# Environmentally Endangered Lands Program Qualifying Committee Meeting

## February 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes

## Attendance

### QUALIFYING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Linda Behret, Procedures Committee Chair

Mike Knight, Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program Manager

Jerry Visco, Director of Human Resources

### ENVIRONMENTALLY ENDANGERED LANDS (EEL) PROGRAM STAFF

Mike Knight

Amy Rivera

### GUESTS

Frank Robb

Joe Bartoszek

Rick Follett (Procedures Committee and Recreation and Education Advisory Committee)

Protecting and Preserving Biological Diversity  
Through Responsible Stewardship of Brevard County’s Natural Resources

## Meeting Minutes

## CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mike Knight called the meeting to order at 1:33pm.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### AGENDA ITEM 1

**Overview of Selection and Management Committee (SMC) ranking process.**

Mike explained the process and the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) decision not to reappoint the three Selection and Management Committee Members who could not attend in-person meetings and mentioned the new 8 consecutive year term limit requirement. These three SMC Members were welcome to reapply. Only one of the 3 members reapplied and the BOCC may choose to appoint this applicant with a super-majority vote.

The Qualifying Committee (QC) assigns points based on background and availability following the requirements listed in the Land Acquisition Manual (LAM). Once the initial ranking has been completed, the Procedures Committee will review the initial rankings at the meeting on February 22nd and determine the list of qualified applicants that will be presented to BOCC for consideration.

Linda inquired about assigning points for experience based on knowledge of Brevard County ecosystems if the applicant’s experience related to north Florida more than Brevard County. Mike stated they would discuss this issue as it pertains to each applicant. Mike also clarified if an applicant utilizes six years of experience to qualify instead of a degree those same six years cannot be counted for additional points later.

**Review and ranking of volunteer SMC Applicants.**

The QC discussed each applicant’s education and relevant professional experience to determine eligibility.

**Joseph Bartoszek**

The Committee felt that this applicant did not have a relevant degree and the bulk of the relevant experience was as a volunteer which cannot be counted on a year for year comparison with professional experience.

**Scoring**

* Does candidate meet minimum qualifications?
  + 0 points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional education points?
  + 0 additional points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional experience points?
  + 0 additional points
* Total Points
  + 0

### INITIAL RANKING SMC APPLICANT 1

**The QC unanimously assigned a score of 0 for Joseph Bartoszek.**

**Rio Throm Bonds**

This applicant had the relevant degrees and experience.

**Scoring**

* Does candidate meet minimum qualifications?
  + 100 points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional education points?
  + 5 additional points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional experience points?
  + 12 additional points
* Total Points
  + 117 points

### INITIAL RANKING SMC APPLICANT 2

**The QC unanimously assigned a score of 117 for Rio Throm Bonds.**

**Jim Burney**

This applicant had the relevant degrees and experience.

**Scoring**

* Does candidate meet minimum qualifications?
  + 100 points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional education points?
  + 5 additional points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional experience points?
  + 12 additional points
* Total Points
  + 117

### INITIAL RANKING SMC APPLICANT 3

**The QC unanimously assigned a score of 117 for Jim Burney.**

**Mark Bush**

This applicant has the relevant degrees and experience and has also been a past SMC member from 1998 - 2014 with extensive historical knowledge of the Program.

**Scoring**

* Does candidate meet minimum qualifications?
  + 100 points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional education points?
  + 10 additional points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional experience points?
  + 12 additional points
* Total Points
  + 122

### INITIAL RANKING SMC APPLICANT 4

**The QC unanimously assigned a score of 122 for Mark Bush.**

**Frank Robb**

This applicant’s professional experience was difficult to evaluate based on the limited details on their resume. He is a long-time volunteer with the EEL Program and does have significant experience working in Florida conservation areas. Ultimately the committee agreed that the Biomedical degree met the requirement of a biology degree but could not determine how to apply professional experience points simply due to the lack of details on the resume.

**Scoring**

* Does candidate meet minimum qualifications?
  + 100 points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional education points?
  + 0 additional points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional experience points?
  + 0 additional points
* Total Points
  + 100

### INITIAL RANKING SMC APPLICANT 5

**The QC unanimously assigned a score of 100 for Frank Robb.**

**Paul Schmalzer**

This applicant is a current SMC member with extensive knowledge of the history and operations of the Program. He has been a valuable member of the SMC for more many years.

**Scoring**

* Does candidate meet minimum qualifications?
  + 100 points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional education points?
  + 10 additional points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional experience points?
  + 12 additional points
* Total Points
  + 122 points

### INITIAL RANKING SMC APPLICANT 6

**The QC unanimously assigned a score 122 for Paul Schmalzer.**

**Jennifer Thompson**

This applicant is a current County employee working in the Natural Resources Management Office. She has a relevant degree and related experience with an emphasis on water resources.

**Scoring**

* Does candidate meet minimum qualifications?
  + 100 points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional education points?
  + 0 additional points
* Does candidate meet requirements for additional experience points?
  + 12 additional points
* Total Points
  + 112

### INITIAL RANKING SMC APPLICANT 7

**The QC unanimously assigned a score of 112 for Jennifer Thompson.**

### PUBLIC COMMENT

### ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 1:58