

WORKSHOP – COMPOSTING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MAY 9, 2023

The Levy County Workshop of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on May 9, 2023 at 3:30 P.M. in the Meeting Room of the Levy County Annex Building with the following Commissioners present:

Chairman, Matt Brooks
Vice-Chair, Comm. Desiree Mills
Comm. Tim Hodge
Comm. John Meeks
Comm. Rock Meeks

Also present were:

County Attorney – Nicolle Shalley
County Coordinator – Wilbur Dean

Chairman Brooks called the Workshop to order at 3:30 P.M. Comm. Rock Meeks gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comm. John Meeks.

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the agenda with no changes. Second was made by Comm. Mills and the MOTION CARRIES.

PLANNING & ZONING

Stacey Hectus, Director

Ms. Hectus gave a staff presentation to the Board for their consideration on Land Use, Zoning, and Special Exception.

Comm. Brooks asked if any industry representatives in the audience wished to speak regarding the item presented.

Alan Fant, Fant Farm Organics provided a video presentation to the Board, followed by explanation of the composting industry and its benefit to Levy County.

Lorenzo Mondui, Ocala resident and representative of the Green Veterans Group, spoke in favor of the composting industry and support of Fant Farm Organics.

Comm. Brooks asked if any in the audience wished to speak regarding the item presentation given by Ms. Hectus.

The following audience members spoke in opposition of composting businesses in Levy County:

Jim Boyles	Kristine Switt	Helen Goddard	Sue Horschuhner
Sandra Pope	Gary Bennett	Joe Morales	Marlene Dillard
Karen Boyles	Jerry Pastore	Jan Noble	Linda Cooper
Debra Jones	Frank Barnett	Sam Gaw	Wayne Rice
Jill Westbrook	Jackie Morrison	Rose Fant	Paul Plourte
Ken Arnold	David Neal	Larry Tucker	Carol Knight
Sharon Battles-Hutchinson			

A letter from Caroline Sikes against permitting for composting businesses in Levy County was read aloud by Jan Noble.

Public Comment forms were received by email from the following Levy County residents against composting businesses in Levy County:

Jessica Dery	Kenneth Markosky	Kimberly and Mark Jungherr
Pamela Hunt	Joelle Schafer	

Diane Garte stated she was not against composting businesses, but was in favor of size restrictions for the property used.

Maria Wise spoke on behalf of the Levy County Horse Industry Council of concerns, but was not against the composting industry in Levy County.

Kanesha Carnegie stated she was not against composting businesses, but would like to see them located away from residential areas.

Kim Wheeler encouraged the Commissioners to postpone any decisions until more information is obtained, referring to the current updating of requirements and standards by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Planning Commission member, Tom Harper spoke of the agriculture exemption status of property when sold.

Sallie Ann Collins spoke of a Resolution approved by the Board over a year ago concerning Land Use, stating copies were to be forwarded to the FDEP, Department of Agriculture, and the Water Management District. She inquired if there was any response from these departments.

Ms. Hectus responded staff had received no response from any of these departments.

Following discussion, the Commissioners agreed to research further before giving Atty. Shalley direction for drafting of a Resolution.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:03 P.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Matt Brooks