

# **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, August 8, 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*

*William Marine, Member: IRSWCD – Seat #1*

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman David E. Gunter called meeting to order at 1:41 PM.

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

**Staff in attendance:** Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant II, IRSWCD  
Jennifer Abbey, District Conservationist, USDA/NRCS  
Christine Kelly-Begazo, Agricultural Agent & Director; UF  
IFAS IRC Extension  
Andrea Lazzari-Estevez, Agricultural Agent & Director; UF  
IFAS IRC Extension

**Public in attendance:** Bob Bolton, City of Vero Beach  
Joe Earman, BOCC of IRC  
Honey Minuse, City of Vero Beach  
Laura Moss, BOCC of IRC  
Lamarre Notargiacomo, Citizen  
Mike Schmitz, Ohana Water Systems  
Will Garver, Ohana Water Systems  
CJ Watson, Green Bodyworks

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

A. The minutes for July 11, 2022 Board Meeting were approved as written.

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

**4. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

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

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

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

- ❖ News: Agricultural Landowners Encouraged to Apply for Environmental Quality Incentives Program by September 2
- ❖ **Farm Bill Programs:** 19 of 62 Active contracts totaling approximately \$900,000 over approximately 11,000 acres.
- ❖ **EQIP:** 14 Active Contracts (4 Approved for FY 2022); 9 eligible applications FY 2022 applications;
- ❖ **CSP:** 5 Active Contracts.
- ❖ **ACEP-WRE:** 1 application, deferred to 2023.
- ❖ **Conservation Applications: July – August**
  - None this month

- ❖ **Other:** EQIP Urban approved; Continued visiting applicants for FY 2023 programs and starting conservation plans; Continued contract maintenance.
- ❖ **Next Month:** Continue contract maintenance; Continue implementation inspections; Continue visiting applicants for FY 2023 programs; Attend AFCD/NRCS meeting in Gainesville.

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

**C. Christine Kelly-Begazo, Agriculture/ UF IFAS Report:**

- ❖ Introduced Andrea Lazzari-Estevez the New IRC Extension Director & Natural Resource Agent; UF IFAS IRC.

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

- ❖ **FDACS – No Changes:** Contract 27690: \$100,000.00 for 2021-2022; Paid the CPA, check lost in mail, placed a “Stop Payment” on check and reissued “New” Check and hand delivered to CPA.; FDACS is accepting Cost-Share Applications as of this week; Wednesday, August 17, 2022 Zoom Meeting @ 10:00 A.M. Clegg Hooks from the Office of Agricultural Water Policy will be speaking regarding the Proposed Rule Development and the implementation of the provisions of Ch. 2022-191, Laws of Florida (2022 SB 1078).
- ❖ **FCDEA:** FCDEA Meeting held July 19, 2022; FCDEA Annual Meeting via TEAMS/Teleconference September 20, 2022; SECDEA Meeting in Pigeon Forge, TN November 8-10, 2022; Next Teleconference Meeting August 16, 2022.
- ❖ **AFCD:** AFCD and NRCS require Local Working Group Meeting to be held October 1- November 30. IRSWCD Board Meetings: 10/03/2022 or 11/14/2022; 2023 AFCD Annual Meeting will be held January 24-27, Cancelled September 7-9, 2022 due to Elections and New Supervisors Training in January. Located at: Best Western Gateway Grand Hotel 4200 NW 97<sup>th</sup> Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32606
- ❖ **OFFICE:** Working with FCDEA and AFCD on Election information, Benefits of Lobbyist Contract and Office of Program Policy Analysis & Government Accountability (OPPAGA); Working on IRSWCD Employee Hand Book and Job description per FDACS; Keeping track of dates deadlines to stay in compliance. Received Insurance bill from Lawrence Insurance Agency for Bond \$384.00. Waiting for Liberty Mutual Policy, last year paid \$608.00

**Motion: A motion to approve Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant to drive/ travel to Gainesville, FL for the FDACS-OAWP Meeting Wednesday, August 17, 2022 was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by Robert C. Adair, Jr. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion: A motion to approve payment to Lawrence Insurance Agency for Bond and Liberty Insurance not to exceed \$100.00 over the total \$967.00 paid last year minutes was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by William Marine. Motion carried unanimously.**

**6. DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS:**

**A. Local Working Group FY 2024:**

- i. AFCD and NRCS require meeting to be held October 1 – November 30, 2022  
IRSWCD Board Meetings: 10/03/2022 or 11/14/2022.

**Motion: A motion to have the IRSWCD hold a LWG on Monday, October 3, 2022 “after” the IRSWCD Monthly Board Meeting was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by Robert C. Adair, Jr. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion: A Motion to have Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant create a survey and send to producers, investors with new irrigation prior to LWG Meeting what are their priorities. What can NRCS-EQIP assist for environmental benefits or other crops producers would want to grow instead of having to sell property was made by Robert C. Adair, Jr. and Seconded by Dr. David L. Cox. Motion carried unanimously.**

**B. Indian River SWCD: Need to find Supervisors - Discussion**

- i. District 3 (Joe Earman) – Vacant
- ii. District 4 (Peter O’Bryan) – Vacant
- iii. AFCD and OAWP-FDACS workshop on SB 1078 Questions, Wednesday, August 17, 2022 in Gainesville, FL.

**C. Palm Beach SWCD: Review for Discussion**

What is Natalie Kato going to do for us? What is her plan/proposal and what does she plan to accomplish and a timeline?

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

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

- i. Dr. David L. Cox reported: Meeting held August 2, 2022 projects 22 Small Grants IRLNEP: IRL Council Board of Directors approved: Impacts of Glyphosate on Seagrass Growth and Nutrient Cycling; Virtual Reality: Oyster Reef Exploration; Environmental Learning Center Educational Pilot Seagrass Nursery; One Health Fish Monitoring Citizen Science Project (ORCA); Tulip Pond Habitat Restoration Project (City of Sebastian).

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

**9. SUPERVISORS MATTERS:**

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:57 PM.

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David E. Gunter, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date