



## **Broward Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes**

Thurs, Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Emma Lou Civic Center

1801 NE 6th St, Pompano Beach, FL 33060

6:30 PM

- I. Call to Order at 6:30 PM
  
- II. Board Members Present
  - a) Richard DeNapoli (by phone)
  - b) Jelani Harvey
  - c) Alissa Schafer (by phone)
  - d) Fred Segal
  
- III. Members of the Public
  - a) Claudia Botera, student of environmental science at Broward College
  - b) Rosa Reyes, Natural Resources Conservation Services, part of the USDA
  - c) Tim Ross
  - d) Richard Leys, former Supervisor
  
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance
  
- V. Approval of November Minutes. Motion made by Supervisor DeNapoli, seconded by Supervisor Harvey on approval of November minutes. Motion passed. Supervisor DeNapoli offers to take the minutes at this meeting.
  
- VI. New Business:
  - a) Board Elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer delayed until February meeting. Motion by acclamation.
  
  - b) Board Vacancy:
    1. Supervisor DeNapoli motions to appoint Richard Leys to fill the vacancy resulting from resignation of Nancy Matayer. Supervisor Segal seconds. Supervisor DeNapoli and Supervisor Segal vote yes. Harvey and Supervisor Schafer vote no. Tied vote results in motion failing.
  
    2. Discussion on the Board vacancy continues and Supervisor Schafer discusses her desire for an application process and people to interview. Supervisor Harvey also asks for the process to take place that was used to appoint Supervisor Schafer. Supervisor DeNapoli motions to allow an application process whereby applications were made prior to the February meeting and then we would review and appoint at the February meeting. Discussion includes asking applicants to physically appear. Off topic discussion on treasurer and secretary duties. Richard accepts the friendly



amendment to his motion to open the process to application and have people meet in February and vote in February but perhaps extend the process to the March meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

- c) Review Submitted NACD Grant Application. Supervisor Harvey provides reports on grant applications. Discussion regarding submission of grant application for \$26,000. Results should arrive next month. Every quarter as a result of grant process we would need to notify NACD as to how the grant was being used. Supervisor Harvey mentions paying interns and getting in touch with Broward college, stating that we have been invited to a class in April to discuss the internship program. One student has already sent a resume.
- d) Plan for Water Matters Day Sat March 9th, 2019. Discussion on manning the booth. Supervisor Segal suggests having people ask others to help man the booth and give out information. We could also approach the Key Club and ask for high school students to help man the booth. Supervisor Harvey suggests having specific people take up times to man the booth. Follow up discussion to occur at the February meeting for scheduling, etc.
- e) Mail Chimp/Live Streaming in 2019. Supervisor Harvey states that in November we discussed the idea of an email system to send emails on our behalf. Supervisor Schafer discusses, as well as other Supervisors. This is where if free, we would store contacts and provide shared access to board members. This would enable us to build a consistent email list, keeping it in a neutral third-party location. It could be used for sending announcements, and calls to volunteers. It is simple to use. Supervisor Harvey's list would be the first one to incorporate. A reminder is made to be careful not to put some comments out regarding the opinion of a supervisor on something coming up for a vote. Motions are made by Supervisor Segal and seconded by Supervisor Schafer to go forward with the MailChimp account, but table the vote on the live streaming. Motions carry.
- f) ReBuilding Together Broward County. This weekend is MLK weekend and Supervisor Schafer asks for this item to be on the agenda, as it is a volunteer opportunity in our community. Supervisor Schafer has volunteered to help clear out some areas and landscaping in some homes, and it is a well-organized event. She has volunteered and wanted to welcome anyone else, as there is still an opportunity to volunteer.

VII. Old Business:

- a) Special district fee and AFCD dues discussed. Hardship letter will be sent and will be \$50 payment. Supervisors will write a check for \$10 each to the Broward Soil and Water conservation District and then the district will send \$50 to the AFCD. Supervisor Harvey will share his personal address for the supervisors to send their checks to him.

VIII. Discussion Items:

- a) Supervisor DeNapoli brings up discussion item from last meeting regarding prior Board discussion of possibly moving meetings to a more central location for future meetings away from Pompano Beach. Supervisor Harvey mentions that Supervisor Schafer desired consistency. Supervisor Segal says we would need to find potential other locations and that we would need to re-advertise our yearly meeting schedule because that is required.



Supervisor DeNapoli mentions Deicke Auditorium as a potential location in Plantation. The suggestion is to look into other locations.

- b) Supervisor DeNapoli mentions that the new Governor is seeking to change water policies to advance conservation and we should comment where advisable as this may be an opportunity to positively impact water conservation for Broward.
- c) Supervisor Segal mentions a DOT subcontractor in Pompano drilled through a sewer that remained uncapped for many days. Millions of gallons of raw sewage flowed into canals in Garden Isles and Cypress Harbor, some as far as Lake Santa Barbara. 70 aerators were placed into the canal system, and they have been trying to vacuum waste out of canals, including dead fish, manatees, turtles. People have become sick. There is a major environmental issue and clean water act violation. Now there's a dead manatee so we have a situation with an endangered species. Board members need to be aware of the situation. The city is working on cleanup, but multiple agencies are involved and the problem was created by a DOT contractor so the Department of Transportation has some say with what is going on. It took 4 days to report the situation.
- d) Supervisor Segal says there is not currently a director of AG water policy for Florida but lots of changes in Florida policy going on right now. Perhaps when someone is there we can look forward to a tech position that could allow for administration to supervise that individual.

#### IX. Public Comment

- a) Rosa Reyes discusses the shutdown. Discusses that Farm Bill has been approved but that since the shutdown is in effect, we cannot fund any applications until the shutdown is resolved. They deal with conservation programs and it seems like they won't change much. The AGI for applying may be lower. We may have another period where others can apply beyond the initial application period. She continues working with growers, farmers and ranchers in Broward and Palm Beach (more in Palm Beach) and she looks forward to meeting the new board members. She offers to help any of us in the areas of agriculture and ranching. Supervisor Harvey says we applied for the national grant and Ms. Reyes says she would be happy to discuss.
- b) Tim Ross is a Democratic Precinct Committeeman from Coral Springs who states that the Pompano beach CIRC is helping educate others about the situation in Pompano.
- c) Supervisor Harvey thanks Claudia Botera for attending. As a fellow Broward College student, he encourages other students to get involved. Asks Claudia to tell us her interests. Claudia says she an environmental science student. Says she read about us online. She is very new to this and willing to learn, and very hands on and offers to help with the Broward SWCD.
- d) Supervisor Harvey states that Broward college is doing an annual symposium on food justice March 22, 2019. Goal is to have conversation about food production. Various groups will attend. Jelani will send everyone an email about it.



- e) Adjournment at 7:39 PM. Supervisor Harvey motions to adjourn. Multiple other Supervisors second the motion. Motion carries.