



## From the desk of Marty White, GRHA Board Member

**GRHA's Newest Board Member** Marty White, joined GRHA's Board in November, 2007, just two months ago, filling the position vacated by Joe Sedlmayer. Marty now makes Goldfield his primary residence. He is currently in the process of selling his Florida home and just resigned from his Florida homeowners' Board at the end of 2007.

Marty served in the U.S. Marine Corps. and is now a retired entrepreneur. He is a Director on the following Boards: Lake County Community College, First Community Bank, Piper Plastics, and GRHA. He has served on numerous other Boards for many years, so his experience is ideal for GRHA's Board.

"My Florida BOD experience was with a traditional, mandatory HOA which controlled everything from open garage doors, parking, dues, to special assessments, and when I stepped into this position with GRHA, I was looking forward to working with neighbors who volunteer to join and who are interested in improving major areas of concern such as roads and development. As GRHA is a voluntary group, I was very surprised to learn that a small group of members (10%) have called for a recall of ALL Board members, even myself, who just started in November! From my experience, if every time 10% (12

members) get their noses out of joint and force us to have an election, no one will ever get anything done."

"In the numerous Boards I've served on, we were always looking for more people, not to throw people out. In fact, my only recollection of removing a (one) Board member was for not attending Board meetings...not for his/her ideas. Boards should be replaced slowly, adding new members who will blend their experiences and knowledge. The only reason I can think of for replacing a total Board with a 'like-minded voting bloc' is to take control of the Board in order to force their ideas on their neighbors. Ideally, you want individuals to run for office who are diverse in their ideas and who are independent thinkers so as to be un-swayed by the biases or experiences of other Board members. When an opening occurs, old members should be replaced by new independent thinkers, in small numbers, which is what occurred in my previous situation. That is how you get a balanced Board that serves all the members... rather than a small like-minded group who only want to control a Board for their own reasons."

"My first involvement with the GRHA Board was voting on a proposal to increase the number of Board members from 5 to 9 for the expressed reason of bringing in new members in stages to allow current mem-

bers to retire from the Board in a staggered fashion to keep continuity and experience intact as we were in the middle of various initiatives (roads, relationships, zoning, development issues, etc) while adding more neighbors to get new ideas and to help with the increased work load generated by programs started in the past year. After GRHA's future election was announced, I was very pleased to see random neighbors step up and announce their candidacies (one by one) for election to the Board. UNFORTUNATELY, we have had three very qualified members ask to have their names withdrawn from the list because, and I quote:

#1 They "did not want to put up with the crap that we have to deal with."

#2 They "did not want to deal with the nonsense that has been going on."

#3 This one should probably remain unsaid. "Not one member of this small dissident group who wants a new Board added his/her name to run in the GRHA election nor do they want to run alone without a VOTING BLOC. First they try to create distrust in the leadership to damage unity within the organization, and then they keep qualified candidates (neighbors) from wanting to run for Board positions. Next, they force a recall election of ALL Board members to attempt to further break up the unity of our association and our effectiveness in dealing with challenges both inside and more importantly outside of GRHA."

"90% of our members want a unified GRHA, want to be able to run for office freely, want new roads and responsible development, and appreciate neighbors who have the impossible, thankless job of trying to please everyone. This is where we should devote our time and effort and stop wasting time on legal issues and disgruntled malcontents."

*Martin J. White*

Marty's Favorite Quote

**"SEMPER FI"**

