

Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors * District Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2023 @ 4:30 pm
Florida Strawberry Growers Association
13138 Lewis Gallagher Road
Dover, Florida 33527



AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

- Introduce Board Members and the Public – *Public Comment*
- Procedural Review – *Mary Helen Farris, Hillsborough County Attorney*
- Minutes of December 21, 2022, Board Meeting – *Chairman Mark Proctor*
- Election of Officers = *Board*
- Meetings – *Frequency, Location, Day of Week, Time*
- Financial Report - *Treasurer*
- FDACS Update - *Matt Warren, Environmental Manager*
- SWFWMD Farms Program – *Jeff Whealton, Ken Griner, Thomas Stevens*
- Agribusiness Development Report - *Simon Bollin, Agribusiness Development Manager*
- NRCS District/Area/State Report – *Leslie Diaz-Alvarez, District Conservationist and Walter Albarran, Area Conservationist*
- Introduction of 4-H Extension Agent – *Amber Norris*
- Request for Non-Agenda Items – *Chairman, Mark Proctor*

BUSINESS

- 2022 HSWCD Year in Review (*PowerPoint and Notebooks*)
- Update on Legislative Issues: Director Tompkins working with Hillsborough Delegation members to craft a local bill to correct deficiency in SB 1078 requiring Hills. Co. to use unequal school board geographic districts for HSWCD Supervisor seats; review 2023 bill to prohibit hostile foreign entities from purchasing land in Florida; 2023 legislative session opens March 7, 2023, with Farm Bureau Day at the Capitol on March 8, 2023. HSWCD will participate in breakfast, briefings, legislative meetings and will have tent with Hillsborough food samples at the Taste of Florida evening event. Federal Issue: EPA Proposal to remove strawberries from the Thiram approved list, awaiting report from EPC.
- AFCD – The 2023 State meeting is now scheduled for February 6 – 8, 2023 at Hotel Indigo at Celebration in Gainesville. Attending will be Supervisors Gill, Morris, Proctor and Director Tompkins; Final agenda not yet available; Tompkins to present breakout session on potential funding sources for SWCDs throughout the state.
- Education Programs
 - *Ag Venture – presented pollinator program at Fall 2022 Ag Venture at Florida State Fairgrounds, October 25 – 28 and October 31 – November 4, 2022, with over 2,600 3rd grade students participating. HSWCD theme was “Bees, Bats, Birds, Butterflies, Our Perfect Pollinators”. HSWCD will participate in Spring Ag Venture April 18 – 21, 2023.
 - * 2023 NACD Poster Contest underway, with theme “One Water”. District contest open until April 28, 2023
 - *Envirothon – HSWCD hosted 2023 event will be open to public, parochial, private, charter and virtual students from Hillsborough and Pinellas counties.

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* Mini-Grants – Applications open for 2023 mini-grant awards (up to 8 at \$250.00 each for youth conservation programs, projects, and activities). Program open to K-12 students (minimum 4 students with 1 adult) enrolled in public, private, parochial, charter, home or virtual school programs in Hillsborough County, including school classes, youth organizations and church groups.

* Scholarship Program – Applications open for the Michael Hepburn Memorial Scholarship and Roy Gene Davis scholarship (\$1,000. each). Eligible students must be junior or senior in high school or first year post secondary education during 2022 – 2023 school year and planning to pursue a career in agriculture, conservation or environmental sciences.

*Land Judging – HSWCD Land Judging contest will be a training opportunity, rather than contest, allowing all teams that desire to go to state competition March 31, 2023.

*Mailings to ag teachers, 4-H, Scouts, science and art teachers and others regarding all 2023 contests, as well as mii-grants and scholarships.

Director's Report, review of Overall Programs – Betty Jo Tompkins

*Review of Supervisors' activities' checklist January –March 2023

* Florida State Fair – February 9 – 20, 2023 – HSWCD to have complimentary exhibit area, educational stations and will serve food as part of the opening day “Fresh From Florida” breakfast. Supervisors /staff to participate in breakfast, Governor's Lunch, Ag Hall of Fame Dinner and Champion of Champions Dinner.

* Florida Strawberry Festival –March 2 – 12, 2023 – HSWCD to participate with complimentary space in Grimes Building. Supervisors/staff to participate in Farm Credit Breakfast and Grand Parade Luncheon.

* Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge – April 16 - May 7, 2023. Challenge will include programs, projects and activities supported by businesses, civic clubs, churches, educational institutions and schools, governmental entities, and others. Special events will include annual Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge Kickoff Luncheon and the publishing of the annual newspaper tabloid in the Tampa Bay Times.

*NACD Urban and Community Grants – Resolution in support of grant application

* Julia Mosley historic homestead in Brandon – Board of trustees (including president Proctor and secretary Tompkins), Hillsborough County, University of South Florida and Tampa History Museum are collaborating to protect and promote this historical treasure. Agricultural and conservation components are planned for the site. January 2023 Tompkins secured bee hives donated by Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association in conjunction with planned butterfly and vegetable gardens.

* FCDEA – Participated in monthly meetings, etc.

* Coalition of Community Gardens – Continued participation.

*Hillsborough County 4-H Foundation – Participated in Board meetings, events, etc.

*Center Place Board and Community Roundtable Board - participated in Board meetings, events, etc.

* Wrote articles for INF (In The Field) magazine.

* Rotary Brandon Global ECO and Rotary ESRAG – Participated in numerous conservation programs.

* Other – Greater Plant City Chamber Ag Com, Greater Riverview Chamber, Tampa Bay Beekeepers

➤ Public Correspondence, Upcoming Events, Announcements

➤ Next Board Meeting – To be set. Guest Speaker – Stephanie Conrad, *President, Youth Leaders in Production Agriculture*

➤ Adjournment

➤ Dinner

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- * January 18, 2023 – 4:30 pm – HSWCD Board Meeting – Florida Strawberry Growers Assn.
- * February 6 –8, 2023 – AFCD Annual Meeting- Hotel Indigo at Celebration - Gainesville
- * February 9 – 20, 2023 – Florida State Fair – HSWCD exhibit - Tampa
- * February 9, 2023 – 7:30am - Fresh from Florida Breakfast (HSWCD providing food samples)
- * Governor’s Lunch – 11 am – Florida State Fair
- * February 11 – 15, 2023 – NACD Annual Meeting – New Orleans
- * February 13, 2023 – Woman of the Year in Ag Luncheon
- * February 14, 2023 – Ag Hall of Fame Dinner – Florida State Fair
- * February 20, 2023 – Champion of Champions Dinner – State Fair
- * March 2 -12, 2023 – Florida Strawberry Festival – HSWCD Exhibit – Plant City
- * March 6, 2023 – Farm Credit Breakfast and Grand Parade Luncheon
- * March 7 – May 5, 2023 – 2023 Florida Legislative Session
- * March 8, 2023 – Farm Bureau Day at the Capitol - day and evening events.
- * March 25 -26, 2023 – GreenFest 2023 – HSWCD exhibit – Tampa
- * April 16 – May 7, 2023 – Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge
- * April 18 – 21. 2023 – Spring AgVenture / HSWCD Presenter – Florida State Fairgrounds
- * April 22 – Earth Day
- * April 30 – May 7, 2023 – National Soil Stewardship Week
- * May 4, 2023 – EPC Clean Air Fair -/ HSWCD Exhibit – Tampa



Thanks for your commitment to conservation and our Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District....Leading for Tomorrow! Betty Jo Tompkins