

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PUBLIC WORKSHOP  
AUGUST 21, 2017

NOTE: If any person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record for the proceedings and may need to insure that a verbatim record is made.

PRESIDING: Jimmy Tallman, Chairman

RECORDING: Noah Wright, Finance Officer

ATTENDING: Commissioner Willie Croft; Commissioner Woody Kitley; Commissioner Karen Cossey; Commissioner Tommy Nettles; Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary; Kellie Connell, Clerk of Courts; Russ Wade, County Attorney

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairman Tallman.

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Commissioner Tallman delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **PUBLIC WELCOMED**

4. **DISCUSSION**

Scott Koons present the County Commissioners with the comprehensive plans regarding mining applications. All presented the County Commissioners with a seven-year comprehensive plan that would put the County within statues with the state.

Sandra Joseph presented a presentation for the comprehensive plans to highlight the changes that were being made for the County to follow state statute. She also presented the amendments made for the comprehensive mining plan to identify in mining.

Zeb Howard addressed the Board and stated he is not opposed to looking into the amendments presented, but is opposed to the current land use map that has been presented. He believes that to limit the use of mining without probable cause, the County Commissioners are infringing on his rights.

Mike Branch expressed the same concerns as Mr. Howard. He believes that if landowners follow the laws then they should be able to do what they want on their land.

Jimmy Bielling stated that his property rights are extremely important. He stated that many people follow BMP's by choice and that they are stewards of the land. Mr. Bielling states that the Constitution does not give someone the right to say to him what he can and cannot do with his land.

Doyle Williams spoke with the same viewpoints as the previous speakers.

Tom Wells spoke about people's rights of property. He stated that multinational Companies can sue Counties for damages or profit losses caused by the County hindering the operation.

Marilee Jlpson had a question as to why the strike off is on the first page.

Jim Tatum stated that he is not concerned about the mining of the land but is rather concerned about the chemicals that are produced from mining. If the chemicals damage the river, then the mining operation would infringe on his Constitutional right.

Courtney Snyder echoed Mr. Tatum and stated that if you are doing activities on your property that damages another property then you are infringing on other's property rights.

Mathew Barker stated that the water system in Florida is not fully understood. He spoke about a road crew from another County and how they followed regulations but still caused a blockage of the flow of water.

Carrol Mosely asked the question of how much water would be used for the mining operation. She also asked about the control of light pollution from a 20 hour work day.

Joanne Pakula stated that she was in favor of people making money off of their land. However, she was concerned about the threat to both water and air that occurs with mining.

John Lake had the same opinions about the air and water and how no single person owns the water in the ground and the air that we breathe. He stated that Mosaic Mines had a 250 billion gallon leak of radioactive waste into the aquifer as well as a leak of ammonia into the air.

Bryan Croft spoke on behalf of his parents. He had the same view as earlier speakers about property rights. He was concerned that the amendments as they stand right now will only benefit a select few families.

Kate Ellison stated that the number of people around the mine in Union County is very intertwined and a lot of people will be impacted by the mine.

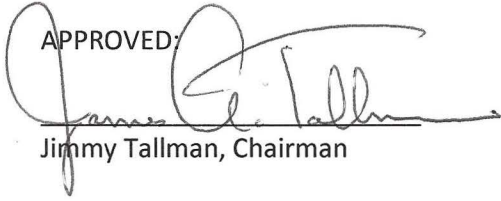
Dana Shuker spoke about past decisions of the Army Corps of Engineers and how they worked to divert water to the south and they are now regretting the actions they took.

Steve Piczenik spoke about the levels of radon in Union County. He stated that with the mining they are going to experience a spike in cancer rates and that Surgeon General supports these claims about the rise of cancer rates from mining.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Tallman adjourned the meeting at 6:43 PM.

APPROVED:



Jimmy Tallman, Chairman

ATTEST



Kellie H. Connell, Clerk of Courts