



Association of Florida Conservation Districts AFCD

108 West Commercial Street, Sanford, FL 32771
Office: 407-321-8212 ♦ Fax 407-321-1208 ♦ www.AFCD.US

OFFICERS:

Wilbur Dean, President
Carl Perry, 1st Vice President
John Chamberlain, 2nd Vice-President
Steve Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer
Andrew Jackson, Past President

Burlin Finley Area I Vice-President
Blas J. Gomez Area II Vice-President
James D. Williams Area III Vice-President
Mike Barr Area IV Vice-President
John O'Connor Area V Vice-President
Eva Webb Area VI Vice-President

AFCD Board of Directors Meeting June 15, 2007

5
6
7
8

9 The Association of Florida Conservation District (AFCD) Board of Directors held a
10 meeting in the Conference Room at the NRCS office in Gainesville on Friday, June 15,
11 2007.

12

13 Those in attendance included Andy Jackson, Mike Barr, Wilbur Dean, John Chamberlain,
14 Susan Clary, Barbara Gill, Niles Glasgow, Ed Wright, John Harris, and Michelle
15 Thatcher

16

17 Wilbur Dean convenes the meeting at 10:35

18

19 John Chamberlain moves to remove the quorum requirement. Jackson seconded. Passed
20 unanimously.

21

22 **Reports:**

23 ***Wilbur Dean***

24

25 He has attended the Area 2,3, and 6 Area meetings. He checked out the hotel for the
26 annual conference and commented on the upscale accommodations.

27

28 ***Andy Jackson***

29 Andy spoke with Jim Davis, AFCD's CPA. Jim and Steve Johnson will meet next week
30 for the 501c3 application. It should take about a month to go through. Mike commented
31 that the application was now going to be \$750 as opposed to the \$300-\$500 quoted
32 earlier. Mike questions whether or not this 501c3 application is for AFCD or another
33 entity. Andy said that it was for the AFCD.

34

35 Steve and Jim will also discuss the audit needed for this coming annual meeting.

36

37 ***Niles Glasgow:***

38

39 Niles allowed his DC's to attend the AFCD Annual meeting with the requirement
40 attendance of only 1 Supervisor from their respective districts.

41
42 From an agency standpoint, NRCS has been very busy with Farm Bill. Niles said that it is
43 going well. They have a couple of other meetings in addition to ours including the
44 SWCS conference.

45 Congress is about to write a new farm bill. The house version is out there now. The
46 Senate is still working on it. It seems to be on a fast track. They said that they will try to
47 get it done by September 30th, but this is not typical. There are quite a few folks trying to
48 impact what is going into this bill. It looks like we will still have a Equip program, but
49 the WRP program will be affected.

50
51 Mike asked about the crisis the AFCD is in with regards to the property tax reform and
52 how NRCS can help.

53
54 Niles replied that if a district has employees out there helping NRCS, that they will
55 continue to support a lot of the overhead. NRCS can not support with salaries etc. He
56 stated that "Where we have the right partnership, we will do everything we can".

57
58 Niles also stated that NRCS does have in the budget for Technical Service Providers to
59 help carry out the Farm Bill. They have to be trained, certified, etc. If districts are in dire
60 straights it might be difficult to get this certification for employees. However, once they
61 have this certification, they can then start doing work as a TSP. This wouldn't
62 necessarily help the district with a financial crisis, but it would help the skilled employees
63 maintain their work. Niles said that he will send information on TSP Training

64
65 Niles said the Districts, along with the local DC, needs to put together documents about
66 what they are doing, and present it to the county commission. This is the key to having
67 good relationships. He has been saying this since he has been in his position. There are
68 places in this state that haven't done that and that they will be suffering.

69
70 Niles suggested that we should look at some of the RC&D's. They are 501c3's and they
71 are experts and finding outside resources, grants, etc. to support their missions. Three
72 Rivers RC&D has a great revenue stream. They have a project with the Air Force base
73 which brings in a lot of work.

74
75 Susan brought up the fact that Districts have to follow "Sunshine" and can not discuss
76 projects but once a month. They also have 5 supervisors who work full time which is
77 difficult to implement these types of programs without any staff on hand.

78
79 Michelle expressed gratitude to Niles for his support for the Upcoming Annual meeting.
80 The AFCD has quotas to fill with regards to food and hotel expenses and NRCS will help
81 through their participation—in addition to being an overall asset to the meeting.

82
83
84

85 **Hugh Thomas Report:**

86

87 Hugh said that Clegg is recruiting participation for the Annual meeting.

88

89 He said that State Funding for FDACS is same as last year—which is about 22 million.

90 He encourages the board to think of programs/services that we could add to our contract.

91 Wilbur suggested that employee training would help in addition to Supervisor Training.

92 The board said that we would start considering additional projects to submit.

93

94 Hugh stated that Holly Stone will replace Brittany Mayock.

95

96 He also suggested that our board attends the CARE’s dinner is the 28th of the month

97 which is an excellent networking opportunity. It will be just south of Live Oak. It

98 shows the level of conservation in that area. It is a farmer organization, casual attire, hot,

99 in the middle of the chicken farm.

100

101

102 Mike questioned how FDACS could help Districts outside the contract.

103 Hugh suggested that if Boards want to be operative, they have to find a niche area that

104 will support their area.

105 Mike suggested that we have to get out to these districts and put together a plan.

106

107

108 **Financial Report**

109

110 Michelle presented all the bills paid including the \$3,000 for the Annual meeting. Andy

111 thought that we should have paid \$5,000 instead of \$3,000.

112

113 Motion by Mike Barr that we pay the total of \$5,000 unless it is less. Chamberlain

114 seconded. Passed Unanimously.

115

116 Chamberlain moves that the AFCD pay the bills presented. Jackson seconded. Passed

117 unaniously.

118

119 **OPERATING ACCOUNT**

120

DESCRIPTION	Unit Price	Tax	AMOUNT
2 months pay for services May and June	2	\$500	\$1,000
Postage			
Mailing checks to Wilbur 5-10-07	\$14.40		\$14.40
Postage	\$4.77		\$4.77
Office Supplies			

121

Paper 5-3-07	\$2.99	.21	\$3.20
Paper 6-14-07	\$2.99	.21	\$3.20
Ink Cartridge	\$29.99	\$2.10	\$32.09
		TOTAL	\$57.66

122

123 **FDACS CONTRACT ACCOUNT**

124

DESCRIPTION	Unit Price	Tax	AMOUNT
Supplies			
Small Power Cord for Presentation	\$2.84		
Larger Power Cord for Presentation	\$7.74		
		.75	\$11.43
HHD Drive 40 G USB	\$74.99	\$5.25	\$80.24
3 PK Printer Cartridges	\$72.50		
#10 Envelope	\$8.99		
		\$5.70	\$87.19
#9 Envelope	\$20.99	\$1.47	\$22.46
2 Pk Printer Cartridge	\$52.15		
Paper	\$2.84		
		\$3.85	\$58.84
Registration			
Area 4 meeting- Registration and Lunch	\$30.00		\$30.00
Area 3 Registration and Lunch	\$15.00		\$15.00
Postage			
Survey Mailing	\$7.80		\$7.80
Survey Mailing	\$273.80		\$273.80
Additional Postage	\$2.41		\$2.41
Mileage			
May 12 Area 4 meeting. Round Trip 53.52 miles	.445		\$23.81
May 17 th and 18 th Area 3 meeting. Round Trip 371.44 miles	.445		\$165.29
May 31 st and June 1 st Area 6 meeting. Round Trip 337.34	.445		\$150.11
Hotel			
Free stay at Marriott and Free stay with Barbara Gill			
Toll Roads			
May 17 th and 18 th Area 3 meeting	\$7.00		\$7.00

May 31 st Area 6 meeting	\$4.90		\$4.90
Meals			
Area 6 meeting- Bizzarro Pizza	\$7.41		\$7.41
Area 3 meeting – The Gathering Place	\$12.70		\$12.70
		TOTAL	\$960.31

125

126

127

128 Andy makes a motion that we pay whatever the fee is now for the 501c3 and also to pay
 129 \$1,000 for an audit. Chamberlain seconded. Barr opposes.

130

131 Michelle explains that the FDACS check was accidentally sent to the Live Oak office and
 132 that Theresa forwarded on the check to the AFCD office, but it was never received.

133

134 Chamberlain moves that we send checks with a return receipt mail. Andy seconded.
 135 Passed unanimously.

136

137 Chamberlain moves that we pay the balance of the registration fee and the flight for both
 138 Wilbur and Andy to attend the Legislative meetings in Washington DC. Andy seconded.
 139 Passed unanimously.

140

141 Wilbur stated that he will be trying to get his commission to pay for half of the meeting.
 142 Andy said that he will also ask his board to help support this trip as well. The total cost
 143 for both will be approximately \$3,000.

144

145 Andy made a motion authorizing \$500 to cover expenses for Michelle to attend the
 146 conference in Ithaca. Chamberlain seconded. Passed Unanimously

147

148

149 **Annual Meeting**

150

151 Ed Wright said that he has secured Stan Bronson, who is the Executive Director for the
 152 Florida Earth Foundation, to speak at our Annual Meeting. He has also secured the
 153 person who organized the upcoming forum to also be the agenda for the meeting. Ed
 154 will make a phone and finalize these speakers

155

156 Andy Jackson called NACD and he said that there will be a representative to our Annual
 157 meeting. Andy thinks it will be John Redding.

158

159 Susan asked about the expense of the meeting and suggested that the costs were very
 160 high. Wilbur stated that we are considering that for next years meeting and will try and
 161 keep the meetings in a central location.

162

163 Wilbur said that the Bayer corporations will be writing a check for \$2500 for the Speech
164 and poster contest. FDACS will be sending \$650. Wilbur suggests that any funds
165 remaining should go into the Ellis Putnal Fund.

166

167

168 **New Business**

169

170 Website

171 Michelle stated that we are having difficulty with our webmaster. David was very
172 responsive in the past, but that she has not been able to get him to fulfill requests or
173 contact back. Wilbur suggested that he will write another letter to totally cut the ties. We
174 need to find another webmaster.

175

176 Speech Contest

177 Michelle to send out to information soliciting questions for next year's speech contest.
178 Niles suggested alternative Fuel as a possibility. Alternative Water Sources could also be
179 a possibility, suggested John Harris.

180

181 FAMU Agreement

182 Michelle presented the FAMU agreement. Wilbur suggested that we could send this to
183 John Costigan to review. Andy moves that we give this agreement to Costigan to review
184 and give feedback to Wilbur to sign.

185

186 Michelle presents the MOU between AFCD, FCDEA, IFAS, FDACS and NRCS. Andy
187 and Wilbur to set up a meeting for the MOU.

188

189 Wilbur moves to adjourn the meeting

190

191

192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

201

202

203

204

205

206