

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 3/21/2017

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

FINAL - Approved 4/25/2017

Recorded by: Susie Bishop

MEETING LOCATION: BERT HARRIS CENTER, SEBRING, FL
MEETING SCHEDULED START: 3:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER: @ 3:06 P.M.

Name	Title	Organization	Present
ATTENDANCE			
Scott Kirouac	Chairman	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
Dr. John Causey	Vice-Chairman	Conservation District	Y
Doug Deen	Secretary/Treasurer		Y
Pamela Fentress	Supervisor		Y
Steve Smith	Supervisor		N
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	Y
Carlos Torres	District Conserva.	USDA-NRCS	Y
<u>Other Attendees:</u> Vanessa Bessey	Env. Administrator	FDACS-OAWP	N

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT READ BY CHAIRMAN

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Approval of Agenda

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

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Motion to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on Feb. 21, 2017 (Fentress/Causey). Unanimous Approval.

IV . Financial Activity

- a. Overview of Financial Reports - Bishop presented the bank reconciliations and

financial reports. A few items were discussed on the bank reconciliations. Bishop will research and email findings. Discussion on the Budget to Actual report took place. Motion to approve the financial reports as presented (Causey/Deen). Unanimous approval. Bishop shared Mr. Youngman has expressed he probably won't proceed with his request for the Ag project at LPHS. Kirouac will reach out to Youngman to determine if the request is still on the table.

V. Agency Partner Updates

- a. NRCS - Torres presented the USDA Civil Rights policy to the Board. He announced the NRCS programs are ongoing with applications for the 2018 EQIP & CSP being accepted now. The 2017 applications are in the ranking process. .
- b. FDACS - In the absence of a FDACS employee Bishop reported the draft rule for for BMP Cost Share was distributed for review. Bishop and E. Thomas provided comments on the draft. She announced a FDACS meeting being held on April 18-19 that she, E.Thomas, & D. McCullers will attend.
- c. MIL - Pitts reported 30 of the required 30 evaluations for the quarter are completed. He presented and explained a water savings report from the re-evaluations he has completed this quarter. Bishop & Pitts discussed with the Board the expected increase in work load due to requirement of an evaluation of every system put in a grove through the Citrus Re-Establishment Contract. Bishop is working with Tallahassee FDACS office to establish how these evaluations will work.
- d. County Extension - No report

VI. Old Business

- a. Lake McCoy Project - No update
- b. AFCD Area IV Meeting - Bishop asked for RSVPs for the April 13 meeting. Bishop, Kirouac & Causey will attend.

VII. New Business

- a. Warner Scholarship - Bishop confirmed the Board desires to continue the scholarships. Motion made to distribute scholarships in the same amounts to Warner Southern and South Florida State College as last year (Causey/Fentress). Unanimous approval.
- b. Southeast Region NACD Annual Meeting - Bishop gave dates and location for informational purposes in the event some of the Supervisors want to plan on attending and/or sending Bishop.

VIII. Executive Director's Report -

- City of Avon Park Mitigation Inspection has been completed. A new US Fish & Wildlife Staff person will receive the report.
- Bishop distributed a list of the new Agriculture Deputies for informational purposes.
- The list of items given to Bishop at last month's meeting was taken to FDACS to inquire if HSWCD could create and distribute a similar one. FDACs said no.
- Bishop reported on the success of the Land Judging Contest thanking Buck Island Ranch, NRCS Staff & Lew Carter for the huge contributions they make to this event. There will teams and individuals from Avon Park High School & Avon Park Middle School competing in the state contest.

- Bishop reminded the Board the speech contest is today at 5:30 p.m. and announced the date of the Area IV Contest - April 11, 2017 in Lorida.
- Bishop requested a change in the April BOS meeting date due to conflict with the FDACS meeting she needs to attend. The April meeting will be held on Monday, April 17 at 3:00 p.m.

IX. Citizens Not on the Agenda

None

X. Supervisor Comments

Causey - Having recently attended a Safety meeting in DeSoto County, Causey shared the variety of offerings at this event and the large attendance. He explained the value in HSWCD sponsoring one of these in Highlands County. Board discussed and concurred to have Bishop proceed with planning a similar event working with IFAS-Extension staff.

Fentress - None

Deen - Expressed appreciation for the card from the board received during the recent loss of his brother. The Board had voted to make a contribution to the charity of the family's choice, which was the Mason Smoak Foundation. Bishop will make that contribution.

Kirouac - None

Commissioner Brooks - None

Motion to adjourn the meeting (Causey/Deen)

Meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Scott Kirouac, Chairman

Doug Deen, Secretary

POST MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Action	Assigned To	Deadline
Conduct Speech Contest	S. Bishop	March 21, 2017
Advertise change in meeting date for April to April 17, 2017	S. Bishop	March 22, 2017
Contact CPA for explanation on payroll in General Fund Bank Account	S. Bishop	March 22, 2017
Issue contributions to Warner Southern, South Florida State College & Mason Smoak Foundation	S. Bishop	March 22, 2017
Plan a Ag Safety Day with Extension	S. Bishop	June 1, 2017
Attend Area IV AFCD Meeting in Belle Glade	S. Bishop & BOS	April 13, 2017
Submit Mitigation Report for City of Avon Park to US Fish & Wildlife	March 24, 2017	S. Bishop
Finalize with FDACS logistics of MIL Evaluations for the Citrus Re-Est. Contract	S. Bishop	April 10, 2017
Continue to monitor/facilitate the FECLOG & NRCS work on PL566 structure	S. Bishop	Ongoing
Outreach for MIL	S. Bishop & D. Pitts	Ongoing