

# **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: 11/14/2016

Meeting Location: Bert Harris Center, Conference Room III  
Sebring, Florida

**FINAL - Approved December 20, 2016**

Recorded by: Susie Bishop

**MEETING LOCATION: BERT HARRIS CENTER, SEBRING, FL**  
**MEETING SCHEDULED START: 3:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER: @ 3:03 P.M.**

Name	Title	Organization	Present
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>			
Dr. John Causey	Chairman	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
Jackie Bailey	Vice Chair	Conservation District	N
Pamela Fentress	Secretary/Treasurer		Y
Scott Kirouac	Supervisor		Y
Doug Deen	Supervisor		Y
Steve Smith	Supervisor Elect		Y
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Commissioner Jim Brooks	Liaison	Highlands Co. Board of County Commissioners	Y
Susie Bishop	Executive Director	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
Drew Pitts	MIL Manager	Highlands Soil & Water	N
Jacob Miller	MIL Tech	Highlands Soil & Water	N
Dakota McCullers	BMP Tech	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
<u>Other Attendees:</u>			
Kayla Nickerson	Env. Spec. III	FDACS-OAWP	Y
Carlos Torres	District Conserv	USDA-NRCS	Y

### **PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT READ BY CHAIRMAN**

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

Dakota McCullers, newly hired BMP Technician, was introduced to the Board.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

a. Motion to approve agenda as presented (Fentress/Deen) Unanimous Approval.

**III. Approval of Minutes October 18, 2016**

a. Meeting Minutes - Motion to approve minutes as presented.(Kirouac/Fentress). Unanimous approval. Deen asked to have personal email addresses removed from BOS Contact list distributed at last month's meeting. Bishop will edit and re-distribute.

#### **IV. Financial Activity**

- a. Overview of Financial Reports - Bishop presented the bank reconciliation statements and financial reports for YTD for the current fiscal year.  
Motion made to approve the financials as presented (Kirouac/Deen)  
Unanimous approval.

#### **VI. Agency Partner Updates**

- a. NRCS - Torres announced deadlines for applications for NRCS programs. A report from the Local Working Group meeting has been submitted to the State NRCS office and Bishop will present the outcome of the meeting to the State Advisory Committee Meeting on Nov. 15 in Gainesville.
- b. FDACS - Nickerson reported workshops have been held in multiple locations in an effort to promote the Citrus Re-Establishment program. The contract is for \$5.5 million and only about \$1.5 million has been allocated, so more applications are critically needed. Discussion about the details of the program took place with the point being made that irrigation needs to be in place by June 30, 2107, but the trees don't have to be planted, but definitely ordered by June 30, 2017.  
The third FCO contract has been executed in the amount of \$6 million, the current AgNPS Contract is allocated at about 50% of total amount. The Okeechobee office is still seeking to fill a ES II or ES III position.
- c. MIL - Bishop reported the MIL Evaluations are ahead of required amount and have also completed two well calibrations this quarter. She reported Drew Pitts was recently elected as the Chairman of the MIL Staff State-wide Committee.
- d. County Extension - No Report

#### **VII. Old Business**

- a. Lake McCoy Project - Fentress reported the design is 100% completed and construction should start soon. And ALL the agreements have been fully executed between FDOT, SWFWMD and Highlands County. Fentress will continue to keep the property owners updated of the status of the project.

#### **VIII. New Business**

- a. 2016-17 Board Meeting Schedule - Proposed calendar was distributed with the change to the January meeting date. The February meeting needs to be edited to read Tuesday, rather than Thursday. Bishop will correct and re-distribute.
- b. Contribution Request - S. Kirouac requested a contribution from the District for the Ag Angels program. Discussion about the program took place. Motion to contribute \$1000.00 to Ag Angels was made (Deen/Fentress). Unanimous approval with Kirouac abstaining due to conflict.
- c. Annual Report - Bishop distributed and presented the Annual Report with no questions being asked. She will complete the meetings with the County Commissioners and Administration within the month. Copies were also submitted to FDACS-OAWP.

#### **IX. Executive Director's Report**

Bishop distributed the Lake Watch Volunteer Luncheon invitation and a thank you note from LPMS - FFA Chapter for the contribution. A photo and quote for the proposed highway sign from a vendor in Lake Placid was distributed and discussed. Motion made to increase the budget for the highway sign to \$ 630.00 (Fentress/Kirouac). Bishop will seek approval from the County and will order sign.

Dr. Causey and Bishop presented a request for a letter of support for Curae Health Systems to purchase the lease of Highlands Regional Medical Center. The company is non-profit and is purchasing rural hospitals. Discussion took place with Commissioner Brooks explaining the operation of the hospital district board in the county. Motion made to submit the letter of support (Deen/Kirouac). Unanimous approval.

**X. Citizens Not on the Agenda**

None

**XI. Supervisor Comments**

Deen - None

Kirouac - None

S. Smith - None

Fentress - Announced news from FSA office and the interviews that will be taking place for new staff. Fentress will be rolling off of the County Committee soon.

Causey - None

Commissioner Brooks - Lake Level Meetings of the SWFWMD were announced.

Meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

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**John Causey, Chairman**

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**Pamela Fentress, Secretary**

### POST MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Action	Assigned To	Deadline
Edit Board of Supervisor Contact List & Meeting Schedule	S. Bishop	Dec. 20, 2016
Seek Approval for Highway Sign & Order Sign	S. Bishop	Nov. 30, 2016
Submit Letter of Support of Curae Health to USDA	S. Bishop	Nov. 15, 2016
Attend and Present to the USDA-NRCS State Technical Advisory Committee	S. Bishop	Nov. 15, 2016
Conduct annual one on one meetings with the Board of County Commissioners & Administration	S. Bishop	Nov. 30, 2016
Partner with Highlands County Extension & Highlands County Citrus Growers to organize, advertise and facilitate a follow up Soil Testing Workshop & a Soil Moisture Probe Workshop	S. Bishop	Dec. 31, 2016
Continue to monitor/facilitate the FECLOG & NRCS work on PL566 structure	S. Bishop	Ongoing
Outreach for MIL	S. Bishop & D. Pitts	Ongoing

