

Minutes

Regular Meeting

Collier Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD)

Agricultural Center

14700 Immokalee Road, Naples, Florida 34120

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order May 16, 2019, at 9:00 AM. Supervisor Nancy Richie, Chairman; Supervisor Samantha Bruntjen, Secretary; and Supervisor Rob Griffin were present.

Also present were Agricultural Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) Supervisor/District Administrator Mark Siverling, and Agricultural MIL Technician James Nikolich.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Introduction of Guests: Mr. Paul Hayden, citizen

III. Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the Agenda, Supervisor Griffin; Second, Supervisor Bruntjen.

Vote: All yea.

IV. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes: for April 2019.

Motion to approve the April 2019 Minutes: Supervisor Richie; second, Supervisor Griffin.

Vote: All yea.

V. Public Comments: None

VI. Reports:

a. District Conservationist (DC) Report: Mr. Aman was unable to attend the meeting, but sent information with Mr. Nikolich. There are 11 NRCS cost-share contracts in Collier County this year, covering 29,000 acres. The District Conservationist in the Labelle office has retired, so Mr. Aman may be asked to help with other counties for a while.

b. Financial Report: Mr. Mark Stout, CPA, provided a financial report via e-mail.

c. District Status Report: Mr. Siverling reported that the Agricultural MIL has been busy with system checkouts for groves receiving cost-share funds through the Best Management Practices program. The Ag MIL also visited the ECHO mission farm in North Fort Myers and learned about farming practices around the world.

d. Community Outreach: Mr. Siverling said that he, Mr. Nikolich, and Mr. Aman attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony for a water-control structure built by the Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District. It included a tour of other water projects in Lee County.

VII. Public Comments: None

VIII. Old Business:

a. Urban Mobile Irrigation Lab: Supervisor Richie reported that one of the new board members of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is from Collier County, and the CSWCD might work with her on SFWMD funding for an Urban Mobile Irrigation Lab. She also said that she will write a "letter to the editor" to local newspapers, letting citizens know about the CSWCD and the Urban MIL program.

b. Office location update: Supervisor Griffin said that he has been in contact with the State Conservationist Russell Morgan about NRCS agreeing to a new lease at the 14700 Immokalee Road office. The NRCS has sent a multi-page lease to Collier County, and the County is expected to respond soon.

IX. Public Comments: None

X. New Business:

- a. District Property Map: Supervisor Griffin provided a map of the District's properties that was produced by the Property Appraiser's office. He will work with Mr. Siverling to write thank-you letters to the Property Appraiser and staff.
- b. AFCD Annual Meeting: Supervisor Griffin reported that he will attend the Association of Florida Conservation Districts (AFCD) Annual Meeting in July. Motion to reimburse Supervisor Griffin for the \$100 registration fee, and gasoline for travel, Supervisor Richie; second, Supervisor Bruntjen.
Vote: All yea.

Supervisor Griffin said that he would like the CSWCD to host an AFCD Annual meeting in the future.

XI. Communications: Letter from the National Association of Conservation Districts.

XII. Public Comments: Mr. Hayden said that state universities use Dolphin Transportation for buses, so the company might be an option for AFCD Meeting tours. And he said that Oaks Farm in Naples could be an ideal farm tour site.

XIII. Next Regular Meeting: Scheduled for June 20, 2019, at the Agricultural Center: 14700 Immokalee Road.

XIV. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn the meeting, Supervisor Richie; second, Supervisor Griffin.

Vote: All yea.