

**DRAFT**  
**YRSWCD District**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**June 13, 2023**

**Attendance:**

Andy Baber, Chairman  
David Clark, Vice Chairman  
Melody Irwin, Secretary  
Dr. Linda Johnson, Earth Team Member  
Brad Johnson, Board Member  
Darryl Williams, USDA-NRCS District Conservationist Okaloosa County  
Tara Llewellyn, YRSWCD District Administrator  
Lisa & Michael Fortune, Big Creek Farm, LLC representatives

**Absent:**

Josh Luke, Treasurer

**Andy Baber opened the meeting at approximately 7:00 PM.**

The Board Meeting Minutes from the April 11, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Melody Irwin made a motion to accept the minutes and Brad Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The minutes were accepted by the Board.

**Presentation by Michael Fortune**

Mr. Fortune gave a presentation about the Big Creek Farm LLC located in Laurel Hill. The business is a livestock processing facility and they are applying for a Local Meat Capacity Grant. The upgrades will be used to reduce facility environmental impact problems. Mr. Fortune answered Board questions about the facility and need for such a business in the local area. Mr. Fortune asked if we provide a letter of support as part of the Grant request.

Melody Irwin made a motion to support the request and David Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the Board.

**Old Business**

**YRSWCD Website update**

The website is functional and is hosted by AFCD. Previously AFCD personnel were to post documents to the YRSWCD section of the AFCD web site. However, now we are responsible for such posting. David Clark said he would call Ms. Meeks at AFCD about how to resolve the problem.

**5-Year Plan update progress.**

Brad Johnson reported that he was making good progress on updating Section I, Introduction, of the document, but would need input from the entire Board on Section II, which has to do with Soil and Water Resource Concerns. This section covers Natural Resource Challenges, Natural Resource

Opportunities and General Outline of Proposed Solutions. Comments are to be sent to Tara Llewellyn only.

**Financial Report – Treasurer**

Tara Llewellyn is now sending the monthly financial statement to each Board member. There were no comments about the statement for April. She reported that she had received a Freedom of Information Act request. It required a significant amount of information on Board past history so she was still working on it. Ms. Llewellyn also reported she had received a Form 941 request from the IRS about two late payments prior to her starting with the Board. She sent to request to the Board account.

**New Business**

**AFCD District 1 meeting**

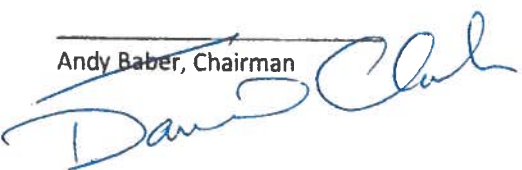
Brad Johnson presented high lights of the AFCD District 1 meeting held May 5, 2023 in Gadsden, FL. The next AFCD meeting will be September 26-27 in Gainesville. Hotel and mileage will be paid by AFCD. The OPPAGA Soil and Water Conservation District survey will be coming out. They should only receive one response from each District. Answers should be positive. The Department of Agriculture said besides water and soil conservation one of their goals was better use of nutrients in cost sharing. Mr. Johnson received a preliminary OPPAGA survey on May 15<sup>th</sup> covering the period October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2022. When Mr. Johnson told the sender of the survey that he was not qualified to answer for that time period. The sender said it did not matter, because the two-day response time had already passed.

**Conservationist’s Corner: Darryl Williams, District Conservationist**

Darryl reported that NRCS State Office (Programs) Division has started the preapproval contract process for the 2023 CSP and EQIP funding of eligible applicants. He will followup with a report on the number of contracts and funding awarded at the next meeting.

**Adjourn**

With discussions at an end, David Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Melody Irwin and approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:52 PM.

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Andy Baber, Chairman  


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9/20/2023  
Date