

# Indian River County Florida

*Indian River County Administration Complex  
1800 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Building B  
Room B1-501  
Vero Beach, Florida*



## Meeting Minutes – Final

**Monday, November 4, 2019**

**1:30 PM**

### **Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors**

*David E. Gunter, Chairman: IRSWCD - Seat #2*

*Robert C. Adair, Jr., Vice-Chair: IRSWCD - Seat #3*

*Dr. David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer: IRSWCD - Seat #5*

*Shawn P. Elliott, Member: IRSWCD - Seat #1*

*Bobby Lindsey, Member: IRSWCD - Seat #4*

**Linda Caggiano, District Staff Assistant II: IRSWCD**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice-Chairman Robert C. Adair, Jr. called meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

**Supervisors in attendance:** David E. Gunter, Chairman  
Robert C. Adair, Jr., Vice-Chairman  
Dr. David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer  
Shawn P. Elliott, Member

**Staff in attendance:** Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant II, IRSWCD  
Jennifer Abbey, District Conservationist, USDA/NRCS  
Jake Fojtik, Environmental Specialist I, FDACS

**Public in attendance:** Judy Orcutt, Clean Water Coalition of Indian River County

**2. AGENDA REVIEW:**

There were no additions/changes to the Agenda.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes for October 14, 2019 were approved as written

**Motion: A motion to approve minutes was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by Shawn P. Elliott. Motion carried unanimously.**

**4. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

The Financial Report for October 2019 was available and read by Dr. David L. Cox.  
*(Staff's Note: Chairman, David E. Gunter joined the meeting at 1:32 PM. Vice-Chairman Robert C. Adair, Jr. turned the meeting over to Chairman, David E. Gunter.)*

**Motion: A motion to accept the financial reports as presented was made by Robert C. Adair, Jr. and Seconded by Dr. David L. Cox. Motion carried unanimously.**

**5. BIOSOLIDS:**

- A. Rulemaking and Biosolids Technical Advisory Committee for Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The Department published the Notice of Proposed Rule and the Statement of Estimated Regulatory Cost on October 29, 2019.
- i. Dr. David L. Cox mentioned that the “Notice of Proposed Rule 62-640.100  
PURPOSE AND EFFECT: The Department is developing amendments to Chapter 62-640, F.A.C. to ensure the proper management, use and land application of biosolids to protect waters of the state from nutrient pollution and in a manner that minimizes the migration of nutrients to prevent the impairment of waterbodies.” Then the Department of Environmental Protection Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs (SERC) document falls short of a path forward to address the problem that the rule is intended for. Does not consider how much money it will cost to remedy the problem/situation. The FDEP 621-640, F.A.C., Rulemaking and Biosolids Technical Advisory Committee Update sent an email dated October 29, 2019 @ 9:11 A.M. with recommendations, “Promote innovative technology pilot projects for biosolids processing that could provide a wider range of beneficial end products.” *(Add in letter sent to Governor DeSantis)*
  - ii. Citizen Report by Judy Orcutt with Clean Water Coalition of Indian River County. Judy Orcutt provided a handout on the SEDRON Technologies. The Janicki Omni Processor was developed in 2014 for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. A pilot unit has been operating in Dakar, Senegal, since 2015. The Janicki Omni

Processor – or JOP takes human waste and turns it into drinking water, electricity, and ash. The goal is to dramatically improve sanitation. Texas and Washington State have partnered with Janicki Bioenergy. Janicki Bioenergy, LLC has changed its name to Sedron Technologies, LLC.

**Motion: A motion to send a letter to Governor DeSantis: IRSWCD Board of Supervisors thinks that the proposed biosolids rule does not take the process far enough to protect waters and resources of the State. After due consideration, we believe it is paramount for the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to “Promote innovative technology pilot projects for biosolids processing that could provide a wider range of beneficial end products.” DEP’s Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs (SERC) document falls short of solving the basic problem the rule is intended to address. This SERC fails to consider either the cost to remedy the impacts of current forms of biosolids disposal, or the environmental costs of doing nothing. IRSWCD is aware of innovative technologies to dispose of biosolids in a more environmentally sustainable manner: SEDRON Technologies and Bio-Char. For example, Sedron Technologies, LLC; fka Janicki Bioenergy, LLC, developed the Janicki Omni Processor (JOP) in 2014 for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and now has partnered with the States of Texas and Washington. A pilot unit has been operating in Dakar, Senegal, since 2015. The JOP takes human waste and turns it into drinking water, electricity, and ash. The goal is to dramatically improve sanitation. IRSWCD urges you to direct DEP, or some other State agency, to immediately issue an RFP to evaluate alternative methods of biosolids disposal like JOP and Bio-Char, and to build a pilot plant geographically located to offer the greatest accessibility for biosolids haulers by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by Robert C. Adair, Jr. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **6. OLD BUSINESS:**

### **A. Indian River Lagoon Council STEM Advisory Committee Update:**

- i. Dr. David L. Cox reported that the Indian River Lagoon Council has not met since August 2019. The Agenda for the meeting Tuesday, November 5, 2019 indicates Mercury contamination in the Indian River Lagoon.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Financial Audit for year ending 2019.** Engagement letter to be signed from Kmetz, Elwell, Graham & Associates, PLLC.

**Motion: A motion to approve and sign the Engagement letter dated September 30, 2019 from Kmetz, Elwell, Graham & Associates, PLLC was made by Robert C. Adair, Jr. and Seconded by Dr. David L. Cox. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **8. REPORTS:**

### **A. Jennifer Abbey, NRCS:**

- ❖ Farm Bill Programs: 16 of 50 Active contracts totaling approximately \$950,000 over approximately 8, 000 acres.
- ❖ EQIP: 11 Active Contracts.
- ❖ CSP: 5 Active Contracts.
- ❖ ACEP-WRE: Accepting applications.

- i. NRCS State Technical Committee Meeting: November 19, 2019 9 AM to 12:30 PM. in Gainesville, FL. (Note after Board Meeting, received notice meeting has been cancelled.)
- ii. Hemp Production Interim Rule and NRCS Conservation Programs will be available in 2020 for producers meeting requirements.

**B. Jake Fojtik, FDACS:**

- ❖ New Cost-Share Contracts for irrigation Management.

**C. Linda Caggiano, IRSWCD Staff Assistant:**

- ❖ Poster Contest flyer and information has been sent to ALL of the elementary schools on October 29, 2019 and October 22, 2019. Will start the school visits in December and January to all of the Schools for the 2020 Poster Contest and Stewardship Week theme is “Where would we BEE without Pollinators?” **Poster Deadline: February 27, 2019**
- ❖ Preparing and gathering documentation required for Audit to send to Patrick Graham.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:35 PM.

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David E. Gunter, Chairman

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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date