

Hillsborough Soil & Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors * District Regular Meeting
Wednesday, August 31, 2022 @ 4:30 pm
Florida Strawberry Growers Association
13138 Lewis Gallagher Road
Dover, Florida 33527



AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Introduce Board Members and the Public – *Public Comment*
Minutes of June 8, 2022 Board Meeting – Acting *Chairman Andrew Brooks*
Financial Report - *Treasurer Sonja Brookins*
NRCS District/Area /State Report – *Leslie Diaz-Alvarez, District Conservationist and Walter Albarran, Area Conservationist (review of NRCS office plans)*
FDACS Update - *Matt Warren, Environmental Manager (Via Zoom)*
SWFWMD Farms Program – *Jeff Whealton, Ken Griner, Thomas Stevens (all on zoom)*
Agribusiness Development Report - *Simon Bollin, Agribusiness Development Manager*
Request for Non-Agenda Items – *Acting Chairman Andrew Brooks*

BUSINESS

- Election of Chair to fill balance of term August 31, 2022 – December 2022; Election of Supervisor.
- SB 1078 / Review of Rule Making Process for Senate Bill 1078, including use of Hillsborough County School Board Districts to determine HSWCD sub-Districts. Use of School Board Districts conflicts with legislative intent to create 5 equal geographic districts per county. Hillsborough is only county in Florida directed to use school district boundaries (which are based on population and not of equal size).
- Update on original EPA Proposal to remove strawberries from the Thiram (currently an approved fungicide) label effective this upcoming season.
- AFCD – Area 4 annual meeting held June 18, 2022 at Florida Strawberry Growers Association, 13138 Lewis Gallagher Road. Continental breakfast, full luncheon and gift bags provided by HSWCD. Districts in attendance (with Hillsborough and Seminole abstaining due to membership dispute. Confirmed post meeting that Hillsborough dues had in fact been paid) voted unanimously to review AFCD at the State Annual business meeting in September 2022 to determine future of organization. After Resolution was provided to AFCD, decision was announced to cancel Sept 2022 Annual Meeting and move to January 24 –27, 2023. Participated in AFCD Quarterly meeting on July 1, 2022. AFCD next Quarterly Meeting – September 7, 2022 @ 1 pm @ Best Western Gateway Grand Hotel in Gainesville.
- Education Programs
 - *Ag Venture – HSWCD will participate in Fall 2022 Ag Venture at Florida State Fairgrounds, October 25 – 28 and October 31 – November 4, 2022, with October 31st designated as Home School Day. This will include thousands of 3rd grade students and HSWCD theme will be “Pollinators”. HSWCD will participate in Spring Ag Venture April 18 – 21, 2023.
 - * Poster Contests – 2022 NACD contest theme “Healthy Soil, Healthy Life”. District winning posters competed at Area meeting on June 18, 2022 and advanced to State competition on June 30, 2022. Of the 5 state categories, Hillsborough SWCD placed first in 3; 2nd in 1 and 3rd in 1. The 3 1st place winners will now advance to the national competition. Winners will be recognized at the October 2022 HSWCD Board meeting.

* Summer Poster Contest – HSWCD summer contest is being held from June 10 – September 30, 2022 with the theme; “Our Perfect Pollinators”. Hillsborough County Fair has committed to same arrangement (free ticket and display for all posters) as previously provided.

* 2023 NAVD Poster Contest underway, with the theme “One Water”. District competition will be open until April 2023.

*Envirothon – Current plans are competition to return for 2022 – 2023 school year.

* Land Judging – HSWCD Land Judging competition to return for 2022 – 2023 school year. Request Board approval for HSWCD to host 2023 State Land Judging competition. Hillsborough has hosted very successfully in the past, and a request has been made for Districts to confirm interest in 2023 hosting slot.

➤ Director’s Report, review of Overall Programs – Betty Jo Tompkins

* HSWCD Grant award with City of Tampa – Just announced that the City of Tampa has received a national grant that HSWCD was a submitting partner on. HSWCD will receive approximately \$30,000. from the grant. Additional details to be available in September.

*GS FEST –HSWCD scheduled to participate in 2022 GS Fest at Florida State Fairgrounds.’

* Hillsborough County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting – 6:60 pm – TECO Building at Strawberry Festival. HSWCD will have complimentary display. Note: Supervisors will receive 2 tickets to event. Additional tickets available at \$15.00 each,

* Earl Kennard School Dedication and Dinner – October 13, 2022 – Hillsborough County Fairgrounds

* Hillsborough County Fair, November 3 – 13, 2022 – Review of all elements of 2022 HSWCD involvement in 2022 Hillsborough County Fair. Fair has secured a 40’ x 60’ tent for HSWCD to promote “Conservation is everybody’s Business” and “Bees, Bats, Birds and Butterflies, Our Perfect Pollinators”. This will include an expanded youth horticulture show, expanded rain barrel competition, poster contest display, Great Plant Auction and displays by HSWCD, Operation Pollination, Rotary Brandon Global Eco, City of Tampa, Coalition of Community Gardens, Farm Bureau, NRCS, USDA, and others.

Fair Workday – October 11, 2022 – The workday will commence with a volunteer breakfast from 8 – 10 am, followed by a workday on fair booths and exhibits. Supervisors and volunteers encouraged to attend.

Harvest Awards – November 3, 2022 – 11:30am – Fair awards and recognition kickoff luncheon. Supervisors encouraged to attend (HSWCD is a previous recipient).

Participated in Fair Board meetings, etc. as a member of Fair Executive Board.

* Florida Ag Expo – November 2, 2022 – HSWCD will have a complimentary booth in the 2022 Expo, with set-up on November 1st in booth 31.

* Operation Pollination – Program currently signing up businesses, churches, civic clubs, educational institutions, families, governmental entities, individuals and youth groups to conduct pollinator activities with a goal of 100 projects by April 2024.

* Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge – Work continuing on 2022 projects/plans underway for 2023.

* Update on Julia Mosley historic property in Brandon

* FCDEA – Participated in monthly meetings, survey updates/other activities. Annual meeting zoom in Sept.

*Local Working Group – HSWCD/NRCS – 3:00 pm – 5:30 PM, November 29, 2022 @ Strawberry Growers

* NACD Summer Meeting and SE meeting – July 15 – 19, 2022 – San Juan, Puerto Rico. Supervisors Brooks and Brookins and Director Tompkins participated in NACD Summer Meeting and SE meeting in July. Held meetings with numerous officials.

- * NACD National Urban and Community Webinar – December 15, 2022 - HSWCD and Director Tompkins will be the featured presenter on this national webinar supported by Miracle Gro.
- * Florida State Fair (February 9 – 20, 2023) and Florida Strawberry Festival (March 2 – 12, 2023) – Plans underway for full participation by HSWCD in both major events.
- * Coalition of Community Gardens – Participated in Grow Gardens 5th Conference – August 26 and 27, 2022
- * Hillsborough County 4-H Foundation – Participated in Board meetings, events, etc.
- * Center Place Board and Community Roundtable Board - participated in Board meetings, events, etc.
- * Wrote articles for INF (In The Field) magazine.
- * Rotary Brandon Global ECO and Rotary ESRAG – Participated in programs regarding Operation Pollination, Little Forests, etc.
- * Other – Greater Plant City Chamber; Greater Riverview Chamber; Tampa Bay Beekeepers, Republican Executive Committee; Florida 4-H Hall of Fam Luncheon- UF Gainesville (nominated Grooms family)
- Public Correspondence, Upcoming Events, Announcements
- Next Board Meeting – 4:30 p.m. – October 12, 2022
- Adjournment and Dinner

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- * August 31, 2022 – 4:30 pm – HSWCD Board Meeting – Florida Strawberry Growers
- * September 24, 2022 – GS Fest – Florida State Fairgrounds
- * October 5, 2022 – Greater Riverview Chamber Candidate Forum – The Barn @ Winthrop
- * October 11, 2022 – Farm Bureau Banquet at TECO Hall – Strawberry Festival; HSWCD exhibit
- * October 12, 2022 – 4:30 pm – HSWCD Board Meeting – Florida Strawberry Growers
- * October 13, 2022 – Earl Lennard School House dedication dinner – Hillsborough County Fairgrounds
- * October 22, 2022 – 8 am – Hillsborough County Fair Volunteer Breakfast; All day – Fair workday and set-up for HSWCD Conservation tent
- * October 24 – 28 – Ag Venture for 3rd graders at State Fairgrounds – HSWCD presenter
- * October 31, 2022 – Home School Day for Ag Venture; Nov. 1 – 4 Ag Venture 2nd week
- * November 1, 2022 – Set-up for Florida Ag Expo
- * November 2, 2022 – Florida Ag Expo – UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research Center, Balm
- * November 3 – 13, 2022 – Hillsborough County Fair
- * November 3 – Harvest Awards, Hillsborough County
- * November 13, 2022 – HSWCD Great Plant Auction – Hillsborough County Fair
- * November 29, 2022 – 3:00 – 5:30 pm – Local Working Group – Florida Strawberry Growers
- * December 14, 2022 – 4:30 pm – HSWCD Board Meeting – Florida Strawberry Growers
- * December 15, 2022 – NACD national ag webinar – presented by HSWCD
- * January 24 – 27, 2023 – AFCD Annual Meeting- Best Western Gateway Grand Hotel – Gainesville
- * February 9 – 20, 2023 – Florida State Fair – Tampa
- * February 9, 2023 – Fresh From Florida Breakfast and Governors Lunch
- * February 11 – 15, 2023 – NACD Annual Meeting – New Orleans
- * February 13, 2023 – Woman of the Year in Ag Luncheon
- * February 14, 2023 – Ag Hall of Fame Dinner – Florida State Fair
- * February 20, 2023 – Champion of Champions Dinner – State Fair
- * March 2 -12, 2023 – Florida Strawberry Festival



Thanks for your commitment to conservation and our Hillsborough Soil and Water Conservation District....Leading for Tomorrow! Betty Jo Tompkins