

# Okeechobee Soil and Water Conservation District

## Board of Supervisors January 2025 Minutes Approved

Approved Date: March 12, 2025

Location: 200 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street Conference Room

Time: 1:00pm

- I. Motion to approve December 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes (Sellers/Rutledge). Motion passed unanimously.
- II. Motion to approve the Financial Report as presented (Sellers/Figley). Motion passed unanimously.
- III. Staff Program Reports
  - I. Carlos Torres, District Conservationist introduced himself and gave the NRCS update. He encouraged the Board to remind constituents to update their farm records every year.
  - II. Sheila Kitaif, Environmental Manager, gave the FDACS report. Steve Smith, Bureau Chief of Field Services, would like to receive our meeting notices going forward. Ms. Kitaif discussed the formatting of the new Sod and Cattle BMP manuals.
  - III. Audrey Kuipers reported that FSA is working on sending letters to producers to recuperate falsely reported losses.
  - IV. Vicki Wheeler and Audrey Kuipers gave the report on OSWCD programs. Ms. Kuipers will be attending the State Technical Committee meeting January 14 in Gainesville and submitting recommendations to the Kissimmee River Bend State Forest Management Plan. NRCS and OSWCD will have representation at the Allied Trade Show, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- IV. Unfinished Business
  - I. Motion to allow staff to assist the Sarasota SWCD with their NACD Feral Swine Grant administrative duties for an administrative fee of 5% per producer payment or \$1000.00, whichever is greater (Sellers/Figley). Motion passed unanimously.
- V. New Business
  - I. Audrey Kuipers is unable to be at the Okeechobee Delegation Day, however Highlands SWCD presented at the morning session that was in Highlands County. Indian River SWCD also communicated with their delegation that FL

SWCD realize there are deficiencies in some Districts, but to not abolish all of us. No action needed.

II. IRS Notification Letter was sent that our information was stolen from 2017-2021 from a contractor. No action needed.

III. Plan of Work/Goals and Objectives tabled until after Legislation.

VI. Supervisor and Public Comments-None

VII. Upcoming Events and Deadlines

I. Okeechobee County Ag-Venture: January 8-9, 2025

II. Board of Supervisors Meeting: No February Meeting

III. NACD Annual Conference: February 8-12, 2025

IV. Board of Supervisors Meeting: March 12, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 1:33pm.

Adopted at the March 12, 2025, meeting.