

Gus Olmos

Subject: FW: EPAC's Reveiw of the AEPD

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From: Buck Buchanan <votebuckbuchanan@yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, Mar 20, 2012 at 9:05 PM

Subject: Re: EPAC's Reveiw of the AEPD

To: Douglas Lawson <lawson.douglas.s@gmail.com>

Douglas,

Not having served the commission as of yet I have no first-hand knowledge of the EPD other than my contact with them during a tree-harvesting that occurred next to my property in the Lake Alto area. It seemed that no matter who I called (this was in Jan-Feb 1999) no one could give me any answers why they were allowing a company to wipe out a 340 plus acre area located right on Lake Alto which was all wetlands. If that helps in any way, great. Other than that I believe with the problems I had discussing that event, there are 3 or 4 agencies that appear to not know who should get involved in violations of our wetland, lake, and environmentally sensitive areas. Good luck and I hope we can discuss these things later. BUCK

From: Douglas Lawson <lawson.douglas.s@gmail.com>

To: votebuckbuchanan@yahoo.com

Sent: Sunday, March 18, 2012 4:26 PM

Subject: EPAC's Reveiw of the AEPD

Alachua County Commission Candidate Buchanan,

As you may be aware, the Environmental Protection Advisory Board is currently reviewing the budgets, practices and efficacy of the Alachua Environmental Protection Department's various programs. It has been nearly 10 years since the last time that the AEPD was evaluated to determine their relative contribution to fulfilling the needs of our community. Understanding that the tax-base has been depressed for quite some time and that difficult budgetary decisions are being made, EPAC has decided to make an attempt to determine how critical the current services provided by AEPD are to our community and whether their current funding levels are appropriate to meeting the needs of Alachua County citizens.

One aspect of performing this review is gathering data from all interested representative parties. We have been gathering information about EPD's services and costs to the community but we also need to know how the governing body of Alachua County currently perceives the AEPD. Do you have any concerns about their efficacy or specific praise that you would like to bring to our attention? We at EPAC have been focusing on the following five questions in our review and I'd like to know your opinion on each:

- Is EPD effective and efficient?
- Do any of EPD's services duplicate services provided by other agencies?
- Does EPD faithfully carry out the Commission's policy guidance?
- Should EPD's roles be changing given diminished budgets in other agencies (i.e. water management districts)?
- What should EPD's future priorities be?

I am a public school teacher here in Alachua County and as such my availability to meet during regular business hours is very limited. I can meet to discuss these issues with you after 4 pm on a weekday or if you would

prefer, we can wait until the end of the month when school is not in session. I will have a completely open schedule from March 30 until April 4. I would prefer to meet with you prior to meeting again with EPAC on April 4 at 6 pm. Alternatively, we could conduct the interview over the phone or simply via e-mail if that would be easier for you. I look forward to speaking with you on these matters and am very grateful for your time.

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Douglas Lawson
Alachua County Environmental Protection Advisory Board Member

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Douglas Lawson