

Meeting of the Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors

November 16, 2023 at 8AM at Hillsborough UF/IFAS Extension Office

In attendance: Ryan Gill, Chair, Supervisor District 2; Myke Morris, Treasurer, Supervisor District 4; Mark Proctor, Supervisor District 5; Tom Gonzalez, County Attorney; Heather Thompson, HSWCD Interim Executive Director; Linda Chion, HSWCD Graphics Designer; Melissa Jackson, HSWCD Community Outreach

On Zoom: Christopher “Bear” McCollough, Supervisor District 1, Tom

Chair Gill called the meeting to order at 8:12 AM, had everyone introduce him/herself, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. There was no public comment.

Treasurer Morris presented an update on bank information. HSWCD will not be changing banks- as ACH deposits, required by FDACS, can be done at South State Bank. There is no charge for up to 20 ACH payments in a month.

Morris stated IT wants in our new office space but has not been able to reach anyone so he will take charge of getting IT into our building.

Chair Gill called for a vote for selection of Executive Director. There was discussion of an unanimous vote to show support for the new Executive Director. Chair Gill requested votes be recorded. Supervisors Gill, Morris, Proctor and McCollough voted to hire Dr. Joe Walsh. Morris made a motion that salary to be offered be \$80,000 and Proctor seconded. Board passed motion with 4-0 vote.

Proctor asked for a letter to be placed in Interim Executive Director Thompson’s file thanking her for her services. Morris made a motion to Thompson terminated and to turn in all County items: motion failed as there was no second.

Employee Chion noted that public records need to be addressed and properly stored. Discussion ensued about what documents might be stored in what locations. Attorney Gonzalez tasked Treasurer Morris to connect with former Executive Director and collect all official documents currently in her possession. If Morris is unable to reach the former ED, then Gonzalez will pursue retrieving any documents.

Chair Gill will contact HR to send offer to Dr. Walsh. Employee Jackson asked Chair about status of HSWCD Tech position and Chair will speak to HR about moving forward with posting this job.

Discussion about website. Chair Gill said AFCD site will be done this week.

Morris made a motion that Chair Gill can call a Board meeting of HSWCD at his discretion. Proctor seconded and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.