

Osceola Soil & Water Conservation District

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES



DATE: January 18, 2022

PRESENT: Chairperson Valerie Anderson, Supervisor Michele Walker., and Conservationist Chuck O'Rourke. Guests: Marjorie and Serenity Santos.

ABSENT: Supervisor Joel Davis.

Call to Order and Roll Call: Chairperson Anderson called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m. EST. Quorum was not achieved for this meeting

- **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. O'Rourke.
- **Minutes:** December 21, 2022 Minutes couldn't be approved without quorum. Meeting minutes posted on OSWCD Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/OSWCD/>.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Balance of the bank account is \$1,015.09.
- **Conservationist's Report:** Chuck provided an overview for our new supervisor. Chuck is the District Conservationist for Osceola and Orange County, provides technical assistance to the board as requested. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides financial and technical assistance for landowners in both counties. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is the main financial assistance program his office works with. Initially his team provides technical assistance by the way of conservation planning then farmers/ranchers go through an application process to provide them with incentive payments to implement those practices. Hurricane Ian hit Southwest Florida really hard and he's been providing assistance to Manatee and Sarasota Counties. He's been doing site visits and developing a plan for them to fix the damage. He's back focusing on his regular (local) applications recently. He received six applications from Hurricane Ian damage in

Osceola County (mainly fences). He has 20 regular EQIP applications to re-review.

Old Business

None

New Business

- **2023 Envirothon – Gabbie Milch:** Our regional Envirothon is usually held at Leu Gardens but is now being relocated to Lee Campus of Seminole State College in Oveido (2505 Lockwood Blvd). 100 students and 20 teams are expected. It's on Friday, February 24 from 9:45am-1pm. Station rotation of different activities and testing. Different sections will be taught by different teachers, soil, wildlife, forestry, aquatics, climate change & resiliency. Would like the board to volunteer – preparing students' swag bags weekend before evenings. Students will have a pizza lunch with salad available for vegan students. The event needs a certificate of liability insurance needed, Chuck offered our fund. To volunteer we will need to contact the volunteer coordinator at SSC – email Gabby for her contact (gabbie4swcd3@gmail.com). Cheryl Grieb offered us \$1,500. Gabby says we could use that money for tshirts. Chuck will get us the logo and provide us a list of science teachers that he has used in the past.
- **New seats/districts overview – Valerie Anderson:** We need to fill the board to that we meet the new requirements. Seat 1 is vacant. Supervisor Walker is currently in Seat 3 but lives in the area for Seat 2. Chair Anderson is currently in Seat 2 but lives in the area for Seat 4. Supervisor Davis is in Seat 5 and is properly seated. The seat numbers and areas correspond to the Osceola county Commission districts.
- **Supervisor role overview:** Charles O'Rourke indicated he would email us the AFCD Supervisors manual so we could determine roles at the next meeting.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: 4:33 p.m. EST

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 4:00 p.m. EDT online Zoom, Meeting ID: 868 9004 9649 and Passcode: 764951.