

# Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors \* District Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, October 23, 2019 @ 4:30 pm  
Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District Office  
201 South Collins Street, Suite 202  
Plant City Florida 33563



## AGENDA

### CALL TO ORDER

Introduce Board Members and the Public – *Public Comment*  
Minutes of August 21 2019 – *Chairman Mark Proctor*  
Treasurer’s Report - *Treasurer Susan Dumke*  
Presentation by Hillsborough County Attorney Rudy Haidermota  
NRCS Report – *Diana Avellanet-Echevarria, District Conservationist*  
Agribusiness Development – *Simon Bollin, Agribusiness Development Manager*  
SWFWMD Ag Team Update- *Jeff Whealton, Sr. Environmental Scientist*  
SWFWMD Farms Program Update – *Matt Vinzant, Project Manager*  
FDACS Update – *Lisa Strange, Environmental Specialist III*  
Request for Non-Agenda Items – *Chairman Mark Proctor*

### BUSINESS

- Introduction of new Ag Technician Bailey Buchanon – *Betty Jo Tompkins*
- Update on Education Programs – *Betty Jo Tompkins*
  - Results of Summer Poster Contest- “We Love Pollinators” – 27 entries
  - 2019-2020 HSWCD Youth Programs – Ag Venture, Poster and Speech Contests, Land Judging and Envirothon
- Director’s Report, review of Overall Programs- *Betty Jo Tompkins*
  - Hillsborough County Fair – October 17 – 20, 2019 & October 24 – 27, 2019  
Exhibit in main Fair Building promoting HSWCD programs, projects & activities throughout Fair.  
Harvest Awards – October 17, 2019 – Attended by Chairman Proctor, Treasurer Dumke, Director Tompkins and Staff McGee. Nominee Dennis Carlton, Jr. honored as Young Farmer winner.
  - HSWCD Plant Auction – Originally scheduled for Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, moved to Sunday, October 20, 2019 due to weather conditions.  
Sold 196 lots of plants and allied plant materials in live Auction, plus silent Auction and direct plant sales.  
Raised in excess of \$4,200. in Auctions. Final figure to be provided at December Board meeting.  
HSWCD participants: Chairman Proctor; Vice-Chair Hepburn; Treasurer Dumke; Supervisor Eckdahl; Director Tompkins; Staff McGee, plus terrific volunteers! Auctioneer : Don Kirkland.  
Sent donation request letters, follow-up letters with tickets to donors, letters to invite buyers, etc.  
Full page feature promoting Auction in “In the Field” magazine.  
Final follow-up letter to be sent to donors with event results.

- Legislative participation in Farm Bureau Day in Tallahassee – December 10, 2019
  - Continued coordination with Farm Bureau in Legislative event through FCDEA to highlight agriculture and Conservation issues before the Legislature.
  - Participants to include FCDEA members and District Supervisors.
  - Event to be held during committee week (prior to session beginning in January) and consist of a breakfast, Legislative update, meetings with Legislators and HSWCD exhibit.
- FCDEA
  - Tallahassee Legislative Trip -Listed above
  - Mid-year meeting – March 1-2, 2020 in conjunction with Florida Strawberry Festival
  - Monthly teleconferences
- Lipman Garden Challenge – October – January 2020
  - Contacted schools and groups for potential participation, including multiple presentations.
  - 25 groups have accepted this year's Challenge (compared to 12 in 2017; 16 in 2018). This year's participating groups include school ag programs, science clubs, ESE classes and 4-H Clubs.
  - Distribution of planter boxes and gift cards completed. Transplants to be delivered later this month.
- FDACS
  - Attended FDACS Stakeholders Meeting, Florida Farm Bureau, Gainesville – August 28, 2019
- AFCD
  - Attended AFCD State Board – Chiefland – October 4, 2019
- Hillsborough County Farm Bureau
  - HSWCD Participated in HCFB Annual Meeting - October 3, 2019 with Supervisor/Staff attending, exhibit and gift basket donation.
- Public Records Request
  - Filed by Charlene Meeks (Executive Director of AFCD) as a private citizen against HSWCD (Director Tompkins), as well as two state Area Vice Presidents. Request covered emails, text messages, printed materials, audio recordings, etc. from 2016 – 2019. Considerable time was spent on this extensive request by Director Tompkins and County Attorneys Haidermota and DeSantis. After majority of the work was completed, Ms. Meeks withdrew the balance of request.
- Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge Kickoff Luncheon – November 14, 2019
  - Continued work on all aspects of Challenge Luncheon, including awards, menu, invitations and program.
  - Worked on potential projects for groups to participate in during 2020 Challenge.
- Other Activities
  - Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce
  - Greater Plant City Chamber of Commerce, including HSWCD exhibit at Chamber Luncheon
  - Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce
  - Community Roundtable of Brandon (presentation regarding Plant Auction, other HSWCD programs)
  - Tampa Bay Bee Keepers (presentation)
  - Hillsborough County 4-H Foundation; Presentations on HSWCD programs to 4-H club leaders;
  - Hillsborough Republican Party Executive Committee (promoting Plant Auction, etc.)
  - Rotary Club of Brandon South Global
  - County 4-H Open House, GS Fest and Roundtable student night (promoted programs)