

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
UNION COUNTY, FLORIDA
ROADS WORKSHOP
JULY 19, 2021

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 ensure that a verbatim record is made.

PRESIDING: James Tallman, Chair

RECORDING: Kellie Hendricks Rhoades, Clerk of Courts & Comptroller

ATTENDING: Commissioner Lacey Cannon; Commissioner Channing Dobbs; Commissioner Ryan Perez; James Williams, County Coordinator; Dianne Hannon, Board Secretary; Russ Wade, County Attorney; Pamela Woodington, Finance Director

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chair Tallman called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm. Commissioner Perez offered the invocation and led Pledge of Allegiance.

DISCUSSION REGARDING COUNTY ROADS

Chair Tallman recognized Tim Lanterman to address the Board. Mr. Lanterman lives in Hiddeon Oaks subdivision, and brought concerns to the Board regarding flooding in the subdivision. Shelton Arnold, Jr., Road Superintendent, responded that the Suwannee River Water Management District says the County needs to pay for engineering for any more work to be done. Mr. Williams added that there is land for a retention pond, but the County has no access to it to clean it routinely. He requested to meet with the water management district to explore options. Chair Tallman addressed Ben Glass from SRWMD, recommending that someone ask the Ward's for access to the pond for maintenance. He asked that he give everyone involved his contact information so that a plan can be made that works for all involved. Mr. Glass answered that he is not an engineer, but can make the appropriate contacts.

Chair Tallman then addressed the concerns of SW 94th Place. He explained that the road is on a development paved years ago, and ends in a cul-de-sac, which turns into a private road beyond that point. The County has put rock at the end of the road, to make the end of the road accessible for those that live beyond the County-maintained part. Three months ago, the road department tried to put in millings, but Michael Bangert stopped the work crew. Gary Brewster, who has an easement on the property in question, added to the discussion. Mr. Some residents are opposed to a speed bump or millings. Mark Link addressed the Board, stating that he is okay with Mr. Tallman's proposal. Chair Tallman said he has received a letter from Mr. Coburn citing Florida Statutes, stating that the County can maintain the road, but he is not willing to put County personnel in harm's way, and asked Attorney Wade if the County can maintain that portion of the road. Mr. Arnold told Attorney Wade that the County has maintained the cul-de-sac for years, and Attorney Wade told Mr. Tallman that by virtue of maintaining it for seven years, it is a County Road. Chair Tallman expressed that the situation is a mess, and that the advice of the County attorney is that it is legal for the County to maintain it, so he would like Mr. Arnold to put in a speed bump, and for law enforcement to be present when the work is done.

Robert Maddox expressed concern about damages caused by bat wing mowers.

Chair Tallman also brought up a need for changes in the County's Land Development Regulations, because the County needs more housing available. Danny Tomlinson addressed the Board regarding a planner retired from Alachua County, and wants to see more positive growth in Union County. Mr. Williams addressed the Board, stating that he reached out to Mrs. Joseph from the planning council, but there is noting in the current LDR's allowing for half-acre lots. He talked with Bruce Dukes, the Property Appraiser, who suggested that certain zones allow half-acre lots, but the County should be careful as to the strategy to get more site-built homes, opposed to

mobile homes. It was also noted that the County should work with any municipalities that properties in question butt up to.

Chair Tallman suggested that we use funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to hire a consultant to make the necessary changes to the LDR's. Mr. Williams added that Glenn Hunter has talked to the Economic Development Committee regarding how to expand.

Jay Tucker addressed the Board regarding a road flooding problem. Chair Tallman asked Suwannee River Water Management District to also work with Mr. Tucker.

Chair Tallman adjourned the meeting at 5:50 pm.

Adopted by vote of the Board of County Commissioners on August 16, 2021.