

# HIGHLANDS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

## January 4, 2011

The regular meeting of the Supervisors of the Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order by Chairman Jimmy Wohl at 3:15 p.m., Tuesday, January 4, 2011 at the Bert J. Harris, Jr. Agricultural Center, Conference Room 3, 4509 George Blvd., Sebring, FL.

**Supervisors present:** John Causey, Gary Gossett, Jr., Ida Jackson, Audrey Vickers, and Jimmy Wohl

**Staff present:** Jackie Bailey, Office Manager  
Corine Burgess, Environmental Specialist  
Vicki Pontius, Director of Parks and Natural Resources

**Commissioners:** Commissioner Jack Richie

**Guests:** June Fisher (Community Services Director), Bob Germaine (Clerk of Courts), Bo Griffin (FDACS), David Legg (AFCD), Ray Royce, and Betty Simmons (Bookkeeper)

- I. Call to order 3:15 p.m., meeting notice, introductions (Wohl)
- II. Bob Germaine swore in new Supervisors Gary Gossett and Audrey Vickers. Ida Jackson began her third term of office.
- III. Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve (Gossett/Vickers) Vote: unanimous approval
- IV. Minutes of November 2, 2010. Motion to approve as written. (Causey/Gossett) Vote: unanimous approval.
- V. Presentation
  1. David Legg – Southern Resources Coordinator for AFCD. David spoke about the reorganization of AFCD to four areas in the state; the Area IV meeting will be held on February 2, 2011 at the Area Office in Royal Palm Beach. Elections for Area IV Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer will be held at the meeting. Another Area IV meeting will be held in April. AFCD annual meeting will be in Tampa/Orlando area in August. Suggested the Supervisors speak at civic clubs to get the HSWCD message to the community. House Bill 1163 suggests Water Management Districts look to Soil and Water Conservation Districts to manage their lands.
- VI. New Business
  1. Plat Book Advertising – Motion (Vickers/Causey) to ask FFA for free advertising as a public service. Vote: unanimous approval. Jimmy Wohl will contact the Sebring FFA Alumni Association.
- VII. Action
  1. MOU Discussion – June Fisher stated that she was looking for input. Do we want to keep an “Annual Plan of Operation?” HSWCD to participate as a partner in County projects with an annual review to include identification of projects. (Fisher) Project must be identified in HSWCD annual plan or the County’s Capital Funding Strategy. (Wohl) suggested a joint meeting with HSWCD and

HCBCC. (Wohl) Every year HSWCD will provide to HCBCC an updated annual plan to the Long Range Plan.

2. Budget Approval – Motion (Jackson/Gossett) to approve budget as presented. Vote: approval with one descending vote. (Jackson) Should we have a contingency fund line item? (Gossett) Budget may be amended at any time.

VIII. Financial Activity

1. Overview of Financial Report – Betty Simmons presented five different financial reports for October and November asking the Supervisors which reports they would like to see on a monthly basis. Consensus of the Board was they would like to continue to receive all five reports. Motion (Vickers/Causey) to approve October and November Financial Reports, noting Betty is still working with accountant to adjust the Balance Sheet. Supervisors would like a monthly Petty Cash report.

2. Contract Activities Report. (Bailey) Contract 16021 expired on December 31, 2011. (Pontius) Total administration fees on contract report.

IX. Old Business

1. Crop cover – (Causey) Thanked Wayne Zahn for disking, seeding and rolling the Hairy Vetch on a 1 ½ acre plot. The planting has an 80% germination rate. Soil Analysis show phosphorus was low at 7 lbs per acre. When plant is harvested we will analyze how much phosphorus has been removed. (Wohl) Spoke with Mark Clark, Ecologist with IFAS, asked him to speak to the Board about sequestering phosphorus in a wetland. (Causey) Open this up as a public forum to all agricultural producers. (Vickers) College would be a willing partner in this outreach effort.

X. Announcements

1. NACD National Conference, January 30-February2, 2011, Nashville, TN

XI. Updates

1. Regional Envirothon, 17 teams from 4 Counties. Lake Placid Team will be representing Highlands County at the State Contest.

2. MRRP project, report and invoice submitted to TDC for reimbursement.

The next Board meeting was set for February 1, 2011.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Recording Secretary

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Chairman