

Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors October Meeting Minutes

Approved Minutes: October 11, 2023

Location: 200 NW 5th Street Conference Room

Minutes:

- I. Motion to approve the September 13, 2023, Meeting Minutes as presented (Sellers/Rutledge). Motion passed unanimously.
- II. Motion to file Financial Report (Sellers/Rutledge). Motion passed unanimously.
- III. Staff Program Reports
 - a. District Conservationist, Howard Harrison reported NRCS Okeechobee Field Office status on the number of Farm Bill Program contracts and applications they are managing. Mr. Harrison also stressed the importance of hosting and attending the Local Working Group meeting because the Board will have more input on the local funding pools.
 - b. Conservation Technician, Vicki Wheeler reported that the Sod and Cow/Calf BMP manuals are targeted to be released the first of the year. The Cow/Calf manual will be renamed to Cattle and will include an item on the BMP Checklist for hay. FDACS filled 5 positions in their Okeechobee Field Office.
 - c. FSA- No report.
 - d. Program Specialist, Robbi Sumner and District Administrator, Audrey Kuipers reported on the district's programs and administrative functions.
- IV. Unfinished Business
 - a. The Board discussed Jared Figley as an appointee, if a current Supervisor should resign.
- V. New Business
 - a. Motion to approve the submittal of the NACD Grant- Perimeter Fencing for Feral Swine that includes a \$10,000 cash match from the Board (Sellers/Rutledge). Motion passed unanimously
 - b. Motion to purchase 75 EC/pH Meters for FDACS Staff and OSWCD Technicians to handout during nursery implementation verification visits (Sellers/Rutledge). Motion passed unanimously.
 - c. Motion to support AFCD in the amount of \$2500 with hosting the SE-NACD Summer Meeting (Sellers/Rutledge). Motion passed unanimously.
 - d. Motion to support the State Land Judging Contest in the amount of \$500.00 (Rutledge/Sellers). Motion passed unanimously.

- e. Motion to pass the following FY 24 Budget Amendments (Sellers/Rutledge).
Motion passed unanimously.

| FY 24 Adopted | Amend By | FY 24 Amended |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 537.088 Land Judging | \$500.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| 537.064 Machinery & Equipment | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 |

VI. Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- a. District Officials Training |October 19-20 |Gainesville, FL
- b. SE District Employees Association Annual Meeting |November 6-8| Pigeon Forge, TN
- c. Board of Supervisors Meeting| November 8, 2023
- d. Farm City Day Luncheon | November 16, 2023