**Gadsden Soil and Water Conservation District**

**July 15, 2024**

**Minutes**

***Supervisors Present****:*  Supervisor Michael Brown, Supervisor Karen-Alday Henderson, Supervisor Vincent Moore, Supervisor Bryan Baxley

Not present: Supervisor Ralph Sanford

***Others Present****:* Edith Turner; Staff, Martha Mitchell; Extension: Danielle Williams FDACS Stephen Monroe; NRCS: Avery Spires.

Call to order by Chairperson Michael Brown and Prayer offered by Supervisor Karen Alday-Henderson.

The Regular Gadsden Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order at 5:40pm. Official Statement read by Chairperson Michael Brown. The GSWCD meeting was held at the Gadsden County Extension Office, 2140 W Jefferson Street, Quincy FL.

**Approval of Agenda**

 *Motion to approve Agenda as written by Supervisor Karen Alday-Henderson, seconded by Supervisor Vincent Moore. Motion carries 3-0. (Supervisor Baxley had not arrived)*

**Review and approval of June 10, 2024, Minutes.**

*Motion to approve minutes by Supervisor Vincent Moore seconded by Supervisor Karen Alday-Henderson. (Supervisor Baxley had not arrived)*

*Motion carries 3-0.*

**Treasurers’ Reports:**

**GSWCD**

* As of July 15, 2024, the ending balance in the GSWCD regular account is $135,702.94.

**FDACS**

* As of July 15, 2024, the ending balance in Cost Share Contract #27701 is $20,733.63
* As of July 15, 2024, the ending balance in Technician Account Contract #26229 is $5,004.57.

*Motion to file for audit, the Treasure’s reports as written with the exceptions of any corrections as discussed for GSWCD Regular & FDACS Accounts by Supervisor Karen Alday-Henderson, seconded by Supervisor Bryan Baxley. Motion carries 4-0.*

**Reports:**

**NRCS**

* New D.C Naila McCraney from Live Oak Field Office begins July 29, 2024.
* November 1, 2024, application deadline
* FY25 Application count: 43 total, 18 new, 25 deferrals for 2024
* Obligation status for FY24 contracts: 32 total preapprovals, 25 signed and approved. 7 still awaiting signature/approval. 2 of these are new from 7/12/2024. Total FY24 obligations: $1,230,000+

**FDACS**

* Cost share projects for the 2023/2024 fiscal year were completed and producers paid by June 30, 2024.
* June and July are busy months for BMP implementation verification visits, and we are enrolling new producers as well.
* Producers began asking about and applying for Cost Share Projects for the 2024/2025 cycle.
* The Ag Water Policy is making some changes to “re-vamp” the Cost Share process. We are holding off on asking for approval for any projects while the program is being better defined.
* Meetings between FDACS and the Field Staff are forthcoming. We expect about the same level of funding as in years past.
* Replaced tires on the SWCD pickup on July 12, 2024 – FDACS will reimburse the District for this expense.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

* OPPAGA Audit recommendations received and Prepared response. Received revised report with needed changes and revised recommendations.
* NACD (SE Region) Chairman Brown and Pam Tribue attended. Chairman Brown was the representative for the “Sunshine State”. Chairman Brown gave an update on the meeting.
* ***Reminder: Meeting will be held in small conference room, Supervisor of Elections using large conference room for Elections***

**EXTENSION**

* Robbie Jones and Donna Arnold in Dallas Texas for an Ag Conference July 14-19, 2024.
* Danielle Williams has permanent status.
* Extension has three summer workers.
* Small Ruminant program on July 26th
* Emerging Farmers Workshop July 30, 2024, Gadsden Extension Office
* Extension Open House on August 22, 2024

**Old Business:**

* The two older drills are still red flagged for repair.
* Still waiting for Jesse Suber final pictures on his pond. Mr. Fullerton has purchased chemicals and applied them. Will be 2+ weeks before he can send results pictures and reimbursement application.

**New Business:**

* Henry Grant and Karen Watson submitted aquatic weed cost share application. A motion by Supervisor Vincent Moore that the Board tentatively approve both applications upon receiving cost of chemicals and for Ms. Watson to send in her signed application. Motion seconded by Supervisor Bryan Baxley. Applicants to be informed via telephone or email of tentative approval by the Board. Ms. Turner will inform the Board once all required documentation is received.  *Motion carries 4-0.*

**Correspondence:**

* None

**Comments from the Audience:**

* None

**Supervisors Comments:**

Supervisor Baxley expressed his concern of the way the monies for cost share to the producers is being used.

Chairman Brown thanked all the Board Members for volunteering their time to the Board and thanked the Staff for all they do as well for the Board.

**Adjournment:** *Motion to adjourn at 6:33pm.by Supervisor Vincent Moore seconded by Supervisor Bryan Baxley. Motion carries 4-0.*

 ***Next Meeting:***

***August 19, 2024 – 5:15pm***

***Gadsden Extension Office***

***2140 W Jefferson Street***

***Quincy FL 32351***