



**AGENDA REPORT
February 12, 2019**

**Board Discussion: Constituent Commentary regarding Indian River Lagoon
Cleanup Options, District 2**

SUBJECT:

Constituent Commentary regarding Indian River Lagoon Cleanup Options

FISCAL IMPACT:

DEPT/OFFICE:

District 2

REQUESTED ACTION:

Consider the input of constituents including Jim Glass, Steve Moon, and Rick Worman.

SUMMARY EXPLANATION and BACKGROUND:

D2 County Commissioner Bryan A. Lober and his office, including volunteers John Weiler, a retired nuclear engineer, and Frank Golan, an engineer employed with NASA with training and experience in fluid dynamics and water chemistry, have been working with Dr. Peter Barile, Senior Scientist at Marine Research & Consulting, Inc., and additional subject area experts on alternative cleanup options for the Indian River Lagoon. Commissioner Lober wishes to have certain options articulated to the County Commission, as a whole, for the purpose of fostering more informed discussion regarding cleanup efforts and strategies.

CLERK TO THE BOARD INSTRUCTIONS:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

No Attachments Available



February 13, 2019

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Bryan A. Lober, District 2 Commissioner

RE: Item J.8., Board Discussion: Constituent Commentary Regarding Indian River Lagoon Cleanup Options

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on February 12, 2019, discussed Constituent Commentary Regarding Indian River Lagoon Cleanup Options, but took no formal action.

Your continued cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK**

Tammy Rowe

Tammy Rowe, Deputy Clerk

/cmw

cc: Each Commissioner
County Attorney
County Manager

2/12/19

J. 8.

J New Business Misc item 8

Constituent Commentary regarding IRL cleanup OPTIONS

I Have spent many hours over the last 6 months reviewing the IRL Cleanup plan to form an educated evaluation of where we are expending the allocated funds and whether these appear to have short term or long term or no impact on the IRL cleanup. This means removing the biggest contributors to nutrient loading

I have concluded that many of the items currently underway are short sighted and fit the category of "feel good" and/or just efforts to spend the money. Among these are PR/Marketing plans, excessive and expensive muck removal in areas of the lagoon which are not significantly contributing to algae blooms. **Spending over 50% of funds for muck removal is a misuse of funds.**

The Focus should be on expenditures that get the **most bang for the buck sooner than later**. In that regard I recommend that the COUNTY COMMISSION put Focus on the major Waste Water (Sewage) treatment plants and equally important there connecting waste water network of sewer transport pipelines.

- Upgrade and increase the handling capacity of the Waste Water treatment plants. Move forward on the Capital improvement plans....don't wait 2,3 5 years to complete this effort.
- Repair and upgrade existing main sewer pipelines that are leaking and require replacement
- Install additional main sewer lines that allow homes with septic systems near the lagoon to connect to central Sewer waste processing.
- Promote removing the berm for the SR 528 and SR 520 Banana river crossings and replace with elevated roadways The US Corp of Engineers has MODELED THIS AND CONCLUDED THAT THIS WOULD INCREASE FLOW in THE Banana river by 10%.
- Limit removal of muck with the exception of entrances to streams emptying into the IRL and certain areas of these streams.
- Implement a system of continuous monitoring which will serve as an indicator of where the problem areas are and show progress when projects are implemented.