

Subject to Board Approval

Minutes

Monthly Regular Meeting

Collier Soil and Water Conservation District
14700 Immokalee Road, Naples, Florida 34120

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order August 15, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Supervisor Dennis Vasey, Chairman; Supervisor Stan Weiner, Vice-Chairman; Supervisor James Lang, Secretary; and, Supervisor Bruce Reichert, Treasurer. Absent: Supervisor Clarence Tears.

Guest:

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Introduction of Guests

III. Approval of Agenda. Mr. Vasey motioned; Mr. Reichert 2nd, all ayes. Agenda approved.

IV. Regular Meeting Minutes. Mr. Weiner motioned approval of the July 24, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes; Mr. Reichert 2nd, all ayes. Minutes approved.

V. Finance Reports: 2014 Trial Balance approved for audit.

VI. Reports

- A. Environmental Manager's Report: Mr. Michael R. Ramsey, Environmental Manager discussed the outcome of the August 12, 2014 FDEP meeting with Mr. Alvarez and Mr. Wilson. We must decide whether the continued drain of funds and resources is prudent. FDEP has summarized our efforts to date in several documents that Mr. Wilson will provide. It is clear from their summary that they have little to no interest in the actual management of ecological services in the ROMA. Further, FDEP fails to grasp that we have a physical responsibility without funding. An appeal for funding was met with more demands for work to make ROMA a US Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) In-lieu Mitigation Bank. Mr. Alvarez ordered that no more funds would be paid out of the ROMA account and Mr. Ramsey agreed to withdraw from the monthly retainer the District approved effective July 31, 2014. Mr. Ramsey agreed to provide services on a case-by-case basis but would cease further pursuit of the USACOE In-lieu Mitigation Bank until a funding source was identified. We explained that the costs for pursuing FDEP's USACOE In-lieu Mitigation Bank goal required money that isn't available and that the District is financially unable to carry an unfinanced burden. Our comments were met with little hope of gaining state funding. The FDEP demand is in the office and we will present our recommendation to terminate our participation at the September Regular Meeting.
- B. Lower West Coast/Big Cypress Basin MIL: Mr. Siverling, Senior Technician, LWC MIL, had a show-and-tell of the Districts Garmin 20 and Mr. Niklovich showed the District's Garmin Vista--small hand-held GPS devices they are using to create more professional concise mapping of areas of study for effectiveness of the MIL's work using Google Earth.

VII. Old Business:

Status of Annual Audit: Audit is complete. Mr. Reichert will be contacted to receive the regulatory out brief.

VIII. New Business

Bylaw revision is being worked on and will be provided as a read ahead at the September Regular Meeting when the Notice will be presented for release.

IX. Announcements/Public Comment

X. Next Regular Meeting: University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Collier County Extension Building, 14700 Immokalee Road, Naples, FL 34120, September 18, 2014.

XI. Adjourn: Mr. Weiner motioned to adjourn; Mr. Reichert 2nd, all ayes. Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.