

Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District 2741 Penn Ave, Ste 3 Marianna, FL 32448 850-372-4793

Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District Meeting Minutes January 06, 2022 8:00 a.m. UF/IFAS-Clover Room

Board members present: Steve Basford, Sonny Davis Jr., Mack Glass, Greg Hall & Tom Stadsklev. Administrative staff: Alisha Dunaway, Peggy Gilley.

Others present: John Alter, NW FL Water Mgmt. Dist., Chris Denmark, FDACS, Doug Mayo, UF/IFAS, Rex Patterson, JSWCD-MIL, Brendaly Rodriguez-Munoz, NRCS, Kevin Warren, JSWCD-MIL, Garrett Williams, JSWCD-BMP.

Meeting called to order at 8:01 a.m. by Supervisor Sonny Davis Jr. - Chair Supervisor Davis welcomed attendees and guests.

UF/IFAS Report: Doug Mayo informed the group that a postcard is on its way with the upcoming dates: On 1/25/22 Tri-State Cucurbit & Emerging Vegetables; 2/9/22 NW FL Beef Conference & Trade Show; 2/22-24/22 Central Panhandle Pesticide Training Series; 3/3/22 The 2022 Panhandle Row Crop Short Course. There was some discussion about farmers and ordering their chemicals for 2022. Doug suggests to work with your supplier to find out availability. Suppliers are trying to prevent product hoarding circumstances.

NRCS Report: Brendaly Rodriguez-Munoz: due to the recent rise in Covid numbers their office is at 25%, she is allowed 2 employees in the office per day and no face-to-face interactions with the public. For Equip 2022 they have 75 applications. Producers will know the status of their applications by 4/8/22. CSP renewals, they will fund 5 of the 8 = \$107,000. \$14,700. of that is for 2 High Tunnel projects. NRCS Marianna has an opening for an Urban Ag position. There was some table talk about what the position will entail and that it is a direct hire. Also, Vincent Nadbath only worked 4 days, so that position has been re-opened as well.

Financial Analyst Report: Alisha Dunaway has been working through the bank accounts. She has requested bank statements and invoices that are not in the files here and will reconcile with Angela. Angela is getting the cost share information to help Alisha. Alisha will not be moving money between the accounts until all answers are in and will make sure each entry has appropriate coordinating memo notes. NACP Meeting in February, Angela has not had the chance to approve the travel request yet due to illness. AFCD has had 2 Zoom calls regarding the 2 bills before the Senate and House. They have a committee working on verbage so when we talk to our representatives, we are all conveying the same information. That information will be shared with the Supervisors as soon as it is received.

BMP Report: Garrett Williams let the Supervisors know that the general contracts are paying out to producers. There are contracts that Justin and Jake had out there that Garrett did not know about. He is starting over with those as some have old estimates and they are normally only good for 30 days. Garrett introduced Chris Denmark-FDACS. Chris let everyone know that there has been a hire to replace Justin, Steven Fulford started on Monday. His main office is in Tallahassee and Steven will use Justin's old office when he is working this part of his territory, probably 2 days a week. He will be at our meeting next month to meet everyone. Chris also thanked Garrett; he has picked up the loose ends from when Jake left his Holmes Creek Soil & Water position. They are down a couple of people in this area too.



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Chris also thanked Alisha for her ability to quickly learn the contracts process - he knows it can be overwhelming.

Garrett spoke about the contract with Ensave for energy audits. Our contract states a minimum of 25 audits, of which we have 24 completed. Garrett invited them to this meeting, they are not here. We have paid them for 24 audits from \$2,000. to \$9,000. per invoice, we just approve and pay what they bill us. Alisha and Garrett are having a hard time dealing with the Ensave contact, Margi. Supervisor Mack told Alisha to email Margi and tell her she is to only go to Peggy from now on. Garrett stated the contract is up in July. We have sent them the work that is outlined in the contract and at this point he feels we can just ride out the rest of the contract and find a different company to use in the future since Ensave has been so difficult to work with.

MIL Report: Rex Patterson New Year, going good, except for farmers cutting power off, which prevents them from getting their job done. Rex inquired about where we are at on the evaluations. Alisha replied the January meeting minutes were forwarded to Angela to show that Camila was here last month and agreed. When Angela gets back to work, she will get it done. Rex inquired about the insurance cards they have. The policy changed, his shows the correct group number but a different plan. Alisha said the cards they have should be ok to use, If Rex has any problems to let her know and she will request new cards.

District Coordinator Report: Peggy Gilley informed the board that the last two pages in their packets is a request for funding from Horticulture Agent Ashlee Kush to help with the Cucurbit and Vegetable class on the calendar for 1/25/22. Motion made by Supervisor Stadsklev to do the \$400.00 Gold level and have Peggy set up an information table, seconded by Supervisor Basford, carried unanimously.

There was an email forwarded to the Supervisors regarding a press conference on 1/12/22 in Tallahassee. A friend of Caroline reached out to see if we had a couple of farmers that would go and speak about working with the BMP Program. Some table discussion prevailed; Alisha is going to reach out to Charlene to see what would be expected of the farmers and Garrett will ask a couple of the producers that he works with. Peggy let the Supervisors know that the attachments to the last AFCD Zoom meeting regarding the bills with the Senate and House came in after the packets were distributed, so she handed the Supervisors their copies.

Guest from NW FL Water Mgmt. District board, John Alter gave the Supervisors some information about the Peacock Bridge property that Jackson County and NW FL WMD have been in negotiations with to purchase. The county has maintained the landing for years and is interested in keeping it for the public to use, but not the entire tract of land. The NW FL WMD is interested in the remaining land.

Supervisor Davis asked if there was any other business to discuss, there was. Miss Sherry Saunders from the Peanut Producers office has passed, and her funeral is 1/7/22. The obituary states in lieu of flowers to send money to a scholarship fund in her name. Supervisor Hall made a motion to send \$500.00 to the fund, seconded by Supervisor Basford, carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.