

Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors May 2024 meeting minutes

Location: 2741 Penn Ave, Marianna, FL, 32448

Date: May 09, 2024

Time: 8:00 am

Board members present: Mack Glass, Steve Basford, Tom Stadskev, Dave DeFelix

Quorum: Yes

Absent: Jeff Pittman

Administrative Staff: Peggy Gilley, District Coordinator.

Attendees: Rex Patterson & Kevin Warren, JSWCD-MIL, Garrett Williams, JSWCD BMP Tech, Peter Scott Environmental Consultant, FDACS OAWP, Chris Denmark, Environmental Administrator, FDACS, John Baggett FDACS/OAWP Environmental Manager, Michael Felton, NRCS Supervisory District Conservationist, and guest; Clay Milton from Fuqua & Milton P.A.

Supervisor Glass called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Supervisor Glass welcomed attendees.

Supervisor Basford made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Supervisor Stadskev.

Carried unanimously.

Supervisor DeFelix made a motion to accept the minutes for the Board Meeting on 4/11/24 as read, seconded by Supervisor Basford. Carried unanimously.

BMP Report: Garrett reported that they have worked on IVs for the last couple of months, BMAP and Non. There are two Cost Share Agreements to complete, plus one we are working on with a Gadsden County producer, which is almost ready to wrap up. Garret gave his 2-week notice to the board. He thanked them for 4 years here and the growth he's had. The main reason he is leaving is because of the possibility of legislature redistricting the S&W districts. His start date with FDACS is 5/24/24. Garrett mentioned with him working for FDACS outside of the Health Dept office, when we hire his replacement there will be a need for an office for that employee. John added invoices are about caught up, 93 had not been processed as of Tuesday. There is \$139,988.59 remaining. John has a producer working on a big job, he asked permission to transfer some of the \$10K of remaining funds to cover his overage. The board approved to spend the money before the deadline, but to not go over, and not exceed our balance. A motion was made by Supervisor Basford and seconded by Supervisor Stadskev. Carried unanimously.

MIL Report: Rex reports April is done, and May started good. Their April Invoice was sent to be processed by the state. Wednesday night they returned from the ICC Meeting, and it went well. They won some and lost some. They are working on the waiver, so the board won't get fined. They have been working on invoices. This morning, we verified that Dec/Jan/Feb & March invoices have

been paid, and the money is in the bank. The only one open is April. Supervisor Glass inquired about the status of the SOW and when we will see the contract. Rex let him know the wording on the waiver was holding that up.

Financial Report: Supervisor Stadskev and Peggy let the board know that the statements for the four accounts are in their packets. There was a panel discussion about the several documents in the packets to go over. Chris Denmark let the board know that we are working on getting it all straightened out. Supervisor Glass reminded the group that the computer with all our information is in Tallahassee, and not accessible to us. They went over the BMP Invoices still in process, what has been turned in, and which ones are still being worked on.

District Coordinator Report: Peggy reported that we have checks that need board signatures. Peggy let the board know that the AFCD Area 1 Meeting where your required Ethics Training will be provided is on 5/30/24. We NEED to have you here on the 30th, please. That agenda is in your packets. The SE NACD region meeting is 6/16-6/18 in Gainesville. If you are committed to the Cattlemen's meeting, it is on the same date. It has been a long time since FL has hosted an NACD meeting, and we need as many people to attend as possible. If you need assistance with travel arrangements, please let me know. For the open Admin position, we have 5 applications. Peggy passed the folder around with the information for the Supervisors to look over. We have run the ad for 3 weeks; Peggy would like permission to set the date for interviews and call to see which ones are still available. We need to form the committee and decide on a date. After some discussion about having to notice if more than one Supervisor is on the committee and wanting to get them done ASAP, it was decided that Supervisor Basford, Chris Denmark, and John Baggett would be on the committee. Since John is here on Tuesdays and Thursdays one of those days would be best. The committee chose 5/14/24, Peggy will get to work on it and let the committee & Supervisor Glass know. With Garrett's announcement, is it the wish of the board that we put an ad in the paper and Career Source to fill that position? A motion was made to place ads in the JC Times and Career Source for the BMP Tech position by Supervisor DeFelix and Seconded by Supervisor Basford. Carried unanimously. Peggy let the board know that she & Supervisor Stadskev met with Tonda Porter at Milton Insurance in April to acquire some information. The General Liability policy that JSWCD has DOES cover supervisors and ALL staff. The reason we don't have auto insurance with them is that we had an under-25-year-old employee back then and their policy did not allow that. So, Lola learned about Rogers through an employee, and we got set up with them. The General Liability Policy is due in September, they send alerts 1 month ahead and Tonda said we have made timely payments with them. At the FCDEA meeting, we had a presentation from Shelby Martin with Farm Bureau regarding Growing Advocacy Champions, and Ann Wilson-Kaczmarek with a program on burnout. We were assigned each other's websites for peer review. JSWCD scored well. There was a discussion about FASD, Florida Association of Special Districts vs AFCD.

Peggy had copies of both entities' membership information, as well as the constitution & By-Laws of both for the Supervisors. There is also a copy of a Senate Tracker email, Special Districts Chapter 2024-136 was signed in by the Governor on 4/26/24, so she printed it for them. Audit update: They are working on it. Peggy looked; we received last year's completed audit on 6/21/23.

Supervisor Glass made it known that the board is concerned about the computer in Tallahassee and not being able to access those records for our next Audit, or could we get a waiver on the audit? Peggy confirmed with both Garrett and Chris that NO hard drives were found in the office at the health dept. There should have been two, ours and one for Holmes Creek records. Both answered, no.

UF/IFAS Report: Doug reported they are winding down educational events, and crop season is up and running. Michael Young is the new 4-H Agent, stop by and say hello. They have conducted interviews for the 2 admin positions. Doug wanted the board to know that for the job hiring process to interview as many as possible. They would have 4 booked and only 2 show up.

Supervisor Glass - nothing to add but would like an election of officers to take place in June. There was discussion about whether that should be done after the elections. Clay said he would investigate it.

Supervisor Stadsklev - the district consolidation is still bugging him. Looking for clarification, from FDACS or AFCD. He's been told it will come up in the next session. It was mentioned that AFCD will be here on 5/30, he can ask them questions then.

Supervisor DeFelix - is still on board with a lobbyist for the district. Someone is lined up, just waiting now.

Old Business: OPPAGA Report. Peggy let the group know that the audit team had mentioned having a couple of questions. We did get together on the phone. They have realized how different each District is and wanted to clarify the way things are done with JSWCD. Peggy has a couple of items to get to them, we should be about completed with them.

New business: We have a new representative here, Clay Milton from Fuqua & Milton P.A., introduced himself. The monthly retainer in the contract covers being at the meetings, plus hourly rates. They are previously contracted with a local BOCC on the second Thursday monthly. This contract is until September, we will review it then to see if we still need them. Supervisor Basford made a motion to accept and sign the contract with Fuqua & Milton P.A. Seconded by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously. Supervisor DeFelix made a motion to move the JSWCD Board meeting from June through September to the 2nd Tuesday each month @ 8:00 a.m., seconded by Supervisor Basford. Carried unanimously. The next meeting will be on 6/11-Peg will notify Jeff.

NRCS Report: Michael Felton reported that they obligated 2 CSPs yesterday. A new soil conservationist has been selected, not in place yet. NRCS hired 40 people in Puerto Rico, and 9 will come to FL. No word on the Turkey Federation employee. Michael had a request for the board, with the office layout, work not being kept up, deadlines, etc. not having someone at the front desk makes work difficult. He asked the board to consider staffing that position. Supervisor Glass replied the board has reservations, there is no way to lock up sensitive information and Peggy is the outreach person for JSWCD, she is not supposed to be tied to a desk.

Adjourned at 9:07 a.m.