

A MESSAGE FROM THE PINE RIDGE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 20, 2026

On July 20, 2026 the Pine Ridge Property Association Board of Directors (PRPOA BOD) met to provide their thoughts and selections regarding candidates interested in representing Citrus citizens at both the State and County level. Of particular concern to the Association is how the BOCC, now and in the future, will comport on behalf of matters important to Pine Ridge residents. Your vote matters.

Pine Ridge is within the boundaries of District Three, and our elected Commissioner Janet Barek has been a visible supporter on matters important to both Citrus Springs and Pine Ridge. We should be proud of our choice as she has delivered. In 2024, 850 votes were the difference in a very close election. This shows Pine Ridge voters can make a difference. If as few as 426 votes went the other way, it's a different story.

If you read the President's Message of July 1, 2026 you learned the PRPOA found it necessary to engage in the political process to defend our way of life. The first official Pine Ridge Candidate Forum was in 2022 followed by 2024 and the current 2026. There is never a guarantee a preferred candidate will deliver but this BOD thinks it's prudent to continue vetting candidates in order to provide relevant information to Pine Ridge voters. As we continue to improve this due diligence process, we will be stronger together.

It should be understood by every Pine Ridge voter that although Commissioners qualify in their homesteaded District, they run at large. This means Citrus voters (outside Pine Ridge) have been electing Commissioners beyond designated boundaries for years. This is significant because matters important to Pine Ridge don't always align with county wide voters. When examining past voting patterns it is clear Pine Ridge was frequently an afterthought. We encourage each voter to do their own examination and we expect they will arrive at the same conclusions as the BOD. We have now been through three cycles and have a deeper understanding of the local political process. Candidates can't erase their record.

It would seem the special interests of developers and big business/money wins the day more often than not. As much as we can appreciate the positives of the Suncoast and the need to build commercially, we can't ignore the negatives: the impact to the Pine Ridge culture and character along with the further impact to the density and intensity directly affecting Pine Ridge which is accelerating all around. Matters important to Pine Ridge were subordinated in the last two decades. It just wasn't all that noticeable---until it was.

Based on our individual review of Candidate Responses, various interactive forums, their visible social media and news media positions along with their records (where applicable) the Board of Directors is recommending two incumbents and one newcomer as follows:

Florida House of Representatives

District 23

JJ Grow, Incumbent

Board of County Commissioners

District 2

Diana Finegan, Incumbent

District 4

Dr. Holli Herndon, Newcomer

You are now invited to build your awareness regarding each candidate. Below this message is the process and the package each candidate received followed by their response. On behalf of the BOD and the residents we serve we thank all candidates for their participation in this new and unique Candidate Forum.

Early voting begins August 7, 2026. Primary voting day is August 18, 2026.