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Willow Sink returns as a voting place in Levy County



Levy County Supervisor of Elections Tammy Jones tells the four member County Commission about reverting Precinct 5 back to being active.

Story and Photos

By Jeff M. Hardison © June 8, 2022 at 8:12 p.m.

BRONSON – The four members of the Levy County Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday morning (June 7) agreed to restore a voting precinct to an active state.

Levy County voters qualified to use the Precinct 5 Willow Sink facility at 6731 N.W. 100th St. (State Road 345), in Chiefland, near to Barnhill Landscaping, will be able to vote there at the Aug. 23 primary election.

On July 21, 2020, Levy County Supervisor of Elections Tammy Jones recommended, and the County Commission agreed to move Precinct 5 to the Tommy Usher Community Center, 506 S.W. Fourth Ave. (State Road 345), in Chiefland.

This action was due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the space limitations at Precinct 5.

During both the 2020 Primary and 2020 General Election, both Precinct 5 and Precinct 13 voted at the Tommy Usher Community Center (which is also known as the Tommy Usher Pineland Center).

On June 4, 2019, the County Commission approved \$15,000 in Capital Reserves to make the necessary improvements at Precinct 5 Willow Sink, but there were delays adding on to the building due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, as well as the cost of materials.

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Levy County Construction and Maintenance Department Director Jimmy Jones is working with his team to complete the project before the Aug. 23 primary election. He is seen here during the June 7 meeting.

The Levy County Construction and Maintenance Department, with Director Jimmy Jones, is currently overseeing the Precinct 5 project to provide enough room to accommodate the voters and efficient ADA accessibility. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on disability.

Levy County leases the Willow Sink property from the Usher Family Trust, according to records, and the trustees have agreed to the lease.

Supervisor of Elections Jones said she is sending every Levy County voter a new voter identification card due to redistricting. She hopes every voter will look at their card to see where they vote.

Other Action

In other action the County Commission voted 4-0 to approve the following:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with LIUNA Local 630.
- A request for the Levy County Board of County Commissioners' approval of Resolution 2022-26 amending the final budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 in the amount of \$692.
- A requesting for the County Commission's approval of Resolution 2022-27 approving application for a resilient Florida Planning Grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; providing direction and authorization to the County Coordinator or designee; and providing an effective date.