

Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District

21th REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, September 18th 2018

The twenty first meeting of the Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District board of supervisors was held on Tuesday September 18th, 2018 at Polk State College campus in Lakeland, Fl. Room LTB 1124.

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman Upthagrove called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

PC SWCD SUPERVISORS in Attendance:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Brett Upthagrove | Chairman |
| Dr. Sharon Masters | Vice – Chair |
| Joe Garrison | Treasurer |
| Mike Darrow | Secretary |
| Kyle Carlton | Supervisor |

Drew Pitts - BMP Technician - PCSWCD

III. Approval of the last meeting 8/21/18 minutes.

Electronic Minutes were available at this meeting and sent out prior to the meeting.

Motion to accept minutes; Approved 5 - 0.

IV. NRCS Agreement discussion:

Mutual cooperative agreement – District Conservationist, Mr. Sheehan was not in attendance – No Report. Brett stated, the status was the same as last month.

V. NRCS Conservation report:

Conservation report - District Conservationist, Mr. Sheehan was not in attendance. No Report. Brett gave a brief overview from Mr. Sheehan.

VI. Treasures Report:

No Report.

VII. Chairman's report:

Chairman Upthagrove discussed the Annual AFCD meeting he attended. There was some by law changes discussed at the state level. The Chairman stated he would need a check for the speech contest winner for \$50. He went over the training provided at the event and thought it was a good event.

Chairman Upthagrove asked for help in the future Speech and poster contests that are worked on thru the Polk County School district with Paul Webb. He was looking for someone to be a committee chair for that area. Supervisor Kyle Carlton volunteered to work with Mr. Webb on this task.

Chairman Upthagrove asked for a Workshop meeting to be set up for discussing housekeeping issues with the district. A meeting was set up with the tentative date of 10/2/18 at Bob Evans. Vice chair Masters asked all to bring ideas for the district to work on in the future. This would be a brainstorm event for thinks thru some issues.

Chairman Upthagrove talked about the need for a bookkeeper again for all accounts the FDACs account primary. Asked for checked to be written for State Farm insurance for the PCSWCD Truck # 1005 and # 1006 to HCSWCD for Drew's salary and expenses.

Local working Group - Chairman Upthagrove talked about the meeting on August 30th, 2018. The attendance was low and was looking for improvements or ideas to increase attendance.

VIII. PCSWCD Report:

Mr. Drew Pitts - BMP Technician for PCSWCD, gave a brief report:

Drew talked about the areas he was working on for BMP enrollment and reporting to us on like weather stations, drip irrigation, Soil probe monitoring, Cost share contracts and customer service. He is reaching out to area producers for enrollments or information on programs. Most currently projects are solar wells and cross fencing.

Vice Chair Masters asked for updates in a report of the workings and the contract numbers for Polk County.

Supervisor Garrison had an idea for Lights on Tractors that run between fields for safety. He asked for involvement in this project.

IX. AFCD - PCSWCD Website Update:

Supervisor Darrow reported He now has the website up and running. The website now has all meeting minutes available online. A listing of all supervisors, and current meeting agendas and other items needed like meeting times and locations to the website.

X. SWFWMD – Farms Program Report:

No Report.

X. FDACS Report:

No Report.

XIV. The Next meeting:

The Next meeting is scheduled for 10/16/18 at the Polk State Lakeland Campus, Florida at 6:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Action items:

1. Future presentations by district conservationist on each program offered.
2. Develop a conservation district plan with goals and objectives for future. . **Partially complete.**
3. Look for grants and funding opportunities. **Partially complete**
4. Partner with other agencies to move conservation projects to Polk County. **Partially complete**
5. Employee funding decisions or partnerships. **Partially complete.**
6. Work to hoist a successful State land Judging contest in 2018. (FFA and 4H) **Completed in March 2018.**
7. Identify projects to partner with the committee for conservation projects.
8. Develop a business plan and plans for :
 - Community gardens
 - Rain Gardens!
 - Urban forest grants
 - Cost share projects
 - Community education
 - Speech contest
 - Envirothon
 - Land Conservation
 - Water Conservation
 - Youth education projects
 - Employee funding
 - Grants

Respectfully submitted, Michael Darrow