

# Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors \* District Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, September 30, 2020 @ 4:30 pm  
Florida Strawberry Growers Association  
13138 Lewis Gallagher Road  
Dover, Florida 33527



## AGENDA

### CALL TO ORDER

Introduce Board Members and the Public – *Public Comment*  
Minutes of January 29, 2020 – *Chairman Mark Proctor*  
Treasurer’s Report - *Treasurer Susan Dumke*  
Presentation of Audit – *Dustin Orr, Hamilton & Phillips, LLC*  
NRCS Report – *Israel Vega Marrero, Acting Hillsborough District Conservationist*  
Agribusiness Development – *Simon Bolin, Agribusiness Development (report at end of meeting)*  
SWFWMD Ag Team – *Jeff Whealton, Ag Team Manager*  
SWFWMD Farms Program – *Matt Vinzant, Project Manager*  
FDACS Update – *Matt Warren, Environmental Manager*  
Request for Non-Agenda Items – *Chairman Mark Proctor*

### BUSINESS

- Introduction of new staff: Christopher Brown, Administrative Specialist III (full-time) and Linda Chion, Computer Graphics Designer (20 hours weekly)
- Announcement of HSWCD selection as recipient of new national technical assistant grant of \$49,400 from NACD for a mobile irrigation lab technician (full-time) to work within inner-city, urban, suburban, and rural communities. Search to be conducted beginning October 2020.
- Update on addition of Community Relations Technician (20 hours weekly) to be advertised after October 1, 2020 (start of new fiscal year)
- Presentation on new HSWCD website
- AFCD Dues
- Update on Education Programs
  - Poster Contests – 1) Theme: “Where Would We Bee Without Pollinators?” - 81 entries Judging following meeting, with winners advancing to AFCD State Meeting November 5-6, 2020 – Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. 2) Theme: “Save Water, Live Stronger” – Judging following December 2, 2020 meeting. All entrants in both poster contests (as well as those in the 2021 events) will have their posters on display at the 2021 Hillsborough County Fair and receive a free ticket to the Fair.
  - 2021 Poster Contest – “Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities” Contest will run from October 2020 through March 2021. Summer 2021 Contest to be announced.
  - 2020 Envirothon – March 12, 2020 – Canceled due to COVID; 2021 Tampa Bay Regional Envirothon will be held live/virtual, prior to the State Contest scheduled for April 24, 2021 (live/virtual).
  - Ag Venture – Live events at Florida State Fairgrounds canceled for fall 2020. October 10, 2020 – a live event will be held at Fox Squirrel Corn Maze, 3002 Charlie Taylor Road, Plant City (10 am – 6pm) with HSWCD presenting a conservation craft activity. Spring 2021 program being planned.
  - Land Judging – Pending HC School decisions; speech & photo contests.

- Director's Report, review of Overall Programs- *Betty Jo Tompkins*
  - Hillsborough County Fair – October 22 – 25 & October 29 – November 1, 2020 – Programs will be limited to livestock shows and sales. HSWCD will not be holding exhibit, youth plant show or plant sale at the present time. October 23 – Turkey, lamb, swine and steer shows; October 24 – Market animal sales; October 25 – Poultry show; October 30 – sheep show; October 31 – Dairy/goat show; November 1 – Beef
  - AFCD – State Meeting rescheduled for November 5-6 in Ft. Walton Beach
  - FCDEA – Prepared comprehensive survey on Florida Conservation Districts to be presented at annual AFCD State Meeting in November, as well as before city council and county commissions, state legislative delegations and other groups. Purpose: to further educate elected officials and the public. Silent/live auctions and programs presented in conjunction with AFCD meeting. Coordinate participation in Florida Farm Bureau Legislative Day, March 9, 2021 in Tallahassee with exhibit, legislative meetings, etc. FCDEA mid-year meeting scheduled for March 10, 2021 in Tallahassee. Monthly teleconferences.
  - Grant writing – Prepared grant for NACD technical position which HSWCD received. Wrote national grant with Coalition of Community Gardens and City of Tampa. Did not receive, but plan to collaborate with entities in the future.
  - Records update – Worked on update of all financial and other records.
  - SECDEA – Southeastern meeting will be held via zoom on November 4, 2020, in lieu of live meeting.
  - NACD Annual Meeting – February 6 – 10, 2021 – New Orleans.
  - Florida State Fair – February 11– 22, 2021 - Exhibit arranged for Ag Hall of Fame building (larger complimentary space); Taste of Florida breakfast (February 11, 2021), providing samples; “Hillsborough Harvested” demonstrations; Governor’s Lunch (February 11, 2021); Woman of the Year in Ag (February 15, 2021); Ag Hall of Fame (February 16, 2021); Champion of Champions (February 22, 2021).
  - Florida Strawberry Festival - March 4 – 14, 2021 – Complimentary exhibit space in Grimes Building; Farm Credit Breakfast (March 8 2021); Grand Parade Luncheon (March 8, 2021)
  - Lipman Garden Challenge –2021 – Anticipate over 25 schools participating (compared to 12 in 2017; 16 in 2018, 26 in 2020). Judging for 2020 was not possible as schools were closed beginning the week of judging due to COVID. In addition, garden challenge moved to 2021 due to school restrictions. This year’s participating groups to include school ag programs, science clubs, ESE classes and 4-H Clubs.
  - 2021 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge – April 17, 2021 – May 9, 2021. Project planning underway. Tampa Times tabloid planning underway with Kickoff Luncheon to be held in January/February 2021. All attendees will receive gift bags with approx. 30 items.
  - “Gasp- Our Beads of Tampa Bay” – Hillsborough 100 event – event not yet set.
  - Working with international conservation/environmental group : ESRAG and Biodiversity task force.
  - Other Activities  
Chamber activities as possible (Brandon, Plant City, Riverview) \* Community Roundtable \* Farm Bureau (Hills & Florida) \* Hillsborough County 4-H Foundation \* Hillsborough County Fair \* Hillsborough Republican Party Executive Committee \* Rotary Club of Brandon South Global \* ESRAG (Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group \* TBAEP
- Public Correspondence, Upcoming Events, Announcements, and Adjournment
- Next Board Meeting – 4:30 p.m. – December 2, 2020 – Florida Strawberry Growers Association
- Adjournment
- Dinner

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- October 7, 2020 – Special Districts Summit East (Zoom)
- October 8, 2020 – UF/IFAS Dinner of Distinction (Zoom)
- October 9, 2020 – Plant City Chamber Ag Tour, UF Aquaculture facility, Ruskin; Gills Ranch, etc., 8:30 am – afternoon.
- October 10, 2020 – Fox Squirrel Corn Maze, 3002 Charlie Taylor Road, Plant City, Florida, 10 am – 6 pm – Ag Venture Project for students
- October 22 – 25 & October 29 – November 1, 2020 Hillsborough County Fair (limited livestock shows and sales)
- October 22, 2020 – Florida Farm Bureau Annual Meeting (Zoom)
- November 3, 2020 – 2 pm – Ag Economic Development Council
- November 4, 2020 – SECDEA Annual Conference (Zoom)
- November 5 – 6, 2020 – AFCD Annual Meeting, Ft. Walton Beach
- November 18, 2020 – Florida Ag Expo, UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center –Postponed
- December 5, 2020 – Florida Strawberry Growers Annual Banquet – Hardeman’s Secret Garden, Dover
- February 6 – 10, 2021 – NACD Annual Meeting – New Orleans, Louisiana
- February 11 – 22, 2021 – Florida State Fair - Exhibit, demonstrations, etc.
- February 11, 2021 – 7 am – Taste of Florida Breakfast
- February 11, 2021 – 11:30 am – Governor’s Lunch
- February 15, 2021 – Noon – Woman of the Year In Agriculture Luncheon
- February 16, 2021 – Ag Hall of Fame Dinner
- February 22, 2021 – Champion of Champions Dinner
- February 26, 2021 – Farm Night 2021 presented by M & B Products, Temple Terrace (Tentative)
- March 4 – 14, 2021 – Florida Strawberry Festival, Plant City
- March 8, 2021 – 7am – Farm Credit Breakfast with Commissioner of Agriculture
- March 8, 2021 – Grand Parade Luncheon (following Breakfast)
- March 9, 2021 – Florida Farm Bureau Day at the Capitol, Tallahassee
- March 10, 2021 – FCDEA Mid-Year Meeting, Tallahassee
- March 18 – 20, 2021 – Florida Farm Bureau Women’s Leadership Conference, Panama City, Beach
- March 27 – 28, 2021 – 9am – 4 pm - Tampa Garden Club “GreenFest 2021”
- April 17 – May 9, 2021 – Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge
- April 2021 – Area 3 Meeting
- April 23 – May 2, 2021 – NACD 65<sup>th</sup> Stewardship Week
- May 2021 – Grow Gardens Conference
- August 2021 – NACD Southeast Meeting – The Lodge at Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores, Alabama
- February 11 – 15, 2022 – NACD Annual Meeting – Orlando, Florida



*Thanks for your commitment to conservation and our Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District . . . . Leading for Tomorrow.* Betty Jo Tompkins