



*ESCAMBIA  
SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT*

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES**  
**April 21, 2022**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Mrs. Betty Wilson, Chair; Mr. Travis Tharp, Vice-Chair; Mrs. Anne Bennett, Treasurer; Mr. Louis Toth, Secretary, Mr. Zackery Gossett.

**Attendees**

Mr. Joshua McElhaney, District Conservationist-NRCS; Mr. Levi Blackmon, Soil Conservationist-NRCS; Mrs. Debbie Williams, Escambia County NRC.

**Call to Order**

Mrs. Betty Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:06am.

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

Mr. Levi Blackmon gave the Invocation.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Mrs. Anne Bennett made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2022 meeting. Mr. Zackery Gossett seconded. Motion carried unopposed.

**Acknowledgment of Public Notice**

Meeting advertisement published.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Bennett gave the Treasurer's report. Discussion held on payment of NACD dues. Motion by Mrs. Bennett to submit another hardship letter. Seconded by Mr. Gossett. Motion carried.

**Reports**

Mr. Joshua McElhaney gave the District Conservationist report. The Urban Agriculture Incentive under the EQIP program will be taking applications until May 13, 2022. Current funding for EQIP and CSP is underway.

**Old Business**

Discussion held on SB 1078 updates. Mrs. Wilson attended the FDACS/AFCD SB 1078 update discussion via phone on April 20, 2022. As of now there are no legal suits being brought and as of now, the Bill has not been signed by the Governor. Mrs. Bennet made a motion to send another letter. However, the Board had previously sent a letter to the Governor regarding the Bill. At this time there was no second. Further discussion held regarding sending a follow-up letter to the Governor and appropriate staff. Mrs. Wilson stated she would work with Mrs. Bennett on this if so moved. Mr. Toth made a motion to send a follow-up letter to the Governor and others regarding SB 1078. Mr. Gossett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Further discussions held on eligibility criteria for the Board if the Bill passes, county districts, and election timeframes.

Discussion held on the meeting requirements for the Board. For calendar year 2022, meetings must be in a public accessible facility, all 5 supervisors need to be present, no vacancies, and minutes are to taken. As of date, the ESWCD Board meets the criteria.

#### **New Business**

Mr. Toth attended the GCA & NRYO/Northview Blue Jacket Jamboree held on March 26, 2022. He was impressed with the livestock show/event and brought some brochures back for the Board to review.

Mr. Toth, as an educational outreach, dispersed information to the county's schools on the Seedlings for Schools wildflower garden grant provided by the Florida Wildflower Foundation.

Mrs. Wilson will be attending and setting a display on behalf of the Board for the 2022 Earth Day event being held on Saturday, April 23, 2022 at the Bayview Park. For record, due to the fact two Board members will be attending the same event, it is noted Mrs. Bennett will be attending too but not representing the Board and will have another station set up.

With no further business coming before the Board, Mr. Travis Tharp made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Toth. The meeting adjourned at 10:20am.



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Mr. Louis Toth