

HIGHLANDS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

June 3, 2008

The regular meeting of the Supervisors of the Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order by Interim Chair Wayne Zahn at 3:05 p.m., Tuesday, June 3, 2008 in Conference Room 3 at the Highlands County Agri-Civic Center, Sebring, Florida.

Supervisors present: Charlie Filler, Gregg Hartt, Ida Jackson and Wayne Zahn

Supervisors absent: John Causey

Staff present: Jackie Bailey, Office Manager
Jennifer Abbey, Soil Conservationist

Guests: June Fisher, Bo Griffin and Randy Nelson

This is the Financial Statement for May 27, 2008.

DEPOSIT:

No deposits

CHECKS WRITTEN:

Check 1339 for \$164.79 to Clell Ford for reimbursement of travel expenses.

Check 1340 for \$16.00 to Sherry Brown for the WHIP tour. This check was voided.

HSWCD balances as of May 27, 2008

Highlands Independent Bank	Checking	\$ 6,600.19
Highlands Independent Bank	CD	\$ 1,500.00
Highlands Independent Bank	CD	\$ 1,500.00
Highlands Independent Bank	CD	\$ 2,000.00

HSWCD Money Market Account

Balance as of April 28, 2008	\$359,618.10
April 30, 2008 Interest	873.60
Dep – admin fees	3,176.94
Dep – composting workshop	2,180.00
Dep – composting workshop	200.00
Dep – admin fees, composting workshop, interest	498.50
Balance as of May 27, 2008	<u>\$366,546.74</u>

Lake Okeechobee Storage and Treatment

Balance as of April 28, 2008	\$322,023.02
Interest	<u>780.81</u>
Balance as of May 27, 2008	\$322,803.83
Balance as of May 27, 2008 (Regular Checking)	\$528.62

Avon Park Air Force Range Grant

Balance as of April 28, 2008	\$268,420.79
Interest	<u>650.84</u>
Balance as of May 27, 2008	\$269,071.63

FHREDI Contract

Balance as of May 27, 2008	0.00
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MiniFARMS Contract #012056

Balance as of May 27, 2008	\$ 0.00
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Ag Stormwater Systems #12941

Balance as of May 27, 2008	21.55
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BMP Contract #12942

Balance as of April 28, 2008	\$18,677.46
Checks 654 – 658	<u>18,674.37</u>
Balance as of May 27, 2008	\$ 3.09

Concentrated Feed Operations #12943

Balance as of May 27, 2008	\$ 127,353.41
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The Agenda and Minutes of May 6, 2008 were approved as written. Jackie has an appointment with a bookkeeper to examine our procedures for keeping our records.

Charlie Filler rendered his resignation from the Board dated June 1, 2008. Charlie has been on the board for sixteen years and has seen many changes. His hard work and dedication has been greatly appreciated by all board members past and present. Charlie was presented with an Appreciation Plaque. We will miss you Charlie.

The Board discussed and made changes to the Agricultural Sustainability section of the Long Range Plan. The section will be updated accordingly.

Justin Smiley of Okeechobee won the Area Speech Contest. The home composter workshop was held on May 8, 2008. Over sixty people attended the event. Fifty-five kits have been sold. We made a profit of \$877.30. The AFCD Area VI Annual Meeting was held at the Lake Placid Conference Center on May 28th. Thank you, Gregg Hartt for welcoming the other districts to Highlands County. Eight of SWCDs attended the meeting. Corine and Jackie attended the WHIP project field tour in Lake County on May 20th. Corine is organizing a Conservation Connection Day. The purpose of the event is to showcase the environmental agencies that are conserving the natural resources of Highlands.

Jackie researched the cost of shirts. There were many options to purchasing the shirts and having them embroidered. Gregg Hartt made a motion that staff members used the profits from the Composter Workshop to purchase shirts. Motion seconded by Ida Jackson. Motion passed unanimously.

The Contract Activity Report was reviewed. Ida Jackson made a motion to sign the two amendments received from FDACS, the first is to decrease Contract 12943 by \$40,000 and the second is to increase Contract 12942 by the same amount. Gregg Hartt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Bo Griffin explained that FDACS has very limited funds this year and the next few years look as though they will be lean also. Bo asked the Board to consider funding \$50,000 for a project to help the Istokpoga Marsh Watershed Improvement District implement BMPs. There are over 150 landowners in the 226 square mile area. The problem is the high concentration of phosphorous leaving the area. At this point FDACS has committed \$50,000 to the project and SFWMD has committed \$5,000. This item will be tabled until August. Bo will bring data and research for the answers to the many questions that were asked by the supervisors and staff.

Lake Management Specialist Report – Clell’s report was in the meeting packet. Clell and Erin are both attending and speaking at the Southeastern Lakes Management Symposium this week held in Sandestin, FL.

Lake Management Assistant Report – Erin’s report was in the meeting packet.

District Conservationist Report –Jennifer informed the Board she attended two training this month, one on plant herbivore interaction and another on irrigation design. Three people were served through conservation planning, two people were served through conservation application and six people were served through inventories and evaluations.

Natural Resources Specialist Report – Corine’s report was in the meeting packet. Jackie informed the Board that 1,098 showerheads have been distributed throughout the county. She also stated the article that Corine had submitted to the Florida Water Resources Journal would be published.

Gregg Hartt made a motion that Ida Jackson be appointed as the acting Secretary/Treasurer. Wayne Zahn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The next board meeting was set for July 1, 2008 in Conference Room #3 at 3p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Recording Secretary

Chairman