

DRGR Testimony  
McLane Report Hearing  
June 11, 2007

- Thank you for the opportunity to briefly discuss where I believe we are in understanding and appropriately preserving the rural lands of Lee County
- Last August I was part of a coalition of civic and environmental groups that promoted the study that the McLane group has just completed
- We thought it would be useful by pulling together what we know about the DRGR and identifying what we don't know...and it does just that
- While the study was being completed develop pressures on the DRGR have continued to mount
- Meanwhile we have been working closely with County planning, natural resources and smart growth staff and their consultants Bill Spikowski, Kevin Erwin and Greg Rawl to identify information needs essential to informed decision-making by the BOCC for all the different kind of rural lands and DRGR development proposals that the Board will have to deal with over the coming years
- Not surprisingly most of those gaps are the same as the ones identified by McLane in this report
- I want to thank County staff and the consultants for all the hard work they have put into the proposal that you have before you
- I am informed that the seven tasks included in the proposal are separable thus permitting them to be performed more expeditiously
- With all the pending threats to our rural lands it is urgent that you find the funds needed to proceed with this work immediately with a great sense of urgency, not business as usual