

Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District Meeting Minutes July 7, 2022 8:00 a.m. UF/IFAS-Clover Room

Board members present: Sonny Davis, Steve Basford, Mack Glass, Tom Stadsklev = Quorum None absent.

Administrative staff: Alisha Dunaway, Peggy Gilley. Others present: Rex Patterson, JSWCD-MIL, Kevin Warren, JSWCD-MIL, Garrett Williams, BMP, Brendaly Rodriguez-Munoz-NRCS, Steve Fulford-OAWP, John Alter-NWFWMD and Scott Yates-NAS, LLC.

Before the meeting was called to order Supervisor Davis asked Supervisor Glass if he would officiate the meeting today. Supervisor Glass called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. Supervisor Glass welcomed attendees and guests.

Motion to approve the agenda, made by Supervisor Basford, second by Supervisor Davis. Carried unanimously. Motion to approve the June 2nd, 2022, meeting minutes by Supervisor Basford, seconded by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously.

NRCS Report: Brendaly Rodriguez-Munoz is happy to be back! Her biggest thing to share about the time spent in CA is to tell everyone here how blessed we are to have water. CA is so stressed about water and the lack of it. While Brendaly was out of state there were 14 EQIP contracts obligated. They are requesting more funding. \$956,994.00 has been used, asking for funding of \$205,000.00 before the end of July. Shoot for the stars, it is possible to hit the \$one million mark that they are used to sharing. 2023 CSP & EQIP applications have started, let the people know to get the applications filled out and submitted. Personnel: Cindy Jordan is working the Blountstown office for 60 days, then Peter will go the next 60 days. Her employees are filling in for the District Conservationist there that took a temporary state job. Arlo Kane of FWC has a fully staffed team, Laura Bosworth is our contact person for EQIP planning and practice checks.

(Laura Bosworth, Landowner Assistance Biologist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 352-362-9466) Office staffing: telework, there will be days when certain people are not in office, but Mondays-the office is fully staffed. Tues BR-M Teleworks, Wednesdays Peter, and Randall takes either a Thursday or Friday each week to telework. If we can not get ahold of staff in the office, give out Brendaly's cell number to the person needing assistance. In August they will be certifying and paying out in December/January. Supervisor Glass brought up the invasive grass issue, a real problem across FL. The only way they know how to battle it is by tilling, they need other options. It will take cost share for consecutive years to get it back under control. Brendaly agreed. It is highly visible in the fields. Brendaly and Jason are working on a plan. John Alter let the group know that last year UF did a test on his property but has not seen any results from it yet.

BMP Report: Steven Fulford reported they survived another year end for the state. No final numbers yet, should be at about 85%. They went through the process with major turnovers, etc. so they think the results look good. The Governor has signed the budget, we're at about a half mil right now, they are looking for more funding. Supervisor Glass inquired about a couple of checks he signed that might be Holmes Creek producers, is the funding pooled? Steven replied yes, according to the federal government the allotment is for the state, the state spreads some of the contracts across the panhandle, no definitive boundaries.



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Near the end of the fiscal year, they look for unspent funds and use it to help with projects that couldn't otherwise be done.

MIL Report: This month they start 13 evals per month. Last month Brendaly went out with them to see where NRCS can help.

NWFWMD: John Alter reported their board meeting is next Thursday and apologized for missing our last meeting. The update on Peacock Bridge is that it is in the hands of the county now. Water Mgmt had a monetary cap and the owner wanted more money. John will find out what has happened since they dropped out of negotiations. Supervisor Glass asked if the water management district would help with the UF research facility. They are growing fast, the grad students they are bringing in are housed in 7 different rented houses and the one dorm that is available. They need infrastructure, another dorm building. John will inquire with the district.

Financial Analyst Report: Alisha Dunaway reported good news for Alisha and Garrett, the state has approved to include them in the 5.38% raise this year. Alisha let the Supervisors know she figured out how to put the financial report in date order and is adding more information for them in the memo section. A lot of reimbursements have come in, and a lot paid out. Supervisor Glass stressed to Steve that payment turn around is important. Supervisor Glass also asked if Angela has been more accessible, Alisha said yes even despite the busy-ness of the end of year reporting. The Supervisors asked if they wanted to know how much the districts 5% adds up to for the past 2 or 3 years how long would that take? Alisha replied she can have that information at the next meeting. Motion to approve the financial report made by Supervisor Basford, second by Supervisor Davis. Carried unanimously.

District Coordinator Report: Peggy Gilley reported that we have checks that need signatures after the meeting. Follow up regarding Greg Hall, he is in a coma and according to the update from his church it is a matter of time before he passes. There was discussion about having a plaque made for his years of service and having the JC BOCC honor him at a meeting. The Hall family would be invited to accept the plaque. Supervisor Stadsklev made a motion for Peggy to order the plaque and work with County Admin to set up which BOCC meeting to attend. Seconded by Supervisor Davis. Carried unanimously. Peggy also reported that she & Alisha attended the AFCD Area 2 meeting on 6/10 in Live Oak and on 7/1, Peggy went to the AFCD mid-year meeting in Gainesville with 13 people in the room, Alisha and others on Zoom. The big news there was that Jeff Moore resigned as President so he can run for a commissioner position, the board appointed Burlin Findley to finish the term. A new Supervisor handbook will be in the works after the election and a new commissioner of Ag takes office. JSWCD was present at the Farm to Table: Kids Edition on 6/28 and the Row Crop Farm Tour on 6/30. Peggy is working on presentations to take to the school board to get permission to use her to assist the teachers about soil and water and conservation. Brendaly is back! Peggy and Brendaly are working on getting the Local Working Group set up for October. Peggy is registered for an LWG training on 7/26 via Zoom. Names, phone numbers and emails were gathered at the farm tour from attendees that



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are interested in an LWG. After the tour we sent an email out introducing Brendaly and letting them know we will contact them with more information soon.

Alisha mentioned that September 7-9 is the AFCD Annual meeting and asked if she and Peggy have permission to go because we'll need to get rooms reserved, all Supervisors said yes, we should attend.

Supervisor Basford: no report Supervisor Glass: no report Supervisor Stadsklev: no report

Old Business: The contract with NAS is ready to go. Supervisor Basford made a motion to approve the contract and sign today, seconded by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously. Supervisor Davis and Scott Yates from NAS, LLC both signed the contract. A copy of the signed contract was given to Scott at the end of the meeting.

Local Working Group-already discussed. The meeting will be in October.

Bill 1078-was signed by the Governor the night before their qualifying period began. Jeff Pittman was the first to qualify at the Supervisor of Elections office, Steve Basford, Tom Stadsklev and Sonny Davis all qualified. We have 1 open group out of the five. When these men take office in January, they will appoint Supervisor Mack to the open group spot. Supervisor Mack will continue to serve the rest of this term.

S&W's interest in a shared cost of contracting a lobbyist-Supervisor Basford said he looked into the background of Natalie Kato, P.A. and said she does have an Ag background. He thinks it would be a good idea for S&WCD's to have someone looking out for us. If the contract obligation will be split up between the districts that go in, it will be worth it. Supervisor Basford made a motion to join other S&W Districts in sharing the cost of a lobbyist. Seconded by Supervisor Davis. Carried unanimously.

New Business: The resignation letter from Greg Hall was received and has been sent to the different departments the supervisor handbook says to inform.

Jackson County 200th Celebration-the county is turning 200! Peggy has reserved a booth space for JSWCD and asked to be set up close to the ag agents. Peggy asked permission to order promotional items for giveaways and is looking for suggestions for an old timey game for attendees to play at our booth.

Alisha mentioned that Bascom is putting on a back-to-school event. Alisha was asked if JSWCD would have a table with information and give aways. Alisha will get the information to Peggy to set it up.

Supervisor Basford brought up that it would be good to go back the last couple of years to see who asked for donations for how many people, and how much was awarded so the board can make more informed decisions about future donations. Peggy will get that information together for the next board meeting. Peggy mentioned the flier that everyone has a copy of for the Peanut Field Day coming up in August. Ethan Carter could not be here today, he said to let you know he isn't asking for anything for this event, but he probably will for the next one he does.

There was a motion to adjourn by Supervisor Basford, but Supervisor Stadsklev asked about the open Vice Chair position. At that time Supervisor Davis brought up that it has been four years since his surgery, and he feels that there are other board members that would fill the shoes of the Chairman position much better



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than he can these days. There was some talk about Jeff Pittman not being here to be a part of the discussions and that officially he is not a board member yet. Motion made by Supervisor Basford to appoint Jeff Pittman to Group 2 seconded by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously. Supervisor Mack will call Jeff tonight to congratulate him and have Jeff call Peggy to get a handbook, etc.

Supervisor Stadsklev made a motion to nominate Supervisor Mack as the Board Chairman, Supervisor Basford as Vice Chair and Supervisor Davis as Chairman Emeritus, seconded by Supervisor Davis. Carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Basford seconded by Supervisor Davis. Carried unanimously.

Adjourned at 9:09 a.m.