

Business group makes endorsements



Wayne T. Price, FLORIDA TODAY 10:19 a.m. EDT May 11, 2016



(Photo: Provided)

The board of Business Voice Political Committee recently issued a number of endorsements for upcoming political races.

For Brevard County Commission, the committee's selections were three Republicans:

- Rita Pritchett, a Titusville City Council member running for the 1st District County Commission seat. (On the GOP side she faces Benjamin Michael Eaker and Micha Nix. On the Democratic side the challengers are Dwight Lee Seigler and Ron Taylor.)
- Andrea Young, a West Melbourne City Council member running for the 3rd District County Commission seat. (She faces John Tobia on the Republican side and Democrat Ron Foster.)
- Kristine Isnardi, a former Palm Bay City Council member, running for the 5th District County Commission seat. (Isnardi faces Republicans Rob Median, Terry LaPlante and Kenneth Sullivan.)

"All three of these dynamic women have served as city councilwomen, and are well-versed in the needs facing our community," said Larry McIntyre, chairman of the Business Voice Political Committee. "We believe they will be effective commissioners, able to offer pragmatic solutions and make tough decisions."



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The committee said the three candidates understand the importance of the local tourism industry and protecting the Indian River Lagoon. They also shared a commitment to cut burdensome regulations "to ensure that government services are more efficient and customer-focused."

In state legislative races, the committee gave the nod to Florida Rep. Ritch Workman, R-Melbourne, in his bid for a Florida Senate seat; and Brian Hodgers, a Satellite Beach small-business owner who is running in House District 52, a seat previously held by Workman.

Workman is running against Debbie Mayfield of Vero Beach and Republican State Committeeman Michael Thomas of Melbourne in the primary. The trio will face off in a GOP primary on Aug. 30. Both Mayfield and Workman are completing their eighth years in the Florida House, and cannot seek re-election because of term limits.

There is one Democratic candidate for the race, Christopher Duncan Jr. of Palm Bay.



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Hodgers faces Thad Altman, Monique Miller and Robert VanVolkenburgh in a Republican primary. Altman, of Rockledge, is a state senator who cannot seek re-election because of term limits.

"Small businesses are the fastest-growing segment of our economy, and Workman and Hodgers understand that in order to enhance the quality of life for working families on the Space Coast," Business Voice Legislative Committee Chairman J.B. Kump said. "We need to get government out of the way of local job-creators."

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