

# Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District

## Meeting Minutes

Oct 4, 2023

### Supervisors in Attendance

Ryan Gill– Chair, Supervisor  
Chris McCullough – Supervisor  
Myke Morris- Treasurer, Supervisor  
Adam Young - Vice Chair, Supervisor

### Others in Attendance

Heather Thompson - Interim Executive Director HSWCD  
Kathy Eckdahl – HSWCD Adm Asst III to Director  
Linda Chion - HSWCD/PT Computer graphics  
Greg Hearing - Counsel for HSWCD Board  
Kamila Colon-Reyes- NRCS Soil Conservationist  
Stephanie Collins - attendee  
Betty Jo Tompkins - attendee

### Call to Order

GILL, chair, called meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

### MINUTES

Minutes of the July 26, 2023 Board meeting were reviewed.  
MORRIS moved to accept minutes. McCULLOGH seconded. Motion passed.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

MORRIS, treasurer, reviewed bank balances:.

• General bank account	\$1,531.08	Balance as of Aug 31, 2023
• Hillsborough 100 account	\$2,342.46	Balance as of Aug 31, 2023
• Mini-Farms account	\$61,862.54	Balance as of Aug 31, 2023
• Envirothon	\$415.75	Balance as of Aug 31, 2023

MORRIS moved to file and accept the financial report for audit. YOUNG seconded. Motion passed.

### BUSINESS

#### NRCS REPORT

COLON-REYES reported NRCS 315 contracts in Area 3 just under 17 million dollars. 129 Hurricane Ian contracts, 83 CSP contracts, 202 EQUIP contracts and 1 CSP contract. Deadline to apply for this year's EQUIP/CSP application is in November. New budget year is coming soon.

## **SWFWMD**

GRINER, WHEALTON, & STEVENS - no report at this time.

## **FDACS**

WARREN - no report at this time.

## **AGRIBUSINESS REPORT**

BOLLIN - - no report at this time.

## **REQUEST FOR NON AGENDA ITEMS**

MORRIS commented on website concerns. GILL, THOMSON, MORIS commented. THOMSON reported that the county will have a website for HSWCD.

## **BUSINESS**

- Director's Report
  - Office space secured. Move in planned for October.
  - New office address: 4503 Coronet Rd, Plant City, FL
  - Goal to be all moved in by November 1, 2023.
  - Office furniture selected and to be delivered in October.
  - IT will be setting up the new office in October.
  - TECO is sponsoring our new office building with solar power.
  - Producers to help with outside planned space included in our new office space.
  - Staff continues to work on Hillsborough 100 Challenge
  - Meeting with various organizations
    - Chamber events, State of FL Ag Commissioner Simpson, Lunch & Learn, Budget meetings, Salute to Ag, FFA, Park Clean Up, Tree Planting, Gardenfest, Ag Venture
- Bank needs to be changed due to ACH issues. MORRIS moved to move all HSWCD accounts to a local bank that allows ACH transactions. McCULLOUGH seconded. GILL, McCULLOUGH, MORRIS, THOMPSON commented. Motion amended to include MORRIS and Executive Director make decision on choice of local bank. Amendment Motion passed. Motion passed.
- Education program tabled.
- Update on Executive Director search. GILL gave a summary of the process and the selection process of the top 5 candidates. McCULLOUGH, GILL, MORRIS, YOUNG, HEARING commented. PROCTOR will be consulted by HEARING as to his top five choices. The top five were chosen by the supervisor at the meeting. Final list will be completed and final candidates will be notified when the interview will take place. GILL will contact the county for next steps. MORRIS, GILL, YOUNG, McCULLOUGH, and HEARING commented. County HR will continue the hiring process.
- Announcements: none at this time

- Upcoming Events:
  - Lunch & Learn Jan 22 at Keel and Curley
  - Regional meeting coming up, THOMPSON has been invited to present the Lunch and Learn concept. MORRIS, GILL, YOUNG, McCULLOUGH, and THOMPSON commented. YOUNG moved that the chair will gather more information on the Executive Directors trip to the Regional Meeting in Tennessee. McCULLOUGH seconded. Motion passed.
- Announcements from HEARING.
  - Leaving his current firm to start a smaller firm. MORRIS requested a formal letter to be sent to Hillsborough County to request HEARING continue as our counsel. YOUNG seconded. Motion passed.
  - Attorney General responded to our inquiry about supervisor residency. Determined it is a local issue.
  - County Commissions received anonymous complaints. No response will be given by HSWCD or the county. MORRIS, GILL, YOUNG, and HEARING commented.
  - Emails received by HEARING from THOMPSONS. HEARING, THOMPSONS, MORRIS, GILL commented.

Next Board Meeting: November 1, 2023 @ 1 pm at Ag Extension Office.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**