

THE INFORMED DEMOCRAT OF SWFL



Lee Board of County Commissioners February 1, 2024

The Lee Commission Watch Group, including Joyce Campana, keeps track of the workings of the Lee Board of County Commissioners. They report that at the January 21 meeting that the Commissioners approved housing projects and continued cleaning up after the hurricanes.

Commenting on the Board's agreement to use part of a \$19.3 million Community Change Grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to address objectives, primarily within Emergency Management, Lee Dems Vice-Chair Karyn Edison pointed out that these funds were part of a Biden administration award. She cautioned Lee County residents, saying, "Watch! The Republicans will try to credit Trump with providing these funds. Don't let them! Watch Republicans claim credit for putting the EPA to good use when the grant is a Biden program. Don't let them!"

And coming this month...

In addition to its focus on strategic planning and policy priorities for the coming year, the Board will make time at its February meeting to discuss whether or not to remove fluoride from the county's water supply. Public health organizations, including the CDC, World Health Organization, American Dental Association, and American Academy of Pediatrics all support fluoridated water. Despite the widespread consensus among health professionals that fluoridated water improves dental health, saves billions of dollars, and prevents childhood cavities, MAGA health officials, including Florida Surgeon General Joseph Ladapo and HHS Secretary-designate Robert F Kennedy, oppose fluoridation. The Board will take up the matter at its February 4 meeting at 9:30 am at the Commission Chambers, 2120 Main Street, Fort Myers.

As for planning and priorities for 2025—2026, the Board will lay these out at a workshop on February 12. The workshop will take place from 9:00 AM to noon, at the Fort Myers Regional Library Meeting Rooms, South Building, 1651 Lee St., Fort Myers, FL 33901.

Click here to review recent planning efforts can find the 2023-24 plan? Check out <https://strategicpriorities.leegov.com/> . Want to keep up with what the Commissioners are doing? View their meeting minutes here <https://leecofl.portal.civicclerk.com> .

If you'd like to become a member of the Board Watch and receive updates, contact Joyce Campana at leecommissionerswatchgroup@gmail.com.