

VARIANCE REQUEST Presented to LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT July 12, 2012

CASE NO.: BOA# 18-12-1

AGENDA ITEM #: 1

OWNERS & APPLICANTS: Stephen and Karen Teeter

REQUESTED ACTION: The owners are requesting a variance from the Lake County Land Development Regulations (LDRs) 14.11.01.D.2 Minor Lot Splits to allow a minor lot split when the parcel does not front on a paved publicly-maintained road (+/- 20 acres).

GENERAL LOCATION: Leesburg area –West on State Road 44, left on Whitney Road, right on South Whitney Road to site on left #300, AK# 3819334 (Sec. 30, Twp. 19, Rng. 24).



FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION: Rural

EXISTING ZONING: A (Agriculture)

Direction	Future Land Use	Zoning	Existing Use
North	Rural	Agriculture	Single-Family
	(1 du / 5ac)	(1 du / 5 ac)	Dwelling Unit
South	Rural	Agriculture	Agriculture
	(1 du / 5ac)	(1 du / 5 ac)	
East	Rural	Agriculture	Single-Family
	(1 du / 5ac)	(1 du / 5 ac)	Dwelling Unit
West	Rural	Agriculture	Agriculture
	(1 du / 5ac)	(1 du / 5 ac)	
Date	June 21, 2012 at Whitney Road and South Whitney Road, Leesburg		
Posted:			

14.15.02 Granting Variances and Appeals

Variances shall be granted when the person subject to the Land Development Regulation demonstrates that the purpose of the Land Development Regulation will be or has been achieved by other means, and when application of a Land Development Regulation would create a substantial hardship or would violate principles of fairness.

For purposes of this section, "substantial hardship" means a demonstrated economic, technological, legal, or other type of hardship to the person requesting the variance. For the purposes of this section "principles of fairness" are violated when the literal application of a Land Development Regulation affects a particular person in a manner significantly different from the way it affects other similarly situated persons who are subject to the Land Development Regulation.

Variances may also be granted to allow for the reconstruction, rehabilitation, or restoration of structures listed on, or classified as contributing to a district listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Florida Master Site File or local surveys of historical resources. In such instance, the variance shall be the minimum necessary to protect the historical integrity of the structure and its site.

ANALYSIS: The owners are requesting a variance to allow the division of a parcel through the minor lot split process when the parcel fronts on a dirt privately-maintained road, instead of a paved publicly-maintained road. The Code (14.11.01.D.2) allows two lots to be created from the original legally created lot or lot of record on a paved publicly-maintained road, if the parcels being created are less than 20 acres in size.

The subject 20-acre parcel is located in a rural area surrounded by agricultural land. A portion of the parcel has been developed with a single-family dwelling unit and the remainder of the parcel is used to produce cattle. The parcel is accessed by a dirt easement and is approximately 2,000 feet from a paved road. The dirt easement is used to access two parcels and terminates at the owners parcel. The owners are proposing a minor lot split in order to sell the home site while maintaining the remainder for agricultural purposes. A copy of a survey showing the proposed division is attached (Exhibit "A").

The parcel is approximately 660 feet wide by 1320 feet long. The owners are proposing a five-acre parcel, which includes the house and a 15-acre parcel, with both parcels fronting on the existing easement. A representative from the Public Works Department has inspected the easement and will not oppose the application for a minor lot split.

The parcel is zoned Agriculture and the future land use is Rural. The minimum density for the future land use and the zoning is one dwelling unit per five acres. There is a small portion in the southwest corner of the parcel which contains jurisdictional wetlands and also lies within the 100-year flood zone, designated as "A". The proposed lot split will meet the minimum density requirements and will have sufficient uplands to construct a home.

The minor lot split process was created to allow a parent parcel to be split, creating two parcels fronting on a paved publicly-maintained road. The **intent** of the Code (Section 14.11.01.D.2) is to ensure that properties being split have the facilities that are required for the development of parcels such as roads,

schools, parks, fire, and sewer and water facilities. If the parcel is created as proposed it will not create high density and will not negatively affect the surrounding area.

The owners submitted the following as proof of meeting the **intent of the Code**: *"Going to meet the size requirement of 5 ackers to meet zoning and future land use densities."*

The owners submitted the following as proof that the application of the Land Development Regulation would create a substantial hardship or would violate principles of fairness:

"Property is being sold and is under contract as a home and 5 ac parcel to be cut from a 20 ac parcel alt key # 3819334 to be surveyed by buyer satisfactory to buyer & seller on a road maintained by buyer & seller for no other purpose or lot sales."

FINDINGS OF FACT: Staff has reviewed the application for this variance request and found:

- This request is consistent with the intent of LDR 14.11.01, which discourages high density development without proper infrastructure.
- The private easement is used by two property owners for access and will not be negatively affected by an additional parcel.

The owners have submitted proof of meeting the intent of the Code and have shown proof of a substantial hardship or that the application of the Code would violate principles of fairness. Based on the Findings of Fact and Analysis, Staff recommends **approval** of the variance request **with the following condition**:

• The parcel shall not be subdivided by any additional administrative lot splits.

WRITTEN COMMENTS FILED: Support: -0- Concern: -0- Oppose: -0-

14.11.00 Minor Lot Splits, Family Density Exception and Agricultural Lot Splits. 14.11.01 Minor Lot Splits

A. Generally. The County may approve a minor lot split of a legally created lot that conforms to the requirements of this Subsection. An applicant for a minor lot split shall have six (6) months from the date the application is submitted to the County to finalize the lot split. No extensions shall be permitted.

B. Initial Submittal. The County shall consider a proposed minor lot split upon the submittal of the following materials:

- 1. An application form provided by the County.
- 2. One (1) paper copy of the proposed minor lot split.
- 3. A statement indicating whether water and/or sanitary sewer service is available to the property.
- 4. Soils map showing the proposed minor lot split boundaries overlain.

5. Two (2) aerial photographs no older than the most recent aerials available from the County Manager or designee showing the proposed minor lot split boundaries overlain.

- 6. Current property record card for the subject property.
- 7. Current warranty deed for the subject property.
- 8. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood insurance map with property boundaries overlain.
- C. Review Procedure.

1. The County Manager or designee shall transmit a copy of the proposed minor lot split to any other appropriate departments of the County for review and comments.

2. If the proposed minor lot split meets the conditions of these regulations and otherwise complies with all applicable laws and ordinances, the County Manager or designee shall approve the minor lot split.

3. Any other information as required by the County Manager or designee.

D. Standards. All minor lot splits shall conform to the following standards:

1. Only two (2) lots may be created from the original legally created lot or lot of record. The total number of lots created shall include the original parcel. The original parcel shall be known as the parent parcel and those lots created out of the parent parcel shall not be entitled to another minor lot split.

2. Each lot Shall either (1) front on a publicly maintained paved road and conform to the required minimum lot dimensions for the land use category and zoning district where the lots are located OR (2) contain a minimum of twenty (20) acres with at least one (1) acre of uplands AND front either on a publicly maintained clay road OR an easement meeting the following requirements:

a. Non-exclusive easement for ingress and egress, dedicated to the public for road, utility, and drainage purposes, if satisfying the criteria set forth in Section 14.00.08, Land Development Regulations, and accepted by the Board of County Commissioners. However, a private easement may be permitted if it is determined that there is no need for a future road corridor.

b. Connect to a publicly maintained road.

c. Have a minimum width of fifty (50) feet.

d. Not obligate the County to maintain the easement.

e. Have road name signs installed in accordance with applicable County regulations.

f. Record deed restrictions which require the property owners to maintain the paved private road or easement. Such restrictions must be recorded prior to the recordation of the approved lot split.

3. If any lot abuts a publicly maintained road that does not conform to the right-of-way specifications provided or adopted by reference in these regulations, the owner may have to dedicate the required right-of-way width necessary to meet the minimum design if satisfying the criteria set forth in Section 14.00.08, Land Development Regulations.

4. Easements created pursuant to this Section Shall comply with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations and Lake County floodplain management regulations.

5. The creation of a lot wholly within the 100 year flood zone is prohibited.

6. Flag lots are prohibited.

7. A minor lot split shall not be approved within a platted subdivision when such lot split changes the character of the subdivision, or where the lot split increases the density, beyond the general nature of the subdivision.

8. A minor lot split which authorizes the development of five (5) or more lots or dwelling units Shall not be approved by the County Manager, or designee, unless the School Board has provided a certification in accordance with Chapter V-A of these regulations indicating that there is or will be sufficient school capacity to provide education services for the students who will live in dwelling units placed or constructed on such lots.

9. All other Sections of the Land Development Regulations, and all requirements of the Comprehensive Plan Shall apply.

E. Final Submittal. Prior to final approval, in addition to any other requirements the following shall be required:

1. Legal descriptions, acreage and square footage of the original and proposed lots together with the legal description of any existing or proposed easements shall be shown on a boundary survey prepared by a professional land surveyor registered in the State of Florida. In the event the proposed lot split contains parcels greater than forty (40) acres in size, a sketch of description for the land area containing such parcels shall be accepted instead of a boundary survey. However, a boundary survey shall be required for the land area containing parcels forty (40) acres or less in size. (Example: A fifty (50) acre parcel being split into a twenty (20) acre parcel and a thirty (30) acre parcel would require a boundary survey of the fifty (50) acre parcel and a five (5) acre parcel, but a fifty (50) acre parcel being split into a forty-five (45) acre parcel and a five (5) acre parcel would only require a boundary survey of the five (5) acre parcel.) The survey must show all structures, easements, surface water bodies, flood zones with base elevation, wetlands and amount of acreage inside and outside of the wetland jurisdiction line.

2. A title opinion of an attorney licensed in Florida or a certification by an abstractor or a title company dated through the date of final approval, showing all persons or entities with an interest of record in the property, including but not limited to, the record fee owners, easement holders, mortgage and lien holders. The report shall include the tax identification number(s) for the property and copies of all documents such as deeds, mortgages etc. referenced in the title opinion.

F. Recordation. Upon approval of the minor lot split, the County Shall record the minor lot split on the appropriate maps and documents, and shall, at the applicant's expense, record the minor lot split in the public records of Lake County, Florida.

14.15.00 Variances and Appeals.

14.15.01 Purpose of Variances. Strict application of uniformly applicable Land Development Regulations can lead to unreasonable, unfair, and unintended results in particular instances. The Board of County Commissioners finds that it is appropriate in such cases to adopt a procedure to provide relief to persons subject to the Land Development Regulations. The Board of Adjustment is authorized to grant variances to requirements of the Land Development Regulations consistent with the rules contained in these regulations. This Section does not authorize the Board of Adjustment to grant variances inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan nor to grant a variance to permit uses not generally permitted in the zoning district involved or any use expressly or by implication prohibited by the terms of the Land Development Regulations in the zoning district. In addition, the existence of nonconforming use of neighboring lands or un-permitted use of neighboring lands shall not be considered grounds for authorization of a variance.

14.15.02 Generally. Variances shall be granted when the person subject to a Land Development Regulation demonstrates that the purpose of the Land Development Regulation will be or has been achieved by other means, and when application of a Land Development Regulation would create a substantial hardship or would violate principles of fairness. For purposes of this Section, "substantial hardship" means a demonstrated economic, technological, legal, or other type of hardship to the person requesting the variance. For purposes of this Section, "principles of fairness" are violated when the literal application of a Land Development Regulation affects a particular person in a manner significantly different from the way it affects other similarly situated persons who are subject to the Land Development Regulation. Variances may also be

granted to allow for the reconstruction, rehabilitation, or restoration of structures listed on, or classified as, contributing to a district listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Florida Master Site File or local surveys of historical resources. In such instance, the variance shall be the minimum necessary to protect the historical integrity of the structure and its site.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE: There are jurisdictional wetlands on the parcel.

FLOODPLAIN: Portions of the parcel lie in the 100-year flood zone designated as "AE".

JOINT PLANNING AGREEMENT: N/A

LAKE APOPKA BASIN: N/A

WEKIVA RIVER PROTECTION AREA: N/A

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS: N/A

GREEN SWAMP AREA OF CRITICAL STATE CONCERN: N/A

BOA# 18-12-1 Photo Evidence









Views of the site



Views of the postings

Final Development Order Stephen and Karen Teeter BOA # 18-12-1

A VARIANCE OF THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AMENDING THE LAKE COUNTY ZONING MAPS AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Stephen A. Teeter and Karen L. Teeter (the "Owners") made a request to allow a minor lot split when the parcel does not front on a paved publicly-maintained road; and

WHEREAS, the subject property consists of 20 acres +/- and is generally located west of Leesburg in Section 30, Township 19 South, Range 24 East, being composed of Alternate Key Number 3819334, and is more particularly described as:

THE WEST ½ OF THE NORTHEAST ¼ OF THE SOUTHWEST ¼ OF SECTION 30, TOWNSHIP 19 SOUTH, RANGE 24 EAST, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

AND, after giving Notice of Hearing on petition for a variance to the Lake County Land Development Regulations, including notice that said variance would be presented to the Board of Adjustment of Lake County, Florida, on July 12, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Adjustment reviewed said petition, staff report and any comments, favorable or unfavorable, from the public and surrounding property owners at a public hearing duly advertised; and

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2012, the Lake County Board of Adjustment approved the variance for the above property; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Adjustment of Lake County, Florida, that the Land Development Regulations of Lake County, Florida, be altered and amended as they pertain to the above subject property subject to the following terms:

Section 1. **Terms**: The County Manager or designee shall amend the Official Zoning Map to reflect the approval of BOA# 18-12-1 to allow a minor lot split when the parcel does not front on a paved publicly-maintained road, with the following condition:

- The parcel shall not be divided by any additional administrative lot splits.
- **Section 2. Severability:** If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.
- Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

ENACTED this 12th day of July, 2012.

EFFECTIVE July 12, 2012.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Donald Schreiner, Chairman

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF LAKE

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this July 12, 2012 by DONALD SCHREINER, who is personally known to me. (SEAL)

Signature of Acknowledger

Serial Number: ______ My Commission Expires: ______