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Contact: Betsy Clayton, APR/CPRC  
Communications Director  
Lee County Government  
239-826-4606  
bclayton@leegov.com

**Lee Commissioners approve agreement for repairs to Hammond Stadium boardwalk**

Fort Myers, FL, June 7, 2022 – The Lee Board of County Commissioners voted Tuesday to approve an agreement for repairs to the boardwalk at Hammond Stadium and to authorize use of Tourist Development Tax funds to pay for waterproofing the boardwalk.

Bliss & Nyitray Inc. was the structural engineer of record for the renovation of Hammond Stadium in 2014 and 2015 and acknowledges structural design errors were a contributing factor of deficiencies requiring repair. The company has agreed to pay the cost of remediation of structural issues.

Lee County has requested that BNI apply a protective coating to the boardwalk during the remediation process, using proceeds from the Tourist Development Tax on short-term lodgings. The protective coating work had been previously planned and budgeted for as a stadium improvement.

The work is expected to begin this summer. The county will coordinate with the Mighty Mussels as their season progresses.

In December, Lee County announced the boardwalk would be closed during a structural review in the interest of public safety. In February, the county announced the boardwalk would open for spring training after being reinforced. The work approved Tuesday is anticipated to be the final step in the Hammond Stadium repair process.

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