

**Minutes
Regular Meeting**

Collier Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD)
4701 Golden Gate Parkway, Naples, Florida 34116

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order December 21, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. Supervisor Dennis Vasey, Chairman; Supervisor Clarence Tears, Vice Chairman; Supervisor Nancy Richie, Treasurer, Supervisor James Lang, Secretary, and Supervisor Robert Griffin were present.

Also present was Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Acting District Conservationist (DC) Howard Harrison, Agricultural MIL Supervisor/District Administrator Mark Siverling, Urban MIL Supervisor James Nikolich, and Agricultural MIL Technician Paul Hayden.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Introduction of Guests: None

III. Approval of Agenda:

One item deleted from the agenda: VIII. a. Association of Florida Conservation Districts.

Two items added to the agenda: VIII. a. Approval of Envirothon donation, and VIII. b. Approval of Incentive Awards.

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

IV. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes: Minutes for November 2017.

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

V. Public Comments: None

VI. Reports:

a. District Conservationist Report: Howard Harrison said that the USDA-NRCS has cancelled the lease on the current building and will move the furniture and other property into storage until a new location is chosen (in the northeast quadrant of Collier County). The Mobile Irrigation Labs can continue to operate out of the North Fort Myers office in the meantime. There are eight EQIP applications in Lee and Collier Counties this year, and there is a special Hurricane Irma EQIP program deadline on the 28th. NRCS is working with Collier County to fund storm-related cleanup. The NRCS hiring freeze has been lifted, but the Naples District Conservationist position has not been filled yet, so there will continue to be acting DCs in the meantime.

b. Financial Report: Mr. Stout, Mark K. Stout, CPA PL, Emailed the financial report.

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

c. District Status Report: Mark Siverling said that the Agricultural MIL has still not received payment from Florida Department of Consumer Services (FDACS) for the quarter ending September 30. He has been unable to make contact with the FDACS contract department to find out why. Mr. Nikolich reported that the Urban MIL has received the new Purchase Order and is working on the evaluation goals. Both MILs are behind on the annual scheduled goals due to Hurricane Irma, but expect to make up the difference in the next two quarters.

d. Community Outreach: Mr. Hayden discussed his attendance at a Citrus Seminar at the University of Florida research center in Immokalee on December 20th. Mr. Nikolich discussed the MIL staff helping at the Southwest Florida Envirothon on December 8th.

VII. Old Business:

a. FDACS Reimbursement Process: Mr. Siverling reported that he and CPA Mark Stout have been working with FDACS to supply the needed documentation for the work performed July-September 2017. FDACS has not asked for more documents, but payment has not yet been received.

b. Temporary Office Location: Mr. Nikolich said that the Collier Extension Service has been moved to the Kraft Building in Naples until December of 2018. The CSWCD will operate from the North Fort Myers NRCS office until a new NRCS office is established in Collier County. Mr. Hayden asked if he can destroy old meeting audio recordings, and was informed by Chairman Vasey that the information has been recorded in policy or Minutes and may be destroyed.

- c. Hurricane Debris Removal: Supervisor Vasey reported that he has received feedback from the Fire Districts in response to the CSWCD letter regarding hurricane debris and fire safety. He will meet with fire leaders, and expects there to be a public meeting soon where CSWCD will advocate for a fire safety plan.

VIII. New Business:

- a. Motion to amend the 2017-2018 Budget to add Incentive Award amount of \$600.00, Supervisor Lang; second, Supervisor Richie. *Vote: all yea.*
- b. Motion to amend the 2017-2018 Budget to add Envirothon Sponsorship amount of \$250.00, Supervisor Lang; second, Supervisor Richie. *Vote: all yea.*

IX. Communications:

- a. Collier Regional Science and Engineering Fair volunteer letter

X. Public Comments: None

XI. Next Regular Meeting: January 18, 2017, at a location in Immokalee.

XII. Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn: Supervisor Vasey; second, Supervisor Richie. *Vote: All yea.*