

Carlotta Stauffer

From: Jim Varian
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2018 12:28 PM
To: Carlotta Stauffer
Subject: FW: Little Gasparilla Island

Carlotta –

The email below has been distributed to commissioners' advisors. Please put it into the 20130265 docket file.

Thank you.

Jim Varian
Chief Advisor to Chairman Art Graham
Florida Public Service Commission
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850-413-6022

From: william.meyers@comcast.net [mailto:william.meyers@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2018 12:26 PM
To: Jim Varian
Cc: sayler erik
Subject: Little Gasparilla Island

To Whom It May Concern,

My apologies for this late submission of which I am respectfully requesting to be included in discussions regarding water utility matters on Little Gasparilla Island.

Each parcel of land on Little Gasparilla Island is unique as are its residents. Utility easements follow suit so it is imperative that an in-depth discussion and an outside-the-box approach be taken to resolve existing and future conflicts. The property I own is part of a land condominium that includes common property with shared ownership overseen by an association, which I now serve as president over. Our land extends from the beach to the bay, which is the entire width of the island. Our common property was crossed by Mr. Boyer's company to provide other parts of the island with water. My information indicates that he was warned not to do so without consent, a legal easement or a court ordered eminent domain declaration. The previous association president, Bob Weronik, funded a multi-year legal battle regarding this issue prior to selling his property to me. It was been explained to me that Mr. Boyer acknowledges that he crossed the property but contends that he did not need permission to do so. I have yet to find an appropriate and legal explanation that would give Mr. Boyer the ability to take private property. Other islanders have also discovered illegal crossings and are currently pursuing legal remedies and the PSC should expect to see a significant increase of legal contentions regarding these crossings.

As a retired Marine Corps veteran, I gave years of my life and my health to defend our American way of life. Allowing someone to take private property such as Mr. Boyer has

done was certainly not in the oath I took. If the PSC grants Mr. Boyer the right to recover legal expenses associated with these seemingly illegal actions then what or who will be next? Taking private land and being reimbursed for it at the expense to other residents through rate increases is simply wrong. A private for-profit business using the PSC and county as a strong-arm strategy against private property simply paves the way for future malicious and illegal acts. I do not believe that the PSC nor Charlotte County want to be caught in the middle of funding such nonsense by Mr. Boyer or anyone else in the future.

I've spoken with Mr. Boyer on multiple occasions and each time given one another a high level of mutual respect. Personally, I find him to be a nice guy, enjoyed chatting with him and I realized that he is a businessman at the end of the day. I did sense a complete lack of respect for private property rights from him, though, which is a grave concern. We simply cannot allow private businesses to abuse government resources as a means to earn a dollar.

Allowing private rights to be taken and then forcing those stripped of their rights to pay for it is as un-American as it gets. The pain I live with everyday from my service to this country makes me shake me head when I see such rights taken away without a care in the world. I hope that the PSC understands the weight of this situation and what it means to the future not only for LGI but all Americans. I urge you to do the right thing and not chip away at our American pride.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
William J. Meyers
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(941)402-5093