



Office of
**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY
ATTORNEY**

Dylan Reingold, County Attorney
William K. DeBraal, Deputy County Attorney
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of County Commissioners
THROUGH: Dylan Reingold, County Attorney
FROM: Cassidy Brown, Legal Intern at County Attorney's Office
DATE: February 24, 2021
SUBJECT: Agriculture Advisory Committee Restructuring

On January 12, 2021, the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners (the "Board") directed the County Attorney's Office to work on restructuring the Agriculture Advisory Committee positions. The County Attorney's Office researched similar committees in other Florida counties. After reviewing other committee structures, the County Attorney's Office determined adding a farm bureau representative will give a voice to unincorporated farmers and rural land owners. The County Attorney's Office also found it beneficial to include Agritourism representatives to coincide with the rise in the agritourism industry in Florida. Because of change in the citrus industry and also COVID-19, many industries, such as citrus growers, have begun to open their groves to the public. These groves allow people to enjoy a social setting and support local industry, while maintaining CDC Health and Safety Guidelines. Because of the increase in the agritourism, the Board should include agritourism representatives to add a more well-rounded perspective on the Agriculture Advisory Committee. Finally, the County Attorney's Office recommends eliminating the specific agricultural industry positions and to replace them with broader positions titled "Actively Involved in Agricultural Industry Representatives." This will allow for flexibility on the committee for changes in the agricultural industry.

Per the Board's direction, the County Attorney's Office recommends that the Board consider restructuring of the Agriculture Advisory Committee as follows:

- 4 Actively Involved in Agricultural Industry Representatives**
- Farm Bureau Representative**
- 2 Agriculture Industry Associated Representatives**
- 2 Actively Engaged in Agritourism Representatives**

By restructuring as above, the Agriculture Advisory Committee would retain all of the current members.

RECOMMENDATION.

The County Attorney's Office recommends that the Board review the suggested restructuring of the Agriculture Advisory Committee, provide direction of the restricting and authorize the County Attorney's Office to draft a resolution for the restructuring of the Agriculture Advisory Committee.

