

Indian River County Florida

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



Meeting Minutes – Final

Monday, December 12, 2022

1:30 PM

Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors

David E. Gunter, Chairman

Robert C. Adair, Jr., Vice-Chair

Dr. David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer

Bobby Lindsey, Member

William Marine, Member

Linda Caggiano, District Staff Assistant II: IRSWCD

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice-Chairman Robert C. Adair called meeting to order at 1:41 PM.

Supervisors in attendance: David E. Gunter, Chairman (*Arrived 1:55 PM*)
Robert C. Adair, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Dr. David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer
Bobby Lindsey, Member (*Arrived 1:43 PM*)

Staff in attendance: Jennifer Abbey, District Conservationist, USDA/NRCS
Andrea Lazzari, IRC Agricultural Extension Director/
UF IFAS
Adel Pena, Environmental Specialist III, Office of Water
Policy-FDACS

Public in attendance: Honey Minuse, City of Vero Beach

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA/EMERGENCY ITEMS:

There was brief discussion regarding the lack of quorum prior to the arrival of Bobby Lindsey, Member, at 1:43 PM, and David E. Gunter, Chairman, at 1:55 PM. Chairman Gunter then led the meeting, which had attained a quorum.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. The Minutes for Board Meeting of November 14, 2022 were approved as written.

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

4. FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

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

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

- ❖ **News:** USDA Requests Public Input on Implementation of Inflation Reduction Act Funding | Natural Resources Conservation Service Nov 17, 2022.
- ❖ \$8.45 billion – Environmental Quality Incentives Program, \$3.25 billion – Conservation Stewardship Program, \$4.95 billion – Regional Conservation Partnership Program, \$1.4 billion – Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, \$1 billion – Conservation Technical Assistance
- ❖ NRCS is asking for public input on to how to best maximize benefits for climate mitigation, including targeting practices and programs that provide quantifiable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- ❖ **Farm Bill Programs: 19 of 57 Active contracts totaling approximately \$900,000 over approximately 11,000 acres.**
- ❖ **EQIP:** 14 Active Contracts; 9 deferred FY 2022 applications + 10 FY 2023 applications
- ❖ **EQIP Hurricane Ian:** 3 of 10 applications
- ❖ **CSP:** 5 Active Contracts, 1 renewal application.

- ❖ **ACEP-WRE:** 1 application, deferred to 2023.
- ❖ **Conservation Applications: November - December**
 - 936 sq. ft – High Tunnel
- ❖ **Other:** Assist with Hurricane Ian EQIP applications; Completing CSP renewal funding.
- ❖ **Next Month:** Continue to assist with Hurricane Ian EQIP applications.

B. Adel Peña, Environmental Specialist III, Office of Agricultural Water Policy-FDACS:

- ❖ No new business to report.

C. Andrea Lazzari, IRC Agricultural Extension Director/ UF IFAS Report:

- ❖ No new business to report.

6. DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS:

A. Indian River SWCD – Need to find Supervisor for District 3 and 4 (*Discussion*):

- i. District 3 (Commissioner Joe Earman’s District): Chairman David E. Gunter stated that he is now not inclined to represent District 3 as a SWCD Supervisor.
- ii. Bobby Lindsey stated that he was likely to go onto the Board of the St. John’s River Water Management District and would not be seeking a position on the SWCD Board.
- iii. Vice-Chairman- Robert C. Adair, Jr. commented on Chairman David E. Gunter’s expertise and experience. He also mentioned possible candidates for the open positions: Ken Hendrix, Anna Kirkland, and Janie Greene.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Indian River Lagoon STEM Advisory Committee Update:

- i. Dr. David L. Cox reported: No news to report.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Land Application of Class B Biosolids Extension of Moratorium in IRC:

- i. Dr. David L. Cox called attention to the Public Discussion Agenda Item on this Matter scheduled for the IRC Board of County Commissioners’ Meeting of December 13, 2022, and requested permission from the SWCD Board to address the IRC BOCC and state that the IRSWCD supported IRC Staff’s recommendation to extend the existing moratorium for one year.

Motion: A motion to allow Dr. David L. Cox to speak in support of IRC Staff Recommendation to extend for one-year the IRC Moratorium on land application of Class B Biosolids was made by Robert C. Adair, Jr. and seconded by Bobby Lindsey. Motion carried unanimously.

9. SUPERVISORS MATTERS:

10. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:43 PM.

Robert C. Adair, Jr., Chairman

Date

David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer

Date