

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT CONSIDERATION **MARION COUNTY BCC**

MAY 28 2026

APPLICATION DATE: May 28, 2026

BOARD NAME: County Advisory Committee - Land Development Regulation Commission - Alternate Member/Member

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Paul D. Saunders

Occupation: Retired

If Retired, previous occupation: Nuclear Consultant

Address: 9862 SW 74th Ave

City: Ocala State: FL ZIP: 34476

Phone#: 941-228-2683

E-mail Address: paulsaunders2002@gmail.com

MAILING ADDRESS (If different from residence):

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Is your address or any other personal information exempt under Florida Statute 119.07? Yes ___ No x
If yes, please submit a signed Marion County Public Records Act Exempt Form (available upon request).

What is your preferred form of communication? Phone x Mail ___ Email x

The following data is collected in accordance with Florida Statute, Section 760.80, for the purpose of statistical reporting and ensuring compliance with diversity and inclusion guidelines. Your responses will be kept confidential and will not affect your application.

Gender: Male x Female ___ Prefer not to disclose ___

Physically Disabled: Yes ___ No x Prefer not to disclose ___

Race: African-American ___ Native-American ___ Caucasian x Other ___
Hispanic/Latino ___ Asian -American ___ Prefer not to disclose ___

Are you a registered voter? Yes x No ___

Do you own homestead property in Marion County? Yes x No ___

Are you employed by Marion County or have relatives that are Marion County employees? Yes ___ No x
If yes, please provide position, department and/or relationship to County employee and their position/department

Do you currently work for an entity or agency that either receives funding from, or has a contract with the County to perform services? Yes ___ No X

Are you, your spouse, or children, currently an officer, director, or partner in any entity or agency that receives funding from, or has a contract with the county? Yes ___ No X

If yes, please submit a signed FORM 4a - Disclosure of Business Transaction, Relationship, or Interest. (Available upon request).

Have you been convicted (including a withholding of adjudication), pled guilty or pled to a Nolo Contendere (no contest) to a misdemeanor or felony (including a criminal traffic violation)? Yes ___ No X

A 'YES' answer will not automatically disqualify you from serving on an advisory board. The nature, severity, and date of the offense will be considered in relation to the position. If unsure about the details of a criminal case, contact the relevant agency to ensure accuracy when reporting your history. Failure to do so may result in removal from the board. If you answered 'YES,' please provide details. You may use an additional sheet if needed.

WHY DO YOU DESIRE TO SERVE ON THIS/THESE BOARDS?

(Include current or previous work experience; community involvement; interests/activities)

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED ADDENDUM

SERVING ON OTHER BOARDS

Do you currently serve on any other boards in Florida, or are you an elected or appointed state, county (Marion County or other county) or municipal ("city") office holder? Yes ___ No X

If yes, which board? _____

(Important: You may not serve on more than one (1) Substantive Board: Board of Adjustment; Code Enforcement Board; License Review Board; Land Development Regulation Commission; Historical Commission; Hospital District Board of Trustees; Housing Finance Authority; Industrial Development Authority; Tourist Development Council; Parks and Recreation Advisory Council)

Have you ever served on a City or County advisory board? Yes ___ No X

If yes, when, where and which board(s)? _____

REFERENCES - Please list three (3) personal and/or business references

(PLEASE DO NOT USE COMMISSIONERS or COUNTY ADMINISTRATION STAFF as REFERENCES)

Name: Susan Saunders
Phone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Name: William Booth
Phone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Name: Michael McGraw
Phone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

INITIAL: PS I authorize Marion County to contact my references and I understand that all statements made on this application may be verified by Marion County.

INITIAL: PS I understand the responsibilities associated with being a board member, and I have adequate time to serve if appointed.

INITIAL: PS I agree to complete training within six (6) months from the date of my appointment.

INITIAL: PS I understand that submitting this application makes all provided information public record, subject to disclosure under applicable laws unless exempt under Florida Statute 119.07. I confirm the accuracy of all details provided and their suitability for public release.

By signing this application, I certify that the information I provided in this application is true and correct, and that any misstatements or material omissions on my application may result in my removal from my appointed position.

SIGN: 

DATE: May 28, 2026

PRINT: Paul D. Saunders

MARION COUNTY BCC

RECEIVED BY BCC:

MAY 28 2026

This application will be kept on file for a period of one year from date of receipt by the Board of County Commissioners.

RETURN FORM TO:

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 601 SE 25th Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471

Or via email to: Commissionadmin@marionfl.org

PLEASE CALL THE COMMISSION OFFICE AT (352) 438-2323 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR APPLICATION.

May 28, 2026

Paul Saunders

**Addendum to Member/Alternate Member Application to the County Advisory
Committee Land Development Regulation Commission**

Following 52 years in the industry, I retired at the end of 2024 as the founder/owner/operator of a multi-million-dollar international nuclear consulting firm. The company's focus was primarily on innovative strategy development and planning for managing liquid and solid waste streams, and hazardous material site remediation with a focus on environmental restoration. Those efforts required engagement with domestic and international clients, local, state and national regulators, international agencies, and local populations. I have authored or co-authored several hundred related strategy and technical documents and presentations.

My desire to serve on this committee is motivated by the insights I gained during the May 2026 Corridor Connect+ LIVE Landowner Workshops and Expo, and the significant volume of development that is occurring in Marion County that appears to have an equally significant negative impact on the county's environmental health and aesthetic quality. My wife and I have resided in 4 states and in 3 counties in Florida. Based on that experience, I believe that Marion County could and should modify their planning strategies and development codes to improve those processes, targeting recognition as a leader in high quality environmental management. My overarching goal is to contribute to solutions for long-term environmental sustainability and to be part of a legacy that we as residents and contributors can be proud of. Much of my life has, and continues to involve outdoor activities including those associated with maintaining and improving our small horse farm here in Ocala, and horseback and bicycle riding on trails within several of the area's recreational sites.

As someone that built a very successful career out of finding innovative solutions to a myriad of challenges, I strongly believe that mutually agreeable strategies and codes should be developed rapidly, but thoughtfully, that protect the environment and wildlife in consideration of human need, and provide economic and aesthetic benefit to developers and the county to the extent practical.