

RIIA BOARD MEETING AGENDA

September 15, 2025 - 7:00PM

All Saints Camp, Raft Island

Meeting called to order by Stewart at

Board Members Present: Stewart (123), West (70), Cushing (244), VanDoren (22), Doyle (209), Kerkhoff (209), Smith (160), Neil (2).

Board Members Absent: Walsh (111) Middleton (45).

Members Present: Tina & John Shoemaker #142, Carolyn Mitchell #150, Bill & Bonnie Minick #36, Andy & Sheri Flood #95, Gene Barkin #18, Dan & Lisa Carufel #83, Lara & Brian Fishkin #120, Jeff Leas #80, Gail Beard #212, Dave Walsh #111, Jeremy Bennett #161, Lynda & David Madeira #49, Brian Launius #138, Kathy Brittain #226, Sean Taylor #128, Matt Hurley #182.

Attending on Zoom – Betsy Grava #104, Elizabeth Heller #130, Margarita Leas #80, Mike Hirko #113, Trish Burnett #67.

President's remarks and acknowledgments:

- We are working on an easier communication path than going through HOACS. One option is a secure message board on raftisland.org, and secure email distribution services.

Request to Add Agenda Items:

- o Madeira requested that Mr. Ryan McNiff, of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, present to the Board and the Island Membership, an outline of current deer conflict issues, conflict mitigation and examples of how community-based deer management works.

Ryan McNiff, DFW, Wildlife Conflict Specialist, described deer habitat and breeding with most does having their young between late April and the end of June. Factors affecting population are generally related to lack of predators to keep the deer population under control;

Unintentional attraction – deer will eat bird seed, in addition to garden plants.

Deer conflict mitigation methods include 7-8 foot fencing, hazing including sprinklers, dogs, motion detector sprinklers, mylar ribbon, pinwheels, paintball guns, & pepper spray,

In regard to feeding the deer, he stated that enzymes in their stomach change during the year, depending on what they're eating in nature. Deer enzymes are not meant to digest a large load of carbs every day from commercial feed and corn. Feeding commercial feed, corn, or other high carb food can result in rumen acidosis. Rumen acidosis in deer is a severe metabolic disease caused by sudden ingestion of large amounts of high-carbohydrate foods like corn, leading to a rapid drop in rumen pH from lactic acid buildup. This kills essential rumen microbes, disrupting digestion, and can cause dehydration, incoordination, and rapid death within 24-72 hours. This is one of the reasons it is illegal to feed deer. Another reason is that feeding deer can make them not fear humans. Feeding stations also increase disease transmission among the deer population and attract predatory wildlife (coyotes). When deer get close to humans they can get tangled in ropes, fences, & things like tomato cages. Does will attack dogs that they feel are a danger to fawns.

Community based deer management: McNiff suggested an HOA fine in addition to State fine, picking up fruit such as apples that are a plentiful food source.

McNiff stated that DFW doesn't do birth control or relocation of deer.

Stewart asked David Madiera to head up a Deer Committee. Trish Burnett, David Paly, Bonnie Minick & Gene Barkin volunteered to be on the committee. HOACS will send out an email announcing the committee so that members who were not at the meeting have an opportunity to join the committee.

Department of Fish & Wildlife web page also has ideas for deterring deer.

Member's Request to Address Board:

What about the DryBox at #83? – it's supposed to be moved by the end of Sept.

Approval of Minutes:

→ Approval of August Minutes – Moved by West. Seconded by Cushing. Vote: approved.

Treasurer's Report – Utilities are higher than they should be; legal has spent up to budget; bridge is over because of drain clear out; USDA was sent money last week; 2024 Audit was approved.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- Roads policy will be reviewed by the Board for a vote in October on possible policy updates.

Committee Reports

- Security – Hurley – burglary on the Island – purse with ID and keys to the house was stolen from car; burglars got other car keys and other items in the house; FLOCK got the license plate and ultimately Lakewood police tracked the thieves down.
 - Crain is going to put together the pros and cons of the FLOCK system.
 - Some residents object to FLOCK as a surveillance system.Hurley is working on card readers for boat ramp and tennis court.
- Parks and Recreation – Neil – nothing to report.
- Bridge – Smith – paid insurance; cleaned out the storm drain system.
- Emergency Management – Bennett – need a volunteer for area 4 (SE quadrant of the Island) and updated MOA Camp for Emergency Operations Center.
- Roads – Bennett – Bautistas did roadside maintenance.
 - Will be more patchwork and filling of spidering.
 - Flood has stencils, to stencil the stop lines by the new signs. Hurley has the paint to paint the lines on the roads.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

Respectfully submitted,

RJ West, in Katherine Walsh's absence