

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
Comprehensive Plan Stakeholder Meeting
September 28, 2021 - 6:00 PM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairman Bill Slaughter
Vice Chairman Joyce Evans
Commissioner Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall
Commissioner Clay Griner

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Southern Georgia Regional Commission Presentation

Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the commission with a brief overview of the 2021 Joint Comprehensive Plan Update for Lowndes County and the Cities of Dasher, Hahira, Lake Park, Remerton and Valdosta.

Public Comment

Kathy McMillan Adkins, 5224 McMillan Road, addressed the commission in opposition to changing the existing character area map. Ms. Adkins thanked the Commission for their service to our community. Ms. Adkins stated no one on McMillan Road is willing to sell their property and she has land that has been in her family for over seven generations. Ms. Adkins asked the commission to keep the 2016 Comprehensive Plan in place.

Brad Folsom, 2611 North Patterson Street, addressed the commission in opposition to changing the existing character area map. Mr. Folsom stated the current residents in the area want to protect their lifestyle and maintain the rural character area. Mr. Folsom stated if the commission wants to change the character area, to look at development standards. Commissioner Orenstein stated citizens want to live in this area and it's sometimes difficult to find a balance to satisfy everyone. Chairman Slaughter stated it is the decision of the property owner(s) to sell their property, if they choose, and the Comprehensive Plan is a tool to use with developers and investors. Chairman Slaughter stated this is a challenge and it does fall on the Commission to make a final decision. Commissioner Marshall asked if taking some of the roads off of the paving list would possibly be a consideration. Chairman Slaughter answered that the roads are going to be utilized by the citizens in that area.

Gretchen Quarterman, 6565 Quarterman Road, addressed the commission in opposition to changing the existing character area map. Mrs. Quarterman stated 41 North would be a speedway and people move here for the rural quality of the community.

David Houtz, 5767 Thompson Road, addressed the commission in opposition to changing the existing character area map. Mr. Houtz stated he returned to this area to raise a family and he does not want to have this rural agricultural area destroyed. Mr. Houtz stated the developers will be gaining if the