

Regular Meeting Minutes
Collier Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD)
July 20, 2023
IFAS Extension Center
14700 Immokalee Rd., Naples, FL 34120

A regular board meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order on July 20, 2023 at 9:09 am.

James Nikolich, Santos Colberg, Rob Griffin, Meghan Foos, Jillian Sanchez, Jess Morris, and guest Angeline Castaño - Caicedo were in attendance.

- I. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. **Approval of Agenda** Supervisor Jillian Sanchez motioned to approve the agenda. Supervisor Meghan Foos seconds.
- III. **Oath of Office** Jess Morris performed the Oath of Office to swear in as our newest board member for Group 5.
- IV. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes** Supervisor Jillian Sanchez motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes. Supervisor Meghan Foos seconds.
- V. **Public Comments** No public comments.
- VI. **New Business**
 - A. The board was honored to meet guest Angeline Castaño – Caicedo. Ms. Castaño is a student at the University of Florida, currently serving as an intern to Mr. Santos Colberg.
- VII. **Reports**
 - A. **District Conservationist Report:** Mr. Santos Colberg reported the number of completed EQIP and CSP applications in Lee and Collier County. He also reported that Lee and Collier County areas received \$1,022,000 in emergency EQIP relief funds for Hurricane Ian. Mr. Santos Colberg announced that through the Emergency Watershed Program (EWP) the NRCS is working with neighboring counties to aid in clean up. As of the current meeting, \$2.5 million have been provided to Lee and Collier counties.
 - B. **Financials:** A financial report was provided by Mr. Mark Stout. Supervisor Meghan Foos motioned to approve the financial report. Supervisor Jess Morris seconds.
 - C. **District Status Report:** Mr. James Nikolich reported that the MIL completed all contracted evaluations in June. The LWC MIL invoice for June was \$9,149.55 and we are waiting to receive the check. The new contract has been signed for a 3 year period with FDACS. The contract includes a reduction in the number of evaluations required each month from 15/month to 14/month.
 - D. **Chairman Report:** Supervisor Rob Griffin emphasized the importance of attending the state meeting in September. He suggested the consideration of an urban bmp program for the region and possible partnership with Hillsborough county.

- E. Secretary Report:** In Supervisor Heather Cleckler's absence, she sent in regular meeting minutes.
- F. Treasurer Report:** Supervisor Meghan Foos reported the bookkeeping fee has been paid and that there is no new business otherwise.
- G. Supervisor Report:** Supervisor Jillian Sanchez reported the rise of urban agriculture as the current administration announces investments in it. These series of investments is proposed to increase market access and revenue streams for producers while giving consumers better access to locally grown foods. Supervisor Jess Morris reported the importance of attending the state meeting in September.

VIII. Old Business The topic of switching banks has been deferred.

IX. Communications Supervisor Meghan Foos reported a possible job opening through the UF/IFAS office to promote outreach to urban agriculturists. Supervisor Jillian Sanchez will submit payment for Supervisor Jess Morris' oath of office and contact the office to make sure payment is received.

X. Next Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting will be held on August 17, 2023.

XI. Adjourn Supervisor Jillian Sanchez motions to adjourn meeting. Supervisor Jess Morris seconds. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.