



PUTNAM SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

111 Yelvington Road, Suite 4, East Palatka, FL 32131

Telephone: (386) 328-5051 (ext: 3)

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 15, 2023

Present: Theo Siehler, Chairman
J. R. Newbold, Vice Chairman
Doug Doran, Supervisor
Christy Largacci, Supervisor
Sol Looker, FDACS
Drew Wike, FSA
Conrad Wysocki, NRCS
Julio Perez, IFAS
Chris Kelcourse, Sunshine Compost & Organics
Gina Allen, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report approved. Bank balance as of 5-31-23 -
\$116,025.30

Old Business:

Rural Coalition Garden follow up: Tabled to next Board meeting.
Follow up with County Agent, Wendy Mussoline.

Container Gardening follow up: Perez checking prices on materials for this year. Estimating 60 garden boxes for this year. Doing poster presentation in the West Indies on last year's class. Melrose, Ravine Gardens and Welaka will be the next locations for classes.

Drone Project follow up: Siehler suggested inviting County Agent, Tim Wilson to the next Board meeting to discuss the dynamics of drone usage on agriculture. Wysocki stated that NRCS has a drone

PSWCD Board Meeting

Page 2

June 15, 2023

and will contact someone to do a presentation at a future Board meeting.

Area 2 AFCD Annual Meeting follow up: Allen attended the meeting in Trenton. Some items discussed: Election of Area 2 Chairman and Vice Chairman. Deadline for Annual Financial Reports is June 30th, 2023. SWCD Boards must meet at least once a year with all 5 Board Members present. Katrina Acree was welcomed by AFCD as the new administrative specialist. Area Speech Contest was held. New director for FDACS has been hired. Updating BMP manuals. District Conservationist position for E. Palatka Field Office still vacant. Conrad Wysocki acting.

New Business:

USDA/NRCS Civil Right Document: Civil Rights Agreement signed by Largacci.

FDACS Cost Share Update: Deadline for submitting cost share invoices to the State is June 30th, end of the fiscal year. Looker presented the Board with a copy of the Tri-County Agricultural Area Water Management Partnership Cost Share Application and Guide. The partnership consists of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, St. Johns River Water Management District and Florida Department of Ag and Consumer Services. Discussion followed on applying and filling out application for cost share.

Future Goals & Projects: Siehler suggested sponsoring a clinical soils workshop. He will contact County Agent, Prissy Fletcher, on organizing a workshop in the fall.

PSWCD Board Meeting

Page 3

June 15, 2023

Open Floor: Chris Kelcourse, Sunshine Compost & Organics gave an update on the company's progress. Received a state grant for updating equipment and delivery vehicles. A tour of the facility is planned for August.

Wike informed the Board of the upcoming Farm Service Agency COC election. Nominations will be accepted until August 1, 2023.

Perez informed the Board of a Citrus class he is organizing in the fall.

DC Report: See Written Report

Open Floor:

No further discussion. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m. The next regular board meeting scheduled for July 20, 2023.