

# **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, January 9, 2023**

**1:30 PM**

### **Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors**

*Robert C. Adair, Jr., Chairman  
Dr. David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer  
William Marine, Member*

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Robert C. Adair, Jr. called meeting to order at 1:31 PM.

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

**Staff in attendance:** Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant II, IRSWCD  
Adel Pena, Environmental Specialist III, Office of Water  
Policy-FDACS  
Jennifer Abbey, District Conservationist, USDA/NRCS

**Public in attendance:** Honey Minuse, City of Vero Beach  
Laura Moss, BOCC

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

A. The Minutes for Board Meeting of December 12, 2022 were approved as written.

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

**4. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

A. The Financial Report for December 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:** State Technical Committee meeting Zoom January 18, 2023; 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. To provide a report for natural resource and program priorities and USDA decisions and to discuss recommendations.
- ❖ **Farm Bill Programs:** 19 of 56 Active contracts totaling approximately \$900,000 over approximately 11,000 acres
- ❖ **EQIP:** 14 Active Contracts; 14 FY 2023 applications
- ❖ **EQIP Hurricane Ian:** 3 of 9 applications
- ❖ **CSP:** 5 Active Contracts FY 2023 application deadline February 24
- ❖ **ACEP - WRE:** 1 application, deferred to 2023
- ❖ **Conservation Applications: December – January**
  - 1 – Brush Management and herbaceous Weed Control
  - 650 ac – Irrigation Water Management
- ❖ **Other:** Assist with Hurricane Ian EQIP application processing; Completed CSP annual contract payments
- ❖ **Next Month:** Complete ranking of Hurricane Ian EQIP applications; Continue conservation implementation field inspections; Continue EQIP application evaluations and ranking

**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.

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

- ❖ **FDACS:** Contract 27690: \$100,000.00 for 2022-2023; Received 3 Cost-Share Agreements: Totaling \$33,813.09; Disbursed \$2,589.75 to Greene Groves & Ranch, LLP 12/12/2022. Need to issue Invoice pending renewal of QuickBooks. Enrollments in Cost-Share will continue.
- ❖ **FCDEA:** FCDEA Meeting January 17, 202. Annual Meeting February 6-8, 2023 in Gainesville, FL
- ❖ **AFCDE:** 2023 AFCDE Annual Meeting & Supervisor training will be held February 6-8, 2023. Located at: UF Hilton and Conference Center 1714 SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Gainesville, FL 32607
- ❖ **ENVIROTHON:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 Meeting @ Marsh Landing; Competition Day, Friday, February 24, 2022 @ Dale Wimbrow Park
- ❖ **OFFICE:** 2022 Audit package delivered to Patrick Graham. QuickBooks Desktop Pro Plus 2022 Need approval to renew @ \$533.96 yearly subscription. FDACS Cost-Shares working on IRS 1099-G forms; Poster Contest: NACD has announces the theme: “One Water”, but waiting for additional information from NACD. Vetting possible candidates for Supervisor per requirements.

**6. DEPARTMENTAL MATTERS:**

**A. Intuit QuickBooks: Need approval to renew @ \$533.96 yearly subscription:**

**Motion: A motion to approve the renewal payment of Intuit QuickBooks subscription was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by William Marine. Motion carried unanimously.**

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

- Ken Hendrix lives in District 3 is interested and will be attending the February 13, 2023 IRSWCD Board Meeting. He will be submitting a resume for the Board to review.
- Janie Greene lives in District 3, reach out and see if she would be interested.
- William Marine mention that Michael Marine (his nephew) lives in District 4 and will see if he is interested. (William Marine will send information to Staff to contact Michael Marine.)
- Prepare a letter, ad/flyer of what Districts and what the Supervisor position entails and forward to Supervisors and Commissioner Moss.

**Motion: A motion to send a letter to Former BOCC Peter O’Bryan to see if he would know of any recommendations for an IRSWCD Board Supervisor for District 4 was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by William Marine. Motion carried unanimously.**

**C. Indian River County Farm Bureau Legislative Luncheon: Schacht Groves – Friday, January 20, 2023 11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.**

- i. Supervisors Robert C. Adair, Jr. and Dr. David L. Cox will be attending the Legislative Luncheon.

**D. AFCD Annual Meeting:** February 6 - 9, 2023 at Hotel Indigo – Celebration Pointe in Gainesville, FL

- i. No Supervisors plan to attend.

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

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

- i. Dr. David L. Cox reported: No news to report from STEM. Seagrass is sparse in the lagoon

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Posting of Events or Topic to IRSWCD Facebook page:**

- i. Chairman Robert C. Adair, Jr. recommends using the IRSWCD Facebook page to post events, topics that pertain to our Mission.

**B. Dr. David L. Cox discussed the IRSWCD Board and that it would be beneficial at this time that the Board should have a Chairman.**

**Motion: A motion to nominate Robert C. Adair, Jr., Chairman of the Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District Board was made by Dr. David L. Cox and Seconded by William Marine. Motion carried unanimously.**

Further discussion by Board Supervisors that the Board's current priority is to fill the vacant seats on the Board and then after that appoint the Vice-Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer. The current Board is Chairman Robert C. Adair, Jr., Dr. David L. Cox, Secretary/Treasurer and William Marine, Member.

**9. SUPERVISORS MATTERS:**

- A. Chairman Robert C. Adair, Jr. discussed goals for consideration by the IRSWCD Board for 2023:
  - ❖ Procure outside funding to put a Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) in place for Indian River County
  - ❖ Funding to secure a staff member to operate the MIL
  - ❖ Consideration for a native tree sale for county residents to promote water conservation and carbon sequestration
  - ❖ Pursue grants and funding to promote the conservation (and reduce the use) of irrigation water for urban areas
  - ❖ Pursue grants and funding to mitigate contaminants entering Indian River Lagoon

- ❖ Pursue grants and funding to seek ways to increase carbon sequestration on county lands
- ❖ Pursue grants and funding that accomplish our mission to provide resources, planning, assessment, assisting citizens to apply conservation and preservation technology, and to educate the citizens in these technologies.

**B.** Chairman Robert C. Adair, Jr. appoint, put in charge Dr. David L. Cox to look for and bring to the Boards attention funding sources and grant writing necessary to pursue funding from the state, district, and federal level for funding based on goals mentioned that are the Mission of the IRSWCD. Name of Committee to be determined.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:40 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert C. Adair, Jr., Chairman

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Date

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date