

## Draft 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 January 12, 2015, at 8:40 a.m.

Present: Supervisor Dennis Vasey, Chairman; Supervisor Clarence Tears; NRCS Conservationist Bob Beck; Urban MIL technician James Nikolich, and Agricultural MIL Team Leader/District Administrator Mark Siverling

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Introduction of Guests – Nancy Richie
- III. Reports:
  1. Mr. Rasiwala provided a printed financial report.
  2. Mr. Bob Beck, NRCS District Conservationist, reported:
    - a. Applications are slow for Farm Bill programs, partly because the latest Farm Bill is a “no year appropriation.”
    - b. Cost-share programs have shown environmental benefits, including the clearing of Brazillain pepper plants to create or restore pasture land, solar pasture wells that keep cows (and their waste) out of water bodies, and ditch risers that convert old vegetable fields into usable pasture.
  3. Mr. Siverling, District Administrator, reported:
    - a. Jesse Wilson and Tony Harvey, from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, paid a field visit to the agricultural Mobile Irrigation Lab to observe the field methods and make recommendations. It was a productive visit.
    - b. The University of Florida IFAS research center in Immokalee recently held a grand opening ceremony for the new wing. The UF president attended, along with state representatives and agricultural leaders. The research center will be hiring six new scientists, with particular focus on the citrus greening issue. The IFAS center has re-hired a director who was there in the 1990s.
- IV. Old Business:
  1. The cost of bookkeeping services by Mark Stout is included in the annual budget in an amount not to exceed \$8,400.
  2. The audit services provided by Clifton Larson Allen are included in the annual budget in an amount not to exceed \$17,000.
- V. New Business:
  1. The flow meter repairs will cost about \$1,000 and will be covered under the Equipment line of the budget. This money may be refunded by FDACS at the end of the quarter.
  2. Ramsey, Inc. will finish the work on the Regional Offsite Mitigation Area under a contract approved by the state.
  3. Nancy Richie introduced herself and described her work experiences and conservation work.
- VI. Next Regular Meeting:

University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Collier County Extension Building, 14700 Immokalee Road, Naples, FL 34120, February 18, 2018.