

Citizen Comments for the May 11, 2021 Meeting Agenda

The following Citizen Comments were received for
Non Agendaed Item

Board of County Commissioners, May 11, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non Agendaed Item	Name: Paul Brewer
Lobbyist: No	Address: 4162 Lonnie Gray Rd.
	Date Submitted: 5/9/2021 11:45:00 AM

Citizens south of Sewage of sewage plant should be sent the opportunity to have their wells tested free for quality as this water flows into the Munson/Wakulla. Heritage trees and forest SHOULD be preserved.

Board of County Commissioners, May 11, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non Agendaed Item	Name: Ben Castro
Lobbyist: No	Address: 10454 Rose Road, Tallahassee, Fl
	Date Submitted: 5/4/2021 1:09:00 PM

My family has owned and paid taxes on a 248 acre farm (Angus Cattle Ranch) in Leon County for many years. My parents bought 160 acres out off Rose Road in 1960. Later they bought another 40 acres and later another 40 acres and then they bought a . lot off Day Flower Circle, all which joined the farm. All of it was done prior to 1999, actually all before 1990 or before. Daddy passed away in 2002 and my Mom passed away in 2015. There are 4 children; myself, Jack, Marilyn & David. (By the way the farm is adjacent to Leon County owned land off Ash Road and the St. Mark Preserve State Park and is a documented Spanish Mission Site, Santa Cruz De Capalo). I consulted with Weldon Richardson about what we needed to do to divide the land 4 ways. He informed me that since there are 4 parcel numbers we need to provided 8 surveys on 8x14 paper , 1 for the existing & 1 for the 4 new division parcels =8.

This is beyond ludicrous, ridiculous. The current parcel deeds are on record and the descriptions are and have been on record. These hoops serve zero purpose. Weldon was most kind. His supervisor? Well, there is no question in my mind, enjoys putting the taxpayers who pay his salary through grief. Weldon Richardson, unlike his supervisor, has common sense, and is knowledgeable about the processes. I would recommend that you as commissioners place Weldon as Chief Head Planner.

Looking at total qualifications, that includes being kind & respectful to Leon County property owners, he far out-qualifies the current Chief.

Back to my request: Eliminate the need for 8 surveys. We provided a single certified survey from Delta Surveyors (Randy Rowell) that has the 4 parcels well described and the ROW easements well displayed and described. Everything the Leon County Property Appraiser and any other county entity needs is on this one survey that costs us over \$5,000. If nothing else, please only require 4 surveys on 8.5x14 paper of the 4 new parcels made from the 248 acre farm that is currently (for display mostly) in 4 parcels and has been for years. (Not only this, the current supervisor is saying we can't even provide the 8 surveys anymore, he has utterly lost his mind) At this time I don't know what we need to do. The hoops are continually being invented and thrown?

I am not asking on just my behalf. There are may other landowners and the children who will inherit farm land & timber land that do not need to be put through these costly, totally unnecessary

hoops.

Lastly, the commission needs to understand that they are the boss and are over the County Planning Department. And, they need to understand the appointed Planning Commission is for recommendations only and many times their personal friends and interests often play in their recommendations. Please remember where ad-valorem property tax comes from and stop penalizing the citizens who have paid the most over many, many years.

Thank You,
Ben Castro

Board of County Commissioners, May 11, 2021 Citizen Comments

Non Agendaed Item	Name: Sharla Daire
Lobbyist: No	Address: 2673 Chandalar Lane
	Date Submitted: 5/9/2021 12:25:00 PM

I would like to speak about the community harassment and stalking. Not only are citizens involved but also city workers, law enforcement and most businesses. Being followed, harassed and treated like scum in your own town not only changed the quality of one's life it is against the law and our constitution.

The following Citizen Comments were received for
Item 24 - Proposed Revisions to Policy No. 03-16, "Holidays" to Include
Election Day as a Paid Holiday for Leon County Government
Employees

Board of County Commissioners, May 11, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 24 - Proposed Revisions to Policy No. 03-16, "Holidays" to Include Election Day as a Paid Holiday for Leon County Government Employees	Name: Darwin Gamble
Lobbyist: No	Address: 1248 HALIFAX CT
	Date Submitted: 5/4/2021 3:32:00 PM

Please vote to adopt Option 1 to establish Election Day as a paid holiday for Leon County Government employees. The right to vote in Florida is under attack from our own state government. The Leon County Commission has a duty to push back on this creeping authoritarianism as hard as it possibly can. Giving County employees a day off to vote is a small step, but it will let everyone know that you are doing whatever you can to make it easier for our citizens to exercise this important constitutional right.

The Florida Legislature recently enacted Senate Bill 90 which has probably been signed into law by the time you read this. Among other things, this law makes it more difficult for voters to return their completed vote-by-mail ballots to secure drop boxes. You can take another small but significant step toward supporting voting rights by providing our Supervisor of Elections with sufficient funding to pay the return postage for vote-by-mail ballots. Several other counties, such as Hillsborough, do this. So should we. In addition, please provide the Supervisor's office with adequate funding for voter registration, voter education, and election administration so we can have another smoothly run election. Thanks!

Board of County Commissioners, May 11, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 24 - Proposed Revisions to Policy No. 03-16, "Holidays" to Include Election Day as a Paid Holiday for Leon County Government Employees	Name: Robert Scanlon
Lobbyist: No	Address: 3989 Sun Hawk Blvd. 32309
	Date Submitted: 5/5/2021 2:43:00 PM

I strongly encourage approving this item. The state has done far too much to make voting harder, we should be doing all we can to encourage ALL our citizens to vote. Especially county employees, who are so directly affected.

The following Citizen Comments were received for

Item 26 - First and Only Public Hearing to Consider Adopting an
Ordinance Amending Article XIV of Chapter 10 Leon County of Law,
Entitled "Fertilizer Use"

Board of County Commissioners, May 11, 2021 Citizen Comments

Item 26 - First and Only Public Hearing to Consider Adopting an Ordinance Amending Article XIV of Chapter 10 Leon County of Law, Entitled "Fertilizer Use"	Name: Denise Howard
Lobbyist: No	Address: 3790 Piney Grove Dr
	Date Submitted: 5/10/2021 10:38:00 AM

I support water quality and Wakulla Springs advocacy groups who oppose easing fertilizer restrictions in Leon County. As a Leon County resident, I love visiting Wakulla Springs with my kids nearly every week during the summer, and support any efforts to maintain and even improve the pristine spring waters. My friends who grew up here reminisce how blue and clear the water used to be, and now it's always green/brown and rarely clear. Easing fertilizer restrictions in the surrounding counties would be going the wrong direction.

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Item 26 - First and Only Public Hearing to Consider Adopting an Ordinance Amending Article XIV of Chapter 10 Leon County of Law, Entitled "Fertilizer Use"	Name: Peter Kleinhenz
Lobbyist: No	Address: 1709 Verina Court
	Date Submitted: 5/7/2021 5:55:00 PM

Tallahassee has one major, major thing going for it: its proximity and integration with the natural world. And it isn't just any natural world, but one that possesses springs, rivers, and natural landscapes that are relatively-intact. These attract people from all over the world to right in our backyard.

So let's keep that backyard as nice as possible, or even try to make it better. One way to do that, at least in terms of our springs and rivers, is to reduce negative inputs into our groundwater. Fertilizer is a major culprit, so I strongly support a fertilizer ban here in Tallahassee, I'd personally propose that residential and commercial fertilizer use is reduced across the board if being applied to locations that do not generate a return to the City. However, I will settle for a ban only in the rainy season (May-September or so).

I, as a taxpayer, am paying for the clean-up of Wakulla Springs and other water bodies. A not-insignificant reason why I have to do that is because fertilizer is negatively impacting them. As such, I support the option here that reduces my need to pay for clean-up while still cleaning up the springs. It's a simple and straightforward solution.

Thank you for your consideration,

Peter Kleinhenz

Conservation Committee

Apalachee Audubon Society

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Item 26 - First and Only Public Hearing to Consider Adopting an Ordinance Amending Article XIV of Chapter 10 Leon County of Law, Entitled "Fertilizer Use"	Name: John Outland
Lobbyist: No	Address: 1562
	Date Submitted: 5/9/2021 11:00:00 AM

I fully support the recommendations of the Wakulla Basin Advisory Group. Our water resources are suffering from nutrient pollution from fertilizer application under the current ordinance and the staff recommended amendments are not adequate to improve water quality. The recommendations of the WBAG warrant your full consideration. These recommendations are science based and followed by many Florida communities.

The following Citizen Comments were received for

Item 28 - Phase 3 of Leon County's COVID-19 Response and Re-opening Plan, and Consideration of Public Hearing to Repeal Amended Emergency Ordinance No. 20-15

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Item 28 - Phase 3 of Leon County's COVID-19 Response and Re-opening Plan, and Consideration of Public Hearing to Repeal Amended Emergency Ordinance No. 20-15	Name: Lisa Wixted
Lobbyist: No	Address: 6471 Justin Grant Trail
	Date Submitted: 5/7/2021 2:57:00 PM

Thank you for addressing the Governor's Executive Order regarding mask mandates. I am in full support of Leon County preserving efforts to protect our community in whatever way they can, including encouraging businesses and work to continue to wear masks in indoor public spaces, especially our schools.

Many of these kids in our communities are not eligible for the vaccine, in addition to families that choose not to vaccinate. School aged kids are driving the pandemic in many states, especially with the variants. Supporting and making vaccines available for the entire school populations are a huge step to curbing this pandemic. The decision to wear masks in schools for the upcoming school year will be the deciding factor if we send our kids to brick and mortar. I understand the schools will address this at the end of June.

However, the decisions that our Board and Commission make now regarding reopening our community will have an impact on our school guidelines and safety. As a community, we need to continue to follow CDC guidelines and recommendations to continue to protect the well-being of all. Thank you for your support and all you do to ensure the continued safety of this community!