

HIGHLANDS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

May 6, 2010

The regular meeting of the Supervisors of the Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order by Interim Chair, Wayne Zahn at 3:10p.m., Tuesday, May 6, 2010 in Conference Room 3 at the Bert J. Harris Agricultural Center, 4509 George Blvd. in Sebring, Florida.

Supervisors present: John Causey, Gregg Hartt, Ida Jackson, Jimmy Wohl and Wayne Zahn

Staff present: Carlos Torres, District Conservationist
Jennifer Abbey, Soil Conservationist
Jackie Bailey, Office Manager
Corine Burgess, Natural Resources Specialist
Clell Ford, Lakes Management Specialist
Erin McCarta, Lakes Management Assistant

Guests: Don Bates (HCBCC), Bo Griffin (FDACS), June Fisher (County Admin), Pete Pollard, Ray Royce (HCCGA), Jeff Schmidt (NRCS), and Audrey Vickers

Today's agenda was approved with the addition of the April 27, 2010 Long Range Plan (LRP) meeting minutes, the nomination of Chairman and discussion of writing checks. Minutes of April 6, 2010 and April 27, 2010 Long Range Plan meeting were approved as written. Financial Report was approved as presented.

The Contract Report was presented. Jackie explained FRESP payments maybe made through the FDACS BMP contract or for Lykes Bros and Buck Island through the SFWMD contract.

Action Items:

Moving money from the Money Market account to staggered CDs was tabled until next meeting.

Day at the Lake event – Erin worked hard on the event that took place on April 10th. Many governmental and environmental agencies joined with HSWCD. Estimated attendance was 500 people. Final report to SWFWMD is due August 31, 2010.

Erin requested travel money to attend the Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) Annual Conference. Erin will be presenting the Lake Jackson Shoreline Restoration Project at the conference. Supervisors would like to see all travel requests at the beginning of the year. Jimmy Wohl made a motion to pay \$610.00 for Erin to attend the FLMS conference. Ida Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Wayne Zahn stated it is in the best interest of the Board if he stepped down as Chair. Gregg Hartt made a motion to nominated Jimmy Wohl as Chair starting at our next meeting May, 10, 2010. Ida Jackson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Istokpoga Marsh Watershed Improvement District's Project (IMWID) – Clell stated 50 acres in the IMWID area are in need of being disked and sorghum should be planted. John Causey stated 50lbs of Hairy Vetch cover crop seeds are on the way; he asked Clell if two acres were available as a test plot? Clell answered yes.

FDACS budget will be lean again in the upcoming F/Y. Bo stated the proposed numeric numbers from USEPA will cost billions of dollars to implement. Ray Royce stated the need of all producers to voluntarily implement BMP to be in assumption of compliance with DEP.

New Business

A liability exists with Jackie writing checks. It was suggested the Treasurer write the checks. Discussion included, hire a bookkeeper to write checks. Ask Clerk of Courts if they would write checks. Get estimates from local bookkeepers to reconcile checks, perform journal entries and write checks and bring back to the next meeting.

The next Long Range Plan meeting will be held on May 10, 2010 at 1PM.

Updates

Area VI Speech Contest was held earlier in the day, the Okeechobee contestant will be going to state.

Corine has written two articles about HSWCD projects that were published in Wildland Weeds and In the Field magazines.

Announcement

The next board meeting was set for Monday, May 10, 2010 at 1pm to discuss the LRP.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Recording Secretary

Chairman