

Seminole Soil and Water Conservation District
Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2017
Longwood City Hall – Longwood, Florida

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6 The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.
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8 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
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10 A roll call was taken. Supervisors Menzel, Mahnken and Young were present. Supervisors York
11 and Benson were absent.
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13 Mahnken moved to approve the Agenda; Young seconded. Menzel wanted to add under New
14 Business regarding a SSWCD representative on CALNO. Supervisor Benson is resigning from her
15 position as SSWCD's CALNO representative. Benson wants the Board to consider appointing
16 someone else; she cannot continue due to time constraints. Young moved to approve the Agenda
17 as amended; Mahnken seconded the motion. The Agenda was approved unanimously.
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19 The August 2017 Meeting Minutes were considered. The September 2017 meeting of the SSWCD
20 was cancelled due to Hurricane Irma. Young moved to approve the Meeting Minutes. Mahnken
21 wanted to amend the Minutes. The Minutes were revised to show Mahnken spoke to someone
22 from Foster Conan, an architectural firm, regarding T-shirt logos. The Minutes were also revised
23 to show Mahnken discussed SSWCD's T-shirt logo with Noah Signan. Young moved to approve
24 the Minutes as amended. Mahnken seconded the Motion. The Minutes were approved
25 unanimously.
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27 Menzel introduced SSWCD's new representative from NRCS, Chuck O'Rourke. He is based out
28 of the Kissimmee field office covering the Brevard-Seminole territory. He discussed the state of
29 hiring within NRCS, and he expected to represent NRCS to SSWCD moving forward. He
30 discussed NRCS's watershed program in detail. He also discussed internal operations of NRCS,
31 particularly funding and how it would affect SSWCD. The Board engaged him in a brief
32 discussion.
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34 Menzel introduced SSWCD's Fourth Quarter Presentation. Gabrielle Milch, an environmental
35 scientist, introduced herself and discussed her background in local conservation and environmental
36 work. Milch discussed conservation generally. Conservation of water is an important part of our
37 quality of life. Preserving the quality of water is important. Milch showed pictures of water
38 placement throughout Seminole County. Milch discussed wells and cycles of rain and drought;
39 different types of water and water bodies in the county; population growth and changes in the
40 county and the state legislative response to it; the hydrologic cycle and how our Aquifer is
41 recharged; Aquifer flows and river flows, including the St. Johns River; rapid infiltration systems;
42 water use and planning; water quality standards; springs; the history of the water management
43 districts and their permitting processes; fluctuating lake levels; home water usage and landscaping;
44 securing out water supply and being smart with water usage. A discussion between Ms. Milch and
45 the attending public ensued.
46

47 **Chair Report**

48 Supervisor Duncan provided documents to SSWCD per Board request. He intended to provide
49 additional records in his possession.

50 Menzel was working with Benson to redirect traffic from old website to new website. Web access
51 authority is needed from former Supervisor Deborah Schaeffer to assist in this process. Benson
52 reached out to Schaeffer on this point.

53 Menzel went today to a meeting of the St. Johns Water Management District meeting in Winter
54 Springs. Going to the meeting was educational on the reach of the SJWMD. He would suggest
55 anyone who has not attended do so.

56 **Vice Chair Report**

57 Mahnken continuing to compile wetland ordinance research in order to prepare a summary for the
58 Seminole BOCC to eventually update their ordinance. He was hoping to wrap it up this month.

59 **Treasurer Report**

60 Young reported the following balances:

61 SSWCD: \$122.47

62 Conserve All Ways, LLC: \$841.44

63 Young paid for post office box. He intended to request reimbursement.

64 Young also intended to attend Volusia SWCD meeting but he is not sure it will take place.

65 Young is continuing to work to finalize CAW paperwork with IRS to regain full non-profit status.

66 **Secretary Report**

67 Menzel referred to York preparing August 2017 Meeting Minutes prior to meeting for
68 consideration and approval. York was absent so there was no report.

69 **Public Relations Report**

70 Menzel provided report for Benson by referring their CALNO-representative replacement
71 discussion.

72 **Public Participation**

73 Benjamin Vogt, a UCF student, discussed his ongoing work with Young regarding assisting with
74 SSWCD's financial documents.

75 Denise Wissmueller, the Candidates Committee Chair for the Libertarian Party of Orange County
76 wants to learn more about SSWCD and stopped by the meeting to say hello.

77 Abby Shoemaker, a candidate for Longwood City Commission, stopped by to check out SSWCD
78 and gave introductory remarks.

79 Richard Drummond, another candidate, made remarks thanking the Board for their service to
80 SSWCD.

81 Rick Ashby, a Democratic candidate for Florida State Senate District 9, stopped by to check out
82 SSWCD and express his concern about water quality issues.

83 **Old Business**

84 A Board discussion ensued regarding a T-shirt logo for prospective T-shirts.

85 Young moved to table Agenda item 14b regarding the 5-Year Plan. Mahnken seconded the Motion.
86 Mahnken discussed the possibility of tracking individual Supervisor activities to show progress on
87 specific goals in the 5-Year Plan. He said that activities of Supervisors often overlap with each
88 other. The Motion was approved unanimously.

89 Menzel moved onto the issue of Bylaws as amended and posted on SSWCD's website and social
90 media. Young moved to table Agenda items 14c; Mahnken second the motion. Young wanted to
91 wait until we had more Supervisors to vote on the Bylaws as amended. The Motion was approved
92 unanimously.

93 Menzel moved onto the issue of county funding for SSWCD from the Seminole BOCC. Young
94 discussed past funding for SSWCD based on a 2005 agreement for services between SSWCD and
95 BOCC. Young emphasized that SSWCD needs funding to meet unfunded mandates such as
96 maintaining the website and post office box. Menzel emphasized that SSWCD's past provision of
97 services to the BOCC may have saved the county thousands of dollars. An extensive Board
98 discussion ensued. The Board agreed to revisit the issue for discussion at the next meeting under
99 Old Business.

100 **New Business**

101 Again, Benson is stepping down as SSWCD's CALNO representative. Menzel polled the Board
102 to see if anyone was interested in serving as the SSWCD representative. Young expressed interest.
103 Mahnken moved for Young to represent SSWCD at CALNO. Young seconded. The Motion was
104 approved unanimously.

105 Young mentioned that our next meeting is November 14, 2017.

106 Menzel intended to set up a presentation with Attorney Applegate after several cancellations.

107 Young moved to adjourn. Mahnken seconded. The Motion was approved unanimously. The
108 meeting adjourned at 7:27pm.

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