

**Minutes
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 May 18, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.

Supervisor Dennis Vasey, Chairman; Supervisor Clarence Tears, Vice Chairman; and Supervisor Rob Griffin were present.

Also present was Agricultural MIL Supervisor/District Administrator Mark Siverling, District Conservationist Bob Beck, and Agricultural MIL Technician Paul Hayden.

I. **Pledge of Allegiance.**

II. **Introduction of Guests:** None.

III. **Approval of Agenda:** Chairman Vasey changed VII. C. from "Draft Response – Auditor General" to "Budget FY 2017-2018"

Motion to approve the Agenda: Supervisor Tears; second, Supervisor Vasey. *Vote: All yea.*

IV. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes:** Minutes for April 20, 2017.

Motion to approve the April 2017 Minutes: Supervisor Tears; second, Supervisor Vasey. *Vote: All yea.*

V. **Public Comments:** None.

VI. **Reports:**

a. Mr. Beck reported that the four pre-approved Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) contracts in Collier County this year have been ranked. There are three Regional Conservation Partnership Program applicants, but he is not sure how much money is available. He said that some EQIP money is being used for high tunnels for heirloom tomatoes. He added that he is still planning to retire this year.

b. Mr. Adam Rasiwala e-mailed the financial report.

Motion to approve the financial report for audit, Supervisor Tears; second, Supervisor Vasey. *Vote: All yea.*

c. Mr. Siverling, Agricultural Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) Supervisor, reported that both MILs are busy and have evaluations scheduled for the coming months. The Irrigation Conservation Committee meeting was Tuesday, where the Florida Department of Agriculture revealed that they are preparing next year's Agricultural MIL contracts. The new contracts are expected to have increased financial reporting requirements.

VII. **Old Business:**

a. Discussion regarding supervisor appointments: Supervisor Griffin handed out a draft press release for filling a vacant Supervisor position, which could be posted on the District website and printed in the Naples Daily News to attract Supervisor applicants. It includes information about the position such as the title, location, term, qualifications, and how to submit a letter of intent. A discussion ensued regarding public awareness of the District and how to attract qualified candidates for supervisor positions. Supervisors agreed that a public awareness campaign would be beneficial and will be discussed at the June 15, 2017 meeting.

b. Appointment of supervisor for vacant position: Motion to appoint Mr. James Lang, of Marco Island, to serve the remainder of the term left vacant by the death of Supervisor Reichert, Supervisor Vasey; second Supervisor Tears. *Vote: Supervisors Vasey and Tears, yea. Supervisor Griffin, nay.*

c. Budget FY 2017-2018: Supervisor Vasey distributed copies of the draft budget update for Supervisors to review. The budget will be discussed in more detail at the June 15, 2017 meeting.

VIII. **New Business:**

a. Financial Policy Handbook: Mr. Siverling distributed copies of the recommended update to the Financial Procedures, to set a lower limit on the Petty Cash account. Motion to approve the updated Financial Procedures, Supervisor Tears; second, Supervisor Griffin. *Vote: All yea.*

IX. **Communications:**

- Supervisor Vasey gave an update on several water projects in Collier County.

- The review of the County Pollution Ordinance has been completed.
- The Freedom Park wetland evaluation is proceeding on schedule.
- The University of Florida – IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center is evaluating a hydroponic grass proposal for county stormwater retention ponds.
- Inlet Marker Program changes are being explored.

X. Public Comments: None

XI. Next Regular Meeting: University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Collier County Extension Building, 14700 Immokalee Road, Naples, FL 34120, June 15, 2017.

XII. Motion to adjourn the meeting: Supervisor Griffin; second, Supervisor Tears. *Vote: All yea.*