

Regular Meeting Minutes
Collier Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD)
March 20, 2025, 9:00 am
IFAS Extension Center
14700 Immokalee Rd., Naples, FL 34120

A regular monthly board meeting of the board of supervisors was called to order March 20th at 9:07 AM

Present: Santos Colberg, James Nikolich, Heather Cleckler, Meghan Foos, and Jillian Sanchez. A representative from Lauren Melo's office was also present.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Agenda Supervisor Meghan Foos added UF IFAS monthly update was added under New Business. Supervisor Heather Cleckler made a motion to approve the agenda. Supervisor Jillian Sanchez seconds.

III. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes Supervisor Jillian Sanchez made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes. Supervisor Heather Cleckler seconds.

IV. Reports

a. District Conservationist's Report: Mr. Santos Colberg gave a detailed activity report on all applications in Southwest Florida. He also reported 99 total NRCS applications (20 CSP applications and 79 EQIP applications) with the Fort Myers Service Center.

b. Financials: Mr. Mark Stout provided a financial report with a balance updated as of February 28, 2025.

c. District Status Report: Mr. James Nikolich gave a summary for his February report. The December invoice of \$7,935.92 was deposited. 14 evaluations were completed in January And an invoice for \$10,727.50 was sent to FDAC and that invoice has been received and deposited. 15 evaluations were completed in February and 13 evaluations have been Completed so far for March.

Contract manager for FDACS, Jeanie Vause, informed Mr. Nikolich that the 24/25 budget For miscellaneous is over \$-867.20 and will not pay the January invoice or any further invoices until the negative budget deficit in miscellaneous is resolved. After speaking with Camilo, Mr. Nikolich and he made corrections to invoices from July 2024 to the present Date and the corrections were sent to FDACS on February 18, 2025. Once the corrections Were received, Ms. Jeanie Vause sent the January check. Mr. Nikolich also informed the Board that the February invoice for \$7,106.72 has been sent for payment. \$921.00 of the February invoice will not be paid due to the miscellaneous budget deficit. He also stated That the FMIT insurance quarterly payment of \$2,441.00 is due April 4th. The payment is Also why the miscellaneous column was in the negative. Lastly, Mr. Nikolich informed the Board that a decision on the Nissan Xterra will need to be made soon.

d. Chairman's Report: Chairman Rob Griffin was not in attendance therefore there is no Updated chairman's report.

e. Secretary's Report: Supervisor Heather Cleckler has no new updates

f. Treasurer's Report: Supervisor Meghan Foos informed the board that IFAS did hire an employee for the AgVenture position at IFAS sponsored by CSWCD. She also gave a Wonderful report on the success of the Collier County AgVentures in Immokalee (March 28th) and Naples (March 31st-April 4th). This report is in conjunction with Old Business On the agenda.

g. Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Jillian Sanchez has no new updates

h. Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Jess Morris was not in attendance therefore there is no Updated report.

V. New Business

- a.** The board collectively spoke with the representative from Lauren Melo's office about the House Bill 973 and Senate Bill 986 that could dissolve some of Florida's Soil & Water Conservation Districts. We informed her of how this would be detrimental for the districts and discussed steps to proactive stop the bills from moving forward.
- b.** As stated in the Treasurer's Report, an employee has been hired with IFAS for the AgVenture Coordinator position.

VI. Old Business The topics under Old Business were covered in the treasurer's report.

Next Regular Board Meeting will be held on April 24, 2025.

VII. Meeting Adjourned at 11:01. Motion made to adjourn meeting by Supervisor Heather Cleckler. Supervisor Jillian Sanchez seconds.