

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE PENSACOLA CITY COUNCIL, AND THE MAYOR

JULY 10, 2025

Board of County Commissioners

Present: Commissioner Michael S. Kohler, Chair, District 2
Commissioner Ashlee M. Hofberger, Vice Chair, District 4
Commissioner Steven L. Barry, District 5
Commissioner Lumon J. May, District 3
Commissioner Steven R. Stroberger, District 1

City of Pensacola Mayor

Present: Mayor D.C. Reeves

Pensacola City Council

Present: Council Member Jared Moore, President, District 4
Council Member Allison Patton, Vice President, District 6
Council Member Charles Bare, District 2
Council Member Jennifer Brahier, District 1
Council Member Teniadé Broughton, District 5
Council Member Casey Jones, District 3
Council Member Delarian Wiggins, District 7

Location: Pensacola Bay Center, 201 East Gregory Street, Second Floor West, C-Series,
Pensacola, Florida

Minutes prepared by: DeLana Allen-Busbee

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call to Order

Per Board of County Commissioners' (BCC) Resolution R2025-56, Commissioner Kohler, BCC Chair, called the Joint Meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The BCC, Mayor, and the City Council joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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AGENDA ITEMS – Continued

3. Proof of Publication / Was the Meeting Properly Advertised?

The Board, Mayor, and Council were advised by DeLana Allen-Busbee, Operations Supervisor, Clerk and Comptroller's Office, that the meeting was advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on July 3, 2025, in the Board's weekly meeting schedule.

4. Welcoming Remarks – Michael S. Kohler, Chair, Board of County Commissioners

Commissioner Kohler provided opening remarks.

5. Welcoming Remarks – City of Pensacola

Mayor Reeves provided opening remarks.

Commissioner May and Council Member Patton also provided comments in a period of open forum.

Michael Capps, General Manager of the Pensacola Bay Center, provided a brief regarding how the study his team is working on is progressing and advised that they are looking into how the Bay Center fits into the downtown area, reaching out to associations and organizations to gauge interest in the market, and working on renovations such as the new ice floor, sound, lighting, and parking. He is hoping to bring the study back in September or October to get feedback and collaborate with stakeholders.

The governing bodies discussed prioritizing the renovation of the Bay Center, reducing the subsidy provided, and the desire to look at broad options to be able to make the best decisions on what is wanted, needed, and what can be funded. The best potential marketing strategies, goals for types of events and available space, and bringing in private partners were also discussed.

6. Establishment of an Escambia County Bay Center and Environs Advisory Committee

The governing bodies discussed this agenda item and determined that establishing a committee was premature at this time, but agreed to reconvene after studies were available.

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AGENDA ITEMS – Continued

7. Pensacola Bay Center Operations Discussion

The governing bodies discussed the potential impact that changes in legislation concerning Tourist Development Tax usage could have on the project and reached a consensus that the current building must be renovated. There was also discussion regarding bonding and debt service for the project, and the hope that the studies will be able to move quickly so that decisions can be made and implemented in order to create the greatest positive impact on the area.

8. District Visioning Proposal by Smith Gee Studio

Mayor Reeves advised that he thinks the Populous and SGS studies work well together and introduced Scott Morton with Smith Gee Studio, who provided some background information on himself and the company.

Mr. Morton reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, which was also provided to file with the meeting documents, titled *Pensacola East Gateway Redevelopment Proposal*, which gave insight into SGS's expertise, examples of projects, and their vision for the future of the community surrounding the Bay Center with a basic Scope of Services and timeline. Mr. Morton also discussed how the company planned to engage the community and stakeholders in planning, and how their study could work concurrently with the Populous study being conducted by ASM.

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ADJOURNMENT

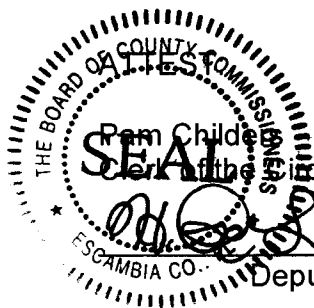
There being no further business to address, Commissioner Kohler, BCC Chair, declared the Joint Meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

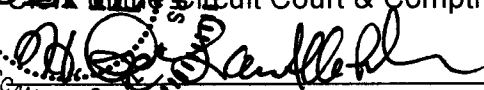
By: _____



Michael S. Kohler, Chair



Pam Childers
Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller



Deputy Clerk

Approved: August 7, 2025