

MINUTES

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)

Regular Board Meeting

Location:

2710 East Silver Springs Boulevard, Ocala, FL 34470

Date:

September 9, 2024

Time:

9:30 AM

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals wishing to address the Board will need to sign in. A three-minute time limit will be administered to each of these individuals. PLEASE MUTE ALL PHONES. This agenda acts as a guidance for the structure of the meeting. Thank you.

Vivi Serena, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

I. Roll Call

• Present:

- Vivi Serena, Chairman/Treasurer
- Justin Albright, Public Relations
- Amy Davis, Supervisor
- David Shults, Supervisor
- Colleen Stenstream, Supervisor; left at 10 AM

• Absent:

• Others in Attendance:

- Sierra Ayers, NRCS
- Tammy Hinkle, FDACS; arrived at 9:42 AM
- Ann Bishop, MSWCD Staff
- Busy Shires, Horse Farms Forever

II. Proof of Publication

- Ocala Gazette – Public noticed on August 30.
- Florida Administrative Weekly – It was posted twice once on 12/29/23 and then again on 3/19/24. when we tried to publish in the FL Admin Weekly.
- NRCS – On August 30, an email was sent regarding this meeting.
- Marion County Board of County Commissioners – On December 18, 2023, an email was sent regarding this meeting.
- The meeting was also posted on the District website.

III. NRCS Report

- Sierra Ayers gave an overview of the 2025 programs and mentioned that the number of contracts increased this year. The deadline is November 1, to apply for 2025 funding. Brunswick grass removal is being funded and, on the road, to becoming classified as an invasive.
- Programs (Update)
 - Conservation Practice Standards
 - Pumping Plant & Pipelines
The deadline is September 26 for recommendations.
 - High Tunnels
The deadline is September 27 for recommendations.

IV. FDACS Report

- Tammy Hinkle gave a report and mentioned that Levy SWCD will be hosting a BMP workshop in Bronson on December 3 from 11 AM -1 PM; Tammy asked if the district and NRCS would attend. Tammy mentioned that she will be sending Ann a flyer and an email regarding this event.
- Levy BMP Workshop
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that the District participate in the BMP Workshop led by Levy SWCD. Colleen Stenstream seconded; all were in favor.
 - BMP Manuals have been approved; Tammy will send Ann Bishop copies for the District. The emphasis is more on water quality.

V. Contracts

- **FDACS Contract**
The FDACS contract was discussed. Tammy Hinkle mentioned how the enrollment process works and how to apply. Tammy also stated that she has seven techs working for her, three whom focus in Marion County.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that the District sign the FDACS Contract as presented. David Shults seconded; all were in favor.
- **Preferred Insurance**
Reviewed and discussed.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that the District sign the Preferred Contract as discussed. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.

VI. Staff Report & Recap

- Outreach
 - North Central Florida Outdoor Expo (Recap)
Ann Bishop gave a recap on behalf of Stefani Duarte.
 - Progressive Ag Safety Day
Ann Bishop mentioned the details about the upcoming Progressive Ag Safety Day.
 - Springs Forever
Busy Shires gave a brief overview of her organization and Springs Forever. She also mentioned about the District partnering with them on two contests for their Summit: essay and poster. Their organization will provide all the awards. Ann Bishop briefly went over the awards presentation and suggested about

maybe we could post the winners online. Ann also gave an overview about the PSA contest. The Summit will be held on November 14 at the Ocala Breeder's Sales (OBS) from 5 -7 PM. Bust will send the Board a link to sign up to attend this event.

- Contests
 - Essay
 - Poster
 - PSA
 - Summit/Awards
- SpringsFest

SpringsFest was discussed, and it was mentioned that since Stefani Duarte was accepted into the Emerging Leaders program that she might do this as her activity, so it was TABLED until next meeting.
- Meetings
 - FCDEA Annual Meeting (Recap)

Ann Bishop gave a recap on behalf of Stefani Duarte and herself.
 - FCDEA Meeting (Invite only)

Ann Bishop discussed the FCDEA meeting(s). The FCDEA meeting on October 10 in Gainesville at 10 AM will be by invite only to discuss potential new legislation. Also FCDEA will be holding additional training on QuickBooks and Website ADA Compliance.

 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that the District participate in the FCDEA Meeting on October 10 in Gainesville and have the Executive Administrator as the staff attendee and the Chairman and Amy Davis as the alternate to represent the Board as their collective voice. David Shults seconded; all were in favor. Amy Davis asked Ann Bishop to let me know right away if Vivi Serena cannot attend.
 - **AFCD**

The AFCD annual meeting agenda was discussed. Ann Bishop mentioned about the Ethics training. Justin Albright, David Shults and Amy Davis asked Ann Bishop to send them information on this training. Supervisors that were on the Board prior to March 31 must complete an ethics training by December 31.
 - **SECDEA**

Vivi Serena asked to revisit the SECDEA meeting, since Stefani Duarte did not get the scholarship. The Board discussed this meeting and its cost.

 - **AMEND A MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that District amend Colleen's motion from last month: "ORIGINAL MOTION: Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD approve staff to attend the 2024 SECDEA Annual Meeting in Pigeon Forge, TN and the AFCD Annual Meeting in Miramar, FL. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor." Amend to "approve for just the Executive Administrator to attend the 2024 SECDEA Annual Meeting in Pigeon Forge, TN and the AFCD Annual Meeting in Miramar, FL. David Shults seconded; all were in favor.
 - FASD

The Florida Association of Special Districts was discussed.

- **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that the District pay for membership to the Florida Association of Special Districts for one year. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that the District allow the Executive Administrator to apply for the Certified District Administrative Professional (Accountability) Program. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that the District allow one staff member to attend the FASD meeting in October in St Augustine. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor. Ann Bishop suggested sending Stefani to this meeting since she will be handling the social media.
- **District**
The District meeting were discussed.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that the District keep the second Monday monthly as the meeting dates, but to change the district meeting time to 9 AM rather than 9:30 AM. David Shults seconded; all were in favor.
- **Financials**
 - 501c3
Ann Bishop gave an update.
 - County Reimbursement
Ann Bishop gave an update.
 - CD
Ann Bishop gave an update.
 - District Budget
 - Actual
Ann Bishop gave an update.
 - Proposed
 - The Board reviewed the proposed budget.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that the District approved the District budget as presented. David Shults seconded; all were in favor.
- **District Plans** (Tabled until October, due to time constraints)
 - By-laws
 - Annual Goals
 - Long Range Plan
 - Performance Measures
- Miscellaneous
- CF Workforce Grant (Recap)
Ann Bishop gave a recap on the CF Workforce Grant.
- Employee Evaluations
The employee evaluations were discussed.
- Vehicle
The vehicle was discussed.

- **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that for staff to have the vehicle Tire Sensor Fault looked at to determine what needs to be done. David Shults seconded; all were in favor. regarding the Tire Sensor Fault for the vehicle. It was suggested to take the truck to the tire place across from the Ocala Police Department on 441.

- **NCF Annual Reports**

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) MSWCD Board Minutes
- 2) MSWCD Board Financial Report
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that MSWCD approve the consent agenda as presented. David Shults seconded; all were in favor.

VIII. Upcoming Events

- FCDEA Meeting – September 17
- Progressive Safety Day – September 26
- End of Fiscal Year – September 30
- Employment/Sales Use Taxes Due – September 30
- FDACS Spreadsheet Due – October 7
- MSWCD Monthly Meeting – October 14
- FCDEA Meeting – October 15
- BMP Workshop – Levy SWCD – October 30, tentatively
- Financial Depositor Report Due – October 30
- AFCD Annual Meeting – October 31-November 2
- SECDEA Annual Meeting – November 3-November 7
- Central District Ag BMP Quarterly Meeting – November 6
- FDACS Spreadsheet Due – November 7
- Holiday – Veteran’s Day – November 11 (No Meeting: Offices Closed)
- Springs Forever Summit – November 14

IX. General Public Comments

X. Supervisor Comments

XI. Meeting Adjournment

- Our next meeting is October 14, 2024 at 9:00 AM in the Growth Services Building.
- With no other business needing addressed Vivi Serena, Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 10:40 AM, until our next meeting.

MSWCD’s regular meetings are held at 9:00 AM on the 2nd Monday of each month, and their workshops are held the 4th Monday of each month at 9:00 AM, tentatively. Both meetings are located in Growth Services, located at 2710 E. Silver Springs, Ocala, FL 34470. For more information, call (352) 438-2475