

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

Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District Meeting Minutes February 03, 2022 8:00 a.m. UF/IFAS-Clover Room

Board members present: Steve Basford, Mack Glass, & Tom Stadsklev.

Administrative staff: Alisha Dunaway, Peggy Gilley.

Others present: John Alter, NW FL Water Mgmt. Dist., Chris Denmark, FDACS-via phone, Stephen Fulford,

Others present: John Alter, NW FL Water Mgmt. Dist., Chris Denmark, FDACS-via phone, Stephen Fulford, OAWP, 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 8:05 a.m. by Supervisor Mack Glass Supervisor Glass welcomed attendees and guests.

Motion to approve the January 06, 2022, meeting minutes by Supervisor Basford, second by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously.

BMP Report: Garrett Williams has concerns about a cover crop payment that with our other monthly bills would go over the monthly allotment for wire transfers through the bank. Alisha said she double checked with the bank, that limit is only for wire transfers, we could work out a 2 or 3 month written check payout for the producer. There was discussion about how the contract was put in effect due to Hurricane Michael damage and for 5 years, we don't do 5-year contracts. Stephen Fulford, with Chris Denmark on the phone, stated they have a copy of the contract and will get that to the Supervisors before authorizing to pay. Supervisor Glass asked if we pay the producer will FDACS cover it, Stephen Fulford said Yes. Stephen kept going with the BMP part of the report to ask the board if FDACS could contract Alisha Dunaway to be the Holmes Creek Administrator. FDACS is in the process of hiring a new tech for HCSWCD. The new tech employee will work out of the Holmes Creek Soil & Water Conservation District office and can get the mail and information to Alisha as needed. Alisha stated that Holmes Creek does about a third of the contract load that Jackson does, so it should not affect her current workload by much. Stephen said that FDACS will cover a raise for the extra work load that Alisha will incur. Motion to use Alisha Dunaway as the Holmes Creek Soil & Water Conservation District Administrator 100% made by Supervisor Stadsklev and seconded by Supervisor Basford. Carried unanimously. Stephen also had some news to share with the group regarding Chris Pettit, Agricultural Water Policy Director, he is resigning in March. Clegg Hooks and Lisa Mustain are Deputy Directors and will be in charge locally until more decisions are made concerning the open position.

NRCS Report: Brendaly Rodriguez-Munoz: Quinn Carter will be focused on CRP's. Quinn will be covering contract reviews and field visits, mainly with Forestry here. Quinn has a cattle farming background and is learning about forestry now. CRP Marianna has 28 contracts expiring this year. BRM has been working closely with Peggy Gilley teaching CSP contracts and field visits. BRM would like to take Peggy under her wing and use more with NRCS. The MOU between JSWCD & NRCS is old and vague regarding how we work together. Brendaly would like to go over it with Peggy and see if we can update the MOU. There was discussion about what the needs are, Brendaly said she would like to use Peggy to speak with producers, managerial projects, like getting very old contracts ready for shredding. Maybe get Peggy the training to become a certified planner, there are a lot of details, laws, and a significant amount of work to learn that. For now, administrative assistance will be very helpful. Brendaly announced that February 14th she will be going to California for 120 days to get more experience. Chris Menhennett out of Defuniak Springs will be our



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interim District Conservationist. Brendaly will return the end of May. A supervisor interjected that a Local Work Group needs to be formed, it has been a long time. Brendaly agreed. A supervisor asked if all the staff is back in the office, Brendaly replied it will be the end of March with a telework agreement for them to work 1 day a week at home. The employees will be staggered, and the office will be open. For EQIP contracts the funding will be selected in March or April.

UF/IFAS Report: Doug Mayo highlighted trainings that are coming up. 2/9 Beef Cattle Conference, 2/11 Corn & Soy update, new this year. 2/17 Citrus meeting in Quincy. February 21st – 24th is pesticide applicator training to get licensed and CEU's, if needed. 3/3 Row Crop Short Course. Take advantage of the trainings in the interests that you have. There was table discussion regarding fertilizers, trying different alternatives, there are no easy answers. Doug let the group know that the Agents have planned a short introductory meeting with a brief overview of what they do for the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners on 2/8. Peggy will be giving an overview of Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District. We have had a dress rehearsal and Doug mentioned that Peggy should have some stats regarding how much money has come through to producers. Brendaly and Alisha will get the 2021 numbers to Peggy, and we will include those on the slide presentation.

Financial Analyst Report: Alisha Dunaway has completed getting all the W-9 information to the accountant for both Jackson and Holmes Creek Districts. That was quite a debacle to get all the information together for 2021. Alisha has started a file so everything she needs to file 2022 W-9's will be all together. Doug mentioned that he went to look at our website and it is not very well done. Alisha and Peggy told the group that Charlene is working on the funding that will provide us with a whole new website, so we are just keeping up with the meeting dates and minutes on this one until the change over takes place. Alisha is in the process of going over every invoice from last year, some were missed. We are waiting on over \$176K of reimbursement, by the time she is done with the audit there should be \$200K+ invoiced. Alisha has been working with Gina closely to double check that all the producers that were paid were invoiced.

There is a contract amendment to extend the office of energy contract by 6 months. This is so all the invoices get processed before the contract ends.

When we payout the cover crop money we will go over our monthly allocation for payouts. Our monthly allocation is only for the wire transfers, we can break up the balance into 2 or 3 payments, so we have wiggle room to pay other producers, payroll, etc. It was suggested that a paper check for that one producer be cut. We will need to check with FDACS, Supervisor Mack will ask Angela. Supervisor Mack also mentioned that the Local Working Group is a good way to get information on a 2-way street.

MIL Report: Rex Patterson reports all is going good. They are working towards the end of March. Rex has his neck surgery scheduled on 3/22/22 and Kevin will be off for spring break.



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Guest from NW FL Water Mgmt. District board member, John Alter, had several handouts with him. Peggy will scan them and email to the Supervisors to read. John highlighted Ag programs, budget numbers and metrics for Jackson County. John also brought brochures for the newly renovated Bascom School House to let everyone know it is available for meetings and events and has a museum too.

New Business: March 3rd the Row Crop Short Course is being held here, some of our board members will be attending. That is the date of our next board meeting. Peggy has checked with Terri and 3/10 the Clover Room is available if we would like to move the meeting date. Supervisor Basford made a motion to move the March 2022 board meeting from 3/3 to 3/10, seconded by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously.

District Coordinator Report: Peggy Gilley read a text from Supervisor Mack regarding the Bill about Soil & Water Districts, it appears to be a dead issue for us.

There is a letter requesting donation money from the Cottondale FFA. Supervisor Basford made a motion to donate \$500.00 to the Cottondale FFA, seconded by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously. Land Judging 2022 is set for Friday March 4th in Graceville. Peggy is working on that and can use volunteers to help if anyone is free that morning.

Supervisor Stadsklev brought up that we need a building for Soil & Water. Supervisor Glass suggested a workshop to discuss that, and that we need an honorable way to spend any money.

Garrett Williams brought up that the UF sign needs to be moved out front, it is in the way of seeing traffic coming before you pull out of the Extension Office driveway.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.