

Indian River County Florida

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



Meeting Minutes – Final

Monday, February 10, 2020

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:

Chairman David E. Gunter called meeting to order at 1:38 PM.

(Note: Board Meeting *location changed* for this Meeting Only: 1801 27th Street, Building A; Room A1-102 (Across from the Commission Chambers).

Supervisors in attendance: David E. Gunter, Chairman
Robert C. Adair, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Dr. David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer
Shawn P. Elliott, Member
Bobby Lindsey, 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 IRC
Jean Catchpole, Clean Water Coalition of IRC
Graham Cox, Pelican Island Audubon Society

2. AGENDA REVIEW:

There were no additions/changes to the Agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for January 13, 2020 were approved as written

Motion: A motion to approve minutes was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by Robert C. Adair, Jr. Motion carried unanimously.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Report for January 2020 was available and read by Dr. David L. Cox.

Motion: A motion to accept the financial reports as presented was made by Robert C. Adair, Jr. and Seconded by Shawn P. Elliott. Motion carried unanimously.
(*Staff's Note: Member, Shawn P. Elliott joined the meeting at 1:39 PM.*)

5. OLD BUSINESS:**A. Indian River Lagoon Council STEM Advisory Committee Update:**

- i. Dr. David L. Cox mentioned the IRLNEP STEM Advisory held a meeting February 4, 2020. Updates on water quality, approximately four projects to be considered for IRC. 2020 IRL Science Symposium at FAU Harbor Branch on February 13 and 14, 2020.

B. Financial Audit for year ending 2019.

- i. Audit in Process with Kmetz, Elwell, Graham & Associates, PLLC.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. St. Johns River Water Management District – Agricultural Cost-Share. To be posted to IRSWCD website.

B. Public Items submitted by Judy Orcutt, Clean Water Coalition of IRC:

i. Clean Water Coalition of Indian River County, Inc.: Free Program February 20, 2020 @ 7:00 PM - Dr. Randall Parkinson, “The Effects of Climate Change on Indian River Lagoon Water Quality”. *(Informational)*

ii. Water Keeper Alliance: “Narrow Definition of Waters Covered Under the Clean Water Act Puts All Our Waters at Risk” by Ellen Simon dated February 7, 2020. *(Informational)* *(Staff’s Note: Member, Bobby Lindsey joined the meeting at 1:48 PM.)*

Motion: A motion to obtain the current regulatory rules of “Waters of the United States” and then the Proposed Rule. Board to compare both rules, discuss and then develop a position for the State of Florida was made by Robert C. Adair, Jr. and Seconded by Shawn P. Elliott. Motion carried unanimously.

iii. Dr. David L. Cox wanted to discuss the Mission of Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District. Obtain from AFCD the importance of SWCD and send to State Representatives. Shawn P. Elliott to provide names of individuals behind the dissolution of SWCD.

Motion: A motion to write a letter to our State Legislatures (Grall/Mayfield) that IRSWCD Board firmly in support of our mission from our original document from 1945 to “provide for the conservation of the soil and soil resources of this state, and for control and prevention of soil erosion, and for the prevention of flood water and sedimentation damage, and for furthering the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water, and thereby to preserve natural resources and control floods...” The value that IRSWCD brings to our producers and to our community. IRSWCD Board strongly opposes the dissolution of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the State of Florida was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by Bobby Lindsey. Motion carried unanimously.

7. REPORTS:

A. Jennifer Abbey, NRCS:

- ❖ Farm Bill Programs: 13 of 42 Active contracts totaling approximately \$790,000 over approximately 6, 000 acres.
- ❖ EQIP: 9 Active Contracts; 13 applications; Deadline March 6, 2020.
- ❖ CSP: 3 Active Contracts.
- ❖ ACEP-WRE: Accepting applications; Deadline March 6, 2020.
- ❖ Conservation Application for January – February: N/A
- ❖ Contract Management; Continue Conservation planning and finalize plans.
- ❖ Program Rollout meeting in Gainesville.

B. Jake Fojtik, FDACS:

- ❖ Working with Producers, getting bids and new Cost-Share Contracts.

C. Linda Caggiano, IRSWCD Staff Assistant:

- ❖ Tuesday, February 18, 2020: Teleconference FCDEA.
- ❖ Thursday, February 27, 2020 – Poster Contest Deadline.
- ❖ Friday, February 28, 2020: Envirothon Competition Day @ Environmental Learning Center.
- ❖ Thursday, March 5, 2020: Monthly Meeting with Phil Matson.
- ❖ Monday, March 9, 2020: IRSWCD Board Meeting.
- ❖ Judge posters and prepare the gift cards and certificates for winners.
- ❖ 2019 Fiscal Year Audit: CPA- Patrick Graham presently working on audit.
- ❖ Thursday, April 23, 2020: Area 4 Meeting -Collier SWCD at: JB Ranch in Collier County (*approximately 3 hour drive – one-way*).
- ❖ Wednesday, September 9-11, 2020: 2020 AFCD Annual Meeting in Fort Walton Beach at the Hilton Garden Inn. (Approximately 521 miles 8 hour drive – one-way)

8. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM.

David E. Gunter, Chairman

Date

David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer

Date