

Rural Concerns Advisory Committee

Applicant Package - Actively Involved in Agriculture and/or Silviculture

Rural Concerns Advisory Committee - Actively Involved in Agriculture and/or Silviculture

Term 30 Sep 2025 - 30 Sep 2028

Positions Available 1

Number of applicants in this package 1

- Wilson, Richard

Name: Wilson, Richard

Address: 17616 S. County Rd. 325, Hawthorne, Fl., 32640

Email: picturerick@aol.com

Board Name: Rural Concerns Advisory Committee

Primary Phone:

904-537-3424

Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::

Former member board of directors Miami County (Ohio) Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Nationally award-winning photojournalist and convention speaker.

Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:

none

What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:

As an ecologically-minded individual I am approaching all our endeavors with preservation, sustainability and extremely limited environmental impacts first and foremost. Over the past year engrossing myself with these impressions I have further gained valuable insight into best practices, solutions and ideas. I believe the same concepts should govern future processes for other and all areas of rural Alachua County.

Please Agree with the following statements:

I understand this application is the property of Alachua County and subject to public records laws. I hereby certify that the statements made on this application are true and correct. I understand that Appointees to advisory board/committees are required to attend scheduled meetings as specified in the "Guidelines for Citizen Advisory Boards and Committees". I understand that some boards and committees require Financial Disclosure (Chapter 112, Florida Statutes) and I am willing to file if required. I affirm that my personal and business (if applicable) affairs within Alachua County are in substantial compliance with all county regulatory and taxing authorities rules and regulations?:

Yes

Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :

No

I do hereby attest that, to the best of my knowledge and belief:

- 1. I have maintained good moral character throughout my personal and professional life.**
- 2. I have not engaged in any conduct or behavior that would reflect adversely on my honesty, integrity, or ethical standards.**
- 3. I have not been convicted of any felony or misdemeanor involving dishonesty, fraud, or moral turpitude.**
- 4. I have adhered to all applicable laws and regulations in my personal and professional dealings.**
- 5. I strive to uphold the principles of fairness, respect, and responsibility in all my interactions.:**

Yes

Time of Submission: 08/30/25 10:18:04 AM

Attachments

- ACRuralConcernsApplication082925-combined.pdf

August 29, 2025

Good Day Alachua County Commissioners:

I am submitting for an open position on the Alachua County Rural Concerns Advisory Committee as actively involved in agriculture and/or silviculture.

My photojournalism career resume I have submitted does not outwardly reflect on paper my acquired skills and knowledge of agricultural, silviculture and rural living as much as my lived human experience the past 50 years.

I grew up working on my grandparents Holstein dairy in rural Ohio actively immersed in farm life. Occupationally farmers not only need to be experts in the raising of animals or crops but also heavy equipment operators, accountants, electricians, welders and numerous other skills that maintains the farm way of life. Although I would not be classified as an expert in any of these things I did learn these skills between the ages of 8 and 18.

After high school I earned a Bachelor degree in Visual Communication from Ohio University. During my professional career as a photojournalist I gained life experiences living and working in Corvallis, Oregon; Providence, Rhode Island; Troy, Ohio; Flagstaff, Arizona; Lewiston, Maine and finally the suburbs of Jacksonville, Florida. Living and working in numerous locations throughout the United States and photographing and speaking with CEOs, professional athletes, politicians, factory workers, disabled and health challenged as well as normal and common everyday people; provided me the benefit of observing and gaining knowledge regarding how people lived and worked in varied areas of the country, the climates they deal with and the issues and concerns for sustaining their way of life.

Last year my wife (Jennifer Diane Wilson) and myself made a monumental life-changing decision to sell our home in the suburbs of Jacksonville and purchase a 9.6 acre property in unincorporated Cross Creek that has never been built or lived upon. We are fully involved in formalizing plans for a residential home build as well utilizing the unique characteristics of our heavily forested property to establish silvi nursery, wood crafting and silvi-tourism activities such as forest bathing, wildlife viewing, yoga/massage workshops and all things humans may enjoy in an untouched, naturally grown 200-plus year old forest.

As an ecologically-minded individual I am approaching all our endeavors with preservation, sustainability and extremely limited environmental impacts first and foremost. Over the past year engrossing myself with these impressions I have further gained valuable insight into best practices, solutions and ideas. I believe the same concepts should govern future processes for other and all areas of rural Alachua County.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Richard (Rick) Wilson
www.rickwilsonphoto.com
904-537-3424

Rick Wilson

17616 South County Road 325 Cross Creek, Florida 32640

Phone: (904)-537-3424 E-Mail: rick@rickwilsonphoto.com Website: www.rickwilsonphoto.com

Work Experience

Rick Wilson Photography - Jacksonville, Fl.

Freelance visual content business owner. Editorial and commercial photography, editing and distribution.

- Clients include: Jacksonville Jaguars, NBC Universal, AP Images, Getty Entertainment, UF Health Systems, Gatorade, Crowley Maritime, ElderSource, Nuera Marketing.

The Florida TimesUnion - Jacksonville, Fl.

As the Lead Jaguars photographer responsible for planning photographic and multimedia coverage of all Jacksonville Jaguars preseason, regular season, playoff games and training camps since the team's inception in 1995.

- During my 15 years at the Florida Times-Union, I have photographed NFL playoff games and Super Bowls, NCAA football BSC National Championship games, NCAA basketball Final Fours, Daytona 500s, PGA golf tournaments, presidential candidates, hurricane landfalls, celebrities and breaking news events.

University of Florida - Gainesville, Fl.

- Adjunct Professor Journalism 4603-Specialized Photojournalism

The Lewiston Sun-Journal - Lewiston, Me.

- Staff Photographer

The Troy Daily News - Troy, Oh.

- Chief Photographer

Education

Ohio University-Athens, Ohio. **BFA/Visual Communications**, November 1990.

University of Missouri-Columbia, Missouri. Attended August 1985 to May 1986.

Troy High School-Troy, Ohio. Graduated June 1985.

Skills

Extensive experience and knowledge of:

- photographic production techniques in field and studio.
- copyright law and image licensing; photo industry best practices and ethics.
- image library archive management; visual content procurement and distribution.
- creativity in conceptual and visual story presentation for publication.

References

Available upon request