

**YRSWCD District
Board Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2024**

Attendance:

Andy Baber, Chairman
David Clark, Vice Chairman
Melody Irwin, Secretary
Brad Johnson, Board Member, Recorder
Darryl Williams, USDA-NRCS District Conservationist Okaloosa County
Tara Llewellyn, YRSWCD District Administrator
Dr. Linda Johnson, Earth Team member
Graham Sweeney, Mauldin & Jenkins and Subsidiaries, LLC
Coleman Loftin, Mauldin & Jenkins and Subsidiaries, LLC

Absent: Josh Luke, Treasurer (family emergency)

Andy Baber asked if there was a motion to open the meeting at 7:24 PM.

David Clark made a motion to open the meeting, which was second by Melody Irwin. The board approved the motion.

Andy Baber introduced Graham Sweeney and Coleman Loftin from Mauldin & Jenkins and Subsidiaries, LLC who will be conducting a YRSWCD Board performance review at the request of Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA).

Old Business

Meeting minutes. Minutes from 12 September 2023 and 13 February 2024 were reviewed by the board. David Clark made a motion to accept the minutes, which was 2nd by Melody Irwin and accepted by the board. Andy Baber signed the minutes.

HB1075/SB 1772. Brad Johnson reported that the two Florida Bills, which would dissolve all SWCD's had died in committee on 8 March 2024.

Annual Report. The draft 2023 Annual report was passed out by Dr. Linda Johnson and reviewed by the board. David Clark made a motion to accept the Annual Report after highlighted changes were made, which was 2nd by Melody Irwin and accepted by the board.

Five-year YRSWCD Business Plan. A draft 2023-2028 YRSWCD Business Plan was passed out by Brad Johnson. Mr. Johnson requested the Board to review the plan Section II (p. 32 – 40). Section II covers Soil and Water Related Resources Concerns. Section I, is the Introduction and describes agriculture, population and physical characteristics of Okaloosa County. Mr. Johnson requested that Board send any

comments to Tara Llewellyn. Mr. Johnson will consolidate comments and present the updated final document at the next Board meeting.

New Business

Financial Report. Tara Llewellyn said building internet access was down on Monday and Tuesday, so she was unable to send the report to Board members. She said it would be sent out on Wednesday.

Ethics Training. Brad Johnson reported receiving an email on his YRSWCD email account from the State of Florida about the need to complete 4 hours of ethics training by December 31. The training can be completed in person (AFCD meetings) or online (link provided in email).

Web site update. On 4 March 2024, Charlene Meeks sent out an email to all District supervisors titled District Website ****Updates Needed****. Our website was in red which indicated it needed updating. Linda and Brad Johnson have been collecting information needed for the website. Tara Llewellyn will upload minutes from our meeting on 14 February 2024 when she is next in the office.

Conservationist’s Corner: Darryl Williams, District Conservationist

Darryl Williams said the next Local Working Group meeting will be in the Crestview USDA Service Center at 3020 Adora Teal Way on 25 April 2024. The meeting will cover resource concerns and priority of our top 5 from 2023. If something needs to be changed or make new recommendations will be submitted to NRCS.

OPPAGA District Performance Review

Graham Sweeney and Coleman Loftin from Mauldin & Jenkins and Subsidiaries, LLC were here to conduct a performance review of the Yellow River Soil and Water Conservation Districts at the direction of Florida OPPAGA. Their questions covered types of data listed in a January 28, 2024 email sent to YRSWCD board members by David Summers of OPPAGA. Mauldin & Jenkins report has to be provided to OPPAGA by 19 August 2024.

Adjourn

With discussions at an end, David Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was 2nd by Melody Irwin and approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Next Board Meeting: April 9, 2024, at 6:30 PM.



Andy Baber, Chairman



Date