

2018 OFFICERS:

President Bev Larson, CCIM
Vice President Alexis Crespo, AICP
Treasurer Mary Gentile, CSM, CRX
Secretary Bill Morris, P.E.

2018 GOVERNORS:

Jason Brewer
David Fry
Tim Hancock, AICP
Travis Merrick
Lori Moore
Mark Morris
Kent Poli
Past President Karen Miller

BOARDROOM REPORT

News from recent REIS board meetings

Luncheon Programs:

The impact of new, large-scale development on the Charlotte Harbor economy will be addressed by Matt Beelner of Sunseeker Resorts at the October 9th luncheon, sponsored by [GFA International](#).

Collier County growth management will be the topic of the December 11th luncheon, with Mark Strain, Chairman of the Planning Commission and Chief Hearing Examiner. Sponsored by [Krise Commercial Group](#).

REIS welcomes your program suggestions. Please share your ideas with [Alexis Crespo](#), 239-405-7777. If you are interested in leading the invocation and pledge at a luncheon, contact [Travis Merrick](#), 239-489-2443.

Sponsorships:

Contact [Kent Poli](#), 239-689-7174, for information and availability of opportunities to sponsor REIS events.

Annual Social Event:

The annual REIS party will rock Hammond Stadium on November 15th. Invitations will be emailed soon.

Reception for Lee Commissioners:

The popular bi-annual REIS Reception for the newly elected Lee County Board of County Commissioners will take place December 13th. The exclusive members-only event is sponsored by Edison National Bank and Henderson Franklin, Attorneys at Law. Invitations will be sent immediately after the general election in November.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED

Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) students Randy Lopez, Chezanne McLeod, and Seth Thompson will each receive \$2500 from the Paul Sands Memorial - REIS Scholarship Program. The scholarships will be awarded at the October luncheon. The scholars also become honorary members of REIS for the coming year. [Information](#) on scholarship criteria and options for supporting the program is on the REIS website.

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 "After Hours," an incredible array of hors d'oeuvres, a full bar, and a rousing good time on November 15th, at Hammond Stadium 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 web site](#). Remember to log in on the home page in order to register.

The party is generously sponsored by:

[Roetzel & Andress](#)
[Hans Wilson & Associates](#)
[BB&T](#)

Contact [Kent Poli](#) for sponsorship information.

REIS 2019 BOARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the REIS 2019 officers and board of governors have been announced. The election will be conducted at the Annual Social Event on November 15th. Any at-large nominations must be submitted to [Karen Miller](#) prior to the election.

President: Alexis Crespo, AICP, Waldrop Engineering
Vice President: Mary Gentile, CRX, CSM, LandQwest Property Management, LLC
Treasurer: Bill Morris, PE, Morris-Depew Associates
Secretary: Kent Poli, Busey Bank

Board of Governors: Gordon Glover, Suffolk; Justin Thibaut, Land Solutions; and Austin Turner, Henderson Franklin, Attorneys at Law; nominated to 2-year terms.

Returning board members are: Jason Brewer, BB&T; Tim Hancock, AICP, Stantec; Travis Merrick, GFA International; and Lori Moore; Roetzel & Andress. 2018 President Bev Larson, CCIM, Lahaina Realty will also remain on the board.

Current board members David Fry and Mark Morris will be retiring from the board at the end of the year.

BEV LARSON, CCIM
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TAX ISSUES ON THE BALLOT

The November 6th election includes **Amendment Two**, which will establish a permanent cap on annual property tax increases for non-homestead properties. The current 10% cap expires at the end of the year. The impact on taxpayers is presented on the [Florida TaxWatch website](#).

A proposed **Collier County surtax** would add a 1 percent additional sales tax for 7 years to fund transportation projects, government facilities, and community projects.

A proposed **Lee County surtax** would add a 1/2 percent additional sales tax for 10 years to fund building 6 new schools and rebuilding 2 existing schools. The largest portion would go toward ongoing maintenance expenses.

SW FLORIDA MARKET TRENDS

The Collier Building Industry Association (CBIA) and Lee Building Industry Association (BIA) will host the annual Market Trends program on October 30th at Miromar Design Center in Estero. REIS member Randy Thibaut will present facts and insight on the land development and home building industry. Register with [cbia.net](#) or [bia.net](#).

FORT MYERS REDUCES FEES

The City of Fort Myers reduced building permit fees by 50% for one year, effective October 1st. Consultants have recommended adjustments to other development and building fees as well as planning, engineering and fire inspection fees. The City also now has a [development activity map](#) on its website to track progress of projects.

REIS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Please join in welcoming our newest members:

Tracey Tucker, BFA in Architecture and Interior Design, is an account executive with Beaux-Arts Group, which creates high-performance workplace interiors.

Chris Hasty, vice president of land acquisitions with Lennar, specializes in site selection, land planning, entitlements, and operational development.

Don Droke is a sales specialist and golf community specialist with Berkshire Hathaway Florida Realty.

A limited number of REIS memberships are now available. Full information and application are on the [REIS website](#).

REIS SYMPOSIUM AT FGCU

"Cows, Cars or both? A look at rural land development in Southwest Florida" was the theme of the 2018 REIS Real Estate Symposium in September at Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU).



Education Committee chairs Lori Moore and Tim Hancock arranged a fast-paced program with three presentations and an



interactive panel discussion. The event was presented in partnership with the **Lutgert College of Business** at



Michael Swindle (top) and Brian Goguen



FGCU and the **Florida Planning & Zoning Association**

(FPZA). The presentations by Michael Swindle, Brian Goguen, and Tony Cameratta are on the [REIS website](#).

Roetzel & Andress was the title sponsor. **Morris-Depew Associates** and **Busey Bank** were gold sponsors, with **D3 creative studio**, **LandQwest Property Management**, **Grandbridge Real Estate Capital**, and **VIP Commercial** being silver sponsors.


REIS MEMBERS IN THE NEWS
REIS member **Josh Burdine** has been elected president of the Royal Palm Coast Realtors Association for 2019.
REIS Secretary **Bill Morris** has been named to the Management Advisory Board of the City of Fort Myers STARS Program.
REIS member **Austin Turner** has been appointed to the Florida Bar Environmental and Land Use Law Section committee. Turner also serves on the management committee of the Urban Land Institute Southwest Florida District Council.

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