**Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 23, 2023 – rescheduled March meeting**

**8:00 a.m.**

**UF/IFAS-Clover Room**

Board members present: Mack Glass, Steve Basford, Jeff Pittman, Tom Stadsklev = Quorum

Absent:

Administrative staff: Alisha Dunaway, Peggy Gilley. Others present: Rex Patterson, JSWCD-MIL, Kevin Warren, JSWCD-MIL, Garrett Williams, JSWCD BMP Tech, Brendaly Rodriguez-Munoz -NRCS District Conservationist, Doug Mayo, UF/IFAS Ag Director of JC, Chris Denmark -FDACS/ OAWP - Environmental Administrator, North Florida Field Staff, Stephen Fulford -Environmental Manager-FDACS/OAWP.

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

Supervisor Glass welcomed attendees and guests.

NRCS Report: Brendaly Rodriguez- Brendaly reported they are waiting on things to move. Personnel: They are readvertising for a programs position, and a Soil Conservationist, just for CSP. Their territory will be the whole panhandle with the base office in Marianna. Scott Williams a forester most of you may know has accepted the NRCS District Conservationist position in Blountstown. Due to the Inflation Reduction Act, (IRA) there will be more funding coming to Jackson County with a deadline to apply of 3/24/23. There was some discussion around the table about the stipulations of the program. Brendaly passed around an internal document for her team to use to talk to landowners about CSP that explains it better when talking to people interested in their programs. This is not an official document, she is sharing it so the board knows the information being given to people. The numbers are from 2022, so they could be different, but should not change by much, if any. Brendaly reported about the National Wild Turkey Conference they attended in Nashville, she learned a lot about partnerships working together and thanked the board for being their partner, good work goes on when we work together. Mack returned the thank you for being our partners too and working so well together.

BMP Report: Stephen reported that cost share is expended, Jackson County allotment came in around $700 - $750 K, and the SARP funding is also expended. News from Tallahassee, the Commissioner has requested funding for regional BMP programs. They are looking for ideas to reduce nitrate losses. Chris reported that he doesn’t have much to add, they are helping get the new Director and Asst. Directors up to speed and they have the legislative session upon them.

UF/IFAS Report: Doug reported there are 2 events coming up: 3/2 Row Crop Short Course and on 3/9 Cattle and Crop BMP Farm Tour. He added that Ashley Stonecipher the horticulture agent has taken a position in Volusia county. She came up here for this job and left family behind, this position will take her back home. They will be advertising to replace her as soon as possible.

MIL Report: Rex Patterson reported that they have their ICC meeting this week. They have their numbers for this month, they are closing out and starting on next month. Rex mentioned that Supervisor Glass has informed the MIL team that if they need to be out in the field to get their numbers it is not mandatory for them to be at the board meetings.

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Financial Analyst Report: Alisha Dunaway having issues with the bank, she spoke with Colquitt, Dothan, and the Marianna offices yesterday. We have to track down the answers because Marianna will tell us they are going to find out and then not call back. Supervisor Basford suggested we get with Rob Jackson or Steven Roach for a meeting and figure it out. Supervisor Basford mentioned they are getting complaints regarding producers not getting their checks. Alisha said there were payments put through on 2/9 when she was kicked out of the software that held up some payments because her check requests were marked as suspicious activity. Garrett and Alisha ran through the packet process for the board. Garrett also mentioned that the contract states that when he leaves the farm the producer is paid in 1 week. Stephen Fulford will check to see the wording on the over contract to see if the wording on our contract can be changed to give more time for processing with the state and to get the payments to them. Alisha also mentioned the bank is looking to their vendor that runs the ACH to find out why we have requests kicking out. Chairman Glass let the group know that our 2020/2021 audit is 10 months late being turned in to the state, we’ve lost the last 2 months of records from when Lola left, and Alisha started. Stephen Fulford said he can access the contract information from the state if we need any of those records. Supervisor Mack added that Peggy is meeting with the auditor on Friday to be trained on what they need to complete our audits.

Motion to approve the February financial report made by Supervisor Pittman, second by Supervisor Basford. Carried unanimously.

Supervisor Stadsklev made a motion to have a special meeting/workshop in Mid-March to go over the checking accounts. Seconded by Supervisor Basford. Carried unanimously. Supervisor Glass asked Peggy to work with the Supervisors to select a date that works and to get it to the paper in time to have it noticed properly.

District Coordinator Report: Peggy Gilley reported that we have checks that need board signatures after the meeting. Peggy also reported that the AFCD meeting was very informational, and for those that did not go, and to Jeff because he is new to the board, there are presentations from this meeting and prior meetings to use for training on the AFCD website. At the AFCD meeting, Peggy met Laura Bloom from Palm Beach S&W that was spearheading the lobbyist idea. Laura said due to the way the statutes are worded they are leaving that on the table for now. Peggy asked for permission to omit the lobbyist update from further agendas until the subject is brought up again. At Supervisor Glass’ request, in my report, I am going to let you know about

the OPPAGA audit. Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability audit. All the FL S&W districts are going to go through an audit with OPPAGA. It is an audit of what we do, how we do it, why we do it, what outcomes there are, etc. The audit will be ongoing for months, so it will stay on old business till we work through it. We have been given a copy of the audit requirements so we can start gathering the information. I am in the process of familiarizing myself with what information will be needed and will be gathering it up. We have land judging coming up on 3/7/23. We are looking for a place where some pits can be cut in for the kids, with a cover/shelter for lunch and grading the cards.

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Old Business: Insurance policies. Supervisor Glass asked Supervisor Stadsklev to work with Peggy to better understand the policies we have and what we have covered. Supervisor Stadsklev doesn’t see a policy that covers errors and omissions. Alisha reported that that policy is with Milton Insurance, and it has an annual premium. Supervisor Glass asked to get a copy for the board to go over and put on the April agenda.

New Business: Sonny and Theresa Davis stopped by the office and Supervisor Davis resigned. There was discussion around the table regarding some of the farmers in his area that the Supervisors might contact to appoint, we will work on that at the next meeting. Supervisor Glass asked Peggy to work with JC BOCC to honor Sonny with a proclamation and plaque for his 35 years of service on the board.

No other Supervisor reports, Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Pittman and seconded by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously. Adjourned at 9:45 a.m.