



**Duval County Soil and Water Conservation District
Wednesday, July 18, 2018 8:30 a.m.
Duval Agricultural Extension Office
1010 N. McDuff Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254**

Supervisors in Attendance: Shannon Blankinship, Ed Wright, Allen Moore, Dan Evans

Affiliate Members: None

Partners: Al Oliver (NRCS), Geoff Sample (SJRWMD), Stacy Simmons (FDACS), Alicia Halbritter (IFAS)

Meeting Called To Order: 8:34am

1. Swearing in Ceremony – Ed Wright
2. Agency Reports
 - a. FDACS – Stacey Simmons
 - i. Working with districts to promote and utilize the mobile irrigation lab
 - ii. Enrollment in BMAP program beginning now and program will rollover. In Duval, mostly row crop applications.
 - b. Duval IFAS – Alicia Halbritter
 - i. Florida Cattleman’s Annual Convention will be in Orlando
 - ii. Alicia is receiving award for her teen newsletter, her graphics presentation and communications. A state award and regional award.
 - iii. Working to schedule a date for our annual Start Farming Panel.
 1. Dates to avoid – 10/29-11/9 County Fair; 11/6 Election Day; 11/12 Veterans Day; 11/14-11/15 Farm City Luncheon; 11/13 – open.
 2. November 13, 2018 – likely our best date
 - c. SJRWMD – Geoff Sample
 - i. Above average rain, 13.5” above average, flooding in neighborhoods is common
 - ii. Blue School Grant program; \$20k total, up to \$2k to each applicant, September 7 deadline
 - d. NRCS - Al Oliver
 - i. Need more applicants
 - ii. Ed Wright looking to form the Local Working Group
 - iii. Allen Moore wants to do a better job of getting the word out
 - iv. Civil Rights Checklist was passed out and explained to Supervisors before signing
3. Minutes from June 2018

MOTION from Shannon Blankinship to accept Minutes from June 20, 2018

SECOND from Dan Evans

IN FAVOR Unanimous

4. Review Treasurers Report
 - a. Hunter Anderson not present, no notice or updates on anything financial
 - b. Nassau Soil Water Conservation District submitted their annual donation gift of \$500 to sponsor the Envirothon. They sent 3 teams from Nassau to compete this year
 - c. Need to get all bank statements online
 - d. Need Allen Moore to join as signatory on the new BBVA Compass bank account

5. Plan of Work Subcommittee meeting
 - a. Hunter Anderson has not submitted minutes, so no review of the meeting outcome
 - b. Allen Moore read the agenda of items that were to be discussed at the July 3, 2018 meeting

6. Ongoing Business
 - a. Conservation Teacher of the Year
 - i. Plan of Work Subcommittee decided that Scott Sowell will win the DSWCD annual Teacher of the Year. There is no plan for actually presenting anything.
 - ii. Ed Wright sent Scott Sowell a letter letting him know he won.
 - iii. Ed Wright will submit nomination for Scott Sowell to the annual Environmental Protection Board; deadline July 20, 2018.
 - b. 65th Anniversary
 - i. Ed Wright will send out the final press release to all Supervisors when it goes out.
 - c. Local Working Group
 - i. Ed defined Local Working Group (LWG). Passed out flow chart.
 - ii. Ed wants to meet with state and federal representatives to let them know what local issues are.
 - iii. Ed will come up with a sample agenda and invite list for the LWG meeting.
 - d. AFCD Florida meeting
 - i. Allen will attend state meeting. Possibly Dan Evans as well. And Hunter Anderson expressed interest.
 - e. AFCD Supervisor Training
 - i. Overview from Ed Wright
 1. Gave out agenda
 2. Gave out "portrait of a successful conservation district"
 3. Great presentation by FDACS
 4. Need to present this information to new Supervisors in the future
 - f. Envirothon 2019
 - i. Need to create expanded outreach list of schools, teachers and contacts in order to add more schools, reach more teachers, and get any level of participation in the poster, speech and land judging competitions.
 - ii. No individual took on this task. It is up to every Supervisor to do.
 - iii. Speech and Poster Contest – Details are ready. Allen Moore will send out the details before the next meeting.

7. Open Discussion
 - a. Ed Wright encouraged all current Supervisors to become Affiliate Members after their term is up.
 - b. Shannon Blankinship
 - i. Start Farming Panel – looking for ideas for the panelists. Reached out to community partners like Duval IFAS, Jacksonville Farmers Market and Riverside Arts Market to ask about local farmers that would be good to highlight. Will continue to find good panelists and send out Save the Dates before August meeting.

8. Agenda for August 2018 meeting
 - a. Ed Wright - How will we recognize our annual Conservation Teacher of the Year for 2018?
 - b. Ed Wright – LWG Agenda and draft letter to partners

Meeting Adjourned at 10:07am