

Board of County Commissioners
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Naples, FL 34112
(239) 252-8400

Application for Advisory Committees/Boards

Name: Nicholas "Nick" Pearson **Home Phone:** 239-404-7982

Home Address: 2025 Monroe Ave. **Zip Code:** 34112

Business Phone: _____ **E-mail address:** Nick@THAnaples.com

Board or Committee Applied for: Land Acquisition Advisory Committee (Conservation Collier)

Category (if applicable): Environmental/marine Consultant
Example: Commission District, Developer, environmentalist, lay person, etc.

How long have you lived in Collier County: 29 years

How many months out of the year do you reside in Collier County: 12

Have you ever been convicted or found guilty of a criminal offense (any level felony or first degree misdemeanor only)? Yes _____ No X **If yes, explain:**

Place of Employment: Turrell, Hall & Associates, Inc.

Do you or your employer do business with the County? Yes X No _____ **If yes, explain:** My company has been involved in a multitude of development projects that are owned by or driven by the county, including the development of Baker park, maintenance and monitoring of Clam Bay, the artificial reef program, and others.

Would you and/or any organizations with which you are affiliated benefit from decisions or recommendations made by this advisory board? Yes _____ No X **If yes, explain:** _____

NOTE: *All advisory board members must update their profile and notify the Board of County Commissioners in the event that their relationship changes relating to memberships of organizations that may benefit them in the outcome of advisory board recommendations or they enter into contracts with the County.*

Are you a registered voter in Collier County: Yes _____ No X

Do you currently hold public office? Yes _____ No X **If so, what is that office?** _____

Applicant Supplemental Information

Applicant Name: Nick Pearson

Representation of Interests: Please explain your relationship with and business interests relating to the following topics.

- **Environmental and Conservation:**
I have lived in South Florida my entire life. In that time, I have enjoyed the outdoors through hunting, fishing, boating, hiking, kayaking, and almost every other way possible. I've also seen how our area has changed since I was a child growing up in Naples. The changes have cemented the importance in my mind of maintaining as much natural area as possible for the future. Through my work as an environmental consultant, I've gained an added appreciation for the acquisition of land for conservation purposes. In fact, I have come to the conclusion that land acquisition is one of the most complete ways of insuring conservation.
- **Agricultural and Business:**
My work relates strongly with evaluating vacant land and interacting with listed wildlife species in a responsible and legal manner. For this reason, I think I could add a valuable voice to the Land Acquisition Advisory Committee.
- **Educational:**
Education is the foundation of moving forward as a society. If we cannot make informed decisions now, such as being intentional about preserving Florida's natural habitats and acting as responsible stewards for the environment, then educating the future generations to act as such will become more and more difficult. Many of our county's residents depend on the environment for their livelihood as well. So in a sense, maintaining education about our environment maintains our overall well-being— and not just here, but all over Florida, the country, etc.
- **General Civic and Citizen:**
As citizens, and as humans, I believe we all have a responsibility to do the right thing and give an honest effort at making the world a better place. Aiding in furthering Conservation Collier's mission is one way that I'd like to fulfil that responsibility.

Individual Member Expertise, Knowledge or Interest: Please elaborate on any experience, knowledge or interest you have in the following subjects.

- **Ecology:**
 - B.S. in Marine Biology (Eckerd College, 2013)

- 6+ years of experience in marine and environmental consulting which includes wetland delineations and permitting; listed species surveys, monitoring, and permitting; marine construction permitting and project management; and benthic surveys;
- Conservation:
Through my work I've been involved with numerous conservation projects, including implementing re-planting plans, listed species relocations, and coordinating mitigation payments for projects.
- Real Estate or Land Acquisition:
 - Licensed real estate associate (2017)
- Land Appraisal:
Professionally, I don't have experience in land appraisal by strictly the traditional definition. But this subject is integral to acquiring land and so I would consider this a very important topic. I would also add that my consulting background and professional experience in real estate allows me a unique perspective in at least partially valuing certain properties.
- Land Management:
I've participated in implementing numerous exotic vegetation removal projects, replanting plans, and other restoration projects through my work over the past 6 years. Maintaining proper balance in any habitat is key to its longevity. People have inadvertently affected most of the natural habitats throughout south Florida in some way (however minute). And so it is our responsibility to try to curb those effects where possible.
- Eco-Tourism:
Eco-tourism opportunities like hiking, kayaking, fishing, hunting etc. are vital to bolstering interest in Conservation Collier's primary mission, and by extension, helping to keep the program running. Of course, activities such as these are all reasons that I want to be involved as well.
- Environmental Education:
Much of the environmentally-related education that I have has come from a combination of traditional schooling, my college career, and professional experience. But, quite a bit of my "education" has come from simply being out in nature as well. And the latter probably did more to also instill an appreciation for the environment. So, helping to provide the same or similar opportunities to experience nature is a definite interest of mine, and why I have submitted an application to the Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee.