

# Minutes

Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)

Regular Board Meeting

2710 East Silver Springs Boulevard

Ocala, FL 34470

January 13, 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 9:06 AM.
2. Roll Call was taken. In attendance was Vivi Serena, Chairman/Treasurer; Justin Albright, Public Relations; and Colleen Stenstream, Supervisor. Amy Davis, Supervisor, was not in attendance. Others in attendance were Sierra Ayers, NRCS (arrived at 9:30 AM); Ann Bishop, MSWCD; Stefani Duarte, MSWCD; Julianna Butler, Citizen; and Suzanne Butler, Citizen.

### b) Proof of Publication

3. Proof of Publication was given. It appeared in the Ocala Gazette on October 4, 2024. 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 January 6, 2025.

## 2) Julianna Butler's Speech

Julianna Butler presented her speech to the Board; Vivi Serena presented her with her awards for essay and speech.

## 3) NRCS Report

Sierra Ayers gave the NRCS Report.

## 4) FDACS Report

Amendment: The Board was presented with the FDACS amendment for review.

## 5) Officer and Committee Selections

The Board discussed the vacancy, officer and committee selections.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved to appoint Vivi Serena as MSWCD Chairman; Justin Albright as MSWCD Vice-Chairman/Treasurer; Amy Davis as MSWCD Public Relations Representative; and the entire Board to serve as the Committee for the Contests and Award Representation. Justin Albright seconded; all were in favor.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that Colleen Stenstream be appointed as MSWCD Secretary. Colleen Stenstream seconded; all were in favor.

## 6) Staff Report & Recap

### Outreach

#### i) SpringsFest (Update)

Stefani Duarte will reach out again to the State since they have not responded with any updates.

#### ii) SWCS Event/Emerging Leaders Program (Update)

Stefani Duarte gave an update. The event will be called Buzz and Bloom Day: A Pollinator Celebration and will be held on March 8 from 10 AM – 1PM.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that MSWCD support the SWCS Outreach Event by purchasing t-shirts and supplies not to exceed \$250 from non-reimbursables. Colleen Stenstream seconded; all were in favor.

#### iii) Contests

The Board all agreed not to hold an awards ceremony this year. Stefani Duarte gave an update and stated that she will reach out to the teachers regarding their winners. Ann Bishop mentioned that we might want to forgo the Speech and Essay contests since we have no participation. It was suggested maybe to offer an additional contest like a public announcement with the theme; the Board all agreed.

##### a) Posters (Recap)

*We had 27 posters this year.*

##### b) Found Art (Recap)

*We had 38 found art entries.*

##### c) Speech (Recap)

*We only had one entry.*

##### d) Essays (Recap)

*We only had one entry.*

##### e) Conservation Landscape Trays (Update)

*We had 42 registrations for the Conservation Landscape Tray contest. Justin Albright, Sierra Ayers, and Vivi Serena stated that they will volunteer to judge on February 19.*

##### f) Envirothon (Update)

*The Envirothon will be held on January 21 at Rainbow River County Park. We have 38 students, from Forest, FFA, 4-H and Belleview, and 18 volunteers. The event will be from 9:30 AM to 1 PM.*

iv) Library Programs (Tabled from last meeting)

- a) *Adult Composting*
- b) *Kids Summer Program*
- c) *Seed Library, April 19*

**Colleen Stenstream asked to table the library programs until the March meeting when the Board can learn more about the funding requirements. All agreed.**

Stefani Duarte will reach out to the library to see what expenses might be procured with these programs.

v) Run for the Springs

*Stormwater increased the fees for the third magnitude sponsorship to \$200; Vivi Serena approved the additional cost.*

vi) Farmland Preservation

*The event will be held on April 12, 2025 at Stirrups and Strides Facility on CR318.*

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that MSWCD participate in the Farmland Preservation. Colleen seconded; all were in favor.

b) Meetings

i) SJRWMD Land Management Review (Recap)

Stefani Duarte gave a recap of the land management review of the Ocklawaha Restoration Area.

ii) FASD Meetings

a) *January (Recap)*

Ann Bishop can a recap of the FASD Meeting and Administrative Professional Certification Training.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD allow staff to apply for the District Office Manager Certification and the scholarship, if applicable. Justin Albright seconded; all were in favor.

b) *March (Legislative)*

FASD will be holding a legislature forum in March and a certification course. The forum is in Tallahassee from March 25 to 26 and the certification training will be the 24 to 28.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** Justin Albright moved that MSWCD allow Ann Bishop and Stefani Duarte to attend the March FASD Legislative Forum. Colleen Stenstream seconded; all were in favor.

c) *June (Annual)*

The FASD Annual Meeting will be held in Charlotte Harbor from June 16-19. Ethics and additional training will be held at this meeting. FASD will also present the Certification for those who attended their certification courses.

**Colleen Stenstream asked to table attending the June, FASD Annual Meeting. All agreed.**

d) *October*

The October, Quarterly FASD Training is in Sandestin on the 9 and 10. Certification training will be held October 6 to 10.

iii) NACD Meeting

*Ann Bishop reminded the Board about the NACD Meeting that will be held in February.*

iv) Rainbow River Conservation Board Meeting

*The meeting will be held on February 17, located at 19330 SW 83 Place, Dunnellon from 7 to 8 PM.*

**PROPOSED MOTION:** *Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD allow staff to attend the Rainbow River Conservation Board Meeting. Justin Albright seconded; all were in favor.*

v) MSWCD "February" Meeting (Tabled from last meeting)

**PROPOSED MOTION:** *Colleen Stenstream moved that MSWCD cancel their February 10, 2025 monthly meeting. Justin Albright seconded; all were in favor.*

c) Miscellaneous

i) Printer

*The Board called John of Fixitek at 10:16 AM and held a discussion about printer(s).*

## 7) CONSENT AGENDA

a) MSWCD Board Minutes

b) MSWCD Board Financial Report

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

## 8) Upcoming Events

a) Sales Use Tax Due – January 15

b) NSF Workforce Meeting – January 17

c) Envirothon – January 21

d) FCDEA Meeting – January 21

e) Federal Taxes Due – January 31

f) FDACS Spreadsheet Due – February 7

g) NACD Annual Meeting – February 7-12

h) Marion SWCD Meeting – February 10

i) Federal Taxes Due IRS – February 15

i) SEYF Tray Drop Off – February 18

j) SEYF Tray Judging – February 19

k) Run for the Springs – February 22

l) SEYF Award Best in Show – February 24

- m) SEYF Tray Pick Up – March 1
- n) SpringsFest – March 1-9
- o) FDACS Spreadsheet Due – March 7
- p) Marion SWCD Meeting – March 10
- q) 990 N Due – March 15
- r) FCDEA Meeting – March 18
- s) CD Matures – March 21

## 9) General Public Comments

## 10) Supervisor Comments

## 11) Meeting Adjournment

- a) With no other business needing addressed Vivi Serena, Chairman, adjourned the meeting at 10:23 AM, until our next meeting.
- b) Our next meeting is March 10, 2025 at 9:00 AM in the Growth Services Building.

*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.*