

Minutes
Marion Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD)
Workshop

CALL IN NUMBER: (515) 604-9578

ACCESS PIN: 633286

March 24, 2020

9:30 AM

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals wishing to address the Board will need to sign in. A three-minute time limit will be administered to each of these individuals.

PLEASE SILENCE ALL CELL PHONES. Thank you.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Justin Albright at 9:40 AM.

Roll Call

- Justin Albright, Chairman
- Richard McGinley, Vice-Chairman
- Vivi Serena, Secretary
- Tom Cartwright, Treasurer; arrived late 9:56 AM
- Brent London, Supervisor

Others in Attendance

- Oneisha Gary, NRCS
- Ann Bishop, MSWCD Staff
- Nick Godano, MSWCD Staff
- Lida Iravani, MSWCD Staff

Proof of Publication

- Star-Banner – Sent via email, March 16th, and the yearly schedule on December 9th Appeared online
- Florida Administrative Weekly – It was posted by AFCD in FL Admin Weekly, they were sent the info on December 20th
- Ocala Service Center's Front Window – Posted, January 2nd
- Marion County Board of County Commissioners – Sent info about the teleconference on March 16th; yearly info was posted, January 2nd

Guest Speakers: None

AGENDA

1) Financials

- **Update**
Ann Bishop gave an overview of the financials.
- **Licensing & Bonding**
Ann Bishop asked for information from PRIA and is awaiting this information. No one else found out any further information on licensing and bonding. Justin Albright stated to postpone this and address it at the next meeting.
- **ACH**
Vivi Serena is awaiting the license and bonding insurance before she is ACH certified. Tom Cartwright asked Lida Iravani to have her timesheet to him by Thursday, but date it for Friday. He also mentioned that he can do ACH for producers if we need a profile established for one of them, but Tom asked if this was worth setting up for a producer if he/she is only getting paid once. He is also concerned with the more profiles we have registered with the bank; then, we might get charged for this service.

2) MCBCC Budget

Ann Bishop mentioned that the MCBCC budget is due May 1st at 5 PM. The Board discussed the MCBCC budget, particularly the goals and year-in-review. Ann mentioned that she will have a more detailed projection on expenses at the next meeting, but it probably will not change much. Also she stated that she is still waiting to hear from the County regarding the computer and IT connection. Ann mentioned that the Board may want to allocate funding for this regardless. The Board will review this at the next meeting.

3) Grace Force Scholarship

Ann Bishop asked if anyone on the Board would like to attend the PEFMC Award Ceremony for our scholarship on the evening of April 27th, if the ceremony is not postponed or cancelled? Justin stated that he would be able to attend. Later Tom Cartwright stated that he also would go. Ann needs to submit this to PEFMC by April 13th. Lida Iravani and Brent London submitted their scores. Oneisha is almost finished. Vivi Serena and Richard McGinley could not print or view the essays, so Ann will provide them with a copy. Tom received his copies the day before and will get the scores to Ann. Ann needs a decision by April 3rd; the results are due April 6th. Ann reminded the Board that they also need to submit a signed form, indicating no partiality, if they judged. Ann is going to send Brent this form.

4) Cancellations/Postponements

- **Run for the Springs**
Cancelled, refunding money.
- **State Land Judging**
Cancelled, refunding money.
- **Envirothon**
The local contest was postponed, trying to do an online exam before April 5th. The State is also trying to do an online contest on April 25th. We are not sure about Nationals yet.
- **Technical Committee Meeting**
Postponed till June 18th.
- **County Health Fair**
Postponed till June 18th.
- **AFCD Area Meeting**
AFCD will follow up in May to determine a date for the Area Meetings. Thus far we had Lida Iravani, Ann Bishop, Brent London and Justin Albright as attending, but this is subject to change as we get closer to the meeting.
- **IAAP Conference**
The IAAP Conference was moved to October, no refunds will be given, unless the October Meeting is also cancelled.

5) NRCS Report

- **Program Update**
Oneisha gave an update.
- **Shutdown**
Oneisha mentioned that USDA is currently at a Level 2, restricted access, but if a Level 3 occurs, offices will close.

6) FDACS Report

- **Program Update**

Nick Godano and Lida Iravani gave an update on the cost share. Nick mentioned that the cost share is winding down, and he is awaiting a response from Tammy Hinkle on what projects she has left. Nick stated that a few producers are waiting on no till drills. He also stated that producers are afraid to spend money due to the virus. Lida also agreed that producers are cancelling due to the financial uncertainty. Nick stated that he will keep the Board updated on any changes, and we may land up with 50K in cost share funding that is not spent. He mentioned that FDACS wants them to close out contracts this week or next. He also stated that we need a check signed for a producer.

7) Staff Report & Recap

- **Thank You Letter**

Reviewed.

- **Work Update**

Ann mentioned that she is working on the FDACS brochure/flyer, the MCBCC budget, finances, FDACS reporting, and the cancellations. Ann also stated that the apparel was ordered with the logos and should arrive within the next few meetings. Ann asked about using the stamps for signatures, and the Board consented.

8) Upcoming Events

- MSWCD Meeting – April 14
- FDACS Reporting Due – April 15
- MSWCD Workshop – April 28

9) Tentative Agenda for MSWCD Board Meeting Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 9:30 AM.

- 1) MSWCD Board Minutes
- 2) MSWCD Board Financial Report
- 3) Motion to allow Executive Administrator to use signature stamps to sign documents during the pandemic

10) General Public Comments

11) Supervisor Comments

The Board stated that if we need to conduct the meeting next month via teleconference that it is better than not meeting. Tom Cartwright worried about the public access, and Ann Bishop mentioned that she gave the numbers to the County and the Star Banner in order for the public to gain access to the meeting.

12) Meeting Adjournment

With no other business needing to be addressed, Chairman Justin Albright adjourned the meeting at 10:14 AM, until our next scheduled meeting.

Our next Board Meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2020 at 9:30 AM at the USDA Ocala Service Center; otherwise, via teleconference, depending on the CO-VID 19 situation.

MSWCD's regular meetings are held at 9:30 AM on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and their workshops are held the 4th Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM. Both meetings are located at the USDA Ocala Service Center's Conference Room at 2441 NE 3rd St., Ste 204-2, Ocala, FL 34471. For more information, call (352) 414-7808.