



## NORTH COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION

# Minutes

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*Tuesday, September 24, 2024 / 4:00PM / NCNC*

*Meeting called to order by Sal Faso*

*Location: The Club at IBIS 9055 Ibis Blvd WPB, FL 33412*

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### IN ATTENDANCE

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- Member Community Delegates and Friends from Ancient Tree, Ballenises, Bent Tree, Caloosa, Carlton Oaks, IBIS, Mirabella, Mirasol, MMMA, Osprey Isles, PGA National, and Steeplechase.
- Local Government Officials, Community Leaders, and Businesses from Palm Beach County, Palm Beach Gardens and West Palm Beach.
- Presenters including:
  - Erik Cazares, CEO for Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center
  - Joseph Abruzzo, Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller for Palm Beach County
  - Anne Gannon, Palm Beach County Tax Collector
  - Mel Pollock, Senior Project Engineer for The Corradino Group
  - Ed Chase, Director of Intergovernmental Relations for Palm Beach County
  - Heather Frederick, Chief Financial Officer for The School District of Palm Beach County

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## NEW BUSINESS

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The meeting was convened by Sal Faso at 4:00PM

- Opening Remarks from Sal included the following:
  - Introductions – Officials, Candidates, Fire Rescue, and Businesses
  - Received approval for June & July Meeting 2024 Meeting Minutes
  - Received approval for September 2024 Treasurer’s Report
  - 2025 NCNC Annual Dues Invoices will be going out shortly
  - Next Meeting will be 2024 General Election Forum at Mirasol on October 29<sup>th</sup>. RSVP is required for access through security.

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## GUEST SPEAKERS

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### **Erik Cazares, CEO for Palm Beach Gardens Medical Center**

- Erik has been the new CEO of PBGMC for 3 months. Joining us from El Paso with 18 years in HealthCare. He is passionate about ‘Patient Care’ and serving the needs of the community. His goal is to continue to have a culture that is patient centric. Erik wants to be involved in the community and is available to come speak at your community. If interested, let Sal or Camille know & we will pass the information on.

### **Anne Gannon, Palm Beach County Tax Collector**

- Anne discussed the new North County Service Center & the upcoming new center on Lyons.
- Other topics discussed include what TCO does (Constitutional Tax Collector, agent for the Florida Highway Safety & Motor and additional services), how property taxes are calculated
- 3,000 reservations are booked daily across all six service center locations for several different transaction types
- Since 2020, reservation lead times have been reduced by 36%

- Where \$5+ billion dollars in taxes are distributed
- Contact Information
  - Monday – Friday, 8:15 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
  - [www.pbctax.com](http://www.pbctax.com)
  - [ClientAdvocate@pbctax.com](mailto:ClientAdvocate@pbctax.com)
  - (561) 355-2264
  - Social Media
  - Instagram @TAXPBC
  - Facebook @PBCTAX
  - YouTube @TaxCollectorPBC
  - LinkedIn – \mycompany\taxpbc

For more information this Presentation is posted on NCNC’s Website <https://ncncpbc.org/our-meetings/>

### **Joseph Abruzzo, Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller for Palm Beach**

- Joseph discussed how all the Constitutional Offices work together. How his office keeps PBC running, under Florida Statute 129.09 the only office personally liable if anything goes wrong and an updated website where you can do anything online.
- Protecting and Investing Taxpayer Money, Breakdown of investments including 15% invested in Isreal bonds which returns \$35 million a year. From 2018 to 2024 the Return on Investment went from \$34 million to a projected \$224 million.
- **Free Property Fraud Alert System to Help Protect Yourself and Your Home. Sign up at: [www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/homeowners](http://www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/homeowners)**
- **Access your guide to County Finances on NCNC’s website**
- **Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Palm Beach County**

For more information this Presentation is posted on NCNC’s Website <https://ncncpbc.org/our-meetings/>

### **Mel Pollock, Senior Project Engineer for The Corradino Group**

- Mel gave an update on the SR 710/Beeline Highway Reconstruction Project. Project Limits: State Road (SR) 710/Beeline Highway from Northlake Boulevard to SR 708/Blue Heron Boulevard and Florida’s Turnpike bridge over SR 710/Beeline Highway. Start Date: March 18, 2024 Completion Date: Late 2029 Percentage complete: 14%.
- Current activities:
  - A lane width reduction on the eastbound SR 710/Beeline Highway lanes from just east of the Turnpike to Haverhill Road is in place to safely facilitate roadway construction
  - Drainage activities ongoing on the east side of Blue Heron Blvd and the swale between Blue Heron Blvd and Military Trail
  - Median paving ongoing on Beeline Highway and Blue Heron Boulevard

- Reshaping and expansion of the pond at the SR 710/Beeline Highway & Jog Road intersection (this expanded pond is part of the new drainage system being installed under this contract)
- Placement of concrete for the cast-in-place wall ongoing
- Clearing and grubbing on the west side of southbound Turnpike from the SR 710/ Beeline Highway exit ramp
- Median clearing on Florida's Turnpike south of the bridge over the SR 710/Beeline Highway

For more information this Presentation is posted on NCNC's Website <https://ncncpb.org/our-meetings/>

### **Ed Chase, Director of Intergovernmental Relations and Community Engagement for Palm Beach County**

- Ed gave an overview of the 6 Six Statewide Proposed Constitutional Amendments
  - Amendment 1 – Partisan Election of members of district school boards
  - Amendment 2 – Right to Fish and Hunt
  - Amendment 3 – Adult Personal Use of Marijuana
  - Amendment 4 – Amendment to limit government interference with abortion
  - Amendment 5 – Annual Adjustments to the Value of certain Homestead Exemptions
  - Amendment 6 – Repeal of Public Campaign Financing Requirements
- Ed is available to speak at your communities on the 2024 Ballot Questions. If interested, let Sal or Camille know & we will pass the information on.

For more information this Presentation is posted on NCNC's Website <https://ncncpb.org/our-meetings/>

### **Heather Frederick, Chief Financial Officer for The School District of Palm Beach County**

- Heather gave an overview of the 2024 School ballot referendum including but not limited to:
  - Enhances School security & safety
  - Improves classroom technology & equipment
  - Reinvests in school & facilities
  - Funds capital & maintenance projects
  - Updates the school bus fleet
  - THE 1/2 PENNY is a continuation of an existing sales tax rate for schools in Palm Beach County and **will not raise taxes**

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## ADJOURNMENT

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### **Closing Remarks included the following:**

- Next Meeting will be 2024 General Election Forum at Mirasol on October 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Adjourned Meeting @ 5:41 pm