



*ESCAMBIA  
SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT*

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES**  
**January 16, 2020**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Mr. Levy Morgan, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. Betty Wilson, Secretary and Mrs. Anne Bennett, Treasurer.

**Attendees**

Mr. Eddie Cooper, Division Manager Escambia County Natural Resources; Mr. Joshua McElhaney, District Conservationist USDA/NRCS and Mrs. Debbie Williams, Escambia County Natural Resources.

**Call to Order**

Mr. Levy Morgan called the meeting to order at 9:00a.

**Public Forum**

Mr. Matt Posner, Interim Director of the Pensacola & Perdido Bays Estuary Program in Escambia County. Mr. Posner gave brief background report on the history of the program. It is to be a model of the national level's program in which has been a success for Mobile Bay and Tampa. There are three group components. One is the Legislative Board, Technical Advisory Board, and Education and Outreach Board. The goal is to educate the public on watersheds and receive the public's input to as why the waterways are important to them be from boating, fishing or to just the esthetics. Then the groups come to a plan to incorporate actions to resolve issues and how to maintain the waterways. Not only do residents of the south end of the county be involved but so do those in the north end and even into Alabama.

Mrs. Debbie Williams stated Arbor Day will be Saturday, January 18, 2020 at Beulah Middle School from 8:30a – 11:00a.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Mrs. Betty Wilson made a motion to accept the November 21, 2019 Board minutes. Mrs. Anne Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried unopposed.

**Acknowledgement of Public Notice**

Meeting advertisements were noted.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Bennett gave the Treasurer's report and stated an invoice had come in for NACD. Mrs. Bennett made a motion not to remit payment due to the fact the Board is unfunded. Mrs. Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried unopposed.

**Reports**

Mr. Joshua McElhaney gave the District Conservationist report. Mr. McElhaney updated the Board on the activities of the office, EQIP, Farm Bill and the new State Conservationist.

Mr. McElhaney stated Mr. Eddie Cooper will be retiring at the end of the month. He had been with the County for 35 years.

Mr. McElhaney reviewed the Civil Rights and Responsibilities to the Board. He distributed the information to the Board and all members signed the acknowledgement form.

#### **Old Business**

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of someone to fill the vacant Board position due to the resignation of Mr. Delbert Redditt.

Mr. Eddie Cooper stated he is interested and would accept being appointed.

Mrs. Bennett made a motion to appoint Mr. Eddie Cooper to the vacant Group 5 position.

Mrs. Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried unopposed.

#### **New Business**

Discussion was held on the 2020 Board meeting schedule. With all in favor, the Board will maintain meeting every third Thursday of the month, 9:00am at the Farm Bureau building in Molino.

The election of officers will defer until Mr. Cooper becomes official in the Group 5 position.

Discussions were held on the following:

Possible grant opportunities and outside funding for the Board. Mrs. Bennett stated she had gone to a class which certified individuals in construction monitoring/assessment. The Board could possibly look into being a trainer and hold these classes for revenue.

Farmer of the Year – Mr. McElhaney stated this could be postponed until further into the year.

USDA Employee to assist with the office and Board – Mr. McElhaney stated at this time, there is no funding.

AFCID dues – this will be addressed when time invoice is received.

Earth Day in April – Mrs. Wilson plans to attend and will get educational information from the office to distribute.

Northview's Blue Jacket Jamboree in March – The Board will discuss the possibility of participation.

With no further business coming before the Board, Mrs. Bennett made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Wilson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:22.

  
Mrs. Betty Wilson, Secretary



*ESCAMBIA  
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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES  
February 20, 2020**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Mrs. Betty Wilson, Secretary; Mrs. Anne Bennett, Treasurer; Mr. Zackery Gossett, and Mr. Eddie Cooper.

**Attendees**

Mrs. Debbie Williams, Escambia County Natural Resources.

**Call to Order**

Mr. Levy Morgan was absent; Mrs. Betty Wilson conducted the meeting. Mrs. Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:03a.

Those present stated the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag in unison.

Mr. Eddie Cooper gave the Invocation.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Mrs. Anne Bennett made a motion to accept the January 15, 2020 Board minutes. Mr. Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried unopposed.

**Acknowledgment of Public Notice**

Meeting advertisements were noted.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Bennett gave the Treasurer's report.

**Reports**

Mr. Joshua McElhaney, District Conservationist, was absent due to a USDA/NRCS Area meeting.

Mrs. Debbie Williams stated the batching period for the EQIP sign up ends on March 6, 2020.

**Old Business**

Discussion was held on participating in the Northview High School's FFA Blue Jacket Jamboree and Earth Day. With all in favor, the Board will focus on Earth Day being held April 22, 2020.

Discussion was held on a class for becoming a construction inspector for work being performed along roads and other areas. Mrs. Bennett stated the class is offered by the DEP. Mrs. Wilson stated she would look into the program.

**New Business**

Discussion was held on the election of officers. Mr. Cooper made a motion to defer the election until next month. Mr. Zackery Gossett seconded the motion. Motion carried unopposed.

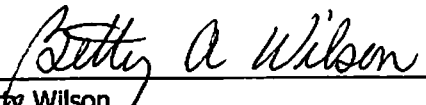
Mrs. Wilson distributed an outline of the Carpenter Creek and Bayou Texar Watershed Management Plan.

Discussion was held on the plan, Marcus Creek and the Estuary Program. The Board would like Mr. Matt Posner to attend another meeting for more in depth information.

Mrs. Bennett stated there will be a meeting presented by the Emerald Coast Pedestrian and Bicycle Working Group. The meeting will be held on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 2:00pm in Ft. Walton Beach.

Mrs. Bennett passed around the annual report from NACD and a letter from the Alachua SWCD regarding the state land judging.

With no further business coming before the Board, Mr. Gossett made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Bennett seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55.

  
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Betty Wilson

Escambia Soil & Water Conservation District  
Board of Supervisors  
Minutes October 29, 2020  
Conference Call Meeting

Attendees: Betty A. Wilson, Zachary Gossett, Ann Bennett  
Guests: Louis Toth (Unopposed candidate)  
Catherine Monroe-Dismukes (Unopposed candidate)

Betty Wilson led the meeting.

Anna Bennett presented the Treasurer's report. We have \$168 in our account. Betty explained that we have no financial support from Escambia County or any other source. We do occasionally receive small grants from other organizations.

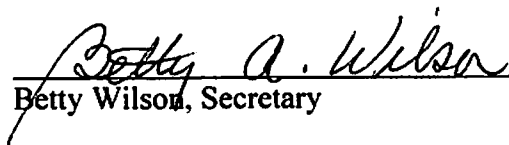
Ann Bennett made a motion that we send a letter to the Florida and national organizations that we belong to ask for a hardship exemption on our annual dues. Zack Gossett seconded the motion. The motion was passed by acclamation.

We approved the minutes for our February meeting. Ann made the motion and Zach seconded. Passed by acclamation.

Louis Toth expressed that the Escambia County might develop OLF - 8 without a complete knowledge of potential environmental problems caused by past use as a Navy helicopter-landing site. Escambia County received the property in a land swap with the Navy. There is always a possibility of spills where helicopter refueling and maintenance takes place.

Ann stated that she did not run in this election, but would be willing to rejoin the Board if an opening does occur.

Ann proposed that that we write a letter to the governor asking that he extend the deadline on governmental bodies being allowed to vote on Zoom meetings and conference calls.

  
Betty Wilson, Secretary