Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting

July 06, 2023

8:00 a.m.

UF/IFAS-Clover Room

Board members present: Mack Glass, Steve Basford, Tom Stadsklev, Jeff Pittman, Dave DeFelix

Absent: 0. All 5 board members present

Administrative Staff: Alisha Dunaway, Peggy Gilley. Others present: Rex Patterson, JSWCD-MIL, Garrett Williams, JSWCD BMP Tech, Peter Scott, Environmental Consultant- FDACS, Brendaly Rodriguez-Munoz, NRCS District Conservationist, Chris Denmark, FDACS Environmental Administrator, Captain John Alter, NWFWMD, and Guest: Terri Keith-FCS Ag Agent.

Supervisor Glass called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Supervisor Glass welcomed attendees and guest.

Supervisor Basford made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Supervisor DeFelix. Carried unanimously. Supervisor Stadsklev made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Supervisor Basford. Carried unanimously.

Supervisor Glass welcomed Terri Keith-UF/IFAS Family and Consumer Services Agent. Miss Terri asked the board to become a sponsor or donate to the Heart & Soul 5K run/walk on 10/27/23. Supervisor Pittman made a motion for the board to donate $100.00 for the event, seconded by Supervisor Basford. Carried unanimously.

Old Business: By-Laws. The board asked all the JSWCD employees to write up their job descriptions to add to the Personnel Policy Handbook. After the job descriptions are completed, the board will decide if there are any other changes to be made to the Personnel Policy Handbook and vote on all changes in one meeting. The board is governed by statutes, the Personnel Policy Handbook covers any other local district Standard Operating Procedures and that is how the district decisions will be based.

5%-Tabled until another meeting.

New Business: MIL Contract has been signed with some stipulations that are covered in an amendment. Good for 3 more years.

NRCS Report: Brendaly reported that in the last month, their office has gotten rid of all their furniture and had all new installed. She would like to invite the board to tour the new space, at the next meeting. CSP & Eqip funding is finally here. Producers have been selected and contacted. Next Friday is the deadline for that. There are 25 producers in the queue with 5 already obligated. There

will be more money coming., so they are trying to have this all completed by the end of September to be prepared for the next round of funds. Open positions: Both open positions will be housed at the Area office and have been announced, postings were up last week and close in 2 weeks. (CSP Liaison and Area Programs Specialist.)They’ll advertise for Peter’s old position next. Brendaly thanked the board for all the help Peggy can provide. The furniture flip took a lot of work. Brendaly asked the board if they would begin considerations about partnering with them on a drone grant.

The drones can be used to certify forestry practices and others. It is technical assistance NRCS can provide, having that wording in the next contract will be beneficial.

BMP Report: Garrett reported that they finished the cost share and that Peter helped tie up loose ends. The IV’s are getting done, he has goals to meet. Chris reported that their office is being torn down, so they have been moving this week and next. Chris is not sure of the status of replacing Angela, James Fort is her interim replacement. A new year started on 7/1, getting money kicked out and going down the cost share route again.

NWFWMD Report: Captain Alter reported that their meeting is next week, if there is anything the board would like him to take back to the NWFMD board, just let him know and he extended an invite to everyone to their meetings. Supervisor Pittman inquired if Dave Cambron’s position and the one under him had been replaced. They are our farmers’ liaisons, they need to know. Captain Alter will find out.

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UF/IFAS Report: Doug Mayo is on vacation.

MIL Report: Rex reported he had a 12.5-hour day in Escambia County, and got the numbers done there.

Financial Report: Alisha reported that the 2022 Audit is done. A copy of the audit is with each supervisor’s packet today. Alisha contacted Jim Davis regarding his fees for audits and he charges the same amount we are paying here in town. Supervisor Basford asked Alisha to go outside the box and keep researching. The $7,738.00 check from the BOCC was deposited for our 2022 budget. West has announced that there will be no cost-of-living salary increase this year. There is one Office of Energy payout left, we have exhausted our ACH transfers for the month, so we’ll write that producer a check.

District Coordinator Report: Peggy let the board know that there are checks to sign at the end of the meeting. Peggy thanked the board for being a part of the processes and programs, very much appreciated, and wanted to make sure they knew that. Reminder, If anyone needs us to reserve your room and get your registration in for the AFCD meeting in Gainesville (9/27 & 28th) please let Peggy know by 7/15 at the latest. Peggy went to the AFCD website and printed information about Local Working Groups for the board. Before the next meeting, if each of you, GW, and Peter too, would please email your thoughts related to our next local working group meeting, including your date suggestions in November to book a venue? Brendaly and I are open to ALL comments and suggestions to help the farmers and community be heard while collecting the information the state requires. Brendaly added that last year was the first year back to LWG’s since the pandemic and they were given a model to follow. She assured the group that we will be able to make the LWG meeting more our own this year. Peggy reported that she looked around on the WFEC website to see if their board meetings were listed and found a customer survey. In her survey response, she shouted about how they need to help our farmers. $20K to replace a part because the system they run is not up to date and can’t handle the flow of power. She also suggested they call the governor’s office and get some of that surplus money to upgrade because of the influx of humans to our area…… Please go online and do the same. Lastly, Peggy reported that the 4-H Day Camps she has helped with have been amazing for the kids. They are learning a lot and having a blast!

Supervisor Glass asked the Supervisors if they had anything to add.

Peggy asked Supervisors Basford and DeFelix to head over to the SOE office. Mrs. Dunaway is waiting for them to get them sworn in. That will complete the board’s requirements for this year.

A motion to adjourn at 8:50 a.m. was made by Supervisor Basford and seconded by Supervisor Stadsklev. Carried unanimously.

(Note: Supervisor Pittman had to leave by 8:30. Chairman Glass rearranged the agenda to accommodate the time frame. Important board matters moved to the top and reports after.)