**Gadsden Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Minutes**

**March 28, 2022**

# ***Supervisors Present****:* Jeff Moore, Bryan Baxley, Lance Watson, Michael Brown, and Vincent Moore

***Others Present****:* Robert Jones CED, Pam Tribue, Edith Turner, Stephen Monroe, Donna Arnold, Staff.

**Guests:** Larry Clayton, Anthony Luckey

The Gadsden Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order at 6:14pm by Chairman Jeff Moore. The meeting was held at Gadsden County Extension Office, 2140 W Jefferson Street, Quincy, FL.

Prayer by Chairman Jeff Moore

**Review and approval of February 21, 2022 minutes.**

*Motion to approve February 21, 2022 minutes by Michael Brown and seconded by Bryan Baxley. Motion carried 5-0*

***Treasurers’ Reports:***

**GSWCD**

* As of March 28, 2022 the ending balance in the GSW regular account is $137,950.36.

**FDACS**

* As of March 28, 2022 the ending balance in the Cost Share Contract #27701 is $106,892.87
* As of February 21, 2022 the ending balance in the Technician Account Contract #26229 is $13,760.46

*Motion to file the Treasurer’ reports by Michael Brown seconded by Bryan Baxley, Motion carried 5-0*

**Reports:**

**NRCS -**  UCA (Unfunded Cooperative Agreement) document to be signed by GSWCD

FYI update on USDA building lease. Mr. Jones informed the Board that the county and USDA are in negotiations on the new lease. Old lease expired January 2022. He will keep the Board informed of updates when it goes before the Board of County Commissioners.

**FDACS** –

Report from Stephen Monroe: Director Chris Petit has resigned his position with the State. Lisa Mustain has been named as Assistant Director of Ag and Water Policy Department. The Legislature has approved 10 new positions. A New Director will not be appointed until a new Commissioner comes on Board. It could be a year and a half before an appointment of new a Director.

**Old Business**

7’ drill update. The drill that we are purchasing is in Tallahassee. We were able to secure the drill that was out of state. With FDACS approval, we paid a $2500 deposit. The drill is waiting to for us to finish paying for it but we can’t submit the final payment until we get signed off contract from Angela Weeks to finalize the purchase. The Board will get a 100% cost share.

The old 7’ drill is at Clark-Monroe. One of the other vendors that we spoke with about repairing it does not want us to bring it to them for the fact that there are parts of the drill that are no longer being produced. They worry that if we brought it to them and they could not get the parts to repair that we would be wasting money getting it to them. Better for us to keep it here locally. We are waiting for Clark-Monroe to give us a quote for repairs.

The 10’ drill is here on site. We had someone to lease but was not charged because the hydraulic hoses burst and they spent $174.05 to replace the hoses to be able to use it, a couple of the disks froze up, one of cultivator disks has fallen off so that drill is sitting here now until we can get it to Bainbridge. AgPro is giving us a quote on fixing it. The 10’ drill will be taken to Bainbridge this week. Hopefully if we can get this worked out, we can get the 7’ drill in for April.

The aerator needs new hydraulic values. Research Center ran a check on it and said everything else is good to go. The Research Center has offered to paint it for us if we purchase the paint. Still have some people that are interested in renting or purchasing the aerator. Once it is fixed would like to advertise that we have this piece of equipment for rent. Would need to work on an updated rental agreement for it.

Board agreed that aerator to be painted. As to renting the aerator, the Board has agreed to decide next meeting on how much to charge or not, and how long. Mrs. Tribue will draft prior to the next meeting. Mr. Monroe suggested that we delay painting it right now because spring is typically when you would run an aerator.

Mr. Jones has suggested that we run an article in the local newspapers that we have an aerator for rent to local farmers. Mr. Monroe also suggested it be put out on e-news as well.

* **Poster and Speech Contest** – There were no entries for the Poster Contest. Mrs. Tribue suggested that perhaps next year we could do some sort of incentive for the elementary teachers to encourage the students to participate in the Poster Contest.
* We had two people to respond for the speech contest Alyssa Shalabi and Keyla Baltazar, unfortunately, Ms. Baltazar entered here speech to late and it was the wrong topic. She resubmitted but the deadline was already closed. The Board has agreed to present her with a Certificate of Recognition and a prize of $50.00 for the effort she put forth in participating in the Contest.
* Supervisor Brown asked the Staff to reach out to Mr. Toussaint of FFA to see why participation was so low this year, and invite him to the next meeting to provide an update on FFA.

**New Business:**

* Area II meeting will be held in Suwannee County (Live Oak) on June 10, 2022. Speech contest will be there.
* Drill lease agreement. Need to approve the rate for renting the drill. For new machine the rent would have to have a NOI (Notice of Intent) number. A statement of why the renter would have to have a NOI number to be included in the agreement. Also the agreement will state that they agree to a $50 cleanup fee and the user will be responsible for any damages other than wear and tear. Only those persons that have this number will be allowed to use the new 7’ drill. Mrs. Tribue has presented an increase in billing recommendation. Presently the fee ***is $50 per day or $6 per acre or whichever is greater***. New proposed increase would be ***$100 per day or $12 per acre or whichever is greater***. 10’ drill presently at the same rate as the old 7’drill; recommend an increase. A motion on of charging $100 a day or $12 per acre or whichever is greater for the new 7’ replacement drill.

*Motion made by Supervisor Bryan Baxley to charge $100 per day or $12 per acre or whichever is greater for the new replacement 7’ drill, seconded by Supervisor Michael Brown.*

*Motion carried 5-0.*

Discussion to adjust the price of the old 7’ and10’ drill from $50 per day or $6 per acre or whichever is greater to $70 per day or $9 per acre or whichever is greater, to be taken under consideration at a later Board meeting.

*Motion by Supervisor Michael Brown to adjust the price of the old 7’ and 10’ drill from $50 per day or $6 per acre to $70 per day or $9 per acre, whichever is greater. Motion seconded by*

Mrs. Tribue has prepared a letter to Capital City Bank authorizing Supervisor Vincent Moore as an authorized signatory on the GSW account. New signature card with all five (5) Supervisors signatures.

Mr. Jones announced that on May 11, 2022 there is going to be a Pond Management Field Day. List of topics and events will be emailed to the Board with survey and suggested points of interest. Time and location will be announced in the email.

**Correspondence:**

Survey from the U.S. Department of Commerce for participation with the 2022 Census of Governments, Survey of Public Employment & Payroll.

We now have a full Soil and Water Board of Supervisors. Record of full Board has been updated on the Gadsden County Supervisor of Elections website.

**Adjournment:** *Motion to adjourn at 7 :40pm by Supervisor Lance Watson and seconded by Supervisor Bryan Baxley.*

*Motion carried 5-0*

**Next meeting April 18, 2022**