

Minutes

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)

Regular Board Meeting

2710 East Silver Springs Boulevard

Ocala, FL 34470

April 13, 2026

9:30 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 guidance for the structure of the meeting. Thank you.

With the new changes regarding open carry in the State of Florida, the District would like to remind those in attendance that that open carry is NOT permitted in Special District Meetings per Florida Statute 790.06(12)(A){7}.

1) Call to Order

a) Roll Call

1. Chairman, Vivi Serena, called the meeting to order at 9:52 AM.
2. Roll Call was taken. In attendance was Vivi Serena, Chairman; Justin Albright, Vice Chairman/Treasurer, and Lenora Deonath, Supervisor. Amy Davis, Secretary, was absent. Others in attendance were Jorge "George" De Jesus Rosado, NRCS, Ondine Wells, MC Extension, Rachael Tuck, MSWCD staff, Jordan Brantley, MSWCD intern, and Ann Bishop, MSWCD staff.

b) Proof of Publication

Proof of Publication was given. It appeared in the Ocala Gazette on December 25, 2025. The Florida Administrative Weekly, NRCS, and Marion County Board of County Commissioners received notice of the annual meetings on November 24. The meetings are also posted on the District's website, and the agenda was uploaded on April 6, 2026.

2) NRCS Report

Jorge "George" De Jesus Rosado gave an NRCS update. The Local Working Group will be on May 12, 1-2 PM, at NRCS Ocala Service Center.

3) FDACS Report

Ann Bishop gave a cost share update.

4) Outreach Programs

- a) Small Farmer Mini-Conference
The Small Farmer Mini-Conference was cancelled.
- b) Summer Camp (Tabled)
Ondine Wells provided information on the Summer Camp that will be June 1-5.
PROPOSED MOTION: Justin Albright moved that MSWCD approve staff to assist with the Summer Camp. Lenora Deonath seconded; all were in favor.
- c) Buzz & Bloom (Update)
Rachael Tuck and Ann Bishop gave an update on Buzz & Bloom, which is scheduled on April 18 from 10 AM-2 PM in Dunnellon at Rainbow River State Park.
- d) Library Summer Series (Update)
Ann Bishop gave an update on the Library Summer Series, "The Story Beneath", which will be July 21 at Belleview Library.
- e) Well Workshop (Recap/Update)
Jordan Brantley gave an update and a recap on the well workshops. Ten to fifteen attended the first one in Rainbow Lake Estates. The next workshop will be at Belleview Library on May 7.
- f) Marion County Days (Recap)
Justin Brantley, Rachael Tuck and Ann Bishop gave a recap on the Marion County Days.

5) Meetings

- a) Ag Policy Outlook Conference
- b) Urban Landscape Summit
- c) MCBCC April 21 Meeting
MSWCD will be presented with a Proclamation for Stewardship Week; Ann Bishop will also be presented with her service award.
- d) MSWCD June Meeting
The FASD Conference conflicts with the MSWCD June Board Meeting.
- e) IAAP Virtual Conference
IAAP Summit was discussed.
PROPOSED MOTION: Justin Albright moved that MSWCD cancel the June MSWCD Board Meeting and approve staff or supervisors to attend the Ag Policy Outlook Conference, Urban Landscape Summit, and the IAAP Virtual Summit. Lenora Deonath seconded; all were in favor.

6) Plan (Review)

The Board reviewed the plans and the quarterly report.

- a) Strategic Plan
- b) Long Range Plan

- c) Bylaws
- d) Quarterly Report
PROPOSED MOTION: Justin Albright moved that MSWCD approve the quarterly report as presented. Lenora Deonath seconded; all were in favor.

7) Financials (Recap)

Ann Bishop gave a recap on all the financials.

- a) CD Renewal
- b) Audit
- c) Auditor General
- d) MCBCC Budget

The MC Budget Workshop will be held on July 16. Rachael Tuck is working on the Year-in-Review and should have it for review at the next board meeting.

8) Staff Report & Recap

Ann Bishop gave the staff report.

- a) FASD Legislation (Recap)
- b) AFCD Membership
- c) Scholarship
- d) Election Qualifications

May 11 is the election qualification, petition deadline. All the supervisors will need to requalify.

- e) Miscellaneous

PROPOSED MOTION: Justin Albright moved that MSWCD allow staff or supervisor to participate in the Rainbow River Cleanup on May 16. Lenora Deonath seconded; all were in favor.

The Board reviewed the well workshop evaluations and contest thank you letters. Fixit still has the printer, and we are waiting for it to be returned. The ADA deadline is April 27. Ann Bishop is scheduled to take the DMS Certified Manager Course in June. The 501c3 was approved to take donations, and Ann Bishop will send the proposal to Busy Shires.

9) CONSENT AGENDA

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

PROPOSED MOTION: Justin Albright moved that MSWCD approve the consent agenda as presented. Lenora Deonath seconded; all were in favor.

10) Upcoming Events

The Board reviewed the events. Ann Bishop mentioned that May 16: Rainbow River Cleanup should be attended.

MSWCD Monthly Meeting – April 13

SJRWMD Water Conservation Coordinator Meeting – April 15

Small Farm Mini-Conference – April 15

FL Ag Policy Outlook Conference – April 16

Buzz & Bloom – April 18

501c3 Report Due – April 20

Urban Landscape Summit – April 21-22

ADA Deadline – April 24

FCDEA Annual Meeting – April 27-28

Employer Tax Due – April 30

Preferred Education Day – May 4-5

Belleview Well Workshop – May 7

MSWCD Monthly Meeting – May 11

Qualification Petitions Due – May 11

Local Working Group – May 12

Rainbow River Cleanup – May 16

Corridor Connect – May 20

FCDEA Monthly Meeting – May 18

FASD Annual Conference – June 7-11

11) General Public Comments

12) Supervisor Comments

Justin Albright stated that he is attending a conference next Wednesday regarding a power plant zoning opportunity, and they might have information for ag participation in this program; if available, he will get this information for distribution.

13) Meeting Adjournment

The next meeting is May 11, 2026, at 9:30 AM in the Growth Services Building.

With no other business needing addressed Vivi Serena, Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 10:12 AM, until our next meeting.

MSWCD's regular meetings are held at 9:30 AM on the 2nd Monday each month, and their workshops are held on the 4th Monday each month at 9:30 AM, tentatively. Both meetings are in Growth Services, located at 2710 E. Silver Springs, Ocala, FL 34470. For more information, call (352) 438-2475.