



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

Thurs, October 15, 2020

Zoom Online (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85135696568>)

6:30 PM

- I. Call to Order 6:31
- II. Board Members Present – all via Zoom
  - a) Richard DeNapoli
  - b) Jelani Harvey
  - c) Fred Segal
  - d) Alissa Schafer
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Members of the Public
  - a) None Present
- V. Approval of September Minutes. Motion to approve by Supervisor Harvey. Second by Supervisor Schaeffer. Motion Carries.
- VI. Old Business
  - a) Discussion of the 2019 Public Depositor Annual Report. Supervisor Schafer states that this has been completed.
  - b) Partnering with the US Geological Survey for the next lunch and learn between noon to 1 PM, on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> or Thursday November 12<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Harvey reached out to Dr. Dorothy Sifuentes last month, who works for the US Geological Survey who previously did a presentation on where our drinking water goes after disposal; municipal sanitary sewage disposal; septic system use of non-potable water; water quality issues when disposing of the water, etc., for 30-40 minutes. At our prior meeting, Supervisor Segal stated that he prefers November 12th but Supervisor Collum is unavailable on that date. Supervisor Segal mentions that it could be entitled “Where Does Your Wastewater Go?” Motion by Supervisor DeNapoli that November 10<sup>th</sup>, Noon to 1PM, will sponsor this virtual program, and move forward with advertising; seconded by Supervisor Harvey. Motion carries.
  - c) Pines Charter Outreach. Pembroke Pines Charter high school student contacted Supervisor Harvey about how they can participate with the district and the poster contest and Envirothon. Last month it was discussed that we could promote to science coordinators and chairs at schools to get more participation. No further updates this month.



- d) Internship Opportunity Broward College. Internship Opportunities could be available for students with the Broward Soil & Water Conservation District. Supervisor Harvey was previously contacted by Professor Fletcher at Broward College about having an intern that would work with our District for course credit. All Supervisors agreed previously this would be beneficial. Supervisor Harvey did follow up and supplied a list of ways an intern could help, and updated us that if we had one intern, they could work on the grant, while the other could work on lunch and learn programs. The Envirathon for 2021 was discussed but is uncertain as to date and whether it would be a live event.
- e) Southwest Ranches Fire Assessments on Agricultural lands issue. Supervisor Segal advised that the town approved a fire assessment fee for only people in the landscape and nursey business, applying a tax to only part of an industry. They are classifying it like a Lowe's or Publix and setting a tax of \$1.12 per square ft of structure; but Supervisor Segal believes that nurseries and landscapers should be taxed at the agricultural rate.

#### VII. New Business.

- a) Supervisor DeNapoli mentions that we need a concrete plan to rejuvenate the Broward Soil and Water District. Supervisor Segal says that we should try and enter into a contractual agreement with the FL Dept of Agriculture to provide education and sign up for best management practices to agricultural business in Broward county. To provide those services because they are not currently provided. We need to engage in this to fit in our statutory purpose. Supervisor Harvey says there were a lot of changes with FDACS and Dept of Ag and that Segal said that Clegg Hooks with Division of Ag Water Policy were working on a proposal. We should follow up. If we had a contract, it would allow a portion to be used for administrative funds to help operate the district. Normally 5% for admin purposes. Right now until elections are over many people are tied up. Supervisor DeNapoli motions that we can reach out to the Division of Ag water policy regarding this matter. Supervisor Harvey seconds. Motion carries.
- b) Supervisor Harvey says we need a calendar of items that we need to be up to date on. Website is one thing. Maybe we should split the \$99 fee among the five of us. Schafer says that until we have some revenue we shouldn't take on additional expenses and we should allow the state to continue to pay for it.
- c) General discussion about how we should apply for grants as they become available on a regular basis, as well as discussion about having emergency meetings when required to meet deadlines.
- d) Supervisor DeNapoli asks about other ideas to look at including promotion of technology where the district actually has marketed and sold things like composters, digesters, biologicals used as fertilizers, We can act as a broker on those items. Dade County Soil and Water used to sell composters and acted as a middleman to get commissions.
- e) Supervisor Segal says we have 14,000 horses in the county, producing manure that goes into landfills. We should develop a grant for the district to own and operate a digester or anerobic paralysis system to take in the manure, get a fee, and convert to electricity.



- f) Supervisor Harvey says Palm Beach is successful district, and pushes for a budget allocation but the environmental division wouldn't agree.
- g) Motion by DeNapoli that any Supervisors can collaborate on research the above ideas as well as other ideas to rejuvenate the district.

VIII. Public Comment.

IX. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn by Supervisor DeNapoli. Second by Supervisor Schafer.  
Adjourned at 7:30.