

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
May 18, 2017**

The Suwannee County Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, May 18, 2017 at the USDA-Service Center. Supervisors attending the meeting included: Andy Jackson, Chairman; 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; Cliff Starling (FDACS OAWP); Joel Love(SVAEC UF-IFAS); Dale Bryant, Resource Conservation Partners; David Cambron(FDACS OAWP); Jessica Stempien(FDACS OAWP); and Larry Sessions, Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners.

Chairman, Andy Jackson, called the meeting to order at 7:07 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. Ronnie Lawson 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 128 Cost Share Agreements signed for a total of \$2.6 million contracted, and approximately \$459,000 remaining to contract. Any producers who are not able to complete their work by the deadline will be eligible for a "roll-over" into the FRED Program. Also, any FEWER applicant with no audit will be able to apply for the FRED Program.

For our BMP Contract, we have a total of \$443,000.00 contracted on equipment, just over \$1 million contracted on dairy BMP's, and 11 contracts for soil moisture probes.

Ryan Lawson, Conservation Technician, gave his District Activity Report. He stated that he has been working mainly on cost share contracts. He attended the Inter-Agency meeting today, as well as the Area Technician meeting. The emphasis is currently on BMAP and getting the producers enrolled in BMP's. Jessica Stempien with FDACS OAWP clarified that the technicians are meeting their deliverables, and they just want to re-touch with the producers to make sure that they are staying with the program and implementing BMP's.

Dale Bryant with Resource Conservation Partners stated that there's not been many changes since the previous month, and that everything is going well.

Chris Menhennett, District Conservationist, gave an update on programs being administered through NRCS. He stated that they are in the process of funding now for EQIP 2017. There's a total of 38 approved applications, which consists of 33 in Suwannee County and 5 in Hamilton County. Chris is now the Acting DC for the Lafayette County office which has a total of 4 approvals; 3 in Lafayette County and 1 in Taylor County.

Cliff Starling with FDACS OAWP stated that the Poultry Manuals are now available, with a Spanish version coming soon. The Cow/Calf Manual is still in process. He also mentioned that there's an upcoming training for the technicians with Pilgrim's Pride regarding their bio-securities.

Joel Love, UF-IFAS BMP Education Coordinator, mentioned that the Twilight Field Day and the CARES dinner both went well with very good attendance at both.

OLD BUSINESS:

As for the insurance, the quote from Philadelphia Insurance was the best of the three received, and Ronnie Lawson motioned to go ahead with the process of binding coverage for The Board. That motion was seconded by De Broughton.

NEW BUSINESS:

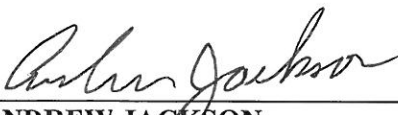
The ordinary bills to be paid were presented. De Broughton motioned to pay the bills. This motion was seconded by Ronnie Lawson.

The next District Meeting will be held on June 15, 2017.


OTHER BUSINESS:

The nomination for Joni Fortner to attend the NACD Leadership Symposium in Nebraska on June 22, 2017 was discussed. NRCS has approved the application for the \$1,000 stipend for travel expenses. The Board was asked for approval for any expenses above that amount, if incurred. De Broughton made a motion to approve those expenses, and Ronnie Lawson seconded that motion.

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



ANDREW JACKSON
CHAIRMAN



JAMES WILLIAMS
SECRETARY/TREASURER