

## HILLSBOROUGH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### **Board of Supervisors \* District Regular Meeting Wednesday, October 10, 2018 4:00 P.M.**

Meeting called to order at 4:06 PM by Chairman Mark Proctor.

#### **Supervisors in attendance:**

Mark Proctor, Chair  
Michael Hepburn, Treasurer  
Susan Dumke, Vice Chair  
David Maynard

#### **Others in Attendance:**

Betty Jo Tompkins, HSWCD, Executive Director  
Jennifer Gray, HSWCD, Administrative Services Coordinator  
Erik Moretuzzo, FDACS/HSWCD, Ag Conservation Technician  
Dan Oliver, NRCS, District Conservationist  
Jeff Whealton, SWFWMD AG TEAM, Program Coordinator  
Matt Vinzant, SWFWMD FARMS, Project Manager

#### INTRODUCE MEMBER(S) OF THE PUBLIC

Chairman requested members and guests introduce themselves and offer public comment.

#### MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 15, 2018 REGULAR MEETING

Sup. Hepburn moved approval of August 15, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes.  
Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sup. Maynard. Motion passed unanimously.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report presented by Sup. Hepburn as follows:

- Regular account beginning balance of \$17,203.04 and ending balance of \$16,203.04
- Mini-Farm account beginning balance of \$18,048.77 and ending balance of \$48,258.52
- Petty Cash account beginning balance of \$29.49 and ending balance of \$31.37
- Hillsborough 100 account beginning balance of \$1,275.83 and ending balance of \$1,025.83

Motion from Sup. Maynard to accept Treasurer's Report to file for audit.

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sup. Hepburn. Motion passed unanimously.

#### NRCS REPORT

Dan Oliver reported four contracts have been certified. Six contracts are deferred and moved into FY2019. Five wetland determinations from FSA are being scheduled. Quality assurance engineering spot checks are complete. Spot checks of agronomics projects and practices are scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018. Batching fund ends November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 for local projects related to National Own Farm Energy Initiative, National Organic Initiative, High Tunnel System, Long Leaf Pine Initiative, Strike Force, Socially Disadvantaged and Beginning Farmer, Working Lands for Wildlife-Quail only and Conservation Activity Plans.

#### AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Tompkins reported for Simon Bollin, Veterans Agriculture Selection Program (VASP) has hired a grant manager, the program has expanded to include Range Cattle Research & Education Center in Ona and the North Florida Research & Education Center in Quincy. VASP received 18 veteran applicants for the programs first cycle. Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 there will be a tasting of Pale Ale, brewed with Florida hops at Cigar City Brewery, donations will be used to expand the hop yard.

#### SWFWMD

Jeff Whealton, AGSWM-reported SWFWMD renewed the center pivot mobile irrigation lab (CPMIL) purchase order. If usage of the CPMIL is low the funds will be moved into ProMIL which focuses on mobile irrigation and engineering services. The NRCS MIL also received funding for FY2019. AGSWM funds replenished at near \$250,000. The soils contract between SWFWMD and NRCS has been terminated, but the NRCS soil scientist services will still be available through a purchase order. Internally SWFWMD is preparing for strawberry crop establishment complaints. Publishing of the Citrus Task Force outreach effort is anticipated at the next Ag Advisory Committee Meeting.

Matt Vinzant, FARMS program- reported FARMS program reallocated funds and increased Mini Farms program from FY2018 of \$100,000 to \$150,000 for FY2019. Individual reimbursements were increased from \$5,000 to \$8,000. To date three applications have been processed, totaling \$12,000. Payment process has been expedited by changing from PO to check request. New Mini Farms handbooks and brochures distributed to Board.

#### REQUEST FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

## BUSINESS:

- A. Update on BMP Program- Moretuzzo reported seven new enrollments: 3 VAC, 1 SFN, 3 Cow Calf. Also five Cost Share projects: 4 weather stations; 1 portable soil moisture probe; 1 irrigation management; 1 cross fence; and 1 hoop sprayer. Met with producers regarding enrollment in the Springs Protection Area, Alafia BMAP, and Weeki Wachee BMAP. 25 self-verifications on newly enrolled producers. Attended training and staff meetings. Spoke with producers at the Central Florida Prescribed Fire Council Meeting in Kissimmee about BMP program.
- B. Update on Education Programs- Tompkins gave an update on programs: Land Judging and Poster Contest. Summer Poster contest is completed. Planning logistics for displaying over 300 posters at the Hillsborough County Fair. Land judging preview point will be at the Florida Strawberry Growers Association. Doug Holmberg has again volunteered to donate BBQ to the land judging lunch. The 2019 poster contest will be kicking off soon. Hiring for Education Outreach position is ongoing, 20 applicants reviewed, one offer tendered. Hailee Walz hired as a part-time intern.
- C. Directors Report- Director Tompkins provided update on the Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge Kickoff Luncheon, to be held at noon, October 24, 2018 at The Regent in Riverview. A "Hillsborough Harvested, Fresh From Florida" meal will be served. Gift bags will be given to each attendee. Awards will be presented for 2018 Challenge project winners, as well as student winners in HSWCD youth competitions. Motion from Sup. Dumke to award "Outstanding Cooperating Partner of the Year" to Florida Strawberry Growers Association, "Outstanding Project of the Year" to Coalition of Community Gardens, and "Outstanding Supporter of the Year" to The Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce, Sup. Maynard 2<sup>nd</sup> motion, motion passed unanimously. Lipman Family Farms will sponsor the 2019 Hillsborough 100 Garden Challenge. A new proclamation created for the 2019 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge will be presented by Commissioner Stacey White. Other activities: HSWCD exhibit displayed at The Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce Candidate Forum, The Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce Political Forum, GS Fest, and Brandon Roundtable Community Service Forum. No updates on Litigation; still pending. HSWCD will sponsor the Youth Plant Show at Hillsborough County Fair; exhibit will be set up the 18-28<sup>th</sup>. Harvest awards lunch, plant auction, and posters will be displayed. Proctor and Tompkins attended NACD Southeast and Southern meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia. Tompkins presented Hillsborough 100 to the National Communications Committee. Motion from Sup. Hepburn to renew annual NACD membership dues at the gold level in the amount of \$800.00, motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sup. Maynard, motion passed unanimously. AFCD annual meeting included area 3 meeting with supervisors, who approved a February 7, 2019 mid-year meeting at Florida State Fair and FSGA offices. Live and silent auction raised over \$1,500 for AFCD, Ellis Putnall Fund and FCDEA. Director Tompkins re-elected as President of FCDEA. Attended quarterly AFCD face to face meeting in Chiefland. New Supervisors survey being created and AFCD Website training. AFCD face to face meetings in 2019 will be held January 12<sup>th</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, June 8<sup>th</sup> and October 5<sup>th</sup>. NACD continues funding for 2019. Ag Venture will take place October 30-November 2 and November 6-9. Director Tompkins will be a presenter at SECDEA Annual Meeting in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Attended IFAS Dinner of Distinction, worked with 4H, Rotary, Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce, Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce, Greater Plant City Chamber of Commerce, and County Fair Board. Completed Poster Contest. Sup. Hepburn moved to give Tampa Reforestation Environmental Effort Inc (T.R.E.E., Inc.) \$250.00 for signage explaining watersheds at the Plant City Commons Community Gardens, motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sup. Maynard, motion passed unanimously. Sup. Maynard moved to give IFAS/University of Florida Extensions \$250.00 for the bi-annual Woody Ornamental Production Field Day mailings, motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sup. Hepburn, motion passed unanimously. Official Supervisor Handbook distributed to Supervisors.
- D. No Public Correspondence.
- E. No further business.
- F. Sup. Hepburn moved to adjourn, Sup. Maynard 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm. Dinner served.



HILLSBOROUGH SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MAJOR ACTIVITY REPORT

October 10, 2018 – December 19, 2018

PREPARED BY:

BETTY JO TOMPKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Hillsborough 100 Update

- Established Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge 501c.3 (prepared pro bono by Curry Law Group, P.A.) with Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. Organizational meeting 3 pm, December 19, 2018 at HSWCD offices in Plant City with approval of Articles, By-Laws, and elections. Purpose: To enhance opportunities for securing donations and grants from individuals, clubs and organizations, corporations, and governmental entities,
- Completed Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge Kickoff Luncheon, October 24, 2018 at The Regent in Riverview with over 100 people in attendance. Event included “Hillsborough Harvested “ Luncheon (consisting of salad with assorted dressings, stuffed potatoes, Cuban sandwiches, blueberry cobblers, strawberry shortcakes and diet/sweet tea), awards and recognitions, door prizes and gift bags (with over 30 items) presented. Program opened with Brandon Army ROTC Color Guard, Pledge by Eliana Holt, and invocation by Joseph Vargas. Proclamation presented by Hillsborough County Commissioner Stacy White. Lipman Family Farms Garden Challenge were recognized: Middle Schools : Ben Hill Middle School and High Schools : Tampa Residential Facility. Recognized were winners in the “Watersheds – Our Water, Our Home” and “Our Tremendous Trees” poster contests in multiple age groups, as well as four winners of Roy Davis Ag Scholarships : \$500.00 winners – Marselina Levi Rabi (Veterinary Medicine) and Hailee Walz (Agricultural Communications); \$250.00 winners – Tamara Hills (Veterinary Medicine) and Haley Wathey (Veterinary Medicine). Three Special Awards presented : “Supporter of the Year – Greater Brandon Chamber of Commerce; “Outstanding Project of the Year” – Coalition of Community Gardens; “Outstanding Cooperating Partner of the Year” – Florida Strawberry Growers Association. Door prizes presented : 4 rolling coolers from HSWCD and large gift basket from Neem Tree Farm.
- Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge tabloid: Publishing date: April 20, 2019; Number of pages: TBD and articles to include updates and new subject matter.
- 2019 Hillsborough 100 Conservation Challenge will feature an expanded role by the Hillsborough County Extension Service (5339 SR 579, Seffner), including an Open House, Saturday, May 4, 2019 featuring their programs, projects and activities.

### Lipman Garden Challenge

- Working with all groups to encourage additional participants for 2019. Goal: 10 middle and 10 high schools. Seeking participation from private and charter schools. Groups participating include agricultural classes, science classes and ESE classes.

### Litigation

Hillsborough County Attorney’s office requesting HSWCD be removed as a party in FDACS and HSWCD case (defendants in Case No.: 18 – CA – 3099) regarding an unpaid cost share agreement. Plaintiff in this case is Centerstate Management Company, Inc. .

### Hillsborough County Fair

- Harvest Awards – 11:30 am – October 18, 2018 at Hillsborough County Fair. HSWCD to received Harvest Award for Public and Community Service.
- HSWCD sponsored Youth Plant Show at County Fair.
- Exhibit – HSWCD presented exhibit during duration of the Fair, October 18 – 21<sup>st</sup> and October 25 – 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Poster Display – All posters entered in HSWCD contests were displayed.
- Plant Auction- Held Noon, October 27, 2018 at County Fair. HSWCD conducted and sponsored plant auction with proceeds going to 4-H, FFA, HSWCD Youth programs, Hillsborough 100 youth awards and four Roy Davis Agricultural Scholarships. Auction proceeds: \$3,500. +. Thank you letters sent to all 2018 plant/allied article donors. Roy Davis and Tompkins working on plans for 2019 Auction.

### Recap of Ag Venture, SECDEA Annual Conference and Florida Ag Expo

- Tompkins presented Ag Venture October 30 – November 2, 2018 serving approximately 600 students during week. Programs included water conservation and the 4 B’s (Bad, Bad, Better, Best) referring to plastic use when shopping: produce bags (Bad), Plastic bags at front of store (Bad), paper (Better) and reusable bags (Best). Gray presented other programs during the week of November 6 – 9, 2018 to approximately same number of students.

- Tompkins attended the SECDEA Annual Meeting November 5 – 8, 2018 in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Presented programs (different ones) on November 6 and 7 and represented Florida as FCDEA President.
- Erik Moretuzzo set up/manned booth at Florida Ag Expo (UF/IFAS Research Center in Balm) on November 7, 2018. Booth space provided complimentary by IFAS and Expo.

#### **Florida State Fair**

- HSWCD will have booth (complimentary) in Ag Hall of Fame Building for duration of Fair (February 7 – 18, 2019.)
- Fresh From Florida” Breakfast (2/7/19) to feature same format as previous years. No charge; reservation required).
- Governor’s Lunch (2/7/19) as previously held. Each Supervisor may receive 2 tickets; reservation required.
- FCDEA and AFCD Area 3 afternoon meetings (2/7/19) at Florida Strawberry Growers Association.
- “Hillsborough Harvested” Days (February 10 and 17, 2019). Presentations by HSWCD.
- Ag Woman of the Year Luncheon (2/11/19).
- Ag Hall of Fame (2/12/19) . Supervisors will receive 1 ticket.

#### **AFCD and FCDEA Updates**

- AFCD Face to Face quarterly meeting scheduled for January 12, 2019.No teleconferences scheduled.
- FCDEA delegates attended SECDEA Annual Meeting in November.. Teleconferences held November 28 and December 18, 2018. Next scheduled teleconference January 15, 2019.

#### **Other Activities**

- Hillsborough County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting (Display and Handouts).
- Brandon Chamber, Plant City Chamber and Riverview Chamber Activities.
- Received \$1,000. stipend from NACD for 2019 Annual Meeting (San Antonio, Texas).
- Participated in NRCS Diversity Day at Hillsborough River State Park; Hillsborough Ag Economic Development Council; Plant City Non-profit Leadership Roundtable; Brandon Community Roundtable (Trustee); Rotary Foundation Dinner and Brandon South Global Rotary.
- Plant City Republican Club (speaker), Brandon Republican Club, and Hillsborough County Republican Executive Committee.
- Provided “add on’s” for youth exhibitors at Hillsborough County Fair.

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