

Regular Meeting Minutes
Collier Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD)
January 16, 2025, 10:00 am
IFAS Extension Center
14700 Immokalee Rd., Naples, FL 34120

A regular monthly board meeting of the board of supervisors was called to order January 16, 2025 at 9:05 AM.

Present: Rob Griffin, James Nikolich, Santos Colberg, Meghan Foos , Jillian Sanchez, and Jess Morris. Also in attendance were guests: Irwin Acosta-Lopez, Daritzel Cintrón, and IFAS guest Lindsey Crum.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Agenda . Supervisor Meghan Foos made a motion to approve the agenda. Supervisor Jess Morris seconds.

III. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes Supervisor Jillian Sanchez made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes. Supervisor Jess Morris seconds.

IV. Reports

a. District Conservationist's Report: Mr. Santos Colberg introduced a new natural resource specialist, Dartizel Cintrón-Nieves. Mr. Colberg discussed a new focus on aquaculture, more specifically on clams and bivalves. He announced that CSP applications were in the works of being assessed. There are currently 74 EQIP and 17 CSP applications. Mr. Colberg announced that there are currently three contracts totaling approximately \$100,000 in Lee County.

b. Financials: The financial report was not yet available. Mr. James Nikolich stated he would distribute the report via email when they were made available to him.

d. District Status Report: Mr. James Nikolich informed the board that the new truck was registered. He was able to complete 2 evaluations so far this month and has eight more scheduled. Mr. Nikolich stated that the November invoice had been deposited in the amount of \$10,420. The December invoice has been approved for \$7,935. Mr. Nikolich informed the board he received a notice for NACD membership applications. Supervisor Meghan Foos motioned to sponsor \$100. Supervisor Jillian Sanchez seconds.

e. Chairman's Report: Chairman Rob Griffin shared with the board that the agenda has been laid out for the coming year and to remain on the lookout for upcoming AFCD meetings.

f. Secretary's Report: Supervisor Heather Cleckler was not present.

g. Treasurer's Report: Supervisor Meghan Foos informed the board that she was able to take the CSWCD trailer to the Collier Youth Leadership Event at JB Ranch. She would also like to bring the trailer to next year's Florida Cattlemen's Convention.

h. Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Jillian Sanchez informed the board that she received her commission for the term beginning on November 6, 2024. She announced that the board should receive their commissions within the week.

i. Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Jess Morris suggested a photo booth for events featuring the CCSWCD trailer.

V. Old Business

a. IFAS Position: The board discussed the hiring process for the new IFAS position and allocation of funds. Supervisor Meghan Foos motioned to fund the Ag Awareness position in the amount of \$27,000 that will be distributed in quarterly payments. Supervisor Jillian Sanchez seconds.

VI. New Business

a. CSWCD Poster Contest s: Supervisor Meghan Foos informed the board of a poster contest. At this time, prizes are to be finalized and presented to schools.

b. AgVentures Update by Meghan Foos: Supervisor Meghan Foos informed the board of the Immokalee Ag Ventures occurring on March 4th and the Collier Ag Ventures taking place on March 31st through April 4th.

VII. The board agreed to have our next board meeting on February 20, 2025 at our regular meeting site at the IFAS Extension Center at 9:00am

VIII. Adjourn meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.