

SUWANNEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

January 18, 2024

The Suwannee County Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, January 18, 2023 at The USDA Service Center located at 1525-B Ohio Avenue South in Live Oak. Supervisors attending were Andy Jackson, Chairman; Ronnie Lawson, Vice Chairman; James Williams, Secretary/Treasurer; Terry Reagan, Supervisor; and Larry Sessions, Supervisor. Also attending were Joni Sapp, SCCD Staff Assistant; Garrett McCray, SCCD Administrator; Federico Morales, SCCD Conservation Technician; Joel Love, UF/IFAS BMP Education Coordinator; Naila McCraney, NRCS Soil Conservationist; and Pedro (Guest).

Chairman, Andy Jackson, called the meeting to order at 7:09pm.

The Minutes of the previous meeting held December 12, 2023 were reviewed. Larry Sessions made a motion to approve the minutes, and there was a second by James Williams.

The Financial Reports were reviewed. James Williams made a motion to approve those reports, and there was a second by Terry Reagan.

Garrett McCray, SCCD Administrator, discussed our current cost-share contracts. For BMP Tools, we have approximately \$270,000 remaining and have been instructed by FDACS to hold those funds for possible special projects. RESTORE Energy has approximately \$755,000 obligated and RESTORE BMP has approximately \$866,000 remaining to be obligated.

OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

The ordinary bills from Verizon Wireless and Jim Hinton Oil were presented. James Williams made a motion to pay the bills, and there was a second by Terry Reagan.

House Bill 1075 and Senate Bill 1772 was discussed. The Board agreed upon the following amendment proposals:

❖ **Pages 3-5, Lines 51-105, Section 1:**

HB1075 states “The following soil and water conservation districts are dissolved, and all assets and liabilities of each district are transferred to Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services...”:

- **Do not dissolve ALL Districts and do not return ALL assets to FDACS:**
 - **Creates interruption in services to producers, employment, and partnerships**

- **Retain Districts who:**
 - **Pay all associated dues and fees**
 - **Currently receive contract funding**
 - **Have an active Board**

- **Allow those active Districts to:**
 - **Retain their assets to continue services with no interruption/harm to the producers, employees, community, and partnerships**
 - **Absorb neighboring inactive Districts along with their assets (if any)**


The next District Meeting will be held Thursday February 22, 2024.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no further business presented, James Williams made a motion to have the meeting adjourned, there was a second by Larry Sessions, and Andy Jackson adjourned the meeting.



ANDY JACKSON
CHAIRMAN



JAMES WILLIAMS
SECRETARY/TREASURER