

# Indian River County Florida

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



**Indian River Soil and Water  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

## **LOCAL WORKING GROUP Meeting Minutes – FINAL**

**Monday, May 13, 2024**

**1:30 PM**

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

*Robert C. Adair, Jr., Chairman: District 1*

*Dr. David L. Cox, Vice Chairman: District 2*

*Charles Kennon Hendrix, Member: District 3*

*Christine Kelly-Begazo, Secretary/Treasurer: District 4*

*George F. Hamner, Jr., Legislative Liaison: District 5*

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Robert C. Adair, Jr. called meeting to order at 2:45 PM.

**2. WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS:**

**Supervisors in attendance:** Robert C. Adair, Jr., Chairman – District 1  
Dr. David L. Cox – District 2  
Christine Kelly-Begazo – District 4  
George F. Hamner, Jr. – District 5

**Staff in attendance:** Linda Caggiano, Staff Assistant II  
Eric Charest, IRC Interim Natural Resources Director  
Melissa Meisenburg, IRC Senior Environmental Specialist  
Jennifer Abbey, District Conservationist, USDA/NRCS  
John Santiago, Conservationist, USDA/NRCS  
Micah Dettweiler, Conservationist, USDA/NRCS  
Matt Cox, Environmental Specialist III- OAWP-FDACS

**Public in attendance:** Adam Honour, B&W Growers  
Gabrielle Clark, St. Lucie SWCD

**3. WHAT IS A LOCAL WORKING GROUP?**

A. Local Working Groups are composed of agricultural producers, owners/operators of nonindustrial private forest land, professionals representing agricultural and natural resource interests, and individuals representing a variety of disciplines in the soil, water, wetland, plant, forestry, and wildlife sciences who are familiar with agricultural and natural resource issues in the local community.

**4. WHY IS A LOCAL WORKING GROUP IMPORTANT?**

A. Local Working Groups provide recommendations to the District Conservationist, State Technical Committee and the State Conservationist on local natural resource priorities and criteria for conservation activities and programs.

**5. RESOURCE CONCERNS and ASSOCIATED NRCS PRACTICES:****6. LWG SESSION and RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- A. Select 10 Resources Concern Categories for FY 2024 as a priority.
- 1) Bank erosion from streams, shorelines, or water conveyance channels.
  - 2) Nutrients transported to surface water.
  - 3) Groundwater depletion.
  - 4) Organic matter depletion.
  - 5) Nutrients transported to ground water.
  - 6) Inefficient irrigation water use.
  - 7) Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms.
  - 8) Surface water depletion.
  - 9) Energy efficiency of farming/ranching practices and field operations.
  - 10) Sediment transported to surface water.

**7. Summarize Recommendations:**

**8. Additional Comments:** Please provide additional comments (e.g. new practice components you would like NRCS to consider, etc.)

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:15 PM.

  
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Robert C. Adair, Jr., Chairman

06-10-2024  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christine Kelly-Begazo, Secretary/Treasurer

6.10.24  
Date