

## Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District

April 18, 2024

Members present: Mark Curenton, Chuck Marks, and Krystal Hernandez

Members not present: Walter Armistead and Alan Pierce

Others present: Scott Williams District Conservationist, Ethan Sapp Soil Conservationist, and Cathy Davis

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chuck Marks. The minutes from the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed, and a motion was made by Mark Curenton to approve the minutes. Krystal Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mark Curenton gave the treasurer's report, and the current balance remains the same \$5,513.23 with no activity.

Scott Williams gave a brief review of the Blountstown Field Office. At this point, we have \$2.5 million in 23 preapproved applications. We still have 21 pending applications, that should finish out at around \$3 million for the office. Probably 70 to 80% is still going towards Hurricane Michael clean up.

The Local Workgroup Meeting (LWG) was April 10<sup>th</sup>. That meeting the three local Soil & Water Conservation Districts for the 4 counties we cover, along with Florida Forest Service make recommendations on the local funding pool. With about all emphasis being put on clean up and replanting timber the livestock and row crop applications aren't being funded. So, the LWG decided to take the local pool of money, which was around \$300,000 last year and make the priority more geared toward livestock and row crops.

Scott also, introduced new employee Ethan Sapp to the board.

Under of business, Cathy Davis informed the board that the OPPAGA Report has completed its initial report. Now, I want to them to review the report and come back for question/answers.

Cathy will be attending the Florida Conservation Employees Association meeting in Gainesville April 24th & 25<sup>th</sup>. Since joining this group has been very beneficial, because we aren't being provided any information from Association of Florida Conservation District (AFCD) at all, yet they want us to pay annual dues.

The Area 1 AFCD meeting will be held May 30<sup>th</sup> at Jackson County Extension 2741 Penn Ave, Suite 3 in Marianna. Also, they will be offering the required by Florida law Ethics Training free of charge. If not taken here, there will be a \$59 charge to take it. Lunch will be provided by Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mark Curenton made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Krystal Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried.