



**Duval County Soil and Water Conservation District
Wednesday, January 17, 8:30 a.m.
Duval Agricultural Extension Office
1010 N. McDuff Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254**

Supervisors in Attendance: Shannon Blankinship, Allen Moore, Dan Evans, Hunter Anderson
Partners in Attendance: Al Oliver (NRCS), Ed Wright (Affiliate Member) Alicia Halbritter (Duval IFAS),
Kiana Harper (Wealth Watchers), Joyce Miller (Envirothon), Geoff Sample (SJRWMD)

Call to order, Chairmen Allen Moore, 8:35 AM

1. Pledge of Allegiance to the United States
2. Plaque honoring 2 years of service to Shannon Blankinship as Chairman
3. Agency Reports
 - a. Al Oliver, NRCS
 - i. Currently 5-6 applicants reapplied from Duval County after not receiving conservation funding in 2017. That number is still down from this time last year.
 - ii. Allen Moore intends to start a Local Working Group with the Cattlemans Assn. and Jax-Duval Ag Bureau specific to cattle. No time frame mentioned.
 - b. Geoff Sample – SJRWMD
 - i. Cost Share program currently accepting applicants, deadline 2/15. No applicants from Duval County in 2017
 - ii. Skip A Week water cycle in effect right now until 1st week in March
 - iii. SB – needs to share info on both to public
 - c. Alicia Halbritter – Duval IFAS
 - i. Invited us to table at an event on 2/24 – possibly have a booth during program
 - ii. Pasture School, soon
4. Review Minutes, December 2017

MOTION from Dan Evans to approve Minutes from December 20, 2017

SECOND from Hunter Anderson

IN FAVOR Unanimous

5. Review Treasurers Report
 - a. Current Balance \$1,542.84
 - b. No new expenses or revenue

MOTION to reimburse Allen Moore \$27.00 for a plaque

SECOND by Shannon Blankinship

IN FAVOR Unanimous

6. Agency Reports, cont.
 - a. Mike Sweat, Duval IFAS
 - i. One-Third of funding connected to the US Farm Bill
 - ii. One-Third of funding connected to UF IFAS funding from the State

- iii. One-Third from Jacksonville City Council as a part of the Parks and Recreation program under Darryl Joseph.
 - iv. All funding goes through several committees. Looking to open position that Terra Freeman had years ago that they were unable to find funding for. That position works with the Duval Soil and Water Conservation District as a staff liaison.
- 7. Envirothon – Joyce Miller
 - a. All staffing/volunteer needs are organized
 - b. We need to
 - i. SB – Send out Press Release
 - ii. SB – send personal email to Joyce Miller inviting schools to register/participate in Envirothon, Speech and Poster
 - iii. SB – Reach out to Head of Science for DCPS to ensure they received registration info
 - iv. Get update on sponsors from John Barnes
 - v. Joyce Miller to send info on Envirothon kits
- 8. Plan of Work – DRAFT from December 2017 meeting

MOTION from Shannon Blankinship to approve Plan of Work & Action for 2018

SECOND from Dan Evans

IN FAVOR Unanimous

- 9. Speech and Poster Contest 2018
 - a. SB - Poster for contest to be finalized before next meeting and sent around to all partners
- 10. Land Judging Contest 2018
 - a. Ed Wright has 3 schools interested. Is planning to confirm interest in competing in contest
 - b. Needs to create a Duval County Land Judging Contest, and find location, and promote, and get schools to sign up
 - c. Regional/State contest in mid-March. Any local contest would need to happen in early March
 - d. Ed Wright to report progress at next meeting. Most likely would need to have site, event time and date details, judges and schools confirmed/registered by February monthly meeting in order for event to happen in 2018
- 11. DSWCD Business Cards
 - a. Hunter Anderson brought proof of Business Cards and a quote for printing
 - b. \$16 for 100 cards
 - c. Because a motion has already been made approving funds for this purchase, no motion is needed. Hunter Anderson or Dan Evans will move forward with purchasing cards.
- 12. Resignation of Supervisor, Nelson Greene
 - a. Discussion about our two current Affiliate Members, John Barnes and Ed Wright.
 - b. Ed Wright was present, John Barnes communicated that at the last minute, he was unable to attend.
 - c. Ed Wright communicated that he was willing to serve. He said he personally spoke with John Barnes earlier, and both were willing and looking to become Supervisors.
 - d. Both Affiliate Members had merits to become voting Supervisors.

- e. Dan Evans suggested we defer the vote until a time that both John Barnes and Ed Wright could be present.
- f. Shannon Blankinship cautioned that a quorum may not occur with only 4 supervisors easily, and because there is currently a quorum, we should take a vote.
- g. Introduced Kiana Harper from Wealth Watchers who learned about our board during the November 2017 Start Farming Panel and Farmers Market
 - i. Kiana Harper is interested in becoming an Affiliate Member
 - ii. Ms. Harper discussed her background in Agriculture, her career in helping to provide farming, culinary and agricultural economics programs to those that need it. Is working on a community garden project at Raines High School.

MOTION by Shannon Blankinship to APPOINT Ed Wright, current Affiliate Member, to fill the currently open seat due to the resignation of Nelson Greene, Seat 2, through January of 2021.

SECOND by Dan Evans
IN FAVOR Unanimous

MOTION by Dan Evans to have Kiana Harper join the board as an Affiliate Member

SECOND from Shannon Blankinship
IN FAVOR Unanimous

- iii. Ms. Harper discussed her willingness to commit to our monthly meetings and serve during the 2018 year as an Affiliate Member

13. 65 year anniversary of the Duval Soil and Water Conservation District

- a. Allen Moore would like to have an anniversary event on July 10, 2018 celebrating 65 years of the Duval Soil and Water Conservation District
- b. Believes letters should be sent out on May 3, 2018
- c. There is no current format, budget, or idea for presentation.
- d. Believes the event should be hosted at the Duval IFAS building
- e. Allen Moore asked Ed Wright to “follow up” on the contents of the planning folder from 2003. Allen appointed Ed Wright “Chair” of this event.

MOTION from Dan Evans to further research hosting an annual meeting on July 10, 2018

SECOND from Hunter Anderson

IN FAVOR Hunter Anderson, Dan Evans, Allen Moore

OPPOSED Shannon Blankinship due to confusion on the purpose of the motion

- f. Shannon Blankinship to send around sample 2018 budget to determine what would need to be raised in order to host this annual meeting

14. AFCD Annual Membership Dues

- a. Shannon Blankinship presented a request for annual membership dues to the AFCD, requesting \$350
- b. Shannon Blankinship reminded Supervisors that for the last 3 years we have submitted a hardship letter and paid \$50 as a part of our annual dues

MOTION by Dan Evans to submit an annual membership of \$50 with a letter of hardship

SECOND by Hunter Anderson

IN FAVOR Unanimous

*Shannon Blankinship left the meeting

15. NACD annual dues payment

- a. NACD membership dues were tabled for a future meeting discussion.

16. Annual Soil Stewardship Week

- a. Chairman Moore will schedule local working meetings.
- b. Dan Evans and Chairman Moore will work on a plan for Soil and Water Stewardship Week -4/29 – 5/6/2018.
- c. Allen Moore appointed Dan Evans “Chair” of Soil Stewardship Week.

17. Ethics Training

- a. Chairman Moore will get dates and time for Ethics Training that should be attended by all members.

Meeting Adjourned