



Polk County Board of County Commissioners

Meeting Minutes - Final

September 02, 2025 Regular BoCC meeting

In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact the Communications Office not later than 48 hours prior to the proceeding. Their office is located in the County Administration Building, 330 West Church Street in Bartow. Telephone (863) 534-6090 or TTY (863) 534-7777. If hearing impaired dial 7-1-1 for Florida Relay services or call (800) 955-8771 (TTY); dial (800) 955-1339 if you are using a computer.

Any invocation that may be offered before the official start of the Commission meeting shall be the voluntary offering of a private citizen, to and for the benefit of the Commission. The views or beliefs expressed by the invocation speaker have not been previously reviewed or approved by the Commission, and the Commission is not allowed by law to endorse the religious beliefs or views of this, or any other speaker.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

CALL TO ORDER - 9:00 a.m. (RICK WILSON, CHAIR)

Rollcall

Present:	Commissioner Becky Troutman Commissioner Rick Wilson Commissioner Bill Braswell Commissioner Martha Santiago Commissioner Michael Scott
-----------------	---

INVOCATION

Brian Lynch, Polk County Fire Rescue

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (RICK WILSON, CHAIR)

A. PRESENTATIONS and RECOGNITIONS

A.1. Dave Carter, P.E. Chairman of the Stormwater Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), to provide an update on Committee activities.

Minutes: Dave Carter, P.E. Chairman of the Stormwater Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) showed slides and provided an update on committee activities. He said STAC was established over ten years ago and he gave background information on completed projects. He reviewed the CIP funding from fiscal years 2015 to 2029. He said there are 100 lakes that are tested and sampled about four times a year. He said twice as many lakes are improving than are declining. He discussed structure maintenance and street sweeping. He discussed Lake Lulu, Lake Annie, Lake Pierce, Tiger Creek, Peace Creek Canal, and Lena Run/Simmers Young Park. He showed a

list of STAC approved projects.

Upon question, Mr. Carter said the MSTU brings in \$2.5 million and there is also grant revenue.

Upon question, Tabitha Biehl, Parks and Natural Resources, said a water goat is a device they put in a canal system that has a net that catches the floatables and trash and prevents them from flowing into a lake. She said there is a Polk County Water Atlas that is maintained by the University of South Florida and she said a lot of these projects get uploaded to that.

Upon question, Mr. Carter said they have had about \$50 million in grant revenue over the last ten years. He said the grant effort the county does is substantial.

Chair Wilson thanked Mr. Carter for the update.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS

B.1. Comments.

Minutes: There was no one from the public wishing to speak on Agenda Items.

C. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

C.1. Approve Consent Agenda.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Martha Santiago
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

D. COUNTY COMPTROLLER (STACY M. BUTTERFIELD, CPA)

D.1. Disbursements.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Martha Santiago
SECONDER:	Bill Braswell
AYE:	Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott
Absent:	Troutman

D.2. Minutes of Regular Board meeting held on August 19, 2025.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Michael Scott
AYE:	Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott
Absent:	Troutman

G. COUNTY MANAGER (BILL BEASLEY)

G.1. Confirm the appointment of Ms. LaShanda Salters to serve as the Director of the Polk County Court Services Division.

Minutes: County Manager Bill Beasley requested the Board confirm the appointment of Ms. LaShanda Salters to serve as the Director of the Polk County Court Services Division. He said that she has 25 years of experience in the criminal justice field. He reviewed her qualifications.

Ms. Salters said she is honored and humbled to be chosen as the next Director of the Polk County Court Services Division. She thanked the Board and the County Manager for their trust and confidence. She said she is ready for the task and she is excited to continue the journey. She thanked her family for supporting her career goals. She recognized the court services staff and thanked them for their continued support.

Chair Wilson thanked Ms. Salters and stated that we look forward to working with her.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Martha Santiago
SECONDER:	Michael Scott
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

G.2. Request Board approve construction contract with CenState Contractors, Inc. for the Holly Hill UFA No. 2 and Oak Hill No.4 wellheads project (\$3,379,950.00 one-time expense)

Minutes: County Manager Bill Beasley discussed the construction contract with CenState Contractors, Inc., for the Holly Hill UFA No. 2 and Oak Hill No.4 wellheads project. He recommended approval.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Becky Troutman
SECONDER:	Bill Braswell
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

G.3. Approve Land Purchase Agreement between Rosaleda Enterprises, Inc. and Polk County for the purchase of property in conjunction with the Courthouse Electrical Upgrade Project. (\$1,812,222, one-time expense)

Minutes: County Manager Bill Beasley discussed the Land Purchase Agreement between Rosaleda Enterprises, Inc., and Polk County for the purchase of property in conjunction with the Courthouse Electrical Upgrade Project. He recommended approval.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Becky Troutman
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

- G.4. Approve Consultant Services Agreement (CSA) No. 2022-062-04 with Dewberry Engineers Inc. to provide professional engineering services for Lake Marion Boat Ramp. (\$496,930.66 one-time expense)

Minutes: County Manager Bill Beasley discussed the Consultant Services Agreement with Dewberry Engineers Inc., providing professional engineering services for Lake Marion boat ramp. He recommended approval.

Upon question, Mr. Beasley said the state looks for shovel ready projects. He said a year or so to design and a year or two to build.

Parks and Natural Resources Director Gaye Sharpe said we have already done preliminary work and they are further along on this had it been new. She confirmed that once this is complete they will decommission this for another boat ramp. She said it will allow people to be more safe. She said they are looking at 20-25 boat trailer parking spots. She said they will have grassed spots for future parking and they have space for a second boat ramp.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Becky Troutman
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

H. COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 (BECKY TROUTMAN)

- H.1. Appoint Harriet Rewis Rust as a Member (Seat 2) of the Polk County Historical Commission, for the three-year term, October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2028. (District 1 Appointment)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Becky Troutman
SECONDER:	Bill Braswell
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

- H.2. Commissioner Troutman Comments.

Minutes: Commissioner Troutman had no comments.

I. COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3 (BILL BRASWELL)

- I.1. Reappoint Pauline Simmonds-Brown as a member of the Citizens Health Care Oversight Committee, representing Minorities, for the four-year term, September 15, 2025 through September 14, 2029. (District 3 Appointment)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Martha Santiago
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

I.2. Commissioner Braswell Comments.

Minutes: Commissioner Braswell had no comments.

J. COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 4 (MARTHA SANTIAGO)

J.1. Reappoint Tracy M. Grey as a Member of the Citizens HealthCare Oversight Committee, representing Children's Interest, for the four-year term, October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2029.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Martha Santiago
SECONDER:	Michael Scott
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

J.2. Reappoint Ann M. Barnhart to serve as the Hospital Executive member of the Citizens HealthCare Oversight Committee for the four-year term, October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2029.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Martha Santiago
SECONDER:	Michael Scott
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

J.3. Commissioner Santiago Comments.

Minutes: Commissioner Santiago had no comments.

K. COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 5 (MICHAEL SCOTT)

K.1. Commissioner Scott Comments.

Minutes: Commissioner Scott had no comments.

L. COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 2 (RICK WILSON, CHAIR)

L.1. Reappoint Peter S. Verrill, MD as a member of the Citizens Health Care Oversight Committee, representing Specialist Physicians, for the four-year term, September 19, 2025 through September 18, 2029. (Chairman's Appointment)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Martha Santiago
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

L.2. Reappoint Christina Criser Jackson as a member of the Citizens Health Care Oversight Committee, representing Quality of Life Professional, for the four-year term, October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2029. (District 2 Appointment)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Becky Troutman
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

L.3. Chair Wilson Comments.

Minutes: Chair Wilson had no comments.

M. LAY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

M.1. Appoint new members to the Community Relations Advisory Council (CRAC).
(No Fiscal Impact)

Minutes: Commissioner Santiago said all three members are here and asked them to stand to be recognized.

Abdul Alklatis said we are privileged to serve and said they will serve with honor.

Reverend Shandale Terrell thanked God for this opportunity to serve. He thanked the Board, the County Manager, and staff. He said as he has served he saw what they can accomplish together. He said it is people, progress and Polk County. He thanked them for the opportunity to serve.

Sharon Mathis said 40 years of service and she is continuing to work in the neighborhoods. She thanked the Board and the County Manager. She said that we are here to serve.

Commissioner Santiago said congratulations to all three of them and we look forward to their work.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Martha Santiago
SECONDER:	Bill Braswell
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

N. EXPEDITED HEARINGS PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. 2022-089

Minutes: County Attorney Randy Mink reminded the audience for the procedures for expedited and public hearings. He swore in those who plan to speak.

N.1. Public Hearing (LDCPAS-2025-18 Christina Fire Station) (Adoption Hearing) to consider the adoption of a Small-Scale Comprehensive Plan Amendment to change the Future Land Use designation from Residential Low (RL) to Institutional (INST) on ±4.57 acres for a future County Fire Rescue Station and a change from Residential Low (RL) to Preservation (PRESV) on ±2.89 acres to recognize a County stormwater management facility. (No Fiscal Impact)

Minutes: Land Development Director Ben Ziskal reviewed the proposed land use

change. He said that staff and the Planning Commission recommend approval.

Upon question, Mr. Ziskal said it is an existing stormwater management facility and there is no intent of building anything on this site. He said the Residential Low designation is inappropriate and there is no desire to build homes on this site. He said designating it as Preservation will clarify that it will stay a stormwater retention pond.

The Chair opened a public hearing; no one spoke.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Martha Santiago
SECONDER:	Becky Troutman
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

N.2. Public Hearing (LDCT-2025-12 Mobile Home Sales LDC Text Amendment) (First Reading) to allow Retail, Home Sales Offsite as a permitted use in the Industrial-X (INDX) land use district. (No Fiscal Impact).

Minutes: Land Development Director Ben Ziskal reviewed the proposed text amendment. He said that staff and the Planning Commission recommend approval. He said this is the first reading and there is no action today.

The Chair opened a public hearing; no one spoke.

N.3. Public Hearing (LDCT-2025-16 Heavy Equipment Sales and Services LDC Text Amendment) (First Reading) to allow Heavy Machinery Equipment Sales and Services as a conditional use in the Industrial-X (INDX) land use district. (No Fiscal Impact).

Minutes: Land Development Director Ben Ziskal reviewed the proposed text amendment. He said that staff and the Planning Commission recommend approval. He said this is the first reading and there is no action today.

The Chair opened a public hearing; no one spoke.

O. PUBLIC HEARINGS

O.1. Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Resolution Allowing for the Installation of Two Traffic Calming Devices (Speed Humps) on Wheeler Road North, Near Lakeland. (estimated \$10,000.00 one-time expense)

Minutes: Amy Gregory, Traffic Manager, showed slides and reviewed the proposed request for a resolution allowing for the installation of two traffic calming devices on Wheeler Road North, near Lakeland. She said that this received the required favorable votes. She said that staff recommends approval.

The Chair opened a public hearing.

Elissa Lee asked for a speed hump and said she lives behind a school. She discussed speeding. She said she hopes that the speed hump can be installed.

The Chair closed the public hearing.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Martha Santiago
SECONDER:	Bill Braswell
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

O.2. Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Resolution Allowing for the Installation of Four Traffic Calming Devices (Speed Humps) on Avenue U Northwest, Near Winter Haven. (estimated \$20,000.00 one-time expense)

Minutes: Amy Gregory, Traffic Manager, reviewed the request for a resolution allowing for the installation of four traffic calming devices on Avenue U Northwest, near Winter Haven. She said the required favorable votes have been received. She said that staff recommends approval.

The Chair opened a public hearing; no one spoke.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Becky Troutman
SECONDER:	Michael Scott
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

O.3. Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Resolution Allowing for the Installation of Nine Traffic Calming Devices (Speed Humps) on Dean Street, Near Mulberry. (estimated \$45,000.00 one-time expense)

Minutes: Amy Gregory, Traffic Manager, reviewed the request for a resolution allowing for the installation of nine traffic calming devices on Dean Street, near Mulberry. She said that this meets the favorable required votes. She said that an additional speed hump was discussed on Friday at the Agenda Review and that can be done the same time as this.

Chair Wilson said that is what he would like to see past the curb. He said it is best and keeps them slowed down.

Mr. Beasley said there will be a tenth speed hump put in.

Upon question, Ms. Gregory said the length of Dean Street is 4,100 feet. She said they try to put them 400-500 feet apart. She said the Board can direct them to add the speed hump and it does not technically meet the policy.

Mr. Beasley said the Board has used some discretion and the issue here is to get the other hump installed.

The Chair opened a public hearing.

Jonathan Bass discussed his property and said that kids play in the neighborhood. He discussed the traffic flying down the road. He said there are two schools and people treat this as a short cut.

Ashley Prevratil said she lives on the corner. She said she appreciates the additional speed hump. She said this is an ongoing issue and said the road needs to be reclassified. She said the bridge cannot accommodate the semis coming through. She asked for more speed bumps placed down Kidd School Road.

Commissioner Troutman said for Ms. Prevratil to work with Ms. Gregory to get that process started. She said we are here to work with her.

James Collins said they are in support of the speed humps. He said people are cutting through to get to 37 at excessive speeds. He said it is dangerous.

David Gilbreath said he is the one who brought this up. He said the traffic is horrendous and people use it as a cut-through. He discussed trucks cutting through and he said that they need speed humps.

The Chair closed the public hearing.

Upon discussion, Ms. Gregory will verify if there are truck restrictions on Deen Street and Kidd School Road.

Commissioner Scott asked for follow up on when the bridge on Kidd School Road was last inspected and if there are deficiencies that need to be addressed.

Mr. Beasley clarified that the additional speed bump will be installed before the road is reclassified.

Motion to approve with one additional speed bump on Kidd School Road.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Becky Troutman
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

O.4. Consider adoption of an Ordinance of the Polk County Board of County Commissioner, establishing Vessel Exclusion Zones and Designated Swim Areas on Lake Winterset, Lake Clinch, and Lake Ariana.

Minutes: County Attorney Randy Mink reviewed the proposed Ordinance of the Polk County Board of County Commissioner, establishing Vessel Exclusion Zones and Designated Swim Areas on Lake Winterset, Lake Clinch, and Lake Ariana. He said that the Sheriff's office has submitted letters to the Board raising safety issues due to the amount of swimmers mixing with vessels in these areas. He said the Sheriff is asking them to adopt this ordinance. He said their deputies have reported a growing number of complaints from residents and documented situations where vessel operations are unsafe and unsafe speeds in proximity of swimmers that are creating hazardous conditions.

Lieutenant Varnadore said they did make an arrest for someone driving a jet ski at a

high rate of speed in and amongst swimmers in the Lake Winterset area. He discussed other incidents that are occurring. He said swim zones that excludes vessels will help ensure that nobody gets hurt.

Mr. Mink said they would have to adopt an ordinance to expand or add additional boundaries on the lakes for swim zones. He said FWC would have to approve boundary changes.

Upon question, Lieutenant Varnadore said they are seeing the same issues over and over again. He said the amount of boats have decreased slightly since the arrests. He said they have made five arrests in the last three days. He said the majority of them are the same crowd.

The Chair opened a public hearing.

Robert Sheffield said he lives on the north side of Lake Winterset. He said the lake has changed a whole lot over the last 25 years. He discussed the water quality tests being submitted to the state. He said he is not sure that this is a good idea. He said we need to give people more options with boat ramps.

Kathryn Nantz said she is here to talk about respect. She said there is no respect anymore on the lake. She discussed jet skis and loud music. She asked for respect back on our lakes.

Don Mason thanked the Sheriff's office. He said it has slowed things down and said they are hoping to get the swim zone in place. He said without the noise ordinance it will not matter. He said there is not a public boat ramp on Lake Winterset and said they boat in from other areas. He said he is in favor of the noise and swim ordinance.

Frank Fulco discussed the loud music and said it has gotten worse. He said he does not understand how adding additional boat ramps would make that better. He said we have to do something. He said there are a lot of incidences. He spoke in support.

Joshua Meeks said it is out of hand and said taking away peoples' rights to the water is not the way to go about it. He said they need to put in a noise ordinance and said he likes to be on the water. He said there are other ways to handle this. He said to arrest people who are on other peoples property and not rope out the areas. He said to allow people to legally be there.

Linda Phillipp said they were skiing and people do not look and it is usually the jet skis. She discussed the things that are left in their yard and said the language is awful. She said they love to see people having fun on the water. She discussed the noise. She asked to pass this and said it would go a long way to make it peaceful and enjoyable.

Ed Phillipp said this will allow a buffer and will make it more peaceful. He discussed a swimmer popping up and said he was 50 feet from killing her. He said that the safe swim zones need to be established. He said somebody is going to get killed.

Celeste Leonard said she cannot enjoy the lake and discussed how she is afraid. She

said boats and jet skis are flying through. She said she has had trespassers in her yard and had to install a fence. She said it is a dangerous situation and someone will get hurt. She said she hopes they pass this.

Candace Resmundo showed aerial photos of her property. She discussed people being hurt on the lake and said they have been battling the reckless behavior for four years. She said children are always present in these crowds. She said she is in full support of swim zones. She asked when do they get to enjoy their own property. She said she has 120 signatures in opposition.

Doreen Nystrom thanked the Sheriff's office for their time. She said she cannot bring her grandchildren out due to the language. She said that they have asked people to turn down the music, they leave, and come back with bigger speakers. She said the respect is gone. She said as homeowners this is enough. She said for the boaters to grow up.

Susan McIntee said there has been a major shift in culture and respect. She showed pictures of people on boats and on private properties. She said there are safety issues. She asked who is driving these people home safe and said people must be held accountable for their actions. She said she has had to pull her kids inside several times for vulgar words and behavior.

Michael Hart said he has witnessed the progression of bad behavior. He discussed the noise. He discussed people squeezing as many boats in and he discussed safety concerns with this. He said that people are not respectful. He discussed the noise and said it is necessary to address the noise ordinance.

The Chair closed the public hearing.

Mr. Mink said that the public bathing areas are different areas from the vessel exclusion and swim areas.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Martha Santiago
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

O.5. Consider adoption of an Ordinance of the Polk County Board of County Commissioners entitled the "Polk County Noise Ordinance", repealing and restating Ordinance 14-030, as amended.

Minutes: County Attorney Randy Mink reviewed the proposed ordinance entitled the "Polk County Noise Ordinance", repealing and restating Ordinance 14-030, as amended. He said the testimony from the previous hearing can be incorporated into this public hearing.

The Chair opened a public hearing; no one spoke.

Upon question, Mr. Mink clarified that this can be in any lake in Polk County if it is considered a noise disturbance. He said there are not set hours for the noise for

boating activities. He said sporting activities have certain hours.

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Bill Braswell
SECONDER:	Becky Troutman
AYE:	Troutman, Wilson, Braswell, Santiago, and Scott

P. REQUEST FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC/AUDIENCE AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD

P.1. Shawna Davis to discuss neighboring property's code enforcement violations.

Minutes: Ms. Davis was not present.

P.2. Comments.

Minutes: James Abercrombie congratulated them on their two hour meeting and said we have not accomplished a lot. He said he is here to talk about public records. He said he will now email them his public records requests. He said there is stopping on everything he does. He said he would like to have rebuttals from the emails to the commissioners. He said he does not like the three minute rule. He said he brought a specific complaint about this park. He said he expects them to communicate through email.

County Attorney Randy Mink said the County Attorney's office does provide guidance to the divisions on public records requests.

Chair Wilson said that Mr. Abercrombie has received everything he has asked for as of today. He said we gave him everything he wanted and he keeps coming back.

Ailigh Vanderbush showed slides and discussed TNVR. She said unfed cats prey on wildlife and we should be feeding community cats. She discussed research materials.

Pam Taylor said she has been in rescue for 16 years. She said she is concerned that we are not making any changes. She said they can modify and amend the Sheriff's budget. She spoke in support of the animals.

Kay Bourque said their goal is to see change. She discussed an ordinance revision and said she will wait for a response. She asked for an animal advisory committee. She said we cannot adopt or kill our way out of this.

Eve Salimbene said she thinks they are missing the point. She said TNVR works and if you take away the breeding capabilities there are less cats. She discussed an opinion letter from Commissioner Braswell and said they have debunked his six points.

Saralyn Smith said the heart of a man can be judged by his treatment of animals. She said this is not a problem that is going away. She said Animal Control should be run by veterinarians with advisory boards. She said she will vigorously campaign against those not for change.

Commissioner Troutman responded to Ms. Smith and said she opened with a quote. She said the heart of a person can also be shown as treatment towards children. She said she will quote her, "maybe when you graduate from high school and have some real life experiences you can weigh in on this". She said when you tell that to a child on social media it also shows your heart.

Debbie Hicks said at the last meeting it was clarified that the county owns the Animal Control facility. She discussed the facility and said there have been no upgrades to the facility. She said Stacy Butterfield is here and she reports to the Board and she asked that the Sheriff also report.

Brenda Haley discussed the Pasco County Animal facility. She discussed the staff and volunteers in Pasco and said the facilities are climate controlled and have an in house pharmacy. She discussed all the things that Pasco county does and the programs that they have. She discussed a new facility being built in Tampa.

Betty Jean Ammarell discussed Pasco County Animal Control. She said they are ranked at the top and they wanted to see the facility. She asked how many of the commissioners have been out to the facility.

Diane Schaffer said there is no safe haven for cats in Polk County. She discussed the euthanasias and deaths in the Animal Control facility. She said the cats continue to multiply. She discussed the benefits of TNVR. She said the caring of animals reflects righteousness.

Shannon Medina discussed the Polk County Bully Project. She discussed the animals pulled from the Animal Control facility. She said they pulled 65% of the dogs from the facility. She said there needs to be an ordinance change to stop the flow of animals to the facility. She said they are here to help Animal Control and they are stumbling backwards.

Jhoanna Mukai Allende discussed animal welfare. She said we are not just pet owners and we are a voice. She said to visit the rescues.

Cherylann McGirt said she was a volunteer at Animal Control. She said the facility is next to the dump and discussed the smell. She said the problem is the people not caring for their pets. She said people dump their animals and this is the problem. She said having the sheriff do two jobs is too much. She said now we do not have volunteers. She said to give guidance and she wants people to take care of their animals.

Commissioner Scott said some in the community have accused him of being silent. He said he reached out to adjacent counties. He said one of the directors said that TNVR had only a minimal impact on cat population control. He said another one stated that they are sterilizing 2,200 cats that come into the shelter and they have not seen a decrease in kitten intake. He said there is a lot of parts to the puzzle and he said we all hear you. He said he encourages more solutions-based information. He said at the facility new fans have been installed and he was there when it was 96-97 degrees and

it is not that bad inside. He said they also have the screen enclosures. He said this is about the communities. He discussed disaster response and said that the reasons that people get help and things get built quicker is because of the volunteering organizations. He said money does not solve the problem it takes people, compassion, care and time. He said to keep building those volunteer organizations, the ones who can take in more animals to rescue. He said Animal Control still takes in animals regardless if they are full or not. He said we will hear their voices and there is more behind it. He said all the other counties do not have it all figured out.

Chair Wilson said we listen and we will always let them speak. He said there is nothing that is going to change at the Board. He said they are not going to make something happen. He said the Sheriff's office is the one you need to talk to. He discussed how the Sheriff is in charge of Animal Control. He said that until the Sheriff or their staff tells them that new ordinances are needed this board will not take actions. He said this Board does not tell any duly elected official or constitutional officer how to do their job. He said they are elected by voters and not hired by this Board. He said we fully trust and appreciate the Sheriff's office for their efforts. He said we have heard their opinions and there are plenty of organizations that disagree with what they say. He said their time would be better spent by taking this directly to the Sheriff's office.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.