

**SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
September 19, 2017**

The Suwannee County Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, September 19, 2017 at the USDA-Service Center. Supervisors attending the meeting included: Andy Jackson, Chairman; James D. Williams, Secretary/Treasurer; Terry Reagan, Supervisor; De Broughton, Supervisor; and Ronnie Lawson, Supervisor. Also attending was: Garrett McCray, SCCD Administrator; Joni Fortner, Staff Assistant; Ryan Lawson, Conservation Technician; Chris Menhennett, District Conservationist (NRCS); Joel Love (SVAEC UF-IFAS); Larry Sessions, Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners; and Jane Griffin, Suwannee County Extension.

Chairman, Andy Jackson, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

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

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, stated that the advance for the BMP Contract is still on hold per David Cambron with FDACS/OAWP. The RESTORE funding is currently unavailable as well. At the time it does become available, there will be no advance provided and The District will be required to use their operating funds for cost share, and then invoice FDACS for reimbursement. The Board of Supervisors approved up to \$100,000 to be used with a 12% administrative fee (minimum of 8%).

Ryan Lawson, Conservation Technician, gave his District Activity Report. He stated that the deliverables seem nearly impossible to be met. He believes he will get the NOI's, with the IA's being more difficult to attain. He continues to work with the producers in preparation for cost share options available.

Chris Menhennett, NRCS District Conservationist, gave an update on the programs being administered through NRCS. They are approaching the end of their fiscal year with 23 contracts(a total of \$1,767,043.26) obligated in Suwannee County, with the possibility of additional funds becoming available for some grazing contracts.

Joel Love, SVAEC UF-IFAS, stated that the UF/IFAS Research Center has received a SARE Grant in the amount of \$14,700 to be used in a Cover Crop Demonstration Project, and he has requested matching funds from The District, as well as other partners such as SRWMD and FDACS. The Board of Supervisors approved up to \$15,000 to be used towards the purchase of seed for the producers.

De Broughton, Suwannee County Extension Agent, will begin working on a multi-year agriculture program including ag awareness media, decision/policy making tours, and youth awareness and education workshops. The Board approved \$5,000 to help cover expenses related to this project.

OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

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 on October 19, 2017.

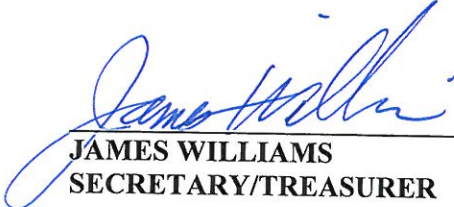
OTHER BUSINESS:

N/A

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



ANDREW JACKSON
CHAIRMAN



JAMES WILLIAMS
SECRETARY/TREASURER