

# **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

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Meeting Date: 2/21/2017

Meeting Location: Bert Harris Center, Conference Room III  
Sebring, Florida

**FINAL - Approved 3/21/2017**

Recorded by: Susie Bishop

**MEETING LOCATION: BERT HARRIS CENTER, SEBRING, FL**  
**MEETING SCHEDULED START: 3:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER: @ 3:01 P.M.**

Name	Title	Organization	Present
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>			
Scott Kirouac	Chairman	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
Dr. John Causey	Vice-Chairman	Conservation District	Y
Doug Deen	Secretary/Treasurer		N
Pamela Fentress	Supervisor		Y
Steve Smith	Supervisor		Y
Commissioner Jim Brooks	Liaison	Highlands Co. Board of County Commissioners	Y
Susie Bishop	Executive Director	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
Drew Pitts	MIL Manager	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
Jacob Miller	MIL Tech	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
<u>Other Attendees:</u> Vanessa Bessey	Env. Administrator	FDACS-OAWP	Y

### **PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT READ BY CHAIRMAN**

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

**II. Approval of Agenda**

- a. Motion to approve agenda as presented (Fentress/Causey) Unanimous Approval.

**III. Presentation - LPHS/FFA Alumni - Frank Youngman**

Mr. Youngman presented a request for monetary support of a new well and pump for an acre farming plot at the school. Quotes were distributed for review and discussion took place. Motion was made to contribute \$1900.00 to the project (Fentress/Smith). Causey asked for clarification of funding criteria. Discussion took place with it being

tabled until it is listed in the agenda under item IX.c. Smith rescinded his second and Fentress rescinded her motion for the contribution.

#### **I V. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- a. Board Soils Workshop Committee Meeting Minutes-Jan. 3, 2017 - Motion made to approve minutes as presented (Fentress/Smith). Unanimous approval.
- b. Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes - Jan. 3, 2017 - Fentress asked if Kirouac as the second on approval of minutes of Dec. meeting was correct since he was elected Chairman at the Jan. meeting. Bishop will listen to the tape and make necessary corrections. Motion made to approve the minutes with the one correction to be made if needed (Fentress/Smith). Unanimous approval.

#### **V . Financial Activity**

- a. Overview of Financial Reports - Bishop presented the bank reconciliations and financial reports. A few items were discussed in the special projects line item of budget to actual. Bishop will re-categorize the highway sign from special projects to communications. Motion to approve financials as presented (Causey/Smith). Unanimous approval.

#### **VI . Agency Partner Updates**

- a. NRCS - No Report. Fentress announced that NRCS, through its EQIP program is funding compost spreaders. Bishop will confirm this with NRCS staff.
- b. FDACS - Bessey reported the Citrus Contract over-allocated the funds in the Ag Non Point area and had some in the NEEPA area that will be distributed to other contracts, but most of the \$5.5 million was allocated. All of the HSWCD Ag Non Point Contract has been allocated. There is a pending project list for future funding when it becomes available. There was a ground breaking last week on the large Istopokga Marsh project. FDACS will be contributing \$1.5 million to this project. FDACS is hiring an Environmental Spec. III and II for the Okeechobee office.
- c. MIL - Pitts reported 24 of the required 30 evaluations for the quarter are completed. He gave an overview of upcoming work.
- d. County Extension - Bishop reported fair week went well. Also, the Livestock Agent, James McWhorter, will be leaving the position in March. There are hopes to get the horse arena at the Extension property active again.

#### **VII. Old Business**

- a. Lake McCoy Project - Fentress reported Lake June & Lake McCoy projects are being advertised currently together, once firm is hired worked will begin.
- b. Soils Workshop - Bishop reported the count is 51 attendees and everything is prepared for the workshop being held tomorrow. Bishop shared Supervisor Deen's brother had passed away unexpectedly. Consensus of Board to send a card and contribute up to \$200.00 to flowers or whatever family lists in lieu of flowers.

#### **VIII. New Business**

- a. Land Judging Contest - Bishop shared it was HSWCD's turn to organize the Area IV contest. It will be March 3 at Buck Island Ranch and thanks to the volunteerism of Lew Carter the pits will be judged prior to the contest by Lew and a few others. Bishop said she expects 4-5 teams to compete.

- b. Speech Contest - Bishop reported all the packets were hand delivered to the schools a few weeks ago. No entries have been received to date. The contest will be at 5:30 p.m. on March 21 - following the Board meeting.
- c. Criteria for HSWCD Contributions - Kirouac described the current procedure used by the Board in regards for requests for contributions, asking if a list of criteria should be developed. Each supervisor shared his/her position on this topic. It was a consensus no list of criteria would be developed, rather each request will be on a case by case basis. In regards to the LPHS/FFA Alumni request today Smith suggested the MIL staff go evaluate what is there currently prior to voting on the donation. Consensus of the Board was to hear a report from the MIL staff at the March meeting, have the facts and then determine if a contribution will be granted. Bishop will notify Youngman of this decision.

**IX. Executive Director's Report** - Bishop distributed the invitation and agenda for the Area IV AFCD meeting being held in Belle Glade. Supervisors were asked to let Bishop know if they plan to attend so she can submit an RSVP for our District. Bishop also shared with the board the need to begin thinking about a date to conduct a long-term planning workshop since it is almost time to update our plan.

**X. Citizens Not on the Agenda**

None

**XI. Supervisor Comments**

Fentress - None

Smith - None

Causey - Requested an update on the City of Avon Park Mitigation Review and the structure on Fisheating Creek. Bishop reported the Avon Park Review will be set up for March or April. The Fisheating Creek structure is on hold due to change in staff at Army Corp and NRCS focusing on other facets of the WRP. No timeline is known. Causey also shared he would like to see HSWCD organize several workshops to benefit the Ag community that supports what HSWCD does. Bishop will continue work on organizing a variety of workshop offerings.

Kirouac - None

Commissioner Brooks - None

Motion to adjourn the meeting (Causey/Fentress)

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

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**Scott Kirouac, Chairman**

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**Doug Deen, Secretary**

### POST MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Action	Assigned To	Deadline
Review tape of Jan. 3, 2017 meeting	S. Bishop	Feb. 23, 2017
Facilitate the Soils Workshop	S. Bishop	Feb. 22, 2017
Prepare for and Facilitate the Land Judging Contest	S. Bishop	March 3, 2017
Confirm with NRCS cost share for compost spreaders	S. Bishop	Feb. 24, 2017
Set-up and conduct City of Avon Park Mitigation Site Inspections	S. Bishop	April 30, 2017
Evaluation of Farming Site at LPHS	D. Pitts	March 21, 2017
Re-categorize cost of highway sign in quick books	S. Bishop	Feb. 24, 2017
Continue to monitor/facilitate the FECLOG & NRCS work on PL566 structure	S. Bishop	Ongoing
Outreach for MIL	S. Bishop & D. Pitts	Ongoing