**SJCSWCD Board Meeting**

**February 21, 2022**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE**: Joe McAnarney, Mary Lawrence, Nicole Crosby, Chuck Owen, Doug Conkey (WMD)

Chairman Crosby convened the meeting at 9AM. The Zoom meeting was recorded.

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**MINUTES APPROVAL**:

Lawrence moved to approve minutes from 1/31/22 meeting. McAnarney seconded. Approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**:

Balance of $7162,65 reported. McAnarney moved to accept. Lawrence seconded. Approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**:

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**: Crosby will generate an online working document before our next meeting with all the submissions we’ve input to date.

**NEW BUSINESS**

* **2022 ELECTION RESOLUTION FOR SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS**: Crosby offered to sign for us. McAnarney moved to accept, Lawrence seconded. Approved.
* **USDA MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**: Approved prior to meeting and submitted.
* **SB1078 STATUS**: Crosby attended a hearing for the bill and spoke on our behalf. She noted many others did as well. The House version still states “abolish” SWCDs throughout the state; the Senate bill limits office holders to farmers, ranchers or those retired after 15 years in the professions. Bills are in committees, unclear if they will be reconciled in time for vote. No statewide pushback from other SWCDs has been received. McAnarney noted St Johns County is in “water caution” status. He’s researching data for water quality and quantity for next meeting. Other actions suggested:
  + Crosby requested Mr Conkey help us get data on water quantity
  + Owens suggested independent testing of gray water from the water treatment plant, using samples acquired by us. Owens moved to proceed, McAnarney seconded. Approved.
  + Coordinate with Duval SWCD on SB1078 actions and acquire any data they may have on their water quality
* **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING SUGGESTIONS**: Crosby and McAnarney will attend the county meeting on 2/22/22 to recommend the following:
  + County funding assistance for euro drainage systems for SJC farmers so there is full funding. Owens moved to accept; McAnarney seconded. Approved.
  + Residential and commercial underground seepage systems county funded incentives. Owens moved, McAnarney seconded. Approved.
  + Fund study identifying failing septic tanks in the most sensitive areas for conversion to sewer. McAnarney moved, Lawrence seconded. Approved.
* **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**:
  + Conkey noted St Johns Utilities uses the 25% cost share programs extensively. Funding is up to $3M with cap of $12M per entity.
  + Information is needed on current “shovel ready” projects if any
  + Conkey will also forward links to aquifer levels once he’s had the chance to review the data.
  + Owens estimates about 5k acres of agricultural land have been using the euro irrigation systems, with another 14k acres not taking advantage of it. It is a $1k/acre cost to the farmer; the water management district funds the other 75%.
* **OPEN FLOOR**:
  + Lawrence briefly explained the zombie “net metering” bill back in the legislature. It’s the same utility backed bill voters defeated a few cycles ago. Lawrence will send latest link to board. Unclear if it will advance in time.
  + McAnarney is seeking information on state health data in West Augustine. It was noted there are no brownfields (EPA), no higher rates of illness and no areas of concern. TBD.

**MEETING ADJOURNED 1030 AM**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lawrence,

Vice Chair