

Regular Meeting Minutes

Collier Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD)

June 26th, 2025, 10:00 am

Florida Cattlemen's Association Convention

JW Marriott Marco Island Beach Resort

400 S. Collier Blvd., Marco Island, FL 34145

A regular monthly board meeting of the board of supervisors was called to order June 26th, 2025 at 10:13.

Present: James Nikolich, Rob Griffin, Meghan Foos, Santos Colberg, Heather Cleckler, Jess Morris, and guests from IFAS Lindsey Crum and Kim Clement. Not in attendance: Jillian Sanchez

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Agenda Item d. Alligator Alcatraz, was added under New Business. Adding IFAS update/report as item I under reports was suggested for regular meeting minutes. Supervisor Jess Morris made a motion to approve. Supervisor Heather Cleckler seconds. Supervisor Jess Morris made a motion to approve the agenda. Supervisor Meghan Foos seconds.

III. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes no regular meeting minutes were included

IV. Meet Florida's State Conservationist Juan Hernandez Juan Hernandez was not in attendance

V. Reports

a. District Conservationist Report: Santos Colberg presented a new Activity Report Format. The report summarized the FY2025 obligation report for the state of Florida and also for Area 4 specifically. Locally there are 3 CSP applications selected for funding totaling \$396,584 and 14 EQIP applications were selected for funding totaling \$504,217. Lee county has 8 applications, Collier has 5, and Hendry has 1. Mr. Colberg also summarized the results from the LWG FY 2026 Survey results from Collier and Lee County. He also informed the board that September is the end of the fiscal year.

b. Financials: James Nikolich provided the financial report from May 2025 prepared by Mark Stout.

c. District Status Report: James Nikolich informed the board that the miscellaneous monies in the amount of \$5,535.60 had been received and deposited. Mr. Nikolich completed 14 evaluations in June 2025 and stated that the 168 evaluations needed were completed for fiscal year 2025. He also informed the board that the May 2025 invoice for \$8,371.94 has been approved but not yet received. He also stated that the Nissan Xterra sold at the Royal Auction for \$5,250.00 (before taxes and auctioneer costs). Tags and insurance have all been taken care of.

d. Chairman's Report: Chairman Rob Griffin informed the board that he attended the Florida Association of Special Districts (FASD) in Pt. Charlotte. He shared the benefits of becoming members of FASD business affiliate program. Supervisor Meghan Foos made a motion to join FASD and pay the Supporters dues (\$375.00). Supervisor Heather Cleckler seconds. Chairman Griffin also shared that he will be attending the next Highlands County Soil and Water Conservation District meeting. He also reminded the board that Form 1 is due July 1st.

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

f. Treasurer's Report: Supervisor Meghan Foos shared that there are no issues for payroll except that the monthly fee keeps increasing. She suggests investigating for a more affordable payroll option.

g. Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Jillian Sanchez was not in attendance

h. Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Jess Morris has no new updates

VI. Old Business

a. The board discussed the charges and refunds for the Orbitz Delta Airfare for the cancelled AFCD meet at Sandestin Golf Resort.

VII. New Business

a. Lindsey Crum from IFAS introduced the new AgVenture staff Kim Clement. Mrs. Clement then gave an updated report for the projects and programs completed and upcoming. She shared the Collier Youth Leadership Academy, Regional Biological Control Project for invasive weeds, AgVenture and Adopt-A-Cowboy program planning and upcoming program dates, and Adopt-A-Farmer program start up and planning. She also gave a breakdown of her time used as the Agricultural Awareness Program Assistant to give the board a better understanding of her work week. We also discussed the CSWCD upcoming Poster and Photo Contest. Entry date was decided for October 1, 2025. The CSWCD will vote for a winner of the contest at our regular board meeting on October 16, 2025. Supervisor Jess Morris made a motion to approve the contest and dates. Supervisor Meghan Foos seconds.

b. The FASD membership dues was discussed during the Chairman's Report.

c. Chairman Rob Griffin suggested a retirement gift/card for Dave Carpenter. The board agreed. Chairman Griffin will deliver to his office.

d. Supervisor Heather Cleckler discussed the introduction of Alligator Alcatraz. She discussed with the board writing a letter to county and state elected officials sharing our concerns about introducing the detention center in the Everglades and the interference with conservation efforts it will present. Supervisor Heather Cleckler volunteered to draft a letter and will send after approval from board members.

VIII. Next Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting The board will not have a meeting in July. Supervisor Jess Morris made a motion for our next board meeting to be on August 21, 2025. Supervisor Heather Cleckler seconds.

IX. Adjourn The board meeting adjourned at 12:26 pm.