

# 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, September 14, 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 1:33 PM.

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

**Staff in attendance:** Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant II, IRSWCD  
Jennifer Abbey, District Conservationist,  
USDA/NRCS

**Public in attendance:** None

**2. AGENDA REVIEW:**

There were no additions/changes to the Agenda.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. The minutes for August 10, 2020 Board Meeting 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:**

A. The Financial Report for August 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 and Seconded by David E. Gunter. Motion carried unanimously.**

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

- i. IRLNEP STEM Meeting held virtual. Chuck Jacoby-SJRWMD gave the Water Quality Report and that North end of the Lagoon water quality is deteriorating severally. Red-Brown Algae (*Kerenia brevison*) has caused an accelerating small scale of fish kill and seagrass. Any patches of seagrass very sparse/ 30% coverage are great. South of Brevard and North of 510 not looking good for seagrass.

*(Staff's Note: Member, Bobby Lindsey joined the meeting at 1:42 PM.)*

**6. REPORTS:**

**A. Jennifer Abbey, NRCS – Report:**

- ❖ Update to [www.farmers.gov](http://www.farmers.gov) now provides access to farmers and ranchers who are members of an entity, as well as individuals and entities with powers of attorney to conduct online business with USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Additionally, online services once available through NRCS’s Conservation Client Gateway (CCG) will be moved to farmers.gov in the coming weeks.
- ❖ Farm Bill Programs: 16 of 55 Active contracts totaling approximately \$1,400,000 over approximately 9,600 acres
- ❖ EQIP: 11 Active Contracts; 3 new IR contracts of 16 total new
- ❖ CSP: 5 Active Contracts (1 recent renewal): 0 applications.
- ❖ ACEP-WRE: FY 2020 no application selected in Indian River Co.
- ❖ Conservation Applications: August – September – None
- ❖ Contract management;
- ❖ EQIP contract preapprovals and contracting
- ❖ Office still closed to public, by appointment only.
- ❖ New State Conservationist-Juan Hernandez due to Russell Morgan retiring 2019.
- ❖ NRCS Civil Rights Responsibility for Partners Checklist to be signed.  
*(Staff’s Note: Member, Bobby Lindsey joined the meeting at 1:42 PM.)*

**B. Linda Caggiano, IRSWCD**

- ❖ Returned posters to schools on Monday, August 31, 2020. Principals and Teachers looking forward to next contest. The 2021 Poster Contest and Stewardship week theme is “Healthy Forests = Healthy Communities.”
- ❖ Envirothon 2021 – IRLNEP wants to plan competition COVID or no COVID. Aquatics, Forestry, Indian River Lagoon, Soils, Wildlife, and Current Issue: Water Resource Management: Local Control and Local Solutions. Telephone calls and Meeting with Audrey, Okeechobee SWCD, Bess, St. Lucie SWCD, and Jennifer, NRCS. If held would be Friday, February 26, 2021 or Saturday, February 27, 2021. Virtual or in-person Competition. *Next Meeting September 17, 2020 11:30 Marsh Landing.*  
*(Staff’s Note: Chairman, David E. Gunter left meeting @ 1:45 PM.)*
- ❖ FDACS Contract #: 24393 Renewal-Amendment #4 signed 07/02/2020. Pending additional changes. 2020-2021: \$90,00.00 + \$3,237.22 balance from the 2019-2020 Contract.
- ❖ Continue working on update of Website and Facebook.
- ❖ Monday, October 5, 2020: IRSWCD Board Meeting.

**7. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the Vice-Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:06 PM.

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David E. Gunter, Chairman

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Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date