

Minutes

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)

Regular Board Meeting

Location:

2710 East Silver Springs Boulevard, Ocala, FL 34470

Date:

August 12, 2024

Time:

4:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals wishing to address the Board must sign in, with a three-minute speaking limit per person. Please mute all phones. Regular MSWCD meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 9:30 AM, and workshops on the 4th Monday at 9:30 AM (tentative). Both take place at Growth Services, 2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala, FL 34470. For details, call (352) 438-2475.

Justin Albright, Public Relations, called the meeting to order at 4:16 PM.

I. Roll Call

• Present:

- Justin Albright, Public Relations
- Amy Davis, Supervisor
- Colleen Stenstream, Supervisor

• Absent:

- Vivi Serena, Chairman/Treasurer
- David Shults, Supervisor

• Others in Attendance:

- Sierra Ayers, NRCS
- Tammy Hinkle, FDACS
- Ann Bishop, MSWCD Staff
- Stefani Duarte, MSWCD Staff

II. Proof of Publication

- Ocala Gazette – Public noticed on August 9 with the date change.
- Florida Administrative Weekly – It was rejected twice when we tried to publish in the FL Admin Weekly.
- NRCS – On August 5, an email was sent regarding this meeting.
- Marion County Board of County Commissioners – On August 5, an email was sent regarding this meeting.
- The meeting was also posted on the District website.

III. NRCS Report

- **Local Working Group (Recap)**
A recap was given.
- **Forest & Grazing Conservation Practices**
Discussed.
- **Conservation Practice Standard Water Well**
NRCS is asking for input by September 6, please send comments to Sierra Ayers and/or Ann Bishop. Ann Bishop will send the information to Tammy Hinkle.
- **State Resource Conservationist**
Discussed.

IV. FDACS Report

- The contract was discussed. The Board suggested that Vivi Serena reach out to FDACS again and report back to the Board at the next meeting. Tammy Hinkle mentioned that she would like the District to have a table at the BMP Expo in Levy.

V. OPPAGA

- A recap was given.

VI. Staff Report & Recap

- **Outreach**
- **Library Program (Recap)**
A recap was given.
- **Extension/Ag Venture Camp (Update)**
A recap was given.
- **North Central Florida Outdoor Expo**
The event is Saturday, August 17, from 9 AM – 4 PM at the World of Equestrian Center.
- **SWCS Emerging Leaders**
Stefani Duarte applied to the Emerging Leaders Program.
- **Displays**
Discussed.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD purchase (2) table-top display boards, (1) partition display board, (6) 8-foot foldable tables, and (1) A-frame or easel for outreach programs, from the non-reimbursable account, not to exceed \$3,000.

(The display boards should be similar to the old ones.) Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.

- **Materials**

Discussed.

- **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD purchase outreach materials, which were presented during the meeting, not to exceed \$500. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.

- **Contests School Year 2024-2025**

Discussed.

- Budget
- School Packet
- **PROPOSED MOTION:** Amy Davis moved that MSWCD approve the 2024-2025 contest budget and the contest packet for distribution. Colleen Stenstream seconded; all were in favor.

- **Preferred Insurance**

Information to obtain a quote for the new fiscal year was submitted, and Preferred should reach out with this quote sometime next month.

- **Meetings**

- Year in Review/Commissioner Meetings (Recap)
A recap was given.
- SENACD Meeting (Recap)
A recap was given.
- SWCS Meeting (Recap)
A recap was given.
- Mind the Gaps Workshop
Vivi Serena approved for Ann Bishop to attend the Mind the Gaps Workshop on August 23 where they will discuss the wildlife corridor and the connections to neighboring counties. Ann will contact the organizer to see if Tammy Hinkle and/or Sierra Ayers can attend.
- FCDEA Annual Meeting
Vivi Serena approved for Stefani Duarte and Ann Bishop to attend the FCDEA Annual Meeting on September 3-4 in Gainesville. The meeting was discussed.
- SECDEA Annual Meeting
The SECDEA Annual Meeting and the AFCD Annual Meetings were discussed.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD approve staff to attend the 2024
- SECDEA Annual Meeting in Pigeon Forge, TN and the AFCD Annual Meeting in Miramar, FL. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved to approve staff to apply for the SECDEA scholarship and for the presented letter, from the

Chairman to the SECDEA Scholarship Committee, be approved as presented. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.

- **Financials (Update)**
 - **Audit**
Reviewed.
 - **Ameris Bank**
 - **Signer**
Justin Albright stated he went to the bank and is now on the accounts as a signer.
 - **CD Maturity**
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD approve for the acting Treasurer or his/her designee to roll over the CD during the maturity grace period into the best rate available. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.
- **501c3**
A recap was given.
- **Reporting**
A recap was given.
- **County Budget**
A budget amendment was submitted to the County.
- **Supervisors (Reminder)**
 - **Ethics Training**
A reminder was given.
- **Hours**
Reviewed.
- **District Plans (Review)**
 - **By-laws**
 - **Annual Goals**
 - **Long Range Plan**
 - **Performance Measures**
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that the District review all these plans and send any changes to the Executive Administrator by the end of business on Monday, August 26 for these updates to be collected and review at the next month's meeting. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.

- **Miscellaneous**
 - CF Workforce Grant (Recap)
 - Vehicle (Recap)
 - Business Cards
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Amy Davis moved that MSWCD approve the digital business cards as presented. Colleen Stenstream seconded; all were in favor.
 - Legislation
 - Training
 - Notary
 - County Course(s)
 - Social Media
 - Discussed.
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD utilize social media, abiding by Florida Sunshine and Retention Laws, to post about MSWCD interests: activities, events and outreach, and not allow others to comment or add responses to any MSWCD posts or comments. The Chairman and/or the chairman's designee will approve all the posts or comments prior to uploading. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.
 - Employee Farewell
 - **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD purchase a card in the amount of \$100 since the farewell lunch for staff was cancelled. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.
 - NACD/NCF Annual Reports

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

i. MSWCD Board Minutes

ii. MSWCD Board Financial Report

- **PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD approve the consent agenda as presented. Amy Davis seconded; all were in favor.

VIII. Upcoming Events

- NACD Midyear – August 9-14
- FCDEA Meeting – August 20
- Mind the Gaps Workshop – August 23
- Streamline Webinar – August 21
- Holiday – Office Closed – September 2
- FCDEA Annual Meeting – September 3-4
- Streamline Webinar – September 4
- MSWCD Monthly Meeting – September 9

IX. General Public Comments

X. Supervisor Comments

XI. Meeting Adjournment

- Our next meeting is September 9, 2024 at 9:30 AM in the Growth Services Building. With no other business needing addressed, Justin Albright, Public Relations, adjourned the meeting at 5:28PM, until our next meeting.