

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 16, 2017**

The Suwannee County Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, March 16, 2017 at the USDA-Service Center. Supervisors attending the meeting included: Andy Jackson, Chairman; James D. Williams, Secretary/Treasurer; De Broughton, 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, BMP Education Coordinator; Larry Sessions, Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners; Charlene Richburg, State Coordinator(AFCD); Kaylee Durrance, Administrative Assistant(AFCD); and Dale Bryant, Resource Conservation Partners.

Chairman, Andy Jackson, called the meeting to order at 6:55 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 De Broughton.

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

Garrett McCray, SCCD Administrator, went over the Energy Program numbers. There's currently 119 Cost Share Agreements signed for a total of \$2.3 million contracted, approximately \$1.6 million paid out.

The Solar Project has been completed and is operating.

For our BMP Contract, we have 12 BMP Tools CSA's signed with a total of \$386,000.00 contracted, and 7 Dairy BMP CSA's with a total of approximately \$700,000.00 contracted.

Ryan Lawson, Conservation Technician, gave his District Activity Report. He stated that he has been working on BMP's, NOI's, and IA's, and has recently signed 5 contracts with IA's. He has been working on water sampling for the dairies, will attend a Soils Field Day at Lee Peanut, as well as a mandatory staff meeting in Ocala April 18-19<sup>th</sup>.

Dale Bryant with Resource Conservation Partners discussed their audit totals and presented their invoice for payment. They have no conflicts.

Chris Menhennett, District Conservationist, gave an update on programs being administered through NRCS. He stated that the ranking process for EQIP 2017 is in process, and that they must have them ranked by the end of March for funding to begin in April. There's a total of 140 eligible applications, which consists of 108 in Suwannee County and 32 in Hamilton County. There's been 9 Energy requests, 8 in Suwannee County and 1 in Hamilton County, and they should have funds available for all of them.

Joel Love, BMP Education Coordinator, went over the two remaining producers in the Sod Base Rotation Contract. He stated that William McGehee will proceed as planned, and that Scott Wynn wants out of the Contract completely. FDACS is currently reviewing the situation. He requested a donation from The District to help with food and drinks for an upcoming Field Day. The Board agreed on \$100. James Williams motioned to approve. This motion was seconded by Ronnie Lawson.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

De has completed the scholarship applications and they will now be distributed.

The Soil Stewardship Banquet was discussed. It will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup> with Noah Valenstein from SRWMD being our guest speaker. Joni will check with Tina Meyer to see if they can cater the Banquet for us.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The ordinary bills to be paid were presented. James Williams motioned to pay the bills. This motion was seconded by De Broughton.

The next District Meeting will be held April 20, 2017.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

The State competitions for Land Judging and Envirothon was discussed. The Board agreed on a \$500 sponsor to Branford Middle School and Suwannee High School for Land Judging, and a \$500 sponsor to Suwannee High School for the Envirothon, in addition to the \$225 registration fee.

There being no further business presented, Andy Jackson motioned to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Ronnie Lawson.

  
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SECRETARY/TREASURER

  
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CHAIRMAN