

# Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District

## Board of Supervisors May 2023 Meeting Minutes

Approved: May 10, 2023

Location: 200 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street Conference Room

Minutes:

- I. Motion to approve the April 12, 2023, Meeting Minutes (Sellers/Burnham).  
Unanimous. Motion passed.
- II. Motion to file the Financial Report as presented (Sellers/Burnham). Unanimous.  
Motion passed.
- III. Staff Program Reports
  - a. a. NRCS- Acting District Conservationist, John Scarpa gave an update on Farm Bill Program statuses regarding EQIP pre-approvals, CSP Ranking, and stated the July 15 obligations deadline. Post Inflation Supplemental Payments were also discussed for qualifying EQIP payments made from January 1-September 30, 2023.
  - b. FDACS- District Administrator, Audrey Kuipers discussed the upcoming FDACS Field Staff Spring Training May 15-May 17. Audrey and the Executive Director for Highlands SWCD, Susie Bishop have a meeting with the Director of the FDACS-Office of Ag Water Policy on May 16 to review the roles our Districts play in our counties and at the state level. We will find out more on the Implementation Verification process at the meeting.
  - c. FSA- Audrey handed out fact sheets on the current programs available.
  - d. OSWCD- Program Specialist, Robbi Sumner and Audrey Kuipers gave updates on all OSWCD programs and operations.
- IV. Unfinished Business
  - a. Motion to reverse the decision made during the March meeting and not have a pig trap rental program, but instead offer cost share like the Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee Feral Swine Control (Sellers/Burnham) Unanimous. Motion Passed.
  - b. Motion to offer cost share on Penergetic bWV wildlife deterrent at 50% of two containers, one time per producer. (Burnham/Rutledge) 3-Yay, 1-Abstain.  
Motion passed.
- V. New Business
  - a. Motion to approve FY22 Annual Report as presented (Burnham/Sellers) Unanimous. Motion passed.

- b. Motion to increase the Okeechobee Board of County Commissioners Grant Agreement request to \$53,000.00 (Sellers/Rutledge). Unanimous. Motion passed.

VI. Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- a. AFCD Area 4 Meeting: May 11; Belle Glade
- b. FDACS Field Staff Spring Meeting: May 15-17; Tallahassee
- c. Office Closed: May 29; Memorial Day
- d. Landowner Expo: June 13; Highlands Co. Extension Auditorium
- e. Board Meeting: June 14; 1pm
- f. Financial Audit Report Due: June 30
- g. Form-1 Financial Affidavit Due: July 1