

# scgovCOMMISSION REPORT

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Dec. 8, 2010

## Sarasota County Commission agenda actions

Sarasota County commissioners acted on the following items during their meeting Wednesday, Dec. 8, in the Commission Chamber at the County Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota.

### **Purchase of Warm Mineral Springs** (Wednesday, Item 9)

Sarasota County commissioners approved a joint contract with North Port to purchase Warm Mineral Springs from Cypress Lending Group for \$5.5 million. Renowned as a tourist attraction because of the warm, spring-fed waters, the site also has important environmental and ecological features which led county and city commissioners to seek acquisition of the property. North Port commissioners are expected to consider the contract on Dec. 13. Upon approval by county commissioners and city commissioners, the closing on the purchase of the 81-acre facility will take place Dec. 20.

**Contact:** John McCarthy, general manager, Parks and Recreation, 941-861-5483.

### **Parks Interlocal Agreement** (Wednesday, Item 10)

Sarasota County commissioners voted to approve a staff recommendation that the city of Sarasota take over all operations of neighborhood parks within the city. In addition, commissioners voted to designate all beaches, boat ramps, Arlington Park and Pool and Payne Park Tennis Center as regional facilities, which will need to become fully supported by fees. Commissioners also directed staff to continue negotiating with city officials on an agreement on the financial responsibility for the operation of parks within city limits. Many of the parks are owned by the city, but operated by the county. Under the existing 20-year agreement, which was signed in 1989 and extended to March 2011, the county manages and operates 26 city parks.

**Contact:** Carolyn Brown, interim general manager, Parks and Recreation, 941-861-9866.

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