

**Minutes
Regular Meeting**

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

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order July 20, 2017, at 8:30 a.m.

Supervisor Dennis Vasey, Chairman; Supervisor Clarence Tears, Vice Chairman; Supervisor Nancy Richie, Treasurer, Supervisor Rob Griffin, and Supervisor James Lang were present.

Also present was Agricultural MIL Supervisor/District Administrator Mark Siverling, Urban MIL technician James Nikolich, and Agricultural MIL Technician Paul Hayden.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Introduction of Guests: Bill Basch, resident of Marco Island

III. Approval of Agenda: No changes

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

IV. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes: Minutes for May 18, 2017.

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

V. Public Comments: None.

VI. Reports:

a. District Conservationist's Report: Mr. Siverling reported that Bob Beck has officially retired, but may continue to serve the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in another capacity. The acting District Conservationist for the next 60 days is Howard Harrison of the Okeechobee Field Office (863) 763-3619 ext. 207.

b. Financial Report: Mr. Adam Rasiwala e-mailed the financial report. Treasurer Richie reviewed with Supervisors.

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

c. FDACS Contract: Mr. Siverling, Agricultural Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) Supervisor, reported that the new budget with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) was signed. It is a three-year, cost-reimbursement budget. The two issues that still need to be resolved are invitation for bids for the annual audit, and budget line for vehicle replacement.

d. BCB Contract: Mr. Nikolich, Urban MIL Supervisor, reported that the Big Cypress Basin (BCB) will renew his contract with an additional \$5,000 in funding for the 2017/2018 budget year. BCB expects CSWCD to seek additional funding from Marco Island and the City of Naples.

VII. Old Business:

a. Swearing in of New Supervisor: Supervisor James Lang was sworn in to serve in the Group 1 position by Chairman Vasey.

b. Discussion of Community Presence: Supervisor Griffin led a discussion about how to increase CSWCD recognition in the community. The Supervisors suggested outreach such as city council meeting participation, television and Internet presence, and school demonstrations to supplement the outreach currently performed by CSWCD employees:

Agricultural: Annual Citrus Expo, speaking at Citrus seminars at the University of Florida research station in Immokalee, articles in *Citrus Industry Magazine*

Urban: Greenscape landscaper trainings at Rookery Bay, teaching Master Gardener classes at the Naples Extension, the Naples Garden Show, participation in the Greenscape Alliance, speeches for Community Associations, and articles in the *Naples Daily News*.

This item will be added to the regular agenda under Reports d.

c. 2016/2017 Budget Amendment: The MIL expenditure history for July and August will be evaluated and necessary adjustments made.

VIII. New Business:

a. 2017/2018 Draft District Budget: Motion to acknowledge an FRS Health Insurance benefit "over" payment of Forty-Two Dollars and No Cents (\$42.00) per employee, Supervisor Lang; second, Supervisor Tears. *Vote: All yea.*

- b. Draft Audit Solicitation Letter: A draft letter for soliciting annual audit bids will be sent to auditing firms. Motion to approve letter, Supervisor Vasey; second, Supervisors Lang and Griffin. *Vote: All yea.*

IX. Communications:

- a. Turnberry Woods Homeowners Association letter to the CSWCD thanking them for the professional and excellent work done by CSWCD employee James Nikolich.
- b. Response from Senator Passidomo recognizing CSWCD's letter to the Constitutional Review Committee.

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, August 24, 2017.

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