrical contractor; a plumbing contractor; two fire marshals; a class A air conditioning contractor; a roofing or sheet metal contractor or mechanical contractor; a swimming pool, aluminum or veneer specialty contractor; and one consumer member. Most are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners for varying terms in accordance with the Special Act.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: The Authority's duties are to establish and implement a permanent plan of emergency medical services on a countywide basis, and to establish uniform standards for providing emergency medical services.

CREATED: Special Acts, Chapter 80-585, Laws of Florida 1975.

MEMBERS: Board of County Commissioners sits as the Authority.

FRESH WATER CONSERVATION BOARD

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: Controls the water level of any body of water in the unincorporated portions of the County, including the right to cap or plug any abandoned well and to construct wells, canals, locks, dams and other construction as may be necessary to control the water level in any covered body of water.

CREATED: Chapter 23487, Laws of Florida, 1945; Chapter 26161, Laws of Florida, 1949. See §§ 2-251 et seq., Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: The Pinellas County Board of Commissioners is the governing board of the Fresh Water Conservation Board.

INDIAN ROCKS SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Fire protection within the defined district; acquiring equipment, hiring personnel and entering into contracts to effectuate those services; authorized to contract to provide these services to other areas if all costs are assumed by the other contracting party; appoints fire marshal to enforce codes relating to fire protection; can levy taxes or special assessments; can also impose impact fees on new construction.

CREATED: Chapter 29438, Laws of Florida 1953, Chapter 89-405, Laws of Florida. See §§ 114-36, Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: The District is governed by a Board of five commissioners who are elected for a term of four years. Four of the commissioners must be elected by a majority of the subdistrict in which they reside. The remaining commissioner may reside in any subdistrict and is elected district-wide.

JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: To provide and maintain in the county such child guidance, psychological, or psychiatric clinics for juveniles, provide for the care of dependent juveniles, allocate and provide funds for other agencies in the county which are operated for the benefit of juveniles, collect information and statistical data which will be helpful to the board in deciding the needs of juveniles, lease or buy real estate and equipment as needed, and maintain the books of account.

CREATED: Laws of Florida Ch. 23483 (1945); Laws of Florida Ch. 25500 (1949); Laws of Florida Ch. 26356 (1949); 70-894, Laws of Fla. See §§2-236 et seq., Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: The board of juvenile welfare consists of 11 members; one of which shall be the county superintendent of public instruction, one judge of the juvenile division of the circuit court, the State Attorney, the Public Defender and the Vice Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, each who shall hold office on the said board during his/her term; the remaining six members shall be appointed by the Governor of Florida for the term of four years each.

LICENSE BOARD FOR CHILDREN'S CENTERS AND FAMILY DAY CARE HOMES

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: The services of the License Board include the licensing of children's centers and family day care homes; the monitoring of centers and homes to assure minimum protection of the children in their care; encouraging the caregivers in efforts to provide good child care; providing opportunities for in-service and continuing education of caregivers; providing referral service to child care; serving as an information resource in the community regarding day care; coordinating day care utilization of relevant community, state, regional and national resources; promulgating and adopting policies to carry out the purpose of the License Board act; enabling centers and homes to meet social service needs including work toward assuring quality care for children with special needs; and utilizing the services of volunteers to strengthen day care.

CREATED: Special Acts, Chapter 61-2681, amended by Chapter 70-893, Laws of Florida, 1961 and 1970; first enacted in 1951.

MEMBERS: Seven (one representative of each of these groups: Pinellas Board of County Commissioners, Juvenile Welfare Board, School Superintendent, Health Department, Director of the Division of Family Services, Upper Pinellas County Preschool Association on Children under Six).

MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: The mosquito control district shall have the power to take all necessary and proper steps for the extermination of mosquitoes in Pinellas County, subject to the paramount control of the Florida state board of health.

CREATED: Pursuant to 67-1920, Laws of Florida. State law reference, chapter 388, Florida Statutes. See also §§58-416 et seq., Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: The mosquito control district shall be the Board of County Commissioners.

OZONA-PALM HARBOR-CRYSTAL BEACH SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT*

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: Powers of the district are limited to: 1) administer the affairs and business of the district relating to fire control and emergency medical services; 2) construct, maintain and operate fire equipment and stations; 3) install fire hydrants and lines; 4) pay utilities, such as electric lights and water; and 5) pay salaries to commissioners and personnel. The district is also authorized to contract with the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Authority for emergency medical services. The district has the power to levy taxes, borrow money and impose impact fees on construction in the district.

CREATED: Chapter 61-266, Laws of Florida (1966); Chapter 82-369, Laws of Florida; Chapter 84- 512, Laws of Florida; Chapters 85-549, Laws of Florida; Chapter 86-441, Laws of Florida, and Chapter 88-477, Laws of Florida. See §§ 114-81 et seq., Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: This district is governed by a board consisting of five members. Members are elected on a staggered basis district-wide for four-year terms.

PINELLAS INDUSTRY COUNCIL

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: To perform such acts as necessary for the sound planning for and development of Pinellas County, its industry, commerce and business. Includes studying data relating to Pinellas County to encourage industry to locate, expand or remain in Pinellas County; publicizing such data and materials; and cooperating with other government agencies to achieve these purposes. The Council can buy and sell real property, construct improvements, borrow money and issue debt obligations (provided that it does not obligate Pinellas County or any other governmental entity by doing so).

CREATED: Chapter 69-1490, Laws of Florida. See §§ 2-311 et seq., Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: The Council is composed of nine members – two appointed by the Pinellas County legislative delegation, two appointed by the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners (one of whom is not an elected official), two appointed by the governing body of the City of St. Petersburg (one of whom must be a member of the Committee of 100 of Pinellas County, Inc., as long as it still exists), two appointed by the City of Clearwater (one of whom must be a member of the Pinellas County Manufacturers Association, Inc., as long as it still exists) and one member by the municipal governing body of Tarpon Springs.

PINELLAS PARK WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: The authority shall have the right to purchase, own and maintain storm drainage facilities; to contract for construction of facilities; to exercise power of eminent domain; to conduct studies; and to contract with other governmental agencies, private companies and individuals. The authority shall have and may exercise all powers necessary to carry out aforesaid purposes including the right to sue and be sued, to adopt a corporate seal, to acquire, purchase, lease, hold, property real or personal, to regulate the construction of storm drainage facilities, to establish rules and regulations, make contracts of every name and nature, to enter into management contracts and to borrow money.

CREATED: Pursuant to Special Act 75-491, Laws of Florida, this article is found at §§114-131, et seq., Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: The governing body of the authority shall consist initially of three members; two members shall be appointed by the city council of Pinellas Park and one member appointed by the Pinellas County Commission.

PINELLAS PLANNING COUNCIL

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: Advisory board which develops countywide plans for land use, drainage, parks and open space, environmental preservation and community facilities, subsequently adopted into law by the Board of County Commissioners. These documents are regularly updated or amended and are required to be followed by all local governments. The Council also performs Local Planning Agency (LPA) recommendations on local plans and codes and various proposed annexations.

CREATED: Special Acts, Chapter 73-594, Laws of Florida 1973; amended by Special Acts, Chapters 74-584, 74-586 and 76-473, 88-464 and 90-396.

MEMBERS: The Board of County Commissioners appoints the following thirteen members from the following groups: one from the Board of County Commissioners; one from each of the following cities: St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Dunedin, Pinellas Park, Largo - appointed by their respective city commission; one representing the Cities of St. Pete Beach, Treasure Island and Madeira Beach; one representing Indian Rocks Beach, Redington Shores, Redington Beach, Belleair Beach, Indian Shores, N. Redington Beach, and Belleair Shore; one representing the Cities of Gulfport, Kenneth City, Seminole, Belleair, S. Pasadena, and Belleair Bluffs; one representing the City of Tarpon Springs; one representing the City of Oldsmar; one representing the City of Safety Harbor; and one member of the Pinellas County School Board.

PINELLAS POLICE STANDARDS COUNCIL

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: To conduct continuous planning and studies for the purpose of making recommendations to the Pinellas County legislative delegation concerning countywide police standards covering every aspect of law enforcement. The council provides a centralized information center on prospective law enforcement candidates at the Pinellas Police Academy. The council may not compel any action by any law enforcement agency or municipality.

CREATED: Chapter 72-666, Laws of Florida; Chapter 75-494, Laws of Florida; Chapter 78-452, Laws of Florida; Chapter 82-370, Laws of Florida; and Chapter 85-491, Laws of Florida. See §§ 74-31, Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: Members include - one member from each municipality in Pinellas County having its own police department (the chief or his designee), the Pinellas County Sheriff or his/her designee, the state attorney or a prosecutor or investigator from the state attorney's staff and the director of the Pinellas Police Academy or his/her designee. Any member who is a police officer should be in the rank of sergeant or above. Members serve a one-year term.

PINELLAS SPORTS AUTHORITY

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: The purpose of the authority is to determine the feasibility of developing a comprehensive complex of sports and recreation facilities for the use and enjoyment of the citizens of Pinellas County and to build and operate such a facility. The authority has the power to acquire, improve, operate and dispose of real and personal property and to borrow money and to issue revenue bonds to carry out its purposes.

CREATED: Chapter 77-635, Laws of Florida; Chapter 80-583, Laws of Florida; Chapter 83-503, Laws of Florida; and Chapter 88-478, Laws of Florida. See §§ 2-361 et seq., Pinellas County Code.

MEMBERS: The council is composed of 11 members – three appointed by the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners, three appointed by the governing body of St. Petersburg one appointed by the governing board of Clearwater and four appointed by the Pinellas County delegation.

PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY (PSTA)

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: The authority shall have the right and power to purchase, own and/or operate transit facilities, to contract for transit services, to exercise the power of eminent domain, to conduct studies and contract with other governmental agencies, private companies and individuals. The authority shall have the power to sue and be sued, adopt and use a corporate seal, acquire, hold, lease, etc. real, personal or mixed property, to fix rates, regulate other operators of public transit in this area, to make contracts, enter into management contracts, borrow money and promulgate rules and regulations.

CREATED: Section 2-343, Pinellas County Code; enabling authority Chapter 2000-424, Laws of Florida.

MEMBERS: The governing body shall consist of 11 members -- one member appointed by the city commission of the city of Clearwater from its membership; one member appointed by the city commission of the city of Dunedin from its membership; one member appointed by the city commission of the city of Largo from its membership; one member appointed by the city council of the city of Pinellas Park from its membership; one member appointed by the city council of the city of St. Petersburg from its membership; one member appointed by the combined municipal governing bodies of Oldsmar, Safety Harbor and Tarpon Springs from their membership; one member appointed by the combined municipal governing bodies of Belleair, Belleair Bluffs, Gulfport, Kenneth City, Seminole and South Pasadena from their membership; one member appointed by the combined municipal governing bodies of Belleair Beach, Belleair Shores, Indian Rocks Beach, Indian Shores, Madeira Beach, North Redington Beach, Redington Beach, Redington Shores, St. Petersburg Beach and Treasure Island from their membership; one member appointed by the Pinellas County Commission from its membership; one member appointed by the Pinellas County Commission and this member may not be an elected official; one member of the city council of St. Petersburg and this member may not be an elected official. Each term shall be three years.

UNIFIED PERSONNEL BOARD

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: The Board is the final authority in all matters relating to personnel policy and actions for offices, agencies, and employees of the Board of County Commissioners, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector and Supervisor of Elections. It reviews and adopts job descriptions and pay and classification plans, revises rules and regulations, and determines grievances and appeals. The Personnel Department, established by the Act, and its director, are responsible for fostering and developing programs for the improvement of employee effectiveness, including training, communications, insurance, safety, health, counseling and welfare. Centralized registers of qualified applicants are available to participating agencies and offices to fill vacancies. Partial services are provided to the Sheriff.

CREATED: Unified Personnel System Act--Special Acts, Chapter 75-488 and 77-642, Laws of Florida 1975 and 1977; amended by Chapter 89-414, Laws of Florida 1989.

MEMBERS: Seven (two appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, two by the Constitutional Officers as a group, two by the county employees through the Employees Advisory Council, and one by the above board members as a group).

WATER AND NAVIGATION CONTROL AUTHORITY

POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES: Provides adequate regulation and control of all water, water courses, waterways, inlets, bays, bayous, lakes, submerged bottom lands, islands, sandbars, and swamp and overflow lands and their alteration by dredging, filling, pumping, or otherwise altering the shoreline, land contours and/or water areas. The authority provides protection of public riparian property rights, preservation and protection of the state's natural resources and scenic beauty. It assists and aids boating activities and navigation and issues all dock permits for waters in and around Pinellas County.

CREATED: Special Acts, Chapter 31182, Laws of Florida 1955, as amended.

MEMBERS: Board of County Commissioners sits as this board.