

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 4/25/2017

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

FINAL - Approved 5/16/2017

Recorded by: Susie Bishop

MEETING LOCATION: BERT HARRIS CENTER, SEBRING, FL
MEETING SCHEDULED START: 3:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER: @ 3:04 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		N
Pamela Fentress	Supervisor		Y
Steve Smith	Supervisor		Y
Commissioner Jim Brooks	Liaison	Highlands Co. Board of County Commissioners	N
Susie Bishop	Executive Director	Highlands Soil & Water	Y
Drew Pitts	MIL Manager	Highlands Soil & Water	N
Carlos Torres	District Conserva.	USDA-NRCS	Y
<u>Other Attendees:</u>			
Rebekah Kogelscheit	Director	Heartland Christian Academy	Y
Garrett Kogelscheit	Student	Heartland Christian Academy	Y
Sophia Kogelscheit	Student	Heartland Christian Academy	Y

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT READ BY CHAIRMAN

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Approval of Agenda

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

III. Presentation Heartland Christian Academy- Rebekah Kogelscheitz, Director
Request for Weather STEM System for K-12 Students

Following Presentation Board discussed options for a Weather STEM system at Heartland Christian Academy. Fentress, Bishop and Kogelscheitz will do more

research on system, ability to tap into the system already in place at Fred Wild Elementary, soil moisture probes and annual fee. Findings will be reported back to the Board at the May 16, 2017 Board meeting.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

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

V. Financial Activity

- a. Overview of Financial Reports - Bishop presented the bank reconciliations and financial reports. Motion to approve the financial report as presented (Smith/Causey). Unanimous approval.

VI. Agency Partner Updates

- a. NRCS - Torres announced a May 19 deadline for a long leaf pine forest and Bob White Quail habitat initiatives. The EQIP application process is open now for the 2018 funding cycle with a deadline of October 2017.
- b. FDACS - Bishop reported the FDACS-OAWP Statewide meeting she and staff attended. She shared it was one of the best, most engaged meetings she has attended with FDACS. Additionally she updated the Board on the proposed budget cuts to the OAWP, no staff will be cut, but contract dollars will see decreases.
- c. MIL - Bishop reported on behalf of Drew Pitts. To date the MIL has completed 19 initial evaluations and 4 follow up visits. She explained the contract will be amended to add the work of the Citrus Re-Est. Contract, which requires an MIL be completed the new systems installed. Four evaluations for the Citrus Re-Est. contract will be done this week. Bishop met with OAWP Director and Contract Manager to discuss details of the amended contract, including compensation.

VII. Old Business

- a. Lake McCoy Project - Bishop reported the project's final bid came in over the original proposed cost. She had informed the County Staff that HSWCD wasn't willing to pay the additional dollars above their original commitment. A request for the county to use some of the funds budgeted to the Lake June project, which which came in at a lesser amount than budgeted, was presented to the County Commissioners. The County Commissioners approved, so Lake McCoy project is moving forward.
- b. AFCD Area IV Meeting & State AFCD Meeting - Kirouac and Bishop reported on the Area IV meeting. There are still open seats for Deputy VP for Area IV. Bishop informed the Board that HSWCD and OSWCD will co-host the Area IV meeting next year. Bishop distributed the draft agenda and asked who plans on attending the Statewide AFCD Meeting in July. Supervisor Causey may try to attend one day, but none of the other supervisors are able to attend. Bishop will offer to other staff members the opportunity to attend AFCD with her.
- c. Contributions & Scholarships - Bishop distributed the thank you letters from South Florida State College and Warner University for the scholarships. A letter of thanks from the Mason Smoak Foundation was shared too.

- d. Speech Contest - Bishop reported the winner of our County Speech Contest, Katherine Harris, will compete at State contest. An area contest wasn't held due to lack of interest in Okeechobee

VIII. New Business

- a. SW FL Gulf Coast Reg. Envirothon Request - Kirouac presented a request from Jackie Bailey for a contribution of \$1000.00 for this event. The budgeted amount is \$500.00. Discussion regarding the event and lack of local teams participating took place. Motion made to contribute the budgeted amount of \$500.00 (Causey/Fentress). Unanimous approval.

IX. Executive Director's Report

- Bishop reported the Audit should be ready for presenting at the May Board meeting. She is meeting with Jeff Carlson next week to complete the remaining closing journal entries needed.

IX. Citizens Not on the Agenda

None

X. Supervisor Comments

Causey - Asked if Bishop had determined if our Extension office can partner with HSWCD to provide WPS trainings in the area. Bishop responded most definitely, but she was advised to wait and schedule the workshop in the late summer or early Fall when growers aren't so busy. Kirouac added that he thought it would be beneficial to also offer how to be prepared for a WPS inspection. Bishop will continue to plan this workshop in a partnership with Extension
Fentress - Asked Bishop to try and determine someone that can come present to the Board the facts and science of the water reservoirs north and south of Lake Okeechobee. Bishop will research options. Discussion regarding the use of compost /compost spreaders and why they are not a cost share item. Bishop informed the Board she asked it be added to the FDACS statewide list of what is allowed to be cost shared through OAWP.

Smith - None

Kirouac - None

Motion to adjourn meeting (Smith/Causey) .

Meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Scott Kirouac, Chairman

Doug Deen, Secretary

POST MEETING ACTION ITEMS

Action	Assigned To	Deadline
Issue Contribution to SW Regional Envirothon	S. Bishop	April 28, 2017
Research request for funding a Weather STEM system at Heartland Christian Academy	S. Bishop & P. Fentress	May 16, 2017
Finalize with FDACS logistics of MIL Evaluations for the Citrus Re-Est. Contract	S. Bishop	May 15, 2017
Plan an Ag Safety Day with Extension	S. Bishop	Aug. 1, 2017
Register for AFCD Annual Meeting	S. Bishop	May 5, 2017
Research and secure a presentation regarding Lake Okeechobee Restoration Work	S. Bishop	July 2017
Continue to monitor/facilitate the FECLOG & NRCS work on PL566 structure	S. Bishop	Ongoing
Outreach for MIL	S. Bishop & D. Pitts	Ongoing

