

Mr. Hollis made himself available to answer questions. Commissioner Willis asked about speculative use. Mr. Hollis stated there are 3 retail merchants who have shown interest. Commissioner James Miller asked if any of the interested parties could have an impact on the wetlands. Mr. Hollis answered no..

No one spoke in opposition to the request.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Miller called for a motion. Motion by Commissioner Graham to recommend approval of the request as presented by staff. Commissioner Webb second. All voted in favor, no one opposed (6-0). Motion carried.

Agenda Item #4

TWR-2025-01 US-GA 5379, Rocky Ford Road, 0039 007, ~13.5 acres
Current Zoning: E-A (Estate Agricultural)
Proposed Request: Telecommunications Tower

Mr. Dillard presented the case in which the applicant is requesting to construct a new ~260' telecommunications tower on a 10,000sf leased area on Rock Ford Road near Watkins Road. The subject property is currently zoned Estate Agricultural (E-A) and is allowed to be used for the construction of a new telecommunications tower with GLPC review and LCBOC approval. The proposed tower is determined to be of "No Hazard to Air Navigation" by the Federal Aviation Administration, and officials at Valdosta Regional Airport (VLD) and Moody Air Force Base (MAFB) have been notified of the request and provided no objection, noting that the proposed construction would be acceptable contingent upon the addition of marling/lighting IAW FAA Aeronautical study No 2025-ASO-7122-OE and FAA Advisory circular 70/7460-1 Change 1.

The primary motivation for a new tower at the subject property is to fill a gap in the existing coverage area. The subject property is in the Rural Service Area and depicted as Rural Residential on the Future Land Use Map. Surrounding properties include a County Fire Station, Watkins Family property, and Camp Rock of Georgia.

Mr. Dillard stated a letter of opposition from the owner of the closest residence to the proposed tower location had been received this morning via email, and a petition opposing the request with ~25 signatures was handed to him before the start of the meeting.

The TRC analyzed the request, the standards set forth in 5.05.00 and 10.02.00 of the ULDC, and factors most relevant to this application, including the proposed location's ability to enhance telecommunication service, minimize adverse impacts on the community, and encourage the location of towers in non-residential areas, and therefore recommends approval of the request for a new telecommunications tower.