

Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District

MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time of Meeting: Wednesday, October 12, 2016 8:00 AM

Location of Meeting: 200 NW 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972

I. Supervisor Rutledge called the October 12, 2016 meeting to order at 8:05am

II. Roll Call and establish quorum

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

4 /5present

- Mariano Corona, President
- Glynn Rutledge, Secretary Treasurer
- Douglas Burnham, Supervisor
- Don Sellers, Jr., Supervisor
- Nicki Smith, Supervisor

PARTNERING AGENCIES

- Howard Harrison, NRCS District Conservationist
- Bonnie Pelaez, FDACS-OAWP Environmental Administrator
- Lauren Butler, County Extension Director/Livestock
- Colleen Larson, Regional Dairy Extension Agent

STAFF:

- Audrey Kuipers, District Program Manager
- Courtney Murphy, Program Assistant

GUESTS:

III. Reports

1. Motion made to approve the September 7, 2016 Board Minutes. (Smith/Burnham)
Unanimous approval.
2. Motion made to accept the Financial Report- September as presented. (Smith/Burnham)
Unanimous approval.
3. Howard Harrison gave an update on EQIP Applications (9 deferred and 3 new). Field Office staff working on CSP renewals and FY 16 payments.
4. Audrey Kuipers gave the cost share report. New NEEPA cost share contract is ready for approval. Current FCO cost share has a balance of \$2.2 million. The amendment to Contract 23422 –Technician to add a Technician in Osceola County will be received this week. Advertising will start then.
5. Courtney Murphy gave the report on educator grants. Schools are excited for this opportunity. Supervisor Smith shared her thoughts on the irrigation evaluation demonstration and reminded staff to submit a news release.

IV. Unfinished Business

1. Motion made to begin offering urban irrigation evaluations to Okeechobee County municipalities and businesses with the assistance of Palm Beach SWCD. (Smith/Sellers)
Unanimous approval.

V. New Business

1. Motion made to approve BMP cost share Contract 23913. (Burnham/Sellers) Unanimous approval.
2. Audrey Kuipers and several Supervisors have been approached by FDACS-OAWP regarding the possibility of assisting other SWCD's with advance funding on cost share

contracts that cannot offer the advances due to language tied to the grant funds.
Supervisors agreed that it would be a good thing to assist other SWCD's in need.

VI. Upcoming Events

1. FY 16 year end accounting- October 17th
2. FY 16 Financial Audit- begins after October 17th
3. NRLI (Natural Resources Leadership Institute) Session 3- BMP's, Marianna Oct 18-21
4. Farm City Day Luncheon- November 17-KOA
5. NACD Annual Meeting- Jan 28-Feb 1, 2017 Denver, CO (Commitment by end of DEC)
6. OSWCD Board Meeting November 9, 2016
7. Office closed- Novemer 11 & 24, 2016

VII. Adjourned at 8:42 am.

No November meeting

No December meeting

No January Meeting

Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes

Date and Time of Meeting: **Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:00 AM**

Location of Meeting: **200 NW 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972**

- I. Supervisor Rutledge called the February 8, 2017 meeting to order at 8:10am.
- II. Roll Call and establish quorum

BOARD of SUPERVISORS:

- Mariano Corona, Chairman
- Glynn Rutledge, Secretary-Treasurer
- Douglas Burnham, Supervisor
- Don Sellers, Jr., Supervisor
- Nicki Smith, Supervisor

III. Motion made to approve October 12, 2016 Board Minutes. (Smith/Sellers). Unanimous approval.

IV. Motion made to approve Financial Report- First Quarter to January 3. (Rutledge/Sellers). Unanimous approval.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Building Restroom Bids- Notice in 2/11/2017 Okeechobee News and OSWCD website. Sealed bids are due 2/15/2017. Once received the Board will review.

VI. New Business

1. Jon Geitner, Seacoast Bank discussed the ability of offering ACH Credits (direct deposit) to agricultural producers participating in BMP cost share programs. Motion made to offer direct deposit conservation payments to producers. (Smith/Sellers). Unanimous approval. *Action Item: Audrey Kuipers asked to seek advise from the CPA on the best checks and balance system that will comply with the state single audit.*
2. Motion made to approve the FY 17 budget amendments presented and clarify that the original adopted budget included a 1.9% COLA increase effective January . (Sellers/Smith). Unanimous approval.
3. Motion made to approve the purchase of a Boar Buster feral hog trap from the National Association of Conservation District for rental to Okeechobee landowners. (Rutledge/Sellers) Unanimous approval.

Action Items: Audrey Kuipers will verify cost of liability insurance; work with attorney on lease agreement and waiver; work with Chairman Corona on size trailer needed; gather prices on trailer, and develop promotional material.

VII. Staff Reports

1. Howard Harrison gave the NRCS staff update. No news on upcoming Farm Bill.
2. Audrey Kuipers gave the OSWCD report. Justina Mattson, OSWCD Technician was introduced. Ms. Kuipers, Courtney Murphy and Justina Mattson are working on all OSWCD youth educational programs over the next 4 months. Cost share payments are continuing to move forward.

VIII. Upcoming Events

1. NRLI (Natural Resources Leadership Institute) Session 6- Crystal River 2/15-2/17
2. Office closed- 2/20/2017
3. Equine BMP focus group meeting- 3/2/2017
4. Soil Workshop- Highlands SWCD- 2/22/2017
5. Indian River Lagoon Envirothon- 2/24/2017
6. Area Land Judging Contest- Highlands Co. 3/3/2017

IX. Adjourned at 10:00am.

No March meeting

Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District

MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time of Meeting: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 8:00 AM
Location of Meeting: 200 NW 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972

- I. Supervisor Rutledge called the April 12, 2017 meeting to order at 8:03am.
- II. Roll call and establish quorum
BOARD of SUPERVISORS:
 - Mariano Corona, Chairman
 - Glynn Rutledge, Secretary-Treasurer
 - Douglas Burnham, Supervisor
 - Don Sellers, Jr., Supervisor
 - Nicki Smith, Supervisor
- III. Motion to approve the March 8, 2017 Board Minutes as presented. (Burnham/Sellers). Unanimous approval.
- IV. Motion to approve the financial report- March. (Burnham/Sellers). Unanimous approval.
- V. Unfinished Business
 1. Small Farms Cost Share Program-tabled. Supervisor Sellers would like a list of cost shareable items per agricultural commodity for the next meeting.
- VI. New Business
 1. Motion to approve the FY 16 Financial Audit presented by Cheryl Williams- Wicks, Brown, Williams & Company CPAs. (Burnham/Sellers). Unanimous approval.
 2. Howard Harrison, District Conservationist- USDA-NRCS went over the Federal Civil Rights Review as part of the Okeechobee SWCD Board of Supervisors and USDA Natural Resources Memorandum of Understanding Agreement.
- VII. Staff Reports
 1. Howard Harrison gave the NRCS staff report.
 2. Audrey Kuipers, Courtney Murphy and Justina Mattson gave the OSWCD staff report.
- VIII. Upcoming Events
 1. Area IV AFCD Meeting-Belle Glade April 13th – Supervisor Smith no longer able to attend. Ms. Kuiper's, Murphy and Mattson will be in attendance.
 2. FDEP BMAP meeting- Okeechobee IRSC May 2 9-11:30am
 3. Ag Literacy Day- May 9th NES
- IX. Adjournment at 9:15 am.

Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District

MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time of Meeting: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 8:00 AM

Location of Meeting: 200 NW 5th Street, Okeechobee, FL 34972

I. Supervisor Corona called the May 10, 2017 meeting to order at 8:05am.

II. Roll call and establish quorum

BOARD of SUPERVISORS:

- Mariano Corona, Chairman
- Glynn Rutledge, Secretary-Treasurer
- Douglas Burnham, Supervisor
- Don Sellers, Jr., Supervisor
- Nicki Smith, Supervisor

III. Motion to approve the April 10, 2017 Board Minutes as presented. (Sellers/Smith). Unanimous approval.

IV. Motion to approve the financial report- April. (Sellers/Smith). Unanimous approval.

V. Unfinished Business

1. Ms. Kuipers presented the Small Farms Nutrient Management and Urban Irrigation Evaluation Program to the Board. The Board is not interested in hiring a person to implement the programs. Staff was instructed to implement to the best of their ability. The Board will re-address as the program gains momentum.
Action Items: Reword objective to emphasis "voluntary program". Under specific requirements change "one year" to "six months, extensions may be granted upon request". Determine price per foot for pipeline. Research manure composting at Waste Management. Separate equine from agricultural producer definition into it's own definition. Contact County, City and School Board for interest in evaluations. Find answer to question on soil moisture sensors- Q: Do they automatically shut off irrigation? Assist in advertising agriculture mobile irrigation evaluations.

VI. New Business

1. Motion to approve FY 17 Budget Amendments as presented. (Smith/Sellers). Unanimous approval.
2. Motion to request the Okeechobee BOCC to renew the existing grant agreement for the same amount. (Smith/Sellers). Unanimous approval.
Action item: FY 16 Annual Report will be submitted with request with the designated edits.

VII. Staff Reports

1. NRCS staff report- No report.
2. Audrey Kuipers, Courtney Murphy and Justina Mattson gave the OSWCD staff report.

VIII. Upcoming Events

1. Kissimee River Prarie Preserve State Park Advisory Meeting- May 31, 2017 9:30am- Ms. Kuipers wil attend.
2. June 14, 2017 Board Meeting- Form 1 Financial Affidavits due 7/01/2017 to Supervisor of Elections Office.
3. July 4, 2017 Office Closed
4. July 12, 2017 Board Meeting will be canceled- no quorum
5. AFCD Annual Conference July 20-22
6. Steve Dobbs Engineering will be moving out by July 1st. Ms. Kuipers will start advertising the space.

IX. Adjournment at 9:50 am.