SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES June 15, 2017

The Suwannee County Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, June 15, 2017 at the USDA-Service Center. Supervisors attending the meeting included: Andy Jackson, Chairman; James D. Williams, Secretary/Treasurer; Terry Reagan, Supervisor; and Ronnie Lawson, Supervisor.

Also attending was: Garrett McCray, SCCD Administrator; Joni Fortner, Staff Assistant; Chris Menhennett, District Conservationist (NRCS); Ryan Lawson, Conservation Technician; Joel Love(SVAEC UF-IFAS); Matt Yates, Resource Conservation Partners; and Larry Sessions, Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners.

Chairman, Andy Jackson, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

There was no conference call with EnSave.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Ronnie Lawson motioned for those minutes to be approved. This motion was seconded by Terry Reagan.

The Financial Reports were discussed and reviewed by Joni Fortner. Terry Reagan motioned to approve those reports. This motion was seconded by James Williams.

Garrett McCray, SCCD Administrator, went over the Energy Program numbers. There's currently 133 Cost Share Agreements signed for a total of \$2.7 million contracted, and approximately \$450,000 remaining to pay out. There will be no funds to certify forward. Any producers who are not able to complete their work by the deadline will be rolled over into the FRED Program, which is completely handled by The Office of Energy with the Universities doing all the legwork. As for the RESTORE Act, there's still no news as to when those funds will be released.

For our BMP Contract, we have \$1,691,641.20 of the \$1,780,000.00 contracted, with approximately \$656,000 remaining to pay out.

Ryan Lawson, Conservation Technician, gave his District Activity Report. He stated that he has been working mainly on cost share contracts, and is still meeting his deliverables including 24 extra NOI's. He attended the Inter-Agency meeting today at the Suwannee River Water Management District. He also discussed the new Technician Contract in which Andy Jackson will sign during this meeting.

Matt Yates with Resource Conservation Partners stated that they have been winding down, trying to get as many producers as possible to complete their work before the deadline. He also mentioned possibly getting a notification letter out to the remaining producers who have not been able to complete everything.

Chris Menhennett, District Conservationist, gave an update on the programs being administered through NRCS. He stated that they are still in the process of funding for EQIP 2017, and that there's a possibility of receiving some additional funds for Longleaf Pines. He also attended the Area 2 Meeting today in Lake City.

Joel Love, UF-IFAS BMP Education Coordinator, mentioned that a lot of the IFAS/UF budget has been taken away, but that the two local positions that were recently filled were complete before the freeze/cut. There will be a row crop tour held at the Research Center on July 18th, with an additional upcoming tour, which he is requesting funds to help cover the dinner. The Board agreed to pay up to \$250 to assist them with that tour and meal.

Larry Sessions, Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners, stated that De Broughton was hired as the new County Ag Extension Agent. He also said that the County approved the Florida Friendly Use of Fertilizer on Urban Landscapes Ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

The ordinary bills to be paid were presented. Terry Reagan motioned to pay the bills. This motion was seconded by Ronnie Lawson.

The next District Meeting will be held on July 13, 2017.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no further business presented, Ronnie Lawson motioned to have the meeting adjourned. This motion was seconded by James Williams, and Andy Jackson adjourned the meeting.

ANDREW JACKSON

CHAIRMAN

JAMES WILLIAMS

SECRETARY/TREASURER