

## 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 June 20, 2019, at 9:00 AM

Supervisor Nancy Richie, Chair; Supervisor Samantha Bruntjen, Secretary; Supervisor Rob Tolp, Treasurer; Supervisor Jim Lang, Vice Chair; and Supervisor Rob Griffin were present.

Also present were District Conservationist Mitchell Aman, 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; Ms. Lisa Koehler, Big Cypress Basin Administrator; Mr. Jeff Schmidt, Area Conservationist (Natural Resources Conservation Service)

#### **III. Approval of Agenda:**

Motion to amend the agenda to move "VII. b. Office Update" and "VII. a. Urban Mobile Irrigation Lab" to before "VI. Reports", Supervisor Griffin; second, Supervisor Tolp.

*Vote: All yea.*

#### **IV. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes:** for May 2019.

Motion to approve the May 2019 Minutes: Supervisor Lang; second, Supervisor Tolp.

*Vote: All yea.*

**V. Public Comments:** Mr. Hayden offered to volunteer to help staff the CSWCD booth at the 2019 Citrus Expo in August.

#### **VI. Old Business:**

a. Office location update: Mr. Schmidt told the board how the NRCS lease was cancelled for the building at 14700 Immokalee Road after Hurricane Irma. He said that after a search process, NRCS has decided not to continue to look for space in Collier County. The NRCS will find a new space in Lee County to serve both areas. Ms. Koehler said that the Big Cypress Basin will have space at 2616 Horseshoe Drive that will be available for lease in May 2020.

Motion to write a letter to the NRCS asking for a new request for proposal to find office space in Collier County (with an expanded delineated area), Supervisor Griffin; second, Supervisor Richie.

*Vote: All yea.*

b. Urban Mobile Irrigation Lab: Supervisor Richie reported that she and Supervisor Lang spoke at the Marco Island City Council Meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and the city has agreed to include \$20,000 in next year's budget for Urban MIL evaluations and outreach. There is also funding in the Collier County budget, but that still needs to be approved. Supervisor Lang requested that next meeting include a discussion about what to do if the Urban MIL program is only partially funded.

c. CSWCD Properties: Supervisor Griffin said that he will make some changes to the thank-you letter for the Property Appraiser's office. He will request the CSWCD Properties map information in a format for Google Earth, which the CSWCD staff uses. And he recommended that the board tour the properties in September or October.

#### **VII. Public Comments:** None

#### **VIII. Reports:**

a. District Conservationist (DC) Report: Mr. Aman emphasized the partnership between NRCS and CSWCD employees and the benefits of sharing office space. Mr. Aman said that cost-share

contract activity is ramping up in Collier County. Mr. Schmidt talked about the different funding pools to help ensure programs don't discriminate but offer assistance fairly. Mr. Aman said that the Cattlemen Association is having their annual meeting on Marco Island. He encouraged board members to attend the Association of Florida Conservation Districts Area Meeting in July. He said that he will attend the Native Plant Society meeting in August. And he told the board about the University of Florida Smutgrass Field Day on June 27.

- b. Financial Report: Mr. Mark Stout, CPA, provided a financial report via e-mail. Supervisor Richie asked staff to make sure the Bookkeeper and Treasurer have each other's contact information.
- 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 Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Best Management Practices program. The Ag MIL is coming to the end of the state fiscal year, and has completed all of the evaluations required.
- d. Community Outreach: Mr. Siverling said that he and Mr. Nikolich will teach the Irrigation Portion of the Project Greenscape Best Management Practices class at Rookery Bay this month. Supervisor Griffin shared information about the Save Our Water Summit on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

**IX. Public Comments:** None

**X. New Business:**

- a. AFCD Annual Meeting: Supervisor Griffin said that the CSWCD should host an Area Meeting of the Association of Florida Conservation Districts, and he will work with NRCS and CSWCD staff to find a suitable site.
- b. Citrus Expo: Mr. Siverling said that the CSWCD has run out of promotional pencils to hand out at the Citrus Expo, and requested that money be allocated to purchase pens for advertising the Mobile Irrigation Lab. Motion to approve the purchase of CSWCD pens, not to exceed \$300, Supervisor Griffin; second, Supervisor Richie.

*Vote: All yea.*

**XI. Communications:** E-mail from the Supervisor of Elections about missing Oaths of Office.

**XII. Public Comments:** None

**XIII. Next Regular Meeting:** Scheduled for July 17, 2019, at the Big Cypress Basin Headquarters: 2660 Horseshoe Drive North.

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

*Vote: All yea.*