

# 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, April 11, 2022

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*

*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 1:37 PM.

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

**Supervisors attendance**

**Via Zoom:** None

**Staff in attendance:** Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant II, IRSWCD

**Staff in attendance**

**Via Zoom:** Jennifer Abbey, District Conservationist, USDA/NRCS

**Public in attendance:**

Lex Kromhout, The Hammocks Ranch Preserve, LLC  
Honey Minuse, City of Vero Beach  
Judy Orcutt, Clean Water Coalition of IRC  
Scott Reynolds, IRC Utilities  
Thomas Webber, TC Palm Reporter

**Public in attendance**

**Via Zoom:** None

**2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA/EMERGENCY ITEMS:****3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. The minutes for March 14, 2022 Board Meeting were approved as Amended.

**Motion: A motion to approve minutes was made by Robert C. Adair, Jr and Seconded by Bobby Lindsey. Motion carried unanimously.**

**4. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

A. The Financial Report for March 2022 was available and presented by Dr. David L. Cox.

**Motion: A motion to accept the financial report as presented was made by Bobby Lindsey and Seconded by Robert C. Adair, Jr. Motion carried unanimously.**

**5. REPORTS:****A. Jennifer Abbey, NRCS – Reports:**

- ❖ **News:** USDA to invest \$1 Billion in Climate Smart Commodities, Expanding Markets, Strengthening Rural America.
- ❖ **Farm Bill Programs:** 18 of 55 Active contracts totaling approximately \$1,065,000 over approximately 12,000 acres.
- ❖ **EQIP:** 12 Active Contracts; 9 eligible applications FY 2022 applications.
- ❖ **CSP:** 6 Active Contracts, 2 FY 2022 applications.
- ❖ **ACEP-WRE:** 1 application.
- ❖ **Conservation Applications: March – April**
  - NONE.

- ❖ **Other:** Continue EQIP Urban sign up application field visits; Completed conservation planning, assessments and ranking for EQIP and CSP.
- ❖ **Next Month:** Continue contract maintenance; Continue contract obligations,

**B. Adel Peña, Environmental Specialist III, Office of Agricultural Water Policy-FDACS: No Report**

**C. Christine Kelly-Begazo, Agriculture/ UF IFAS Report: No report**

**D. Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant II:**

- ❖ **FDACS:** Contract 27690: \$100,000.00 for 2021-2022; Balance of \$6,592.08 to IMG Citrus, Inc. and \$4,200.00 to CPA. Used all 2021-2022 FDACS Fiscal Year funds. July 1, 2022 starts new funding. Wednesday, April 20, 2022 @ 9:00 am – FDACS/OAWP - Zoom Meeting SB 1078 questions.
- ❖ **FCDEA:** FCDEA Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 19, 2022. Mid-Year Meeting May 12-13, 2022 in Ocala. Need to send Approval. NACD 2022 SE – Puerto Rico: NACD Summer Meeting NACD’s 2022 Summer Meeting planned for July 16 - 19, 2022. NACD Southeast Region Meeting will be held July 17 - 19, 2022 at the Caribe Hilton in San Juan, P.R
- ❖ **AFCD:** AFCD is working with FDACS on SB 1078. How the bill effects SWCD’s and each Supervisor placed in a District that follows the County’s Board of County Commissioner Districts. The interpretation of the bill much different than Legislature Attorney, Natalie Kato’s Analysis.
- ❖ **Office:** Working on Audit with Patrick Graham. Letter to Governor Ron DeSantis to Veto Bill 1078. AFCD and FDACS emails and wanting information due to SB 1078. Poster Contest: Posters due March 18, 2022 – No Posters received. Weekly phone calls for Soil Testing, which we do not do. Kelly Jackson emails wanting someone to hold her hand while she does the small farming. Provide her information and resources, but she wants someone to contact and do the leg work for her.

**6. DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS:**

- A. Review Draft Audit for Year Ending 2021 from Kmetz, Elwell, Graham & Associates, PLLC.

**Motion: A motion to approve the Audit was made by Bobby Lindsey and Seconded by Dr. David L. Cox. Motion carried unanimously.**

- B. IRSWCD Supervisor Seat 1 – Vacant: Board to appoint a new Supervisor until next election – November 2022. (Discussion)

**Motion: A motion to approve William Marine to fill Seat 1 of the IRSWCD Board of Supervisors was made by Bobby Lindsey and Seconded by Dr. David L. Cox. William Marine is willing to serve on Seat 1 as IRSWCD Board of Supervisor. Motion carried unanimously.**

- C. **SB 1078: Soil and Water Conservation District: Update.**

- i. Letter to AFCD to be amended to with changes as per letter to Governor Ron DeSantis.

**Motion: A Motion to approve letter with amendments as described was made by Bobby Lindsey and Seconded by Robert C. Adair, Jr. Motion carried unanimously.**

**\*\*Note: Meeting Recessed @ 2:04 PM to allow for Minutes to be typed to show the Board approved a Supervisor to have a five Member Board. Meeting reconvened @ 2:46 PM.**

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Indian River Lagoon STEM Advisory Committee Update:

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

**9. SUPERVISORS MATTERS:**

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David E. Gunter, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date