



Association of Florida Conservation Districts AFCD

10096 U.S. Highway 129 South, Live Oak, Florida 32060
Office: 386-362-2622 ext #3 ♦ Fax 386-362-3375 ♦ www.AFCD.US

OFFICERS:

Andrew Jackson, President
Earl Ziebarth, Vice-President
H. Marcus Edwards, 2nd Vice-President
John Chamberlain, Secretary/Treasurer

Don Walters	Area I Vice-President
Blas J. Gomez	Area II Vice-President
James D. Williams	Area III Vice-President
Mark Cross	Area IV Vice-President
John O'Connor	Area V Vice-President
Eva Webb	Area VI Vice-President

AFCD Annual Meeting Minutes Sunday Morning, July 31, 2005 8:00 A.M.

Location of Meeting, Mission Inn Howie In The Hills

Attendees: John O'Connor, Linda O'Connor, Norma Ziebarth, Eva Webb, Nadine Foley, Wilbur Dean, Steve Johnson, Craig Hartwig, Earl Ziebarth, Andy Jackson, Phil Giorno, David Cummings, Gary Booker, Thaddeus Hamilton, Glynn Key, H. Marcus Edwards, Teresa Owens, Brian Lewis, Russell Setti, Tanya Walker, Susan Clary, Barbara Gill, John Chamberlain and Thaddeus Stevens.

President Jackson called the meeting to order at approximately 8:15 a.m.

John Chamberlain, Secretary/Treasurer, presented Financial Report. He stated that the ending balance as of July 29th was \$20,057.44. He stated that the AFCD Auxiliary had raised approximately \$1,175.00 and approximately \$ 3,665.00 from additional registration cost, bringing the balance to \$24,897.44. He stated that approximately \$4,459.64 had been disbursed from bills approved for payment at the Board of Directors Meeting July 29th and cost of cash awards presented bring the ending balance to approximately \$20,437.80 left in the AFCD account. Earl Ziebarth stated that he had some additional expenses that needed to be presented. He stated that he has had to pay for all expenses out of his pocket and asked if the AFCD Board would consider paying for his hotel and registration in the amount of \$603.93. Also, he asked to board to pay for the lunches for Volusia SWCD employees helping with the registration in the amount of \$27.00. He stated that he also had a bill from Volusia SWCD for cost of printing brochures, tags, tickets, etc. in the amount of \$497.50. Wilbur Dean moved that all bills presented be paid. This move was seconded by Nadine Foley. The move was so carried.

President Jackson stated that Phil, Barbara, Teresa and David had done a lot of work getting the annual meeting together. After brief discussion Marcus Edwards moved that AFCD give Phil Giorno, Barbara Gill, Teresa Owens and David Cummings \$50.00 in appreciation of their efforts in helping to make the annual meeting the success it was. This move was seconded by Earl Ziebarth. This move was so carried.

There were no further bills presented at this time.

President Jackson stated that all AFCD Area Vice-Presidents positions have been filled, but Area V. John O'Connor was asked if he would be willing to serve as the Interim Area V Vice-President. Mr. O'Connor stated that he would be willing to fill the vacancy. John Chamberlain moved that John

O'Connor fill the vacancy of Area V Vice-President as Interim until an Area V meeting can be held. This move was seconded by Earl Ziebarth, and move was so carried.

It was noted that Mr. Don Walters, Area I Vice-President has not attended any of the Board Directors that has been held. He stated that other Vice-Presidents have sent their Deputies in their absence, or both have attended. According to the By-Laws, "Any officer failing to attend three consecutive board, annual, or special meeting without advance Executive Board approval is relieved of duty". President Jackson stated that Mr. Walters needed to be contacted to see if he is still interested in remaining Area I Vice-President. Earl Ziebarth made a commitment to contact Mr. Walters about non-compliance of attendance.

The Board discussed problems with election filing system and updates of supervisors list at the Division of Elections. After discussion John O'Connor moved that a letter be sent to Division of Elections and Secretary of State Office in reference to updated lists and filing problems. This move was seconded by Marcus Edwards, and was so carried.

An estimated bill was presented to the Board by Phil Giorno for \$6,679.55. He stated that this bill did not include the Sunday morning breakfast and few other incidentals. He stated that the payment is being made through the Volusia SWCD because the AFCD was non-profit, but not tax exempt. He stated that final will reflect the taxes. After further discussion Earl Ziebarth moved that AFCD pay Volusia \$8,000.00 for hotel expenses for the annual meeting, with the balance paid back to AFCD by Volusia SWCD after final hotel expenses have been paid. This move was seconded by Wilbur Dean and was so carried.

President Jackson stated that Phyllis Vendevere, NACD Representative, had paid for van rental to bring NACD Officers to the AFCD Annual Meeting. He stated he felt she needed to be reimbursed. After discussion John O'Connor moved that Ms. Vendevere be reimbursed in the amount of \$130.00. This move was seconded by Marcus Edwards and was so carried.

The next Board of Directors meeting was discussed. President Jackson stated that at that meeting there would be a final report on the 2005 Annual AFCD Meeting. He stated that Teresa had been working on AFCD business and had to put the Suwannee County Conservation District business to the side for a while. He stated that she would need to get caught up on her work and then she would be able to work on minutes, finances, etc. for AFCD. Question was raised concerning holding AFCD Board meetings by teleconference. President Jackson stated that he really did not want to go telecommunication with meetings simple because the Board of Directors was meeting every quarter, and all members would know in advance of the meetings and should be able to attend or have their Deputies attend. It was also noted that the State Office was really not set up but for only 1 or 2 lines for telecommunications. After further discussion John O'Connor moved to meet October 7, 2005 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the NRCS building in Gainesville. This move was seconded by Ziebarth, and was so carried.

Earl Ziebarth discussed with the Board of Directors about the possibility of ordering a set of shirts with the AFCD Logo on each shirt for Ed Wright, Niles Glasgow and Clegg Hooks. He stated that he would like to see this done in order to show the AFCD's appreciation for all the help they have given. After discussion John O'Connor moved that one shirt each be ordered for Ed Wright, Niles Glasgow, and Clegg Hooks being paid by AFCD and other persons present wanting a shirt to give the money to the Treasurer and they be purchased along with the other shirts. This move was seconded by Eva Webb, and was so carried.

Marcus Edwards stated that a newsletter or something needed to be sent out on how well the Annual Meeting went to encourage all that did not attend to attend next year, and also encourage them to get involved. All present stated that this was a good idea. It was suggested to put some highlights of the meeting on the web, and also do a mail it out.

John Chamberlain stated that we needed to start looking at someone for part-time to help out with AFCD. There was a discussion on \$25,000.00 grant from the Division of Forestry on Urban and Community Forestry. It was noted that you could only receive this grant one. It was also noted that Broward County has this grant and they probably need to be contacted to obtain information. John Chamberlain moved to check into this grant. Earl Ziebarth seconded the move. The move was so carried.

President Jackson stated that the part-time position needs to budget for 15 or 20 hours a week with travel and meals. It would be approximately \$21,000.00. He stated that Barbara Gill had stated that she would be interested as a contractual employee. He stated she work with Suwannee County for 29 hours per week. John Chamberlain moved to explore the services of a part-time employee after information is obtain from the grant and when funds become available. This move was seconded by Wilbur Dean and was so carried.

President Jackson appointed John Chamberlain and Mr. Russell Setti to serve as grant communicators.

Earl Ziebarth discussed AFCD consider the purchase of a gavel with a band engraved with the President's name and year of office. After discussion Earl Ziebarth moved that the AFCD purchase a gavel with President's name and year of office engraved on the band of gavel. This move was seconded by Wilbur Dean and was so carried.

There was a discussion of having a Soil and Water Conservation Field Day, but it would need to be held while Legislatures are in session. It was noted that a Legislative Committee was needed. There was a discussion on the AFCD stepping out of the box and staying out of the box.

There was a discussion of the 582 Law, and taxing authority. Susan Clary spoke up and stated that she did not agree with taxing authority. She stated that funds needed to be obtained from legislature to help to be a liaison between landowners and legislatures.

It was noted that a theme for the next years Speech Contest was needed in order to get information out to contestants. There was no decision at this time. It was decided to take this up at the next Board of Directors Meeting.

Marcus Edwards moved to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting. This move was seconded by John O'Connor. This move was so carried.