

HILLSBOROUGH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors * District Regular Meeting Wednesday, October 10, 2018 4:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order at 4:06 PM by Chairman Mark Proctor.

Supervisors in attendance:

Mark Proctor, Chair
Michael Hepburn, Treasurer
Susan Dumke, Vice Chair
David Maynard

Others in Attendance:

Betty Jo Tompkins, HSWCD, Executive Director
Jennifer Gray, HSWCD, Administrative Services Coordinator
Erik Moretuzzo, FDACS/HSWCD, Ag Conservation Technician
Dan Oliver, NRCS, District Conservationist
Jeff Whealton, SWFWMD AG TEAM, Program Coordinator
Matt Vinzant, SWFWMD FARMS, Project Manager

INTRODUCE MEMBER(S) OF THE PUBLIC

Chairman requested members and guests introduce themselves and offer public comment.

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 15, 2018 REGULAR MEETING

Sup. Hepburn moved approval of August 15, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion 2nd by Sup. Maynard. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report presented by Sup. Hepburn as follows:

- Regular account beginning balance of \$17,203.04 and ending balance of \$16,203.04
- Mini-Farm account beginning balance of \$18,048.77 and ending balance of \$48,258.52
- Petty Cash account beginning balance of \$29.49 and ending balance of \$31.37
- Hillsborough 100 account beginning balance of \$1,275.83 and ending balance of \$1,025.83

Motion from Sup. Maynard to accept Treasurer's Report to file for audit.

Motion 2nd by Sup. Hepburn. Motion passed unanimously.

NRCS REPORT

Dan Oliver reported four contracts have been certified. Six contracts are deferred and moved into FY2019. Five wetland determinations from FSA are being scheduled. Quality assurance engineering spot checks are complete. Spot checks of agronomics projects and practices are scheduled for October 22nd-23rd, 2018. Batching fund ends November 2nd, 2018 for local projects related to National Own Farm Energy Initiative, National Organic Initiative, High Tunnel System, Long Leaf Pine Initiative, Strike Force, Socially Disadvantaged and Beginning Farmer, Working Lands for Wildlife-Quail only and Conservation Activity Plans.

AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Tompkins reported for Simon Bollin, Veterans Agriculture Selection Program (VASP) has hired a grant manager, the program has expanded to include Range Cattle Research & Education Center in Ona and the North Florida Research & Education Center in Quincy. VASP received 18 veteran applicants for the programs first cycle. Saturday October 13th, 2018 there will be a tasting of Pale Ale, brewed with Florida hops at Cigar City Brewery, donations will be used to expand the hop yard.

SWFWMD

Jeff Whealton, AGSWM-reported SWFWMD renewed the center pivot mobile irrigation lab (CPMIL) purchase order. If usage of the CPMIL is low the funds will be moved into ProMIL which focuses on mobile irrigation and engineering services. The NRCS MIL also received funding for FY2019. AGSWM funds replenished at near \$250,000. The soils contract between SWFWMD and NRCS has been terminated, but the NRCS soil scientist services will still be available through a purchase order. Internally SWFWMD is preparing for strawberry crop establishment complaints. Publishing of the Citrus Task Force outreach effort is anticipated at the next Ag Advisory Committee Meeting.

Matt Vinzant, FARMS program- reported FARMS program reallocated funds and increased Mini Farms program from FY2018 of \$100,000 to \$150,000 for FY2019. Individual reimbursements were increased from \$5,000 to \$8,000. To date three applications have been processed, totaling \$12,000. Payment process has been expedited by changing from PO to check request. New Mini Farms handbooks and brochures distributed to Board.

REQUEST FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

BUSINESS:

- A. Update on BMP Program- Moretuzzo reported seven new enrollments: 3 VAC, 1 SFN, 3 Cow Calf. Also five Cost Share projects: 4 weather stations; 1 portable soil moisture probe; 1 irrigation management; 1 cross fence; and 1 hoop sprayer. Met with producers regarding enrollment in the Springs Protection Area, Alafia BMAP, and Weeki Wachee BMAP. 25 self-verifications on newly enrolled producers. Attended training and staff meetings. Spoke with producers at the Central Florida Prescribed Fire Council Meeting in Kissimmee about BMP program.
- B. Update on Education Programs- Tompkins gave an update on programs: Land Judging and Poster Contest. Summer Poster contest is completed. Planning logistics for displaying over 300 posters at the Hillsborough County Fair. Land judging preview point will be at the Florida Strawberry Growers Association. Doug Holmberg has again volunteered to donate BBQ to the land judging lunch. The 2019 poster contest will be kicking off soon. Hiring for Education Outreach position is ongoing, 20 applicants reviewed, one offer tendered. Hailee Walz hired as a part-time intern.
- C. Directors Report- Director Tompkins provided update on the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge Kickoff Luncheon, to be held at noon, October 24, 2018 at The Regent in Riverview. A "Hillsborough Harvested, Fresh From Florida" meal will be served. Gift bags will be given to each attendee. Awards will be presented for 2018 Challenge project winners, as well as student winners in HSWCD youth competitions. Motion from Sup. Dumke to award "Outstanding Cooperating Partner of the Year" to Florida Strawberry Growers Association, "Outstanding Project of the Year" to Coalition of Community Gardens, and "Outstanding Supporter of the Year" to The Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce, Sup. Maynard 2nd motion, motion passed unanimously. Lipman Family Farms will sponsor the 2019 Hillsborough 100 Garden Challenge. A new proclamation created for the 2019 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge will be presented by Commissioner Stacey White. Other activities: HSWCD exhibit displayed at The Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce Candidate Forum, The Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce Political Forum, GS Fest, and Brandon Roundtable Community Service Forum. No updates on Litigation; still pending. HSWCD will sponsor the Youth Plant Show at Hillsborough County Fair; exhibit will be set up the 18-28th. Harvest awards lunch, plant auction, and posters will be displayed. Proctor and Tompkins attended NACD Southeast and Southern meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia. Tompkins presented Hillsborough 100 to the National Communications Committee. Motion from Sup. Hepburn to renew annual NACD membership dues at the gold level in the amount of \$800.00, motion 2nd by Sup. Maynard, motion passed unanimously. AFCD annual meeting included area 3 meeting with supervisors, who approved a February 7, 2019 mid-year meeting at Florida State Fair and FSGA offices. Live and silent auction raised over \$1,500 for AFCD, Ellis Putnall Fund and FCDEA. Director Tompkins re-elected as President of FCDEA. Attended quarterly AFCD face to face meeting in Chiefland. New Supervisors survey being created and AFCD Website training. AFCD face to face meetings in 2019 will be held January 12th, April 6th, June 8th and October 5th. NACD continues funding for 2019. Ag Venture will take place October 30-November 2 and November 6-9. Director Tompkins will be a presenter at SECDEA Annual Meeting in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Attended IFAS Dinner of Distinction, worked with 4H, Rotary, Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce, Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce, Greater Plant City Chamber of Commerce, and County Fair Board. Completed Poster Contest. Sup. Hepburn moved to give Tampa Reforestation Environmental Effort Inc (T.R.E.E., Inc.) \$250.00 for signage explaining watersheds at the Plant City Commons Community Gardens, motion 2nd by Sup. Maynard, motion passed unanimously. Sup. Maynard moved to give IFAS/University of Florida Extensions \$250.00 for the bi-annual Woody Ornamental Production Field Day mailings, motion 2nd by Sup. Hepburn, motion passed unanimously. Official Supervisor Handbook distributed to Supervisors.
- D. No Public Correspondence.
- E. No further business.
- F. Sup. Hepburn moved to adjourn, Sup. Maynard 2nd, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm. Dinner served.