

The Marion County Land Development Regulation Commission met on March 25, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioners Auditorium, 601 SE 25th Avenue, Ocala, Florida.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman David Tillman called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Kimberly Lamb called roll, and the quorum was confirmed.

Board members present were Chairman David Tillman, Chris Howson, Robert Stepp, Nate Chambers, and Erica Larson. Richard Busche was not present during the roll call, but the Chair confirmed his attendance on record at 5:34 p.m., immediately after roll and previous minutes were approved.

Staff members present were Chief Assistant County Attorney Dana Olesky, Assistant County Administrator Tracy Straub, Growth Services Director Chuck Varadin, Growth Services Deputy Director Ken Weyrauch, Development Review Coordinators Elizabeth Madeloni and Elizabeth Cotos, Parks & Recreation Director Jim Couillard, Parks & Recreation Project Coordinator Susan Heyen, Growth Services Administrative Manager Autumn Williams, and Administrative Staff Assistant Kimberly Lamb.

Chairman David Tillman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PROOF OF PUBLICATION

Kimberly Lamb read the Proofs of Publication and advised that the meeting was properly advertised.

1. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING MINUTES

LDRC Board Member Robert Stepp made a motion to adopt the minutes from the March 11, 2026, meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Chris Howson. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

2. SCHEDULED ITEMS

2.1 PUBLIC HEARING - Presentation and Consideration for Proposed Marion County Land Development Code (LDC) Article 1 Administration, Division 2 Definitions

Jim Couillard, Parks & Recreation Director, opened the discussion regarding this item.

There were no additional recommendations or comments from the LDRC Board Members.

LDRC Board Member Chris Howson made a motion to recommend approval to the Board of County Commissioners Hearing on March 31, 2026. Motion was seconded by Board Member Robert Stepp. Motion passed (5-1) with David Tillman dissenting.

2.2 PUBLIC HEARING - Presentation and Consideration for Proposed Marion County Land Development Code (LDC) Article 6, Division 6 Habitat Protection, Section 6.6.6 Open Space A(8)

Chuck Varadin, Director, opened the discussion regarding this item.

LDRC Board Members voiced their recommendations and comments regarding the current language.

The Board agreed that additional discussion is needed regarding the language in Section 6.6.6(A)(8). The item will be brought back to a future LDRC Workshop; however, it will remain as currently written for now and will proceed to the First BCC Public Hearing on March 31, 2026, with the overall Article 6.

LDRC Board Member Erica Larson made a motion to recommend approval as amended to the Board of County Commissioners Hearing on March 31, 2026. Motion was seconded by Board Member Chris Howson. Motion passed unanimously (6-0).

2.3. PUBLIC HEARING - Presentation and Consideration for Proposed Marion County Land Development Code (LDC) Article 6, Division 7 Tree Protection and Replacement

Jim Couillard, Parks & Recreation Director, opened the discussion regarding this item.

LDRC Board Members voiced their recommendations and comments regarding the current language.

LDRC Board Member Richard Busche made a motion to recommend approval as amended to the Board of County Commissioners Hearing on March 31, 2026. Motion was seconded by Board Member Nate Chambers. Motion passed unanimously (6-0).

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 The Next Public Hearing for Tree Preservation Items, along with the Two Sections in Article 4, will be Heard at the First BCC Public Hearing on March 31, 2026, at the McPherson Governmental Campus Auditorium at 5:30 pm

ADJOURNMENT

The workshop adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Attest:

David Tillman, Chairman

Kimberly Lamb, Administrative Staff Assistant