

# Minutes

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)

Regular Board Meeting

2710 East Silver Springs Boulevard

Ocala, FL 34470

September 8, 2025

9:00 AM

*PLEASE NOTE: Individuals wishing to address the Board will need to sign in. A three-minute time limit will be administered to each of these individuals. PLEASE MUTE ALL PHONES. This agenda acts as a guidance for the structure of the meeting. Thank you.*

## 1) Call to Order

### a) Roll Call

1. Chairman, Vivi Serena, called the meeting to order at 9:24 AM.
2. Roll Call was taken. In attendance was Vivi Serena, Chairman; Justin Albright, Vice Chairman/Treasurer; Colleen Stenstream, Secretary; Amy Davis, Public Relations, and Lenora Deonath, Supervisor. Others in attendance were Sierra Ayers, NRCS; Patricia Robertshaw, SWFWMD; Ashlee Rice, MSWCD, and Ann Bishop, MSWCD.

### b) Proof of Publication

1. Proof of Publication was given. It appeared in the Ocala Gazette on October 4, 2024 and was reposted on January 24, 2025 and April 18, 2025. The Florida Administrative Weekly posted it on October 7. NRCS received notice of the 2025 meetings on December 12, 2024. Marion County Board of County Commissioners received notice of the meetings on December 11. The meeting is also posted on the District website with the agenda uploaded on August 27, 2025.

## 2) Welcome

The Board welcomed those in attendance.

## 3) SWFWMD Report

Patricia Robertshaw gave a report on Southwest Florida Water Management District.

#### 4) NRCS Report

Sierra Ayers gave an update on Natural Resources Conservation Service and mentioned that the NRCS deadline is October 3.

#### 5) FDACS Report

Ann Bishop gave an update on Florida Department of Consumer Services.

#### 6) Plans (Update)

##### a) Land Management Plan – Golden Ocala Equestrian Land, LLC

The Board reviewed the land management plan response letter.

**PROPOSED MOTION: Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD approve the land management plan response letter as presented at the meeting. Amy Davis seconded; all in favor.**

##### b) Insurance

The Board reviewed the insurance quote that Preferred/Brown & Brown Insurance sent.

**PROPOSED MOTION: Justin Albright moved that MSWCD approve the insurance policy as discussed at the meeting. Colleen Stenstream seconded; all in favor.**

The Board would like to revisit the topic of storage at the next board meeting.

##### c) By-laws

Ann Bishop gave an update on the by-laws written notice and stated that if the Board does not receive any input regarding the changes, the by-laws will take effect on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### 7) Contests

##### a) Photo Contest

Ann Bishop gave an update on the photo contest.

##### b) Budget

Ann Bishop gave an update on the contest budget.

**PROPOSED MOTION: Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD approve the contest budget as discussed at the meeting. Amy Davis seconded; all in favor.**

c) Contest Packet

Ann Bishop gave an update on the contest packet.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD approve the contest packet as discussed at the meeting for distribution and to post online. Amy Davis seconded; all in favor.

Sierra Ayers stated that she would like to judge Conservation Landscape Trays. Colleen Stenstream stated that her and Bob will continue to judge the art contests.

## 8) Meetings

a) FASD Legislative Preparedness (Sept 25)

Ann Bishop presented the information on the FASD Legislative Preparedness Meeting.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Amy Davis moved that MSWCD approve for supervisors/staff to attend the FASD Legislative Preparedness Meeting. Justin Albright seconded; all in favor.

b) FASD Quarterly Meeting (Oct 10-12)

Ann Bishop presented the information on the FASD Quarterly Meeting.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that MSWCD approve for supervisors/staff to attend the FASD Quarterly Meeting. Amy Davis seconded; all in favor.

c) PLT Conference (Nov 7-9)

Ann Bishop presented the information on the Project Learning Tree Conference. Amy Davis is going to check her schedule to see if she can attend this conference, but she can only attend Saturday and Sunday.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD approve for supervisors/staff to attend the Project Learning Tree Conference. Justin Albright seconded; all in favor.

## 9) Staff Report & Recap

Ann Bishop gave a recap.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD allow the Executive Administrator to make the appropriate payments for memberships and dues for fiscal year 2025-2026, as done in previous years. Justin Albright seconded; all in favor.

10) CONSENT AGENDA

- a) MSWCD Board Minutes
- b) MSWCD Board Financial Report

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that MSWCD approve the consent agenda as presented. Colleen Stenstream seconded; all in favor.

11) Upcoming Events

- Marion SWCD Meeting – September 8
- FCDEA Monthly Meeting – September 16
- Quarterly Growth Services Meeting (Customer Service) – September 17
- FCDEA Annual Meeting – September 23-24
- FASD Legislative Preparedness – September 28
- Bradford SWCD: Florida’s Sunshine and Public Records (Online) – October 2
- FDACS Spreadsheet Due – October 5
- FASD Fall Meeting – October 9-10
- Monthly Growth Services Meeting (House Keeping) – October 9
- Marion SWCD Meeting – October 13
- SEYF Conservation Landscape Tray Workshop – October 25
- FL Employee Tax Due – October 31
- Financial Depositor Report Due – October 31
- SECDEA Annual Conference – November 3-5
- FDACS Spreadsheet Due – October 5
- PLT Conference – November 7-9
- Marion SWCD Meeting – November 10
- Office Closed: Veteran’s Day – November 11
- Last Day to File Legislative Bills – November 21
- Office Closed: Thanksgiving and the Day After – November 27-28

12) General Public Comments

13) Supervisor Comments

Vivi Serena mentioned Lake County’s septic to sewer program.

## 14) Meeting Adjournment

- a) Our next meeting is October 13, 2025 at 9:00 AM in the Growth Services Building.
- b) With no other business needing addressed Vivi Serena, Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 10:04 AM, until our next meeting.

*MSWCD's regular meetings are held at 9:00 AM on the 2nd Monday of each month, and their workshops are held the 4th Monday of each month at 9:00 AM, tentatively. Both meetings are located in Growth Services, located at 2710 E. Silver Springs, Ocala, FL 34470. For more information, call (352) 438-2475.*