

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

RESOLUTION NUMBER 15-11.18

**REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee**

WHEREAS, the Martin County Board of County Commissioners have determined that a Committee should be established to advise the Board of County Commissioners and staff on the Agriculture and Natural Resources;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners deems it advisable to set forth certain procedural details for the Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of County Commissioners hereby establishes the Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee and adopts the following procedures:

1. POWERS & DUTIES

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee shall have the duty and responsibility to advise the Board of County Commissioners in matters affecting agriculture and natural resources throughout the County, as appropriate. Additionally, the Committee shall prepare an annual report to the Board of County Commissioners, including an update on recent trends in local agriculture and natural resources and a summary of the Committee's activities.

The responsibilities of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee include annual election of officers, consisting of at least a Chair and Vice Chair. The Chair shall lead all meetings, be the primary spokesperson for the Committee, and be the primary Committee liaison to staff and the public. The Vice Chair shall fulfill the duties of the Chair in the latter's absence.

2. MEMBERSHIP/COMPOSITION

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee shall be comprised of ten (10) member entities, each of which shall appoint a representative and a designated alternate to be confirmed by the Board of County Commissioners.

The membership is as follows:

One representative, each with a designated alternate, from each of the following ten (10) groups: Treasure Coast Chapter of the Florida Nursery, Growers, and Landscape Association; Martin County Farm Bureau; Florida Cattleman's Association, Martin County; Localecopia; Port Salerno Commercial Fishing Dock Authority; FAU Dupuis Center for Environmental Studies; Audubon of Martin County; Florida Oceanographic Society; Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program; and Martin County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.

In the event that any of the above groups cease to exist or cannot contribute representatives, the Board of County Commissioners shall make such appointments as it determines to be appropriate.

Citizens selected for service on the Advisory Committee should be broad-based representatives of relevant professions (i.e. farmers, nursery growers, landscapers, natural resource professionals), civic groups, and environmental organizations, so as to assist the ongoing development and mission of the Committee in the best interest of the County.

Members of the Committee may be removed by the Board of County Commissioners with a simple majority vote. The Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee can recommend removal of its members for any reason, including failure to attend meetings. Failure of a representative or their alternate to attend three consecutive meetings is grounds for automatic removal from the committee.

Conflicts of Interest

Members of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee represent the interests of the agricultural industry and the natural resources community. Nevertheless, members should remove themselves from all discussions and votes on matters in which they have a conflict of interest as set forth in Chapter 112, Part III, Florida Statutes. Members shall conscientiously follow high ethical standards in putting the broad public interest ahead of any personal interest and/or bias.

3. MEETINGS

Meetings of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee shall be held at least quarterly or more frequently as directed by staff or the Committee Chair, to develop guidance and implement action item priorities concerning agriculture and natural resource issues, with the goal of enhancing and promoting the long-term viability of the County's agriculture and natural resources. A majority of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.

4. TERMS

The Committee shall be in existence until this Resolution is repealed. The terms of office shall be staggered where five members of the Committee shall be appointed for a three-year term and four members shall be appointed for a two-year term. Thereafter, terms shall be three-year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment and for the unexpired term. Members may be reappointed for two (2) consecutive renewal terms. All appointments are made by the Board of County Commissioners.

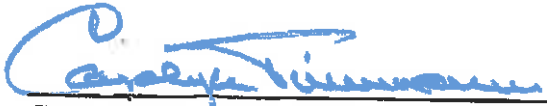
5. MINUTES

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee shall take and maintain minutes of each of its meetings, which shall be filed with the Clerk of the Court after approval by the Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee.

DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 24th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2015.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:



CAROLYN TIMMANN, CLERK OF THE
CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER



ANNE SCOTT, CHAIR

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY



MICHAEL DURHAM, COUNTY ATTORNEY