

## **AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD**

**MMRB Liaison: DJ Culberson, (407) 247-0389**

### **MISSION**

Reviews, analyzes, provides recommendations, and comments about rules, regulations, and ordinances affecting the agricultural industry.

### **STATUS OF VACANCIES**

There are two vacancies on this 11-member board in the plant/foilage nursery industry and fruit crop industry representative categories due to the updated board resolution. The terms of James C. Dowdy and Michael D. Patterson expired on December 31, 2025.

### **THE MMRB RECOMMENDS:**

Consideration of the reappointment of James C. Dowdy in the tree producer and/or arborist representative category and Michael D. Patterson in the equine and/or livestock industry representative category and the appointment of Robbin L. Ward in the plant/foilage nursery industry representative category and Ricky Artes in the fruit crop industry representative category, all with terms expiring December 31, 2027.

<b><u>APPLICANT</u></b>	<b><u>OCCUPATION</u></b>	<b><u>DISTRICT</u></b>
Robbin L. Ward	A Passion for Plants, LLC/Owner	5
Ricky Artes	JeepersDen & Truck Accessories/ Owner	5

### **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Robbin L. Ward:** Ms. Ward is the owner of A Passion for Plants, LLC, where she has been employed for eight years. She has worked in the interiorscape plant business for 31 years.

**Ricky Artes:** Mr. Artes is the owner of JeepersDen & Truck Accessories, where he has been employed for 27 years. He has been in the citrus industry since 2019. He is a member of the Umatilla Citrus Growers Association, Florida Natural Cooperative, Florida Farm Bureau, Kissimmee Valley Beekeepers Association, and Orlando Jeep Club.

**CURRENT BOARD**

	<b><u>ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT</u></b>	<b><u>TERM EXPIRES</u></b>	<b><u>DISTRICT</u></b>
<b><u>Equine/Livestock Industry</u></b>			
Brenda A. Hagemeister	06/06/23	12/31/26	5
Michael D. Patterson	04/22/25	12/31/25	5
<b><u>Plant/Foliage Nursery Industry</u></b>			
A. Kathrein Markle	07/03/25	12/31/26	2
Vacant			
<b><u>Landscape/Water Management</u></b>			
Suzanne Archer	05/23/23	12/31/26	2
Russell L. Woodall	06/06/23	12/31/26	3
<b><u>Allied Horticulture Industry</u></b>			
John Madison	04/11/23	12/31/26	4
<b><u>Fruit Crop Industry</u></b>			
Vacant			
<b><u>Urban Agriculture/Small Farms</u></b>			
Amy Paterson	03/11/25	12/31/26	1
<b><u>Tree Producer/Arborist or At Large</u></b>			
James C. Dowdy	04/05/22	12/31/25	5
<b><u>Agricultural Education or At Large</u></b>			
Stacy A. Figueroa	03/11/25	12/31/26	1

## Advisory Board Application for Appointment

**Date:** 11/5/2025

**Application Number:** 96102

**Application Expires:** 11/5/2027

**Name:** Ms. Robbin L. Ward

**Business Address:**

Not Listed

**Home Address:**

1703 Taylor Creek Road  
Christmas, FL 32709

**Mail Address:**

1703 Taylor Creek Road  
Christmas, FL 32709

**Email Address:** Apassionforplants@att.net

**Home Telephone Number:**

(407) 832-2851

**Work Telephone Number:**

Not Listed

**Employer:** A Passion for Plants, LLC

**Job Title:** Owner

**Years Employed:** Not Listed

**Education:**

**School:** Colonial High

**Degree:** Not Listed

**Boards of Interest:**

Agricultural Advisory Board

**Licences/Certificates Information:** Not Listed

**Personal History:** I have worked in the interiorscape plant industry since 1994. In 2017 I started my own interiorscape business and currently semi-retired.

**Prior Relationship with County:** No

**Explain Prior Relationship:** Not Listed

**Reference:** Andrea Stevenson

**Phone Number:** (407) 256-6031

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend

**Reference:** Shannon Patterson

**Phone Number:** (321) 689-7029

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend

**Reference:** Joanne Kani-Miller

**Phone Number:** (321) 624-0220

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend

**Professional Organization Information:** Not Listed

**Orange County Resident:** Yes

**Resident Since:** Unlisted

**Registered Voter:** Yes

**District:** Orange County District 5

**Previously Served On:** Unlisted

**Year Previously Served:** Unlisted

**Gender:** Female

**Disabled:** Unlisted

**Are you of Hispanic origin?** Not Hispanic

**Race:** Caucasian

## Advisory Board Application for Appointment

**Date:** 10/31/2025

**Application Number:** 96062

**Application Expires:** 10/31/2027

**Name:** Mr. Ricky Artes

**Business Address:**

Not Listed

**Home Address:**

1750 West Christmas Road N.  
Christmas, FL 32709

**Mail Address:**

Not Listed

**Email Address:** ricky@jeepersden.com

**Home Telephone Number:**

(321) 303-1657

**Work Telephone Number:**

Not Listed

**Employer:** JeepersDen & Truck Accessories

**Job Title:** Owner

**Years Employed:** 27

**Education:** Not Listed

**Boards of Interest:**

Agricultural Advisory Board

**Licences/Certificates Information:** Not Listed

**Personal History:** I have been in the Citrus industry now since 2019. We bought our property and turned the grove around with quality and quantity of fruit speaking for itself. I am currently involved in the Umatilla Citrus Association, Florida Natural Coop, Florida Farm Bureau, Kissimmee Valley Bee Association, and much more.

**Prior Relationship with County:** Yes

**Explain Prior Relationship:** Orange County VAB- I am an alternate Citizen Member

**Reference:** Michael Patterson

**Phone Number:** (321) 689-7031

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend

**Reference:** Karl Wacker

**Phone Number:** (407) 340-9279

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend

**Reference:** Tim Murray

**Phone Number:** (407) 468-5733

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend

**Professional Organizations:** Orlando Jeep Club

**From:** 1998

**To:** Current

**Orange County Resident:** Yes

**Resident Since:** 1995

**Registered Voter:** Yes

**District:** Orange County District 5

**Previously Served On:** Unlisted

**Year Previously Served:** Unlisted

**Gender:** Male

**Disabled:** No

**Are you of Hispanic origin?** Hispanic

**Race:** Other

**Current Applicants for the Agricultural Advisory Board as of 12/3/2025**

<b>Name</b>	<b>District/County</b>	<b>Application Date</b>
Amico, Dawson Lance	Orange County District 1	1/1/2025
Artes, Ricky	Orange County District 5	10/31/2025
Culberson, Danny J.	Orange County District 1	4/11/2024
Diamond, Leopold A	Orange County District 6	9/15/2024
Ford, Belinda	Orange County District 2	6/17/2024
Kupke, Robert	Orange County District 5	10/20/2025
Martinez, Maria	Orange County District 5	9/15/2024
Stanley, Johnny	Orange County District 5	2/26/2025
Ward, Robbin L.	Orange County District 5	11/5/2025