

**Board of Directors  
Special Meeting  
March 11, 2011  
1:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order by President John Chamberlain at 1:05 pm

**Roll call was performed:** The following were present or on the call, John Chamberlain, Archie Matthews, Eva Webb, Paul Still, Barbara Gill, David Legg, Nicole Kelton, John Sink, Andy Jackson, John O'Connor, Patty Fletcher, Drew Martin, and Ray Horne.

**Minutes were reviewed:** Stuart, FL needs to be spelled correctly. Moved to approve the minutes by Archie Matthews and seconded by Dr. Sink.

**President's Report:**

John has been going all over the state of FL to attend meetings. John and staff, have been watching the Senate and House Bills. As of right now they are both withdrawn but we need to stay vigilant and make sure that they don't get pushed in with another bill later in session. John believes that the Senator out of Manatee County didn't understand the full extent of the SWCD's.

Gary Booker and staff are working to keep our \$50,000 funding and since the budgets are being cut and they are looking for ways to cut money we have to watch and stay on top of our funding.

The Area II meeting went very well and we actually had someone from Nassau County attend and Tom Ford encouraged someone from his board to attend. Other counties attended and we had great attendance at the last meeting, where a supervisors training also took place. The Area III meeting is showing a lot of interest and John O'Connor and Deborah Schafer both will be present and Mrs. Betty Jo Thompkins has been essential to this meeting. In April there will be a meeting with FARCA and John will be going to keep relations high, and we are going to try to share office space and personnel with federal funding. Right now they are trying to get their funding back but John still wants to keep the bridge between AFCD and FARCA.

John Sink-asked about the RC & D. The legislation is pulling funding from RC&D's completely and so Nick Francisco is asking for everyone to write to legislators. Andy-House Bill said to cut it entirely and the Senate Bill said to cut it in half.

**Treasurer's Report Financials:**

Nicole went over financials and Nicole stated that the dues need to come in and also explained how we could save money by doing emails instead of hard mails, and also that they would be changing their phone plan at the state office to cut back on cost. Also, explained that FDACS will be sending in money once the invoices are approved.

Motion to approve the financial by Dr. John Sink and seconded by Drew Martin.

**FDACS Update:** No one was available to give an update at this time.

**Barbara's Reports:** Area 1-C - Apalachicola Feb 17

6 Supers from Franklin, Gulf, Chipola

1 staff

1 RC & D

1 FDACS

1 NRCS

Very good meeting - 3 PowerPoint trainings

Gordon Shuler (Franklin SWCD) = interim Deputy V-P

May 4, 4 pm, Bristol for their Div 1-C annual meeting

Area 2 meeting Feb 28 - very good turnout, 2 PowerPoint trainings

Nicole has list of attendees, especially glad to have 4 Taylor SWCD and one new Super Duval SWCD.

I continue to finalize plans for the FL Envirothon, t-shirts, volunteers, maps, agenda, etc.

Mar 17 = Suwannee SWCD

Mar 26 - Mar 30 - Washington DC to see daughter and cherry blossoms

Land Judge Mar 25, Blackwater, WILL AFCD HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE?

**David's Reports:** Meet with Highlands, Sarasota, and Lee with the County Commissions. In Highlands County they are going to lose a few employees and are going to try to team up with the Extension and County for funding. If they go under Extension they will have an office but they will be Field Technicians and will probably have no office people. They have an 11 million dollar deficit and they were asking everyone how they could save money. The three board members that were present they sat in three separate places to fill the Sunshine Law requirements. David feels that the SWCD board wants the staffing positions removed. He feels that the staffing position will do better in the long run. Broward County was given a subpoena for not providing records about financials and other things that were requested, they were in court now. Broward has no money and if they get charged the \$500.00/supervisor they will not be able to pay it.

The Area IV meeting will be begin at 9:30 am and will be in Ft. Pierce and then have a farm tour at Adam's Ranch.

**Senate/House-** keep tracking to ensure no last minute movement.

**FDACS Contract Review:** The next meeting will take place on May 6<sup>th</sup>, and needs to know if everyone can go over the 2011 goals and the FDACS contract and be ready to make any changes that you see that need to make.

**Misc.** Paul Still-House/Senate Bill for the future, we need to know that the individual districts are doing and have every district do a one page document that lists what their budgets are, their assets, and programs that they are doing. Then meet with staff not the legislators themselves and it will be easier to meet with the staff. It will be easier to meet with them and closer to each individual counties. Nicole and I will work on a template to send to the counties to fill in, and make it easier for them to complete.

On the contract review it is critical that we go over the supervisor's manual. Right now it is 160 pages and Paul believes that it should include the bare facts and no success stories and just have what we expect and what is needed in order to get the supervisors handbook. John Sink said that we need to "KISS", and Drew Martin also said that it needs to be kept simple. Paul also said that there is a 10 page glossary. Then send it to everyone. Andy Jackson-pocket handbook was started a couple of years ago and do a pocket size. See if that is a possibility to develop that as well. Kentucky has one. Updated Roster-due on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by John Sink and seconded by Drew Martin at 2:07pm.