

REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT SOCIETY

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Vice President Karen Miller
Treasurer Bev Larson, CCIM
Secretary Alexis Crespo, AICP

2016 GOVERNORS:

Bob Bassett
Noel Davies
Mary Gentile
Arleen Hunter, AICP
Bill Morris
Chris Pacitto
Peter Rossi
Past President Matt Simmons

BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

There is no luncheon in November, in favor of the Annual Holiday Social on November 17th.

The December 13th luncheon program will be presented by Lee County Schools Superintendent Greg Adkins. The luncheon will be back in the Osprey Room at the Pelican Preserve Clubhouse and is sponsored by [Krise Commercial Group](#).

REIS welcomes your suggestions on programs. Please share your ideas with [Karen Miller](#), 239.936.4003.

Leading the invocation and pledge of allegiance at meetings is a great way to get in front of the REIS membership and guests. Contact [Chris Pacitto](#), 239.896.6376, to volunteer.

Scholarship Program:

Applicants are being reviewed by FGCU and the REIS Board of Governors in the coming weeks. Scholarships will be awarded at the REIS December luncheon. You may contribute to the scholarship program at any time at the [REIS website](#). The REIS Scholarship Foundation is a registered 501(c)3 organization. Contributions may be considered tax-deductible donations and 100% of the funds are used for scholarships for local students.

Annual Holiday Social:

Arleen Hunter, Alexis Crespo and Bev Larson have planned this year's festive event for November 17th at Ter-Tini's in Fort Myers. Profits from the event will support the REIS scholarship program.

Reception for Lee County Commissioners:

Popular bi-annual event to introduce the new Lee County Board of County Commissioners will take place December 8th at Edison National Bank on Cleveland Avenue.. This members-only event is hosted by Edison National Bank and Henderson Franklin, Attorneys at Law. Invitations will be emailed immediately following the election.

PARTY! PARTY!

The annual REIS Holiday Social is fast approaching. Join fellow REIS members and their guests for continuous live music with the popular band "In Recess," an incredible array of hors d'oeuvres, a full bar, and a rousing good time on November 17th, at Ter-Tini's in Fort Myers.

The party is exclusively for REIS members, who may each bring one guest. Admission is \$35 per person. Make your reservations now on the [REIS event calendar](#). Remember to log in on the home page in order to register.

The party is generously sponsored by:

[RE/MAX Commercial](#)
[Grandbridge Real Estate Capital](#)
[Henderson Franklin, Attorneys at Law](#)
[Hans Wilson & Associates](#)
[Forge Engineering](#)
[Maxwell Hendry Simmons](#)

Additional sponsorships are available. Contact [Bev Larson](#), [Alexis Crespo](#), or [Peter Rossi](#) for details.

REIS 2017 BOARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the REIS 2017 officers and board of governors have been announced. The election will be conducted at the Holiday Social on November 17th.

President: Karen Miller, GHD Services, Inc.

Vice President: Bev Larson, CCIM, Lahaina Realty

Treasurer: Alexis Crespo, AICP, Waldrop Engineering

Secretary: Mary Gentile, LandQwest Property Management, LLC

Board of Governors: David Fry, Vantage Construction Services; Mark Morris, VIP Realty - Commercial; and Kent Poli, Busey Bank; nominated to 2-year terms.

Returning board members are: Noel Davies, Roetzel & Andress; Arleen Hunter, AICP, City of Bonita Springs; Bill Morris, Morris-Depew Associates; and Chris Pacitto, Velocity Engineering Services.

Amanda L. Brock, Esq., Henderson Franklin Starnes & Holt, P.A., joins the Board as immediate past president.

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WATER RESOURCES ACT ADVANCES

On September 15th, The U.S. Senate passed the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) (S. 2848) by a vote of 95 to 3. The legislation now goes to the House of Representatives. WRDA supports financing for water reuse infrastructure by:

- making the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) a permanent program;
- creating a Water Infrastructure Investment Trust Fund that offers grants for pollution control and safe drinking water projects;
- encouraging Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs to pay for projects using innovative technology; and
- authorizing an Innovative Water Technology Grant Program to fund projects that develop, support, deploy, test, and improve emerging water technologies.

WRDA will also create a task force to draft national drought resilience guidelines, including reuse provisions.

REIS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Please join in welcoming our new members:

Leigh Scrabis, deputy director of the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency, where she's worked since 2004. Leigh earned a civil engineering degree at University of Florida.

Derek Rooney, attorney with Gray Robinson, P.A. Derek specializes in land use and local government law and is counsel to the Village of Estero, Lee County MPO, and Charlotte County Industrial Development Authority.

Keith J. Bongirno, ASLA, is director of planning and landscape design with LandDesign, Inc. He formerly worked as a planner and landscape architect with Stantec.

Justin Thibaut, is director of sales at Land Solutions, Inc.. He previously worked as a planner and project manager with energy companies Bechtel, BP, and Chevron.

LUNCHEON PROGRAMS ONLINE

Programs at recent REIS luncheons have included a wealth of information that may be useful in your business. Thanks to the generosity of our speakers, the programs are available on the REIS website [Resources section](#)

REAL ESTATE SYMPOSIUM 2016

The annual REIS symposium drew an attentive audience of about 150 to Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) on September 15th. The REIS Education Committee of Noel Davies, Mary Gentile, and Bev Larson arranged a fast paced program that received rave reviews.



FGCU President **Wilson Bradshaw** presented the welcome address and REIS President **Amanda L. Brock**, Lee County Commissioner **John Manning** and **Dr. Robert Beatty, DBA**, Dean of Lutgert College of Business, discussed the local market. **Mike Timmerman**, of MJT Realty Economic Advisors, analyzed economic and real estate trends. His presentation is on the REIS [Resources Page](#).



The program was presented by REIS with partners: the Lutgert College of Business, APA Florida Chapter, and FPZA. Roetzel & Andress was the Title Sponsor, Morris-Depew Associates the Gold Sponsor, with Silver Sponsors GHD Services and KW Property Management.





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