

***Osceola Soil & Water Conservation District***

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**MINUTES**

**DATE:** July 28, 2021

**PRESENT:** Acting Chairperson Matthew Kirk-Boggs, Supervisors Larry Allen Schneck and Dr. Deborah Livingston (telephonic), and Mr. Chuck O’Rourke, District Conservationist. Guests: Ms. Sarah Lee, “Keep Osceola Beautiful.”

**ABSENT:** Former Chairperson Anthony “Tony” Busby (Resigned) and Supervisor Jackie Henry and Subcommittee Chairperson

**Call to Order and Roll Call:** Acting Chairperson Boggs called the meeting to order after achieving quorum at 4:59 p.m. EDT at the UF/IFAS Extension Services Office.

* **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation:** Pledge of Allegiance and invocation led by Secretary Schneck.
* **Minutes:** June 23, 2021 Minutes approved by voice vote 3-0 with two corrections made by Dr. Livingston.
* **Treasurer’s Report:** Dr. Livingston stated the operating account balance is $369.90 and the Envirothon account is closed. She continues gathering the documents to transition the accounts to no-fee in order to avoid a monthly charge. In September or October, financial fundraising for Envirothon 2022 will begin. Acting Chairperson Boggs said he’s willing to petition the county commissioners in-person to request funding assistance for the annual competition held in Orange County.
* **Conservationist’s Report:** Mr. O’Rourke said he executed a conservation stewardship contract this month with two more coming in the next couple of weeks along with his continuing work with landowners on invasive plant species treatments in the field. Mr. O’Rourke said since he assumed his position in 2006, he has put into action more than $12,000,000 in funding for local partnerships.

**Old Business**

* + **Removal of Supervisor Jacqueline Henry:** Acting Chairperson Boggs made a motion to remove Supervisor Jackie Henry from Seat 1 because of her not attending meetings and unable to carry out her supervisor duties. Motion passed by voice vote, 3-0. Secretary Schneck said he would contact Supervisor Henry and discuss the resolution thank you for her service to the Board.
  + **Letter to Turtle Creek Homeowners Association:** Acting Chairperson Boggs moved this HOA agenda item to next month’s meeting.

**New Business**

* **Victory Gardens:** Eva Pabon, UF/IFAS Extension Services Office, worked with Oak Leaf Landings Assisted Living Facility for garden area. Dr. Livingston said they no longer have a source for clean top soil. She asked Mr. O’Rourke if he knows an alternate source for soil. The Home Depot is able to provide supplies for the project. Mr. O’Rourke is going to give Dr. Livingston a copy of the OSWCD charter in order to get assistance from The Home Depot.
* **Fresh Community:** Dr. Livingston said Mr. Andrew Jeng, subcommittee chairperson, is planning new projects and events. He’s transitioning from cleaning parks to road cleanups. However, he needs to get a permit and provide additional safety training and precautions.
* **Former Chairperson Busby Resignation Letter:** Mr. Anthony “Tony” Busby submitted a letter of resignation to Vice-chairperson Boggs. The acting chairperson requested a motion to accept the resignation. Motion passed by voice vote, 3-0.
* **Supervisor Nominations:** Acting Chairperson Boggs nominated Ms. Valerie Anderson and Mr. David Keith Lee. Secretary Schneck nominated Mr. Anthony “Tony” Busby. Dr. Livingston nominated Mr. Oliver David Finnigan and Mr. Andrew Jeng. Secretary Schneck will post a message on the OSWCD Facebook page requesting nominations from the Osceola County community. Nominees will be invited to present their credentials and speak a the next monthly meeting. Secretary Schneck will reach out to the Governor’s Appointments Office in the Tallahassee Capitol Building to get a point of contact and outline of the process to replace supervisors per Florida Statute 582.20.

**Public Comment:** Ms. Sarah Lee, “Keep Osceola Beautiful”, introduced herself. She described their efforts to pick up trash and keep Osceola County looking clean.

**Adjournment:** 5:47 p.m.

*Next Meeting:*

Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. on Zoom